

### **CAMPUS ACHIEVEMENTS AND UPDATES**

### **STAFFING UPDATES**

Mrs Kim Paterson finished in nursery this term. Thank you for your contributions to the campus. Ms Kenzie Beaton will continue to work full time in the nursery.

Mrs Garcet will be working in Primary Monday, Tuesday and Thursday next term and will also help out in high school for a few periods.

Ms Mhari McGillivray has been appointed to the school office.

A separate letter has been sent to High school parents regarding changes in the secondary.

Thank you to all the pupils and staff who have submitted articles. A huge thank you to Mrs Meldrum for editing this edition!

#### **NEXT TERM**

Campus opens: Monday 27 October

#### <u>Nursery</u>

Stay, Play and Learn sessions: Friday 31
October (feel free to dress up for Halloween)
Friday 21 November

#### Primary

Parental Engagement week beginning 3
November and week beginning 10 November

#### High School

S4 Parental Engagement Tuesday 4
November
S5/6 Parental Engagement Tuesday 18
November

School Show: Friday 12 and Saturday 13

December

Christmas Events TBD

Campus closes Tuesday 2.3 December at 1.15pm (Nursery, Primary and High School)



This term we have been focusing on seasonal changes associated with Autumn. We have made a variety of mixed media crafts including making wreaths out of leaves, pinecones, and sticks. We have enjoyed lots of outdoor learning and have explored local wildlife including squirrels and squirrel hunting! We have explored the changes in the environment associated with the changing seasons and looked at changes in colour, temperature and what happens to the wildlife when it starts to get colder. We have looked at autumnal patterns within numeracy and focused on developing rhyming within literacy looking at a variety of rhyming books associated with autumn. We have also been developing our fine motor skills playing with lots of loose parts.

We have been developing the nursery environment, both indoors and outdoors. The learners have particularly enjoyed thinking about their outdoor space and ways this can be developed to reflect their interests, and we will continue to make changes into the new term.

We have also enjoyed a visit from Child Smile and looked at the importance of toothbrushing for our health and well being and even got to brush Pink Panther's teeth!









Nursery/Primary: 01855 832041 or kinlochleven.primary@highland.gov.uk

High School: 01855 832042 or

kinlochleven.high@highland.gov.uk





# PRIMARY NEWS

## Pupil Appointments

### Congratulations!

to our new House Captain Co-ordinator, House Captains and Vice Captains for 2025-2026!

HOUSE CAPTAIN
CO-ORDINATOR

Logan Campbell



**MAMORE** 

House Captain – Ava Mitchell Vice Captain – Dylan Martin

LEVEN

House Captain - Maia John Vice Captain - Findlay Lewis

GARBHEIN

House Captain - Erin Fraser Vice Captain - Dylan Leighton

CALLART

House Captain – Isla Allen Vice Captain – Sophie Softley









Well done P4-7 – You've made a great start to the new session!

## P4-7 TERM ONE NEWS

It's been a very busy and exciting first term for our P4-7 students, as they settled themselves into different routines and forged new friendships.

At the beginning of the new session, we enjoyed listening to some incredibly interesting and diverse presentations, which helped everyone get to know each other a little better. Some students opted to design a poster to accompany their talk, while others chose to deliver their presentation through a series of Google slides. We had topics ranging from mountain biking, motocross, dogs, music of the 90s and even scorpions!

Our P6 students have been taking part in weekly swimming sessions which they are thoroughly enjoying, and the whole class has been very lucky in learning some Gaelic songs with Mrs Sutton.

An upcoming football tournament at Lochaber High School will involve some of the P7 boys so we look forward to hearing how they get on later this week. The Glencoe ranger will also be delivering some fun outdoor learning activities in our school grounds, to round off this term.





## P4-7 TOPICS TERMS 1 & 2

Well done P4-7 You've made a great start to the new session!

Our Topic for Terms 1 and 2 is 'Weather and Natural Disasters' and this has so far proved to be a really popular theme, sparking lots of interest and enthusiasm. The pupils have used their research skills to find out more about natural disasters that have occurred both locally and globally, and to help each other understand the processes involved in such extreme events. Again, some students chose to put together a slideshow or create a document on their Chromebooks and we enjoyed sharing the learning. Others displayed their findings on a poster, and in the following pictures, you can see how hard they worked to discover lots of amazing facts about hurricanes, tsunamis, landslides and tornadoes to name a few!

