



Old Rayne School News

Working Together and doing our best for success!

Session 2016/17

March 2016

March is a busy month for us here in the school. It started with the very successful World Book Day, then our Engineering Day junk challenge which was great fun.

Still to come we have our school trip next week, our Comic Relief 'Red Nose Day' and, on Monday 27th we will be receiving a QIV. (A Quality improvement visit, local authority personnel will be coming into the school to observe all aspects of the school and give us tips on how we can do even better)

As part of the QIV process, Aberdeenshire council will be looking to speak to a range of pupil and parent groups. If you are likely to be available on the day, it would be a huge help to us if you were able to come in for a chat about the school and your experiences. Please get in touch if you are likely to be available either through email or just let us know at the gate.

Mr Ferguson

Reporting

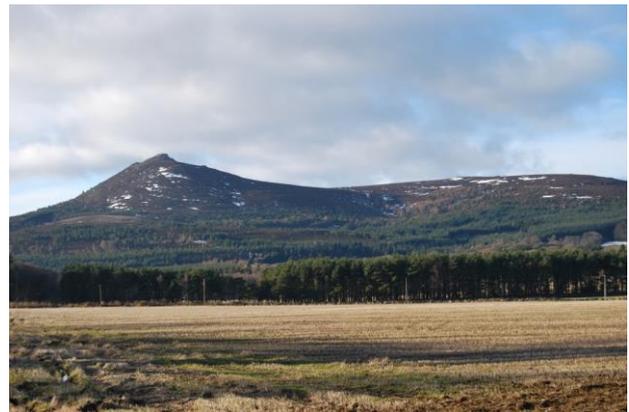
Our Parent Council recently asked you when you would prefer to receive your children's written reports and conduct parent interviews.

We had a good quantity of responses so thank you for taking the time to let us know what you thought.

The results showed a preference (just over 45%) for the reports and interviews being close together. Around 25% wanted them spread out over the year and the remaining 25% did not have a preference.

With this in mind, this year we will be sending out the new style of written reports on May 5th and we will have the parent interviews just over a week later on the 16th and 17th May. This time there will be 10 minute slots and following feedback from the last parent's interview we will organise a much wider range of available time slots.

As ever, if you have any issues or questions please don't wait until formal parent interviews, pop in or get in touch at any time.



School Trip – Bennachie

As I mentioned last month, we will be off to Bennachie next week on the 22nd.

The classes will be taking turns to work with the rangers around the Bennachie centre doing activities linked to their class projects. Later, they will be doing a range of activities at the back of Bennachie from orienteering, scavenger hunting, shelter building and the fine art of making hot chocolate outdoors!

It'll be a full day outdoors and we'll be going whatever the weather (short of blizzard conditions) so please ensure that the children have good footwear and clothing for a day outdoors and some likely encounters with mud!

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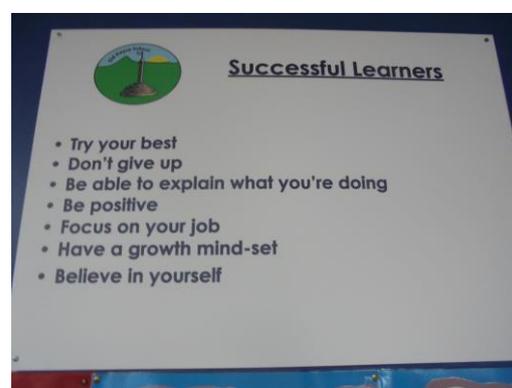
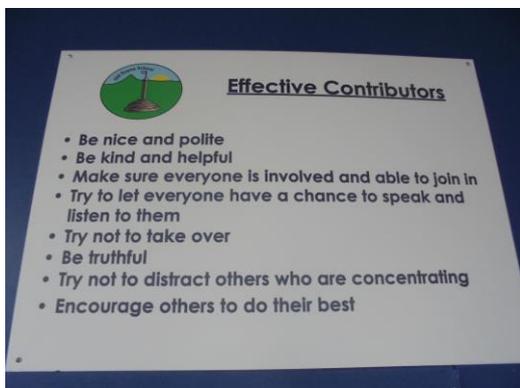
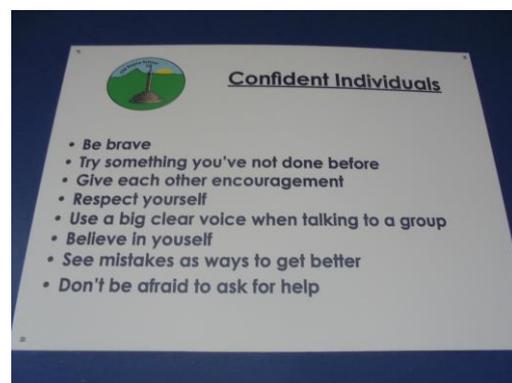
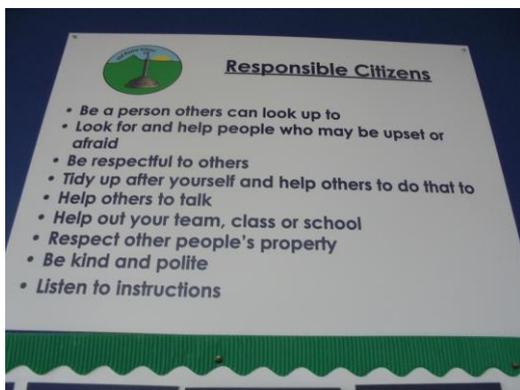
Old Rayne Curriculum – The four capacities in action

