



Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Council Rights Respecting Newsletter— Summer 2017



WELCOME

Welcome to the latest Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Council Rights Respecting Newsletter. This is designed to offer everyone participating in rights based work the chance to hear about some of the good practice happening locally, to share some of the ideas and resources that you may find useful and to update you on any information that might be of interest.

If you, or any of the children/young people you work with, would like anything featured in the newsletter (with photos where possible) then please email Maxine Jolly (MJolly@aberdeencity.gov.uk) or Matt Reid (matreid@aberdeencity.gov.uk), if working in Aberdeen City, or Christine McLennan (Christine.McLennan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk), if working in Aberdeenshire Council, and we would be happy to feature them in future editions.



Children of Pr 2 - 4 Enhanced Provision class at Banff Primary School began this project after having to watch out for all the dog mess on the pavements during the walk to their weekly swimming lessons. In partnership with the Banffshire Herald, the children created an animation, in Doric, based on the right to a clean environment and featuring The Broons! The focus is to increase awareness of the importance of cleaning up dog mess. The film was launched during a special Assembly with invited guests. You can see the film using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1QHxAle0uo>

GLOBAL GOALS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARENESS MORNING AT ELLON ACADEMY



On Wednesday 7th June, over 300 x S5 and S6 pupils, in Ellon Academy, took part in a *Global Goals and Citizenship Awareness* morning. Steve Roberts from MDEC gave a presentation on Global Goals and linked them to the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*. Then, he set the challenge for the pupils to come up with a name and ideas for an upcoming MDEC "Global Goals and STEM" event taking place here in September.



During the morning, Lorna Sandison, from the Scottish Government, spoke to pupils about the Saltire Award and all pupils signed up for this online so they can register their volunteer hours. They also completed their Wider Achievement records.



This was a fantastic morning and reminded all pupils of their rights and got them thinking about what they can do to champion the 17 x Global Goals and educating others about their rights.

KAIMHILL'S JOURNEY THROUGH ROC



Kaimhill School are ready to apply for their ROC and the children in the RRSA steering group have been reflecting on their experiences as group members. The group meet once a month on a Tuesday afternoon and currently consists of six pupils, two Pupil Support Assistants, one Teacher and

the Depute Head Teacher. The children are hopeful that we can get some parents and community partners invited along after the summer holidays.

A highlight for all of the group was their participation in assemblies to help the school in the creation of our whole school charter. For this, we linked up with our Pupil Council who created design ideas then voted for their favourite. The children also enjoyed being able to share their knowledge and understanding with their individual classes in the creation of the class charters. The group are very thankful to our two PSA members, Mrs Smith and Miss Rae, for helping with all aspects of the group's work. Jasmine (P7) was an excellent help at our most recent parents' night RRSA stand. She liked giving out some more information to parents to share the progress we have made. The group worked hard to look through all the questionnaire responses and even gave up some of their lunch breaks. We now know what work needs to be done to begin our journey towards the level 1 award.

Maicey (P6) and Alisha (P7) liked being part of the group and would recommend it to others. Rachel (P4) and Leon (P5) think the work has been, "challenging but amazing." Jasmine (P7) understands the value in being taught about her rights and said, "When you know about the rights you can make sure they happen for everyone." Tessa (P5) thinks the group made her, "feel more mature and involved in the school." She liked that the work of the group helped the whole school community.



Mrs Rough (DHT), Miss Creighton, Maicey (P6), Jasmine (P7), Alisha (P7), Tessa (P5), Leon (P5), Rachel (P4).

DAY FOR CHANGE 2017 AT RIVERBANK SCHOOL



As part of being a Rights Respecting School, one of our focal points in the school year is UNICEF's Day for Change. Annually, Day for Change promotes fundraising for children. This year's theme was 'For Every Child In Danger' and focused on children suffering from malnutrition. Having signed up on UNICEF's website to take part in Day for Change, we were given access to some great resources.

