

# Elderbank Primary School



## Supported Learning and Enhanced Deaf Provision's



### TERMS 3 and 4 Highlights 2018-19

#### Supported Learning Provision

Our Supported Learning Provision continued to enjoy a very busy time throughout the final two terms of last session.

Staff from all classbases enjoyed planning and delivering a wide range of learning experiences to support children's skills to grow and develop. All classes benefited from the specialist input in PE from Mrs McKenzie. All pupils have responded positively to Mrs Walker's musical expertise. Many of them enjoyed their musical experiences alongside their mainstream peers. This culminated in pupils showcasing their musical talents at the award ceremony at the conclusion of Supported Learning's Family Sports Day in June.

Pupils also enjoyed experiences beyond the school environment. They continued to regularly access the local community's parkland areas, library, community centre, shops and café to enhance our curriculum and life skill experiences.



Pupils continued to participate in the Provision's weekly assembly where we shared and celebrated pupil successes in and out of school. Where appropriate pupils continued to participate in weekly and termly whole school assemblies with their mainstream peers.

#### Burns Celebrations

Pupils continue to enjoy a variety of enriching experiences within their school setting. In February Classbase 9 pupils joined their mainstream peers in experiencing a formal Burns Supper. All Supported Learning pupils enjoyed activities with a Scottish theme with some pupils focussing on Scots verse speaking.



#### Arran Residential Visits



P7 pupils from Supported Learning joined their Primary 7A and 7B peers in an outdoor trip to the Isle of Arran. Their 5 day visit to the Arran Outdoor Centre was a fun filled adventure where they enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities including hill walking, orienteering, canoeing and life skills associated with team work and being away from home.

#### Afterschool Clubs

Supported Learning pupils joined their mainstream peers for a variety of afterschool clubs throughout terms 3 and 4. Football, basketball, handball and signing choir were popular choices for some of our pupils. All afterschool clubs on offer can be accessed by the Provision's pupils. Additional staffing is provided to support pupils to enjoy these activities with their mainstream peers. In addition to this, our staff ran an afterschool Fit 'n' Fun Club in term 3 specifically for Supported Learning pupils, which was very well attended.





### ASN Sports

Supported Learning pupils continued to be involved in ASN Sports. Through our 'Sportsability' and Active Schools Partnerships, pupils from different class bases have participated this term in the Portal Sports Festival, Indoor Bowling and Curling.

### Continued Professional Development

Staff have benefited from a range of continued professional developments to enhance the experiences for our pupils. Our Total Communication approach has benefitted from PODD training (Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display Communication Books) and Boardmaker Communication Software training with Speech and Language colleagues. A significant number of staff members benefitted from Enhanced Makaton training to add to the existing skills of staff with Foundation Makaton qualification and British Sign Language SQA qualifications.



### Sharing Good Practice



We continue to build close professional relationships with our ASN colleagues at local ASN Provisions across North Ayrshire. Professional enquiry with ASN schools out with North Ayrshire has also benefitted the work of the department. During the previous year we visited Croftcroighn School in North Glasgow and Hampden School in South Glasgow to support our focus on communication approaches, such as PODD. In term 3 we welcomed the Head Teacher of Southcraig School, South Ayrshire, to review our assessment approaches. A return visit to Southcraig has supported this session's Improvement Plan Priority regarding thematic approaches.

### Easter Family Day

Many of our parents and carers enjoyed Supported Learning's Family Day during the Easter break. Our Family Learning Teacher, Mrs Miller, organised a great day of fun, with the highlights being pony therapy sessions, potted sports, egg decorating, egg rolling at the castle and Easter Egg hunt within the walled garden.



### Portal Swimming

Our annual swimming experience for all our Supported Learning Pupils continues to be a positive highlight for all our pupils. Accessing the local community's Portal facilities is a great life experience for all our pupils during term 4. Parent and carer input was greatly appreciated in supporting pupils with their bus journeys and with accessing the pool.

### Staffing

We were pleased to welcome Mrs Watson to our staff team in term 4 as Mrs Carson undertook a phased transition to her Haysholm secondment. Mrs Watson comes with a wealth of Special School experience having worked in the Special sector across the central belt of Scotland with her previous post as Principal Teacher at Dreghorn's ASD Communication Provision.



## Parental Engagement

It was great to see some of our Supported Learning parents participating in the **Family Learning Team Promoted Learning Programme** in collaboration with our Ayrshire College partners. Parents from across the school gained accreditation at SQA Level 1 - Exploring Wellbeing and Intermediate 2 - Award in Food Hygiene.



We continue to enjoy regular engagement with parents and carers regarding their children's learning. At our second **Parents Evening** in May staff were delighted to meet with parents and carers to share with them the progress and successes of their children.

