

Beancross Primary



Dear Parents,

I Hope that you and your family had a restful and enjoyable break, As we settle into the new term, it has been wonderful to see our children returning with enthusiasm, ready for another busy and exciting term.

January has been filled with fantastic opportunities for our learners. Our P6 and P7 Burns' Supper was a great celebration of Scottish culture, with poetry, songs and plenty of Scottish themed treats! We were incredibly proud of our children for their performances and their confidence, in addressing the haggis, delivering speeches and reciting poetry.

We have also been celebrating creativity through our cluster poetry competition where our children had an opportunity to represent our school, showcasing their talent.

January has also seen us developing our digital skills across the school too with our STEM Coding and Programming focus week. Our children have been exploring how technology can be used in problem-solving and innovation - key skills for their future.

As always, our newsletter includes a reminder of key dates for your diary.

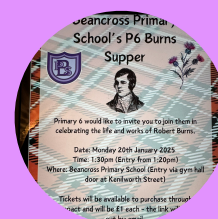
Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to sharing in a creative and innovative term 3 with you.

Best wishes,

Andrew Watson

Headteacher

BURNS SUPPER



CLUSTER POETRY



VoiceBox 20205

Burns Celebrations

Our Primary 6 and Primary 7 children hosted their Burns Celebrations this month with Primary 6 on 20th January and Primary 7 on 22nd January. Parents joined the children for these special events, where our children showcased their talents through poetry, music and storytelling, all while enjoying some traditional Scottish treats.

As Burns himself wrote, “O, wad some Power the giftie gie us, to see oursels as ithers see us!” - and what a joy it was to see our children embrace Scotland’s rich culture with such confidence enthusiasm.

A huge thank you to Mrs Tilly’s for their generous donation of Scottish tablet and fudge, and to our local Nisa store for kindly providing boxes of chocolates for everyone to enjoy.

A big thank you to our parents and class teachers for supporting the children in planning and delivering these celebrations.



CLUSTER POETRY COMPETITION

January is the perfect time to celebrate Scotland’s rich literacy heritage and our children have once again done us proud in the Grangemouth Cluster Poetry Competition - A Richt Blether. This Scottish-themed competition gives every child the opportunity to learn and perform a poem, with some even taking to the stage at assembly to showcase their talents.

Selecting just one winner from each stage to represent Beancross is never an easy task, as the effort, enthusiasm and expression shown by all our children is outstanding. A massive thank you to our teachers and parents for supporting the children with their poems, helping them perfect their actions, expressions and confidence.

A huge well done to our poetry winners who represented us at the cluster competition.

- ★ Peyton
- ★ Kai
- ★ Emily
- ★ Harrison
- ★ Meghan
- ★ Scott
- ★ Dixie

You all represented our school brilliantly - Burns himself would have been proud!

Voicebox 2025 - A Celebration of Communication and Laughter

Mrs Meneely is leading our participation in VoiceBox 2025, a national joke-telling competition for primary school children, organised by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. This initiative aims to highlight the joy and importance of communication in a fun and engaging way.

How It Works:

★ **School Level Competition:** All our children are invited to craft and share their funniest jokes. Each class will have the opportunity to present their jokes.

★ **Selection:** After classroom presentations, we will select the best joke to represent our school in the national competition.

★ **If our school's entry is among the 32 selected finalists (one from each local authority area) the child will be invited to perform their joke at the Scottish Parliament on 5th June 2025. Finalists will receive prizes!**

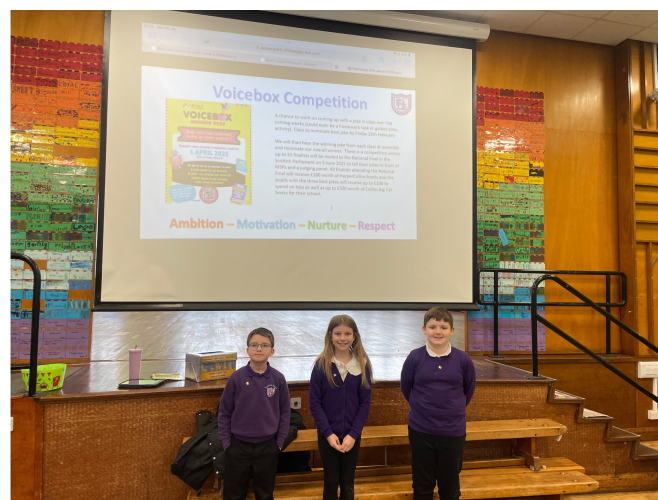
Why Participate?

