

Happy

Inclusive

Nurturing

Respectful

# Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

*Our Wee School's a Good Wee School*



J Armour

## **Head Teacher's Report – 17.1.24**

### **Welcome**

Mrs Armour welcomed and thanks everyone for their attendance.

### **Staffing Update**

Mr Denham will commence as our 'Monday' janitor from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. He is coming up this week for a preliminary visit, we welcome him to the team.

Ms Ford in our ELC return from her maternity leave today. We would like to warmly welcome her back and also thank Ms Graham for covering so ably during Ms Ford's period of leave.

Mrs Molloy (previously Miss Frew) will be with us once a fortnight as part of our additionality. This was previously covered by Mrs Aitken. This additionality allows up to carry our assessments, provide focused support etc.

### **School Improvement Plan: Update**

#### **1. All stakeholders will continue to focus on curriculum development; contributing to the school rationale with a focus on the four contexts of learning.**

Further support the needs of all learners through whole staff professional development on 'Attention Autism'.

- Impact to date has been positive with pupils building up attention & communication skills. Mrs Palmer is incorporating this approach to other aspects of the day e.g. phonics & interdisciplinary learning.

#### **2. Provide high quality learning & teaching experiences in writing through use of learning intentions and success criteria. Talking and listening opportunities to be used as a vehicle to raise attainment in writing.**

- Mrs Simpson, our Literacy Co-ordinator is leading on this at tonight's CAT with a focus on model texts to engage learners.

#### **3. Further develop Play based learning pedagogy at Early level and introduce play based principles to First & Second level.**

Pupil progress and skills progression will be tracked and monitored through play experiences.

- Skills are tracked and monitored in ELC and in most classes using Skills framework. We will share with you more information and floor books to demonstrate the skills focused on at the next Parent Council meeting.
- School & ELC: Increased opportunities for high quality teaching & assessment in STEM.

- All resources have now been audited and our next priority is to purchase resources in line with SLC Science/System planning. We are working with SLC STEM leads on 31<sup>st</sup> January to further develop our Science/STEM planning across ELC & school.

#### 4. Equity:

Provide targeted support in Numeracy with identified individuals and groups.

- 4 teachers are embarking on Maths Recovery professional learning to provide targeted support in Numeracy with identified individuals and groups and to provide a firm foundation of maths knowledge.

#### Other Equity news

The Masonic Lodge has very generously donated £500 towards Lockerbie Manor. This information will be shared in our January Newsletter.

#### Committee Updates:

##### **Reading Schools & Inclusion & Equalities Committee**

The library is in the process of being improved. The Reading Schools Committee have organised the reading books into genres with the pupils creating their own labels. They have also purchased new books for both the ELC and school with a focus on celebrating inclusion and diversity.

##### **Pupil Council**

Thank you to our representatives from the Pupil Council for sharing their update on Promoting Positive Behaviour and our Anti Bullying.

##### **Eco**

The Eco Committee have created their own reviewed and refreshed Eco Code, using Boardmaker to support pupils' understanding of what the Eco Code means. This will be shared at Get Together on Friday. Thank you to Mrs Gold for assisting with visuals.

##### **JRSO**

##### **Class Showcase Dates**

- ELC – Stay & Play – Numeracy – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 2pm
- Room 1 - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm
- Room 2 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm
- Room 3 – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm
- Room 4 – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm
- Room 5 – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm
- Room 6 – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm

##### **John Muir**

Our Room 4 and Room 5 pupils are continuing towards their John Muir accreditation. The YFCL team have been running sessions with the children, focusing on outdoor play. Next week they will be looking at developing our outdoor space. The Men's Shed is also on board to support with any improvements.

**Extra-Curricular**

- Mindfulness Monday lunch time club has commenced
- P1-3 Football session to commence with senior pupils leading. More information to follow.
- P6/7 Cross Country After school club to commence 1<sup>st</sup> February.
- We are in the process of organising additional lunch and after school clubs, based on our "You Said...We Did" pupil suggestions. More information to follow.

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