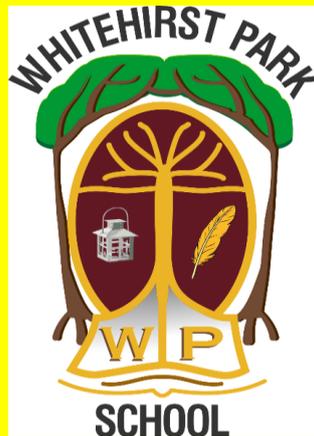


# WHITEHIRST PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



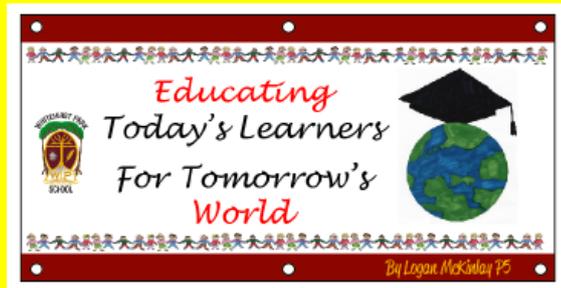
## STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT September 2018

This guide has been prepared to give you information about our school's progress and achievements as well as our plans for 2018-19.



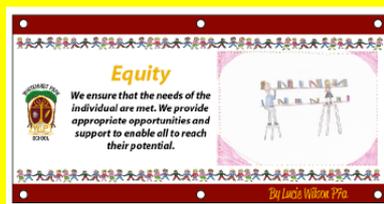
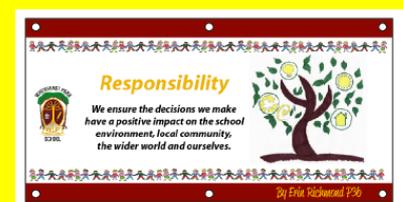
*Lynn Robertson*  
Head Teacher

# Our School



Whitehirst Park Primary School is a non-denominational school with a roll of 262 pupils in 11 classes. The school is situated in the Whitehirst Park area of Kilwinning and opened in 1975. The current staff structure consists of 1 Head Teacher, 2 Depute Head Teachers, 1 Principal Teacher, 13 Teachers (including one Music Teacher), 5 Classroom Assistants, 0.6 Pupil Support Service Teacher, one full time Family Learning Worker, 2 Education Support Assistants and 1 Janitor. Working in partnership, within a caring and stimulating environment, we aim to provide quality learning experiences which will encourage positive attitudes, enabling pupils to achieve their potential as valued members of the community.

## Our values



Our values were created in partnership with our pupils, staff and parents and underpin all that we do at Whitehirst Park.

# LOOKING BACK - SESSION 2017-18

Last year we worked hard to improve our work in the following areas:



1. GIRFEC (Getting It Right for Every Child)
2. Literacy
3. Numeracy
4. Parental Engagement
5. Self evaluation systems



We have continued to raise awareness about GIRFEC with staff, pupils and parents through stalls at Parents Nights, leaflets, schools displays and assemblies. All staff have received training in Nurture, Childhood Trauma, Dyslexia, Autistic Spectrum Disorders and Down's Syndrome. We focussed on the wellbeing indicators 'Respected and Achieving' for Assemblies and work across the school. There was also a whole school focus on Kindness which again was explored at Assemblies as part of our Nurturing Approaches.

Across the school children are making very good progress in Literacy and Numeracy. Literacy and Numeracy planners have been adapted in line with revised Benchmarks from Education Scotland and the Numeracy plans incorporate North Ayrshire's Early and First Level Numeracy framework. Staff have taken part in a variety of training programmes aimed at developing childrens' literacy and numeracy skills.

Parental Engagement was a major focus in Session 2017-18. We revised how we report on pupil progress to parents. Now staff, parents and pupils meet three times each year to review progress and set targets for next steps in learning together. Families have other regular opportunities to discuss their child's learning and engage with the school through open mornings, soft start, family learning sessions and through social media. 89.8% of parents feel well informed about the progress of their child at school. Our Family Learning Worker, who started in January has increased the number of opportunities for family learning and this will continue in Session 2018-19.

Self evaluation continues to be the driver for improvement in our school. The views of pupils, staff and parents with regard to the life and work of the school have been sought regularly throughout the session e.g. GIRFEC, Reporting, Class Blogs and E-portfolios, Pupil Attitudes to School and Self surveys and how the school works generally. We are making good use of digital technology to gather views. Parents are regularly informed about the progress of school improvement priorities in termly newsletters and pupils are kept up to date at Assemblies.



# ATTAINMENT



Throughout the year we gather lots of information on how our children are progressing in their learning. To monitor their progress we watch children working through tasks, listen to what they say, ask important questions, set challenges and use some standardised assessments. We get together and look carefully at the experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence to ensure children are making progress.

North Ayrshire Council also ask us to summarise our children's progress in Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking and Numeracy. They ask us to look particularly at children who have reached the end of Early, First and Second Levels at P1, P4 and P7.