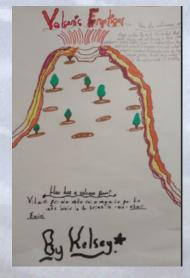
### **WEATHER AND NATURAL DISASTERS**

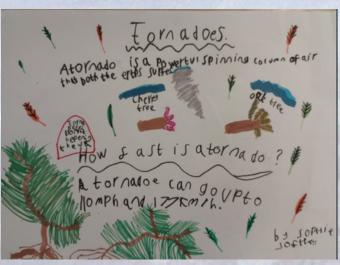






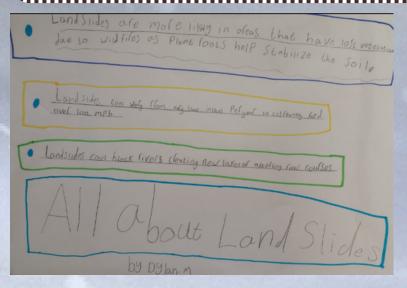




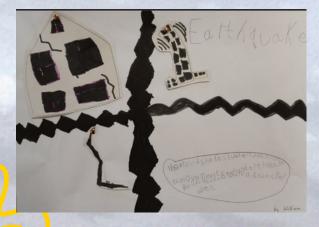


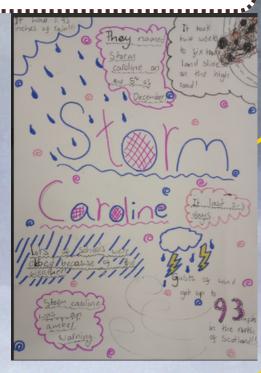


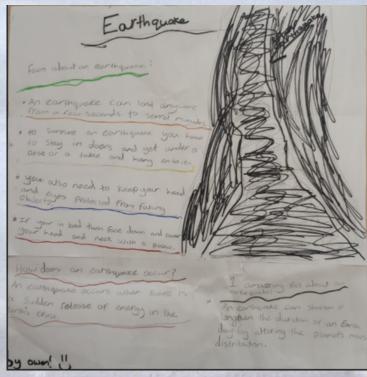
### **WEATHER AND NATURAL DISASTERS - CONTINUED**

