



NEWSLETTER

February 2020



Welcome

Welcome to this addition of our newsletter. With schools undertaking reviews of school improvement plans this term, there is an opportunity for neighbourhood schools to collaborate together on review and planning for next session.



Look out for a postcard coming to your school which reminds you of your neighbourhood groups along with the RIC 'Plan on a Page' to support similar priorities being developed together.

Best wishes,

Siobhan McGarty,
Senior Education Manager,
FV&WL RIC.

Numeracy Professional Development Across FV&WL RIC

The FV&WL RIC Numeracy team continue to provide access to career long professional learning to increase staff confidence and enhance professional practices in the teaching of numeracy and mathematics.

Throughout November and December we were delighted to bring together a range of professionals to deliver high quality professional learning to support practitioners and Local Authority Numeracy Leads across the FV&WL RIC.

We were extremely pleased with the engagement from establishments across all four local authorities with over 150 members of staff from no fewer than 59 schools attending at least one of the 5 sessions offered.

Rekenreks

Mary Rendle, RIC Numeracy PT delivered two Rekenrek workshops on 5th December. The training was based around the 20 and 100 (Slavonic) Rekenrek, highlighting the benefits of their use. In this very hands on training, practitioners were able to explore how rekenreks can be used to develop number structure, mental maths strategies, the four operations, fractions, decimals and percentages. Feedback was extremely positive with attendees stating that the session had increased their knowledge and understanding of how to use rekenreks effectively to support conceptual understanding.





FV&WL RIC Numeracy Team Welcomes Mike Ollerton

Cuisenaire Rods



The FV&WL Numeracy Team were delighted to welcome Mike Ollerton co-author of 'Cuisenaire - from Early Years to Adult' to the Numeracy Academy on Thursday 12th December 2019. Cuisenaire is a powerful concrete material, allowing children to master the structure of number.

5/10 Frame Training

Practitioners from across the four local authorities had the opportunity to participate in one of the two 5/10 frame training sessions delivered by Lynda Stewart, PT Numeracy (RIC), on the 5th December. This practical training highlighted the benefits of their use, including the development of counting strategies, addition/subtraction and, crucially, number structure. Feedback from attendees indicated that being able to participate throughout the training benefitted their understanding and familiarity of the manipulatives.

Mike delivered a highly informative workshop looking at the effective use of Cuisenaire to develop mathematical understanding in P1-P3. Feedback was extremely positive, with many inspirational ideas to take back to schools. We look forward to working with schools across the FV&WL as they implement some of these ideas shared across different stages, levels and concepts.



Numberblocks



A 2 hour session was delivered to pupil support workers/learning assistants across the FV&WL RIC to develop their understanding of the Number Blocks programme and prepare them for delivering a small group intervention to learners in

Primary 1 not predicted to achieve Early Level. We were delighted to hear from Claire Thacker, Principal Teacher who shared her experience of implementing the intervention at Boghall PS, West Lothian and the impact it has had on her learners. PSW/LAs will be supported in their journey with a further 1.5 hour sessions planned for March 2020. Visit <https://www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/52060> for more information about the programme.



P1/2 Conceptual Understanding



Since September 64 Primary 1 and 2 practitioners have attended the Numeracy Academy where they have engaged in 2 days of high quality professional learning with an aim to improve outcomes for all learners.

Practitioners from Cohort

s 1 and 2 have worked in collaboration with a FV&WL Numeracy Principal Teacher using the Lesson Study Model. This involved them collaboratively planning, teaching, observing and analysing learning and teaching in their numeracy lessons.

Feedback has been extremely positive, with teachers indicating an increased confidence in the effective use of manipulatives and teaching and learning approaches. This has led to an increase in pupil-led learning and engagement in Numeracy lessons.

