Headteacher's newsletter Friday 5 February 2021

Dear families,

I hope you have had a good week and are pleased with your achievements. We know that you may well be needing resources, so please remember that we have a selection of resources available for our young people at Pitlochry High school, at Blair Atholl PS and two boxes in Logierait (one at the primary school and one at the post office). You are welcome to pop in and collect anything you need. If there is something missing that you require, please email the school and we will see what we can do to help. There is no denying that the weather is making our current situation more challenging and so it's important to note that every day, dawn is earlier, and the daylight hours lengthen. I am sure it was welcome news this week about a partial return to school and I will share more detailed plans for this as soon as I am able.

Our week has flown by with learning taking place both within and outside of our virtual classrooms. In Nursery we have been counting to 10, listening to stories and having adventures outside no matter the weather.

In Primary 2 and 3, pupils have been working with 3-D forms this week, using their paper manipulation skills to create bookmark monsters in Art (please see below). P5 have been participating in Children's Mental Health Week by choosing a different activity every day on the theme of Express Yourself. They have also been writing Feelings poems and creating sculptures to say how they feel. Please see some of the poems below. P6 have been busy making 3D birds in Art with Ms Lamont, please see some pictures below. They have been writing letters 'back home' to their mothers in Glasgow, putting themselves into the shoes of a child that has been evacuated to Pitlochry during WW2. They have also been learning about the devastation and disruption to life caused by the Blitz in Scotland. They have been working on improving their Maths life skills by solving money problems based in a supermarket. They have also been getting out and about in the fresh air and exploring their surroundings or staying at home and baking for their family. P7 have been working hard on their animal and bird sketching techniques, creating some very detailed and lifelike illustrations. Their BIG Writing project this week has been inspired by the first chapter of their class novel, The Hobbit and the resultant stories of surprise parties and unexpected events have been very creative, descriptive and interesting. A highlight of the week has been their new topic "Adventures, Discoveries and Explorers". They researched Charles Darwin and his voyage to the Galapagos Islands 180 years ago on the HMS Beagle; even planning a virtual adventure to the Galapagos Islands to carry out their own research. They are excited to see where they might travel and what they might discover next!

In Secondary, our S3 Fabric pupils have been finding out about what it takes to set up your own fashion business and what qualifications are required if you want to follow a career in the fashion industry. Meanwhile the S3 Food Technology pupils have been looking at how to be more sustainable consumers by learning how to recognise sustainably sourced palm oil and fish. These lessons present the opportunity to embed key life skills in our young people that can be drawn upon both now and in the future. Mrs Wilkie would like to remind pupils and parents of the key dates for the Tunnock Teacake Challenge:

Closing date for submitting photos to Mrs Wilkie is 26.02.21
Top 3 entries in junior (S1-S3) and senior (S4) categories will be chosen by Pitlochry HS
Photos to be sent to judges by 12.03.21
Winners to be announced 26.03.21
This competition asks participants to present a "restaurant quality" dish based around a Tunnock's Teacake (see picture below).

In the senior school, pupils have been working on a variety of Art and Design projects, with S1 pupils starting visual research for their product design project, S2 pupils creating cardboard sculptures out of recycled materials, S3 pupils developing their tonal drawing skills and S4 pupils working hard on development pieces for their design portfolio. To see more of the fantastic work created by Pitlochry High School pupils during remote learning take a look at our Instagram gallery @pitlochry_hs_art

Just a reminder that Wednesday 10 February is an Inservice day and Thursday 11 and Friday 12 February are our midterm holidays, so school will be closed and there will be no remote learning on those days.

My next newsletter will be Friday 19 February 2021. Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the mid-term holiday weekend.

Take care

Elaine Liney

Happiness, Smells like flowers on a sunny day. Tastes like lovely strawberry perfume. Sounds like relaxing tweeting birds. Feels like love on a sunset day. Feels like beauty on a day out. Feels like caring for what you've done. Happiness! **By Callum Kennedy**	Happiness, Smells like lovely flowers. Tastes like some beautiful toast. Sounds like lovely singing Feels like sitting in a field calmly as the sun sets. Feels like a jolly time Feeling relaxed and peaceful. Happiness! **By Charlie Sanderson**
Happiness, Smells like summer flowers. Tastes like a bag of sweets. Sounds like little birds chirping. Feels like lots of glitter. Feels like the hot sun shining. Feels like a lovely cool breeze. Happiness! **By James Mackie**	Happiness, Smells like a field of sunflowers. Tastes like a small sweet still in its wrapper. Sounds like joyful children laughing. Feels like when joy bursts out. Happiness is delicate like a smooth petal. Feels like Christmas with joy in the air all around. That feeling of happiness stays in our hearts. **By Olivia Lamb**
Happiness, Smells like golden French fries and a delicious Big Mac. Tastes like randomized sweets. Sounds like the crowd when Chelsea scores a wonder goal. Feels like a Fortnite Victory Royale. Feels like I'm snuggled up in my security blanky. Feels like a warm, comfortable cuddle from my Daddy. Happiness! **By Robert Tait**	Happiness, Smells like cake and sprinkles freshly made in a baker shop. Tastes exactly like a homemade chocolate cheesecake. Sounds like the ocean and all the fish below are splishing like you can hear while at the beach. Feels like 1000 butterflies fluttering around in your tummy. Feels like a warm cup of tea you have while walking along the shore. Feels like warm hugs from a loved one. Happiness! **By Olivia Scrimgeour**

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Owen's bird

Robert's bird

Martha's bird

Denis' cake

David and friends on Craigower

The Tunnocks Teacake Challenge