



Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar

Ar n-òigridh ag ionnsachadh aig cridhe ar cànan, ar cultair agus ar coimhearsnachd.
Our youngsters learning at the heart of our language, culture and community.

Ceannard na Sgoile: Mr John Joseph MacNeil

CUAIRT-LITIR SHEACHDAINEACH/WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

22.12.16

The school will close at 2.45pm/3.15pm tomorrow and will reopen at 9am on Monday 9th January 2017.

Bu toil leinn an cothrom seo a ghabhail gus Nollaige Chrìdheil agus gach beannachd airson 2017 a ghuidhe dhuibh! Tapadh leibh airson ur taic, foighidinn agus deagh ghean thar 2016.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Christmas and all the best for 2017! Thank you for your continued support, patience and goodwill over 2016.

TERM 1 & TERM 2

We have had many successes and highlights over the last two terms:

- We continue to keep all our families and community members well informed through our weekly newsletters, our community newsletters, Facebook, Twitter and our website.
- We have updated our Early Years and Out of School Care Service policies.
- We successfully started our breakfast club and new flexible hours for early years.
- Our volunteer database continues to grow - thank you to all our volunteers for continued support.
- We organised an open afternoon for families as well as our pupil progress evenings.
- We sent home learning snapshots for numeracy, writing and inter-disciplinary learning to families and received excellent feedback.
- Our children completed mini questionnaires about what they enjoy about school and what they would like to change.
- We reviewed our tracking system in the school to make improvements to ensure we meet the needs of all learners.
- Our new school handbook is online.
- We took part in many curriculum developments including introducing benchmarking from Education Scotland, benchmarking in Gaelic literacy and the development of our handwriting programme.
- We welcomed Alan Bruce, our new Quality Improvement Officer, into the school for a visit.
- We put together a fantastic extra-curricular programme for children through the medium of Gaelic.
- We sent home a short questionnaire for families in Sgoil-àraich. We received very positive feedback and have worked on any comments/suggestions including putting up a communications board.





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TERM 1 & TERM 2

- We continue to have a weekly focus on developing Shinty skills.
- We welcomed Fèisean nan Gàidheal into the school with their show about friendship 'Le Meas' as well as their fantastic Christmas pantalo!
- We won Cupa Òige na Cloinne for the team that used the most Gaelic in the Shinty Tournament.
- Some of our children took part in the National Mod in Stornoway.
- Our choir have taken part in a number of events including Frances O' Connell's cèilidh, Gary Innes' Nevis Centre Concert and many school events.
- Our children enjoyed taking part in many events including Dance Platform, Inter Primary School Triathlon, Basketball and Badminton. We won a number of awards including Roan (C7) taking 3rd place in Badminton and Murdo (C7) taking 3rd place in the triathlon.
- Our C6/7 went to Glencoe for Outdoor Learning
- Our Pyjama day raised £251.00.
- Our School Cèilidh raised £278.87.
- Our MacMillan Coffee Morning raised £345.06.
- We made a commission of £232.00 from Scholastic to spend on books.
- We raised £102.90 for Ryan Whiteford and £102.90 for Emily Campbell.
- We raised £865.00 from tickets for our Christmas show and £759.00 on the raffle.
- Well done and thank you to all our children for such a fantastic performance of Cinderella and the Sgoil-àraich nativity. Thank you to all our families for such generosity. It has been a very busy couple of terms! ☺

TERM 3

Some of the exciting plans ahead:

- Our P7 children will work on a range of transition activities with Lochaber High School.
- Our P6 children will attend swimming lessons.
- The whole school will have the opportunity to go skiing - more details coming soon!
- All our children will take part in First Aid training and peer mediation training.
- Our children will take part in music lessons with Ingrid Henderson through the Youth Music Initiative.
- Google Calendar will finally go live!
- Questionnaires and learning conversations will take place for our children, families, staff and community members to help us shape our Improvement Plan for the next three years.





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TERM 3

- Our Credit Union will open.
- Our committees will begin to meet again to work on developing various projects.
- Learning snapshots will go home to families in January. There will also be an open afternoon in late January.
- We shall also be preparing for Lochaber Music Festival and the Mòd.
- We shall welcome a number of new families into the school community with their children starting in Sgoil-àraich.

SEVERE WEATHER

In the event of severe weather, parents/guardians should contact the School Closure Information Line on 0800 564 2272 and enter the school's PIN number - 041920. More information can be found on www.highland.gov.uk/schoolclosures. The school's website will also be updated (where possible) as well as our Facebook and Twitter pages. BBC Radio nan Gàidheal and local radio stations will continue to provide updates on school closures.

Please remember that it is ultimately the responsibility of parents/guardians to decide if a pupil should attempt to travel to school in adverse weather conditions.

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE SERVICE/FLEXIBLE CHILDCARE

Friday 23rd December - our OOSCS will close at 3.15pm this Friday for the holidays. The OOSCS at Inverlochry Primary School will also be closed during the Christmas holidays.

Collection of Lochaber Foodbank - thank you very much for all your kind donations.

AILEAG

Some of our C6/7 children will be on Aileag on tomorrow at 2pm with Christmas wishes (repeated Saturday). They will also be picking some of their favourite Christmas songs. Make sure you are listening. ☺

SHOW DVD'S

We have had a technical hitch with the DVD! Order forms will go home in the New Year.





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CHRISTMAS MOVIE

Thank you very much to Lochaber Cinema Group for coming into show Elf - The Movie. The children had a great time. We raised £102.90 for Ryan Whiteford and £102.90 for Emily Campbell. Thank you so much for your generosity.

NEVIS CENTRE - CAROL CONCERT

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Nevis Centre Christmas Carol Concert. It was a lovely evening and the children sang exceptionally! Well done to everyone.

64 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Last week, two of our children called in on Betty and Tavish Cameron across the road to congratulate them on 64 years of marriage! We received a lovely thank you card from them which ended with 'your pupils are a credit to you all'. ☺

SAMMY'S/MOSSPARK CARE HOME

Please note that the carol singing event at Sammy's this afternoon is **cancelled** due to inclement weather conditions. We have also cancelled singing at Mossspark Care Home tomorrow.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas service. Thank you to Kiki and Anna for being such great hosts. The singing was amazing! ☺

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 23rd December - School closes at 2.45pm/3.15pm for Christmas holidays.

Monday 9th January - School reopens

Primary School Enrolment - w/c Monday 30th January

Nursery Enrolment - w/c Monday 13th February