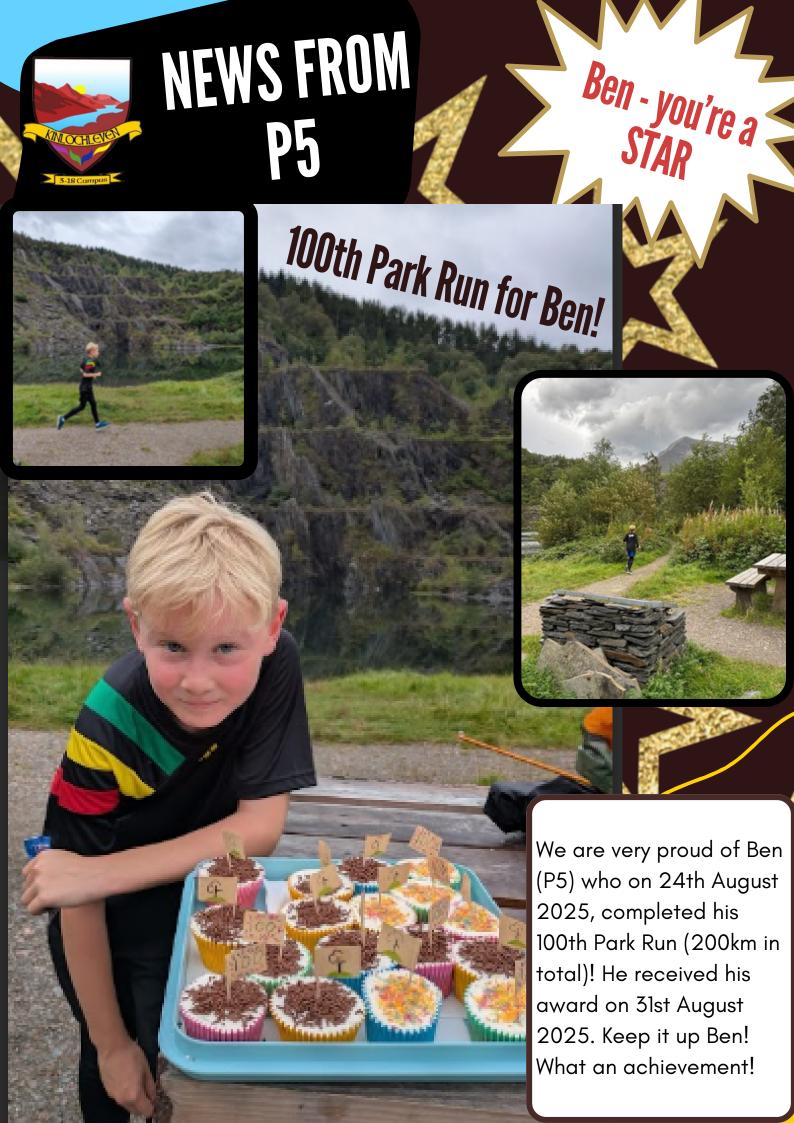














## Hokusai's 'The Great Wave'

Katsushika Hokusai was a famous Japanese artist. He was born in 1760 in a city called Edo (which is now known as Tokyo).

During his 70 years as an artist, he created over 35,000 pieces. He produced drawings, prints and paintings.

The students in P4-7 created their own colourful oil pastel drawings, inspired by Hokusai's 'The Great Wave' print.



Here are some of their striking pictures:























# SWIMMING LESSONS

The P6s, Maia (Maya), Kelsey, Ava, Sophie Softley and Erin went swimming in the Dolphin Pool at Fort William for swimming lessons.

It was fun!

Here's what we thought about it:

Maia: "The best! And less Maia: "The best! And less than I really thought!"

Ava: "Most fun thing ever! my thing with my Especially with friends!"

Erin: "Fun"

Sophie: "Amazing! Sophie: "Amazing! And better than I thought!"

Kelsey: "Fun and



By Maia John

So, you should go there! It is really fun!
We learned how to swim without nose
plugs and way more!

# **NEWS FROM** SECONDARY





## Sister Act Takes Centre Stage!

### Rehearsals in Full Swing – Get Ready to Book Your Seats!

Our fabulous Sister Act cast are currently learning songs, practicing dance routines and blocking scenes. Tickets to Sister Act will go on sale next term, and the performances will be at 7 pm on Friday 12 December and Saturday 13 December! Tickets will be £8 per adult and £5 per child.





### SCHOOL AND HOUSE CAPTAINS



School Captains: Lisa
Maccorquodale and Isla Donald

Callart: Iain Boyle and Peter
Prokop

Garbhein: Joseph Clay and Saul
McKinley

Leven: Amie Baxter and Emily
Baskerville

Mamore: Brodie Groundwater and Ash MacCallum-Miller

Well done to Leven - winners of the house competition for term

1. Leven pupils were rewarded with a cinema afternoon on the last day of term.

Year Group Representatives

Our pupil leadership team are in the process of recruiting year group reps so we can have a full pupil council.

We hope to have this finalised next term.

So far, we have had 3 inspiring assemblies led by the School Captains, Callart Captains and the Garbhein Captains.

Our assemblies have focused on school values and the UNCRC Rights of the Child.





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### Drama Students Reflect on Powerful Night at the Cinema

'Inter Alia' Sparks Insight and Inspiration for Advanced Higher Dissertations

Senior Drama pupils enjoyed a night out at the Highland Cinema this term. We watched Inter Alia, a National Theatre Live production about being and raising a young man at this time. The pupils were impressed by the accuracy of the script writing- saying it was exactly how young people communicate online. It has also influenced the content of their Advanced Higher Drama dissertations.



SCENE CUT TAKE

### **Watch Live Theatre**

We watched a recording of The Crucible together at lunch and after school on Thursday 25th September. Four pupils attended all or part of the show. They were impressed by the acting and the portrayal of the injustice of the Salem witch trials. It'd be lovely to see more pupils voting for a piece of theatre they'd like to see and coming along next month when we'll try this on a Monday!

