

Autumn / Winter Newsletter

Welcome to the Autumn term. There is definitely a need for cosier, waterproof clothing as we are out in all types of weather. With this in mind, here is our HOB'S guide to Winter clothing:

WET & COLD WEATHER CLOTHING

We want everyone to have fun outside whatever the weather! This is what to bring over the Autumn and Winter.

Waterproof Footwear
Learners should wear wellies or waterproof footwear with warm socks on wet and snowy days.

Waterproof Coat
We all need a waterproof top layer with a hood on wet days. Padded coats aren't always waterproof, a thin jacket can always be worn on top.

Benefits of Outdoor Play:

- Improved physical wellbeing and mental health
- Improved readiness to learn throughout the day

Fresh air and ventilation in our school
Fun, problem solving and teamwork!

Changes of Clothes
It is always a good idea to have a change of trousers/leggings and socks. These can be kept in school bags.

ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE CLEARLY NAMED

The second half of the term and the run up to Christmas is always very busy in school. Key dates and times will continue to be shared via the weekly bulletin. Look out for the email every Friday.

Outdoor Learning

Mrs Grahamslaw has planned a Celebration of Trees event for our Outdoor Classroom Day (date TBC). Each class will be involved in outdoor activities to help us appreciate and value the trees in our school grounds, our local community and around the world.

Eco Group

The Eco Group continue to work hard in their plans to help us achieve our Green Flag. They are delighted to bring back Wrapper Free Wednesday and Fruity Friday – the classes with the highest amounts will win a weekly award. They are always looking for new and different ways to make our environments more eco-friendly – watch this space for more information!

Health and Wellbeing

Mr Witt

P1-P3 will have a range of racquets at the ready as they develop coordination and timing through different drills. The key learning will be centred around perfecting the 3 skills: send, move and rally. Learning will be fast paced and active as we move around different stations using a variety of equipment including balloons, paddles, rackets, shuttles, soft balls.

The fastest growing sport in the UK is coming to HOBS this term as P4-P7 will be learning how to play Pickleball. Learning will include how to build a rally, the rules of the game as well as how to referee a singles tournament. Once we have grasped playing singles, we will explore doubles play.

Please remember that we now wear our red jumper uniform over PE kits and we no longer welcome football badges into school

Long hair should be tied back and jewellery removed, earrings should be taped over.

Monday	P7R, P7B, P3M
Tuesday	P1S, P1L, P3E, P4R, P4M, P5L, P5M, P6B, P6F
Wednesday	P5L, P7B, P7R
Thursday	P1L, P1S, P2/1, P2A, P3M, P4R, P4M, P6B, P6F
Friday	P2/1, P2A, P3E, P5L, P5M

We are delighted to welcome back Mr Witt from his secondment. A revised timetable will be shared after the in-service days.

Our *Star Café* will continue to celebrate individual achievements every Friday and our P7 House Captains will be heavily involved in the planning and running of this.



Nursery

Term two is in full swing at the nursery, the children have been busy engaging in various learning opportunities and experiences.



This term we introduced 'Wellbeing Winnie'- This is a rainbow teddy bear who will support the children to understand wellbeing and help everyone at HoB nursery to enjoy their experience in the nursery and all the different opportunities we have on offer. The children might even take Winnie home for a few days or over the weekend to learn about how we keep healthy and happy at home!

It is definitely the season for celebrations! In Nursery, we have embraced a variety of celebrations, incorporating them into our experiences and opportunities. We have been learning about bonfire night, Remembrance Day and Diwali and look forward to the glitter and excitement as Christmas approaches.

Outdoor learning continues to be an important part of Nursery life! The changes that take place in Autumn are happening all around us, we have been recognising and discussing these changes during our community walks.



We will be starting our book bug session at Banchory Library on Friday 10th of November with a small group of children who attend a Friday session and this will continue every second Friday throughout term 2. Our ASN family support group is due to start on Thursday 9th of November, Sarah will be leading this group and is looking forward to welcoming all parents/carers who are planning to attend. Our exercise class will continue to run on a

Tuesday with Kay, children are welcome to wear active wear and bring a labelled water bottle on a Tuesday throughout term 2.

We are already excited about all the Christmas plans we have up our sleeves. We will keep nursery families posted with any changes or updates.

Primary 1

Our phonics journey will continue with two new sounds being introduced each week. We will engage in a variety of word-building activities, including saying, making, breaking, blending, reading, and writing CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words.

