Headteacher's Newsletter Friday 11 September 2020

Dear families,

We have had another busy week at school, with a wide variety of learning taking place throughout the school – far too much to fit into my weekly newsletter, but the following will give you a flavour. In Nursery we have been having more fun outdoors this week, playing with soapy bubbles, practising our throwing and catching skills, reading Stickman and making our own stickmen. We have also received a lovely gift from a mysterious painter, who left a delightful Snoopy stone for Nursery. Thank you – we think it's lovely (please see below).

In Primary, PE has been outdoors working on focus and concentration- it's been challenging to stay on task when there are kittens, dogs, cyclists, the moon and worms to be distracted by! PE trophy of the week goes to P4 because every pupil in the class tried hard to stay focused during the lesson. Lower primary have been learning about the rules of the school. We all worked together to create a poster. Each class designed letters and Primary 3 created a background, handprint sun and flowers for the poster (please see below). P5 have been learning to convert 12-hour time to 24-hour time this week and have been doing research to find out about Viking long ships. Their paintings are in a collage below. P6 were feeling a bit flat on Monday so they played the Glad Game (from Pollyanna) where each child wrote a list of things that make them glad. They then decided that they would like to make a wall display from their writing which they could read when they needed cheering up. They have also been working very hard in groups, to find out information about a mythical Scottish creature and will present their finding to the class.

In Secondary, S3 PE pupils are enjoying using the school bikes around Faskally Woods to vary their cardio training programme and avoid Tedium, an important training principle of fitness. PE staff are grateful for the support from Mr Sherriffs who is our first aider out on rides. In Technical, S1 have been working through their Safety in the workshop unit, S2 have been learning how to use the formal drawing instruments along with a drawing board. S3 Graphics have been concentrating on Orthographic and Isometric drawing using drawing boards and S3 Practical Woodwork have been learning how to make a series of wood joints, this week it was a T Halving joint. S4 Graphics have been using Inventor, a 3D modelling program, and importing their results into a desktop publishing program and S4 Practical Woodwork have been creating an I Pad stand.

There is lots of brilliant work underway in the Art Department. S4 pupils have been exploring composition and materials as they develop their Expressive folios. Pupils in S1-3 have been experimenting with pen and ink, clay and painting techniques. The photos below are works in progress from S4 as they develop their coloured pencil techniques.

Miss Robertson organised the Pitlochry High School Horticultural Show 2020. There were lots of entries which made judging very difficult. The results are as follows - **Atholl = 50 points (**Atholl now holds the Horti Trophy), **Clunie = 30 points and Faskally = 30 points.** Pictures below are of:

1st Prize Livestock Photo, 1st Prize Chilli Plant and 1St Prize Potato Crop. Well done to everyone concerned and I will look forward to next year's event.

You will have received a letter requesting information about travel and holiday plans during the October break. We would be grateful if you could let the school know as soon as possible.

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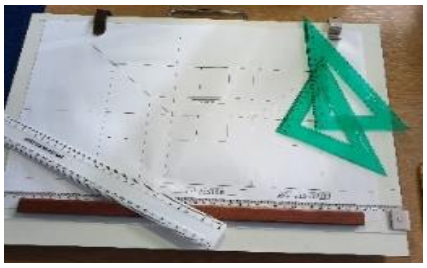
I would like your help to address a tricky issue. There has been a significant increase in the number of people bringing their dogs to school to collect their children. This is causing a problem for some of our young people, as well as for some of our parents. As of Monday, I am respectfully asking that you not bring dogs into the school playground unless they are assistance dogs. If it is essential for you to walk your dog to and from school and your child is in P4-7, please speak to your child and arrange to wait for them outside of school grounds. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Please note that a silver charm bracelet was found in the school playground just at lockdown time and it is now at the local Police station. Please contact them if you think it is yours.

Enjoy the photos below and have a lovely weekend.

Elaine Liney

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