The support provided by the training co-ordinators of the Forth Valley and West Lothian Regional Improvement collaborative has been invaluable in applying practice to theory. Pupil engagement has been enhanced and the learners have been able to select a wide range of manipulatives to develop their understanding of concepts in numeracy. It was one of the best and most useful training sessions I have attended and we were able to discuss with colleagues from other settings, ways to set experiences in our own establishments.

Fiona Stirling, Class Teacher, Stirling

We have been supported by the FV&WL RIC Numeracy Team to deepen our knowledge, understanding and confidence in creating high quality and interactive numeracy lessons. We have learned how to use new manipulatives and techniques to increase and develop numeracy within our class. The children are much more engaged and more willing to participate in numeracy lessons. The development of having a key focus on marvellous mistakes and vocabulary has resulted in our children being able to apply their knowledge across the curriculum.

**Louise Plenderleith and Laura Waddell,
Class Teachers, Falkirk**



Upcoming CLPL



Event: Numicon Intervention
Venue: Numeracy Academy
Date: Tuesday 11th Feb 2020
Time: 12:30pm – 3pm

Event: Principles of Counting
Venue: Numeracy Academy
Date: Wednesday 19th February
Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm

Event: Principles of Counting
Venue: Cowie Nursery, Stirling
Date: Thursday 27th February
Time: 1:30pm – 4pm

Event: P1/2 Conceptual Understanding
Mid-term Meeting
Venue: Numeracy Academy
Date: Friday 28th February
Time: 9am – 12noon

Event: Session 5 - 1stclass@number
Venue: Numeracy Academy
Date: Tuesday 3rd March
Time: 9:15am – 12:15pm

Event: Session 4 – Highly Impactful
Teaching at 2nd/3rd Level
Venue: Larbert High School
Date: Thursday 19th March
Time: 9:30am – 3:15pm

Event: Numicon Intervention
Venue: Numeracy Academy
Date: Tuesday 24th March
Time: 12:30pm – 3pm

Maths Recovery



16 schools, from both primary and secondary sectors across the FV&WL are participating in this 8 day programme. In January, delegates took part in Day 5 and 6 which focussed on Advanced Assessments. Feedback from practitioners highlighted that videoing assessments has proved invaluable in identifying children's numerical knowledge and strategies. Practitioners also appreciated the opportunity to collaborate, proving highly beneficial in peer review of teachers' gap tasks. We look forward to welcoming them back in March, for the final 2 day session, where we will cover the teaching of Advanced Counting, Addition and Subtraction and Multiplication and Division.

Numicon Intervention Programme

Cohort 2 staff from across FV&WL began their Numicon Intervention Programme training in our Numeracy Academy on Monday 27th January. This research based intervention programme is effective in assisting learners who are slightly behind in their numeracy development. We are looking forward to supporting them in their schools.

Follow Us

It has been great to follow the journey of schools across the FV&WL RIC as they implement the effective ideas shared at professional development sessions, in particular the effective use of manipulatives to develop mathematical understanding.



Please follow us
@FVWLricNumerac1
and continue to share
your journey.



Literacy Workstream



Literacy CLPL Programme 2020

Word Aware (for primary practitioners) : April 22nd (9.30 - 12.15)

Reciprocal Reading COHORT 2 (for upper primary & S1-3); 6 weeks

Week 1: 3 hour session at the Literacy Academy on May 6th

Week 2 - 5: 2 coaching visits to each participant (dates to be arranged)

Week 6: recall day: 3 hour plenary session at the Literacy Academy on June 10th

Disciplinary Literacy COHORT 1 (for non-English teachers of BGE pupils); 6 weeks

Week 1: 3 hour session at the Literacy Academy with Sue Ellis & Clare McAlister (University of Strathclyde) : February 5th

Week 2 – 5: 2 coaching visits to each participant (dates to be arranged)

Week 6: 3 hour plenary session at the Literacy Academy on March 18th

COHORT 2

Week 1: 3 hour session at the Literacy Academy on May 11th

Week 2 - 5: 2 coaching visits to each participant (dates to be arranged)

Week 6: 3 hour plenary session at the Literacy Academy on June 15th

BGE Close Reading Good Practice (for BGE English teachers) :May 7th (9.15 - 12.15)

Scotland Reads (for classroom assistants &/or parents &/or senior pupils) :3 hour session in LA school - the Literacy Academy comes to you!

