



Mossvale Primary School & Nursery Class



STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

June 2018

This report will inform you of the school's progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2018-2019. I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Thomas J McCormick

Head Teacher

OUR SCHOOL

Mossvale Primary School & Nursery Class is a non – denominational school located in Shortroods, Paisley. Our school has a roll of 200 pupils and has a nursery class, which provides support to 45 children each morning and afternoon incorporating specialist provision for up to 15 children with language and communication difficulties. Our school is unique in that we share the campus with St. James’ Primary School and we were the first joint campus in the UK when we opened as such in 1992. Our school has built positive links with the local community and agencies over the years to provide a nurturing environment for our pupils so that they can maximise their learning.

OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

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| Vision | All children to be the best they can be! |
| Values | Positivity Respect Integrity Determination Equality Take PRIDE in ourselves, our school and our community |
| Aims | To provide a positive and caring environment where everyone follows our values and is encouraged to do their best. To give children, parents and staff a strong voice which is always valued. To achieve the best outcomes for pupils and equip them with skills required to lead an active, healthy lifestyle with positive relationships. To actively involve children in their learning, encourage ambition and celebrate their achievements. |

SUCSESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS



- Refurbishment works were completed by August 2018 and the staff, pupils and parents have enjoyed working in a new environment.
- The school has effectively used Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) money to increase learning support for pupils across all stages which has helped raise attainment and for purchasing ICT resources which will be used for targeted pupils next session.
- House Events led by teachers (Talent Show, Fairtrade Day, Sports Relief Day & Outdoor Learning Day) have resulted in wonderful experiences for our pupils which have enhanced positive relationships among staff and pupils
- PATHS training for all staff has created a positive ethos across the school with good behaviour evident for almost all pupils.

- Positive links exist between the new Head Teacher, PTA and Parent Council with everyone working well to provide events for pupils and to discuss new initiatives and developments.
- There is wide range of community involvement including Scripture Union, Church of Scotland, Community Police talks, Active Schools events, Generations on Screen Project, Sewing2gether Project, Skoobmobile, Star Project, Kibble Works, Rainbow Nursery, I Am Me Cinebus, SSPCA & NSPCC seminars as well as a variety of schools trips e.g. Scotland Street School & SNO to enhance learning.
- This year a P7 Transition Teacher provided effective links with Paisley Grammar High School involving P6 and P7 pupils as part of Renfrewshire's Attainment Challenge.
- Another successful Burns' Supper was well attended by parents and carers.
- Our joint campus 25th Anniversary Concert was held in May 2018 and was attended by Provost Cameron and many parents and carers.
- P7 pupils from the joint campus attended a residential trip to Arrochar in June 2018, which helped to promote a real sense of community and positive ethos across the joint campus
- Further development of our Early Years Transition Programme with regular meetings attended by staff from Mossvale & St. James' Primaries & Mossvale Nursery Class which has helped transition into P1.

HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL AND EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE?

School Leadership

Staff and pupils across the school community have been involved in reviewing and creating new values which are reflected through the school ethos and curriculum. All members of the community have a shared understanding of our values and this is evident in the positive relationships and high expectations of pupils. Staff across the school have attended professional development courses, which have given teachers more strategies to **develop writing** and **numeracy skills** and developed early years approaches to involve infant pupils in more active learning, incorporating **play**. Some staff have also attended courses to develop **musical skills** and have worked closely with NYCOS music staff to deliver exciting singing sessions with P3 – P5 pupils. All staff have been trained in **PATHS** (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) which have helped pupils manage their emotions. All teachers have led a range of **House Events** for the whole school, which has resulted in all pupils being involved in relevant and motivational experiences. One of our **classroom assistants** was released weekly to attend the council's programme on **developing staff knowledge of promoting literacy and numeracy, which** has benefitted pupils through enhanced additional support in literacy across all stages.

Teacher Professionalism

Recently, all staff in the school and nursery have been trained in **outdoor learning** and staff are now more confident to use outdoors to promote literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing through a range of active learning activities. Teachers have engaged very effectively with the new **benchmarks** for all curricular areas which has streamlined the planning process and

reduced bureaucracy. **Pupil Learning Plans** have been devised which help to assess pupils' progress, especially in the area of literacy (reading, writing, talking and listening). Nursery staff have used the Benchmarks effectively to track core skills. They are also becoming more familiar with the latest Care Inspectorate Documents (Our Creative Journey & My World Outdoors)

Parental Engagement

Parents and carers are able to discuss their children's progress when they read pupils' **Personal Learning Plans** and **Writing Journey** entries. This helps parents see the progress in their child's learning and to discuss future targets for improvement. Our **Parent Council** has been involved in reviewing our **Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy** which helps provide a consistent approach to discipline across the school. Parents and carers attended a workshop on promoting positive behaviour which was favourably received. Our **values** have also been discussed with our Parent Council members who felt that they suited our school. In the nursery, there has been an increase in the number of parents who join us for Play Dates. Parents also show their support, for example, by taking part in the annual outing. Several parents have helped develop the garden area too. In the nursery there has also been an increase in numbers attending Coffee & Chat sessions and parents evenings.

