

# Auchenblae Primary School



established 1891

## Standards & Quality Improvement Plan Summary 2013-2014

This report summarises the school's key strengths, priorities for development and children's achievements and opportunities.

### Evidence for saying how good we are comes from:

- Validation by Quality Improvement Officers
- Evaluation of Learning linked to the outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence
- Observing pupil performance and work
- Teachers' forward plans & records
- Discussions among and feedback from staff, parents and pupils
- Self evaluation using the Quality Indicators from How Good is Our School (HGIOS) 3 and Child at the Centre 2

### Evaluating our School Performance

The quality of what we observe within each indicator can be judged against six levels: 1 - unsatisfactory, 2 - weak, 3 - adequate, 4 - good, 5 - very good, or 6 - excellent.

Our self evaluation against the 5 core QIs in 'How Good is Our School' helps us answer the 3 key questions.



• How well do children learn and achieve?	1.1 - Improvements in performance	Good
	2.1 - Learners' experiences	Very Good
• How well does the school support children to develop and learn?	5.1 - The curriculum	Good
	5.3 - Meeting learning needs	Very Good
• How well does the school improve the quality of its work?	5.9 - Improvement through self-evaluation	Good

### Improvement Priorities for Session 2013 – 2014

1. Assessment, moderation and tracking of attainment & achievement
2. Embedding of practice to maintain high standards across the four contexts for learning

### Improvement Priorities for Session 2014 – 2015

1. Assessment, moderation and tracking of attainment & achievement
2. Building the curriculum – Numeracy and Mathematics
3. Self evaluation

**Some examples of our achievements this session are:**

- We achieved our RRS level 1.
- We won the Goblin Car Engineering Challenge and received £500!
- Learning Journeys and Sharing the Learning Leaflets promote partnership in learning.
- Parents' open afternoon and evening sessions were very well received.
- Pupils continue to enjoy violin, cello and chanter tuition.
- We continue to develop our use of the Active Maths and Active Literacy.

### **Term 1**

- 'Back to School Adventure' a sponsored walk for the whole school
- Boys and Girls from P5 –P7 represented the school at a Mearns Cross Country running Event
- Primary 6 and 7 pupils were buddies to P1.
- Primary 7 children used their leadership skills as Young Leaders.

### **Term 2**

- Primary 7 pupils visit Mearns for the Seafood in School project.
- Primary 5 pupils achieved the first level of the St Johns First Aid award. Pupils in Primary 6 the second level and Primary 7 pupils achieved level 3.
- P6 visit Mearns for a Science Trip.
- P1 -2 brought the 'Circus into Town' with a very special performance.
- We all continue to have responsibilities as eco cadets. We have evaluated our termly targets using the tickled pink and green for growth leaves.
- Simply outstanding Christmas performance – Shrek the Musical.
- Nursery pupils received Active from the Start packs in Term 2.

### **Term 3**

- Scottish poetry recital judged by Mrs Sutherland and Mrs Mennie.
- We took part in Bird Watch Week.
- Morning Multi-sports sessions were well received in Term 3.
- Kodaly was available in Term 3.
- Our Rotary Quiz team represented the school well and were placed 2nd in the competition.
- Thirteen pupils took part in Cycle Training which was available during terms 3 and 4.
- Teams of pupils in P 4, 5 and 6 attended a Badminton Festival in Laurencekirk and represented the school well.
- P3 built an Egyptian museum and put on a very special performance

### **Term 4**

- P6 and 7 had an unforgettable visit to Abernethy.
- Our football team participated in two flexi league tournaments. Girls and boys teams entered tournaments at Montrose and Laurencekirk.
- Primary 3 enjoyed a 3 week block of rugby.
- Primary 4 enjoyed six weeks of swimming lessons.
- Commonwealth Gymnast spoke to children about representing Scotland.
- There are effective transitions from nursery to P1, P7 to S1 and between classes.
- As part of the Primary 6/7 Adventure Service Challenge the children built bug hotels.
- During health week we had a travelling book fair
- Home school transition packs from Nursery to Primary were used again this session with activities linked to literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing outcomes.
- P6 and 7 celebrated VE day with songs, tea and cakes.