Toe by Toe (for teachers, classroom assistants, parents and senior pupils) .Details coming soon.

Visual Literacy (for Primary Practitioners) : May 14th (9.30 - 12.15)

Scottish Learning Festival

The Scottish Learning Festival (SLF) 2020 will take place on Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 September in the SEC, Glasgow. is now accepting seminar proposals for the conference programme. [Seminar proposals should be submitted](#) for consideration by midnight on Friday 21 February.

Contact Us

For more information about RIC Literacy, please contact Literacy Lead

lindsey.duncan@westlothian.gov.uk

For more information about the Academy, please contact Dr. Janet Adam, Literacy Academy Lead

clijadam@glow.sch.uk

FV&WL RIC Literacy

Find out more on the blog:
<https://tinyurl.com/FVWL-Literacy-blog>

Save The Date



"It's a good time to give it LAL-day": FV&WL RIC Literacy's annual showcase: April 29th Alloa Town Hall.

At this full-day event we will celebrate the work FV&WL RIC practitioners and partners have been doing to "build the will" via #buildingareadingculture and to "build the skill" via our Academy programmes. Practitioners and RIC partners engaged in RIC reading programmes will be sharing their work. The day's activities will provide a mixture of "shout-outs" and workshops, including the opportunity to learn how one school's literacy across learning approach helped it secure the Scottish Education Award in 2019.

The event will also launch FV&WL RIC Literacy's "Exciting Writing" journey with Stephen Graham, our keynote speaker whose focus on Creating Balanced Readers and Writers supports our journey from reading to writing.

To maximise opportunity, each RIC school has been allocated one place. HTs will be asked to send one representative to this whole day event: watch out for your school's invitation and details of the workshops!

Early Years Workstream

Ferre Laevers Event – November 2019

Feedback from the Ferre Laevers event was highly positive. Through the use of a questionnaire, we are gathering information from all participants regarding what is currently being implemented, as well as identifying any further support settings feel would be beneficial. When this questionnaire closes on 10th February 2020, we will plan what our next steps are.

Still to come ...



Nursery Equity and Excellence Lead/Nursery Teacher Network meeting Falkirk Council, 09/03/2020.

Nursery Equity and Excellence Lead/Nursery Teacher Network meeting Clackmannanshire Council 27/04/2020.

ELC Conference
West Lothian College 29/05/2020.

The creation of a manageable self-evaluation toolkit for QI2.2.

Working with 2 Years Olds

The ELC sub-group are developing a project pack to support managers to implement an improvement which will support our aim of 100% of children being able to experience good or very good quality ELC in all establishments. The work will focus on developing practitioner knowledge, and the team are working together to provide a range of collaborative training opportunities and literature to support settings meet our aim. The team is being supported by CYPIC who are going to support settings in the use of improvement methodology which will allow each setting to collect data to show the impact of their interventions. Work has begun across the collaborative and this will be rolled out further in April 2020.

Nursery Equity and Excellence Leads/Nursery Teacher Network

Over the past few months, we have successfully established a network for all Nursery Equity and Excellence Leads and Nursery Teachers who meet termly to discuss priorities in ELC, to share practice and to engage in professional dialogue with colleagues from across the FV&WL RIC. We are introducing a GLOW Team to enable the networking opportunities to continue after the meetings have taken place, this also allows for collaborative conversations and updates on current initiatives to continue.

Curriculum Development

We have analysed Education Scotland inspection reports, focussing on QI 2.2 Curriculum. So far, we have identified common themes and strengths and areas for improvements within each, which will support us to create a manageable toolkit which will effectively support quality assurance and self-evaluation. Alongside this, we are organising an exciting and informative ELC conference to be held on 29 May 2020. More details around this will be cascaded within the next few months.

