



## Head Teacher AGM Report to Parent Council 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022

### Figures and People:

- School roll fluctuating around 470 (just over 70 in ELCC)
- Budget has been reduced; management time reduced so DHT is one day a week and HT is half a day a week. Management time is reduced in nursery as well so effectively HT is managing the nursery in a day a week and expected to teach for half a day in the school as well
- HT remains working for the wider council for one day a week with students, new teachers, supply teachers and ensuring that all teachers have their full registration
- PEF money all allocated through Family Team of six people.
- Emma O'Donnell and Debbie Robertson successfully completed their qualifying year with us. Emma is filling the vacant post for additional support for learning (three days a week) and Debbie is covering absences (e.g. Glencoe two weeks, Amy Nicol's phased return)
- Kitty Selkirk and Hannah Baxter have joined the teaching team for the year
- Amanda Stewart remains on maternity leave. We took a transfer from another school but she has been off long term sick since February. Aimee Brown has been filling that role as EYP and we have had supply in for support worker time. Allocation for management time was changed so I now have one day a week to manage ELC and Kirsten MacKay has a half day to develop transition and early play
- PSA allocation was increased but the jobs have only been advertised in the last week. We've been fortunate to get supply PSAs not exactly the right allocation but better than last year
- Changes to additional support provision: formula across Highland still not in operation

### School Improvement Plan: [Link to the Plan](#) & [Shortened version](#)

- Writing (Lynne MacDonald)
- Talking and Listening (Iain Grandison)
- Reading and comprehension (Scott Hardie)
- Profiling (Jim Lyon)
- PEF allocation (Aileen Mackay)
- Improvements from last two years still on all remits

### PEF Update: [Link to Evaluation and Plan](#)

- Family Team fully booked. Jo Downie has left and the hours allocated to afterschool and wider achievements focus so three existing staff doing extra hours until job is advertised (Mrs Fraser, Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Cranston)
- Emphasis on family barriers and finding ways to allow children to be ready for school
- Health Development Officer and Health Visitor continues using Smithton as a base
- Substance Awareness: Bikeability, Funky Fridays for P7 and S1, parental workshops continuing

### **In the Pipeline**

- You Tube Channel dedicated to showing school improvements and learning; links to attainment and monitoring in classes
- Assemblies now back together with P7 ambassadors leading by example
- Parent contact sessions – N – P3 now throughout the year and with the child present and demonstrating their learning; P4-7 back in the hall from October 2022
- Learning by experiences – the need to develop language and use this to articulate learning – an area for development but will need money....
- New yellow lines outside the school and parking suggestions around the area and being used by classes and ELC when moving around the community – thanks Parent Council for keeping on at getting this done!

**This time last year I said this was one of the most challenging times...I didn't know what was to come. Despite high numbers of staff and pupil absences all year and a number of us doubling up responsibilities during the day all children made an improvement in their learning and staff really worked together to ensure that unlike many schools in the area, we remained open throughout. It is a testament to staff and parent cooperation when we see just how much the young people achieved. Without this ongoing open and frank relationship the young people will suffer. Hopefully now we can get back to parents being welcomed into the school and new parents can see what nursery and school is like: this can only enable the young people further in achieving their goals. Having had a member of Education Scotland come to visit the school in October 2021 and a full 'supportive' Education Scotland team in May endorsing our Relationships policy with clear vision and values we are confident about our strategies moving young people forward and how best to use leadership at all levels to be creative, responsive and relevant for 21<sup>st</sup> century living learning opportunities.**

**Aileen Mackay, HT September 2022**