Day for Change was then discussed at the RRS Group and at the Pupil Council and the pupils decided that they would like to have a day of celebration and fun to raise funds for Day for Change. They came up with some great



ideas as to how they would raise funds. On their wish list were raffles, guess the sweets in a jar, guess the teddy's birthday, badge making, a treasure hunt, a toys and books stall, face painting, a nail bar and, of course, the home baking stall!

On Friday 19 May some pupils from the RRS group and the Pupil Council led assemblies for early and upper stages, using the resources from UNICEF, to explain to the children in school about malnutrition



and how we could help some of these unfortunate children. The pupils did an excellent job...and allowed me to have a wee rest from taking assembly, but they made sure I had a job to do in flicking on the slides on the PowerPoint presentation when they told me to!



Although, officially, Day for Change was Wednesday 24 May Riverbank decided to have their Day for Change on Friday 26 May...and what a great day it was. Using our UNICEF Day for Change thermometer, we set a target of raising £500. We knew that the charity, Power of Nutrition, would match the amount we raised and hoped we would reach our target.

The school hall was filled with excited children buying items from the many stalls we had, manned by pupil volunteers from upper stages classes. The treasure hunt proved very popular and the teddy was won by a pupil smaller than the teddy! It was a fantastic day and did we reach our target? Yes, we did, and even went on to smash it raising £809.27! This will be matched by Power of Nutrition.



Riverbank ♥ Day for Change!

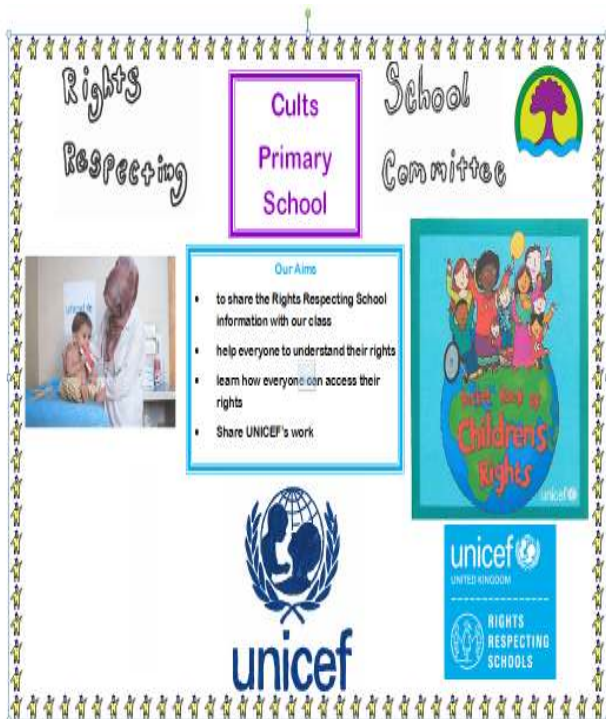
Carol Baxter Acting DHT.

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Cults Primary School

Cults Primary School have recently established a RRS committee with pupils and staff and they have worked together to produce a poster, which has been shared and is displayed in every class. The committee are currently working on an assembly presentation to deliver next term to share the work they have done so far and where we are going next in terms of RRS.



UNICEF UK CHILD'S RIGHTS LAUNCHPAD COMPETITION

Unicef UK invites your school to take part in our exciting competition: to design a rights- based game for Child Rights Launchpad!

WHAT IS IT?

We'd like your pupils to design a game that can be easily played in a playground, classroom or sports hall. The game should have the broad aim of helping other children to understand an individual article of the UNCRC or a rights-related concept like participation; non-discrimination or equality.



Winners will be chosen in three categories: 3-7 years; 8 - 12 years and 13-18 years and each school will be allowed a maximum of five entrants.

WHAT'S THE PRIZE?

The three winners will each have their game featured on Launchpad, receive a certificate, and be invited to take part in our special Year of Young People celebration event in Scotland in March 2018.

TAKING PART

STEP 1: REGISTER AN INTEREST

In order to enter the Launchpad Competition you must first register for your individual Adult Guide account on the Launchpad website citing 'Competition' in the 'Other' referral source option. If you are already registered as an Adult Guide, you should email us at UK Programmes to register your interest.

