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# ELDERBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS

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2018-2019



TERM 1 AND 2 HIGHLIGHTS

## Early Years

A focus in Early Years in Term 1 and 2 has been developing literacy skills through 'Story Grammar'. Using traditional stories, the children have been developing their imagination, using matching, sequencing, and substitution techniques to retell a story. Colleagues from the Professional Learning Academy led this programme, working with the children twice weekly and staff attended training sessions. The children shared their learning with parents and carers at a 'Stay and Play' event in November.



The children also visited the local library for a story-telling session in term 2 and parents/carers and children enjoyed 'Book Bug' groups in the Parents' Room.

Early Years hosted a 'Breakfast' and 'Afternoon Tea' in term 2 we asked parents/carers about their



experience of parent groups and we gathered views about what they would like in the future. We offered parents/carers 'PEEP training' in term 1 and 'Come Dine with Me' cooking programme. The families enjoyed taking part and gave positive



feedback so we will be offering a similar programme in term 3 and 4.



In term 2 the children attended the MacDougall's Christmas Performance at the Harbour Arts centre and the children took an active part during the performance, singing and clapping along. The children also took part as elves in the production of 'Ralph the Reindeer' with P1-3.



In December we had a visit from 'Care Inspectorate' and we received very positive feedback. The inspectors talked to Children, Staff and Parents/Carers about all aspects of Early Years and all views were taken into consideration.

We were able to purchase some new resources for our outdoor area and the children have been enjoying exploring some new tools and other equipment during play!



### Family Learning Zone

Families took part in a Games Night in Term 1 with a variety of games and craft activities on offer, organised by the Family Learning Team. Primary 1 pupils and parents/carers took part in the 'Scottish Book Trust Book Bag' programme. There will also be an opportunity for parents to gain a qualification from Ayrshire Colleges. Tracy can be contacted through the school office for further information on training and events, or pop in to see her in the Parents Room on a Tuesday morning 9-10am.



## Christmas Show

This school year our Christmas Show was 'Ralph the Reindeer' performed by children in our Early Years, Primary 1 and Primary 2 classes. Learning a number of songs was no problem for our talented children who also showcased their skills in British Sign Language to ensure a fully inclusive performance. With accompaniment from Mrs White and lots of hard work from our infant teachers, pupils performed at a morning and afternoon show to proud parents and carers. Our Early Years department starred as elves, Primary 1 dazzled as reindeer with our Primary 2 children being a mixture of narrators, toys, musicians and Santa! All of the staff are extremely proud of the children for their hard work, as are our Primary 3 to Primary 7 pupils who enjoyed watching the dress rehearsal. Mrs McRae and some very technical Primary 7 pupils were also involved in working the sound system and helping backstage to move props, in addition to the children who helped to dress the infants for their performances.



## PEF / Assessment / Pupil Support

Session 2018 / 2019 has seen continued progress following the second year of investment from the Pupil Equity Fund (PEF). Building on achievements from the previous year, the main change has seen the streamlining of pupil support, with PEF interventions and targeted support bids all being supported by the same group of support staff. This has allowed for greater



consistency in approaches. Pupils benefit from greater familiarity with staff and there is less disruption to class lessons.

The staffing for targeted support has now risen to 8 staff supporting approx. 120 pupils across all stages within the school. This group consists of a range of staff from Early Years staff, mainstream teaching and staff and a pupil support assistant. All staff are skilled in their knowledge of assessments, key literacy and numeracy strategies and use of supporting resources to enhance teaching and learning.



The use of assessment and data analysis continues to improve across the school. At the start of the year, staff were issued with a complete set of current data relevant not only to their stage but to their specific class. This has improved the accuracy of groupings within classes and has supported professional judgement when teaching staff have been identifying pupils who would benefit from targeted support.

