

Holm Primary School

Stratherrick Road, Inverness, IV2 4YL

Tel: 01463 232697

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12th February 2019

Behaviour Management

The Highland Council encourages the use of restorative practice as a tool to improve pupil behaviour and relationships. At Holm we believe in involving all stakeholders in the approaches we use in behaviour management. Part of our in-service training day will be dedicated to revisiting the school's aims, principles and values to ensure they remain relevant, as these underpin our current policy and actions. We will also be looking at classroom culture and behaviour expectations. Your child will have taken home a 'talking homework' task this week as we would like to promote dialogue between children and parents of what good classroom behaviour should look like.

During this review we will consider if our current behaviour management strategies remain effective in meeting a diverse range of pupils' needs. We plan to open a dialogue with members of the parent forum in terms of any proposed changes to our current policy.

Playground Supervision

At our Parent Council meeting this week we discussed the matter of pupil behaviour and playground supervision and wanted to share what was discussed with the larger parent forum. Parents were informed that if there is an incident of physical aggression in the playground we encourage our pupils to report the matter immediately to a member of staff. This means the issue can be dealt with swiftly and effectively. However, there have been situations when matters have not been reported to staff and parents have become concerned that these situations have not been addressed. For clarity, reported incidents of physical aggression are dealt with promptly and proportionately, by staff. If incidents are more serious these are passed on to members of the senior management team and action taken in line with our behaviour management policy.

With regard to playground supervision, the staffing level is allocated at area level and not by the school. Pupil Support Assistants are timetabled to support children in the playground but are also required to meet needs in other areas of the school.

Loch Insh Final Payment- Reminder

A polite reminder that for those who have yet to pay the remainder of the cost of this excursion, the final payment should be made by Friday 8th March- thank you.

Latecomers

It has been noted that a number of children are repeatedly arriving late to school in the morning. I am concerned that when pupils come into class after teaching input has already been put in place, teachers are required to spend additional time catching up rather than supporting children with their learning. Please ensure your child is on time from now on, as a prompt start to the morning is important for all pupils.

Congratulations

We would like to congratulate the Girls' Under 12 Basketball team on finishing in second place in the Highland Primary Schools League. Well done to all.

Nursery Enrolment - W/C Monday 25th February

Nursery enrolment times are as follows:

Mon 25th Feb: 9am-10.30am or 1.30-3.00pm

Tue 26th Feb: 9am-10.30am or 1.30-3.00pm

Wed 27th Feb: 9am-10.30am or 1.30-3.00pm

The enrolment forms for Nursery can be completed and submitted on the Highland Council website:

www.highlandcouncil.gov.uk/enrol

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings this term will take place on Tuesday 5th March and Thursday 7th March. Individual appointment request letters will be issued with this newsletter and should be returned to school by Friday 22nd February. Please note that parents with children who attend our nursery will have alternative arrangements for meeting with staff to discuss their children's progress.

Staff

We are sad to share the news that Mrs McGilvray, after many years of valued service, has now moved on. We wish her all the very best.

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Holm Primary Book Fair

The school is hosting a book fair during the week commencing 4th March with books being supplied by 'The Book People'. Your children will have the opportunity to visit the fair with other pupils in their class. If they wish to make a purchase they may bring in money for a book of their choice on Friday 8th March. The children will have a final chance to buy on Monday 11th March. Tokens for World Book Day will be issued to pupils, unfortunately they can't be used at the book fair as The Book People prices are already discounted. Please note that in offering the chance to go to visit the book fair it is not compulsory to buy.

Thinking Day Friday 22nd February

Thinking Day is the annual world-wide celebration of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Pupils who participate in these organisations are invited to wear their uniforms to school on this day and to explain to others in their classes about their mission and values.

Culloden Visit - P5/6 and P5

The pupils in Mrs Chalmer's class and Miss Campbell's class will have the opportunity to visit the Culloden Visitor's Centre on Thursday 7th March. Further details relating to this educational visit will be sent home to parents separately.

Scottish Opera

Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting our senior pupils at Tuesday's performance of '1719'! The children gain many skills in the area of Expressive Arts by their involvement with Scottish Opera. The children gave an excellent performance which I hope you all enjoyed.

Chromebooks

The school is excited to be taking delivery of Chromebooks very soon. In order that the P6 and P7 pupils are able to use them in class and possibly take them home to further support learning, they will need to discuss with their parents a Chromebook contract. This will come home very soon and will need to be signed by both parent and child. Access to Chromebooks will only be given on the return of the contract.

Parent Council

The Parent council is currently working on improving the management of lost property. Further information relating to the new system will be issued in due course.

Traffic Survey

This is a reminder to parents/carers that the Parent Council survey will close on Friday 22nd February. If you wish to have your views heard, please take time to complete the survey - thank you.

Easy Fundraising

If you are buying items online please remember the school has an easy fundraising account. Every item you buy could earn the school some money. Please follow the link below

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/holmschoolpc

Mid Term Break

School closes on Friday 15th February at the usual time and reopens on Thursday 21st February. We hope you all have a lovely break when it comes.

