

**Head Teachers Report**

**Parent Council Meeting Thursday 25th January 2024**

**January update of School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

The senior leadership team met last week to have a mid-way check -in on progress towards outcomes in this year’s SIP. Senior Leaders gave updates on their remit areas from this plan.

1. **Curriculum Development**

* **Digital Learning –**  Improvement Group are working on creation of Digital Strategy for the school. Well underway- aim to finish by March. Parent body will be consulted on draft before finalised.

Teacher confidence survey circulated by group before Christmas, Group have met to collate responses and to use these to identify training needs.

Digital Learning Group is doing great. There will be a self evaluation in March. School putting themselves forward for the Digital Schools Award which celebrates Technology in Schools.

**Attachment informed practice –** Attachment Improvement Group have been working on a new home school diary. Ready for use from Monday 22/01/24.

Group have led classes in the creation of a Class Charter for each class, revisiting charters used previously and updating them with UNCRC links and making them more relevant to pupils in each class.

Group are making submissions to SLC Psychological Services to get the school accreditation as an “Attachment Informed, Trauma Sensitive School” by completing the following pledges: “Act to make a difference” (paperwork completed) and “See the Whole Person” (Working on this pledge paperwork before the submission date in March) Schools complete self-evaluation in 4 pledges to gain full accreditation.

* **Sensory Integration –** Margaret Duffy is leading on ensuring classes have a good bank of resources to support Sensory Integration. She has liaised with our link OT for further input. Resources will be purchased on receipt of the OT’s list of suggested resources based on her visits to classes. OT is also going to advise teachers on “**Stickids**”, self-harming behaviours and strategies for self-stimulation. **Stickids** is “a software and activity kit that supplies user friendly therapeutic strategies to support Sensory Processing”
* **Learning and Teaching Policy** – A draft of this policy is out with teachers for consultation. A copy is attached for Parent Council consultation before circulating to parent body for comments/feedback.

1. **Partnership with Parents**

* **Parent Council –** All on track with Parent Council fulfilling constitutional requirements
* **Mellow Ability –** First round of workshops completed with great success and very positive feedback. Second round of workshops – 7 parents signed up. Kirsty to give more detail later in agenda.
* **Improvement Plan –** Ideas for improved parental involvement in Improvement Planning. For Parent council’s consideration – going into the new session would it be a possibility for parents to join an Improvement Group once these are up and running for next years SIP priorities. Parents could join based on particular interests linked to school’s priorities.

1. **Further development of professional enquiry to support learners.**

Teaching Sprints have been undertaken by all teachers present in the last term. We have a couple of new staff (see below) who will need to be supported to come into line with this whole school approach to Professional Learning.

So far we have completed “Sprints” as a whole teaching staff, researching and implementing strategies coming out of that research – on the same theme, for example, Sensory Approaches to Learning and ASPs. For the next round of Teaching Sprints Teachers have been asked to focus on an improvement for classroom practice that fits with the priorities for the Improvement Group they are on.

**Staffing / Appointment of New Teacher**

Michelle Harris has joined us as the new class teacher in Room 3. Michelle has taken over this class on Diane Rodman’s move to a position with Glasgow City Council.

All classes have permanent full time teachers in post and we continue to benefit from an additional teacher through Pupil Equity Funds.

**Pupil Equity Fund (PEF)**

Recent changes to how we are using rooms within the school have meant a location move for the **Movement** **Hub.** There are now 2 Movement Hubs- we are looking to move Trampoline to the Hall for Rebound Therapy. The main Hub is now upstairs in a classroom and children continue to access this resource through the week. School Support Staff appointed through PEF continue to take pupils to the “Hub” for focussed work and play to support sensory processing, sensory integration, and postural management programmes.

**Pool update (status as previous meetings)**

The pool is currently functionally operational. It took a while to get it up to temp. after the holiday however our Janitor continues to work on it, and it could be used at time of writing. It remains the case that this will be unpredictable for planning purposes, with temperatures fluctuating with weekends, holidays, and changes in whole building temperature.

Circumstances for us as a school remain the same as reported in previous meetings. **Discussions with our Support Services Co-ordinator** are ongoing and continued last week, re. renewing Support Staff training. Training of sufficient numbers of school support staff to use the pool in accordance with health and safety requirements is not an option open to us at present. This may change. This training is not mandatory to the post.

I met with **Senior Managers from Education Inclusion** last week and asked that the hydro pool be on the agenda. As a result of this meeting communication has gone out from our Inclusive Education Manager to the Schools Modernisation team (who have responsibility for school buildings and infrastructure) requesting a meeting of those who may be able to support us with all the issues around the pool.

At the moment the decision is that the pool should stay within the School and emails have been issued to professionals across South Lanarkshire to see if they can help with issues. Making more appropriate use of the space and Health and Safety comcerns means this may change.

\*As discussed at previous meetings, so long as the pool is functional it would currently be open to parents to access with children after 3.00pm. School will need to check Health and Safety for go ahead.\*