A wider range of assessment resources are used across the school at various times in the school year. Assessments are tailored to suit the individual needs of specific pupils and the data is used to measure impact of interventions, progress in attainment and to direct future teaching and learning. Digital assessments within Education City and Sumdog have also been successfully implemented



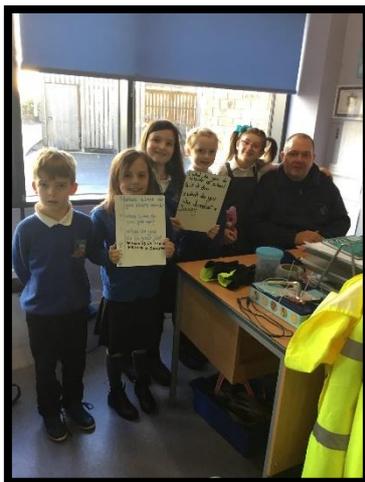
Two data coaches have been identified within the staff. They have undertaken data analysis training and are in the process of putting together an assessment calendar for the school to illustrate the broad range of assessments carried out across the school within an academic year, demonstrating our commitment to the quality assurance process and measuring our progress towards closing the poverty related attainment gap.

PEF funding has helped to support the introduction of Key to Learning to our Early Years, Primary 1 and Primary 2 classes. Key to Learning is a unique Early Years educational programme which gives parents and teachers the tools to develop children's cognitive learning abilities. It requires only a short period of intervention each day leaving time to address the other important activities which are necessary for a child's development and provides the key tools to teach young children how to learn. This resource is now in place within our infant classes and will be rolled out over Term 3 and 4.



### Developing the Young Workforce

The infants have been exploring a variety of jobs through role play. They have been finding out about different jobs that people have in the wider community and how they help us. They have also been learning about the importance of following rules and routines and can explain why they are important.



In the middle area pupils have worked on developing skills in working as a team to create stage assemblies. They are aware that different people have different strengths and that everyone's contribution is important. They have also been learning about the different jobs people do in the school which involved interviewing staff. They can describe the jobs and identify some of the skills needed to do them. They have taken on responsibilities within the classroom through a variety of class jobs such as librarians, messengers, clean-up crew and eco monitors.

In the upper area pupils have taken on a variety of roles to support the school community these include Playground Buddies, Lunch Monitors, leading Wake Up Shake Up and Digital Leaders. P6 have also explored ways to reach the Global Goals by 2030 this has include reducing plastic pollution and reducing food waste as well as supporting the sustainable use of palm oil. P7 have promoted the use of sustainable energy through playing board games, which they created, with younger pupils. In addition, P7 made business plans to create the best profit margin with the goods they made for the Christmas Fayre. They then used these skills to plan and raise money at their Victorian afternoon which was a great success.



### AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS TERM 1 and 2

This session our clubs started in Term 1. Mrs Anika Johnston (Nathan's mum) led taster sessions in Handball for P5-7 pupils and the children were then given an open invitation to attend training sessions ran by Mrs Johnston out with the school

Miss Girvan and Miss Morrison attended netball coach training and ran a netball club as well as our school team. This is part of an initiative encouraging girls P5-7 to take part in competitive sport. The team have competed with other primary schools in tournaments hosted at Irvine Royal and Greenwood Academies.

Greenwood Young Leaders delivered football, multisport and athletics clubs in term 1. These were open to pupils from P2-P7. The Greenwood leaders are taken from S5 and S6 pupils who are working towards a PE qualification. They plan and deliver sporting clubs around the local primary schools. Some are former pupils and act as fantastic role models.

In term 2 we offered pupils a total of 12 afterschool or lunch time clubs. Clubs are limited to 20 participants to ensure a high quality experience for pupils. Term 2 provided opportunities from every year group.

Mrs Jarrott and Mrs Boyd read popular stories to P1 and 2 in the library. There is nothing nicer than sharing a good book with friends. Mrs Bain with some



assistance from Dance Leaders have choreographed a warm up routine to Black Magic by Little mix and are developing a modern dance sequence to a piece called Loud Luxury. They will be performing these at Greenwood Dance Showcase in March so Keep Dancing! Our Glee Club was organised by Miss Green and Miss Rose. The highlight of the club was performing All I Want for Christmas by Mariah Carey at our Christmas service. The P3-4 construction club



enjoyed building with Lego and K'nex. Mrs Sharp and Miss Rankin presented the pupils with a number of build challenges.

Other term 2 clubs also includes British Sign Language, football multisport, athletics and archaeology. It is fantastic to see so many pupils engaging in extracurricular clubs.

We are very grateful to all the school staff who give up their own time to offer extracurricular opportunities to our pupils. We have an exciting list of clubs running in terms 3 and 4. If you have a special skill, interest or hobby that you would be willing to share with our pupils we would be delighted to assist you in running an afterschool club. Please contact Mr Strang via the school office.

