

Baltasound Junior High School Newsletter - November 2021

A Peerie School Big Dreams Newsletter for EVERYONE!



SCHOOL UPDATE

The passing of Halloween and Bonfire Night usually heralds the countdown to Christmas and this year is no different with excitement already building amongst pupils and staff.

As COVID restrictions mean essential visitors to school only, we are unable to have our traditional Christmas concert - so our plan this year is for Primary to act out a Christmas play, film it and share with parents electronically. Our Secondary pupils will also film some musical pieces which we will also share.



With regards COVID, as I have shared previously, we have many control measures in place in school to help us minimise disruption and reduce instances in school. This term, we did have positive cases in school and the fact that this was well contained shows these measures are having an impact; highlighting the importance of continuing to hand sanitise often, promoting good ventilation, regular testing for staff and secondary pupils, as well as wearing face coverings for older pupils and staff members.

If we keep it up, as a community, we can reduce the amount of time any of us are affected and keep all our learners enjoying learning in school - and it's great to see how much the pupils enjoy being in school, learning with their friends. And in doing so, the countdown to Christmas can really begin!

Mr P. Thomson (Head Teacher)

PARENT COUNCIL

Our Parent Council met for the first time last term. We agreed on roles and responsibilities as well - this year our Parent Council are:

Chair: Matthew Cox	Clerk: Hazel Sinclair	Co-opted Member: Jane Macaulay
Staff Member: Lisa Johnson	Erika Brown	Linda Thomson
Vaila Thomason	Lauren Spence	Victoria Mouat
Karen Gray	Kevin Priest	Murray Brown

If anyone would like the Parent Council to take an issue forward, please contact Hazel at hazel.sinclair@shetland.gov.uk, although remember that you can raise any issue with the school through contacting the school office or Head Teacher at any point.

TERM DATES

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: WED 22nd DEC - WED 5th JAN (first day back Thu 6th Jan)

EASTER HOLIDAYS: MON 4th APR - MON 18th APR (first day back Tue 19th Apr)

SUMMER HOLIDAYS: MON 4th JUL (last day on Fri 1st July)

OCCASIONAL HOLIDAYS: FRI 25th FEB, MON 28th FEB, FRI 3rd JUN (Queen's Platinum Jubilee) + 1 additional day to be set by the BJHS Parent Council at our next meeting.

BJHS VALUES: READY | RESPECTFUL | SAFE

EARLY YEARS

In BJHS Early Years, we love the free flow between inside and outside. It means we can get creative, get building and have fun in every type of weather.



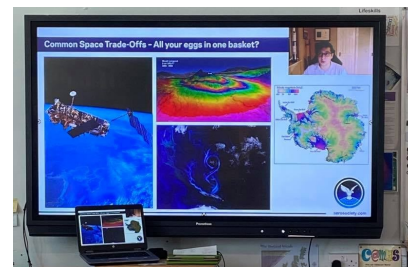
PRIMARY

Since the last newsletter, we have been learning about safety at this time of year, Halloween, Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot, Remembrance Day, Diwali, making our own Christmas cards and the grand opening of our new Polycrub!



SECONDARY

COP26 has featured heavily for our Secondary pupils and we have been keeping up to date with the latest developments in Glasgow. This year, as part of our School Improvement Plan we are committed to learn more about the UNCRC (**U**nited **N**ations **C**onvention on the **R**ights of the **C**hild) and we will be working towards receiving accreditation through the Rights Respecting Schools programme.



Over the past few weeks, we have also been taking part in online rural careers activities, looking after flour babies, designing tribal masks, creating planometric drawings, learning about Zones Of Regulation, designing eco aprons, taking part in a national spaceport design competition (with P7) and much, much more!



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