Headteacher's Newsletter Friday 4 June 2021

Dear Families

What a lovely week we have had, with our young people playing, learning and eating their lunch outside in the field and on the picnic benches as much as possible. Nursery and Early Years have been planting and gardening, making their outdoor space as productive as possible. P4 have been enjoying Science week, making lava lamps and learning that water is denser than oil and that they don't mix. They made volcanoes and have been busy in the garden and learning about Photosynthesis. We also made our own slime with PVA glue, bicarbonate of soda and contact lens solution. It was great fun.

There was much excitement in P4-7 on Wednesday afternoon as we prepared for our outdoor, socially distanced sports event. It was a beautiful afternoon and the sun was shining as each class took part in a variety of races and fun events. The children were cheering each other on and were so encouraging of everyone. It was a lovely atmosphere and the staff felt privileged to be part of it. Many thanks to Mrs Leck for organising this event. On this occasion Atholl House came first with 130 points, Clunie 2nd with 110 points and Faskally 3rd with 105 points. This may well change over the next few weeks as more events take place and the final House winners will be announced at our virtual Prize Giving.

As you may be aware, there has been lots of movement in the local housing market. As a school, we try to be prepared to accept new pupils at any point during the year and this means that we need to carefully consider the makeup of our classes. It is a delicate balance to achieve and to that end, this year, we have created two potential composite classes by moving on our two, small P1 classes creating a P1/2 and P2/3. At the moment, both classes only have P2 children in them, but this has the potential to change during the year should new families come into the area.

There will be lots of work taking place in the school over the summer break, with contractors arriving as soon as we vacate the building. We are having an up-grade to our cabling and wi-fi, as well as CCTV installed in the school. The CCTV will be both external (covering the building and grounds) and internal (covering corridors and exits). If you have any questions or queries about the work, then please email or phone the school on 01796 474666. There will also be an opportunity to discuss this further at our Parent Council meeting next Tuesday evening.

Please see below the news from The Den at Heartland Kids' Club -

*Our **Summer Holiday Club** operates on weekdays from 8am to 6pm. We are restricted to the following intake to keep us in line with Scottish Government guidance:*
From 12noon on Thursday 24th, all day on Friday 25th June, Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th August: children from Pitlochry school only.
From Monday 28th June to Friday 16th July 2021: all children starting P1 in August to 14 years from within Perth and Kinross are welcome.
Our daily charge is £30.00 per child, with sibling discount available. Children must be registered with The Den, small fee applies.
Kids will enjoy outdoor play, crafts, activities, den building, woodland walks, fun days… all helping to develop social skills, problem solving abilities, improve self-esteem, and nurture their emotional wellbeing.
To make a booking or to find out more, get in touch by emailing us at bookings@thedenatheartland.com You can visit our website at www.thedenatheartland.com, find us on Facebook at 'The Den at Heartland Kids Club' or Instagram at 'theden_atheartland'.

*We offer **Breakfast Club** & **After School Club** for children in P1 to 14 years during term time.*
Breakfast Club operates weekdays from 8am to 9am, where kids can enjoy a healthy start to their day. After School Club operates weekdays from 3.30pm to 5pm or 6pm, with healthy snacks provided for kids. Your children can enjoy a wide variety of activities during their time at The Den and forge new friendships.
To keep us in line with Scottish Government Covid guidance, we have two separate bubbles for our children: one for lower primary and one for upper primary.
Bookings are essential. Please email bookings@thedenatheartland.com Check out our website for more details www.thedenatheartland.com

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Take care

Elaine Liney