I've liked high school so far and I'm excited to see what's gonna happen in the future. I've learned how good the food and I have a cheese panini every day, and I like how you can leave the school at lunch. In P.E I like volleyball because u can hit it so far up in the air and then smack it to the other side of the net. I like music class because I actually play piano and its fun to practice at school. Noah Henderson

I like doing the Music and Art classes. I like that how we get to swap classes and after 50 minutes you get to walk to another room. I like how lunches are 50 minutes long and it gives me time to talk to my friends and eat lunch.

I have learned how to add fractions better, and different painting techniques and I am looking forward to going to Outward Bound.

Casey Armour

# So, what do our new S1s think of High School?

I have learned a lot of cool I things here in Kinlochleven high. And this bit of writing is to share about what I like here.

I like most of the subjects here because it gives us a whole lot more choice than in primary (its cause of the bigger classrooms mostly). The subjects I like are Art, Science, PE, English and History just to name a few but my favourite class out of all is the most important, marvellous Lunch.

But overall I like this school, it's way bigger way larger way more making friends friendlier (not saying I dont have any friends I have 25 or so) but I love this place and I'm so lucky this place was built because its a lovely place and I will cherish all the new memories I will make.

Riley Grant



# S1s<sup>co</sup>

# S1s

In maths we're learning about scientific notation, fractions and percentages; I quite enjoy scientific notation, but I do struggle a bit with the fractions and percentages.

In music we're currently focusing on beats per bar and using major and sharp.

I really like music, especially playing the keyboard, and I am looking forward to eventually attempting to compose our own music in class.

So far I've made new friends and have really began to settle in well, even when one of my friends that I have had for a while and was looking forward to being in this school ended up moving, I am enjoying high school so far.

Rosie Baines

What I like in my school?
I like all of the teachers and the subjects especially
Music, P.S.E, Maths, PE and English

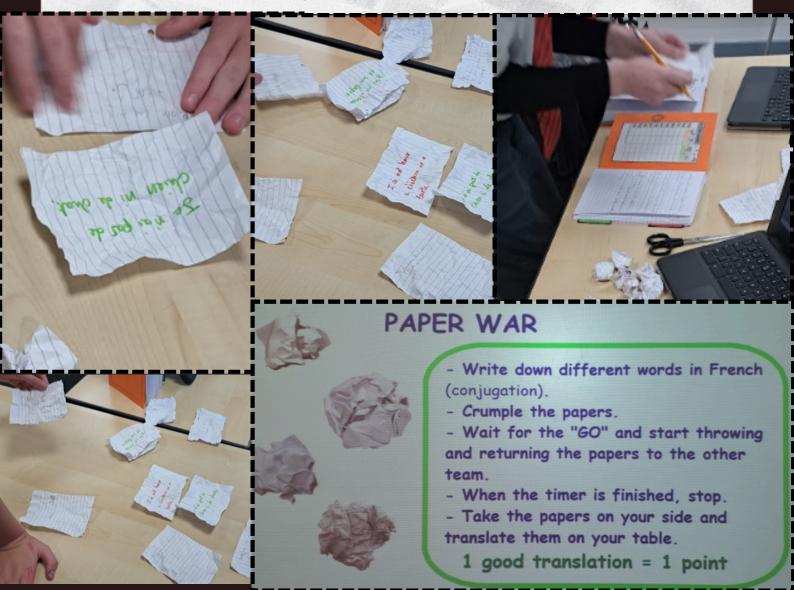
What I don't like
I don't like when the bell goes. We need to go up and down the stairs, I know it's kinda exercise!

Abhijith Anish

## Paper War in S1 French!

# Flying Sentences, Fast Translations, and Teamwork in Action

Pupils in S1 French engaged in a Paper War. They had to prepare French and English sentences on pieces of paper. Then we scrambled up the papers and threw them to each other in teams. After 2 minutes each team gathered the papers on their side and translated them. We practice team work, collaboration and our translation skills relating to the vocabulary of pets.



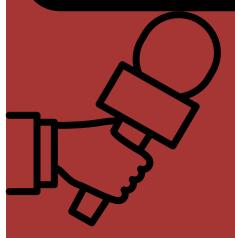
### UCAS Discovery Day Inverness 18 September



Last Thursday, eight of us S6s went to UHI Inverness to attend a UCAS Discovery Day. At the University, there were many friendly, zealous individuals, promoting different universities, conservatoires and colleges across Scotland.

