

Dear Parent / Carer,

We hope you are all keeping well. We're very excited about welcoming the children back to school in August, whatever that may look like. We do have plans around what school will look like for our children with the 2 metres social distancing in place. We shared two options with the Parent Council yesterday and asked for their preferred option. We will now share this with the Area Education Office and await their response. We are very aware that things may change between now and August and we have to be flexible and adapt to an ever changing situation.

Staffing

We said in last week's letter that we hoped to share with you where our members of staff who are leaving us are going to work. Unfortunately, we're not yet in a position to share this information.

Parents may have noticed in the letter regarding next session's classes that Mrs Patience will be the sole teacher working with Primary 2. My part time secondment will end at the start of the new session as I return to a full time role. I want to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Patience for everything she has done in our shared leadership of the School during the last two sessions. We are very fortunate in Balloch Primary to have such a dedicated and experienced Senior Management Team in Mrs Patience and Mrs Petrie who have gone above and beyond during the last few months - as they always do - to ensure as smooth a journey as possible for our children in these unprecedented times. K Ross

Classes next session

Parents should have received a letter with their child's class for next session. If you have not received this letter, please contact the school at balloch.primary@highland.gov.uk

Learning at home

Teachers will continue to register the children daily and provide both daily tasks and a weekly activity grid up to Thursday, 25th June. From Friday, 26th June there will be no daily task. However, daily registration and the weekly grid will continue. Staff will be busy in school preparing for your children's return, with present class teachers working in partnership with next session's teachers on transition and our recovery curriculum as well as further training on the use of ICT to support blended learning.

Google group social call

Next week we plan to hold Google Meets for children's new classes. This is an opportunity for children to meet their new teacher/s. We are also planning videos for children so that they know which classroom they are going into at the start of the session and where they enter the building.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
P1				10 a.m.	
P2			11 a.m.		
P3/2					11.15 a.m.
P4		11 a.m.			
P5		2 p.m.			
P6			11 a.m.		

P7/6					11 a.m.
P7				11.15 a.m.	

Congratulations

Well done to Primary 6 on winning their Award from the Social Enterprise Academy for their Santa's Squad business. For anyone wishing to view the virtual awards ceremony, click on the link <https://your.socialenterprise.academy/mod/page/view.php?id=3048>

Children's work from the session

We are presently decluttering the school buildings. At present, children's work from this session is being stored in individual trays in their new classrooms. We hope to be able to safely give your children any completed work next session. Parents of Primary 7 pupils who wish to collect their child's work should contact the school by 1 p.m. on Monday, 22nd June, via email. They will be allocated a pick up time during the morning of Tuesday, 23rd June, from the Village Hall. The work will have been bagged and stored for 72+ hours. Thank you very much to the Parent Council and Primary 7 teachers who have organised this.

Primary 7

Primary 7 will have their virtual visit to Culloden Academy next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Whilst we don't expect them to register with us during those days, we do expect them to register and join the stream on Thursday and Friday so that we can hear how their days went. Below is a message from our Primary 7 teachers.

Primary 7,

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday is a very exciting time for you when you will take part in your different academy classrooms. A message from Mr MacDonald has been on all this week encouraging you to join various classrooms. Your work for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from the academy, will be posted for you to complete each day. We look forward to hearing all about it on Thursday and Friday.

This week we have posted information about your P7 assembly and if you haven't completed your task for the song can you do so by Monday at the latest please. We really would like every P7 to take part.

Mrs Cowie and Mrs Gibbon

Assembly

Please send in your photographs for our assembly on Friday, 26th June. Photographs should be with us by Wednesday, 24th June at 3 p.m. This is the final photograph opportunity of the session. We are already planning how to incorporate this into future school assemblies to celebrate wider achievement.

Next session's dates

Staff will return to school on Tuesday, 11th August with pupils returning from Wednesday, 12th August.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 23 June 6.30 p.m.	Google Meet for parents of pupils entering Primary 1
Friday 26 June	Final sharing of photographs at assembly
Thursday 2 July	Final day of session 19 – 20
Tuesday 11 August	Staff in-service day
Wednesday 12 August	Pupils return from this date – further information to follow

Kind regards,
Karen Ross
Head Teacher

Emma Patience
Acting Head Teacher

Clare Petrie
Depute Head Teacher