



### April Update

*We hope that you all had a restful Easter break and are now back into routine. It has been a busy time at Portree Primary School and I would like to thank you all for your support during the recent transition. We are very excited about what the future holds for Portree Primary and look forward to working together with parents and the wider community to offer our young people the very best educational experience possible. As always, we welcome your input and your suggestions on all aspects of school life.*

*This coming term will be busy, as it always is. Below is some information about events we know are taking place but there will be additional information emailed as it becomes available. Our School website, which was recently redesigned and our Facebook page are kept up to date with the most current information.*

*While the Gaelic Medium department have now moved to their new school, we still see this term as a phase of transition and have planned some joint activities as part of this. Next week, each class will visit the new school to view the school and join them for playtime. We also intend on holding a joint Sports Day and Extra-Curricular activities will continue, as they are, for the remainder of this term.*

*Sara Matheson  
Head Teacher*

### Staffing

Julie Maclean and Lorraine Munro have both recently left their PSA posts within the school and we wish them all the best on their new endeavours. We have appointed Amy MacNab and Fiona Roberston to these posts. Amy had previously been working as our PEF PSA and her post is now being filled by Mishca Constant. We very much look forward to working with our new members of staff.

Cait Malcolm will be working in the school office Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and we are currently going through the process of appointing a new clerical assistant to work Mondays and Tuesdays.

The post of playground supervisor is also currently going through the recruitment process.

### School Successes

The school have been well represented at a variety of events over recent weeks; Mrs Martin took a group of Primary 6 pupils away to take part in the Euro Quiz at Millburn Academy and a great day was had by all. Thanks to Mrs Martin for organising the trip.

Two of our shinty teams represented the school at the National finals in Fort William. Our P4/5 team reached the semi- finals at Lochaber High School and our P7 and under team represented the school very well at the Nevis Centre. Thanks are extended to the coaches for their continued support and to parent who accompanied children to these events.

Portree Primary entered two teams into the recent Rotary Quiz at Portree Primary School and finished a very respectable 2nd and 3rd place.

We were also well represented at a new badminton tournament that took place at Portree High School where our pupils played very well with excellent results.

Our recent day in support of Sport Relief raised £390.76. A big thank you to Miss Deplano for organising the day!

### Portree Primary Parent Council

The Parent council is a group of parents who meet four to five times a year to discuss issues that we feel are important to the life of our children while they are at school. It exists to support and encourage all aspects of our children's time in primary school. We now find ourselves at an exciting time in the life of PPS and we want to further our involvement in the school community. We are meeting on **Tuesday, 1st of May, 6.30pm** in the school staff room. All parents are warmly invited, even if you've never been before. You do not need to offer any level of commitment, but maybe just bring some good ideas or willingness to help out at one of our fundraising events. We will keep you updated over the coming weeks and months and we hope to engage many more parents in the future. For any further info please get in touch:

portreprimarypc@gmail.com or find us on Facebook: Portree Primary Parent Council.

Thanks,

Rebecca Langlands

PC Chair

### Open Morning

An Open Morning will be held at the school this **Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 10.45am**. The morning will begin in the gym with a presentation by our Young Digital Leaders about our new Chromebooks. You will then be invited to visit classrooms and view your child's work. Pupils can be dismissed with parents, if you wish.

### School Day Timing

We have moved to a single break and single lunch time at the school. Break time for P1-7 each morning is 11.00-11.15. P1-3s are served their lunch at 12.30 and P4-7s at 12.45. Lunch break is finished at 1.30. In lieu of the shorter lunch break, P1-3 pupils have an afternoon break 2.30-2.45. School start and dismissal times remain the same.

### School Meals

New menus were given out just before the Easter holidays and the price remains at £2.20 per meal for pupils in P4-7. Pupils are reminded that money should be paid at the start of each week.

We now serve meals as one sitting with Primary 1-3 being served at 12.30 and P4-7 being served at 12.45. In place of the longer lunch break for infant pupils, P1-3s will have a 15 minute interval each afternoon.

Tuck is now offered on a daily basis from the school canteen and this has proved to be a very popular option.

### School Uniform

A reminder that school uniform should be worn at all times. School jumpers, jacket etc. are currently offered from MacGregors Industrial Supplies in Portree.

Pupils are asked to have PE kits available at school, however, **no team colours are to be worn**.

### Yellow Jackets and School Strips

With the brighter days now upon us, we would ask that all reflective jackets please be returned to the school as soon as possible.

We are still missing several school strips and ask that these, also, be returned as soon as possible.

## Homework

In accordance with our school homework policy, homework will be reduced during the summer term to allow children to get outdoors and take part in other activities. Reading will remain the priority and some spelling homework may also be issued.

## Contacting the School

Arrangement for collecting children at the end of the school day should be made before children come to school. As the phones are, at times, unmanned and children can be involved in a variety of activities during the school day, any messages coming into the school office cannot be guaranteed to reach pupils ahead of home time. Homework diaries continue to be the most effective way of communicating with class teachers.

## Village Clean Up

Together with the Portree and Braes Community Trust, we are organising a Village Clean up on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of June**. We would ask any parents that are available to please come and join us on that day. We will gather in the school playground at 10am and will then move to different areas around the village to pick up litter etc. We would hope to finish back at the school with juice and biscuits by 11.30. If you are able to join your child's class to help us, it would be much appreciated.

## Strings Provision

Despite a positive response to the recent advert for a Strings tutor on Skye and subsequent interviews, the successful candidate has since withdrawn their acceptance of the post. The post is to be advertised again very shortly.

## Absence

If pupils are absent from school for any reason, a phone call should be made to the school office or an email sent first thing in the morning. Unexplained absences are required to be followed up.

## Library Reading Challenge

The library are currently running the 4-4-2 Reading Challenge for young people ages 5-12. The challenge involved reading 4 books which entitles them to one free SPFL child match ticket and one discounted adult ticket at participating SPFL Clubs. The challenge continues until the end of May. Please visit the library for further details.

## Known Important Dates

Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Dental visits to Primary 1 and Primary 7 pupils
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Open Morning – 10.45am
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Soccer 7s Plockton
Week of 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Visits to Portree Gaelic School
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Flouride Varnishing
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	BBC Sportsound visit
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Bank of Scotland Shinty Tournament 4.30pm
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	School photographer to take class photos
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Parent Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 2 May	Shinty – Talisker League – Portree 5pm
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed – May Day
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Skye School Cross Country KGV
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Joint Sports day with Bun- Sgoil Ghaidhlig Phort righ, Shinty Club
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Shinty - Talisker League – Kyelakin 5pm
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Rain Date for Sports Day
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Soccer 7' s Uig
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Shinty – Talisker League – Portree 5pm
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Highland Girls Football Competition
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Shinty – Rotary 6s – Kyleakin 4.30pm
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Village Clean Up
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Inservice Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Raasay Trip – Week 1 – EM Pupils

Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Reports sent home
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Open Morning
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Raasay Trip – Week 2
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Safe Highlander
20 <sup>th</sup> June -22 <sup>nd</sup> June	P7 Induction days – Portree High School
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Transition afternoon – Portree Primary
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Transition morning – Portree Primary
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Soccer 7s – Broadford