Improving Writing Outcomes for P5 ChildrenPathhead Primary School

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Stretch Aim: By June 2021, 90% of P5 learners will have achieved CfE First Level Literacy Outcomes in Writing (baseline 63%).

Aim 1: By the end of March 2021, 90% of my target of P5 learners, will be consistently writing 3 or more linked sentences using appropriate punctuation, within their writing (baseline 53%).

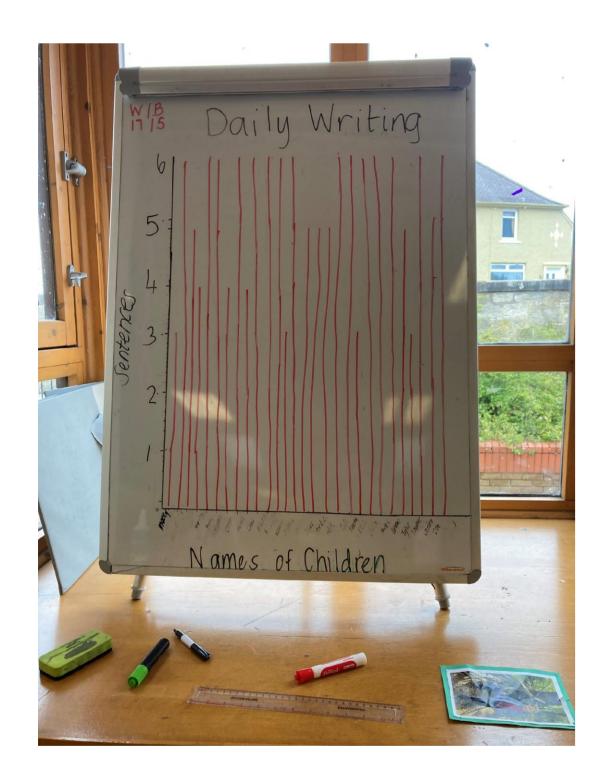
Aim 2: By the end of May 2021, 90% of P5 learners, will be including 3 or more sophisticated openers within their writing (baseline 23%).

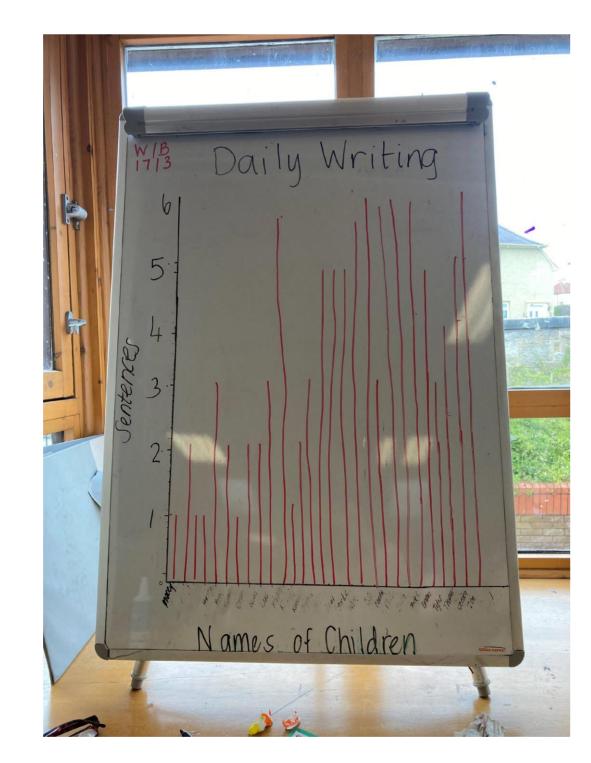
Method

- Assessed individual writing against CfE First Level Writing criteria
- Attended Fife Quality Improvement Wave 4 Improving Writing Training.
- Support was given by the Quality Improvement Coaches assigned to our school

Process Change

- Daily writing introduced 20 mins of focused writing
- Teacher modelling writing
- Talking ideas talking in groups/with partners to help inspire and motivate
- Teacher/pupils creating story starters
- Pupils continued same story each day for a week
- Visible progress chart updated daily
- Pupils self assessing and highlighting punctuation and openers that they used
- Children read out their writing to rest of class





