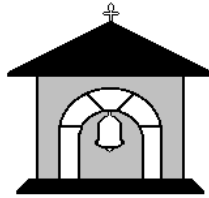


**Comhairle na Gaidhealtachd- The Highland Council
Badenoch/Strathspey**



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**Kip Clark
Head Teacher**

Friday 19th April 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Many of you will be aware that the timetable at Grantown Grammar School is changing from the May 20th, the school day will start at 8.40am and end at 3.40pm. The changes have been made to align the school day across all secondary schools in Highland. Unfortunately, an alteration to our timetable is now unavoidable.

Grantown Primary share school transport with the Grammar and because of the changes, transport timetables have been adjusted, some bus companies are unable to provide a second bus because of staffing issues and service timetables, meaning that children could arrive at the primary school much earlier and have to stay on the bus waiting until 8.45am when staff are on duty. Obviously, this is not an appropriate situation and one we wish to avoid. Transport companies and Education have looked at several solutions including staff starting supervision earlier, but this would have an impact on classroom support. We have reviewed our own timetable and are changing the school day to match the earlier start at GGS.

At the recent Parent Council meeting in March, parents raised for the second time the possibility that we could move to a 4.5-day week at Grantown Primary, bringing us in line with our associated school group partners at Nethybridge, Deshar, and Carrbridge, as well as other schools in the valley. We are the only school in Badenoch and Strathspey doing 5 days a week in school, all the others work a 4.5 week. There are pros and cons for both school patterns, but something we hadn't considered until it was raised at the parent council meeting, was the fact that our children are missing out on sports clubs, swimming lessons and dance classes being run on Friday afternoons. Children in the rest of the valley can attend clubs, classes and fixtures because of the Friday half day.

Schools working a 4.5-day week start the school day earlier each day and for 4 days they finish later, this evens out the teaching time to be the same as 5 days in school.

We are proposing to move to the following timetable from the week beginning 20th May:

P4 -P7		Break		Lunch	
Monday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45am-12.30	12.30 -1.15	1.15 -3.10pm
Tuesday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45am-12.30	12.30 -1.15	1.15 -3.10pm
Wednesday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45am-12.30	12.30 -1.15	1.15 -3.10pm
Thursday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45am-12.30	12.30 -1.15	1.15 -3.10pm
Friday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45am-12.30		

P1 -P3		Break		Lunch	Afternoon break	Finish
Monday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45 -12.15pm	12.15 -1.15pm	2.15 -2.30pm	3pm
Tuesday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45 -12.15pm	12.15 -1.15pm	2.15 -2.30pm	3pm
Wednesday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45 -12.15pm	12.15 -1.15pm	2.15 -2.30pm	3pm
Thursday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45 -12.15pm	12.15 -1.15pm	2.15 -2.30pm	3pm
Friday	8.45 -10.45	10.30-10.45am	10.45 -12.30pm			

Kind regards
Kip Clark