

# Parent Council Report

20 May 2020

Pupil Council

## **Key events last term**

Prelims and parents evenings went well.

Some key events, such as our Careers Event, did not go ahead

## **Key events this term**

At this point in time all school events have been cancelled.

This includes Exams, transition activities, sporting activities, Learning for Sustainability week.

As you will be aware, senior phase pupils will not be sitting exams this session, instead they will receive grades based on teacher's estimates.

Normal transition activities will not be able to happen as planned. However, we are doing as much as we can virtually, including setting up a Transition Team for all P7s in the North Mainland, a virtual tour of the school, secondary teachers setting some work for P7s and producing a transition video for the cluster. We also intend to have some type of transition week when pupils return to school, although it is not clear what this will look like at the moment.

We have set a home learning "Sustainability Week" which will begin the week beginning Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> May being an occasional holiday.

Further advice is expected from the Scottish Government tomorrow and over the coming weeks, which may or may not change plans for this term.

## **Staffing**

P5/6 – I am delighted to let you know that Anne Smith is now back teaching P5/6. We are grateful to Mrs Hopper for all her support and commitment this session .

We are waiting to hear whether we will get a probationer to teach the 7<sup>th</sup> class next year.

I am the direct line manager for Primary and Early Years at this time.

## **SIP**

### **Tracking and monitoring**

Teachers entered tracking last term, however it is not possible to effectively track this term.

## **Attainment Gap**

### **Attendance**

It has not been possible to make any headway with this action this term. However, our Pupil Support team are making contact with families who may require further support to engage with education. We have also provided ICT equipment to families to ensure that they can access learning.

### **After School Opportunities**

It has not been possible to make progress on this.

## **3-18 school**

### **Values**

I have shared the draft vision, values and aims with staff and parents for feedback. I will find a method of consulting with pupils. I would appreciate feedback from the parent council.

### **Celebrating success**

A leaver's letter will be going out to all senior leavers on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020.

### **Parental Engagement**

It has not been possible to pursue the actions linked to this priority. We have however, sent out a parent's survey to all primary pupils, and will send one out to all secondary pupils at some point this term. Feedback from the primary survey has been overwhelmingly positive, which has been gratefully received and given the staff a real boost at the half waypoint in a long and challenging term. As expected, there are some helpful suggestions on how things could be improved, particularly with regard to where and how things are saved and feedback, so we will have a look at that. I am delighted that the Parent Council have made themselves available to meet tonight, especially with all the other demands and priorities you are coping with now.

### **3-18 website**

We have launched our new website – any feedback gratefully received

## **Curriculum**

### **Developing the Young Workforce**

We have not been able to make further progress on this.

### **North Mainland Careers event**

Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.

### **Learning for Sustainability Week**

Although this cannot go as we planned, we are now having a home based "sustainability week" which will take place next week. Further information to follow.

### **Team Improvement Visit**

The team improvement visit took place on the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020. I would like to thank those of you who were able to take part in focus groups for your input, it was much appreciated. You may have had a chance to read the TIV report, and I would be keen to hear your views and take questions about it at the end of this report. We feel it is a fair reflection of where the school is at, and what we need to improve. What is reassuring is the report reflects much of what was our scoping paper for the visit.

### **Anchor Project**

The Anchor Project is now on site and working with a number of families. We are very grateful for their support and can say a positive impact already. We are now considering using our PEF funding to recruit a p/t Family Support Worker; we feel that this is even more important under current circumstances. I would welcome any questions or views on this.

### **Early Years**

The second phase of EY refurbishment has been postponed. This is to allow us to take a holistic look at the development of our campus, rather than developing it in patchwork fashion.

I feel it is no longer possible to move to year round ELC provision from August 2020. Due to COVID 19 it has been very difficult to recruit, and our ELC setting is now being used as a Hub.

### **Primary**

With our projected roll, we are on course to have a 7<sup>th</sup> teacher next session. This will put extra demands on space in primary. We have been working with Children's Services to find solutions to this, which has been impacted by COVID 19.

### **Secondary**

#### **Timetable**

Mrs Johnson has done a very good job of timetabling with increasingly challenging demands – shared staff, increasing school roll. Where clashes have occurred the Pupil Support Team have sought creative solutions to best meet children's needs.