STEP 2: COMPETITION ENTRY

At the beginning of the next School term, during the week commencing the 14th of August, all adult guides that have registered an interest will be sent a copy of the competition rules and an entry form.

STEP 3: COMPETITION DEADLINE

The Competition deadline will be 20TH NOVEMBER 2017 in line with Universal Children's Day.

**CITY CENTRE PLANNING
CONSULTATION EVENT**



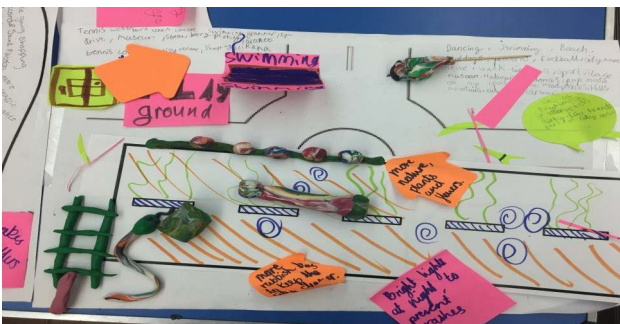
On the 15th June primary aged pupils from the Harlaw and Aberdeen Grammar ASGs coming together to participate in a consultation event which sought the views of children and young people on how to make Aberdeen city centre more child-friendly. Pupils from Harlaw Academy and Aberdeen Grammar School facilitated creative consultations with around 120 primary aged pupils to gather their views and suggestions against four key themes linked to the UNCRC.

Prior to the event, all schools consulted with pupils about what they would like to see in and around the city centre to make it more interactive and interesting for children and young people from 3-18.

The secondary pupils from Aberdeen Grammar and Harlaw Academy previously attended a training session with myself and members of Creative Learning Team to provide them with some training and guidance ahead of the main event.

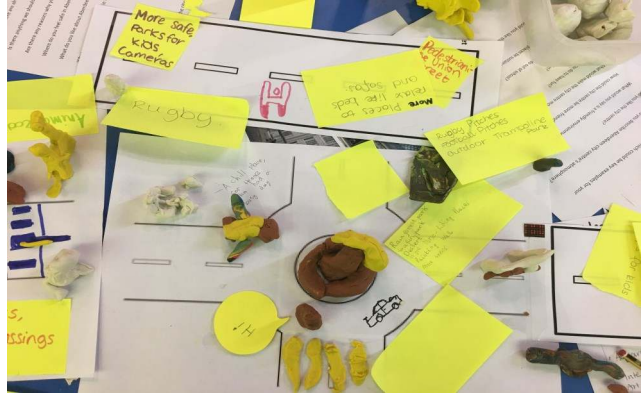
Our young people were challenged to think about what could we build or create to make Aberdeen city centre:-

- Welcoming, inclusive and safe (article 23 – a child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and independence)
- With friendly places for young people to go to relax, play & have fun (article 31 – every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities)
- Promote local culture and the culture of all our citizens (article 30 – every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and culture of their family)
- Promote engagement with sporting and adventurous activities (article 29 – education must develop every child’s personality, talents and abilities)

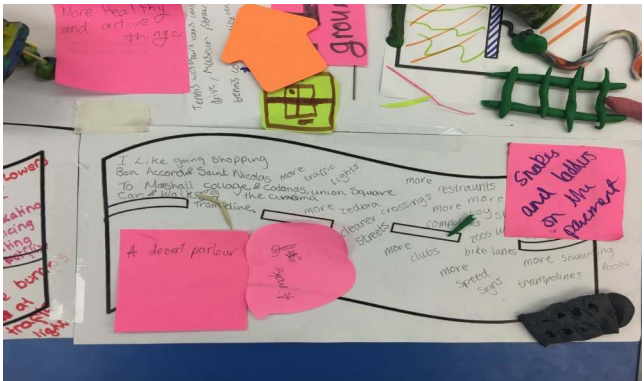


The attending children and young people explored each of the themes and were encouraged to put forward their suggestion in any manner which they felt comfortable; using tactile materials in the form of plasticine, drawing, writing, talking and recording etc. They were provided with a range of materials and resources and set about showcasing their ideas on their “city centres”.

