HARPUR’S HILL

PRIMARY SCHOOL

**tHE ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

***2022-2023***



**ANNUAL REPORT**

**HARPUR’S HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Ballycastle Road, Coleraine, BT52 2ER

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Annual Report of the Board of Governors of the above school for the school

year 2022/2023. Membership of the Board of Governors is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chairperson | Mrs N. Carruthers |
| E.A. Representatives | Mrs. C. Bones  Miss P. Mark |
| Parental Representatives | Mr. T. McCrudden  Mrs. W. Hamilton |
| Transferor Representatives | Miss. A. Cameron  Mrs A. McAlary (Vice- Chairperson) |
| Teachers’ Representative | Mrs B Coates |
| Non-Voting Member | Mr D. Radcliffe (Secretary  to the Board of Governors) |

Membership of the Board of Governors normally runs for four years but due to Covid the term for this session is six years (2018-2024).

The Governors have particular responsibilities with regard to the curriculum, the appointment and dismissal of all staff, enrolment of pupils, discipline, school finance and buildings. In addition to this, the Board of Governors have the important function of considering the needs of the school and ensuring that available resources are being effectively used.

The Board of Governors met on four occasions during the year in order to discharge their responsibilities.

**HARPUR’S HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Teaching Staff (2022-23)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Principal | Mr. D. Radcliffe |
| Vice Principal | Mrs B. Coates |
| Nursery Teacher | Mrs K. Houmann-Green |
| Primary One | Mrs C. Smith & Mrs E Anderson |
| Primary Two | Miss L. McLaughlin |
| Primary Three | Mrs B. Coates |
| Primary Four | Mrs J. Scott & Miss M Quinn |
| Primary Five | Mrs C. McVicker |
| Primary Six | Mrs K. Porter & Miss M Quinn |
| Primary Seven | Mrs C. Crooks |
| Key Stage 1 Learning Support Centre | Mrs C. Kernohan |
| Key Stage 2 Learning Support Centre | Mrs J. Megaw |
| Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator | Miss E. McCaw |
| Nurture Room Teacher | Miss A. Workman |

**Non-Teaching Staff**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Building Supervisor (School) | Mr D. Toner |
| Building Supervisor (Nursery) | Mr. J. McMahon |
| Computer Technician | Mr J. Blair |
| Secretary | Miss R. McIlroy |
| P1 Classroom Assistant  P1 SEN Classroom Assistant  P1 SEN Classroom Assistant | Miss L. Bones  Miss S. McCreadie  Mrs W. Hamilton |
| P2 Classroom Assistant  P2 SEN Classroom Assistant | Mrs R. Edgar  Miss R. Wallace |
| P3 Classroom Assistant  P3 SEN Classroom Assistant | Mrs J. Meldrum  Mrs S Murphy |
| P4 Classroom Assistant  P4 SEN Classroom Assistant | Mrs R. Wilson-Rummy  Mrs C. Calvin |
| P5 SEN Classroom Assistant | Mrs H. McCaw |
| P6 Classroom Assistant | Mrs K. McVicker |
| P7 Classroom Assistant  P7 SEN Classroom Assistant | Mr J. Moffett  Miss K. Smallwoods |
| KS1 LSC Classroom Assistant  KS1 SEN Classroom Assistant  KS1 SEN Classroom Assistant | Mrs D. Hutchinson  Miss C. Arnold  Miss J. Campbell |
| KS2 LSC Classroom Assistant | Mrs A. Robinson |
| Nurture Classroom Assistant | Mrs D. Allen |
| Nursery Classroom Assistant  SEN Classroom Assistant  SEN Classroom Assistant  SEN Classroom Assistant | Mrs L. Gibson  Mrs A Bell  Mrs D. Doherty  Mrs V. Levy |
| Cleaner | Mrs T. Young |
| Cleaner | Mrs L. Connor |
| Senior Supervisory Assistant | Miss S. McCreadie |
| Supervisory Assistant | Mrs K. McVicker |
| School Crossing Patrolman | Mr A. Dickson |
| School Cook | Mrs H. McCarron |