## House Captains

The house captains and vice house captains for Brodick, Eglinton, Seagate and Culzean are doing a great job! They are very responsible and are trying hard to encourage pupils in their house to follow the 3 Golden Rules and gain tokens.

Pupils meet regularly with Mrs MacFarlane to discuss any concerns and make suggestions of how to support pupils in their house. They have also been involved in welcoming guests to Elderbank and supporting with a number of school events



House captains and vice captains have consulted with pupils regarding house point treats and have taken on a lead role in the organisation of these termly events. In term 1 Eglinton were the winning house and they enjoyed an afternoon of fun activities, such as construction, ICT, arts and crafts and games all voted for by the pupils themselves. In term 2 Brodick just managed to

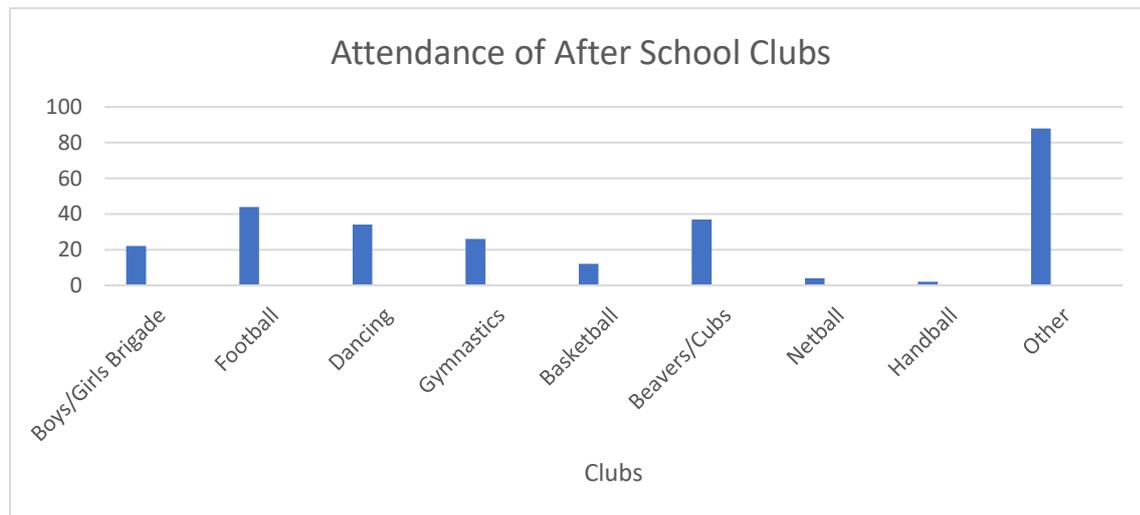
take the lead and celebrated with a Christmas Party with games, prizes and snacks.

Mrs MacFarlane would like to thank all of the captains and vice captains for all of their hard work in terms 1 and 2. We look forward to terms 3 and 4 as pupils take on a new responsibility across the school in promoting restorative approaches with younger pupils.



## Pupil Council

The Pupil Council carried out a survey to record how many pupils attend after school clubs out of school. We discovered that pupils at Elderbank attend a range of different clubs with football, dancing and beavers/cubs being the most popular.



## **Personalisation and Choice**

As part of the School Improvement Plan we offered 13 different groups which the pupils in Primary 5-7 opted in to. These were well received and offered a variety of different activities. We have collated the key messages and issued a separate Personalisation and Choice Update.

## **Charities**

We held a very successful McMillan Coffee Morning in September. Primary 7 pupils did a great job serving the tables and ensuring the whole event run smoothly.

## **Parental Engagement**

We have enjoyed inviting families into school to share the learning with their children, in addition to the Open Evening and formal parent and teacher consultations. This has included showcasing the work of the class through video presentations.

## **Parent Council**

The Parent Council have also been very busy supporting the work of the school and fundraising to benefit the school.

The very successful Christmas Fayre raised £3050 in December. The Parent Council have also provided a Hallowe'en Disco and encouraged pupils to participate in a Hallowe'en Raffle.

The Parent Council also arranged a very successful sponsored dance and the money raised paid for the buses for all the children from Early Years to Primary 7 to attend either the Pantomime, 'MacDougalls' at the harbour Arts Centre or Soft Play session depending on their needs. These visits were also heavily subsidised by the school to ensure equity for all.