Head Teacher Report

Parent Council Meeting 14 September 2020

Current overarching priorities	• Monitor and support pupil and staff health and wellbeing • Literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing (HWB) as a priority – an interim curriculum. • Sweep of those with additional support needs – Child Planning Meetings and Individual Education Plan (IEP) reviews have taken place. SfL timetabling now back on track. • Training for nurture with Pupil Support Worker (PSW) • Seasons for Growth group with trained teacher – absence impacting on this. • Building positive relationships across the school • Speech and language therapist employed through Pupil Equity Funding and started in school one full day every 2 weeks and currently supporting staff and pupils in nursery – P3 with listening skills with a plan to support P4-7 later with vocabulary development. Staff training has taken place and PSW identified to support this. We do have a working document School Improvement Plan that has been submitted to our Link Officer. Our Standards and Quality Report has been submitted	
Where we are with above -	All staff have been offered one to one health and wellbeing check in meetings with Senior Leadership Team (SLT) with individual supports where appropriate. All pupils have completed health and wellbeing forms with follow up specific to their feedback. Based on these, interventions and responsive planning is taking place based on individual needs. All classes collectively had a check in by SLT to gather their views, feedback and suggestions for the way things are working. We have already used the feedback to review changes and give pupils a voice. The Positive Relationship policy has been published and displayed in every area of the school and all staff following this, although this is still new and embedding. Teachers have prepared a Meet the Teacher sway to be issued on Friday 11th September. The learning for this term is being prepared given our interim curriculum and will be issued Fri 25 September. Nurture groups to begin to start after September weekend and after staff training. Support for learning groups have started week beginning 7 September. These are being staggered in blocks to accommodate numbers and address need. Groupings need to be considered and carefully planned for within Test and Trace recommendations for class/stage groups.	

	We are having to adapt learning and teaching to meet the needs of the children. We have observed a need for shorter bursts of learning as focus is not the same; a need for learning how to play cooperatively with each other again; sharing, cooperation and teambuilding. PC/PSA paid for sessions with Kids Go Wild. These have started. Families will be told when sessions are and to dress appropriately. We cannot share boots/clothing and we cannot access changing rooms. Due consideration has been given to the timings for the sessions due to these factors. Every aspect is in line with West Lothian Council and Williamston Risk Assessment procedures. Wherever possible PE must be outdoors. We are still reminding pupils to come dressed as there is no access to changing rooms. The can bring a change if it fits in their own one bag and they are comfortable changing in the class i.e. shoes, socks and jumper. Everyone should have a coat with them. We are currently looking at how we work with parents/carers to facilitate parent evenings. There are various options including written reports, phone calls, virtual meetings. We are looking at early November for these. We are discussing this as a cluster and staff team.	*
Communication	Weekly updates from the school – newsletter, video or sway, SLT and/or whole school. We are trying a variety of different ways and formats to engage. Survey to come around home learning (see below)	
Home learning	We are going to survey pupils and parents for their views on home learning before developing a new policy. Surveys to come P1-3 and P4-7. Digital aspects being considered as limited home and school passing on of items.	
Learning environments, including staggered arrangements.	We continue to consider arrangements with ongoing review of use of all the areas we need to use and related risk assessments. Ideas as we move into autumn/winter – • Sourcing additional lunch tables and reviewing lunch hall - ongoing • PC/PSA support with outside picnic tables for when weather is reasonable • Reviewing arrangements for which classes play where based on numbers, age, behaviour, supervision. • Reviewing what the can do with their break and lunch safely – play items. Reviewed this week and being trialled. • End of day arrangements for collection. This is challenging due to school transport, siblings, the pinch point of Bankton Lane, existing and historic arrangements for the car park drop off and pick up. One parental suggestion has been closing off the car park to drop off and pick up and using this tarmac area for walking pick ups. We would need PC support to proceed with this option with careful planning for the school bus access, staff car park arrangements and those with additional support needs requiring	*

	access. We also need to look at how to manage historic expectations and who mans this. We do need to consider the wider community when implementing changes to the car park as there have been complaints from areas around the school about unsafe car parking and Police are aware. • We will be losing a few staff car parking spaces due to findings from the 5 year fire safety risk assessment and issues arising from the car park. This will have an impact on the space for drop off and pick up as they stand regardless of Covid and staggered requirements.	
Staffing Update	The DHT post closes on 13th September. There will be a long leet on 23rd September. We require trained PC representatives for the short leet process. Lisamaria Purdie is looking into virtual training for us to proceed with this and appoint as quickly as we can.	*
Trips	Current advice is schools should not be planning or booking any visits at this time. We continue to review the most current advice from Scottish Government and West Lothian Council with weekly leadership team meetings taking place. We will review this as advice changes.	