

Dear Parent / Carer,

This letter and future letters this term will mainly be about the return to school taking full consideration of everyone's wellbeing.

Staffing

There has been a slight change to our staffing since I wrote to you last week. **Miss Hakim** is now remaining with us but **Mrs Trotman** will be leaving us. We are very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Trotman but wish her well in her new post. We hope to be able to share where Mrs Trotman, Miss Shepherd and Mrs Rankin are moving to next week.

Classes next session and classrooms

We are continuing to make up classes for next session and decisions about which classes will go into each of the classrooms. We are currently planning for 2m social distancing in the classrooms. Fortunately, we removed the fixed cupboards from the classrooms a couple of years ago which means we have more space than previously. (This would have meant only 6 children in a class at a time!) However, we do have some smaller and larger rooms and, to maximise the number of children coming in on a daily basis, some classes won't be in their designated classrooms at the start of the year.

We are trying to look at what would work best for parents, e.g. siblings being in school on the same day/s as well as taking the transport of pupils into consideration. We're still awaiting some answers but will share firm decisions with parents as soon as we can.

Children's personal items

We are presently trying to clear the rooms so that we can keep them as hygienic as possible for the children's return. Many of the children took home their personal items, including gym shoes. If your child has any personal items in school which you wish returned, please contact us by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 16th June via email at balloch.primary@highland.gov.uk. We want to keep the surfaces as clear as possible to maintain the highest level of hygiene for your children.

Google group social call

Next week we plan to hold 2 Google Meets per class. Teachers are involved in online training for the return to school in August so we may have to change some at the last minute as we haven't had all training times confirmed.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
P1		11 a.m.		10 a.m.	
P2/1		11 a.m.			10.00 a.m.
P3/2	2 p.m.		2 p.m.		
P4/3	2 p.m.				2 p.m.
P5/4	11 a.m. P4	10.00 a.m. P5			
P5		1 p.m.		11 a.m.	
P6		11 a.m.	11 a.m.		
P7/6			1.30 p.m.	11.15 a.m.	
P7	1.30 p.m.	.		11 a.m.	

Supporting your child's learning in August

Our recovery programme in August will be very much based on literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing and we will, from the start of term, share examples with parents of what they can do to support their children. We'll try to do this in a measured way so you don't feel overwhelmed. Hopefully, the situation will improve quickly and we'll be able to get all the children back together in a short time.

Assemblies

There will be no assembly next week, Friday, June 19th. However, please keep sending in your photographs. It would be lovely to have as many as possible for Friday, June 26th. Our final assembly will be for our Primary 7 pupils on Thursday, 2nd July.

Flag competition

As mentioned in last week's and today's assembly, please could parents send their children's designs electronically to balloch.primary@highland.gov.uk by the end of today. This can be uploaded as a document or a photograph. Teachers will have reminded children about this competition in their streams.

Free personal readers

To access free online books from Amazon, go to

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=kids+books&rh=n%3A341689031&ref=nb_sb_noss

Filter by age or genre, then sort by 'Price: low to high'.

Primary 7 transition classrooms

Hopefully you have all managed to access the above classroom. This resource gives you all the information you need in order to make a great start when you join Culloden Academy. You will find so much information e.g. Culloden Academy website, daily notices, Facebook page, example of an S1 timetable, different departments, subjects you will study, lunchtimes and canteen, school uniform, tutor group lists, information for parents, the staff, your teaching sets, tasks and much more. The classroom is updated regularly. If you have difficulty accessing this classroom there is a guide giving clear instructions from Mrs Petrie on your P7 classroom.

Mrs Gibbon and Mrs Cowie

Last day of term

Apologies, the letter last week said that the last day of term is Friday, 3rd July when it is Thursday, 2nd July.

Dates for the diary

Monday 15 June	Report cards issued for P 1 – 7
Thursday 18 June	Letter issued in regards to classes for next session
Tuesday 23 June 6.30 p.m.	Google Meet for parents of pupils entering Primary 1
W/C Monday 22 June	Planned Google Meets for children with next session's class teacher/s
Friday 26 June	Final sharing of photographs at assembly
Thursday 2 July	Final day of session 19 – 20

Kind regards,
Karen Ross

Emma Patience

Clare Petrie

Head Teacher

Acting Head Teacher

Depute Head Teacher