VISIBLE PROGRESS CHARTS

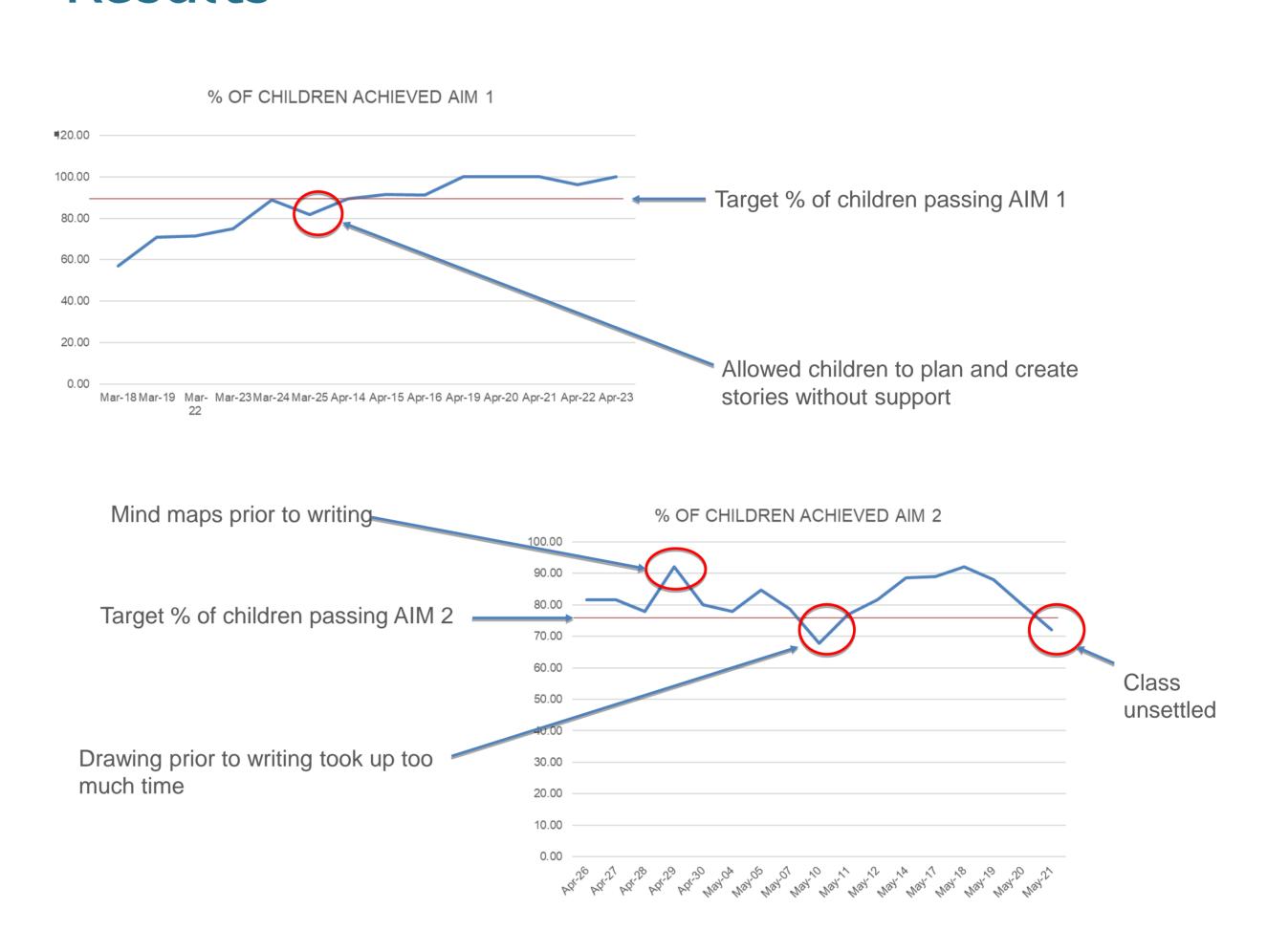
Achievements

- The percentage of children who achieved First Level Writing outcomes increased from 63% to 95%
- 75% of P5 children were achieving 6 consecutive sentences with correct punctuation (full stops, commas, exclamation marks, question marks and speech marks)!
- Children were asking if they could write for longer periods of time

Next steps

Continue daily writing, introducing 2nd Level benchmarks for writing

Results



Conclusions

What worked: using timer increased focus whole - class working quietly improved engagement

What didn't work: some children felt stressed writing everyday



Key Learning Points

- Children need continuous reinforcement of success criteria
- Verbal feedback is most effective
- Children thrived on the independence of free writing