

29/09/2025 - 15:30 Main hall

Intro from Kenny (The PC is here to support the school)

Head teacher report given by Chenelle (See below!)

Question on assemblies: can the next terms also be added to the FB post plan so parents can book off when they want to go? Jess agreed to do this

Question on pictures of the star assemblies and similar on FB pictures at school. Chenelle agreed to try and take more pictures of presentations to share

School Improvement Plan

Kenny: Where is the school on the training/improvement.

Chenelle: A training plan is set for months ahead, with multiple sessions already run.

Jess: Getting good attainment data has been a priority so the school can better judge how it is doing. Aiming for consistent reporting between teachers. New teaching plans are in place and being monitored to make sure all staff are following them.

P7 residential

A survey and feedback to the school show a very wide variety of opinions on what is desired. The school will gather more data and try to make the best balanced choices. It's clear that the different priorities will be impossible to reconcile fully though.

Jess noted the complexity of organising: originally they wanted to go further away, but costs would rise a lot with this, and few places are large enough to take the full school. This gets harder when trying to add other feeder schools to have a combined trip. These centers are normally booked up at least a year in advance so having a consistent place to go would make organisation easier.

Chenelle notes the center was great this year and put in a lot of extra effort including providing transport to move the kids which reduced the cost. Overnight staff volunteers are needed to run the trip (and this is unpaid). Being close to Aviemore made this easier.

Digital changes

Kids feedback: Spoke were unhappy about reduction of fun-31 computer time. This will continue for the year through as the kids have plenty of other chromebook use time and the general feeling was that games that involve interaction were better use of the time.;

Communication

Teachers are not on the class whatsapp groups (probably not wanted and some do not use whatsapp anyway). Class groups do need a clear way to join though, and ideally a 'lead' for each class who would help to feed information into the correct groups.

Jess agreed to add posts to google classroom for important messages that currently only go on facebook. The newsletter will also try to highlight important things that need to be responded to more clearly.

Chenelle noted that emails were a manual process so they did not have a nice way to segment class groups emails.

Swimming lessons

Topic removed to be talked about later when there is more information!

Garden

ACE gave money to clear the gardens. Thursday sessions need adults to come along with the kids. Funding needed for fencing and paths

PC will fund a wheelbarrow as one was broken. Metal shed needed for storing tools and similar is needed.

Summer fun night

Went well, will be documented better for next year.

Fun that involves teachers is very popular with the kids

How many food vans should we have? KJ wanted to be nearer the front. Some food vans were slower this year, but ice-cream sold out (just down to the weather)

Music could be further from the stands to people can hear

FB messages in advance to advertise and drive engagement before the event would help

Xmas Fair

19th December, using the terms enterprise topic to get the kids running stalls. It will be in school time so staff can help and all kids can attend.

Parents can also run stalls/help

A suggestion for other activities such as a photobooth was made

Halloween disco

Sonia offered to organise, a couple of other parents have offered help. Some teachers would also support. HLH may also be able to help. Kenny suggested some teenagers may be able to help too and will ask.

Requires enough time in the hall to run. School suggests that upper+lower wings in the same event would not be ideal. Andy to check if Sonia has managed to get a time that will work, then we can push for more helpers.

Other Items

Jess to check the timing of the next open event and see if we could meet after it to help bring more parents in.

It was noted that some kids were on bikes with no helmets. Another reminder will be given

Headteacher Update

September 25

Staffing

- We are delighted to welcome our probationer, Isobel Gray, to Aviemore Primary. She is teaching P2/3 under the mentorship of Sulekha Millar.

We are also delighted to welcome Lesley Rogan, Amber Gordon and Yvonne Littler to our PSA team. (Yvonne was a PSA but left us for a while- we are grateful she has rejoined the team). All our new staff have fitted into the team so well and we value the positive impact they are having in our school already.

- At the end of last term, we welcomed John Currivan as our school janitor. He is so helpful and always willing to go the extra mile for us all.
- In Nursery, we welcome Maggie Carswell, our new Senior EYP who will be working with us on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Term 1 has got off to a good start....

- Capercaillie House launched it's Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Boxes have already started to come in!
 - We had our parents evenings last week which were well attended. Gavin Murphy, HT of KHS, was available on the Tuesday to meet parents and answer any questions about high school.

- P7 residential at Altnacriche was a huge success and the children loved their experiences. The centre went above and beyond to cater for our needs as a school. Mrs Hull said it was one of the best P7 trips we have had. I want to reiterate our thanks to Mrs Hull, Miss Treanor and Mrs Littler for their willingness to volunteer to stay overnight with the children. Staff are not remunerated for overnight stays. We are very fortunate as a school to be able to stay for 4 nights, as some schools in the ASG can only offer 2 nights due to staffing constraints.
- This term, we have lots of children taking the lead and running clubs during lunch times- There is an art club, mountain bike club and craft club.
- We are looking forward to our Star Assembly and Wider achievement assembly this week. We have decided to celebrate Wider achievements once a term so if you have any photos of out of school events then please send them to me to share at our assembly on Friday.

Sports:

- Congratulations to some of our children who were chosen to participate in an International Ice Hockey Camp in Sweden this weekend.
- A large group of our children will be taking part in the Shinty World Cup on Tuesday 30th September. We wish them all the best.
- Netball club is up and running on a Friday afternoon.
- Inter schools ski competition on the 7th and we will be sending about 4 teams from school- thank you Anona Johnston and Fiona Green for organising this.

SIP:

To remind you our areas for improvement are:

1. Raising attainment in writing through the National Writing Improvement Framework
2. Consistency in Learning and Teaching
3. Developing the curriculum in the ASN provision
4. Nursery-Developing high quality experiences and outcomes for our children.

- I will send out a copy of our SIP on the Latest News today.
- Progress so far:
- All P2 -7 teachers had a training day on the National Writing Improvement programme on the Tuesday inset day. There will be a further 6 twilight training sessions to attend.
- We have also offered a drop in session for staff to support them on their journey for the NIWP.
- Staff have signed up to working parties to tackle the different areas of learning and teaching that we need to work on. So far, we have agreed on consistent planning and assessments across the school and consistent approaches to Numeracy. Numeracy approaches will be monitored in the next two weeks by SLT as we do lesson observations in each class.
- Nursery staff have been implementing strategies from training in the inset day on 'All behaviour is communication' by Speech and Language team.

Finally, I would like to thank our school team for all their hard work this term so far and for beginning to make the changes needed to improve our school. Change is difficult for all of us, and I appreciate the effort and energy this takes!