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The young people from our secondary schools excelled in their roles as facilitators and the ideas from all of the attending primary school pupils were truly inspired. I am in the process of collating the vast number of suggestions and feedback and associated next steps will be shared in the near future.



The pictures are just a small snapshot of the event and some of the ideas and please also see today’s article about the event published by the Evening Express: <https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/fp/news/local/workshop-sees-pupils-make-aberdeen-masterplan-children>



LAIRHILLOCK SCHOOL



Larry, the Lairhillock School bear, Christeen Saward, Head Teacher, and her husband Derek, are off to Ghana on the first day of the summer break to work with the Juliet Johnston School and to establish International Learning links.

After a visit from Mrs Basil Johnston, co-founder of the school, the children of Lairhillock decided to sponsor a child and were delighted when they received the following from information from Mrs Johnston:

"I thought Lairhillock Primary would like to sponsor Prince. He is one of a family of five children who all attend the school, and who have all been sponsored. Prince is the youngest and is in Nursery.

Prince's mother has a severe mental illness. The children didn't go to school for years as they stayed at home to look after their mother.



One of the children has rickets, and two of them – including Prince – are bow legged because the mother didn't have enough calcium during her pregnancies.

Anyway, I don't know how the family heard about the school, but I do know that the father, who is a carpenter by trade, now makes furniture so he can work indoors and look after his wife so the children can go to school.

Four years ago I made a deal with the father and said that I would find sponsors for all of his children."



Introductory letters, cards and pictures created by the Lairhillock children will be delivered by Larry when he arrives at Juliet Johnston.



Not only is Larry taking Mr and Mrs Saward but he is also taking a friend, who plans to stay with the children in Ghana. This way Larry and his friend can correspond over the years and keep up to date with the news about their respective schools.

Why not follow Larry's blog on Finding Penguins:
<https://findpenguins.com/Ofpsmieivggub/footprint/594b65e9dac086-65061758>

CRATHIE SCHOOL

Crathie School are delighted that Jenny Price, Unicef's Professional Advisor for North Scotland, has confirmed that we are the smallest school ever to achieve the Level Two award. There were ten children on the roll of the School at the time of the assessment. Just goes to show



KINTORE SCHOOL



Kintore School is currently a Level 1 Rights Respecting School and is working hard towards getting Level 2. Throughout the year we focus a lot of our Assemblies on children’s rights and every class learns about the Rights and how to respect them.

Recently we held a very successful Rights Respecting Schools Focus Week. Every class in the school (and that’s 25 plus 2 Nursery classes!) carried out extra activities to really focus on what the U.N.C.R.C. is and how we can ensure everyone in our community is focusing on working towards Level 2. Nursery and Primary 1 had a great time building dens on a Save the Children Fund Den Day



and raising lots of money at the same time. The rest of the school focused on raising awareness of the U.N.C.R.C. with letters and visits to the office staff, the canteen staff, the librarian, the Parent Council and P.T.A. One class made new posters to display around the school to highlight work on R.R.S. Others looked at the Rights again and a lot of great discussions took place. All in all a great week was had and hopefully we are one step closer to our Level 2.

TOWIE SCHOOL

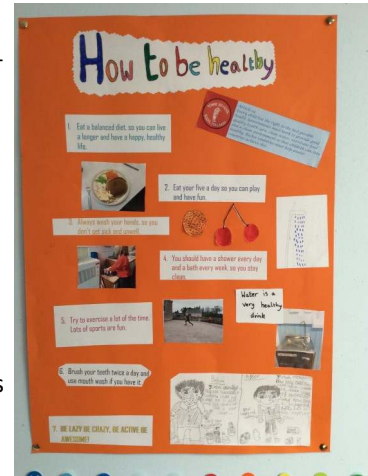


Yesterday Towie Primary welcomed Rights Respecting Assessor Gill Fitzpatrick, who carried out an assessment visit as part of the schools accreditation process as a Rights Respecting School.