- We enjoyed a range of activities as part of Health Week including karate, Den day, kick boxing, bowling, yoga, golf and potted sports.
- The Davidson photography shield for Primary 7 pupils produced some excellent examples of photography in our annual competition.
- P1 and P2 invited parents to visit their 'Fairyland'.
- P5 and P6 started learning the chanter.
- P4 – P6 took part in K'Next challenges.
- A group of very enthusiastic parents and pupils spent their weekends building and testing their car and entered the Greenpower challenge event in Alford on the 15 June. We won!
- They also shared their car with everyone at the End of Term Barbecue.
- We renewed our Eco Schools Green Flag

### ***As far as clubs go***

- The netball team enjoyed a friendly game against Bervie
- The football club ran weekly throughout the session and took part in two tournaments
- The very popular weekly Parent Council swimming club had another very successful year.
- The P7 Club was again run to encourage children from all the schools in the Mearns Cluster meet and develop friendships as part of their transition.
- Knitting and chess clubs have been very popular with our pupils at lunchtimes.
- Choir was very popular and performed well at the Barbeque and Gala day.

### ***We had quite a few outings and visitors***

#### **Term 1**

- Body Works tour visited the school.
- The whole visited the Science Centre Dundee.
- Forestry Commission came to identify trees with P6.
- We all make regular use of the school and local environment.
- Pupils from Nursery - P7 and parents enjoyed a visit from the ALEC (Aberdeenshire Life Education Centres).
- Childline visit P6 and 7.
- Andy Hall ran a photography session with P7.
- Reverend Hepburn led our Harvest assembly.

#### **Term 2**

- Primary 6 pupils visited Mearns for a Science transition project in November.
- On Wednesday 28 November the Book Bus visited for younger pupils and the playgroup.
- Pupils in Primary 1 – 7 enjoyed a trip to the Pantomime in Aberdeen.
- Parents were invited for the Nursery Christmas Nativity.

#### **Term 3**

- The Rector, guidance staff and former pupils visited to promote good transition between Primary and Secondary.
- K'Next ran workshops for P1-5.
- P1 and P2 visited Satrosphere Science Centre.
- Zoolab visited school to show P 1- 5 a range of giant bugs.
- Two QIO's visited classes and spoke to pupils and parents.

## **Term 4**

- Pupils enjoyed an amazing visit from Mr Fraser. Their classroom was transported back in time to World War 2 they got to explore artefacts and watch footage of the time. They also experienced what school was like in the 1940's during the war.
- Primary 7 Pupils attend the Chemistry at work event in Aberdeen.
- The police liaison officer spoke to the older pupils about internet safety.
- A BEd student had a placement in our school.
- Mearns Academy pupils join us as part of the Work Experience scheme.
- SSPCA visited to teach children what to do if they find an animal in danger.
- Two classes visited Aberdeen Football Club Coaches for training and health sessions.

### **New Resources**

- This year we bought Smart board E70 interactive flat panel, Laptop bus, Musical instruments, portable stage system, new PE and Science equipment, Education City and 3 new ipads.

### **Our Staff**

- Miss Thomson continued as Depute Head Teacher.
- Mrs Murray left to Join Laurencekirk Nursery
- Mr Forrester started in January as our new Head Teacher
- We said good bye to Mrs Blakemore, Mrs Watson, Mrs Beattie, Mrs Young, Miss Campbell and Mrs Thornton.
- Mrs Stevenson started as our new P2 teacher and Mrs Taylor became our new PSA

### **On the community, fundraising and charity fronts**

- The Parent Council held a sponsored walk at Glensaugh raising over £3,000!
- Shoeboxes were filled for the Blytheswood Appeal 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- The collection in the church at Christmas was for the Cyrenians.
- We participated in the UNICEF day for Change event. £126.
- We all came to school with Crazy Hair for the day to support Nursery Nurse Mrs Massie who shaved her hair off for cancer research.
- Our Sport relief mile raised £1,900

### **Donations to school**

- The Nearly New sale organisers donated £600 and resources to the school and Nursery.
- The sales of the DVD from the Christmas celebration raised £346.60
- Boiler suits donated by NOV to support the Goblin car challenge project.
- £500 for winning the event will be donated back to the car project next year

### **Parent Involvement**

- We continue to involve parents in their child's learning experience. Sharing the Learning leaflets are sent home at the beginning of every term. Parents then have the opportunity to comment on their child's Learning Journey.
- Nursery parents are regularly involved on a rota basis and 'Stay and Play' sessions.
- Parents have been regularly involved in supporting the life and work of the school through a variety of activities: the car challenge project, knitting, chess, singing and cycle training.
- They provided funding to support the Christmas pantomime trip and the Body Works tour.
- The Parent Council organised a number of very successful fundraising events: Candle and Coffee morning, Rock and Roll Bingo, Vinyl night, Gala Day, Disco
- The Parent Council organised a very successful Spring Fair which raised £2,160
- The two very successful Bags2School collections
- Parents organised our End of Term Barbecue which was a huge success.
- Regular updates about the work of the Parent Council are provided through a newsletter and a Facebook page.