**ENROLMENT**

The enrolment for the school for statistical and financial purposes is taken at the end of October each year and the enrolment on the 7th October 2022 was 247, with a 92.5% attendance figure over the 2022/2023 year. This is an increase of 2.5% from the previous year. The school enrolment number is set at 224 pupils with the admissions number set at 30 pupils for the year 2022/2023 and the nursery admissions number set at 26 pupils with two additional places reserved for children with statements. We enrolled 30 children into our Primary 1 class and 5 Primary 1 children into our Key Stage 1 Learning Support Centre. We also enrolled 26 children plus one SEN child into the nursery unit.

**REVIEW OF THE SCHOOL YEAR 2022/2023**

The following is an extract from the principal’s remarks taken from the End of Year Senior Prize Day, when the school celebrated another year of successes and achievements.

*‘At Harpur’s Hill we continually strive for academic success, but above all else we believe the education of the whole child is paramount. This year the children have excelled in so many areas.*

*At the Portstewart Festival our Speech Choir won their section for coral speaking and not to be outdone our Singing Choir also won their section at the festival along with the overall cup for the best singing performance at the festival. This is a great achievement and I congratulate, Miss Workman, Mrs Haslett and Mrs Porter for their expert guidance in training and supporting the children.*

*This year the children have once again excelled on the sports field.*

* *The boys qualified for the NI Hockey Finals at Stormont, where they reached the quarter finals of the tournament for the third time in our school’s history and thanks should go to Miss Quinn for coaching both the boys’ and girls’ hockey teams this year.*
* *In football we once again created history. Our Primary 4/5 team won all their group games at the district football tournament without dropping a point and narrowly lost out in the quarter finals by 1 goal. A great achievement. The senior boys’ won the district indoor 5 aside Futsal tournament, they came second in the 7 aside Killowen Cup and for the fourth time in our school’s history, they won the Doherty Cup in front of a record crowd of over 1300 spectators. Our thanks go to Jordan Moffett who coached all the football teams this year.*

*Our pupils also won many cups and medals in the community, playing for local teams and representing various clubs through football, dance, ju-jitsu etc. As a school family we share and celebrate all these individual and team achievements. The most impressive however, was probably Darci Mulholland and Poppi Anderson who came 5th in the world dance championships, held in Spain.*

*Two past pupils have also excelled with Alfie Gaston playing for Coleraine FC 1st team at 15years of age and Eva Gaston captaining the Irish U18 hockey team; two great achievements and something our pupils can aspire to, with the right attitude and determination.*

*We had a great day celebrating the Kings Coronation and Bryton Campbell from Primary 4, made it onto the front page on the Belfast Telegraph and Newsletter alongside our new King, King Charles III. We just hope the fame doesn’t go to his head!*

*We also achieved the prestigious ECO School Green Flag Award for looking after our environment and promoting active travel to and from school. The whole school were involved in this initiative, but special mention must go to Miss Quinn and Miss Workman for coordinating this initiative and the ECO council for promoting and overseeing the project.*

*I believe we have a great staff in this school, who all go the extra mile to make sure all the children get the best possible education. Their many talents and commitment to the school, continue to impress me on a daily basis. All teaching staff, if following Union action did not need to undertake afterschool activities and so to you the staff of the school, I thank you for putting the children first and I know the children, parents and myself really appreciated your support this year.*

*On a sadder note, we will be losing Mrs McLaughlin, our LSC1 job-share teacher who has decided to change career path and get a job that enables her to spend more time with her children. We wish her well and congratulate Mrs Kernohan, who will now be our full-time LSC1 teacher.*

*We are also losing Mrs Gibson who has been our Nursery Assistant for over 20 years. We thank her for the love, kindness and support she has given so many young children, as they started out on their educational journey in the nursey. We wish her well in her retirement and congratulate Mrs Bell on being promoted to the new Nursery Assistant post.*

