

Staffing

Mrs Catherine Twomey is commencing a phased retirement and will be reducing her teaching commitment to 3 days per week with effect from the new term in August. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Nicola Morgan (pictured right) to Hill of Banchory School as a new permanent teacher who will be teaching the P4 class for the other two days a week.



School News

- This term the P5/6 class have linked their topic on Africa to forest schools. Thanks to one of our parents (Mrs Salway) they had the opportunity to build waterproof dens, design and make obstacle courses to simulate collecting water from wells in Africa and cook traditional African food over an open fire.



"At forest schools my favourite part was cooking and I also learnt how to make string" – Cameron
"I had an amazing adventure in the forest and I loved the different smells when we were cooking" - Lauren

- Two groups from our Cooking Club made it through to the final of the Taste of Grampian competition. The children had to design a school packed lunch using as much local produce as possible and, along with Mrs Seaton, worked very hard in the weeks leading up to the competition. Group 2 won the Best Research Award for gluten-free produce and are pictured with their lunchbox – well done!



Art. 31: Every child has the right to take part in a range of activities.



- Our Cooking Club members held a wonderful “Masterchef” evening for their families and friends recently. The pupils worked in teams to provide a 3-course meal with a choice of starters, main courses and desserts, plus side dishes and home-made bread. There was even after-dinner entertainment. They all worked really hard and Mrs Seaton deserves a pat on the back for all her hard work too !

“I liked the serving best” – Kirsty
“The performing on the stage was good and I liked giving Mrs Seaton her gift” – Jo-Ann

- The Primary 5, 6 and 7 pupils had a great time at the “Wonderful World of Water” workshop. They learned about the water cycle by participating in and observing a variety of experiments and competitions.

“We learned about condensation, evaporation and water vapour” - Harvey



- The P5 class had a fantastic day at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh, including meeting 3 of our local MSPs and watching a session in the debating chamber.

“I really enjoyed the trip. I was very happy to meet Dennis Robertson. It has made me more interested in Parliament and I’d love to go again” - Kirsty





- As part of learning about Japan the P7 pupils had a visit from Aboyne Judo Club and a Scottish judo champion – we got to try out some of the judo moves.

"It was fun and I enjoyed trying something new"- Beth

- The annual P7 residential trip to Lagganlia was a great success and the good weather was a bonus for all those outdoor activities !

"Every day at Lagganlia was a brand new surprise full of excitement and new activities" - Gregor
"Lagganlia will be something I truly never forget" - Iona



- Some of our classes from P4 – P7 had the opportunity to work with members of the Institute of Civil Engineers to build a 13m long bridge with steel frame, wires and wooden boards. Pupils took turns to connect the boards to the wires and at the end it was strong enough for them to walk across !

- The school "Mileathon" raised a total of £550 which will be presented to the Sports Village Fund at our end of term assembly. Many thanks for all your kind donations – the children certainly enjoyed the day as you can see from the smiles of some of the members of Ash Tree house! We ran a total of 220 miles – amazing!



- P2F and P2T did a sponsored walk along the old Deeside railway line to raise money to refresh the flowers in the planters at Milton of Crathes platform. We raised £752.10 and after paying for the flowers (thank you to the Raemoir Garden Centre for their help with selecting the plants), we have been able to make a large donation to the Milton of Crathes Railway Station. Thank you very much to all parents, friends and relatives that supported P2. The children are pictured on their sponsored walk and watering the planters on the station platform.



"I enjoyed watering the plants with the watering can" - Ethan
"We had to walk a really long way" - Keir

- Here are P3S putting in a fantastic effort to showcase their learning from their pirates project at a recent assembly. The children learned all about pirate life and enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities while doing so, including visiting the Maritime Museum and learning "pirate speak".



Banchory Show Competition Winners

Congratulations to Ruby (P3) and Finn (P4) who have both won 2nd prize in their age categories for the competition to design the front cover for this year's Banchory Show. Their prizes will be presented to them at the end of year assembly and all the designs will be on display at the show on Saturday 25 July.

Rag Bag Collection Bin

There is now a Rag Bag collection bin at the top of Hill of Banchory car park where you can deposit textiles, clothing, shoes etc. This takes the place of the twice-yearly Rag Bag collections. Bags are available from outside the school Reception desk or you may use ordinary bin liners in which to place items. The collections raise funds for the PTA.

PTA News

The PTA annual Fun Day and Car Boot Sale will take place on Saturday 22 August. The car-boot sale starting at 12:30pm (set up from 12:00 noon and pitches cost £10) with the Fun Day itself running from 1:00 – 3:00pm. Stalls will include Miss Bug, Kidglove Puppets, Busy Bee's Inflatables and many more, including a stall giving you the opportunity to buy and sell bikes and scooters. We will be looking for volunteers to help on the day and to provide homebakes and donations of bric-a-brac. Please contact any member of the PTA for more information or ring Karen on 823449 – we need your support.

The PTA have kindly purchased a House Cup for the school which will be presented to the winning house at the end of term assembly.

On behalf of all the staff at Hill of Banchory School, we would like to wish all pupils and their families and relaxing, sunny summer and we look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday 18 August.

