



## **PPG Meeting – HT Report**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

### **Indicative classes for next session**

It looks like we will have 6 classes next session. Indicatively these will be P1/2, P2/3, P3/4, P4/5, P5/6 and P7. At present it is unknown who will be assigned to teach each class. We will have a vacancy for most of next session due to Miss Gallacher being on maternity leave.

### **School Improvement Update**

Priority 1: Literacy

Since the last meeting, staff have completed Big Writing Training and this continues to be rolled out through the school. We have a writing assessment week during week 7, after which teachers come together to moderate the work to ensure that there is a shared understanding of the standard of work and expectation.

We continue to use Phonics International in our early years and this is having a positive impact, we are still seeking to improve on our consistency of this in the upper school – ensuring that it is working for our context. We will continue to look at this as a school to ensure there is consistency as well as progression.

We have shown great improvements throughout the session on developing a consistent and progressive approach to reading. Our P6 and P7 classes have been working on reading in the class only, this is due to the inconsistencies of pupils participating in reading at home. Each reading day the children are asked to complete task maps which related to the piece of reading that the children have just completed, this proves more difficult when the pupils in each group are at different stages. We are currently looking into a solution to this that may be linked to our homework consultation.

This term we are trialling a handwriting tool called Kaligo. This is technology based and supports not only letter formation but also handwriting presentation.

Priority 2: Maths

We are looking into purchasing Big Maths as an approach to improving our mental maths attainment. Currently I am writing a bid to Aberdeenshire Council to support



with the funding of this. I will keep parents updated with the outcome of this bid. Maths will feature heavily on our development work next session.

### Priority 3: HWB

We continue to work through the lessons of Zones of Regulation. Having a whole school approach and common language is proving to be beneficial and we will continue to develop this in future sessions. Our HWB Development Group continue to work on the creation of a Positive Relationships Policy and are still at the consultation stage.

We have had a few assemblies in term 3 that are focussing on the UNCRC and we continue to develop a whole school approach to this.

This term each class is leaning about RSHP. I sent out a letter to parents explaining this at the start of this term with links to what is being covered at each stage. This month we have the ALEC caravan visit on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Later this term we will evaluate our priorities for this year and continue to develop the three areas of Literacy, Numeracy and HWB next session.

### **Next Session**

To support learning and teaching in the school we are planning to put in another grant for additional iPads. Almost all of the iPads within the school do not support many of the new software/hardware available to support learning, for example, the Kaligo pens or the green screen.

### **Reporting to Parents**

Our reports will be sent out next week via Groupcall and parent interviews will take place the week after. After this I will send out an MS form to gather feedback from parents regarding our schedule. Next session we plan to send out the formal reports at the end of term 3 rather than term 4.

A new communication tool has just been approved by Aberdeenshire Council to replace Seesaw. We are waiting for some direction on how to use it before



assessing if it fits the needs of our school. We are very grateful to all parents for being so understanding during this time without Seesaw.

I am looking for a small focus group of parents to help finalise our Learning, Teaching and Assessment Policy for Rothienorman School. This policy explains the steps from planning to assessment and provides the school with a consistent approach to learning, teaching and assessment.

### **Fire Drill**

Every term we have a fire drill to ensure that everyone knows what to do in the event of a fire. These have been going well with our regular practices. This term we plan to hold a lunchtime fire drill that will take place next week. For this drill, the children and staff will be fully informed of the time that it will take place. It will be planned out in advance so that pupils and staff know what to do. We will hold an unannounced fire drill later in the term.

### **Community Library Project**

At the last PPG meeting I shared that we are looking to develop a lending library within the school for the children in the community to use. This is proving to be more challenging than expected due to the technology that would be used not currently having a DPIA (Data Protection Impact Statement) in place. This is something that we are keen to pursue but in the meantime, we are working with the Aberdeenshire Library Service who are coming to visit the school and nursery with lending books.