

Trying Hard to
do Our Best



We Aim High!

HAPPY

CONFIDENT

ACHIEVING

CREATIVE

NEWSLETTER 2 - Friday 8th September 2023



SEPTEMBER

- 15 School Sponsored Walk/ELC Sponsored Toddle
- 22 Celebrating Success pm
- 28 British Red Cross First Aid Training for P6/7
- 29 Macmillan Fundraiser organised by P1 & P7



OCTOBER

- 02 ELC Play n Stay Week
- 04 SFSA meeting 6:30pm
- 06 SFSA Bingo Tea - village hall
- 09 Global Citizenship Week
- 11 Family Learning Morning 9:30-10:30am

- 13 Last Day of term 1

Standards & Quality Report shared with parents

- 30 First Day of term 2



NOVEMBER

- 07 Parent Improvement Planning Group meet with HT
- 10 Celebrating Success pm
- 15 Children in Need Day
- 16/17 In-service Days (School & ELC closed to pupils)
- 20 ELC Key Worker Reporting Fortnight
- Flu vaccines
- 24 Interim reports issued to parents

- Vision & Values



Our school vision statement was updated recently while our core values remain the same as all stakeholders felt they were still very relevant. Our vision and values are found on the top of each letter home and on the newsletter issued fortnightly, we feel they describe the ethos of our school and form the foundation of everything we do. 'Trying Hard to do Our Best, We Aim High!' Our core values are Happy, Confident, Achieving and Creative.

At our first assembly of the new school session, we revisited our vision and values with the pupils and how these are linked to the learning leader awards of Happy Hero, Confident Commander, Achieving Advisor and Creative Captain.

- Sponsored Walk/Toddle

We are optimistic for good weather next week for our annual sponsored walk/nursery toddle. Please keep collecting sponsors from family/friends ahead of the event. All money raised goes towards providing additional resources and experiences for children in both school and nursery.

P1-7 will walk on the afternoon of Friday 15th September. **All pupils may come to school that day wearing outdoor PE clothes and should wear trainers/sensible shoes for walking and have a waterproof jacket with a hood.**

ELC will have a sponsored toddle at various sessions throughout the week.

- Macmillan

Mrs McLean, Miss Cantlay and our P7 pupils along with their P1 buddies will be jointly organising a Macmillan fundraiser on Friday 29th September. More info to follow in next newsletter...



- ALEC Visit

ELC and all classes in school enjoyed workshops with Amy, an ALEC educator in the special LifeSpace tent that was set up in the hall last week.

P1/2 All About Me!

I liked the giraffe. Archie

I learned about our bones. Jackson

I liked when Harold had a sleepover at his grannies. Jacob B

I learned about lungs. Bella



P3/4 & P4/5 Mental Wellbeing

I learned that you shouldn't stay up late because it can give you a sore head and make you moody. Emilia

My favourite part was meeting Harold. Olivia

I liked the jokes. They made me laugh.

'What's a giraffe's favourite cake?

A giraf-a-cake!' Aurellia

I liked it when Harold came out of the little hole. It was funny. Alexa

I learned you need to exercise a lot to stay healthy. Grace



Always stay active! Jak
Activity can stop pain. Alexander
Activity releases endorphins. Serotonin is when you are mindful. Emma
Don't have too much screen time as it can make you ill. Mindful moments can make you relaxed and calm. Lachlan
Oxytocin is released when you are good to others and when you connect. Jessie
Dopamine is released when you get creative and laugh. Layton

P6/7 Friends



It was interesting learning about being assertive. Noah
I enjoyed the sorting activity. Daisy

P1 School Lunch

Last week, our P1 pupils had an initial taster of a school meal along with their parent. It was lovely to see their confidence in the dining hall as they made their choices and enjoyed the sociable experience of eating together as a class.



A special thank you to Mrs Paterson, Mrs McRobbie & Mrs Hay in our school kitchen. Everyone enjoyed the delicious fish and chips or baked potato with mild beef chilli.



Go Wild!

Our P7 class have participated in a transition project entitled 'Go Wild!' with community learning workers from Peterhead Academy.