*On a happier note, we congratulate Mrs Smith and Mrs Crooks who gave birth to two lovely girls: Hannah and Ophelia. Our thanks go to Mrs Anderson for coving Primary 1 at the beginning of the year and to Miss McCormick for covering Primary 7 since Christmas.*

*To you the parents, I thank you for your continued loyalty and support in working with us to provide your children with the best possible start on their educational journey. Whether this be helping us on school trips, supporting your child with their homework, supporting our fundraising exploits, or just simply getting your child to school on time, in full school uniform. Your contribution to the whole school life is vital and I thank you. I am also humbled by your generosity this year as you helped us raise £4000 at our school fete and £4700 for our sponsored walk, in aid for Cancer Research. For those parents who support us at our Friends of Harpur’s Hill Primary School meetings, I thank you for your ideas and your support.*

*I would also like to thank the Vineyard and the CGCA for their support throughout the year in providing us with free BBQ’s and ice-cream. The partnership that we have with these organisations are really beneficial and greatly appreciated.*

*The successes I have described today reflect our school motto – ‘Achieving Success Through Respect and Encouragement’ and this success has been achieved through the genuine commitment of a great number of people and most importantly the children in this school.’*

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**FINANCE**

As the Education Authority regard the school as a large institution, the funding provided by this body is on a fully delegated basis. Using a formula primarily based on the number of children on school rolls at the end of October each year, the Education Authority arrives at a budgetary figure. Using this guide in 2022/2023 the Education Authority allocated us our budget and the school used this as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***HARPUR’S HILL P.S. INCOME/EXPENDITURE 2022/23*** | |
| **Income** |  |
| Initial Budget | £947,585 |
| Nurture | £70,000 |
| SEN | £18,406 |
| Extended Schools | £21,197 |
| Shared Education | £5,435 |
| Healthy Happy Minds | £4,189 |
| Engage Funding | £43,398 |
| Surplus /(Deficit)21/22 | £124,500 |
| **Total Budget** | **£1,234,710** |
|  |  |
| **Expenditure** |  |
| Teaching staff | £725,829 |
| Non-Teaching staff | £277,549 |
| Non staff costs | £182,894 |
| **Net Expenditure** | **£1,186,272** |
|  |  |
| **Surplus /(Deficit) 22/23** | **£48,438** |
|  |  |

The school also received extra funding:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CECP Funding | £1,400 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| HARPUR’S HILL PRIMARY SCHOOLCURRENT ACCOUNT 2022/2023 | | | |
| BALANCE | **£12,519** | EXPENDITURE | **£27,935** |
| INCOME | **£29,677** | BALANCE | **£14,261** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CUILRATH CORNER NURSERY SCHOOLCURRENT ACCOUNT 2022/2023 | | | |
| BALANCE | **£532** | EXPENDITURE | **£1,479** |
| INCOME | **£3,291** | BALANCE | **£2,344** |

**CLASS REPORTS**

**LSC1**

This year we started with 11 children in LSC1, which was made up of 5 girls and 6 boys from P1 to P4. When one girl left to move to Sandelford (SLD) and another to mainstream P1, we welcomed another two P3 girls before Christmas and one P1 child just before Easter, which brought our class numbers to 12. This year one little girl had Severe Learning Difficulties, ASD and Non-verbal so we were given 1:1 support for her. This brought our staff ratio to one Teacher and three Assistants. Once our new P1 child arrived, we were allocated 1:1 support, due to her potential social, emotional, and behavioural needs.

The topics covered in LSC1 were – All About me, Pets, Nursery Rhymes and Under the Sea.

We enjoyed many activities between September and December, learning about ourselves, height, hair colour, families, and favourite things to do. We enjoyed our Pet Topic, and we now have two fish which we named Bubbles and Nemo. Our favourite topic this year was Under the Sea. We created some lovely artwork for our topics and the children loved helping to create our wall displays.

