

Isla Primary School Newsletter

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June 2025 **Awareness Integrity Respect**



Dear parents, carers and families,

As we approach the final few days and hours of the term, it is a time to reflect, to get organised and prepare. It has been an exceptionally busy last few weeks and the final few days are no different. For a number of you, this will be the final newsletter from the school. I have only been Head Teacher for three years, but within that timescale it has been a real pleasure to witness the growth and academic perseverance of all of our P7 learners during this time. There has been much change in that time and the change for improvement will continue for the rest of the school in the new academic session.

There have been many highlights over the year, although there have been some tough times too for our school community. Within these moments the school can support and guide when needed. Of key importance to this are our distinct school values of Awareness, Integrity and Respect. These three values encapsulate what we can collectively focus upon during differing times. The end of the academic session is the 27th June at 15:00. Prior to this, we will have our end of term Church Service at Isla Parishes, Kilry on Thursday 26th June at 14:00.

Our first week back is a very important one for everyone. Coming back refreshed and focussed on learning for a new year. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that we will have our UNICEF UK Gold Rights Respecting Schools accreditation visit on the 21st August. We are hopeful that we will be successful in achieving this prestigious accreditation. Only one school in Angus has achieved this so far.

Can I take this opportunity on behalf of all staff to thank you for supporting the school in all ways – training, transport, attending events, supporting home learning etc. This is very much appreciated. Wishing you all a very safe, peaceful and enjoyable Summer. With best wishes,

Simon McKell
Head Teacher

Peel Farm – Developing the Young Workforce

Once again Peel Farm supported our “Developing the young workforce” project for P5. This unique learning experience allows all children at Isla Primary the opportunity to gain valuable work experience with our neighbours. The day gives children the opportunity to learn about the coffee shop side of the business. Our children develop their literacy and numeracy skills through baking, serving and engaging with customers. The whole Team at Peel Farm were fantastic. Equally the children immersed themselves fully into their roles, listening and learning first hand and gaining valuable experiences.



Fashion afternoon “Creativity and Remake” - Sustainability

The last few weeks saw immense creativity around the school ahead of our fashion afternoon. This was a great afternoon. Many thanks to all families for donations of materials and support. A total of £140.50 was raised for the School Fund.



Breakfast club – “Rise and Shine”

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey in relation to a potential pilot Breakfast club provision. I am very pleased to share with you that we were successful in our application for funding through the Scottish Government and have secured significant funding which will support the staffing, delivery and food. Full details will be shared at the start of the term. We envisage this universal provision being operational in early September for the full academic year - operating every school day.

Pounds for primaries

We were delighted to receive a cheque for £100 from DC Thomson for the Pounds for Primaries initiative through The Courier and Evening Telegraph. Thanks for your support!

School photos

School photos by Shaun Ward Photography were taken this week. Details surrounding collection of orders will be forthcoming. Thank you.

Music workshops

We have been very fortunate to have four lessons with Roberto Cassani over the last few weeks. The children really took to his approach and creative styles with music. Roberto commented on the warm welcome of the school and the enthusiasm children had for his sessions, including bringing in their own instruments.

Summer learning

It is very important that all children take time to rest and enjoy the summer break. This year children are off for 7 weeks. This is a significant period of time off and we advise that children continue to read regularly and to listen to stories read to them throughout the holidays. This will support a far smoother transition back to full-time education in school come August. The Summer reading challenge is available via the AngusAlive library provision. [Summer Reading Challenge 2025 • ANGUSAlive-](#)

School improvement plan priorities

A full breakdown and plan for the new school year will be shared with parents/carers at the start of the new session. This will take place on Tuesday 26th August at 14:30 in the hall with tea/coffee available. There will also be an opportunity to go into class and meet teachers after this input.

“Move it Mondays” and “Welly Wednesdays”

Both “Move it Monday” and “Welly Wednesday” sessions have been big successes in our school over the last year. We will be embedding these important aspects of health and wellbeing and outdoor learning into session 2025-2026.

Gold Rights Respecting Schools – Accreditation day!

This will take place on Thursday 21st August 2025. Visitors will be asking all children about what it means to be a Rights Respecting School. Our recent Rights Respecting Day raised £40.50 for Shelter Scotland. We had some absolutely brilliant creative costumes for different rights! Thank you! The whole school focus for the day was Article 27 “The right to a Home”.

Sports Day

Thank you to everyone who came along to our rearranged Sports Day. Thankfully the weather stayed fair on this occasion! The winners of the Sports Shield will be announced at the Church Service. Points won on Sports Day will be added to the winners of the Inter House Senior football competition and the Inter House curling competition.

School Uniform – BORDER EMBROIDERIES

Thank you all for supporting the school uniform. This is very important to our school identity. We kindly ask that **skirts, school trousers or leggings are either grey or black moving forward**. Thank you. In addition to our school jumper and polo shirts, a new line is now available. Tartan pinafores and tartan skirts are also available. The feedback from both children and the Parent Council was very positive regarding these new additions. The new tartan can be worn any school day. Please note that **indoor shoes are required** to maintain a clean interior learning environment for all. www.border-embroideries.co.uk We kindly request that clothing has the **name of your child on a label**, to ensure that items do not become lost. Thank you.



Office

Please note that there is no staffing in the office on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Please email the school account isla@angusschools.org.uk if you require to make contact on these afternoons. A staff meeting takes place each Thursday morning at 0845-0900.

End of term Church service

The end of term Church service will take place on Thursday 26th June at 1400. This facilitates Mrs McInnes attending. The last day of term is Friday the 27th June with school closing at 15:00.

Dates for the diary

End of term Church service (14:00)	26 th June
End of term 15:00	27 th June
Summer holiday	
School In Service (school closed to pupils)	18 th August
School reopens for ELC-P7 09:00	19 th August
Gold Rights Respecting Schools visit	21 st August
Glenisla Games	22 nd August
Parents and carers School improvement information afternoon 14:30	26 th August