

# Rothienorman School Newsletter

Sept 2024

Dear Families,

We have had a really settled and positive start to the new school year, well done to all our pupils who are living our school values of **Ready, Respectful, Safe**.

## House Captain and Vice Captains

Today the pupils took part in voting for their House's Capain and Vice-Capain. Each candidate gave passionate speeches and the pupils in their house voted. The results are in and our new Captains and House Captains are:

**Bennachie – Spencer (Captain) & Ruta (Vice-Captain)**

**Blackford – Bethany ( Captain) & Kasey (Vice-Captain)**

**Cranna – Austin (Captain) and Katie (Vice-Captain)**

**Fraser – Eilidh (Captain) and Harrison (Vice-Captain)**

Well done to everyone who took part and thank you for your interest in these leadership roles.

## School Improvement Update

Our planned improvements for this session are:

### **Improvement Priority 1:** Literacy

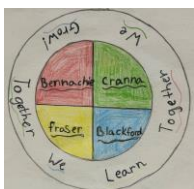
Focus on phonics/spelling which will impact both reading and writing. Embedding our Talking Topic across the school community.

### **Improvement Priority 2:** Numeracy

Embedding Big Maths across the school to provide a cohesive and progressive approach to numeracy and maths.

### **Improvement Priority 3:** Health and Wellbeing

Continue to use the CIRCLE Framework which supports teachers to set up inclusive classrooms and identify and anticipate pupils' support needs. Develop our practice of using play to enhance learning. Fully embed the United Nations Convention on Rights of a Child (UNCRC) in our practice.



## REMINDER DATES:

### Term 1

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – P1 pupils in full days

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Sept – PPG AGM

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Sept – Class newsletter 1

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Sept – Whole School Community Walk afternoon

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Sept – Open Morning

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> and Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Sept – Parents Night

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct – Last day of term 1 & Dress Down Day

### Term 2

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Oct – First day of term 2

### The School Day

**Nursery** 8.00 am – 6.00 pm

**Primary** 9am-3:15pm

**Lunchtime** 12:30-1:30

## P1 & P2 Parent literacy session

Please keep an eye out for information about our upcoming P1 & P2 literacy session this term. Once the date has been finalised, this will be shared with our P1 & P2 parents. Mrs Jenson and Mrs Palmer-Hay would like to invite parents/carers of all of our P1 and P2 parents into school one morning to share how literacy is taught to help with learning at home.

## Zone 31

We have created a designated space in school, Zone 31, where pupils can explore UNCRC Article 31 – the right to play. Every class will access Zone 31 regularly. Play and learning through play is more common in our Early Stages classes and we recognise the importance of providing these opportunities to all learners across the school. Research shows that play provides a vehicle for learning as well as improving social, emotional and cognitive development.



## Our Community – Interdisciplinary Learning Context

*Over the next couple of months, the whole school will have the learning context "Our Community". This means that across the school each class will be looking at an aspect of Our Community that interests them and they want to learn about. We will be taking the children on a whole school community walk to inspire and gather information relevant for each project. This walk will take place on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September** after lunch, and we would be delighted if more of you could join us.*

*Each class will need at least 2 parent helpers, however if you have younger children and cannot join us as a helper, you are still welcome to join the group to enjoy the walk together.*

*We will be heading out whatever the weather so please dress your children appropriately.*

*If you want to join us as a helper, then please contact the school office or your child's teacher on Learning Journals.*

*From Miss Burdge and Mrs Murray.*

## Open Mornings/Afternoons

Please find the dates below of our open sessions this session. Timings of future terms will be sent out nearer the time:

Term 1 – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September – 9:15-10:15am

Term 2 – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November pm

Term 3 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February am

Term 4 – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May am

## **Dressing for the Weather** ☂️ 🌞 ☁️

Unfortunately, it looks like summer may be over for us in the North East. The weather is very changeable so please ensure that your child is coming to school in clothing that is suitable for wet weather. Jackets should be taken to school everyday! Many thanks.













## **Uniform Exchange**

As a school community we are trying to share the importance being more sustainable for the future and promote ways to reuse and recycle. One way that we are trying to help the environment is by having a school uniform exchange. This is available to everyone in the front foyer of the school. Please consider donating uniform that is too small and picking up uniform that is a suitable size in the future to help look after our planet. This uniform exchange is free of charge. T-shirts, jumpers, cardigans, trousers, skirts and jackets are available through this exchange.



## **Educational Psychology Service leaflets**

Aberdeenshire Educational Psychology Service have some useful leaflets on key topics that contain advice for parents and carers. The aim of these leaflets is to help parents and carers help build resilience, connections and secure attachments. These leaflets can be found [here](#). Here is a grid to show some of the information available on this site:

What adults can do? 	Relaxation 	Babies brains 
Self-regulation 	Managing feelings 	Emotion coaching 
Positive thinking 	Thinking skills 	Sleep 
Understanding brains 	Growth mindset 	Supporting Wellbeing 

## **Monthly Parent Focus Question**

To support our ongoing aim for improvement we would like to pose a focus question each month to our families. This month our focus is on ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion. Please follow this link to give your feedback:

<https://forms.office.com/e/gqWJ1w9J7S>

### And Finally...

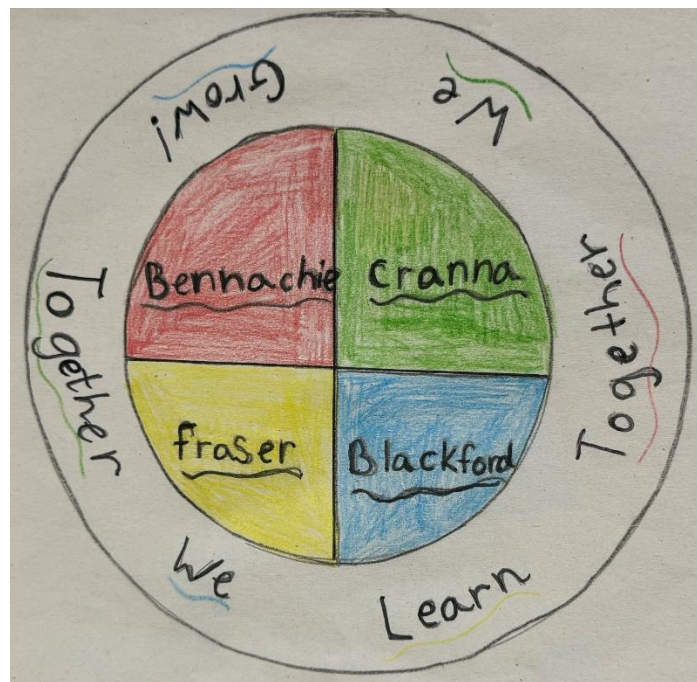
As always, please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or comments via the email address [rothienorman.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:rothienorman.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or to your child's class teacher directly through Learning Journals

If you have any comments or suggestions, please complete our September Microsoft form <https://forms.office.com/e/sF4gsx169R>

Kind regards,

Michelle Strachan,

Head Teacher



**Together We Learn, Together We Grow!**

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