



# **Midmill School School Review**

**Parent Council AGM  
Wednesday 27 September 2023**



## VISION, VALUES AND AIMS



**Building our community where everyone's effort is valued.**

	We aim to:
RESPECT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build strong relationships based on trust and honesty.</li><li>• Celebrate diversity and value everyone's contributions.</li><li>• Appreciate and take responsibility for our environment and the wider world.</li></ul>
AMBITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide challenging and stimulating opportunities which support children to continually achieve.</li><li>• Create an ethos where children are independent, motivated and active learners</li><li>• Recognise individual talents and celebrate all success.</li></ul>
WORKING TOGETHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work as a team to help and support each other.</li><li>• Encourage everyone to "do their bit."</li><li>• Work closely with our parents and local community to enable continuous improvement as we strive for excellence.</li></ul>

## Summary of Progress from Session 2022/23

- Staff and pupils more aware of United Nations Convention on Rights of the Child, Getting it Right for Every Child wellbeing indicators and how that relates to learning and wellbeing.
- Learning pathways used by all staff in literacy and health and wellbeing and Northern Alliance Numeracy Pathway used to support learning and teaching. This has provided a clear pathway for staff and learners in terms of progression through the curriculum.
- Literacy Learning pathway has been used for P1-7 and will support in handover to staff to ensure learning is pitched at the correct level.
- Staff engaged in learning, teaching and assessment Professional Development with Shirley Clarke and Mark Burns.
- Following the Learning, Teaching and Assessment input staff worked together to develop a Teaching Evaluation Toolkit for Midmill School.
- Staff able to engage in peer observations and use the Teaching Evaluation Toolkit to give feedback to staff.
- Pupils have enjoyed using new numeracy resources to support their learning.
- Pupils and Staff have enjoyed engaging with new Class Novels to support a love of reading and develop comprehension skills.
- Attainment at P1, P4 and P7 has improved in reading, writing and numeracy.
- Tracking of pupil wellbeing has improved or remained the same from session 21/22 into session 22/23.
- Members of staff keen to engage in professional enquiry linked to wellbeing and Outdoor Learning and continue to develop understanding of play pedagogy.
- When pupils were asked what had gone well this session, one of the most popular responses was Pupil Voice or Citizen Groups. This has given pupils the opportunity to share their ideas to improve our school.
- In Self-Evaluation from staff the opportunity to use the circle resource in pairs and evaluate how inclusive our classrooms are was beneficial.
- Staff commented that engaging in peer observations was helpful.
- Recent Quality Improvement Visit report noted that there was a warm welcoming ethos across the school and in each learning environment, that there were positive interactions between staff and children, demonstrating mutual respect. They reported that staff know the children well, and pupils are cared for and supported in their learning appropriately. There was high quality learning and teaching across the school.

## Improvement Priorities for Session 2023/24

- Improve engagement and attainment levels in writing and numeracy through development of high-quality assessments.
- Review Curriculum Rationale including Vision, Values and Aims and Relationship Policy to link more closely with UNCRC and Nurture Principles.
- Continue to research and embed play and learning outdoors across the school to support pupil engagement and skills development.

## Some of our achievements last session:

As a school we place a high value on pupil achievements and strive to create opportunities for pupils to achieve and for us to recognise and celebrate achievements gained both through school activities and other pursuits. During Assemblies we celebrate success outside of school through SHINE.

Pupils at Midmill are aware of the needs and plights of others and our achievement of Bronze Award in RRSA reflects their caring attitude. Our school is not restricted to the four walls and a roof and where possible the school has extended their sense of community to incorporate and assist with Global issues and linked up with a School in Kintore Australia to understand what it is like living a more nomadic lifestyle.

Charities supported by the school over the last session included:

Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day  
Catalyst Storehouse Foodbank

This session we have had many different opportunities to promote the wider curriculum. Every class has been able, with the help of the Parent Council, to go on a trip this year to extend their learning. We were also able to work with a local ranger to replant some of Gauchhill Woods after it was damaged in the storm.

Pupils have benefited from a wide range of extracurricular clubs and activities including Running Club, Judo, Gaelic Club, Tennis Club, Craft Club, Netball Club and School Football, some of these are run by Active Schools and some by Staff.

All classes took part in Enterprise Activities. Some of our primary 6/7 pupils took part in the Europe Quiz. They competed against the other schools across Aberdeenshire. Our P7 pupils took part in the Rotary Quiz and competed against other P7 pupils in the Kemnay Cluster.

We were able to take part in the Big Hop HARE design and our HARE was on display in the Bennachie Visitor Centre.

### **Memories are made of this:**

In Term 1 all P6 and P7 pupils were able to attend the Davis Cup in Glasgow and met Judy Murray. Following this Judy and Jamie Murray came to deliver tennis sessions in Midmill School in November and we were able to arrange for tickets for some pupils to attend the Battle of the Brits tournament in Aberdeen.

Our P7 pupils were able to go on a Residential Trip for the first time since Covid this year which was a great experience for all.

We also had our first Christmas Show since Covid when our P6/7s performed Holy Joe and the rest of the school were part of the choir.

Our Parent Council organised a visit from Santa, two whole School Discos, First Aid training for P5-7, end of term ice-creams, refreshments at Sports Day and a Pumpkin Patch.

We were able to welcome Parents back into the school building for live lessons, Assemblies and to celebrate the International Day of the Family.