



19/01/23

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are finished week two of term three and have been enjoying the whole school focus on "Scotland". Scottish music, poetry and dance have all been evident this week. Thanks for your support in helping the children to look at Scots verse at home. We have appreciated Mr Hughes' musical talents in helping to teach the children some Scottish Country Dancing! We were grateful to the Quality Improvement Managers, Moira Lawson and Kay MacDonald also Quality Improvement Officers, Deborah Masson and Jenny Glennie, who spent time on Wednesday chatting with staff and observing the learning taking place in various classes across school. We were open to feedback and I would like to thank all the teachers and PSAs for their perseverance, hard work and efforts to ensure we do the best we can to ensure high quality learning.

Next week the children may wear a "touch of tartan".

Thanks,

J. Fernandez

Please see below an update from Mrs Littlejohn, Mr Hughes and Mrs Jones on the week's learning.

P1 have been learning about Scottish wildlife, with lots of opportunities to learn about this during the play. We have had lots of sensory play this week with clay, porridge and pipes to move water. During drawing club they wrote fabulous stories about the 'The Wee Lassie who swallowed a Midge'.

P2 started their athletic sessions with a student from Robert Gordons University, they practised their running and balancing skills. P2 have started looking at the famous Scottish character 'Oor Wullie' and used their creative skills to create a Banchory Primary School interpretation of him.

P3 have been looking at Scottish tartan and used their knowledge to create their own tartan by weaving paper. They are increasing their knowledge of the Scots language by learning a different Scottish word each day.

P4 have been learning and practising different strategies for dividing and multiplying. We have looked at where Scotland is on world map and starting talking about different places of interest in Scotland. Next we are going to start looking at OUR favourite places in Scotland and why we love our beautiful country. Everyone performed their chosen Scots poem to the class and did a brilliant job! Great expression and a fantastic job of pronouncing some tricky, and unfamiliar words. We have been twirling round the gym hall learning The Gay Gordons and Strip the Willow, and in art we painted a Scottish landscape using one base colour. Ask us about tint and shade!

P5 have been working on improving mental calculations and have also been looking at tangrams. In literacy they wrote a short description of a Scottish setting, thought about how to extend their sentences and were discussing a book with their buddies. They have been working on their Scots poem and perform this in front of an audience. They learnt to correctly pronounce colours in French, designed tartans with Mrs Ridley and did pen and water colours with Mrs Mutch.

P6S have been extremely busy preparing for their Special Assembly on Scotland this Friday.



They have also been working with paper and electronic timetables and have used these to plan train journeys across Scotland.

They have also been creating line and bar graphs, making effective use of technology. Pupils started writing acrostic poems to show what the class value of "Respect" means to them.

This week P6D have been learning about budgeting in maths. Our final budgeting lesson used Chromebooks in groups. We researched things to do in a Scottish city and made note of what we spent and what we could spend from a starting balance. For Topic we learned about local castles and painted a castle thinking about detail and symmetry and typed out a short paragraph about our castle. We also learned about Scottish myths and chose a myth to write a report about. We made leaflets comparing Scotland to another country of our choice, which we researched. For French we made a poster, which included some written information all about ourselves.

P7 – This week the P7s are continuing to find out more about Scotland. They have been making notes about the John Muir Trust which they will use to write a short summary. Some have been undertaking a piece of extended writing about "Places you would Go" as part of transition to the Academy. In PE they have been taking part in Scottish Country dance lessons. In Maths they are continuing to work on Fractions, Percentages and Decimals, Multiples and Factors and Co-ordinates. With Mr McPake they are continuing to learn about electricity, batteries and circuits. In French they are continuing to learn the names for body parts and have used this knowledge to create and describe a monster. In Health and Wellbeing they are looking once again at SHANARRI and the Wellbeing Wheel. In RME they have been investigating the different Faiths in Scotland. Some have been finding out about birds that are native to Scotland and using this as a stimulus for a piece of art work. As part of the Rights Respecting School they have been looking at reusing and recycling which links to Article 3 of the UNCRC.

Enhanced Provision

It was great to have the swimming group started again, with some familiar and some new faces. It continues to offer an environment where all pupils can demonstrate and practice their communication skills in different ways.

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School Social Media: closed Facebook Groups – one for Nursery, one for the school and one for ASL/Support. Please ask for details if you can't access these – they are 'closed' groups.

Twitter: @BanchoryPrimary

Instagram: banchoryprimaryschool

Website: <https://banchory-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>