Avoch Primary Newsletter

May 2025

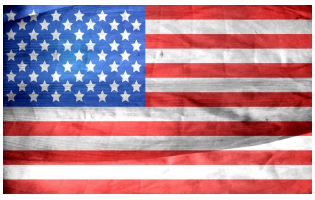
School Website https://sites.google.com/fortroseacademy.org.uk/avoch-primary-and-elc/home



It is hard to believe we are coming into the final month of the school session. Reflecting on previous newsletters, our children have achieved great success this year and we hope you have enjoyed hearing about it.

I was thankful that the weather managed to (just about) hold out for us on Wednesday for sports day. The children were all very well behaved. This year we decided that the last race should be a novelty race and each year group voted for what that would be. These races were just for fun and looking at the children's faces I think they were a success.

We had our last sharing assembly of the year today with the P4s providing a very informative assembly to share their learning about natural disasters. The sharing assemblies are an excellent way to build children's confidence while showcasing some of their learning. We appreciate when parents, carers, grandparents come along to support the children.



We have our summer picnic on Friday 6th June. Our wonderful dinner ladies are going to do an American themed lunch. Children are invited to dress up/dress down that day, please do not wear any football strips. Hopefully we will be able to get down to the pitch and have our food outside and have some fun. This is for children only, adults are not expected to attend.

Nursery staffing update

Miss Golden has started her maternity leave and will not return to Avoch nursery until after her maternity leave has finished. We all want to wish Miss Golden the best and we look forward to sharing the news with you.

I also have to inform you that Mrs Golden will be leaving her post as Senior EYP at the end of this term. Mrs Golden has been a valued member of Avoch Nursery for many years and has implemented many positive changes. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mrs Golden all the best for the future.

Kind regards,

Mrs L Third
Head Teacher



Nursery

In Nursery we have been very busy learning lots about farm animals. So far we have learned new facts about sheep, cows, chickens and now horses. We were very lucky to have 3 calves visit us with the farmer and also a parent to talk to us about horses



P1

We have been busy with lots of exciting activities! We've explored non-standard measuring, tally marking, and data gathering. To investigate length,we used lolly sticks,gems,and other fun objects to compare and measure.

We've also begun our new topic on *Katie Morag,* and the children are already enjoying diving into the stories.

A special highlight was a visit from some adorable animals-lambs, a goat, chicks, and bunnies-which brought alot of smiles and curiosity. We've also really enjoyed welcoming the nursery children for a visit and have been proudly showing them just how fun Primary One can be!



P1/2

We have started this term with our new topic all about farms. As we begin to explore what we find on a farm, we have had the chance to see some very cute lambs and create beautiful art-work inspired by Vincent Van Gogh! We have also talked about what crops need to grow and have planted our very own chive seeds, which we plan to take home before the end of term.



P2

P2 have been busy this term! All the hard work and practice paid off for the sharing assembly which was fantastic! Our student Miss Dickson sadly finished after a successful placement. We gave her a memorable send off on her last day.

We learned about the weather and made wind socks to measure wind direction.

In Science we are learning about sound. We lay quietly outside and listened to all the sounds around us.

We were so excited to see lambs, chicks, bunnies and a kid. We wrote stories about the lambs and used lots of adjectives!



P3

As well as learning about angles and grid references in maths, we have been super busy this term with our Natural Disasters topic. We have written poems about volcanoes using onomatopoeia which we have displayed on our wall. We found out why volcanoes and earthquakes happen, learning about tectonic plates and where the most disasters occur. Perhaps the most exciting has been to make our own volcanoes, using baking soda, vinegar and a few other things to make quite an eruption!





P3/4

P3/4 have enjoyed learning all about natural disasters this term. We have learned to listen to information, take notes and then write interesting fact files. We also had a lot of fun performing our Ancient Egypt assembly. I think we have some budding actors in the class! We also learned all about right, obtuse and acute angles and looked for them in the playground and classroom with our angle checkers. Next we are excited about carrying out lots of fun natural disaster experiments in science.

We had a great time on our trip to the Black Isle showground. Highlights of the day were seeing real Highland cows, making butter, sitting in a tractor and measuring a wind turbine blade.



P4

P4Y have loved learning about angles - straight, right, acute, obtuse, reflex and full. We have learned about degrees and knowing which angle to measure. We have looked around the classroom, school and outside for real life examples of angles. The right angle is most definitely used the most!



P5a

We have been immersing ourselves in Japanese culture. We have learned and experienced the Cherry Blossom Festival, trying out different Japanese snacks too. Seaweed wasa real ‘marmite moment’! We did some observational drawings of our own cherry trees in the playground and recreated this in paint which I'm sure you admired on our open afternoon.