We love literacy in Primary 1! Through the 'Talk for Writing' approach, we will continue to immerse ourselves in stories. We will listen, act, retell, and even sing our favourite tales, all while gaining the skills to create our own story maps. It's a journey through words and imagination!



In Primary 1 creativity knows no bounds. We'll venture into the Creative Zone, where we will design and craft; the Discovery Zone, for exciting model-building; the Imagination Zone, where role-playing sparks creativity; and the Maths Zone, where numbers come to life.

Maths will take us on a fascinating journey through number formations up to 10 before embarking on the adventure of counting, ordering, and sequencing numbers, extending our knowledge beyond 10. We'll also dive into the world of 2D shapes and 3D objects, exploring their unique properties.

Nature is our classroom too! Throughout this term, we'll continue to venture outdoors, using the school grounds to explore and connect with our natural environment. Our outdoor experiences will reinforce and expand upon what we've been learning in the classroom.



It is important that we look after our health and well-being in Primary 1 so that we can all be happy, confident learners! We will be encouraged to express our feelings, explore friendships, ask questions and make choices. We will also think about how we can keep ourselves safe in our daily activities.

We are very much looking forward to another term of growth, exploration and fun in Primary 1. Oh, and excitement leading up to a special event that we won't mention until December!

Primary 2

As we step into Term 2, we want to extend a warm welcome back to our P2 pupils. As our learners continue to enjoy learning through play in our CREATE, DISCOVER and IMAGINE zones, we will focus on supporting positive play with our friends.



In Literacy, our 'Talk 4 Writing' will be focusing on instruction writing and fact file making. We be using a non-fiction text called 'The Tree Giant' to support and inspire our creativity. In phonics and spelling, we will begin our stage two digraphs and P2 common words, helping us to read and write words with increasing confidence. We say 'bonjour' to Camembear the bear.

He will help us to explore numbers, colours and use our French in our everyday routines.

In Maths, we will learn about numbers to 100, exploring place value and developing our counting skills. Through our number work we will be spotting patterns and counting in 2s and 10s. Just in time for Christmas spending we will explore money in both our play and in real-life contexts. Our maths learning will also take us outside looking for symmetry and tessellation in nature and the world around us.

Our focus on health and well-being will have an emphasis on growth mindset, nurturing resilience, and developing strategies to help us cope with our big emotions.

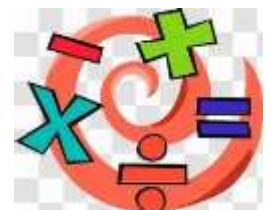


We are looking forward to a busy term filled with creativity, learning, and celebrations!

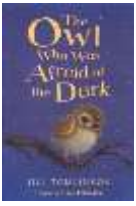
Primary 3

Welcome back everyone! We hope you are well rested after the October holidays and are ready for a sensational term ahead! There are lots of exciting things to look forward to in the lead up to Christmas. We are particularly excited about welcoming you into our classrooms on the 8th of November!

In Maths this term we will be investigating calculations and processes, in particular, Addition and Subtraction to 100 and beyond! As well as the Multiplication and Division building on our knowledge of patterns and numbers. Fast fingers to the ready... Sumdog will support all our mathematical learning at home and in school. We will also be discovering the wonderful world of Data



Handling – from surveys and tally marks to graphs and charts! We will become experts at reading and using the information we gather.



In Talk4Writing we will be learning about a very special little boy called, Alfie. He finds a star and makes many friends along the way! This wonderful story will help us learn how to fill our tales with dazzling description – particularly focusing on amazing adjectives and wondrous verbs. It will sit beautifully alongside our new Class Novel, 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark,' by Jill Tomlinson. We will learn all about Plop the Owl and his nocturnal adventures!

Owls will also be the inspiration for our Interdisciplinary Learning. From research to technology to enterprise we will be developing key skills that will help us to learn throughout our time in P3 and beyond. We will spend time recognising our own strengths and skills and appreciate these attributes in our classmates; building cooperation and teamwork as we go. No time to waste – let's get started!

Primary 4

Welcome to Term 2, P4! Last term saw us all making huge progress as we settled into new routines and spaces. We aim to continue this positivity as we head towards the end of the year.

