Head Teacher's report: AGM 8th October 2020

1. Staffing

Teachers and PSA staff

I am happy to report that the school is now fully staffed in terms of teachers and PSAs. At the start of the term we lost Mrs Rehda (4 days) and Mrs Wilson (3 days) and Mr Allan (3 days) leave us on October 9th. Last session we had not been able to replace Mrs Sinclair and ran with a vacancy for a significant part of the year. Recent recruitment drives have been highly successful, and we have been able to recruit 2 full time and 1 part time member of staff. New appointments are as follows:

Scott Neish joins us as a DHT on a 12 month secondment from Strathburn School. Scott's remit is to improve partnership working with cluster schools and outreach provision.

Katie Kane joins us in Room 10. Katie is currently working at Orchardbrae School

Emma Hewlett joins us in Room 12. Emma has relocated from England and brings with her a wealth of experience working with both mainstream and ASN pupils.

Laura Alexander joined us in August in Room 7 on a part time basis (2 days). Laura was then successful in an additional advertisement and now has her time increased to 4 days. This will be 2 days in Room 7 and potentially 2 days in Room 15 to allow Mrs Plavecz from Room 15 to deliver rebound therapy and swimming.

Kirsty Walterson has joined us as an EYP in Room 4. Kirsty previously held an EYP position at Flowerpots nursery in Newmachar.

We have been ably assisted this term by new supply teachers Carrie Mackintosh and Megan Hopper who have both been very positive forces.

We have been awarded 0.5 FTE (2 ½ days) to fund an additional teacher. This is with a specific remit to outreach provision to aid the Coronavirus recovery.

Escorts

The situation with escorts is unfortunately not as good. Very sadly one of our longest serving escorts Katrina Cameron passed away suddenly this term. She had worked at St Andrew's School for over ten years on a variety of runs. Another of our escorts was unable to return to work as she also worked as a PSA elsewhere meaning there were too many pupil contacts each day for her to continue to work. Two escorts have decided to reduce their hours. There are additional runs which exacerbates the situation. There are currently two positions open.

School structure and new pupils

One pupil joined us in P1 this year and moved into Mrs Christie/Mrs Hay's classroom. One P3 pupil joined Room 10 and one P5 pupil joined Room 5. The school Roll currently sits at 71 pupils over 12 classes. Six pupils will leave us at the end of this session meaning that we will be able to form a P1/P2 class for entrants currently in other nursery settings in session 2021/2022.

School Improvement Plan and standards and quality report

The SQUIP can be found on the school website the priorities this year are: Data awareness, learning and teaching in the new build, practitioner enquiry, wellbeing, equity and inclusion and Partnerships.