

## St Anthony's Primary School



## Renfrewshire Council

### STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

June 2020

This report will inform you of the school's progress and achievements in the last session and let you know about our plans for 2020-2021.

I hope that you find it helpful and informative.

Jacqueline McBurnie

## OUR SCHOOL

St Anthony's Primary is a denominational primary school with non-denominational classes for children with communication and development needs. The school is located in Spateston, Johnstone. The school, constructed in 1969, is currently reaching the end of a full school refurbishment. The school grounds will be reconstructed following our school refurbishment. This work has been delayed due to Covid19 government guidelines being adhered to.

St Anthony's Primary school has 210 pupils with children from a wide catchment. Our catchment areas include Elderslie, Johnstone, Howwood and Lochwinnoch. St Benedict's High School is the secondary school that most pupils attend after the end of their primary schooling years.

All staff at St Anthony's take great pride in their school and work extremely hard to maintain a supportive and stimulating learning environment that strives to allow all children to maximise their learning experience. Through engaging and meaningful experiences, children are motivated, independent and responsible in both teacher and child led activities. The school is well respected within its community.

## OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

Our vision is to give our learners success today that prepares them for tomorrow based on the principles of the Rights Respecting School. We aim to be excellent in every way, every day. Our Heart Values are central to all we believe as an honest, extraordinary, aspirational, respectful, and trusting community.

## SUCSESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

*The impact of Co-Vid 19, and the subsequent school closures on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, have resulted in significant changes in working practices and routines. As such, our ability to complete all actions within our improvement plan has been hindered. Some priorities and actions will be carried forward*

However, despite this: Our attainment data continues to show improvement that reflects the hard work and professionalism of our whole school community. As a school community, we constantly strive to deliver the very best experiences for all our learners. We do so by working together as a strong focused team. We participate in all authority events in sport and culture. We work closely with our neighbouring schools and nursery. Our school also work closely with Glasgow and Strathclyde universities and staff have again delivered key talks. We were also asked to present at the UKLA national conference, again allowing us to show case the good practice within our school. Our staff were also given the honour of being the lead judges in this year's UKLA book award.

Our school was also selected by Winning Scotland Foundation to be presented as a case study and our work and HT interview will feature in their promotion video. We also presented on a "Zoom conference," which was indeed a first.

Our work with our local care home was recognised when we were awarded Certificate of Merit for Reducing Loneliness and Isolation by Generations Working together, an award we are proud to have.

As part of our ongoing Renfrewshire Nurture we have been awarded the Jade level of achievement.

We completed a successful block of training with the Glasgow Science centre as part of our STEM plan which also included a family learning session.

Some of our classes aided the local museum by creating an exhibit that went on show at the "Secret Collection." This partnership will continue along with our partnership with Great Place scheme (raising awareness of local history) which will hopefully continue next session.

This year we also had the privilege to work with Disney and Scottish opera to perform Lion King. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic we have not yet been able to perform the show to an audience.

It would be remis of us not to mention the fantastic work that has taken place over the past months as teachers , parents and the wider community pulled together to make sure our children and families got the best support available in the difficult circumstances we all faced. It reminded us that it is people who matter most and together we are always stronger. Thank you.

## **HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE WE BEEN IN IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL?**

### **School Leadership**

- All staff have taken on leadership roles linked to their skills, interests and the priorities of our school improvement plan. This is done through the delivery of lunch time and after school clubs, house meetings and assemblies, literacy and numeracy champions, collaboration with universities and other government agencies.
- Our children have led in many initiatives including developing our school learning dispositions, pupil council, house committees and play leaders

### **Teacher Professionalism**

- All staff have been trained in “Visible learning,” “number talks and SEAL (Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning). They are now able to deploy a wide range of innovative and creative resources and teaching approaches to enhance learning and teaching. This has resulted in increased engagement of our learners and raised attainment.
- All staff are currently training with the Winning Scotland Foundation with a focus on Maths
- The HT and a CT have presented at Glasgow university, Strathclyde University, and several other agencies. This allowed us the opportunity to share our school’s good practice with others on planning a broad curriculum.

### **Parental Engagement**

- To encourage our families to support their child’s learning at home, we have introduced access to our school library for all parents after school.
- We also have curriculum based open afternoons, target books that go home with home targets included, parent, child, teacher reporting sessions so that all parties are aware of successes and area for improvement.
- We also have a strong Parent council who support the wider life of the school.
- We now have a school app to ensure updated information reaches all parents in a timely fashion.

### **Assessment of Children’s Progress**

- SMT and Teaching staff meet regularly for tracking meetings to plan together and focus on assessment activities.
- Staff are now more confident in using the benchmarks to inform teacher judgement of attainment levels.
- We have created pathways for almost all curricular areas allowing teachers to track progress
- Our attainment continues to improve in all areas with almost all children on track.

**School Improvement**

- We have a robust reliable self-evaluation system which allows us to identify areas for development.
- We continue to showcase all the literacy work we have been doing which resulted in us being UKLA lead judges.
- We have started to use HGIOS for learner to ensure our pupils' voices are heard.

**Performance Information**

- All teachers take part in data analysis that has led to our new tracking system being modified to suit the needs of the school.
- Termly meetings between SMT and Teachers allow a greater focus to take place on supporting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children in our school community.

## KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL

- The leadership of the Head Teacher and senior management in improving the work of the school. Across all areas of the school, a strong staff team who are committed to ensuring children receive high quality learning experiences where wellbeing is at the centre of school life.
- The work of the school in improving approaches to literacy and English language. The shared and consistent approach to reading and writing which is creating for children a literacy rich environment.
- Hard working, courteous and well-behaved children who show resilience. Positive relationships between teachers and children, which support a purposeful inclusive learning climate, characterised by mutual respect.
- The effective partnership working across the school community to support and enhance children's learning.
- Strong partnerships with universities and other agencies.

## OUR NEXT STEPS – PRIORITIES FOR 2020-21

We believe that we have made very good progress during session 2019-20 and we will use the improvement priorities listed below to build on this progress moving forward.

However, given the current situation with Covid19 we must have a clear focus on Health and wellbeing by ensuring we provide our children with a safe, calm, and nurturing environment. We must also support our families to allow blended learning to be delivered.

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

**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 school events.