Headteacher's newsletter Friday 26 March 2021

Dear Families

Our week has flown past and I cannot quite believe that we are already approaching the last week of this term. There is no doubt that the return to school, reconnecting with friends, learning new routines and face-to-face learning and teaching with their teachers has been challenging and tiring for our young people from Nursery to S4. I am sure that you must often be managing an exhausted child at the end of the week. We decided that a "business as usual" approach with a continued, built in focus on health and wellbeing was the right direction for our school and this has proved positive for our young people. This last year has had and is having an impact on all of us, our family lives, our friendships, and our working lives. Thank you for your continued support of our young people and their learning and your encouragement and collaboration with the school during this most challenging time. Thankfully, the scientific data is looking more encouraging and I am hopeful that our lives, both at home and in school, will soon become a little easier.

We had hoped to have a health and wellbeing session for parents, focused on supporting their children, delivered by SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental Health) before the Easter break but will need to postpone this until next term. I will let you know the re-arranged date as soon as I have it and hope you will attend, as I am sure you will find it useful.

I have a message to share with you from The Den - ***The Den at Heartland Kids' Club*** *will reopen at the earliest opportunity. Parents will receive an email shortly to provisionally book spaces for next term. Our fingers are crossed we can return to our P1-P3 and P4-P7 bubbles soon which will allow us to open our doors and to offer our children the experience they crave and deserve. Our staff and committee are working hard to ensure all Covid safe procedures are in place for children, staff and families. Please email bookings@thedenatheartland.com with any enquiries.*

Please remember that next week is a short week as we finish on Thursday 1 April and the school will be closed on Good Friday (Friday 2 April). To support our S4 learners, we have decided to operate an Easter Study school from Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 April. Different subject teachers will be available for help, revision and study, as well as the school simply providing a space and resources for personal study. The timetable will be sent to S4s, with further details and we hope that you find this helpful.

Just a reminder about your child having a jacket and change of shoes etc if necessary, as we are outdoors as often as we can be, and the weather can and does take us through all four seasons in one day!

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01796 474666 or email to pitlochry@pkc.gov.uk

Have a lovely weekend.

Elaine Liney