

# World War One Open Morning - 14.11.14

## Feedback from parents and friends

### 1. What have you enjoyed most about the open morning?

*Seeing the fabulous effort made by the staff and pupils  
I loved seeing all the artefacts the children had made  
Seeing all the hard work the whole school had put into the open morning  
The pupils' costumes were good and a real variety of ideas.  
Visiting all the classrooms and seeing the variety of scarecrows and individual class displays      Oh! The Cookies!!      Seeing my child in school  
Seeing WW1 Artefacts      P3 trenches  
Seeing all the hard work and the children dressed up  
Looking around the school and looking at the children's work on the walls  
Seeing all the hard work that the children have done  
Seeing all the models and displays and also the shortbread and biscuits  
Seeing the effort the whole school has put into the joint project  
I have loved seeing the enthusiasm the pupils have for this project  
Seeing the kids and their work in the school  
Seeing everyone's great work      Showing off our vibrant school  
Having the chance to see all the fantastic work throughout the school  
Seeing the children so enthusiastic about such an important subject  
The outfits were lovely. I loved the gym hall and the trenches  
The children have worked very hard  
It was great to see everyone's work from N - P7. to see the range of work from lower classes to the end was amazing - to see how the children develop ideas and the work involved      Atmosphere, dazzling camouflage, WOW!  
Seeing all the children's work, spending time with the kids in school and eating the biscuits! Yum      The effort put in by the children (and biscuits!)  
The shortbread and looking at all the children's work. Fantastic.  
Great Open Morning. Children all seem very enthusiastic.  
Admiring the end product of all the children's research and hard work.  
Seeing the children enjoying showing their work  
Seeing old time uniforms - we saw a young lad with a WW1 Cameroonian Highlander cap badge  
Great to see so many parents attending! Enjoyed seeing the art*

*Mrs Watson's response - thank you for so many positive comments, the staff really appreciate our very supportive parents and very much enjoy working with you all.*

### 2. Did anything disappoint you?

*Would have enjoyed seeing the kids singing together  
Not much about the war in P1 areas - but understandably - they're still just settling in  
Would be nice to see a performance from the children  
P6 - there were no fish in the tanks  
Kids and parents make such an effort - not to mention teachers and massive input working together = great school! Open mornings demonstrate this perfectly!  
Great to see so many parents attending! Enjoyed seeing the art*

*Mrs Watson's response - we will try to have some singing / performance incorporated next time. We do have a whole school WW1 play in progress, led by Mrs Wilson. If we can't manage to share this in real-time, we will do so via our Live Learning. P1 & 2 concentrated on the allotment garden because the War wasn't a suitable context for them.*

### 3. Have you any ideas for future whole school contexts?

*It was great that most of the school took part in one context - no idea for future one!*

*Aberdeen and Oil Industry*

*Space*

*Jacobites*

*Oil and Gas Industry - our girls are fascinated by our work*

*I wait with baited breath!*

*Music*

*Project on space travel*

*World War Two next please*

*Mrs Watson's response - the staff will take on these suggestions. Our next whole school context will not be until next session. The planning for WW1 started last March and we were very fortunate to receive significant grants from Heritage Lottery and Food for Thought. We will be looking for funding for our next major school context. We will keep you posted and all offers of help will be appreciated!*

### 4. Any other comments?

*Brilliant as ever*

*A great morning - thank you!*

*The shortbread poppy biscuits were delicious*

*As usual, a brilliant open morning. Keep up the good work!*

*Always a good opportunity to come and see all of the classrooms at one time and to spend a bit of time there*

*Teachers and staff have worked very hard getting the school ready. You can see lots of learning has taken place*

*Fabulous idea to involve the parents*

*Great to see all pupils' enthusiastic and excited about learning. It looks so much fun.*

*Well done, thoroughly enjoyed it!*

*Very enjoyable*

*Thank you for all your hard work- both children and staff. Well done*

*Fantastic morning as always*

*Thank you. It is always great to get into school and see what classes have been up to*

*Well done Middleton Park for all your hard work!*

*Another enjoyable open morning!*

*Keep up the good work*

*Was disappointed to hear that on handing in homework challenge, it was put to one side.*

*Can the school recommend or sell outfits or some souvenirs for the theme of the day?*

*Fantastic, thanks for making us welcome and involved. Well done to all staff and kids*

*Well done*

*Very well done to all the children!*

*Nothing apart from very impressed!*

*Thoroughly enjoyed the morning. Looking forward to tasting the biscuits.*

*Mrs Watson's response - we all really appreciate the efforts our pupils and families put into our whole school homework challenges. We do make time to fully share these - our school is very busy and sometimes teachers have to make the decision to postpone the discussion and appreciation of the homework until the following day. All efforts have been praised and photographed and will be shared on our Live Learning soon. Great idea to create souvenirs to sell - something we will think about.*

## 5. Please write any comments on the impact of:

### Our writer in residence, Allan Burnett

*The stories on display on the walls are fantastic and really give a picture of the war  
Inspiring for the children Great idea to make creative writing real to the kids  
My boy hates writing a little bit less! Obviously the stories were greatly enjoyed  
Great for the school to have inspirational outside influences for the kids to work with  
Great Writing more expressive Done a fabulous job  
My son enjoyed this very much Really inspired kids to write about WW1 ex  
Very good Encouraging children to read and write stories  
Our girls spoke about Allan's time in the school Meaningful contexts  
My son was super excited after his visit and my daughter has been doing more writing at  
home. Loved his books. Honoured to meet him.  
Good to have authors input All have been hugely enjoyed*

### Our artist in residence, Graeme Milne

*Fab artwork Loved the Dazzle Camouflage Ship outside P3  
Beautiful medals and scarecrows Enjoyed the art. Impressive scale!  
Got a lot of feedback about the stuffed animals / birds  
Great work by Graeme Great displays and ideas (esp War Horse)  
The horse is wonderful, my daughter has really enjoyed working on this  
My son learned a lot from him Fantastic artwork and displays  
WOW! Impressive Very good  
As someone who loves art, Graeme was an inspiration to my daughter. Ethan is  
drawing more and more. Girls found Graeme a lot of fun!  
Fantastically effective Good for kids to meet artist - captures their imagination  
A lot of lovely art work on display using different materials*

### Our Allotment Garden

*Love P3 poppies Fantastic Amazing sunflowers  
Will look fab wit some 'scarecrows'  
Possibly would be a bit brighter in better weather but interesting to see 'bottle'  
greenhouse and different plants and very tall sunflowers  
Looks great Great, the children looking after this were very knowledgeable  
Great practical learning Beautiful, loved the poppies that the kids did  
Great to see veg being grown and used Very well kept  
Well done - lovely area It is lovely  
Excellent Food is not just from Asda!  
Well done, coming on very well Great to see the kids learning about gardening  
Fantastic work, I loved the poppies The allotment garden is excellent  
Love the fact that it's a working garden and all kids involved  
An understanding of how herbs can change the way food tastes and how much effort it is  
to grow. Children see and learn how things grow  
Good learning tool for pupils Lovely recycled poppies and green house  
The sunflowers must have been a splendid show Very neat and tidy!*

*Mrs Watson's response - we agree with all comments and that these three areas have greatly added to the pupils' learning experiences. One outcome from the pupil audit last session was a request for an artist and this has been very successful. We are now looking for funding so that we can continue to work with Graeme and also to ensure our work with Allan can be sustained. Our allotment garden is now very much a permanent feature in our school*