



Smart
School
Councils
Community

Improving OUR school



Theme 5:

Our successes & achievements

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This includes opportunities for achievement in our school and in the community, being able to achieve the best possible progress, awards and qualifications, skills for employment and lifelong learning.

ROSE TRAINER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Our whole school community, including parents, carers and other adults involved in our school, worked together to develop a brand new achievement award. We named it after Rose Trainer, the very first Head Teacher of Cathedral Primary. The Rose Trainer Achievement Award will help all Cathedral learners develop into *Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens* and *Effective Contributors* at school, at home and in the local and global community. There are eight levels from Nursery – Primary 7, with bronze, silver and gold certificates to earn each year. The award will be officially launched in the Motherwell Cathedral later this year.

Theme 2:

Our learning & teaching



This includes the curriculum, the quality of learning experiences, the range of teaching approaches and access to high-quality resources for learning.

NEW SCHOOL LIBRARY

Reading for Enjoyment is on this year's School Improvement Plan and it's vital all Cathedral pupils have regular access to the very best books. We worked together to create a brand new library from scratch. House Captains worked closely with Caledonian Furniture to design the shelving and layout and with Scotia Books to fill the shelves with lots of beautiful new books (there's something there for every Cathedral pupil!). We also came up with ideas about how to furnish and decorate our library. The finished library has lots of spaces to relax and enjoy a book, including a cosy reading wood for our younger pupils. One of Primary 7's favourite authors, Ross McKenzie, officially opened our new library on Monday 28th March.

2021

2022

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE



Improving



OUR school



Theme 1:

Our relationships

This includes friendships, relationships with teachers and other adults who support us, opportunities to influence things, equality and fairness, ethos and culture, feeling supported and cared for.



Theme 4:

Our health & wellbeing

This includes access to good quality nutritious food as well as support for our emotional wellbeing, mental health and physical wellbeing.



Theme 2:

Our learning & teaching

This includes the curriculum, the quality of learning experiences, the range of teaching approaches and access to high-quality resources for learning.



SUGGESTIONS BOX

One of our House Captains came up with the idea of a suggestions box to give Cathedral pupils the opportunity to share their ideas with Mr Young. We wanted the box to be really high quality and last for many years to come, so our House Captains contacted Our Lady's High School Technical Department to see if they would help with its design and production. House Captains went up to OLHS every week to work on the wooden box, complete with a plastic pencil holder. It now has pride of place next to our Smart School Council Action Board.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD LESSON?

Cathedral pupils were asked what makes a good lesson and were given several options to consider. Getting to work in pairs and small groups came out top, using digital technology second and getting quality feedback on their learning a close third. This information was used to revise the school's Learning, Teaching & Assessment Framework, including a new approach to marking, which was introduced in August 2023. Sixty new ipads were also purchased for Primary 1 – 3 classes.

ANTI-BULLYING CAMPAIGN

We are proud that bullying incidents are very rare within our school community. However, this is not something we take for granted. We ran an anti-bullying poster competition and the three winning entries are now displayed throughout the school. Our House Captains worked together to develop 'Bullying Drills' which are now used in every class at the beginning of each term. Our House captains also led training for teachers on how to deliver the drills at a staff meeting.

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Theme 3:

Our school & community



This includes the facilities and environment for learning, availability of digital technology, the range of equipment for play and physical activity and ensuring everyone has good access to what's available. It also includes having positive links between our school and our families and with partner organisations in our community.

IMPROVING OUR LEARNING STREETS

Cathedral's four learning streets are extensions of classrooms. Pupils were asked how they would like to improve their learning street and came up with the following requests:

- We would like learning streets to be zoned to include a technology/construction area, a reading area, a Publication Station for independent writing and a 'wellbeing area';
- We would like systems in place to ensure resources are quickly replenished when they run out;
- We would like systems in place to keep learning streets tidy and organised, including brushes and dustpans to clear up after messy learning.

Theme 1:

Our relationships



This includes friendships, relationships with teachers and other adults who support us, opportunities to influence things, equality and fairness, ethos and culture, feeling supported and cared for.

CELEBRATING CATHEDRAL DIVERSITY

Cathedral pupils were asked how we can celebrate diversity across our school and campus. They said:

- Create a new welcome display at the school entrance which celebrates Cathedral's diversity. This will include an 'inspirational quote lucky dip';
- Include a dedicated monthly 'celebrating our diversity' slot at assembly;
- Plan and hold a Diversity Day in Term 4. This will also include the development and launch of a Cathedral cookbook;
- Use our class 'showcase walls' to highlight and celebrate Cathedral's diversity.

Theme 2:

Our learning & teaching

This includes the curriculum, the quality of learning experiences, the range of teaching approaches and access to high-quality resources for learning.



RESOURCING TECHNOLOGY ZONES

House Captains were tasked with selecting a range of resources for the technology/construction zones of learning streets. These resources will be used for adult-initiated and learner-led learning activities from August 2024.

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2024

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Theme 2: Our learning & teaching

WHAT MAKES GREAT LEARNING?

Classes across the school were asked to submit the top 5 things which make their learning enjoyable and challenging. House captains collated these onto a poster. Our learning streets also received a refresh.

Theme 4: Our health & wellbeing

IMPROVING WELLBEING AREAS

Cathedral learners were asked what we could change about or add to our learning street wellbeing areas to support pupils' wellbeing. Wellbeing baskets containing fidget toys, mindfulness colouring books, a worry monster, a book of prayers and an MP3 player with calming music were added to areas. Donations of house plants were also received to place on each classroom group table.

2024

Theme 3: Our school & community

PLANNING OUR 150th ANNIVERSARY

Cathedral school and parish will be an incredible 150 years old in 2025. Throughout Term 2, Cathedral learners and staff planned how our school and parish community will mark this very special year in our school's history. House Captains also gathered the views of parishioners after Sunday Mass on 3rd November. The 2025 programme was finalised and published on the school website on Monday 4th November. Following this, pupils and staff worked together to plan a 2025 mini topic on the history of our school and parish.

Theme 1: Our relationships

HOUSE MASCOTS

We took forward two suggestions from the suggestions box this term:

1. A competition took place to design a mascot for each of Cathedral's six Houses. The winning designs were made into real mascots, complete with a House t-shirt.

Theme 3: Our school & community

TOILET TRANSFORMATIONS

2. Pupils were consulted on how they would like to improve the toilets in each learning street. Learners chose the colours and also went shopping for the finishing touches.

Theme 2: Our learning & teaching

CATHEDRAL'S GOT TALENT

In response to an idea dropped into the Smart School Council suggestion box in January 2025, House Captains organised and ran a school talent show to round off another fantastic year here at Cathedral.

Theme 3: Our school & community

CONNECTING WITH OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

- House Captains delivered invitations to local residents inviting them to an advanced viewing of our 150th anniversary exhibition on Wednesday 14th May.
- Residents from the local care home and sheltered housing, as well as the Deaf Hub, were also invited and Cathedral Primary organised the transport for those residents who attended.
- A programme of events for residents of Glenview sheltered housing and Cathedral learners to enjoy together was planned.
- Cathedral Easter bunnies delivered an Easter treat to the homes of local residents prior to the spring break.



2025

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