

**Standards and Quality Report**

**2013-2014**

**ATTAINMENT**

All pupils made good progress from their prior levels of attainment; several pupils exceeded their expected level in reading, writing and maths. Attainment statistics for each pupil are recorded for Language and Maths. Analysis of our statistics indicates the following:



Most pupils in P4 are working securely or above at First Level in Language and Maths and in P7 the majority are working securely at Second Level in Language with several working comfortably in Third Level in Writing and Reading. In Maths the majority of P7 pupils are working securely at second level.

Reading attainment across the school remains very strong and this has been enhanced with the implementation of Accelerated Reader from P4 to P7. This has proven to be a real motivator for children.

All pupils have developed the use of VCOP strategies (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) to develop and support their writing. This has ensured that the quality of children’s writing has improved. Teachers use baseline information to set targets in writing. Subsequent formal assessment of writing, following set criteria, identifies specific progress, leading to better progression and identification of areas where more support is needed. Interrogation of assessment data identified spelling as an area for further development and a number of classes are trialling a new spelling approach with a focus on spelling rules which has proved successful.

**Viewlands Primary School’s Motto is Grow through learning …**

**Our Aim** is for all children to have the opportunity to develop attitudes, skills and knowledge that will enhance their future lives.

**We will:**

* provide a happy, safe and stimulating environment in which everyone can learn effectively and become confident individuals;
* promote and actively encourage independent learning through a balanced curriculum, enabling children to become successful learners;
* establish and maintain effective relationships between home, school and the wider community;
* foster citizenship, mutual respect and co-operation ensuring equal opportunities for all.

Active maths, which focusses on children being able to explain their thinking and understanding of mathematical concepts and being able to apply them in different contexts or to solve problems, has been a focus this year. Through assessment and moderation we felt that children on the whole were not as secure with number operations as we would want. We therefore introduced a core teaching programme focussing on the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and mental agility in the last couple of months. This has proven very successful with assessment information showing that children’s mental agility is improving.

From this information we have identified a focus on core skills in numeracy and spelling as a priority for continued development in next year’s School Improvement Plan (SIP)

**ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance and good timekeeping are priorities in our school. We have an excellent attendance rate; timely and proactive support is offered if attendance rates fall below acceptable levels. During the 2013-2014 session the attendance rate was 96.47%.

**ACHIEVEMENT**

We are once again very proud of the achievements of all of our pupils and we work hard to ensure that we recognise pupils’ achievements both in and out-with school. We strive to provide opportunities for all pupils to experience a sense of achievement. Children’s achievements are displayed in our ‘Celebration Alley’ along with their photo. Pupils and parents are encouraged to let us know when their children are successful in their clubs or hobbies.

Our health promotion and eco work continued successfully and we were re-accredited in these areas.

We aim to provide the children with experiences that develop their sense of responsibility, independence, confidence and enterprising attitude.

A small selection is listed below:

* A residential experience attended by P7 pupils to Dalguise.
* School shows by P6 and P7.
* P7s also enjoyed, Safetaysiders, Show Racism the Red Card, County Sports, Athletics and Orienteering opportunities.
* P6/P7 visit to Titanic Experience in Belfast.
* Cycle Training and Swimming for all P6 pupils.
* A wide range of Expressive Arts events including: Creative Day of Dance and Show in a Day which this year was ‘Sing for Commonwealth’.
* All classes shared their learning with parents, family and whole school community via assemblies or open afternoons.
* A number of classes both in lower and upper school visited Perth Academy for home economics and science classes.
* A wide range of sporting activities including football, netball, cricket, tennis and golf to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.
* Staff and pupils provide lunch time/after school clubs which include: dancing, drama, craft, construction, chess and knitting.
* Our children performed at Perth Music Festival and had many individual successes and collectively our choir, brass and strings groups won in their categories.

**LEARNING**

Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes now form the core of all planning, learning and teaching at Viewlands Primary. The curriculum is designed to reflect and meet the needs of all learners and allows for opportunities to study areas in depth as well as developing skills for life, learning and work. An assurance programme is in place to monitor the learning and teaching in our school. This includes professional discussions with teachers, classroom observations, peer planning, sampling pupils’ work, learning discussions with children and tracking pupils’ progress in learning. The school and classes are also visited each term by our Quality Improvement Officer (QIO).

Teaching staff have all taken part in moderation work where they had the opportunity to work with teachers from the same local management group (LMG.) This group is made up of staff from all the primary schools who feed into Perth Academy and Perth Academy Staff. Staff worked together in year groups to ensure there was a shared understanding of the PKC Indicators which relate to educational standards at different levels.

Our Shared Learning approach allows children to work together across year groups and stages. This enables children to work together on a shared context while focussing on different skills. Upper year classes have planned activities for younger children and in doing so developed their higher order thinking skills, communication, teamwork, co-operation and organisational skills.

We have a number of parents who come in to support our learners in a variety of ways; helping with trips, gardening, feeding birds, craft, Crumbs café, library, Bikeability programme and sharing their knowledge and expertise in classroom visits. We value this support as it really enhances the children’s experiences.

 **LEADERSHIP**

Leadership at all levels is strongly encouraged at Viewlands. Several members of staff, teaching and non-teaching, lead on aspects of school life including; Health and Wellbeing and Eco. All staff have been actively involved in key school developments this session. Working in staff teams they have planned, implemented and evaluated practical improvements throughout the school. Areas of focus have included: developing approaches to reading, writing, spelling and skill development.

All staff are committed to the GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child) agenda and play a significant role in the active engagement of children, parents and partner agencies to ensure the best outcomes for all children and their families.

Viewlands Parent Council continues to work hard to support our school. In addition to encouraging parental involvement, they organise fundraising events and this year contributed significantly to an ICT upgrade. Every class now has a SMARTBOARD with short-throw projectors and speakers. Children and staff are delighted with this addition. This support is invaluable and very much appreciated by the whole school community.

**PRIORITIES FOR 2014-2015**

* **All children will be clear about their intended learning, know what they need to do to be successful and can identify their next steps.**
* **All children will increase their competency in the core skills of mental maths (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and mental agility) and spelling.**
* **All children will enjoy positive relationships and contribute to the life and ethos of our school and community.**

*Staff, pupils and parents provided information that contributed to the production of this document. If you wish to discuss any aspects of this report with myself or a member of the Senior Leadership Team please contact the school either by email at* *viewlands@pkc.gov.uk* *or by telephone 01738 473080*

**Annemarie Sands**

Acting Headteacher, June 2014