Over the last few months we've been looking at our curriculum and what it means for the children of Old Rayne.

The aspiration of our curriculum is that children should become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors – these are what we call the four capacities.

We had a chat about what exactly those meant for our children in Old Rayne and it led to a fantastic discussion. The children wrote and all contributed to the 4 display boards which are now in the hall. These show us all what the 4 capacities will look like in Old Rayne. I'm sure you'll agree they did a fantastic job.

We're now looking at something called the SHANARRI wheel, looking more closely at the children's wellbeing. I'll let you see our efforts when we're finished but ask your children about it.



Attendance/lateness

We've had a couple of very small issues regarding contact with the school when pupils are off ill. This is a polite reminder that if your child is going to be off school unexpectedly then the school needs to be informed as early as possible, ideally before 9:15.

If we've not heard from you and your child is not here by 9:45, we will have to try and reach you to ensure your child is safe.

Board games appeal

Our lunchtime gaming club has been going very well. We've mostly been playing chess and we have some very competitive players already!

To help us mix things up a little, the club asked me to ask parents if they had any games in your cupboards that you don't think you'll use anymore? If you'd be willing to donate them to our games club that would be wonderful!

Red Nose Day – 24th March

A quick reminder of the things we have lined up...

Dressing up:

It'll be a day that children can dress up again if they'd like. For a 50p donation they are invited to wear red for the day – or – dress as their favourite 'nose' if they'd like to enter a nose competition. There are lots of 'noses' which you can see on the website. There are wizards, sailors, dogs, mummies, Vikings, monsters... you can see some of them at this website...

<https://shop.rednoseday.com/products/the-red-nose>

Red nose day fundraising:

There will also be a range of things for the children to buy, or yourselves if you come along to the café in the afternoon.

- Joke book (made by the children) £1
- Red Noses will be on sale £1
- Smoothies – 30p
- Red nose biscuits – 40p
- Possibly other things created by our healthy tuck shop.

Apple decorating:

There is a Red Nose Day competition to carve or decorate a red apple (it looks a bit like a red nose I guess) which we'll also be running on the day. If the children wish to take part they can decorate or carve (with help) a face into an apple. Prizes for the winners.

Community Café and Stand-up comedy:

You're all invited to come to the school for our community café at 2:00 on the day. There will be the usual tea, coffee and a range of red nose themed snacks.

The 'entertainment' will be in the form of our 'Stand-up comedy' competition. You'll be treated to a few of the best joke tellers from each class competing with each other to make you all laugh the most. Community cafés are a great opportunity to let the children speak up in front of an unfamiliar crowd. This is a great chance for them to get out in front of a crowd that will be supportive. Come along and be impressed with the amazing humour and cutting edge wit which will be on display!



Upcoming Dates

- School trip – 22nd March
- Red Nose day and community café – 24th March
- Quality improvement visit – 27th March
- Next Parent Council meeting – 29th March
- Easter break - Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April (Don't come to school on Monday the 17th, there will be no one here!)
- Written Reports – 5th May
- Parent Interviews – Tues 16th and Wed 17th May (One after school, One to start later in the evening)
- Next Rag Bag date – 6th June
- School Theatre trip – 14th June
- Dalguise trip - (P6s and 7s) 12th to 16th June
- Health Week – 19th June to 23rd June (activities TBC)
- Sports day – 23rd June
- P7 Celebration Assembly – 29th June

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