It was the perfect opportunity to ask these people specific questions we had about courses and gain some extra knowledge about courses we had our eye on. Some of us were shown courses we had not known about, but were eligible for, and could take into consideration. Many of us spoke to people whose schools we already wanted to go to and felt reassured that we were on track. All of us were enthusiastically encouraged to attend open days for these schools, which we are hoping to follow through with.

The journey may have been just as long as our time spent there, but it felt like a worthwhile experience. I do, however, wish it had been available to all S6s, but that is something our teachers have noted and will take into consideration for the future. Overall, it was an enjoyable event that left us excited to take our next steps!



### REPORTED BY: LISA MACCORQUODALE

# SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND (SDS)

### TERM 1

During Term 1, we have met with pupils for 1:1 career appointments and delivered group sessions across all year groups. These included:

- An introduction to Skills Development Scotland for S1 pupils
- Information on post-school routes and pathways for senior phase pupils
- A refresher on the support and services available to the remaining year groups

### TERM 2

Looking Ahead with S3 Pupils –
Exploring Future Pathways
In Term 2, we will begin working with
S3 pupils to explore their interests and
start meaningful conversations about
their future. These early discussions are
a valuable way to help young people
begin thinking about life after school—
whether that involves university,
college, employment, or
apprenticeships.

This process can also lead to exploring opportunities such as Foundation Apprenticeships, work experience placements, or even finding a parttime job. Encouraging these conversations at home can be a great way to support your child as they start to consider their next steps.

### **S4-6 DROP IN**

On Friday 31st October, 9:40 am until 13:15, Sophie Fyfe, our Trainee Careers Adviser, will be hosting a drop-in session for all S4 to S6 pupils in the meeting room. This session is designed to support pupils in researching college and university courses, with a focus on developing independent research skills. Pupils will be introduced to a range of useful tools and websites to help them explore their interests and match these to relevant courses in further and higher education. It's a great opportunity for learners to begin thinking about their next steps and to access tailored guidance in a relaxed, informal setting.



## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND (SDS)

### **PARENT TOOLKIT**

Skills Development Scotland offers a comprehensive parent and carers toolkit designed to help parents and carers support their child's career journey. The toolkit includes guidance on starting career conversations at home, information about work experience opportunities, advice for supporting your child as they prepare to leave school, and a range of helpful tips and resources available across the SDS website. Parents and carers | My World of Work

### **CAREERS SUPPORT - HERE WHEN YOU NEED US**

Pupils can request a careers appointment at any point throughout the academic year. The Skills Development Scotland (SDS) Careers Advisers are based in school on a weekly basis and are available to support young people with their next steps—whether that's subject choices, further education, apprenticeships, or employment. We can be contacted directly by email using the details below, and you'll also find us at parents' evenings if you'd like to discuss the support your child is entitled to from SDS. Louise.oliveresds.co.uk / Sophie.fyfeesds.co.uk

We look forward to continuing our work with pupils throughout the year, supporting them in exploring their future career and learning options. Sophie & Louise



# Lochaber Careers Fair

### 4 September 2025

Our Senior Phase pupils attended the Lochaber Careers Fair hosted by Lochaber High School and coordinated by DYW. There were forty seven organisations exhibiting, and the day was a great opportunity for our pupils. They met with people who can help shape their futures – whether that's through a part-time job, further study, work experience, an apprenticeship or a job after university.

Before attending the fair, the pupils were briefed on how to maximise their experience and prepared questions to ask various organisations. It was a very constructive day out, and the pupils were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Thanks to DYW for arranging this!







### P7 Boys' Football Try Outs

### by Findlay and Owen

On Friday 26 September, we took part in a try out session to select a team for a tournament on 9 October.

What schools were there?

St Brides, Glencoe, Ballachulish and Kinlochleven were all there and there were some people that we knew named Cooper, Finlay, Jonny and Eddie.

The people that scored were Owen and Findlay (We are P7s, and we went up against three S1s.)

Who are the people that scored?

Where is the tournament going to be held?

The tournament is at Lochaber High School, Fort William. After school, Mr Smith will be taking us there.

After the tournament, Mr Smith will be taking us to McDonald's to get something to eat and then we will come back to the school!

What are we doing after the tournament?

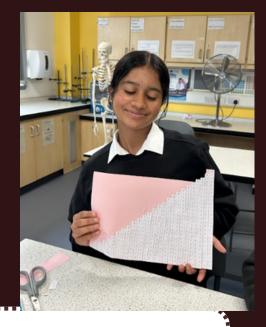
# Harvest Time in the School Garden!

