HT Update

Parent Council Meeting 12/12/23

**Staffing**

Mrs Miller has now retired, we anticipate that Mrs McCallum will take on some additional hours to cover some of Mrs Miller’s post

Miss Eadie in the nursery will commence her maternity leave at the end of February 2024

Student, Mr Stewart, has joined us in the nursery for 9 days, finishing Friday 15th December

The nursery have recently surveyed parents on use of staff first names, all most all parents agreed with this change so staff will begin speaking to children about this

**Fundraising**

Thank you to all parents how purchased Christmas items from Class Fundraising, we have made around £117 from this for school funds

Our tombola and toy sale at the Christmas Fair raised around £245 for school funds

In the next term we are planning a sponsored dance event to raise further funds, this will be essential if summer trips are to be possible

**Reading Schools**

We are delighted to have received our Reading Schools Gold Award, a huge thank you to Mrs McCallum and the reading mentors for all their hard work on this project, we are one of only 4 schools in North Lanarkshire to have received this award, only 1 other primary school and 2 secondary schools have achieved this so far so it is a huge success for our school

**Pupil Voice**

Our first house group meetings took place after our house assembly on Friday 8th December. Each house is taking forward an aspect of improvement work within the school and working alongside a class teacher.

Each house’s responsibility is as follows:

* Darmeid – Rights Respecting Schools with Miss Nash
* Dura – Outdoor Learning and Eco with Mrs Frame
* Kingshill - Health and Wellbeing with Mrs Arthur
* Redmyre – Digital and Cyber Resilience with Miss Arbuckle

The first area that Darmeid will be working on within Rights Respecting Schools is the issue of dog fouling in the community

**Assemblies**

As part of our monthly focus on Developing the Young Workforce we had a visit from PC Andrew at assembly to discuss the role of a police officer and different roles within the police force.

The SSPCA also visited to deliver an assembly to the whole school on caring for animals

**School Trips**

We have had outings for every class this term, primaries 1-5 and 7 attended film screenings as part of the Into Film Schools’ Festival and P6 attended the Food and Farming Event organised by the Royal Highland Education Trust at Lanark Agricultural Centre, all outings received postiive feedback from staff and pupils. Thank you to the parent council for supporting with the cost of buses for these outings.

P6 took part in the annual Bubblegum and Fluff event with the bus kindly paid for by the church.

All classes went to GBT for the Christmas event

**Health and Wellbeing**

P5-7 took part in the Happy Place Workshop focusing on building resilience with local band Saint Phnx, this was very well received by pupils, thank you to the parent council for supporting with the costs of this workshop

**Parents’ Evening**

This took place at the start of November and was well attended

**Attendance**

Attendance continues to be a focus for our cluster and North Lanarkshire Council, our current attendance rate for the school sits at 91.04% this compares to 92.67% in October and 94.17% in September.

Attendance at school is so important for all children and young people and the school must follow council policy when addressing pupil absence levels with parents. Where attendance falls below 85% for any individual pupils parents will receive an initial letter and if attendance continues to remain a concern at the next monthly check then a meeting will be arranged.