



November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had such a busy few weeks in school. Here's what we have been up to!

- **Hallowe'en House Challenges** – Our 4 Houses (Mither Tap, Craigshannoch, Millstone and Oxen Craig) took part in a series of challenges where teamwork and communication skills were put to the test. A giant web made from wool, a family of 3D spiders, disguising our House Captains as mummies and some drama sketches saw points being awarded for creativity, originality and teamwork. Well done to Oxen Craig who came out on top....by 1 point!
- **Dress Up Day and Disco**– All pupils and staff took part in our Hallowe'en Dress Up Day – some very spooky creations were on show! We all had such a good time at our Disco too!



- **Visit from our Chief Executive** – On Thursday 2 November, we welcomed Mr Jim Savege, Aberdeenshire Council's Chief Executive. He had heard all about our recent achievements and wanted to visit the school for himself to see all our fantastic work. Not only did he take part in the Daily Mile but he spent time in each class talking to the staff and children (and even took part in some singing!) He thoroughly enjoyed his visit.



- **Aberdeen University Trip** – Last Thursday, we all went on the bus to Aberdeen where we spent a fabulous day at King’s College.



We were invited there for a 'Doric Day' and took part in some 'lectures' from the staff, including story-telling, poetry and singing. We went on a tour of the campus where we were all SO excited to see Jock's Daunder Roon Monymusk on display in the window of Blackwell's Bookshop!

Next stop, we visited the Zoology building where there were many 'creatures of interest' – some were even hands-on exhibits (stuffed of course!)

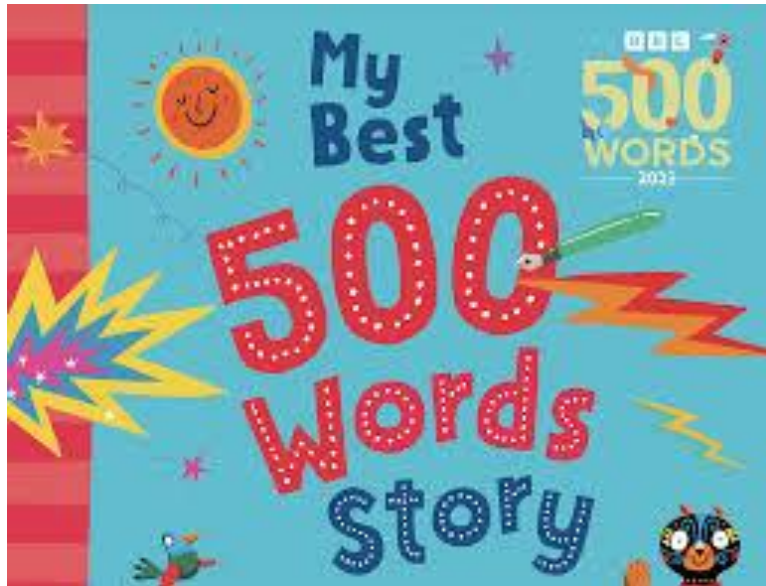
Our youngest pupils completed the day by selling their books and signing them for their customers, an early taste of fame for some!



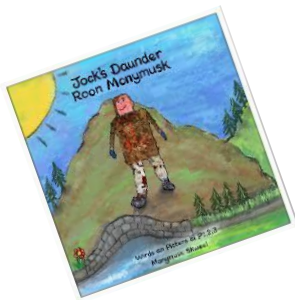
- **Remembrance Day** – Many thanks to those who joined us all at the Memorial in the Square for our Remembrance Day Assembly. Our House Captains did themselves and the school proud with their poetry reading and laying of the poppy wreath, handmade by all our pupils.



- **500 Words Story Writing Competition** – After several weeks of creating storylines and characters, setting scenes and the very important skill of editing, our P6/7 pupils submitted their 500 word stories to the annual BBC writing competition. We wish them all the best, however whatever the result, we know they have done a fantastic job and worked incredibly hard on this task.



- **London Trip** – I'm sure the word has got out now, that following on from the huge success of the recently published Jock's Daunder Roon Monymusk, we have been invited to go on the most amazing trip next February. Our P4 pupils will be heading down to London and the Palace of Westminster, where they will be given a tour of the Houses of Parliament, do a reading of their book to a group of MPs and then hopefully meet the Prime Minister afterwards! This is the most incredible opportunity for Monymusk School and a trip which we shall always remember!



- **After School Clubs** – Yesterday saw the start of our Green Goblin Car Club which will continue on Mondays from 3.15-4.15pm. Glee will resume on Wednesdays from 3.30-4.30pm starting on 22 November. Details to follow.



- **Children In Need** – We are celebrating Children in Need this year with a Pyjama Day followed by a Movie Night on Wednesday 15 November. Donations can be brought to school either during the day or at night if you wish. Further details have been issued.
- **In-Service Days** – A reminder that school is closed to pupils on Thursday 16 and Friday 17 November for In-Service Days. Staff will be working on our School Improvement Plan on the Assessment of Writing followed by a day at Inverurie Academy on Digital Learning.
- **Scots School o' the Year Party** – Tickets are now available to buy for our event on Friday 1 December in the Village Hall. We hope to see you all there!



<https://monymuskschool.co.uk/?fbclid=IwAR0oGTodk-qzu24x1SnsJRiwQbtRtElkkTKfg17pHAY8C2Gh8-gFojGRm6M>

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 15 th November 2023	6:00 – 8:00pm Movie Night for Children in Need
Thursday 16th November 2023	In-Service Day 2
Friday 17th November 2023	In-Service Day 3
Friday 24 th November 2023	Tempest Photography visit (change from original date)
Friday 1 st December 2023	Christmas Jumper Swap Shop (details to follow)
Friday 1 st December 2023	6:30 - 9:00pm Community Celebration of Scots School o the Year Award, Jubilee Hall, Monymusk
Friday 8 th December 2023	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 13 th December 2023	Christmas Fayre/Open Afternoon (details to follow)
Thursday 14 th December 2023	Sleeping Beauty pantomime, HMT Aberdeen
Monday 18 th December 2023	Whole School Christmas Outdoor Learning
Tuesday 19 th December 2023	Christmas Lunch Evening –Carols in the Square
Thursday 21 st December 2023	Christmas Party
Friday 22 nd December 2023	1:30pm Christmas Church Service
Friday 22nd December 2023	School closes
Monday 8th January 2024	School opens
Friday 9th February 2024	Holiday (Occasional Day)
Monday 12th February 2024	Holiday
Tuesday 13th February 2024	In-Service Day 4
Wednesday 14th February 2024	In-Service Day 5
Monday 26 th – Thursday 29 th February 2024	P7 visit to Palace of Westminster, London
Thursday 28th March 2024	School closes
Monday 15th April 2024	School opens
Monday 6th May 2024	Holiday (May Day)
Monday 3rd June 2024	Holiday (Occasional Day)
Friday 5th July 2024	School closes

Should you have any queries, please, as always, do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jill Moir
Head Teacher