

Cairney School aspires to be a happy, safe and inclusive learning community where everyone is treated fairly and with respect and encouraged to be the best they can be. Through high-quality, enjoyable, learning experiences, we strive to inspire and challenge our learners to achieve their fullest potential. In our school, learning is an active, exciting, positive experience. We work in partnership with parents, carers and the wider community to enable our children to become

- Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.



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## Cairney School Newsletter No. 9: 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

### School improvement planning

Last month we invited everyone to complete a questionnaire to get your views about the school. 6/8 questionnaires were returned and these are summarised as follows:

### Cairney School: Parent Questionnaire

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	The school helps my child to be more confident.	3	3	0	0	0
2	My child enjoys learning at school.	5	1	0	0	0
3	My child's learning is progressing well.	4	2	0	0	0
4	My child is encouraged and stretched to the best of his/her ability.	4	2	0	0	0
5	The school keeps me well informed about my child's progress.	2	4	0	0	0
6	My child feels safe at school.	4	2	0	0	0
7	My child is treated fairly at school.	3	3	0	0	0
8	I feel staff really know my child as an individual and support him/her well.	2	4	0	0	0
9	My child benefits from school clubs and activities provided outside the classroom.	3	3	0	0	0
10	The school asks for my views.	3	3	0	0	0
11	The school takes my views into account.	3	3	0	0	0
12	The school is well led.	5	1	0	0	0
13	Overall, I am happy with the school.	5	1	0	0	0

## Some of the comments you made:

### You said:

*All good!*

### What we are doing:

*Thank you! 😊*

### You said:

*I prefer the older method of reporting as it detailed an individual's progress in each subject area which is not quite met through more general feedback through the year*

### What we are doing:

*We will keep this in mind when we evaluate our work this year and think about reporting progress to parents next year*

***Thank you to all of you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire and for your ideas and comments.***

The information that you provided will help us to decide what to look at next to improve the school. The main area for improvement identified was more school clubs and activities provided outside the classroom. We will be looking at your responses in conjunction with those made by staff and pupils as we plan our school improvement priorities for next session

All returned questionnaires were entered in to a prize draw and the winner was Mrs. Caddell! 😊

### **Coffee and blether! (Improved reporting to parents: Sharing our learning)**

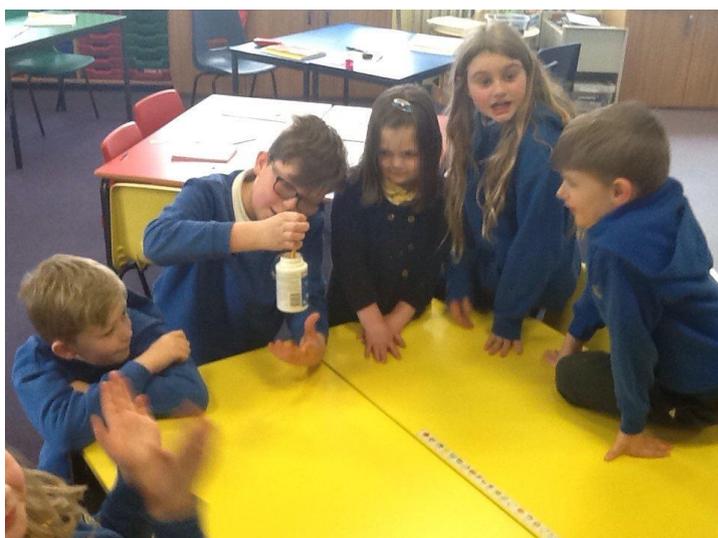
Thank you to everyone who managed to come along to our 'Coffee and blether afternoon'. We hope you enjoyed seeing the learning displayed in the school and hearing about it from the children. Thank you to everyone who kindly bought a cookery book, a raffle ticket and donated money. We raised £140 towards the cost of the bus for our trip to the theatre in June which is great news!

### **Cairney School Reading Challenge (2)**

Congratulations to Heidi (P1), Isla (P3), Isla (P4), Eva (P5), Matthew (P6) and Cameron (P7) who have all successfully completed our Cairney School Reading Challenge! Well done everyone! 😊

### **News from the staffroom**

We are delighted to welcome back Mr. Main, our music visiting specialist teacher, who is working with the children on Tuesdays. We also welcome Mrs. Sutherland who will be teaching the children on Mondays this term to allow me to undertake some development work in Science for Aberdeenshire. Mrs. Sutherland was in for a few days last term so has worked with the children before.





### **News from the classroom**

This term we will be learning about electricity and about maps, our local area and natural disasters and how these can impact on people. We are learning to write myths in our writing lessons and will also be looking at the world of work.

### **Scrap shed**

Last term the pupil council wrote to you to ask for donations for our 'scrap shed' for 'loose parts' play at break time and lunchtime. We have cleared out the shed in the playground and are now ready to receive any donations that you might have.

### **'Cairney Critters'**

The first meeting of Cairney Critters (mums and babies/toddlers group) is taking place this week. The group are planning to meet on Mondays from 9.30 -11.00. Please feel free to spread the word about the group and/or to come along. If you require further information please contact the school and we can pass your contact details on to the group.

### **Improved reporting to parents: Sharing our learning - school Twitter Account**

As part of the on-going process of regular sharing of information about the children's learning and what is going on in school throughout the school year, a school 'Twitter' account has been created. This is a closed account and only those given permission to access to it will be able to see the content. If you wish to follow us on Twitter, please search for Cairney School and click on the request to follow us and we will give you access to the account.

Thank you to those who are already following us on Twitter – we hope you are enjoying finding out what we are learning in school and seeing what we are doing in the classroom!



### **Joint Science Day Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

Last Wednesday the staff and pupils from Glass School joined us for a day of science with the theme 'Mission to Mars'. It was a very busy day with 40 children in the school! We were also joined by Gayle Duffus, an officer from Education Scotland and Christine McLellan who is the Developing the Young Workforce Education Officer for Aberdeenshire. The children from the two schools were mixed together in groups and undertook a variety of science investigations and technology challenges. They also had an opportunity at break time and lunchtime to mix and make new friends. The feedback from the children and adults was very positive and it was a great success.



### Paper copies of school newsletters

We are being encouraged to go 'paperless' as much as possible so to that end this will be the last paper copy of the school newsletter that you will receive. **From next month those families who have provided the school with an email address will receive the newsletter by email only.** We will continue to provide a paper copy for those families without an email address.

### Dates for your diary

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Day holiday: school closed

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Local holiday: school closed

5<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> June P7 residential trip to Loch Insh with Clatt, Largue and Gordon Primary School

12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June – P7 transition week to The Gordon Schools

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – school closes for the summer holidays

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Kim C Aplin  
Head Teacher



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**Parent comments and Ideas**

**Please share your child/children's out of school achievements**

Name: .....

Signed: .....