

HT Report 2nd March 2023

Staffing/Classes

I'm delighted to report that Mrs Drennan is now back with us full time. Mrs Bond has been a fabulous Acting PT during Mrs Drennan's absence. From January, Miss Small moved onto cover in another school and Mrs Bond returned to room 3. She does however have 1 day out of class per week which she uses for ICT work, to support Miss MacDonald and for her own preparation time.

Since our last meeting our roll has reduced by 1 pupil to 119 pupils.

P1/2 - 24

P2/3 - 24

P3/4 - 24

P5/6 - 23

P6/7 - 24

Parental Engagement/Involvement since our last Meeting on 17.11.22

- P1-4 Nativity Performances
- PFA Jingle Mingle
- Christmas Celebration in the church - Salvation Army collection of £150 which was very welcomed by them
- P5/6 and P6/7 showcase of learning for their parents
- Scottish Celebration
- Every child has shared some numeracy with their parents this term and parents completed our Parents as Partners comment sheet.
- Homework has continued and is supported by the majority of parents.
- We continue to work hard to keep parents informed via communication channels (fortnightly Update, emails, Twitter, website, Google Classroom). Mid-February our LC started to use Parent Portal as a means of communication. This should lessen the number of emails from school.
- Some parents/a grandparent continue to help us deliver learning, attend swimming and other sporting events.
- Introduction of Parentportal

I have also managed to give a short tour of the school to catchment P1 pupils for Aug 2023 and their parents. (12 catchment pupils/ 6 placing requests)

Other Activities and Opportunities

Various lunchtime and after school activities have been offered
Christmas activities such as P3-7 Panto visit, class parties, P1-2 Gouldings' visit
School Committee Meetings in January and late February
Charities and Enterprise shared information about Alzheimer Scotland and undertook some fund raising for this charity - Origami hearts and wear red/hearts/dress down. A total of £200 was raised for the charity

P7 pupils have started their online Transition lessons to introduce them to all departments at LGS

Our PFA held Jingle Mingle in December and are organising a fun sponsored Easter Bunny Hop for the last day of this term. All money raised by this group is being added to our iPad fund.

All of P3 and P4 pupils have started music lessons with Mr Steven Johnstone from The Instrumental Music Service

PC Leggate delivered Internet Safety sessions to P5/6 and P6/7. He also delivered a parent session on 8.2.23

Some pupils from P5,6,7 are practising for the Clydesdale Dance Festival

P6 & P7 engagement with RSHP

Room 3 Forest School and Fire Club

Still to come this term:

Fairtrade Fortnight and Fairtrade Coffee and Chat

17th Some pupils to the Clydesdale Cross Country event

20th Room 2 to David Livingstone Centre as part of their topic work

23rd Parent Consultations

29th Dance Festival at Memorial Hall in Lanark

30th Easter Celebration in the church

31st PFA Sponsored Easter Bunny Hop/Dress Down event

Towards the end of this term Rm 1 and Rm 2 also plan to have a showcase of learning for their parents.

Room 1 and 2 Forest School

School Improvement Plan for 2022 - 2023/ Pupil Equity Fund Work

We continue to work on our SIP priorities. Here are some of the activities we have worked on:

Mrs McLeod has continued to work on our Literacy development work. She plans to hold a parent workshop on VCOP next term.

Mrs Drennan has attended Nurture UK training

Mrs Drennan is also completing Maths Recovery training. This will mean we have managed to train both Mrs Drennan and Mrs McInnes this session.

Mrs Donnelly has implemented some of the play pedagogy ideas and is working on a practitioner enquiry as part of this work.

All staff are implementing the Healthy Schools approach using the online framework. They all report that they feel this has been a positive move.

Mrs Bond has had lots of work around our move to ICT Cloud Solution and staff have been introduced to aspects of this. SLC plan to switch us to the Cloud Solution on week 1 of the new term. This will mean that only Chromebooks will be in use for a short period during that week.

All pupils have access to Sumdog, both in school and at home.

Staff Development/Training

Staff continue to attend training and professional learning opportunities, some of which I've already mentioned. Others include:

Attachment Lead and Ambassador Network

ICT Coordinator Meeting and Thinglink introduction

Maths Recovery and Nurture UK training as mentioned before

Curriculum and Quality Improvement Conference

and a number of Newly Qualified Teacher events

Talk for Writing training

Boxall - pupil profiling training

Miss MacDonald, our newly qualified teacher, has attended a variety of training opportunities as part of SLC's NQT programme

All staff are also engaging with our Learning Community to undertake a practitioner enquiry on a chosen area. We hosted 3 groups here in January.

SSA - First Aid course

GT - ParentPortal training

As always, staff are keen to develop their skills through professional learning opportunities.

Proposed Strike Day

We will aim to keep our parents informed of any forthcoming disruptions. Should an agreement not be reached the next dates to impact on Underbank will be 28th and 29th March. LGS will be impacted on 29th and 30th March.

Health and Safety Traffic Management Inspection

This took place over two sessions, one on 22nd November and one on 17th January. I have given mention to the inspection in our school Updates.

From these visits, we were asked to remind parents that the drop off area was not for parking in and that we ensure that the bus parking zone remains clear for all of our school transport to access.

I have again asked the police to attend when they are able, to encourage the traffic on the main A72 to slow down. The police have agreed to attend and to monitor the speed of the traffic periodically.

A concern was raised about parents encouraging their children to cross the A72 into Silverbirch when there is ample parking and a school crossing patrol person to safely cross pupils and parents.

On the second visit it was noted that the flashing school signs were not working. These have now been reported.

Please look out for these and let me know when they are operational. They should flash for a short period each morning and again at the end of the school day.

Please help us to keep all of our school community safe.