Following a warm welcome Mrs Fitzpatrick was taken on a tour of the school by Primary 7. Later she visited P1-3, P3-4, P5-7 and the school nursery in order to chat to pupils in order to discover what learning children had taken part in regarding the Rights of the Child. In addition, the school’s RRSA steering group and RRSA were able to share the fantastic work pupils have been involved with locally, nationally and globally including The Rotary Club’s “End Polio Now” Crocus planting initiative, Children in Need, Mediciens sans frontiers, PDSA and Poppy Scotland, alongside sharing learning with a school in Lisale, Malawi.

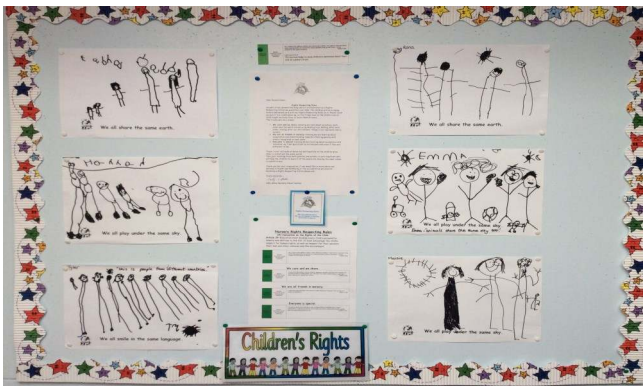
Parents were able to express their strong support for the school’s strong focus on Health and Wellbeing, stating that *‘the staff are clearly committed to getting it right for every child.’*



Finally, after discussions with staff and reviewing evidence submitted, Mrs Fitzpatrick was able to grant Towie Primary School the Unicef UK Rights Respecting Schools Award at Level 1, stating:

‘I really enjoyed my visit to your school today. Please pass on my thanks to your staff and pupils for making me so welcome and tell them how impressed I am with them!’

Miss Milne, Head Teacher at Towie Primary School, was delighted with the outcome and thanked children, parents and staff for their roles in this accreditation visit, in particular to Mrs Wightman, RRSA co-ordinator. *‘Well done Towie; a very important accolade!’*



HILL OF BANCHORY SCHOOL: A LEVEL 2 RRS SCHOOL

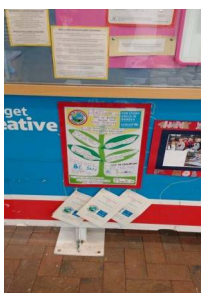


The Rights Respecting Committee pupils at Hill of Banchory have enjoyed a busy year! Our group is made up of representatives from each class in the school who have led our learning about children’s rights.

We have had a whole school focus on the UNCRC articles throughout the year. Firstly, the RRC worked together a questionnaire called ‘Search for the HOBs Super Sixteen’, and the committee decided together the name and format. Every class at Hill of Banchory took part in identifying the 16 articles linked to our learning on display at school. Our feedback from pupils was that the questionnaire was “a fun challenge” and “a shared activity” which helped us all to think about the UNCRC.

A different article each week or fortnight was also shared with pupils and staff through posters, and seen by parents and friends on Twitter. It was suggested by the committee pupils that we link articles with things happening on the school calendar, or with global dates. The pupils felt this would help us to learn about the articles and what they mean. For example, they chose to share Article 38 on the week our P7 presented an excellent and thought provoking assembly on World War II, which helped us all to think about the importance of protecting children from the impact of conflict.

Another activity the Rights Respecting Committee took part in



together was creating a poster and leaflets to share our learning about UNICEF and the UNCRF. The Woodend Barn, Banchory library and our local Tesco all kindly agreed to display the finished work.



The committee asked other pupils to look out for the posters and leaflets around the town. We all felt this was a good way for our families, friends and wider community to talk about what we do and perhaps encourage them to find out more about children's rights.

