

Head Teacher's Report

25th November 2019

We currently have a **school roll** of 115 children.

We have a stable **staff** with the new addition of Miss Walker in P4/5 and Ms Mackay in P2/3 as Newly Qualified Teachers. Mrs Price and Ms Wynne, Pupil Support Assistants left us last year to take up personal interests.

School Improvement - Our annual report and plan is available on the school website. Last year our focus was on Sustainability and continued the work on STEAM -

For Sustainability we had a clear focus on outdoor learning at the start of last session resulting in all children receiving achievement awards in one area of outdoor education and all upper children receiving their John Muir Awards. As a school we did a lot of work on the United Nations Rights of the Child and were delighted to receive both our Bronze and Silver Rights Respecting Schools status over the course of the year. We also had a big push on language learning, incorporating a French focus week in the April term. In the January term, we took part in Fairtrade Fortnight and this work resulted in our Fair Aware Award. Furthermore, work with Eco schools saw us achieve our first Eco Green Flag.

In STEAM we received our Chromebooks (a bit later than anticipated) but, these are now well utilised in each classroom and digital leaders established to take this forward further. We completed an ICT Intergenerational project linked with Soirbheas that all P7 children were involved in supporting the older members of the community with ICT. All children took part in Science Crest challenges and received Crest Star or Superstar awards as a result. Maths work continued with staff receiving training on multiplication and division and developmental approach to this.

Further more detailed information is given at the start of the school improvement report and plan and Our Curriculum Rationale has been updated in light of these – again available in more detail on the school website/ at parent meetings.

This year our main improvement priorities are:

- Creativity – Child-led with a different focus each term – see poster
- Sustainability – Global Citizenship focus, links with French school (Connecting Classrooms), outdoor learning continued – Silver Woodland Trust Award, next level of Fairtrade – Fair Active, Gold Rights Respecting Schools (2 years), continued work for Green flag award looking at different areas this year.
- Expressive Arts – Different focus each term – see School Improvement Plan - tying in moderation and assessment

Detailed action plans for these are set out in the school improvement plan and updates given on each newsletter.

Children still have vast opportunities to develop their skills and leadership opportunities.

Pupil Equity Funding – Last year our Pupil Equity Funding of £14400 was used for Education City (second half of 3 years), Big Blue maths board training and resources, teacher cover 1 day a week – assessments and interventions, teacher supply to visit other schools and share good practice, HT Writing Challenge, Goblin Kit Car, 7x Chromebooks and 4x Ipads (each class with Ipad), Live-N-Learn wellbeing week, Free break time snack (link with breakfast club) and a Lexia 3 year subscription

This year £20400 plan to Live N Learn (different focus for workshops), Jammin' Fitness, free break time snack, Emotion Works, Dramabox, breakfast club, STEM home learning packs. We had planned to use some of this for an outdoor learning initiative but, the company running it has gone into administration. We are therefore looking at alternatives. I also have some ideas from the conferences I attended last week including robots and resources around play including, outdoors.

Staff Leadership and Training; Both Miss Mullin and Miss MacDonald completed their Lead On project and received Professional Recognition for them. Mr Macleod completed his second year of Literacy Leader training. Miss Mullin completed her Languages project and received further professional recognition for this. This year as in previous years, all staff have leadership roles.

Miss Mullin and Mrs McLean will be mentoring newly qualified teachers. Miss Mullin also leads on the Sustainability elements including French language promotion and Connecting Classrooms. Miss MacDonald continues to lead on Digital Literacy, Miss MacVicar is supporting Gaelic with the Gaelic nursery and Language 3, Mr Macleod is looking at taking the Literacy work up through the school and more closely at learning through play. Both Miss Walker and Ms MacKay will complete projects as part of their year also.

We continue to share a close, positive partnership with parents and thank them for their continued support throughout.

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Raised £1778 from the sponsored walk.

Transport

Really struggling with buses with quotes of £240 for a single trip making them just not feasible.

The only bus we can get for the April term swimming will cost £175 per trip over 10 weeks which is all that we have raised from the sponsored walk and leaves no money for other trips or workshops etc. I am aware that some of the P5s have had swimming already and some have not therefore, we need to have this equitable.

We are working with Soirbheas, the other feeder primaries and the High School to try to come up with a solution for this. However, the High School minibus would not hold a class of children and we have no adults in the school with the suitable licence.

Sports Kit

Training tops – looking at whether we get just tops and jackets or full kit?

Future work

Would like to work with parents on Family Learning and fundraising this year.