



Please ask for / Foighnich airson: Samantha Muir
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E-mail / Post-d: samantha.muir@highland.gov.uk
Date / Ceann la: 31.10.25

Dear Parents / A Charaidean Choir,

Welcome back to a new school session and we hope you all enjoyed a restful October break. There are lots of dates for your diary as this is a busy term. Remember, if you misplace this email then ALL dates are added to our school calendar which you can find at

<https://www.dunveganprimaryschool.com/>

Absences / Neo-Lathaireachdean: If your child is going to be absent from sgoil araich or school, please can you give this information to the school in advance. If your child is absent unexpectedly on any given day, please phone the school on 01470 521307 or email dunvegan.primary@highland.gov.uk before 09.30am, this applies for nursery children also.

Adverse weather number/Droch-thide: As we enter the more inclement seasons, there could be instances that the weather prevents the school from opening. The Head Teacher will send out a message on Seesaw with information on school opening times. Please be aware that adverse weather can be very localised and it can take time to gather all relevant information, and in some cases a late opening may be called.

Visitors / Neach-tadhail: If you are visiting the school for any reason, please enter the school grounds using the small pedestrian gate and buzz the door, someone will then let you in. Please then report to the office on arrival. If you need to contact the school during the school day, please note that the office is not always manned, and messages can be left on the answering machine. Thank you.

School Dinner Money / Airgead Dinneir: School lunches are available to all children in full time education, and are FREE up until they reach P6 & 7 when the cost is £2.40 per day.

2 days - £4.80
3 days - £7.20
4 days - £9.60
5 days - £12.00

Clothing / Aodach: Please can you write your child's name on their clothing, especially school jumpers. This helps us so much when we are trying to return 'lost items'. Please could we ask all children to bring in a pair of indoor crocs, trainers or shoes (NOT SLIPPERS) that will only be worn inside the school building. This will help to keep our carpets, cushions, rugs etc. clean and dry. If you

prefer, wellies for outside play are a great alternative. It is also a good idea to make sure that ALL children have a spare change of clothes in school.

YMI / Ceol: YMI music sessions will take place this term for our upper classes.

Swimming / Snamh: Our swimming blocks for the year have been confirmed on the following dates:

GM 4-7 week beginning 17th November

EM 5-7 week beginning 24th November

Mixed group - week beginning 26th January

GM 1-3 week beginning 16th March

EM 1-4 week beginning 23rd March

When your child is on their swimming block, they will travel to and from Portree on the Community Minibus & possibly a staff car, they are in the pool for 1 hour. Please make sure that they have their full swim kits, to include towel, goggles, swim wear. They are to bring their snack and water bottle with them for after their session.

Nursery / Sgoil Araich: Our nursery is open full time hours, from 9am – 3pm each day.

- Please can children have a pair of indoor shoes (NOT slippers), a change of clothes and a waterproof jacket each day.
- If you have any issues or queries about the nursery, then please feel free to email Catherine or Jeanette on catherine.matheson@highland.gov.uk or jeanette.slater@portreehigh.org.uk

Headlice / Mialan: Head Lice are a common problem in school aged children. They can't be prevented, but regular checking ensures early detection and treatment if necessary. Parents and carers should check their children's head once a week during hair washing. You need your usual shampoo, conditioner, and a detection comb – ask your local pharmacist to recommend a suitable one. Remember that you are looking for living moving lice, the only evidence that your child is infected. If you find a living louse, ask your local pharmacist, school nurse, health visitor or GP for advice regarding treatment.

End of Term / Deireadh an teirm: School & Sgoil Araich will close for the Christmas Break on Tuesday 23rd December and re-open on Wednesday 7th January 2026.

Important Dates / Cinn-latha cudromach:

Date TBC - Film G. GM classes will take part in Film G this year. More details to follow.

11/12th November - Atlas Arts project. We will have visiting art specialists in school these days to work with the children in producing their own children's book, which can be kept in our school library and used to form part of the Dunvegan Community Action Plan, in collaboration with DCT.

14th November - Children in Need. We are asking children to come to school in their Pyjamas to help raise money for Children in Need. Leona will go round the classes to collect donations to this very worthwhile cause.

20th November - Parent & Pupil Conferences. A time slot will be sent home with children in the next week or so for you and your child to attend our twice yearly Parent and pupil conferences. This will be an opportunity for you to come and chat with your child's teacher and have a look over some of their work.

4th December - Christmas Lunch. Traditional Christmas lunch will be served in the canteen to all pupils who wish to have it, please can you let Leona in the office know if your child would like to have this. The cost will be £2.40 for any P6 & P7 pupil.

6th December - Santa Dash. The annual Santa Dash is back in Portree on Saturday 6th December. Whether you want to run the full route, or walk it with the family and the dog, it's a great excuse to get out and have a bit of fun with friends. You can sign up to enter here: <https://www.skye-events.co.uk/events/skye-santa-dash> We would like to get a Team DPS to complete the race together. Make sure to wear a Christmas Jumper or Christmas themed headband / bopper.

Date TBC - P5, 6 & 7 Dance Festival. Pupils will travel to Portree to take part in the annual Dance Festival. Children are encouraged to wear smart party clothes to this event. Once the date has been finalised, I will let everyone know.

11th December - Panto trip. We are really delighted to be taking the children over to Eden Court in Inverness to attend the Snow White Panto. We will be leaving the school at 7.30am, please do not be late in dropping off children. We will aim to leave Inverness at approximately 3pm, and will be back at the school at approximately 6/6.30pm. Children must be wearing school uniforms for this trip so that they are easily identifiable to us. They are required to take lots of snacks, water bottles and a packed lunch. This trip is being part funded by the discretionary grant that we receive each year from Dunvegan Community Trust and also our wonderful Parent Council. A huge thank you to both groups for helping to make this happen.

12th December - Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper to school on Friday 12th December. We will collect money for Save the Children - suggested donation of £2.

17th December - Christmas Show. Please join us at Dunvegan Community Hall for our Christmas Variety show, doors open 6pm for a 6.30pm start. £5 entry fee for adults, kids go free. There will be a small raffle in aid of the school fund.

18th & 19th December - Christmas Parties. Christmas parties will take place on Thursday 18th for the upper classes and Friday 19th for the lower classes. Children can either come to school in their party clothes or take them with them to change into.

22nd December - Christmas Church Service. Parents and family members are welcome to join us for our Christmas Church Service at Dunvegan Church of Scotland at 10am.

Please call or email any time. Your support makes an incredible difference to our school and we consider you all a part of our team.

I look forward to seeing everyone over the course of the term.

Tapadh Leibh / Thank you,

Samantha Muir

Head Teacher / Ceannard
Dunvegan Primary School / Bun Sgoil Dhun Bheagain