

ST MARY'S RCPS – STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

Successes and Achievements in Session 2019 - 2020

This session St Mary's has had a few staff changes.

STAFFING

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Mrs Laird continued in the Shared Headship of St Mary's and St Andrew's with Mrs Macaulay securing permanency as DHT. Thanks to the hard work of all the staff leading to continuing improvement and progress being made at St Andrew's, Mrs Laird was able to spend more of her time at St Mary's this session, and returned full time to St Mary's in August 2020.

NURSERY

Our Nursery hours were increased to offer 30 full time spaces in August 2019. The Nursery team expanded to include Angela Wilson and Stephanie Munro, and we had the addition of a Catering Assistant to support with the delivery of lunches. Over the course of the year we said a farewell to Sara Palmer and Gillian MacFarlane, and welcomed Tracy Long, Laura Weddell and Leona Westwood as Modern Apprentices. Laura will be staying with us in August and Gillian MacFarlane has returned to the Nursery. We also welcomed Helen Ewart and Fiona Lavery to the team in August. We were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Wendy Crawford, but wish her well as she takes up a new post at Gore Glen Nursery.

LEARNING ASSISTANTS

We wished Mrs Zena Atchison a happy and healthy retirement in October 2019. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Jenny Halliday and Mrs Amanda Grigg to the Learning Assistant team before Christmas. We also welcomed Mrs Kirsty MacArthur and Mrs Maura Fraser in January to support in P1.

VISITING SPECIALISTS

This year all classes benefitted from specialist teaching in Drama with Ms Cheryl Aird. Ms Aird has returned this session. Mrs Macaulay provided specialist Music and Art lessons throughout the year and so far has taught art in all classes since returning in August. Mr Collins will also be teaching technology in all classes.

GOODBYE OLD ST MARY'S

We had many planned endings this year for our Old St Mary's building. We enjoyed a wonderful whole school production of "Silent Night" at Christmas. Every pupil in the school was able to take part with many playing untuned percussion and others showcasing their learning in playing tuned instruments. Our final Christmas Fair was very well attended and raised nearly £2000 for the school. We were also able to support local food banks through charitable donations over the Christmas period in school. We welcomed the wider family and community of St Mary's to the school in February 2020, for an Open Day where we were able to share our many artefacts and old school photographs as well as memories, stories and a cup of tea! There were many family reunions during the day and we were delighted to be supported by local Councillors and our Provost.



Sadly for our P7 class they did not get to experience all the endings that we plan for them as a transition from Primary to Secondary School, as the schools were closed due to the Covid – 19 pandemic. We were able to mark their moving on with a special socially distanced outdoor graduation ceremony on the last day of term. This was even more emotional than normal due to the circumstances, but the heartfelt messages from staff feature in their yearbooks – created virtually but handmade by Mrs Phillips and Mrs Hogg!

The new school was due to open on 20th April 2020. Due to the Covid-19 school and construction site closures, this was not possible. The school has however been completed and we were able to move in to our new building for the start of term in August. Thankfully we were able to arrange for every pupil to visit the new school ahead of the school closures with our Nursery children giving their new setting the biggest thumbs up ever. We look forward to welcoming you in to the new building when it is safe to do so.



Over the course of Session 2019 - 2020 the school offered opportunities for our learners to develop under the four contexts of CfE, for example:

ETHOS AND WIDER LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AS A COMMUNITY and OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT

- Pupils participated in the full range of sporting events organised by the Active Schools teams and again ran a full timetable of lunchtime activity clubs to promote health and wellbeing and an active lifestyle.
- Our P6 and P7 pupils participated in a range of learning opportunities with staff at St David's High School as part of our Transition planning.
- Our Nursery pupils were able to broaden their learning in the Community with learning walks, visits to shops and Post Office Sorting Office, and regular trips to Lasswade Library.
- Our P6 and P7 pupils have enjoyed buddy opportunities with P1 and P2 throughout the year .

DISCRETE CURRICULUM AREAS and INTER DISCIPLINARY LEARNING

- All learners have experienced a wide and varied curriculum mapped to progressive and coherent planning frameworks.
- All learners have been encouraged to make connections across curriculum areas by working on interdisciplinary projects in class and at home
- All learners have been able to share their learning with parents and peers by participating in Showcasing the Learning events
- Senior pupils have participated in transition events at St David's High School developing their understanding of learning in Science, French and English
- All learners in P1 –P7 were given the opportunity to access their GLOW accounts during the school year and were able to put this learning to good use during the school closures where learning continued via Google Classroom.



OUR PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT 2020-2021

PRIORITY	WHAT WILL WE DO
PRIORITY 1 – Improve attainment in Literacy and Numeracy	<p>Identify learning gaps for all pupils following lockdown.</p> <p>Use PEF funding to provide additional teaching hours to prioritise groups for SFL and reduce poverty related gap</p>
PRIORITY 2 – Improve children’s Health and Well Being	<p>Staff training in Healthy Respect and Emotion Works</p> <p>Introduce Emotion Works throughout the school to develop consistent approach to teaching emotional literacy</p> <p>Implement the Recovery Curriculum for all learners following lockdown</p> <p>Development of Outdoor Learning Opportunities</p> <p>Work with colleagues across the Learning Community to implement updated RERC lessons</p>
PRIORITY 3 – Improve Digital Learning	<p>Continue work from school closure in all classes accessing Google classroom via GLOW</p> <p>Introduce SEESAW in Nursery, P1 and P2</p> <p>Staff training in digital learning to widen opportunities for learners</p> <p>Develop STEM teaching in technology</p>

