



# Elrick School News

## December 2021



### Dear Parents/Carers,

We are almost at the end of Term 2 and 2021! Once again, this year has not been without its challenges, but we continue to be overwhelmed at the enthusiasm and hard work from all our pupils, staff, and families!

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year and look forward to working with you all again in 2022.

Kind Regards  
Elrick School SLT

### Building Works

The school roof is now complete, and we are delighted with the standard of the work, holding up to the recent adverse weather with no evidence of any leaks or damage.

Learning Estates and Property have been out to inspect the learning environment and have advised of further school improvement. Architects and surveyors are drawing up plans which will be shared with the school community in due course.

### School Development

#### Clan Chiefs

Last term's clan treat was won by Thistle after a very close count up of points! The chiefs of all clans worked together to plan, organise and run an Outdoor Extravaganza clan treat for children from Thistle – they enjoyed bench ball, giant art, skittles, music and dance, hula hoops and skipping. We are on the last week of counting up points from this term – who will be the winners of the clan treat this time?

Clan assemblies were organised and run by clan chiefs in the school zones. Chiefs gave positive messages, inspiring the children to give ideas about how best to earn clan points in relation to the values of Kind, Respectful and Safe.

#### Digital Leaders

This month the Digital Leaders have been learning more about how to use 'Stop Motion' to create short animations. They have worked together to share their ideas and skills to improve their work and are really looking forward to developing their leadership skills by supporting other classes use the software next session.



### Pupil Council

We have a very healthy pupil council with 23 representatives from P4-7. Office Bearers have been elected as follows:



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Sophie Carlidge (CHAIR)  
Isabella McAulay (VICE CHAIR)  
Rhys Allan (SECRETARY)  
Sophie Johnston (VICE SECRETARY)

The Pupil Council will be meeting once or twice a term and we hope to work in partnership with our Parent Council to take forward school improvement priorities and ensure all stakeholders have a voice in the decision making around issues that impact on them!

### ECO Committee

We have formed our new committee with a representative from each class. Our Office Bearers have been elected as follows: Ellis Lyndsay (CHAIR), Jorgie Stage (VICE CHAIR), Sophie Mair and Sam Davie (SECRETARIES).

The committee have been very busy visiting classes to complete the ECO Schools Environmental Review questionnaires. We will use the information from the questionnaires to identify the focus areas that we need to improve in our school. The committee will then commit to making specific changes around learning for sustainability to achieve a Green Flag Award for our school. Watch this space...

### Staff Development

During the November in-service days, staff have been involved in the following training: -

Whole School Nurture.

Sensory Processes and Creating Effective Sensory Environments (NHS).

Paediatric First Aid.

Dyslexia/Autism Awareness.

### Learning and Engagement – some highlights from this Term.



P6FA used all the skills/knowledge they have been learning this term (measure, multiplication, division, shape, reading comprehension, collaborative working) to follow a playdough recipe and create a scale model of the solar system!



P1 enjoyed learning about Autumn by using their senses and exploring how it makes us feel.





*P1 have been developing their cutting skills during pre-handwriting sessions.*



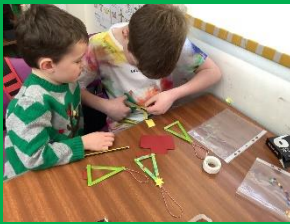
*P1's chose to develop their engineering skills when creating this masterpiece.*

*P1 have been exploring the concept of addition in maths. They have been combining two sets and counting the total and can now use the addition sign to help them!*



P4L have been thinking about our school values and sharing ways in which we can all be **'KIND'** towards others. They created posters to promote acts of kindness. They worked collaboratively with P4/5 on an enterprise to raise money for Abernecessities and Blackhills Court, sharing kindness in our local community.





P7 and their P1 buddies had great fun working together on a variety of Christmas crafts activities 😊.



### Engaging with Parents

We are currently trying to update and modify our website to ensure all parents have access to relevant and useful information when they need it. We have created new pages to share information from our Pupil Groups as well as information around Family Learning. We would encourage everyone to have a look at our Elrick welcome video [Elrick Primary](#) which was created to promote our updated Vision Values and Aims.

We have also uploaded our presentation that was delivered to parents in November to share the work being done around 'Promoting Positive relationship and Anti-Bullying'. This can be viewed as a power point using this link - [Positive Relationships and Anti-Bullying with audio.pptx](#).

As part of being a parent at Elrick School we try to provide a range of opportunities for you to find out about your child's learning both as an individual and as part of their class. We can't wait until we can invite our parents to join us face to face for these meeting but at the moment the guidance still does not permit this to happen. We will update you as and when this changes but please don't ever think that we are not here to help. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please contact the school office (01224 472910) or email the staff member to organise.



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### School Awards

The initial inspection visits for both the Wellbeing Award and Leading Parental Partnership Award have both been completed, and we are now in the process of finalising an action plan for each area. This is done in collaboration with the Award Advisor and will be shared on our website when completed. The initial visits were very positive, and the advisor identified many strengths with existing practise as well as key areas for development.

#### LPPA –

##### Strengths

- Commitment of SLT to work with and engage the parent body
- Proactive approaches
- Current monitoring and reporting systems
- Induction and transition processes
- Access to resources and support

##### Area for Focus

- Objective 4

*The school promotes the awareness and participation of all groups of parents in supporting their children's learning and developing their own learning. In addition, the school holds and actively promotes a programme of opportunities and events for joint parent and child participation.*

#### WAS –

##### Strengths

- Leaders are fully committed to ensuring the emotional wellbeing and mental health of all of the school community.
- The school already provides a range of support for the emotional wellbeing and mental health (EWMH). The school has a clear vision of how it wants to develop this in the future, with the Wellbeing Award being used to help this vision become a reality.
- Staff are positive and nurturing of the pupils.
- Key staff have been provided with training about aspects of mental health.
- The school already has systems in place to identify the need for support and to respond effectively.
- The school already has a health committee in place and this group will actively contribute to the WAS.
- The school has well-developed links with other schools and external agencies.

##### Area for Focus

- *To embed a strategy for promoting positive emotional wellbeing and mental health which is shared and understood across the school community.*

**The school will engage in regular evaluation, using a variety of methods to gather feedback from stakeholders which will be used to inform future development and plan next steps.**



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### Parent Council

We have had an extremely busy and positive term and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved for their hard work and support. The fundraising efforts have been tremendous, and all classes have been allocated money to choose books to support engagement in reading.

The children loved meeting Santa and it certainly enhanced the Christmas Spirit at Elrick.

The next Parent Council meeting is on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 @ 7pm** and we would encourage any parent who is interested in getting involved to come along and join us 😊.

### Parental Feedback

We value our partnership with families and the community and we invite you to use the link below to comment on any aspect of school life at the moment or to share a compliment or complaint.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ\\_i1NCUSVndDttzBKC3udY4o1yftHqPUdLWSmIVFUQUdMQjFVTUNGR1hNWEpIWTvNVkQ2ME9SNS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ_i1NCUSVndDttzBKC3udY4o1yftHqPUdLWSmIVFUQUdMQjFVTUNGR1hNWEpIWTvNVkQ2ME9SNS4u)

This is an anonymous survey to gather views and opinions, so if you would like a response to your feedback then please use the school phone number 01224 472910 or email us at

[elrick.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:elrick.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)