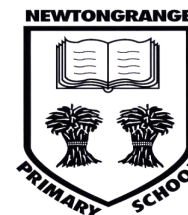




Newtongrange Primary School Improvement Plan 2022-23



This newsletter is an opportunity to update our Newtongrange Community with the progress we have made this year on our School Improvement Plan so far. All staff are in groups and contribute to the work across the school. As always, we appreciate your support, contributions and feedback.

Health and Wellbeing

We have completed Wellbeing Questionnaires with our learners which has identified areas of support, alongside key themes to promote within the classroom. Following on from this, we are going to create a shared vision of what nurtured looks like at our school. In time, we will create a vision for each of the wellbeing indicators to support with our understanding of what they mean to us.

We are revisiting our Zones of Regulation and each class is creating a toolkit of strategies to support self-regulation and help to manage emotions.

We are exploring our third unit for Building Resilience, 'Respect Yourself', where learners will soon be able to share their learning at our assemblies on 17th March.

They have been thinking about their strengths of character alongside their achievements.

Seasons for Growth sessions have started in which members of our staff team have been trained as companions to deliver this programme of work to help our pupils cope with loss, change and grief.

We are busy working on the journey towards our Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award and our Rights Decision Making groups have created a Whole School Class Charter which is displayed at the front of our school. Every class has also created their own charter of rights which is displayed within their classrooms.

Raising Attainment—Numeracy

As a school, we have been looking at introducing a new planning format and assessments for numeracy. These have been created by the Numeracy Recovery team and will be consistent across Midlothian Council. Our learners have been introduced to the 'Diagnostic Numeracy Assessments' (DNAs), which focus on strategies learners have been using to solve problems. These will be used, as well as a range of evidence, in upcoming moderation sessions.

We have ordered new resources that will be introduced to classes soon. These are open ended resources such as Numicon, spinners, dice etc that will be used to support numeracy learning through play.

Raising Attainment—Literacy

The Literacy groups support with Book Week Scotland back in November where we had a week of activities that we linked in with Anti Bullying Week too. We supported the sharing of the Book Bug Bags where we enjoyed a successful open morning with an amazing turn of families from P1-3. In order to further support writing we have built on the year plan of key writing genres for Talk for Writing to include Non Fiction focuses too.

Teaching staff undertook training to introduce the new writing planners which have been rolled out across Midlothian. These support with the planning, teaching and assessment of writing.

We are working closely with our ASG Principal Teacher to focus on supporting P7 with writing to enhance our transitions and support raising attainment.

We have bought in new Reading books to support with exposure to different texts and to update our resources.

We have consulted our staff on the teaching of Reading Comprehension Skills across the levels. The authority are in the process of creating planners to support the planning, teaching and assessment of Reading; focusing on key skills that will be consistent across the authority.

Digital Learning

As a school we have been working on our confidence and developing our skills within our digital learning. At the start of the year some of our staff completed Confident in Digital Learning questionnaires for us to identify key gaps in our own knowledge. We have then created an action plan targeting these gaps.

Working closely alongside our digital technologist, we have been promoting the use of the tool "Read&Write". Every chromebook has this extension and it can support learning in a range of different ways.

As a group we have looked at the promotion of Seesaw, upskilling staff members and pupils on how to use the different tools and encouraging the use of Seesaw within the school to communicate home to families, celebrating learning and achievement.