CLPL

Workstream



Focus

Setting out our Vision

Our vision is to ensure that high quality professional learning opportunities are in front of the professionals that need it the most, at all stages of their career. We want a system in place that will reduce workload at all levels and give everyone easy access to training that they need.

A greater awareness of professional learning available will help us to develop as professionals in ways that support the learners in front of us.

By bringing colleagues together onto the same platform we will be able to share expertise and build collaborative relationships with a wide range of professionals across Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, Stirling, West Lothian (and beyond).

Professional learning opportunities can be added to the system by Coordinators, meaning that our colleagues can offer training to others at grass roots.

We are also actively investigating methods of delivery that use online models which can remove geographical barriers and travel issues.

For more information contact Stefan Wyroslawski wyroslawskis04s@glow.sch.uk

Is there something you want to see in our wider CLPL offer?

Complete this short survey and let us know.

CPD Manager

We are on track to bring our Early, Primary, Secondary and Community Learning & Development colleagues together onto the same professional learning platform by the end of June 2020. Coordinators in each establishment will choose when to introduce CPD Manager at a time appropriate to their establishment and context. This platform will hold authority CLPL offers as well as our RIC courses.

For more details and access to our support package please follow this [link](#).

What will CPD Manager look like for me?

My Requests section keeps you up to date with your course request and evaluation status – no need to worry about emails you might have missed.

Internal news feature allows us to share information from authority, region and other partners.

In the 'Recommended Websites' section we are working together with Education Scotland and other partners to pull key resources together into the same place.

CPD Manager allows us to access courses across the region – giving us the opportunity to share expertise and avoiding duplication.

The search panel allows efficient navigation.

Engagement

Progress	Clacks	Stirling	West Lothian
Nov '19	29%	32%	32%
Feb '20	37%	37%	45%

Performance Workstream



The Forth Valley & West Lothian Regional Improvement Collaborative Performance Workstream has representation from all four Local Authorities in the form of a Data Analyst and a Data Coach. The group meet regularly to share how each Local Authority works and consider how we can learn from each other.

The key aims of the workstream are:

- Ensure performance data and information is used across the collaborative to improve outcomes for young people and achieve the aims of the Regional Improvement Collaborative
- Build staff capacity in terms of data literacy across the Collaborative at all staffing levels to allow data to be used to improve outcomes

The workstream supports the vision and aims of the wider collaborative to achieve excellence and equity by:

Excellence through Raising Attainment: use performance information around attainment and health & wellbeing to improve learning & teaching to allow pupils to succeed.

Achieving Equity: use contextual information to identify potential barriers to learning, especially around deprivation, to ensure every child has the same opportunity to succeed.

Data Literacy

In order to increase the Data Literacy of staff across the Collaborative part of the CLPL programme has been dedicated to Data Literacy in Early-Years, Primary, and Secondary Schools. A number of practitioners have taken part in the sessions so far this year and these courses will be evaluated upon completion to consider how they will be taken forward in the future.

Regional Groups

All Education establishments across the Collaborative have been placed into Regional Groups to facilitate cross Local Authority working. In the Primary and Secondary sectors schools have been grouped, where possible, with other schools who have a similar demographic. Grouping schools in this way has the potential to allow schools from the Region to learn from each other how to best deliver improved outcomes for our young people.

Health and Wellbeing Workstream

The health and wellbeing workstream has been newly created and the following people will be representing the 4 local authorities:

Clackmannanshire – Jacki Reid

Falkirk – Gillian Campbell (Workstream lead)

Stirling – Jennifer Abernethy

West Lothian – Karen Brown

Priorities for the workstream are still being finalised but are likely to include support for the PSE curriculum, in terms of resources and CLPL opportunities, and use of data relating to health and wellbeing.