Our colleagues from Stanecastle, James Reid, Haysholm and James MacFarlane Schools are working closely with Wendy Rose, Head Teacher of the **New ASN School**, as they plan their transition to their new build, programmed to open Winter 2020. This has bearing for our pupils primarily in relation to their Secondary education provision. Parents met with Mr March (Principal Educational Psychologist) and Architects in April regarding the new Stevenson ASN school. This was followed in June with a meeting to introduce Mrs Rose to parents.



## Transition - New Pupils



As a positive session was coming to a close, staff embarked on a full programme of induction events to welcome our two new P1 classes, who joined us this August in Classbases 10 and 11. We welcomed parents to our induction events on 20<sup>th</sup> May and 4<sup>th</sup> June where they participated in short information session focussing on aspects of the Supported Learning Provision and wider aspects of the whole school. Staff enjoyed welcoming our new children for individual and group visits throughout term 4. To enhance pupils' familiarisation with the school, staff met up with pupils and their parents over the summer holidays on 22<sup>th</sup> July, 31<sup>st</sup> July & 9<sup>th</sup> August. We also welcomed at this time, older pupils that joined our other classbases in August. All summer visits benefitted from being held on Holiday Lunch Initiative days, which Elderbank continues to enjoy hosting.

## Transition – Senior Pupils

As we were welcoming our new P1 pupils we prepared P5, P6 and P7 pupils for the next steps in their education. Our P7 pupils were preparing to embark on their secondary education at Stanecastle, joining P5 and P6 peers in preparation for joining their Stanecastle peers for the school's onward journey to the new Special School build in Stevenston. Pupils benefitted from a comprehensive transition programme to Stanecastle throughout term 4. At a special presentation of memories on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June parents, carers and family friends joined staff to reflect and celebrate on the Elderbank journey of all our children. All our transition pupils were presented with special leavers gifts.

Our P7 pupils also joined their Mainstream and Enhanced Deaf Provision Peers for a whole school P7 Leavers Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Through music, drama and audio visual presentations parents, carers and family friends joined staff in reflecting on pupils' journeys through Elderbank and wishing them well as they moved to a variety of secondary destinations.



## Golf Coaching – Golphin Programme

Supported Learning's Classbase 9 joined three mainstream classes as they benefitted from weekly professional coaching from local Golf-Pro Kevin Middlemiss. This built on Classbase 9's taster session at Dundonald Links.



## Pony Therapy

Some of our Supported Learning pupils joined their Mainstream and Deaf Provision peers for pony therapy sensory experiences. This adds to the Pony Therapy experiences that are a consistent feature of our Easter and Summer Family programmes which are open to all our Supported Learning pupils.

## School Show P3-7

A Night at The Movies was the theme for our whole school show in May. From Jungle Book to The Greatest Showman some of our Supported Learning children joined their mainstream peers to perform songs and excerpts from the films. The costumes and scenery were superb and thanks to all staff involved in producing the show!



## Fun Day



The Parent Council kindly donated £1000 towards our Fun Day, held on 26<sup>th</sup> June. Supported Learning Pupils joined Early Years and P1 to P6 peers in participating in a whole day of inflatable fun and a variety of energetic activities, including a Summer themed 'fun day' lunch. As with previous years, Primary 7 Fun Day took the form of a Fun Trip to Auchendarvie for skating and swimming.

## Sports Days

Many of our Supported Learning pupils enjoyed the energetic activities of our annual **whole school Sports Day** on the 14<sup>th</sup> June. However, our sporting highlight of the year was our annual **Supported Learning Family Potted Sports** event, which continues to grow to be one of our best supported events. On 21<sup>st</sup> June our main hall was extremely busy with healthy numbers of parents and carers who teamed up with their children to enjoy the variety of potted sports activities on offer. Every pupil and adult was rewarded with a gold medal before enjoying some well-deserved refreshments and pupil entertainment.



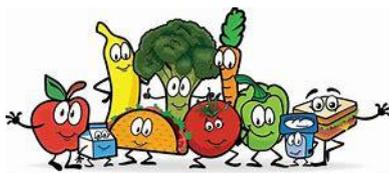
## Parent Council Summer Parties

We are well supported by our hard working Parent Council. Our term 4 highlight was the variety of Summer Discos that they support. Some of our Supported Learning pupils joined their mainstream peers in their enjoyment of the whole school discos on the afternoon and evening of Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June. Supported Learning also held their own disco on the same day with DJs Strang and McRae. Pupils enjoyed competitions, games and refreshments.