It's harvest season in the school garden, and we've been inundated with vegetables! Our 1st and 2nd Years have especially enjoyed getting their hands dirty, digging up a bumper crop of tatties (potatoes).

We've had a fantastic yield this year, with onions, beetroot, and vibrant rainbow chard all thriving. The peas were also a hit - or so we've heard - they were snapped up by enthusiastic students so quickly that very few made it back to the kitchen!



## Higher Biology Students Explore DNA Science at the University of Glasgow



Higher Biology students recently spent an exciting and educational day at the University of Glasgow, deepening their understanding of DNA as part of their course curriculum.

Having studied DNA in class, the visit offered a unique opportunity to explore the subject further through real-world applications. Students heard from leading scientists at the forefront of DNA sequencing research, gaining valuable insights into the latest developments in the field.

The day also included hands-on experience in a university lab, where students took part in an experiment using gel electrophoresis to separate and identify DNA sequences.

Beyond the academic experience, students had the chance to engage with professionals working in biological sciences and explore the impressive university facilities. The atmosphere and environment left many feeling inspired, making the idea of studying at university feel both achievable and exciting.









# Orchestra

As of recently there is a student within the school who is currently participating in an orchestra (a.k.a. The awesome person writing this). This orchestra is with Highland Young Musicians (see logo).

### 

The student who is participating in this orchestra is a young brass player.

The pieces being performed next spring for this orchestra are:

Rienzi Overture – Wagner

Prelude, Argonaise and Les Toreadors

(Carmen Suite Movement 1) - Bizet

Habanera and Marche de Contrabandiers

(Carmen Suit Movement 2) - Bizet

The HYM concert will also feature a string orchestra, wind band and many more talented groups of musicians.

The concert will be in March 2026.

# 

As of August 2025 there are several young musicians participating in a local wind band at Lochaber High School.

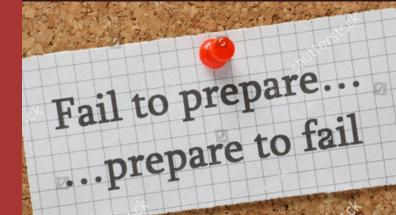
As of the moment, the wind band (LHS Senior Wind Band) are playing:

Music for a night sky
Serenghetti
X Factor

As of the moment there is a brass player and a woodwind player participating in the LHS Senior band.

The concert will take place in December 2025 and they will also be performing in Spean Bridge on Remembrance Day.

# SENIORS - PRELIM PREPARATION



### A C H I E V E

Achieve is now available for all Nat 5, Higher and Advanced Highers as well as Numeracy. It is an online application.

- Purpose: A learning, teaching, and study tool for students and teachers, particularly for Scottish National 5 and Higher exams.
- Features:
  - Interactive digital textbooks with key concepts explained and illustrated.
  - o Online assessment module to test subject knowledge.
  - Self-evaluation toolkit to identify strengths and areas for improvement.
  - Links to past paper questions and solutions, and free external resources.
  - o Video tutorials with advice on study and revision strategies.
- Accessibility: Can be used both in school and remotely.
- Subjects: Covers 11 of the most common SQA subjects



### HERE'S HOW...

Go to: <a href="https://achieve.hastag-learning.co.uk">https://achieve.hastag-learning.co.uk</a>
Sign up with email address and password
Kinlochleven High School Code: 87V8hMYj

# SENIORS - PRELIM PREPARATION



### S T U D Y S U P P O R T

All Highland schools have access to the following online resources that are designed to help our seniors pupils with their learning and preparation for exams.

### S C H O L A R

Each of our pupils can use Heriot Watt university's service

Scholar https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/

which provides course materials, quizzes and assessments for most senior courses.

## E - S G O I L

We also have access to E-Sgoil where pupils can access with their Glow accounts at:

https://sts.platform.rmunify.com/account/signin/glow

E-Sgoil provide after school online lessons for National 5 and Higher/Advanced Higher courses.

### S M A L L P R I N T

PLEASE ASK YOUR CHILD TO SPEAK TO MR SMITH IF THEY NEED ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ACCESS THESE FANTASTIC SERVICES.