As a school, Hill of Banchory took part in Day for Change 2017 on Friday 9th June. The Rights Respecting pupils organised a collection of loose change and we were delighted to be able to donate £310 to UNICEF. The committee also suggested asking pupils and staff to wear something blue on the day, making a link to the UNICEF logo which would help everyone to think about the organisation.



As part of Day for Change, our RRC prepared their own assembly, choosing to focus on the Global Goals and the work of UNICEF. 'A small change can make a big difference' was the slogan the pupils decided to use to put across their message. They designed and helped to make a T shirt backdrop showing the individual goals, created artwork to show UNICEF's 'school in a box' and displayed their community poster. Through working on their script together they showed great teamwork and inclusion. The short film 'World Mission' was also shown to help everyone understand more about the Global Goals.

All our committee pupils from the different year groups say they have greatly enjoyed their work as a Rights Respecting group. The children think there has been a very positive impact on what we all know about children's rights globally. We have continued to progress our as a Level 2 school and Rights Respecting values are an integral part of all our learning. The P7 pupils have been thinking about this as they look forward to moving on to Academy:

"I've really enjoyed working with others in the committee." Sarah

"Helping to raise money and why has helped me to learn more about UNICEF." Steven



BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY



ACTIVITIES WEEK—GARDENING

For activities week I did 'Let it Grow' and I planted plants and seeds which are now growing in the classroom ready to get planted out. We also met United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child article 12: To have our voice heard because we got to decide what to buy and where to plant them and it also worked towards Sustainable Development Goal 15 'Life on Land'. We chose to plant a range of food stuff like herbs, strawberries, beans and tomatoes because it can then be used by other people in the school and the community. In the future we would like to have the garden open to the community so everyone can benefit from it.



April McLeish, 2C2

THE MINIATURE EARTH LEARNING PROJECT (MELP)

In Modern Studies the S1 pupils have been working on a project called the Miniature Earth Learning Project. This is based on looking at statistics to do with the Sustainable Development Goals and imagining they apply to a world of



only 100 people. In groups the pupils had to choose a goal to focus on then design a poster and speech to explain the goal, how it links to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and solutions at a school, local, national and global level.

As you can imagine this was a challenging task but our pupils met the challenge and some were then chosen to represent the school at a finals competition against other schools (primary and secondary) from across Aberdeen. The pupils were outstanding and on the day BODA came third in the poster competition. Well done!! Here are some accounts of the project as written by the pupils who represented the school at the final.



"This project was a very fun and interesting learning experience. We got to create and show others our posters, speeches and videos. We also were able to watch and compare our work to other schools. In the future we will be able to take this experience and use it in new experiences and other lessons. We were able to understand what is important for the future and things everyone is entitled to." **Written by Sophie Christie and her team (Cameron Taylor, Rea Brebner and Nathan Batchu).**

"The planning was good fun because we got to make a poster. We learned what life on earth would be like with only 100 people. When the judges came over it was a little nerve-wracking but we did it in the end. Overall it was really good". **Written by Lucy Wiseman, Olivia Roy, Cameron Herron and Ehtisham UI-Haq**

"We got to see other school's projects, and learned about the sustainable development goals. We managed to come 3rd, and we all got a certificate. Our leadership goals increased." **Written by Blair Emslie, Cameron Roger, Zoe Rennie, Olivia Zebedee and Tom Leach, Miss Davidson and Mrs Walkden**



S1 LEADERSHIP DAY—'THE BOY WHO HARNESSSED THE WIND', A SESSION LED BY THE GLOBAL GOALS GROUP

On Friday the 19th of May it was the S1 Leadership day and the task they were given at our station was to make a windmill out of a selection of materials that could lift a cup filled with some copper coins. This was based on the book 'The Boy



Who Harnesssed the Wind' by William Kamkwamba. He was a boy from Malawi who built a windmill out of things he could find after drought meant he couldn't

afford to go to school anymore and his family weren't able to grow enough food.



As the day went on we saw some great successes and losses.