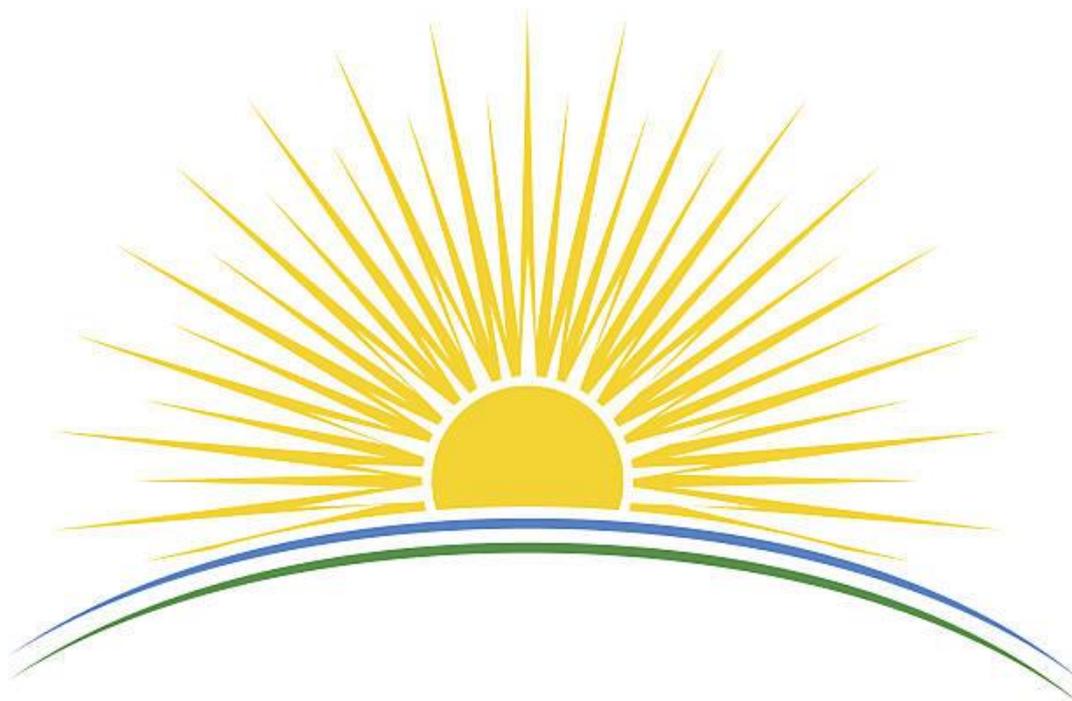
## Summer Lunch Initiative

Many of our Supported Learning Families participated in the holiday lunch initiative which ran on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout the summer break. This was a good opportunity for the children and families to keep in touch with the school and to meet up with their friends. These lunch experiences added to the new P1 Summer Induction Days and the Family Days Out.



## P2 - P7 Summer Fun

We also enjoyed keeping in touch with our P2 to P7 pupils during the summer months. It was great for staff to meet up with families during our Summer Fun Programme organised by Mrs Miller, our Family Learning Teacher. We valued the importance of these family engagement events and the opportunities for pupils to interact with their peers during holiday months. Dumfries House, Riverside Transport Museum, Scottish Maritime Museum and Eglinton Country Park were perfect venues to provide great opportunities for families to enjoy a range of activities.



## Enhanced Deaf Provision

Our Enhanced Deaf Provision continued to enjoy a very busy time throughout the final two terms of last session.

### Burns Celebrations

In February our senior pupils experienced a formal Burns Supper. All pupils at this time benefited from experiences with a Scottish theme, with some pupils focussing on Scots verse.



### Arran Residential Visit



All P7 pupils enjoyed an outdoor experience to the Isle of Arran. Their 5 day visit to Arran Outdoor Centre was a fun filled big adventure where they enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities which included hill walking, orienteering, canoeing and life skills associated with team work and being away from home.

### After School Clubs

Elderbank consistently offer a wide variety of after school and lunch time clubs to enhance pupils' opportunities and experiences.

Mrs. Millen ran a guitar lunch time club with some pupils from her class in term 3 and opened this up to P5-7 pupils in term 4.

Professional golf coaches from Golphin UK provided input during PE sessions and at an afterschool club to classes across the school. Children also enjoyed competing in a festival of golf at Auchenharvie Golf Complex

Mrs Montgomery and Mrs Quirk ran the signing choir club over 4 terms focusing on a different year group each session. This ensured that many pupils were given the chance to learn British Sign Language and demonstrate their skills at school events.

Primary 6 pupils completed I-Cycle training with Miss Neill and Mr Strang. This club taught cycle safety and gave pupils the skill set needed to use a bike safely on the road. Pupils will be undertaking a formal assessment from our Road Safety Officer early in 2019-20.

### Family Sign Language Group



Our Family Sign Language Sessions in term 3 were a big success. The sessions supported everyday communication within the home. These times with parents, carers and extended family were informal and relaxed and were led by our Deaf Role Model, Mrs Boyle. Sessions will continue in session 2019-20.

