



Interim Newsletter February 2016

Headteacher's Address

As the school year edges closer to its end than its beginning, it is a good time to reflect on achievements to date and to consider next steps. As headteacher, I have done just this through our development plan mid-term review. This has allowed me to confirm that a great deal of progress has been made, but to identify next steps for staff for the period until Summer.



I would hope too that all our young people will already have a great deal to show for the session so far, and will have had an opportunity to plan with staff what their next steps should be. For our nursery pupils, it is time now to reflect on their transition to that world of giants they see as our primary school. At the other end of the school, our senior pupils must reflect on their prelims and the steps they must now take to ensure strong transitions to the altogether more daunting post-school world.

Whilst we may now seem in the midst of session, it will not be long before the Winter passes on through Spring and into Summer and quiet once again descends on the school for six weeks. I trust that our young people will stay focussed until that time so that they can walk out - some for the last time – knowing that another year has passed in which they have given of their best and therefore have much of which to be proud.

John Devine, Headteacher

Staffing Updates

Welcome to:	
Jaqui Nixon	Who joined us in the Art & Design Department this term
Jim Liney	Who joined us in our Primary Department this term
Linda Robertson	Who will be joining us as a full time Computing teacher in our Business and IT department next session
Lisa Runciman	Has secured a fixed term contract as PSA in our Primary Department
Departure and Good Luck to:	
Keith Taylor	School Technician who is leaving us this term to return to teaching.
Sandy Campbell	Who has secured a full time, permanent post at Baldragon Academy and will be leaving our Maths department.
Karen Meiklem	Who secured a post at Falkland House and left our Primary Department this term.
Linda Barr	Left our Primary Department last term.

John Devine	Headteacher / Campus Leader
Jenda Westwood	Business Manager
Karen Gatehouse	Depute Headteacher Pupils & Staff Support (Mhor / Schiehallion House)
Nicola Ross	Depute Headteacher School Improvement – Secondary (Farragon / Lawers House)
Vicky Marshall	Depute Headteacher – Nursery & Primary
Donna Jenkins	Acting PT Nursery & Early Years
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**Dates for your diary:**

What?	When?
Parent Council Meeting	Tuesday 1 st March
Whole School World Book Day Event	Thursday 3 rd March
S1 Full Report Issued Open Primary Session 3 – 3.25pm	Friday 4 th March
S2 / S3 March for Women – Birks Cinema Visit	Tuesday 8 th March
P1 – P7 Parent Contact Meetings	Wednesday 9 th & Thursday 10 th March
P1 Prospective Parent Event	Wednesday 23 rd March
Good Friday Holiday	Friday 25 th March
Easter Monday Holiday	Monday 28 th March
Parent Council Meeting	Wednesday 30 th March
Easter Holidays -	Monday 4 th April – Friday 15 th April
INSET Day	Monday 18 th April
Parent Council Meeting	Thursday 28 th April
Open Primary Session 3 – 3.25pm	Friday 22 nd April
New Timetable	Monday 2 nd May
SQA Exams	Wednesday 4 th May – Friday 3 rd June
Open Primary Session 3 – 3.25pm	Friday 6 th May
Open Primary Session 3 – 3.25pm	Friday 3 rd June
Primary 1 – 7 Reports Issued	Friday 10 th June
Summer Break – School closes 12pm	Friday 1 st July

Zero Waste Highland Perthshire

This is a project being run on behalf of Zero Waste Scotland and Perth and Kinross Council to help the community reduce, reuse and recycle more, sending less waste to landfill. The Zero Waste Coordinator is currently working on two projects with academy pupils – one group is working towards holding an “upcycled fashion show” at The Birks Cinema in March, while another are forming an eco-committee in the school and will be working towards obtaining official Eco-Schools Status. Any pupil or parent who wants to get involved in either project should contact Fiona McBain at FMcBain@pkc.gov.uk in the first instance.

School Website

We are currently reviewing our school website in light of parental feedback from our Parent Council communication survey. Although most of the work can be performed remotely, there will be a need for the site to be down for short periods of time to allow us to undertake the necessary changes.

Prospective P1 Parents

On Wednesday 23rd March parents and carers of pupils joining P1 in August are invited to view a short film devised by the pupils in the Gaelic class, entitled ‘Joining Breadalbane’. The film will showcase the whole school and show activities and clubs on offer in our campus. There will also be short presentations about learning Gaelic and French. Come along, enjoy the film and join us for a cup of tea and some home baking.

P4 and P3/4 Pupils

Pupils are looking forward to getting creative with Hidden Giants director, Paul Gorman, who is visiting the school to work with them on a Space-themed project. On World Book Day we will be delving into our imaginations, learning about teamwork and using our creative minds to design, discover, explore and create. Imaginations at the ready...3,2,1...BLAST OFF!

World Book Day – Dress in Character!

On Thursday 3rd of March, all nursery and primary pupils are encouraged to come to school dressed as their favourite book character to celebrate World Book Day.

S4/5/6 Study School Programme

A range of departments will be running revision workshops throughout the two weeks of the Easter break. A timetable will be issued in due course.