Key highlights of this year's analysis are:

- \* Attainment in all areas of Literacy and Numeracy continues to be good across the school. Attainment in Writing, Reading and Numeracy has improved in Session 2017-18.
- \* Almost all learners made progress from prior levels in Listening and Talking and Reading and Numeracy, and most in Writing, with large percentages of pupils working beyond the expected level for their age and stage.

Our rigorous analysis of our attainment data for Session 2017-18 means we are very aware of where we need to improve and we are fully committed to improving attainment for all in all areas of the curriculum.

Excellence is doing ordinary  
things extraordinarily well.

John W. Gardner

# OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN



The School Improvement Plan is a document which sets out the activities we will be undertaking as a school over the coming session. When writing this document we take into account a number of factors:

- \* National Priorities and directives as set out by the Scottish Government.
- \* Local Priorities and directives as set out by North Ayrshire Council.
- \* Our self evaluation procedures and development needs of our own school.

## DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES 2018-19

These documents are continually reviewed and evaluated by school staff and the Senior Leadership Team. We focus on evidence based evaluations from all stakeholders and use these to inform our next steps. At Authority Level we are supported by the Head of Schools and our Senior Manager.

This session our main priority is:

Ensuring high quality learning experiences for all children, incorporating the effective use of assessment by staff and learners through focussing on:

- ❖ Learning and Engagement
- ❖ Quality of Teaching
- ❖ Effective use of Assessment and
- ❖ Planning, tracking and monitoring

We are excited to be supported by North Ayrshire's Professional Learning Academy with a number of interventions including Loose Parts Play in P1, Phonological Awareness, Reading and Visible Learning.



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



Just a few of our achievements in 2017-18 include:

- \* Our P7 Football team took part in the Kilwinning Champions League, winning many games, but more importantly were fantastic sports!
- \* Our P6 and 7 Netball teams made it to the Champions of Champions final, demonstrating ambition and resilience.
- \* Session 2017-18 saw another huge increase in P4-7s taking part in the Ayrshire Chess Club competitions, winning many medals.
- \* A number of our young musicians took part in the Ayrshire Music Festival winning many 1sts and distinctions.
- \* Our Charities Committee organised a number of successful collections for Macmillan Cancer, Poppy Scotland, NA Foodbank and Children in Need! The generosity of our school community is to be commended.
- \* We all took part in an amazing STEM fortnight, learning lots of Science and Technology skills!
- \* We saw another amazing increase in P5, 6 and 7 pupils participating in the North Ayrshire Cross Country events, winning individual and team events.
- \* We hosted a Fair Trade Break with delicious Fair Trade snacks in partnership with parents and the school catering team.
- \* Our Athletics Team got through to the final of the North Ayrshire Schools Competition at the Portal, improving on their placing from last year. Year on year the team goes from strength to strength.
- \* Almost all P6 pupils successfully completed their i-cycle training.
- \* Our P7 team won the Kilwinning Schools Rotary Quiz and had a wonderful time at the West of Scotland Quiz.
- \* Our P6 Euro Quiz team were amazing participants in the North Ayrshire Contest.
- \* Our Eco Committee helped to raise funds for the school by recycling with the 'Rag Bag' scheme.
- \* Our P5 and P6 Street Dance troupe won the North Ayrshire Active Schools Dance Competition and were invited to perform at the Provost's Civic Reception
- \* Our P4-7 show 'Joseph' was a sell out!!
- \* Early in Session 2017-18 we achieved Sports Scotland Silver Award for Pupil Participation in Sports and Activity. We have just found out we are now a GOLD school! What an amazing achievement for us.
- \* Our wonderful Parent Council Fundraising Sub Committee helped us to raise over £5 000 in Session 2017-18! They have helped with the continued transformation of our playground with the addition of willow play structures and outdoor furniture. They also paid for the Pantomime buses, our P7 Leavers' party, Sumdog subscription, Lego Club resources and much, much more! We plan to spend lots more on our outdoor environment in the coming session!

For more of our achievements follow us on Twitter @WhitehurstPS

# Overall Capacity For Improvement – Strengths and Next steps

The capacity for improvement at Whitehirst Park Primary is very good. The commitment of staff, support from parents and the confident pupils, ensures there is capacity for continuous growth and development. The school community has a clear vision. Our purpose is to ensure that every child is given the opportunity and support to be the best that they can be and develop the four capacities, supported by the nurturing ethos of the Whitehirst Park Primary School community. This will continue to be improved through cultivating positive relationships with all stakeholders, collegiate working and developing effective leadership at all levels.

In Session 2018-19 we will continue to develop effective approaches to moderation, assessment, self-evaluation and improvement by developing staff skills, knowledge and understanding. We will continue to have high expectations of the performance of all staff and thoroughly plan Career-Long Professional Learning opportunities linked to the Professional Review and Development process and the School Improvement Plan.

We will continue to review and develop our procedures for formal and informal approaches to monitoring the quality of learning and teaching as part of the schools quality assurance procedures. This will ensure consistent, quality learning experiences for pupils. We will continue to rigorously track pupils' progress through analysing all available data. This process will include regular meetings involving teaching staff, support staff and the leadership team so that prompt action can be taken and we can continue to celebrate areas where improvements have been made. The improvement plan for 2018 - 2019 will focus directly on ensuring high quality learning experiences for all pupils.

