Head Teacher Report

31 March 2016

Donations received

£250 from the Rotary Club. I attended the Irvine Seagate Rotary club dinner recently to accept the cheque and talk about the life and work of the school.

40th Anniversary Celebration

The dvds are finally going to be available for this following the Easter holidays!

Learning Events

Teaching staff attended the final part of their Structured Teaching course where they had the opportunity to share practice and network with staff from the other ASN schools on actions they had taken forward as a result of auditing teaching/learning to make improvements on the use of visual structure etc.

Rosslyn Lee, GLOW development officer attended the school and trained 5 of our classroom assistants in the use of the Blogs/eportfolio to capture assessment evidence for learning journey files. This is being trialled with 5 pupils throughout the school. The classroom assistants will be allocated time over the next 6 weeks to set up individual blogs and then parents will be trained on how to upload evidence of wider achievements.

Most of our Classroom Assistants have completed a peer observation within the school.

I delivered my yearly Autism talk to Ayrshire College students recently and over the past few weeks we have had 18 students visit the school to find out more about the approaches we use to meet learning needs.

Grant Applications

Haysholm School and James McFarlane have put forward a bid for £20,000 to Education Scotland’s Innovation fund for money to train staff to become;

Makaton Trainers

Additional Talking Mats Trainers

ELKLAN Tutors in Severe and Complex communication needs

All staff across the two schools to have basic AAC awareness training delivered by the Speech and Language Therapist Lead in this area.

New Area Inclusion Worker

Catherine McKenzie is the new area inclusion worker based in the Irvine Royal Cluster. She will replace Diane Reekie. I will attend a drop-in session this afternoon to find out more about her role.

Retirements

Jennifer Campbell, Diane Reekie and Alison Clark