

## Spittal Primary School

### Mid Year Report to Parents on the Work of the School

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to share with you a Report on the work the school has been doing in relation to our School Improvement Plan. The main areas we have been working on this year are:

1. Language
  - a. Developing Reading skills through a focus on before, during and after strategies.
  - b. Reciprocal Reading-this is an approach our older classes are developing. It involves all children in the class working in groups to discuss texts by setting and answering questions.
  - c. Spelling-all classes have been learning spelling in a multi sensory way. This approach includes a variety of fun, active activities where the focus is on children having opportunities to learn spelling patterns by engaging in activities to explore word families in creative ways.
2. Mathematics
  - a. A focus on raising attainment in numeracy where children are involved in identifying their next steps in learning.
3. Science
  - a. Our Learning Community schools have been developing planners for all Teachers to use when providing opportunities for learning in Science.
4. Music
  - a. Some staff are receiving training on a Music Programme called ABC Music. Later on in the year, all staff will receive training and begin to implement activities using the Smartboard. We are planning to purchase a range of percussion instruments to help children learn.
5. Support for Learning
  - a. GIRFEC-Getting it Right for Every Child. Teachers and children have been exploring the importance of the following wellbeing features-Safe, Healthy, Active, Nurtures, Achieving, Respected, Responsible and Included (we call this SHANARRI).

## 6. Self Evaluation

- a. Staff work together to regularly evaluate the work of the school. Children are regularly consulted and our Pupil Groups have an active role throughout the school.
- b. Leadership roles and responsibilities are shared among staff and pupil groups.

The following questions are used by staff when planning for improvements. This is a summary of work done since August in relation to the four questions.

### 1. How well do our children learn and achieve?

- a. Teacher's plans focus on learning experiences. Teachers submit termly plans and evaluations and meet with the HT to discuss learning across the curriculum.
- b. Children are involved in Sharing Our Learning Assemblies. Parents/Carers are invited in to class events where children present and showcase their learning.
- c. Children are involved in assessing their learning and have opportunities to talk to classmates, Teachers and the HT about what they have learned and what their next steps in learning are.
- d. Teachers provide before school, lunchtime and after school clubs including Football, Dodgeball, Netball and Guitar (provided by our Parent Council.)
- e. Teachers visit other classes to observe learning and teaching and to share and develop good practice.

### 2. How well do we support children to develop and learn?

- a. We have a Buddy System for P1 and P7 children.
- b. The work of the Pupil Council, Eco Group and Junior Road Safety Officers is celebrated and shared across the school.
- c. Our Specialist Support Teacher works with small groups and individuals who require focussed support.
- d. Learning Assistants support pupils in class and the playground.
- e. Punctuality Weeks encourage children to develop good time keeping and attendance.

3. How well do we improve the quality of our work?
  - a. In-Service Days and after school staff meetings involve all Teachers in evaluating the work of the school and planning for improvement.
  - b. Teachers use Curriculum for Excellence Guidelines to plan and assess pupils' work. Teachers have regular opportunities to discuss teaching and the impact on learning.
  - c. We consult with Parents/carers and invite feedback on learning and on school events.
  
4. How well do we ensure equality and inclusion and promote diversity across our school?
  - a. Our school vision and values are displayed around the school and given a special focus during Assemblies.
  - b. Visitors are invited into school to talk with pupils and provide specialist information.
  - c. Some children have an Additional Support Plan and Parents/Carers are invited in to school to discuss and review progress.

Staff will continue to work on the areas identified in our School Improvement Plan. During the In-Service Day in May we will evaluate progress and identify areas for improvement for next session.

The views of our Parents/Carers are very important and we welcome feedback on any aspect of school life. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any aspect of our work.

I will provide an end of session Report in June.

Yours Sincerely,

Lorna Harvey

Head Teacher