## Easter Family Day



Our Enhanced Deaf Provision's pupils and their families enjoyed the opportunity to join children and parents from Lanarkshire Deaf Club on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. The full day gave parents and pupils an opportunity for fun socialisation with children and parents from the Lanarkshire Deaf Community.



## Portal Swimming

Our annual swimming experience continues to be a positive highlight for all. Accessing the local community's Portal facilities is a great life experience for all our pupils.

## Experiential Learning

Our pupils' learning was enhanced through a variety of experiential activities throughout term 4, such as: orienteering at Kay Park; Sensory Activities with the Country Park Rangers at Eglinton; Farming insight at Dumfries House; Science of electricity generation at Whitelee Wind Farm; Life at Sea at the Maritime Museum and learning about people in the past at the Vikingar Centre in Largs.

## School Show P3-7

A Night at The Movies was the theme for our school show in May. From Jungle Book to The Greatest Showman the children performed songs and excerpts from the films. All pupils were included with some pupils helping behind the scenes learning technical skills including sound, signing lighting and filming. The costumes and scenery were superb and thanks to all staff involved in producing the show!



## Scottish Education Awards

Elderbank celebrated the achievement of reaching the final 3 in the Scottish Education Awards. Pupil representatives from the school were fortunate enough to attend the awards ceremony at the Glasgow Hilton in June and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of such a special event. As a school we were delighted to be recognised for all the hard work and effort put in by pupils and staff and will continue on our journey to excellence within this area of the curriculum.

## Football, Fun and Friendship

The Scottish Football Association (SFA) along with Ayrshire Hearing Impairment Service organised a fun football festival on 5<sup>th</sup> June for our Enhanced Deaf Provision pupils and their deaf peers from across the West of Scotland at Ayrshire College's Kilmarnock Campus. The event consisted of coaching and small sided games on a full size artificial grass pitch. The event provided our pupils with an opportunity to meet up with deaf peers for a day of football, fun and friendship.



## Pony Therapy

Some of our pupil joined their mainstream and Supported Learning peers in term 4 for small group focussed pony therapy experiences. This adds to the pony therapy experiences that are a popular feature of our Easter and Summer Family programmes.

## Fun Day and Sports Day

The Parent Council kindly donated £1000 towards our Fun Day, held on 26<sup>th</sup> June. P1 to P6 pupils participated in a whole day of inflatable fun and a variety of energetic activities, including a Summer themed 'fun day' lunch. As with previous years Primary 7 Fun Day took the form of a Trip to Auchendarvie for skating and swimming. All our pupils enjoyed the energetic activities of our annual whole school Sports Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> June.



## Parent Council Summer Parties



We were again well supported by our hard working Parent Council through their support of our Summer Discos for all stages and provisions. All pupil enjoyed this dancing delight on the afternoon and also throughout the evening of Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June. Big thank you to DJ Strang for his playlist and energetic efforts. Pupils also enjoyed competitions, games and refreshments.

## Moving On

All P7 pupils came together for a special Leavers Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Through music, drama, signing and audio visual presentations parents, carers and family friends joined staff in reflecting on pupils' journey through Elderbank and in wishing them well as they moved forward to a variety of secondary destinations.



## Celebrating Success



Pupils, parents, carers and staff across our Enhanced Deaf Provision came together at the end of term 4 to applaud the individual successes of all our deaf learners within the relaxed and informal setting of our Parentcraft Room. Following individual presentations to all pupils everyone came together to enjoy refreshments and to further celebrate children's progress and achievements.

## Summer Family Fun

We also enjoyed keeping in touch with pupils and parents during the summer months. It was great for staff to meet up with families during our Summer Fun Programme organised Mrs Miller, our Family Learning Teacher. We valued the importance of these family engagement events and the opportunities for pupils to interact with their peers during the holiday months. Dumfries House, Riverside Transport Museum, Craig Tara and Eglinton Country Park were perfect venues to provide great opportunities for families to enjoy a breadth of activities.



## International Signing Call Up

We are all very proud of Tyrese for his international call up to sign the national anthem at the Women's Under 18 European Football Championship. Tyrese was one of twelve young deaf role models that answered the call up to sign for Scotland's fixtures. Tyrese's fabulous signing shone out at the Scotland v France fixture at St Mirren Park on the 12<sup>th</sup> July.



## Looking Forward

As you can see we have had a very busy and enjoyable conclusion to last session and wish all our pupils, parents, carers and partners a fantastic session with our focus on term 1 and onwards to term 2 of session 2019-20.



Supported Learning and Enhanced Deaf Provisions

Looking Forward to Session 2019-20