

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: 22nd April 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

School improvement planning

Last month we invited everyone to complete a questionnaire to get your views about the school. 8/9 questionnaires were returned and these are summarised as follows:

		Strongly agree	Agree	Dis-agree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Un-answered
1	My child likes being at this school	8	0	0	0	0	0
2	Staff treat my child fairly and with respect	6	2	0	0	0	0
3	I feel that my child is safe at school	6	2	0	0	0	0
4	The school helps my child feel confident	6	2	0	0	0	0
5	I feel staff really know my child as an individual	6	2	0	0	0	0
6	My child finds learning activities hard enough	4	3	1	0	0	0
7	My child receives the help they need to do well	5	3	0	0	0	0
8	My child is encouraged to be healthy and take regular exercise	4	4	0	0	0	0
9	The school supports my child's emotional wellbeing	4	2	0	0	1	1
10	My child is making good progress at school	5	3	0	0	0	0
11	I receive helpful information about how my child is doing e.g. informal feedback, reports	5	3	0	0	0	0
12	The information I receive about how my child is doing reaches me at the right time	5	3	0	0	0	0
13	I understand how my child is assessed	4	3	0	0	1	0
14	The school gives me advice on how to support my child's learning at home	3	4	0	0	0	1
15	The school organises activities where my child and I can learn together	4	3	0	0	0	1
16	The school takes my views into account when making changes	3	3	0	0	0	2

17	I feel comfortable approaching the school with questions, suggestions and/or a problem	5	3	0	0	0	0
18	I am kept informed about the work of the Parent Council and/or parent association	3	1	1	0	0	3
19	I feel encouraged to be involved in the work of the Parent Council and/or parent association	3	1	1	0	0	3
20	I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in the school	5	3	0	0	0	0
21	The school is well-led and managed	5	3	0	0	0	0
22	The school encourages children to treat others with respect	5	3	0	0	0	0
23	I would recommend the school to other parents	6	2	0	0	0	0
24	Overall I am satisfied with the school	5	3	0	0	0	0
25	The school deals with bullying	4	2	0	0	1	1
26	My child was supported if they moved to a new school within the last year	1	2	0	0	0	5

Thank you for the lovely comments and compliments that many of you took time to add to the questionnaires before returning them. They are very much appreciated! 😊

You said:

'Cairney School is superb, well managed and the children are always learning lots of different subjects. Everyone at the school is positive and approachable. I have a lot of confidence in the school'.

'There is advice in the report card in regard to helping my child, which is great and we will do our best to support her at home. We love how the children have settled at Cairney School. It is a fantastic school'.

'Thank you for working so hard and taking such good care of our kids. You all do a very difficult job – thank you for doing it so well'.

'Cairney School has an excellent leader who strives to ensure all children do their absolute best – always! She is approachable and friendly – both for parents and pupils. The team around her does an amazing job and I feel that the school deserves the recognition for the hard work they do!'

What we are doing:

We support children's well-being in a variety of ways. The children are actively encouraged to speak to an adult if they are upset or worried about something. Through teaching and learning experiences we nurture the development of positive relationships, social skills and resilience. We promote a 'can do' attitude through a growth mind set and encourage the children to develop confidence and self-belief. To help us to identify when and where or if extra support is needed, we are in the process of developing a system to keep track of children's wellbeing based on the eight wellbeing indicators: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

We do not have a Parent Council or Parent Association at the moment at Cairney School. We are currently in the process of arranging for Aberdeenshire's parental engagement officer to come to Cairney to meet with anyone interested in setting up a parental council/parent group.

We invite you to express your views, offer your suggestions and comments on our monthly newsletter. We have recently asked for your views during our annual evaluation of our current school vision statement. Your views are collected via our annual questionnaire and we invite you to comment/ offer suggestions about how we spend our Pupil Equity Fund. Your views and comments are always taken in to account in decisions we make.

Our Anti Bullying policy is available in school and on our school website. We operate an open door policy and promote a safe, secure and happy learning environment in a friendly and welcoming school. Any concerns raised by parents/carers or pupils are always taken seriously and are investigated thoroughly, recorded and dealt with. We take bullying incidents seriously and deal with them promptly.

Thank you to all 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

News from the staffroom

At the moment no one has been appointed to replace Ms. Robertson and the vacancy has been re advertised. Until someone is appointed, I will continue to teach full time. We are delighted to welcome back Mr. Baird, our visiting art specialist teacher, who will be working with the children on Tuesdays.

News from the classroom

We are learning to create suspense in our creative writing this term. The topics in Maths will include Angles, Number Work, Time, Shape, Position and Direction. We have swimming for 6 weeks and our other PE session will be on a Friday, when we will begin thinking about getting ready for sports day through athletics and fitness. We plan to undertake an Enterprise project this term and in Health we will be looking at keeping ourselves safe, medicines and the effects of alcohol and drugs on our health. We have big plans to improve and 'spruce up' our outdoor space too!



We are off for a picnic on the moon!

Breakfast on Wednesday

We invite all the children to have breakfast with us before school on Wednesday when Mr. Barclay (our cello teacher) will be cooking pancakes. Breakfast will be served from about 8.45 onwards!

Dates for your diary

Monday 6th May - May Day holiday: school closed
Monday 3rd June – Local holiday: school closed
Friday 5th July – school closes for the summer holidays

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Kim C Aplin
Head Teacher



Joint Eco Group and Pupil Council meeting

Cairney School Newsletter No. 9th: 22nd April 2019

Parent comments and Ideas

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

Name:

Signed: