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**Head Teacher’s Report - Mon 17th September 2018**

**Successes Last Session**

* School Inspection.
* Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) spending, including impact of 3 Principal Teachers of Raising Attainment.
* Partnership work with Parent Council and a wide range of partners.
* Tracking of achievement and increased accredited achievement –e.g. highest number of D of E awards, introduction of level 6 Leadership Award.
* Increased support for pupils most at risk of leaving school with no qualifications including Pathways Group led to improved attainment.
* Teacher Learning Communities - we have 7 in the school and these were identified as an example of national best practice to be shared more widely.
* Leadership opportunities for staff and pupils.
* Sharing of effective practice at Leadership Team Meetings.
* Better communication.
* S6 Induction Week and vision for the senior phase.

**Pupil Leadership**

* School Captain interviewed – 10 interviewed. School Captains are Lena Weeks and Zoe Richard-Campbell.
* Fire Up Scotland
* Columba 1400 – next week.
* My World of Work Ambassadors
* Committee Structure
* Youth Mindfulness

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**SQA Exam Results:**

* Overall trend of improvement over last 4 years since introduction of new senior phase model.
* Slight dip on last year’s S5 results – which were best ever or second best ever in each category

**S5:**

* **20.5%** of pupils achieved 5 or more Highers (compared to 22% last session)
* **34.3%** of pupils achieved 3 or more Highers (compared to 35% last session)
* **57%** of pupils achieved 1 or more Higher (compared to 63% last session)
* **33%** of pupils achieved 5 or more Nat 5s
* Strong S6 results:

**S6:**

* **27%** of pupils achieved 1 or more Adv. Higher (best ever)
* **32%** of pupils achieved 5 or more Highers by end of S6
* College results still to be factored in
* Senior Phase curricular model encourages almost all pupils to stay on until the end of S5 which has a very positive impact on attainment for pupils from the most deprived backgrounds.
* Positive destinations for pupils remains very strong.
* Departmental / Faculty analysis of results taken place and Link Meetings to take place over the next two weeks.

**School Improvement Plan:**

**3 whole school priorities for this session:**

**Maximise attainment and achievement - with a particular focus on closing the poverty related attainment gap**

This session we have the largest ever senior phase cohort. Our priorities are:

* Increasing % pupils achieving at least 5 level 5 qualifications by the end of S5.
* Targeted support of some of S5 cohort – including supported study, tracking of attendance etc.
* Increase S6 Attainment – options choices, attendance, progress, positive destinations.
* Appoint 2 new Principal Teachers of Raising Attainment
* More information to parents /carers on pathways and developing skills for work.
* Sharing of best practice across the school in terms of tracking and self-evaluation.

**Learning and Teaching: sustaining a culture of learning and improvement increasingly informed by evidence**

* Appointment of PT Raising Attainment (L&T) to further support our seven Teacher Learning Communities to develop approaches to sharing best practice.
* Development of leadership at all levels, including supporting practitioner-based enquiry.
* Development of a whole school digital learning strategy to enhance learning.

**Develop approaches to growth mindset, leadership and inclusion**

* Support emotional wellbeing of pupils.
* Targeted support for most vulnerable pupils including: after school support with homework; MCR Pathways mentor programme; clothing and resources.
* Increased leadership opportunities for pupils and accreditation of achievement.
* Training sessions for all staff by LGBT Youth Scotland to support towards achieving Charter Mark.

Continued focus on “basics” – i.e. attendance, timekeeping and uniform

**Pupil Achievements:**

* Over 500 awards at school prize-giving in June
* Almost all of S1 completed John Muir Bronze Award last session
* 3000 hours of volunteering logged as part of Saltire Awards
* 15 pupils completed Level 6 Leadership Award as part of Columba 1400. 16 pupils will be involved this session.
* Mukadass Javaid is a finalist in this year’s Young Scot Awards - ceremony on 30th November.
* 14 pupils have signed up to complete OU modules and 42 pupils have expressed interested in Top Up Programme which will start in January.
* 8 pupils have signed up for Volunteer Tutor Organisations (VTO).

**Staffing News:**

* School fully staffed at the start of term
* 3 further Principal Teachers of Raising Attainment appointed last week through our Pupil Equity Fund:

Miss Rothery – Supported Study / Study Skills

Mr Gillespie – Learning and Teaching

Miss Hamid – Targeted S6 Group

Posts will last until June 2018. Mr Richardson, Miss Ayton and Mrs Mullin continue in their posts also.

**Campus Police Officer:**

* PC Barry Hynds. Working between Hillhead, Hyndland and Notre Dame on a rolling 2 day programme.
* Introduced at assemblies.
* Will support with wider achievement, PSE lessons, arrange and/or deliver talks on social media / drugs / the law etc.

**Equity:**

* Record numbers of pupils undertaking Duke of Edinburgh this session. 3 more staff trained and storeroom of kit has been created.
* All S1 pupils issued with a maths kit at the start of the session.
* School uniform designed to be as cheap as possible and information shared on applying for clothing grants. Information on school website updated.
* Bank of revision textbooks, stationery, school bags, school clothing available through Pastoral Care.
* Class libraries topped up and additional funding issued to departments to help support children most in need.