

# St Machan's Primary School Parent Council Report 5/10/20 by Mrs Rosaleen Miller (HT)

Our recovery plan- Local Authority guidance on priorities

## 1) Health and Wellbeing (including nurture).

- Staff training ongoing to develop inclusive practice, understand (ACES) Adverse Childhood Experiences. We have raised awareness of the potential impact of adversity and trauma in shaping outcomes for children. We aim to continue to build teacher confidence to support the emotional and mental wellbeing of children.
- We have previously shared our work with the Parent Council on positive relationships policy, nurture and family learning.
- Staff currently implementing recovery programmes which help children develop emotional literacy and competencies through a range of learning experiences and activities. This includes developing pupil understanding of how their brains and bodies react to things and ways they grow and learn to cope.

## 2) Family Engagement

- The local authority has purchased licenses for 'SeeSaw'. We are considering trialling this in P1-5. Seesaw is a website and app that allows teachers to build a digital portfolio for pupils.
- We will consult with parents on how to deliver reports and keep you informed of learning in the classroom. This will include MS Teams, Social Media, Our YouTube channel and Twitter.
- Homework- MS Teams supports readiness for return to blended learning or home learning due to isolation. Local Authority training is supporting staff to develop their skills to use MS Teams. Parents were consulted on availability of resources, wifi etc.
- Staff are working to ensure progressive outdoor learning and teaching is planned for each stage.
- P7 have embarked on a garden project with the support of Mrs Burns. She has had a donation of planters. We are hoping to enable our garden to be accessible to all children, regardless of mobility, providing raised beds and a more accessible route. Parent help is, under the current restrictions, difficult to achieve and suggestions are welcome. We will put out a call for donations of gardening equipment to get us started.
- Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) and PTA funds will be used this session to purchase ipad devices and laptops with microphones and cameras to support the provision of digital learning. Approx £300-£400/device.
- Using PEF we have paid for additional staffing including Mrs Coyle (April-June), our family learning assistant.
- We have £18000 remaining of PEF from which we hope to purchase online reading materials at a cost of approximately £7000.

## 3) Transitions

- Use of MS Teams, you tube, twitter, 'Mac' the teddy and stay and play outdoor learning sessions were used to connect pupils with our school during lockdown and at the beginning of the session.
- Secondary staff connected via MS Teams with P7 during lockdown and will further establish activities to support transition for pupils moving on this session.

## 4) Loss of learning and continuing to raise attainment (including digital learning)

- Staff have been using assessment to inform planning and identify support and required interventions
- Staff identified a need to upgrade reading materials across the school to help deliver high quality learning and teaching activities and raise attainment for all pupils. We aim to improve and enable greater access to online resources.
- Catholic Faith Sacraments- we are catching up with the P4/P5 pupils who missed out on their sacraments.

## Updates:

- Catholic Faith Teaching- We are considering becoming a 'Laudato Si' school which supports stewardship and ecological education. This ties in with outdoor learning and would link to our Catholic Ethos and ambition to support our school community to become part of a more caring, inclusive, peaceful and sustainable world.
- Bike shelter – requires parental agreement on the conditions for safe travel to school and use of this.
- Buses- Safety concerns submitted by the Parent Council and backed by the school- Birdston Road. Complaint about the early arrival of one of our buses also submitted as we do not have staff to meet the children before 8.45am.
- Residential Trip –Refunds pending approval.
- Photographs- Tempest Photography under risk assessment.
- Breakfast Club- The purpose and rationale of the breakfast club is to support reducing the Scottish Government poverty related attainment gap. Will restart October.

## Staffing-

- New teacher to be appointed to cover Mr O'Neill's secondment.
- Teacher to be appointed to work in our Primary 1 classes to support loss of learning at nursery level.
- Mrs Hemming - nurture teacher.
- 2 probationary teachers.
- Pupil Equity Funding allowed us to increase our staffing– additional hours given to Mrs Chisholm. Miss Bradley is partly funded via PEF which enables us to have 8 classes.
- New Family learning assistant expected to join staff later in the year

## School Improvement Priorities (summary) 2020-21

### Priority 1- Health and Wellbeing (including nurture)

- Inclusive and nurturing school ethos
- Training staff in 'Compassionate, Connected, Communities' resources
- Training staff to implement 'Emotion Works Recovery Programme'
- Focus on emotional literacy and outcomes that have a positive impact on children's mental health and wellbeing.
- Develop children's confidence, resilience, compassion and empathy for others
- Develop children's understanding of their rights (UNCRC)
- Establish system for tracking and monitoring pupil wellbeing to inform planning for intervention, support and nurture provision

### Priority 2- Family Engagement

- Review reporting procedures to communicate pupil progress and achievement- *Trial of Seesaw P1-5*
- Further develop use of MS Teams to support homework, celebrate pupil's wider achievement and connect parents/carers to pupil learning in the classroom

### Priority 3- Curriculum Design (including outdoor learning provision and digital learning)

- Improve the design of the curriculum. Ensure planning for skills for learning, work and life
- Upskill pupils and staff in use of digital technology. Improve learning and teaching with purchase of technology
- Engage in outdoor learning for sustainability