In attendance:
- Ruth Maguire MSP
- Fulton MacGregor MSP
- Mary Fee MSP
- 13 P4/5 students
- Shona Macdonald, principal teacher

Children were asked to agree or disagree with the statements below

1. It’s important that families have rules.
   - All pupils agreed
   - If you don’t have rules you could hurt yourself or break something.
   - If you didn’t have rules, you could get lost.

2. It’s important that there are punishments or consequences if things are broken.
   - All pupils except two agreed
   - If there are no consequences, the child will keep on doing it.
   - If someone slaps people, and they get injured, there could be broken bones.

3. Offering rewards for good behaviour is a good way to get children to follow rules.
   - All pupils agreed
   - “If we didn’t do that, I wouldn’t get anything for being good, so I’d stay bad.”

4. No TV for a day/no screen time is a good way of getting children to behave.
   - A range of views, and several pupils undecided
   - All agreed that parents should be able to take something away from the child.

5. Will a slap on the leg stop children misbehaving again?
   - Quite a few of the pupils disagreed
   - “Children could come to school and think it’s okay to hit there, too.”
   - Disagree: “The pain is only for a few seconds, and the child won’t think about it again, but if they get time out, they won’t forget.”
Undecided: “If you give them a slap, I don’t think they'll do it again.”

6. **Children and parents both have rights but parents’ rights are more important at home.**

- Lots of pupils disagreed: “It should be equal.”
- Children should have more rights than adults.
- Adults should know better.
- “You should follow your mum and dad's rules.”

**General comments**

- I don’t think we should smack people. Adults should know better.
- It’s okay to smack kids if they’re doing something dangerous like playing with electricity, but not too much.
- You can smack, but better to take something away from them.
- You should smack them, but only when they’ve been naughty, or when they might get lost or hurt.
- Don’t smack. Take their favourite toys away.
- Don’t smack unless they’ve been really bad, like if they’ve broken something belonging to their parents on purpose.
- Every child should feel safe with their parents, but if parents smack all the time their kids won’t feel safe.
- The naughty corner is better.
- Parents are much bigger—they could really hurt them.
- A wee slap but not a big one.
- Smack younger kids, but if they’re older they might hit their friends.
- Hitting could easily damage them.
- If you slap them, they might hit their own kids, and it could go on and on.
- Kids should be treated the same as adults.