We will continue to use all we know about numbers to help us develop speed and accuracy in our calculations, especially those which involved multiplication and division. We will use these skills when we work with money – making totals and calculating change from £10 and £20. Wont that be useful on the run up to buying Christmas presents! Rounding off our maths learning will be 'Shape' where mathematical language becomes important. At the end of the term, you will be able to ask us all about faces, edges, bases and vertices.



Talk4Writing learning will focus on both fiction and non-fiction through writing an exciting portal story using descriptive vocabulary and writing a fact file presenting facts in an informative and attractive format. Throughout all our literacy topics we will use our reading and spelling skills to ensure our work is top notch!



Our Health and Wellbeing focus will see us exploring healthy food choices and a balanced diet using the 'Eatwell Plate'.

Primary 5

Hello and welcome to Term 2! Term 1 has gone by incredibly quickly and it has been great watching the children work hard together and make super progress with their learning. This term will also be a full, busy and fun term, with a sprinkling of Christmas magic! Remember if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.



In numeracy, we will be focusing on building in our recall of the times tables, especially those trickier ones - 6, 7 and 8. We will use the facts we already do know to help us as well as using arrays and repeated addition to embed our learning. We will be extending our division skills, knowing that this is the inverse of multiplication. Our focus turns to money and budgeting just in time for Christmas shopping. This will help us develop our knowledge of decimal numbers within real life contexts.

In literacy, we will continue with our Talk for Writing (T4W) program; creating suspense through creative writing is the plan! We will use our model text 'Zelda Claw and The Rain Cat' to build our toolbox of skills before creating our own texts full of descriptive vocabulary and a range of punctuation. Building enjoyment and confidence in reading is a key focus in our class, and the pupils are encouraged to choose from a wide selection of stories and novels. Using a variety of different texts we will extend our skills in retrieval, making inference and summarising.



Twice weekly PE lessons will continue to progress skills, including teamwork, cooperation and decision making. The children will continue to develop their emotional literacy through naming emotions, understanding body sensations and behaviours. By considering the intensity of our feelings and their triggers, we can begin to use solutions and strategies with greater independence to help when we struggle with big feelings.

Primary 6



Lights, camera, action and welcome to Term 2 in Primary 6. This term will find us creating, designing, acting and performing in many ways across the curriculum, not least the HOB Christmas Show. We will develop our talk and respectful listening skills through our talking boxes, so don't throw out any old shoeboxes just yet!

Respect has been an important word across the year group in Term 1 and this will continue to be a focus in Term 2 as we play our part in working towards the Rights Respecting Award for HOB. We will work respectfully and build our teamwork skills through cooperative learning across the curriculum.

Watch out! We will be very persuasive in the run up to Christmas as we apply our skills to convince our readers through advertising! We can help with the budgeting too as we will be developing our calculation skills with a focus on addition, subtraction and multiplication. Our other



maths work will see us looking at shape, angles, symmetry and transformation before we turn our minds to throwing shapes on the dance floor, showing our best angles on stage and transforming into Christmas Show superstars, whether that is on stage or in a behind the scenes role.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our classrooms as part of the open session in November.

Primary 7

Hello! We welcome you warmly to Term 2 of P7!

This term we are joined by students from Aberdeen University to our classes, Miss Holly James (P7R) and Miss Georgie Smith (P7B) will be working with us for most of this term and return after the holidays for three weeks in Term 3. We also welcome Mrs Pauline McKinnon from Banchory Academy who will be with us every Tuesday to help us get ready for moving to S1.

Our reading will continue to focus on the skills needed to analyse text and identify themes which we will share our opinions and support with evidence. Our writing will have a non-fiction focus but we will be self-checking our own work to find and fix any careless mistakes whilst improving our vocabulary.



Maths will continue with a focus on more complicated number patterns, allowing us to apply our knowledge of multiplication and division. We will also be budgeting, planning, and calculating profit and loss within real life contexts – watch us become careful savers as we apply our skills to our pocket money! Problem solving will be a key theme in all maths this term, we will approach this with increased confidence to use our skills in meaningful ways.

We will be getting out and about in our community over the next few weeks. This will start with the laying of the HOB remembrance wreath at our local war memorial on Friday 10th November. We are busy writing letters to local business to ask for donations for our Christmas Fare. We are looking forward to visiting some elderly residents and venues towards the end of term - 'The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!'



We will also be strengthening HOB's relationship with the Gathimba Edwards Foundation by raising awareness to support the work they do supporting young people in Kenya access education.