Telling a joke is not only entertaining but also enhances language skills, including inference, comprehension and expression. The competition provides a platform for our children to practice verbal and non-verbal communication and audience engagement, all of which are vital components of communication.

Parents are very welcome to support their child in crafting and practicing their jokes. Working together, we can make this a memorable and fun experience!



Voicebox Assembly Launch



STEM: Coding

This week we have been exploring coding in our classes and well looking forward to sharing our learning with you at the Learning Showcase in March.

We're exploring:

- ✓ Scratch Junior
- ✓ Beebots
- ✓ Lego Spike Essential
- ✓ Code Combat
- ✓ Swift Playground
- ✓ Everyone Can Code
- ✓ Lego Spike Prime
- ✓ Sphero and Ollie



STEM: Fashion and Textiles

Our fashion and textile group were gifted £500 from Karen Wright of Developing the Young Workforce which they have used to buy textile resources for our next focus week. Primary 7 children visited Strathcarron to pick out fabrics for their up cycling project. Strathcarron have offered to display our finished designs in their shop window!

SEASONS FOR GROWTH CELEBRATION

This week, we celebrated the achievements of our children who have taken part in the Seasons for Growth programme. Having now completed their sessions, they enjoyed a special celebration in school alongside their key adults, where they had the opportunity to reflect on their journey and showcase their learning.

What is Seasons for Growth?

Seasons for Growth is a structured, small-group programme designed to support children who have experienced significant change, loss or grief in their lives. Using the metaphor of the seasons, it helps children explore their feelings, develop resilience, and find positive ways to manage change. Through discussions, activities and peer support, children build confidence and gain strategies to cope with the challenges they may face.

We are incredibly proud of the children for their commitment and engagement in the programme, and it was wonderful to see them share their experiences and achievements during this week's celebration.

Thank you to Mrs Rowan and Mrs Lang who lead and facilitate this group.

If you feel that your child may benefit from taking part in Seasons for Growth in the future, please drop the school an email.



Key Dates

Parent Council Disco

11th February 2025

The Parent Council have organised a disco for our children on the 11th of February 2025. Please follow the Parent Council on Facebook to keep up to date with the events they have planned.

Further information regarding times will be sent home soon.

Local Holiday

Friday 14th February and
Monday 17th February

Staff Development Day

Tuesday 18th February

Rights Respecting Schools

We are committed to upholding the principles of the Rights Respecting Schools Award, an initiative by UNICEF UK that places children's rights at the heart of our school's ethos and curriculum. This commitment ensures that our children not only understand their rights but also respect the rights of others.

Developing 'The Arts' - Article 29

Article 29 emphasises the development of a child's personality, talents and abilities to their fullest potential and our Primary 4 - 7 children have expressed a keen interest in enhancing the offering of the arts as part of our after school clubs programme. The children recognise that the after school clubs predominantly focus on sports and they would like more opportunities in music, art, drama and dance.

To bring this vision to life, we are seeking support from our partners, school staff and our parent community. If you have a particular skill in any of the arts, and would like to facilitate a 4-6 week block of an after school club, please let us know.

Outright Campaign

Our children have been actively participating in the Outright Campaign led by Mrs McLachlan. The campaign aims to empower children to speak out about children's rights and become advocates for change. So far, our children have explored what it means to be a global citizen, understanding their roles and responsibilities in the wider world. In the coming weeks, they will take on the role of 'changemakers,' identifying issues important to them and advocating for positive change within our community and beyond.