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Friday 6th May 2022

Dear Families

School Improvement Update

Last term, we worked as a whole school community to create a rationale for our curriculum. This is a working document which makes it clear what we are aiming to achieve in our school and how we aim to do this.

Our curriculum rationale can be found here: [Curriculum Rationale | Laurencekirk Primary School](#)

In order to create this, we asked our families, staff, children and partners their aspirations for our school curriculum and I thank the many of you who took part in this survey.

Our teaching staff spent significant time on our Inservice days having high quality discussions linked to planning our curriculum and this document will guide the work we do in school.

Assemblies

We are delighted to relaunch 'in person' assemblies this week. It has been more than 2 years since our learners have gathered in this way and for our youngest pupils, they have never experienced this before. We hosted assemblies in two groups with Primary 1-4 in one session and Primary 5-7 in another. It was lovely to gather in this way again and to create a sense of community and togetherness. The children were AMAZING!

This week we have re-engaged with SHANARRI. SHANARRI is our calamari, kindly crafted by one of our crochet loving mums. SHANARRI has a serious message. He helps us to learn and remember the wellbeing indicators. I have included these below. We want our children to understand what they need in order to achieve high levels of wellbeing and SHANARRI is going to help us to do this!

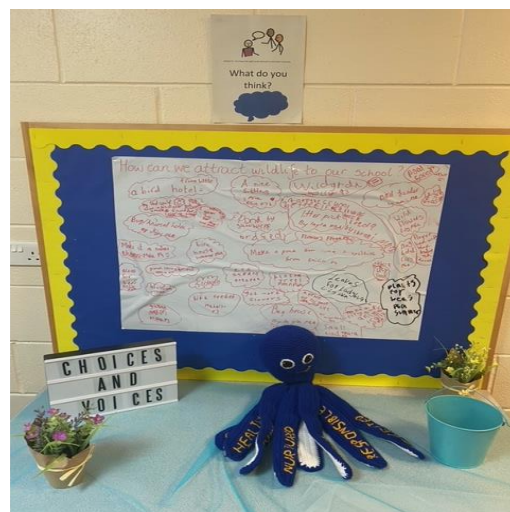
S-safe
H-healthy
A-active
N-nurtured
A-achieving
R-respected
R-responsible
I-included



Wildlife Garden

Research shows that spending time in nature is proven to be good for our mental health. Watching wildlife can lift our mood and alleviate stress. With this in mind, we would like to create a space in our grounds which will attract wildlife such as birds and beasts and even frogs. This will be a lovely space for our children to come and be close to nature. This week our children are sharing their ideas for how to do this on our Choices and Voices board. I have included a photo of this board below.

Our Wildlife Garden will be created in this unused space at the back of the school. We are in the earliest of stages with the planning of this and do hope that we may be able to tap in to some of your expertise. I would like to thank Northsound Cash for Kids who have donated some money to our school to deliver this wellbeing project.



Potted Sports Event

We do hope that you will be able to join us for our Potted Sports Event on May 18th on our school field. Our Primary 5-7 pupils will take part in the morning from 10.30 hours and our Primary 1-4 pupils will take part from 13.45 hours. Some of our children have planned and designed this event and we are also grateful to Mearns Academy who are sending us some willing helpers on the day. Each class will do some racing type events during their gym time.

Voices and Choices

This week we launched a Choices and Voices board in the foyer. I hope this will be a novel way to gather opinions and ideas from our children on some aspects of school life. You can see how full this week's board is after only one hour! It is great that our children want to shape change.

Parents Consultations

Slots are currently open and available to book via Parentsportal and we look forward to meeting you all digitally on the 7th or 8th of June

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Jill Smith
Head Teacher