It was really entertaining. Ava
I enjoyed cooking the pasta and using the gas stove. Bailey
The smores were amazing. Keeva
I learned new skills such as using a flint. Alexander
I enjoyed making a shelter. Lucas



They had an outdoor learning day at school including team building using tents, tarpaulins and the opportunity to do some outdoor cooking. This was then followed up by a further session at the academy.



- Pupil Participation Groups

Following applications/interviews the Pupil Council for session 2023-24 comprises of:

- P7 Leaders:
Alexander Reid
Ava Smith
- P6 Noah Johnston
Elsie West

Harvey Mitchell
Cole Northeast

P5 Layton Davidson
Kasey Bayliss

P4 Nathaniel Smart
Tyler Pearson
Sophia Maclean

Pupil Council will visit classes every term and feedback pupil ideas/suggestions to the Head Teachers. They will also take responsibility for various annual events in our school calendar such as World Book Day and charity fundraising for Children in Need. The P6 & P7 members will be assisting with lunchtime duties to support our younger pupils. We congratulate each one of them on a successful interview and wish them well as they give of their time to further benefit the wider life of our school.

The Junior Road Safety Officers for session 2023-24 comprises of:

- P7 Leaders:
Alba Bennett
Keeva Bruce
Bailey Walker
- P6 Nicole Anderson
Daisy Buchan
Kourtney Stephen
Sterling Walker
- P5 Katie Leonard
Elsa Morrison
Ryan Bruce
- P4 Summer Watson
Lewis Watt

JRSOs help to raise awareness of the importance of road safety with all pupils, this includes creating and delivering presentations. They also organise the weekly Walk on Wednesdays, recording information and distributing badges.

We congratulate each JRSO on a successful interview and wish them well as they give of their time to further encourage everyone to walk to school safely.

Our Magazine group for this session is made up of the following pupils:

- P7 Georgie Addison
Lucas Barclay
Michael McRobbie
Keeva Bruce
Jamie Pearson
Maya Morris
- P6 Brody Jackson
Zackery Noble
Sterling Walker
Sophie Mutch
- P5 Noah Jernslett
Vanessa Lynn Hepburn
Emma Murphy
Jessie West
Amy Willox
Sophia Morris

Our next issue of 'Blaze' is due out in December!

P7 Digital Leaders have been appointed who will be responsible for looking after ICT equipment in classes, helping to develop digital literacy across school and in particular assisting with the lunchtime Coding Club in term 3. They will also play a key role during Internet Safety week, helping to pass on information to others.

The Digital Leaders are:

Michael McRobbie
Alexander Reid
Iona Hepworth
Ava Smith

- ELC

The ELC children have been settling in really well and are becoming familiar

with the nursery routines such as toothbrushing and snack time. The children are quickly gaining independence following the different tasks and the returners have been so helpful and kind showing the new starts what to do.



Everyone has enjoyed lots of play experiences both indoors and outdoors and we have been talking about our aims and values using our special **FERGUS** words. **Family, Experiences, Respect, Growth, Unique and Shine.** The children have made **FERGUS** the bear pictures to help them remember.



There has been gym time in the hall with great fun building up fine motor skills. The children have used playdough to take part in a Dough Disco using their hands and fingers.



- Pupils of the Week

Congratulations to all who have been 'Pupils of the Week' - Bailie J, Mia, Kasey & Sterling and our 'Nursery Star' - Isla, well done!

- Welcome

We give a warm welcome to Peterhead Academy pupils Isla Wiseman who will be volunteering in school every Friday afternoon as part of her 6th year timetable and Neive McKenzie who will be in P1/2 with Miss Cantlay every Wednesday afternoon as part of the Foundation Apprentice scheme.

- Labelling of clothes

Please label all items of clothing including shoes with your child's full name. Already we have had instances of mixed-up/lost items of clothing and without name labels it can be difficult to rectify!

We would also ask that items such as packed lunch boxes and water bottles are also clearly name labelled.

- Request

P3/4 and P4/5 are looking for donations of wool for their Viking weavings - double knitting, chunky or Aran ONLY (No 4-ply). Any colours would be welcome. If you can assist, please hand into the school office. Thank you.

- Twitter

Remember we post photos and comments of what's happening in school live onto Twitter. Can we take this opportunity to encourage as many parents/families as possible to start following school on Twitter @StFergusSch

Also, our school website gives you current information on all that's been happening in school as well as access to various resources/documents.

<https://st-fergus.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>