Headteacher's Newsletter Friday 28 May 2021

Dear Families

It's been another busy week in school from our youngest pupils learning about insects and traditional nursery rhymes, to Primary topics of life cycles and book studies and finally in Secondary from baking to electro-magnetic fields. For instance, S2 Physics discussed and investigated the Electro-Magnetic properties used to generate electricity and produce an electric motor. Shown below is a photograph of Isla testing her newly designed motor, which was a real success.
Mrs Sherriffs and Mrs Radford from the LRC have been working with Mrs Stewart and Primary 4 looking at the book "The Brave Whale" by Alan Temperley. This is a beautifully written tale featuring Waldo Leander Fluke whose best friend the moon is kidnapped by the evil octopus Black Gogg. They have been looking at Light and Dark and exploring characterisation in the book. The pupils came up with some amazing descriptions of the main characters. Well done P4! The LRC have also been working with Mrs Cardew and Primary 6 looking at "Tribes" by Catherine MacPhail. The book follows the journey of Kevin, an ordinary boy who finds himself in the wrong place at the wrong time, as he discovers the gang culture in his neighbourhood. The pupils have written some superb similes and metaphors and worked in pairs to develop their use of dialogue in their writing. P6 you are fantastic writers!

Our S4 are still in the process of evidence gathering for the SQA Alternative Certification Model this year. Thankfully, they are nearing the finish line in some subjects. One S4 Maths class this week focussed on completing their N5 Numeracy unit as extension from the N4 Maths recently completed. To mark the occasion, on Thursday morning they decided to organise a woodland walk following the Ben Y Vrackie track. During this they investigated taking Bearings, the Country Code and Health and Wellbeing. The weather was overcast but thankfully dry and all enjoyed the discussion and walk. However, I believe that football had a tendency to creep into all conversation topics. I imagine there will be more of that to come over the next few weeks!

We are currently planning our Primary classes for next year, including our transitions and redesigning our plans to keep in line with current restrictions and make sure everyone is safe. We will still be making sure that we create safe opportunities for all our young people to meet and get to know new staff, as well as talking about all aspects of transition and answering their questions. We will also have virtual new P1 and S1 parental information evenings on Teams. Further information to follow as soon as possible.

Please remember that there is an exceptional moderation Inset day for Secondary only on Tuesday 1 June. S4 should continue to study / revise for their classes and S1-3 should continue with their Literacy and Health and Wellbeing work. This can be accessed through Teams (please see icon above in the heading as a reminder).

Can I also take the opportunity to remind you about our next Parent Council meeting is on Tuesday 8 June at 7pm.

Headteacher's Newsletter Friday 28 May 2021

Here is the week's news from The Den at Heartland Kids' Club

Thank you to everyone who has contacted us to book places at our Summer Holiday Club. We still have a limited number of places available to book.
Our Holiday Club runs 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
Thank you for supporting The Den.

Have a lovely weekend.

Take care

Elaine Liney