

Dear Parent / Carer,

Our weekly letter is slightly earlier this week as there is no 'school' tomorrow. Hopefully the sun will shine for everyone.

Fischy Music Online login details

At last week's Assembly we started and ended with songs from Fischy Music Online. We are allowed to share **our login and password with parents/carers** so that you can access this resource to support your children's wellbeing and the positivity singing brings day-to-day into your homes. Each song has a sing-along video, as well as supporting resources to help you learn the song.

To access Fischy Music Online, please

1. Go to www.fischy.com and select 'Login' from the top bar
2. Enter the Username balloch.primary@highland.gov.uk and Password **Balloch2020**
3. You will then have access to the songs in our subscription as well as resources for each song, by clicking the tabs across the top, like 'Learn the song' or 'Support materials'

Fischy Music ask that this site is used primarily by teachers and parents/carers. For your children, they have a specially made music video website: www.fischytunes.com. Next week we will be singing 'Welcome Everybody' and 'Build Up'.

Google group social call

Below is a table of the times staff are offering Google Meet group social calls in their classes. These are voice calls only. Instructions on how to set up a Google Meet are attached with this communication. Teachers will put a message on their streams in relation to this on Monday morning and call slots will be filled on a first come basis.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
P1	Gp 1 - 1.00	Gp 2 - 1.30	Gp 3 - 11.30		Gp 4- 11.30
P2/1	Gp1 - 1.00 Gp2 - 1.30				Ggp3 -10.00 Gp4 -10.30
P3/2		Group 1 12.15-12.45 Group 2 1-1.30		Gp 3 12.30 - 1 Gp 4 1 - 1.30	
P4/3	Ggp1.30-2.00	Gp2 11.30-12		Group 3 12.15-12.45 Group 4 1-1.30	
P5/4	Gp1- 1:30 Gp2- 2:00	Gp3-11:00 Gp4 -11:30			
P5	Gp1 - 1.00	Gp2 - 11.00	Gp3 - 11am	Gp4 - 11am	
P6		Gp1 -11am Gp2 - 11.30am		Gp3 - 11 Gp4 - 11.30	Gp5 - 11
P7/6		Gp 1 -10am Gp2- 10:30 am Gp3-11am			Gp4 -10am
P7	Gp 1- 1 Gp 2 - 1.30			Gp3- 1 Gp4 - 1.30	

Google profile pictures

A number of children have added a photograph to their google profile. Parents need to be aware that these pictures can be seen by everyone. No images / videos of children should come through the classroom, please send all to the balloch.primary@highland.gov.uk email address.

Literacy skill

Our literacy strategy this week is inference. Inferring is being able to 'read between the lines' when the author implies something but doesn't state it. Readers use background knowledge and clues in the text, it's not just guessing. An example of a simple exercise we do is below.

The text says:

Don's mouth opened wide.
He held his hands to his face.

I think this means:

Don was surprised.

In the television programme:

Jane ran away from the
monster very quickly.

I think this means:

Jane was scared.

A simple question to ask when sitting with your child and reading together or watching a programme is to ask why they think a character has behaved in a certain manner.

"Letters from Lockdown" Competition

Our children have been invited to take part in a competition set by the Highland Children's and young People's Forum. More information can be found on the HCYPF [website](#).

Home Learning

The last few weeks have been a huge learning curve for parents, pupils and staff. The calendar for the roll out of Chrome books has meant that some schools had access to aspects of digital technology years before us. However, we have been continually impressed at how everyone has stepped up and supported the care and learning of our young people. As adults working from home, the lines between home and work are very blurred and children must be finding this too. The overriding message continues to be that the wellbeing of everyone is the most important thing and plans and as a school we will move forward in a way that best supports all.

Further communication

We know that parents, children and pupils have very many questions about the months ahead. We are also awaiting answers on a number of questions so that we can share information with parents as it becomes available.

Kind regards,
Karen Ross
Head Teacher

Emma Patience
Acting Head Teacher

Clare Petrie
Depute Head Teacher