Assessment of Children's Progress

Tracking meetings throughout the year involve staff in discussing the progress of pupils and ensure appropriate support and challenge for all learners. Supports have been put in place to help specific pupils progress with their learning, such as ICT resources or more teacher support. Pupils' progress in literacy is monitored using our **Pupil Learning Plans** which involve tracking the new standards called **benchmarks**. Pupils consistently receive **feedback** across literacy and numeracy to help them with their learning. In the nursery, regular observations help staff accurately assess individual progress.

School Improvement

The learning environment in the upper classes' base has been transformed due to screens being put up between classes. Teachers have reacted positively to these and the children feel that they can concentrate and focus better on their learning. The environment now offers more space for children to learn independently and in small groups. Promoting positive behaviour and nurturing relationships approaches are being implemented consistently by staff which has resulted in positive relationships between staff and pupils, ensuring the emotional wellbeing needs of pupils are being met. New laptops have been purchased to provide greater access to ICT. The nursery environment is regularly reviewed to meet children's individual needs better. This has led to the creation of a more flexible and inclusive learning environment for all children in the nursery, including those with additional support needs.

Performance Information

Across the school & nursery class, staff analyse a range of evidence to **identify individuals** and **groups of pupils** to receive additional **targeted support** in key aspects of literacy and numeracy. The school has provided **planned, regular** and **targeted support** for identified pupils through additional staffing and regularly and rigorously tracked the progress and attainment of all pupils at all stages.

KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL

Many parents and pupils completed an annual questionnaire in April 2018 and highlighted strengths of the school.

- Positive and nurturing ethos in school – happy and relaxed
- Positive relations between staff, pupils and parents
- Effective Parent Council
- New renovation of school and resources
- Excellent / Fantastic teaching staff who display variety of teaching methods
- Approachable management team and staff – nursery and school
- Good choice of after school clubs
- Children feel included
- Outdoor learning tasks
- Community involved in school life
- Teachers know pupils as individuals
- Issues dealt with quickly and amicably

Parents and pupils also highlighted areas for development.

- Teach pupils about bullying and how to deal with incidents – improve relationships
- More gardening activities
- Continue to manage the disruptive behaviour of some pupils
- More events to encourage parents to get to know each other
- Some parents feel that their children could be stretched more academically
- Continue to ensure effective communication with parents and carers – school events and pupil achievements
- Teach children more about disabilities

OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2018-19

We believe that we have made good progress during session 2017-18 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

- Staff will become familiar with new ICT resources to improve spelling and writing for pupils.
- Staff will share their knowledge of recent writing strategies (Dive Into Writing) and numeracy strategies (SEAL) to improve writing and mental maths skills across the school & nursery.
- Staff will use Video Interaction Guidance to develop communication and interaction skills with pupils and younger children.
- We will work with teachers in other schools to discuss agreed approaches to assessing pupils' progress in writing.
- The school will gather the views of parents and carers to inform ongoing self-evaluation for school improvement.
- We will use Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) money to provide the school with a nursery officer, key worker and an additional teacher to enhance and support learning for pupils.
- Committees will be set up across the school to increase pupil voice.
- We will further develop outdoor learning across the school and nursery.
- We will take part in the Early Learning & Childcare 1140 hours council pilot.
- Review tracking of core skills to ensure consistency of approach throughout the nursery.
- Ensure the nursery is a 'Language Friendly Environment'.
- Develop 'Setting the Table' in the early years.
- Introduce more Parent Workshops for nursery parents.
- Continue to embed approaches to improve play learning approaches in P1 and P2 classes to improve pupil experiences and attainment

Full details of the school's improvement priorities and actions are detailed in the school improvement plan which can be accessed on our website or by contacting the school office.

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HAVE YOUR SAY!

Please take the opportunity to share your thoughts with us as we use feedback to help us make improvements to the school. You can do this by speaking to staff, participating in Parent Council meetings, responding to questionnaires/surveys and by completing evaluations at nursery and school events.