In the summer term we continued to achieve our ‘Mile a day’ when the weather allowed. We planted bulbs and seeds in the Springtime and enjoyed our class trip to Rosepark Farm thanks to Mr and Mrs Bailey (Martha’s parents) who covered the cost. The children all had a wonderful day, which included a petting farm, a zip line and bouncy castles, alongside a picnic lunch.

LSC1 had a very busy but enjoyable year. We were delighted to join in with Celebration Assembly and Sports day and we enjoyed end of term treats with lots of fun activities; including a treat to Cheeky Chimps. We are all looking forward to our summer holidays but are very much excited about our next school year. Five children will leave LSC1 this year, 1 child transferring to Rossmar Special School, 3 children moving on to LSC2 and one child moving to mainstream P2.

**Primary 1**

P1 settled into school life fantastically, showing a wonderful curiosity for learning and positive attitude towards the curriculum. There was lots of fun to be had in literacy and numeracy, as it is mainly practical and play-based. The children really enjoyed learning and coped well with more challenge. We learnt all our initial sounds in literacy and can use these to spell and read words. We have also been writing sentences using finger spaces and a full stop with increasing accuracy. In numeracy, we have learned our numbers to ten and have even worked on our numbers to 20. We have also explored addition and subtraction and how to work out simple sums in our head.

For WAU in Primary 1, we looked at a wide range of topics including: people who help us, fairy tales, dinosaurs and the farm. We explored these through indoor and outdoor play, always building our creativity and problem-solving skills. Through our Shared Education programme we had a fantastic end of year trip with our friends from St. Malachy’s to Portrush park and the beach.

**Primary 2**

Primary 2 had a fantastic year in school. Miss McLaughlin was ably assisted by Rosemary and Ruth (1-1). In the World Around Us, we learned all about ‘Our body’, ‘Icy Lands’, ‘The Jungle’, ‘Food’ and in the final term we explored ‘Life under the Sea’ and ‘Pirates’ which provided lots of indoor and outdoor play opportunities.

Every month the children took part in Shared Education visits with their friends from St Malachy’s Primary School, learning and playing together. In September we got to visit Cheeky Chimps, and in the final term, Flowerfields Park. We are going to love the challenge that P3 offers next year and how much more we can learn!

**Primary 3**

Primary 3 have had a great year. Children have developed academically and have matured well into life in Key Stage 1. We have learned all about our school in our topic ‘School is Cool’. The children loved learning about the planets through practical activities and songs during our topic ‘My Place in Space’. We worked in groups to design and build rockets from junk material and created some very impressive space craft. Our story writing was imaginative and exciting when we looked at several stories using the new Pie Corbett Writing technique. We explored our local area, learning about ‘Houses and Homes’.

Using ICT was a big hit, especially using Mathletics to reinforce our Numeracy. After an exciting trip to Dunluce Castle with our friends from St Malachy’s, we were able to better understand our topic ‘Castles’. We finished a brilliant year spending a lot of time learning outdoors as part of our ‘Mini-beasts’ topic, enjoying a minibeast hunt in our school gardens. To mark a great year of fun and learning we ended the term with an exciting train journey to Portrush and Wacky Workshop. The children excelled with their fantastic behaviour, making all the adults in P3 very proud!

**Primary 4**

Primary 4 had a fabulous, full filled year. Primary 4 is a year of huge changes for the pupils in Harpur’s Hill, and is a year with many ‘firsts’: the first year of staying late in school every day, the first year of engaging in Accelerated Reading, the first opportunity to participate in the school council elections, the first opportunity to represent the school in P4/5 football tournaments and the first opportunity to take part in Senior Sports Day events.

In the World Around Us we have enjoyed learning about ‘Bugs, Birds & Beast’, ‘Celebrations’, ‘Weather’, ‘Once Upon a Time’ and ‘The Giant’s Causeway & N. Ireland’. Our class have really benefited and enjoyed taking learning outside. We have had opportunities to learn outdoors in literacy, numeracy, World Around Us, P.E, P.D.M.U, science, art and R.E. Learning is really brought to life through these opportunities and enjoyed by both staff and pupils.

