



PPG Meeting – HT Report

Thursday 9th Nov 2023

School Improvement Update

Priority 1: Literacy

Teaching staff finished training in Accelerated Reader last week, AR has been rolled out across the school but this is primarily for our P3-P7 pupils. This week we purchased an Early Literacy support from AR to support our P1 & P2 pupils, this was funded through PEF. We had identified that we required more reading books to challenge our able readers in the upper school. Miss Burdge researched books appropriate for this stage and we purchased 6 titles last week. Our library has been banded to support pupils identify books that will be suitably challenging for them when they read for pleasure.

We are continuing to use Big Writing and Phonics International in the school to provide a coherent progression of writing and spelling throughout the school.

Priority 2: Maths

This term we will start to introduce Big Maths as our main approach to maths. Big Maths should allow us to ensure that we are setting the appropriate pace and challenge for our pupils through weekly assessments that show if a pupil has understood the concept or if there are any gaps in their learning.

Priority 3: HWB

This session we will be using the CIRCLE resource to audit our environment and practice to ensure that it is inclusive. This will be introduced to staff during the upcoming in-service days.

We are still awaiting the outcome of our grant for 25 new ipads.

Other improvements/in-service days

This session we are also working on curriculum and planning. We are looking to 'bundle' the experiences and outcomes from other areas of the curriculum to ensure full coverage of the curriculum. We will bundle outcomes and teach these through IDL, think school topic. Outcomes are grouped together that work together



for specific contexts, for example, a number of social subject outcomes and expressive arts outcomes when exploring important historical figures or events. The benefits of bundling will be that if all classes in the school are learning about a similar context, ie, historical figures, however not necessarily the same historical figure, then all children are experiencing similar areas of the curriculum. This is especially helpful now we have composite classes. These bundles are progressive as they move through the school.

P7 Residential Trip

We have decided to go on a 3-night, 4-day trip to Loch Insh again this year. The cost for this is in excess of £400. We are looking to decrease the cost for families through applying for grants and fundraising. Ideally we would like to fundraise to reduce the cost of the trip by £50 for all pupils. We have some enterprise plans and the donations from the school show programme will go towards this also. We would like to do a lucky square before Christmas and have this announced at the Show. Would it be possible for the PPG to support with this lucky square and potentially other fundraising ideas.

Christmas Show

We have decided on our Christmas Show this year. This will be a whole school show where our P4-7's will audition for parts, younger pupils and pupils who are not part of the main cast will perform songs during the show. We will have one afternoon performance on Tuesday 12 Dec and two evening performances on Wed 13 and Thurs 14 Dec.

Our P7's plan to sell tea/coffee/bakes at the show to raise money for their school trip.

Panto

We had our Panto visit earlier this week and this was enjoyed by all. They have set a date to come back in Nov 2024 at a slightly increased cost of £850 to perform Aladdin.

