



Calendar

Important Dates:

January

Date	Event
25/01/23	Burns Lunch

February

Date	Event
01/02/23	Burns Poetry Competition.
01/02/23	Welcome Wednesday
09/02/23	Occasional Holiday
10/02/23	Occasional Holiday
13/02/23	Mid Term Holiday
14/02/23	In Service Day
15/02/23	In Service Day

March

Date	Event
06/03/23	FoJ Meeting
16/03/23	HMT Trip
18/03/23	War Memorial Centenary
31/03/23	End of Term 3

April

Date	Event
17/04/23	Term 4 starts

Message from the Head

Welcome to a new year and a new term. I hope everybody had a restful break and enjoyed a wonderful Christmas holiday. It was an exciting term with many fantastic activities which brought together our community. We enjoyed our production of Lights, Camel, Action! with all of our children rising to the occasion and putting on a magnificent performance. It was lovely to see many of our families and supporters laughing and enjoying the show.

Behind the scenes, we have been progressing with our School Improvement Plan increasing pupil leadership through reinstating our Making a Difference Fridays. Staff are developing approaches to planning to improve attainment and to ensure quality learning experiences for all. During our February in service days, we are delighted to be taking part in an online presentation by Shirley Clark, an educator who specialises in effective feedback and next steps in learning. The teaching staff will also be developing learning progressions in spelling with non-teaching staff looking at supporting mental health and wellbeing.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Grant to our school, who has settled in well. She has worked extensively in New Zealand, and we are looking forward to using her teaching experiences to improve our outdoor learning provision.

Happy New Year and best wishes for a prosperous 2023.

ADMIN REQUESTS

- School phone number **01561 400690**
- If you know your child is going to be late please call, prior to 9am to let us know.
- When calling to inform us of an absence please let us know the reason for absence.
- If you would like another adult to collect your child, please inform us in advance of the end of school day.

Making a Difference Friday

We have restarted our Making a Difference Friday, which currently is running fortnightly on a Friday afternoon. We have three groups which are Pupil Council, Eco Schools, and Rights Respecting Schools. Each of the houses Balandro, Benholm and Brotherton will spend a term (terms 1 and 2 will be combined to make one session) working in each group making decisions and improvements to benefit the school. This allows our pupils to learn about making important decisions to develop skills for life and work such as effective communication and understanding other peoples' points of view. Through learner participation groups we aim to improve:

- Relationships between the staff and children
- Improve wellbeing
- Develop a better school ethos where all contributions are valued
- Develop a greater sense of shared community
- Improved engagement
- Improved attainment and achievement

Pupil Council



Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that children should have a say in decisions that affect their lives. Our pupil council aims to provide a meaningful way in which our children can voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions which impact upon them.

This term the Pupil Council and Mrs Millard are working on improving our school library. Benholm are looking at new books to boost our class libraries and improve our reading opportunities. The school was very kindly awarded £300 from the Fish Festival, and it is these funds that the children will be using.

ECO Schools



The Eco schools programme aims to rally and unite children to make realistic but dynamic change, creating positive impacts for our planet.

Mrs Kydd and Balandro are conducting an audit of the whole school to decide which area of sustainability to improve first. Once they have collated their data the group will draw up an action plan for us all to follow.

Rights Respecting Schools



This group are putting children's rights at the heart of Johnshaven School. The work they do will embed the rights of the child in daily school life and will give our children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

Mrs Grant and Brotherton are learning about the difference between needs and wants and understanding what basic rights are essential to thrive in a modern world.

Friends of Johnshaven School (FoJ)

Our parent council are doing an amazing job of supporting the school. This term FoJS are funding the cost of the bus to take us into Aberdeen to watch Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at His Majesty's Theatre. Without this funding the cost of a ticket would be £27.50 making it far too expensive for us to attend this production. We all thank each member of the council for your hard work and generosity.

If you would like to be part of FoJS and help our children to continue to enjoy their learning with trips please attend our next meeting on Monday 6th March at 7pm here at the school. All are welcome.



Inverbervie Community Fire Brigade

We had a surprise last week when members of our local fire service popped round with a cheque for £120. This money was collected during the Santa Fire Engine Run. We will ask the pupil council for ideas on how to spend this money.