P5b

We have been learning lots about Japan. We have been writing our names in Japanese, making cherry blossom trees using straw art techniques and learning about their different festivals and how they are different to Scottish festivals and celebrations. We had fun trying different Japanese foods and using chopsticks. We have also enjoyed learning about manga and trying to draw our own characters. We have been writing portal stories and japanese poems and learning about measurement, fractions and division in Maths. We have also really

enjoying learning about and doing orienteering with Mrs Webster this term.



P6

This term, we have been learning all about the environment. As part of our topic, we created informative posters comparing a Scottish woodland to a chosen woodland around the world, focusing on differences in climate, animals, and types of trees. In maths, we've been exploring measurement. We took our learning outdoors, where we practised using a variety of measuring tools and techniques in real-life situations. In art, we were inspired by the work of environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy. One of our favourite lessons was creating our own natural sculptures and designs, using materials we found in the woodland trail.



P6/7

We have been working on an Environmental Comparison topic where we have been comparing different countries/landscapes with Scotland. We have been researching which countries have a high level of sustainable living and have been making posters which demonstrate why some countries have become the most environmentally friendly in the world and what the benefits of this are. We have researched the Scottish Wildlife trust to learn about what they do. We visited Rosehaugh estate where we worked on activities such as working out the ages of trees and taking part in bug hunts. We had a lovely day and enjoyed the outdoor learning experiences that we took part in.



P7

P7 have been busy with their Comparing Environments topic. Our first trip out was to Rosehaugh Estate to investigate what we could find living there, the age and height of the trees that live there. We enjoyed having our parents visit the classroom for the final time and getting them involved with our learning. We continue to learn about our Scottish environment and the wildlife that lives there, with our next visit to Avoch beach, whilst also preparing for our Transition events and Lendrick Muir. It is a very exciting time for P7s.



P5-P7 County Sports Team

Despite the rain and the whole team being very cold, we are proud to share that the County Sports team have taken yet another shield back to Avoch. We are so proud of all the children that represented the school. Thank you again for all the parent support. Also thank you to Ms Webster for coordinating, also Miss Keyes and Mrs Urquhart for supporting at the event.





P6/7 Football - Thursday 8th May

We are really proud of the 11 boys that went to represent us at the Inter-school football tournament. First of all it was great to hear what excellent sportsmanship our team displayed. They were very well behaved and were great representatives for our school. It was also amazing that they took the first place shield back to the school. The final against Tarradale ended 4-1. Thank you to Ms Webster for attending the event with the boys, also to the parents for taking the children to and from the event and cheering them on. A big thank you to Colin Harrison for giving his time to coach the team.



P6/7 Girls Football

Our P6/7 girls went to Dingwall and represented the school very well. Like the boys they showed great sportsmanship. They performed very well and made it to the Semi-finals. The game went to penalties, and whilst performing very well they lost to Dingwall Primary. They should be proud of how well they played together. Again thank you to Colin for being there to support the girls at this event. Also thank you to all the parents and carers for transporting the girls to and from the events.



Young Engineers Competition

We were, once again, very successful in the Primary Engineer competition which challenges children to think about what they would design if they were an engineer. The children were very fortunate to have the opportunity to ask questions to Mr Bremner about his role as an engineer. The whole school entered the competition and we had so many children who did incredibly well. In addition, the entries of 9 children were graded as highly commended or winner and attended the award ceremony in Aberdeen.



Update on P7 fundraising

The P7 show raised an amazing total of £645. The P7s voted on where the money would go.

- £345 to go to their end of year party
- £100 – to go to a refugee charity putting on a performance with refugee children at Eden court
- £200 – MacMillan Cancer Support

Thank you for your support with all our fundraising events.





Lendrick Muir

by Alex Harrison and Cameron Lyon

The P7S went to Lendrick Muir and had a brilliant time. We all enjoyed the activities and the good food. Everyone loved Edinburgh Zoo, seeing all the amazing animals. We all got closer, and friendships grew. In groups, everyone worked hard together and took part in lots of activities, we needed to have lots of resilience and teamwork. Some of the activities were raft building, leap of faith, nightline, team challenges, and rocket launching. We had an amazing time.







Just Ask Helpline

The Just Ask helpline is run by The Pines. If you have a question about the development or wellbeing of a child or young person you can phone the helpline, there will be a health or education professional ready to help you.

The helpline is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4pm.

0300 303 1365

For more information please visit [THE PINES (thepineshighland.com)]



Tuesday 1st July - ELC graduation - 2pm
Wednesday 2nd July - P7 Leavers Assembly - 2pm
Thursday 3rd July - School closes at 12pm