

Global School Play Day 2019

We're really excited to be taking part in the 5th annual Global School Play Day on **Wednesday February 6th**. The concept of GSPD is to get kids playing freely without adult intervention or structure.

Children are designed, by nature, to spend huge amounts of time playing freely. That's how they develop social, emotional, and physical skills, and it's how they become creators and innovators. It's how they learn to take charge of their own lives. Today's children have far fewer opportunities to play than their parents and grandparents had and this has negatively impacted them in many ways. This fantastic TED Talk by Peter Gray clearly outlines the consequences of the decline of play:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bg-GEzM7iTk>

We are planning a day of unstructured, self-controlled and self-directed play across the school on February 6th. Children are invited to bring in toys and games on the day. The only restriction being that these toys must NOT require batteries or electricity. No devices either, please. We also hope to get out and make the most of the woods and the beach for free-play, so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately. No uniform is required.

More information on #GSPD can be found here:

www.globalschoolplayday.com/

Parent/Carer Curricular Evening (January) - Feedback

DYW (Developing the Young Workforce)

Thank you to the DYW pupil reps from Dunnottar, supported by Miss Murray, for putting together such an informative presentation. Part of the presentation included a video clip of the S2/S3 Mackie Academy pupils being interviewed by the DYW pupil reps about the life skills which are further developed at Secondary school. Mrs Davidson and Mrs Black (Pupil Support and Attainment Teachers) from Mackie, also supported the evening by further linking the skills being taught through Dunnottar's 'HOLT Life Skills' sheets and involvement in the JASS Award scheme, to those taught at Mackie. This helped to illustrate the reasons behind our involvement in this new initiative.



JASS Award Scheme Myth Busters

Do you need to have ask your coach or tutor to sign off your sheets?

No. Parents/carers can sign off record sheets.

Do the folders have to be completed at home? JASS folders will include evidence from activities being completed at home and at school. Class teachers will request to see the folders once a month. The next date will be on **Friday the 15th of February**. Pupils have until July to fully complete their level. Some will achieve this before July.

Are the folders costing the school a lot of money?

No. A price of £1200 for the whole school to participate was negotiated. As this is a pilot scheme for the authority, Aberdeenshire Council are supporting the school to cover these costs.

The Learning Journal

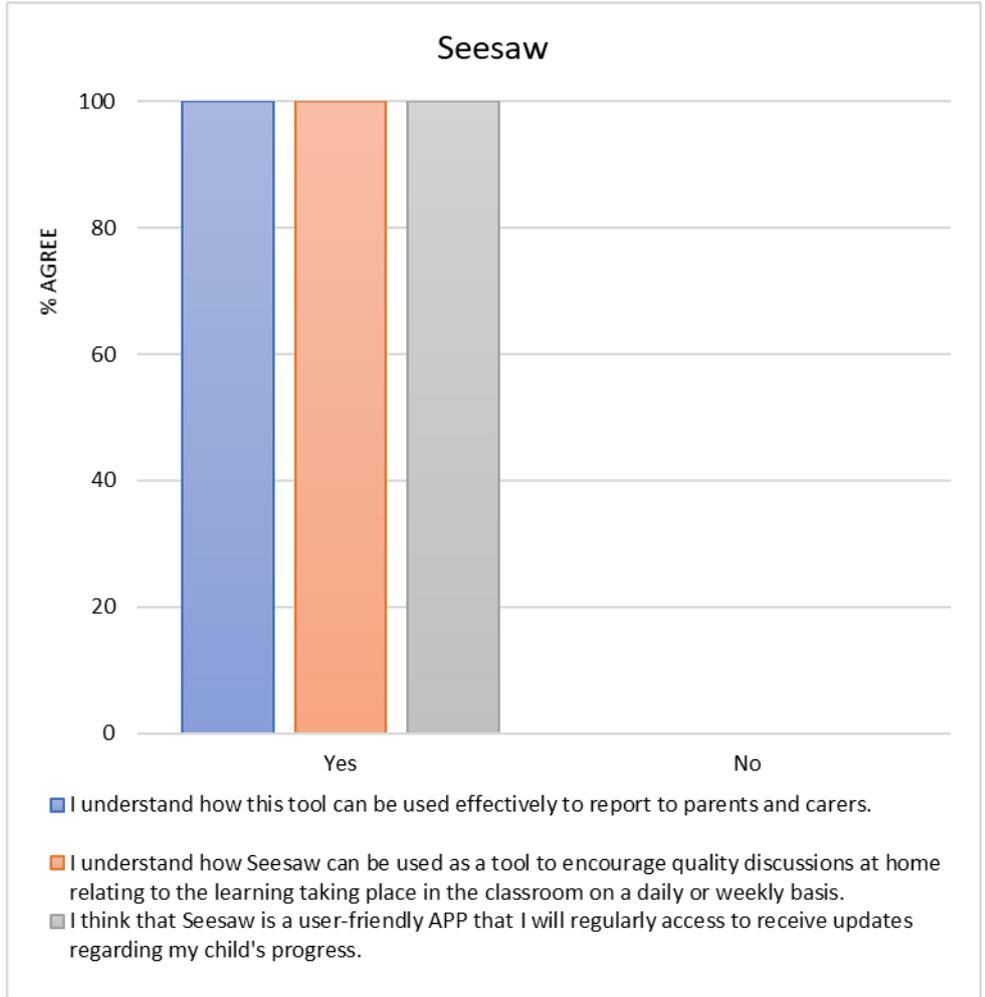
Parent/Carer Curricular Evening (January) - Feedback

Seesaw - Online Tool

Miss Duncan explained how our new profiling tool works. Seesaw will replace ILD (Interactive Learning Diaries) in P1 to P7.

We prefer this APP for lots of reasons:

- It is easy for the children and staff to use.
- Videos/photos/text can be uploaded with ease.
- Parents/carers/family members can see the latest uploads instantly.
- Website links or videos can be sign-posted for pre-learning tasks.
- Spelling words & maths examples which need extra practice at home can be displayed with ease.
- It is free!



You Retweeted
Sarah gear @Sarahgear4 · Feb 1
Replying to @DunnottarSchool
oh wow how amazing, well done P4/5 🙌 #pupilsleadtheway #mindfulnesschampions

SQUIP Link....

Our Mindfulness sessions are underway with our Mindfulness Champions helping to lead practices throughout the week in P2/3 to P7. This is linked to our Standards and Quality Improvement Plan.

The aim is 'to enhance and increase staff, pupils and parental awareness of, and participation in, a variety of mindfulness activities throughout the course of 2018/19 academic session. To maintain productive attitudes, focus on what matters, develop self-compassion and to deal more positively with difficulty.'

Sarah Gear continues to support the school on our Mindfulness journey. The kids love her sessions! So do the staff!

Ask your child about the sessions.

Dates for your Diary

Global School Play Day - 6th February. Non uniform.

Holiday - 7th, 8th, 11th of February

In-Service - 12th & 13th February

JASS folders to school - 15th February

**P7 Fundraising Event
22nd February
(Tickets available from the school office.)**