This session links to the following United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child articles:

- Article 6 – The right to life
- Article 24 – The right to the best possible health
- Article 27 – The right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical, social and mental needs.
- Article 28 – The right to a good quality education.



It also links to the Sustainable Development Goals:

- 1 – No poverty
- 2 – Zero Hunger
- 3—Good Health and Wellbeing
- 4 – Quality Education
- 6 – Clean Water and sanitation
- 7 – Affordable and clean energy
- 9 – Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- 11 – Sustainable cities and communities
- 13 – Climate action

These link together as you need all those rights and goals to be met to be able to live.

Here is some feedback from our pupils...

"We worked well because we had good co-operation and had a good build"

"We worked well as a team by talking and co-operating with each other"

"We learnt how to create a wind turbine and that ideas can kind of fail!"

"We enjoyed being creative, designing, trying to come up with ideas, making it"

By Kiera Walker, 3F1, The Global Goals Group

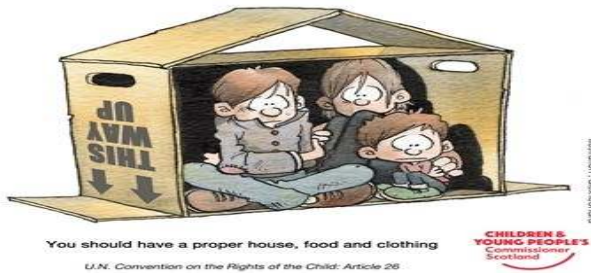
DEN BUILDING AT STRATHBURN SCHOOL



These photos are of the Primary 5s taking part in Den Day for Save the Children at Bennachie. They did this through outdoor learning and used nature to build their dens.



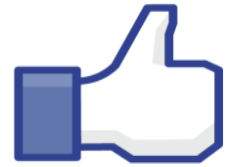
The other photos are of Primary 7 children working with Primary 1s and 2s in mixed stage teams to build dens for Den Day by Save the Children. The children learned about how natural disasters affect people around the world. We took part in this to try and raise awareness of the right to shelter.



Children had a great time using recycled and other items from around the school to build dens, while learning an important lesson about rights.



RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT



Congratulations and well done to the following schools for moving forwards with their RRSA journey over the course of the last school year. A fantastic achievement by all!!

ABERDEEN CITY

- Bridge of Don Academy**—Recognition of Commitment
- Charleston** —Level 1 Award
- Culter** —Level 2 Award
- Cults Primary**—Recognition of Commitment
- Danestone Primary**—Recognition of Commitment
- Fernielea Primary**—Recognition of Commitment
- Harlaw Academy**—Level 1 Award
- Hazlehead Primary** —Level 1 Award
- Hanover**—Recognition of Commitment
- Kaimhill**—Recognition of Commitment
- Kincorth Academy**—Recognition of Commitment
- Muirfield** —Recognition of Commitment
- Quarryhill** —Recognition of Commitment
- St Machar Academy**—Recognition of Commitment
- St Peter's** —Recognition of Commitment
- Sunnybank** —Level 1 Award
- Torry Academy**—Recognition of Commitment
- Walker Rd**— Recognition of Commitment

ABERDEENSHIRE

- Catterline**—Recognition of Commitment
- Crathes**—Recognition of Commitment
- Crathie**—Level 2 Award
- Echt**—Level 1 Award
- Fraserburgh South Park**—Level 1 Award
- Fyvie**—Level 1 Award
- Gordon Primary**—Recognition of Commitment
- Hillside**—Recognition of Commitment
- Lairhillock**—Level 2 (re-accredited)
- Logie Coldstone**—Recognition of Commitment
- Longside**—Level 1 Award
- Meldrum Primary**—Recognition of Commitment
- Meiklemill**—Recognition of Commitment
- Mill O' Forest**—Recognition of Commitment
- Monymusk**—Level 1 Award
- Portlethen Primary**—Level 2 Award
- St Andrew's (Fraserburgh)** - Recognition of Commitment