Throughout the year we made visits to Coleraine Library, these experiences proved valuable in developing the classes great love for reading.

We ended our school year with a fabulous trip. After studying The Giant’s Causeway and N. Ireland we visited The Giant’s Causeway. This trip provided an opportunity for the children to experience first had what we had been learning in school about ‘The Giant’s Causeway’. It was a fun filled day of learning and it was wonderful to be able to participate in trips again.

**Primary 5**

This was another great year for Primary 5, where we were able to fully immerse ourselves into normal school days, jam packed with learning opportunities. This year, our thirty pupils really enjoyed learning outdoors and took advantage of our fantastic school grounds to enhance learning in Numeracy, Literacy and World Around Us.

In World Around Us, we enjoyed learning about Nocturnal Animals, Early Man, The Egyptians and Titanic and our children were proud to show off their fabulous ship building skills with a display of beautifully crafted Titanic ships created at home, as a homework challenge.

Once again, we welcomed our local firefighters, who taught us about Fire Safety and discovered more about looking after dogs and being safe in their company from Dogs Trust. Primary Five were also so enthusiastic to be able to start swimming lessons on a Wednesday afternoon.

As in previous years, we put an extra emphasis on independent reading and encouraging children to stretch themselves with longer books and novels. Primary five excelled in the Accelerated Reading programme, achieving two Word Millionaires.

For an end of year treat, we travelled by train and spent a day at the beach in Portrush. We enjoyed a chip shop lunch from Mr Chips and a 99 from the ice-cream van. It was a fun filled, soggy day, full of sunshine and showers, that gave us lots of great memories.

**Primary 6**

In term one P6 had the opportunity to take part in the Uberheroes programme which helped them understand our mental health. The children learned many strategies to use when they felt stressed throughout the year. One of the other highlights in term 1 was a request from the UUC psychology department to be part of the Marvellous Mind project. This project went a step further and showed the children via practical activities, how the brain and body work and are affected when stressed. The project was very science based and the children loved it.

The children have tried really hard to develop their Literacy and Numeracy skills. We took opportunities to use the school grounds for outdoor learning, to help develop these skills further. We focused on our reading this year and are particularly proud of Nahy Lee who achieved her Word Millionaire certificate.

In the World Around Us, we have enjoyed learning about the topics ‘The Blue Planet,’ ‘Space’, ‘Rainforests’, ‘Inventions’. Primary 6 were invited to participate in The Big Tree Plant’ Garden Project with the ‘Live here, Love here’ team. They planted an orchard at the front of the school grounds which will be a lifelong legacy for the school.

A group of 9 children from P6 successfully completed their cycling proficiency training in term one. A big thankyou to the team from Sustrans for delivering this.

A shared education programme with St. Malachy’s had us thinking about friendships. We took pictures using cameras that were then used to create a huge mural which is proudly placed on our playground wall.

Our class trip was a visit to the Coastal Zone in Portrush with a picnic at the new playground at Landsdowne Crescent. This consolidated our WAU topic and contributed to the Eco application later in the year. Primary 6 also worked hard to keep our school grounds litter free this year. A special mention to Nahy and Jaxon who led the way as members of the Eco committee.

**Primary 7**

Primary 7 have had an eventful year. They started the year with me, Mrs Crooks, and completed the rest of the year with Miss McCormick taking over as their new teacher in November. This was due to the commencement of my maternity leave. We started the new year with lots of ‘Getting to Know Us’ discussions so that the pupils and I could establish new relationships ensuring the children felt secure with me as their new teacher and preparing them for Miss McCormick taking over. Having whole class discussions was something we embedded in our daily routine and we practiced whole class ‘Mindfulness Sessions’ regularly.

We promoted a ‘Reading Rich’ classroom and children were encouraged to read varied books. We were particularly proud of our Word Millionaires. Pupils showed a real commitment to their reading which must also be commended. They enjoyed exploring genres, discussing similarities and comparisons during whole class reading sessions.

In class, we covered Topics such as ‘The Victorians’, ‘Titanic’, ‘Emotive Poetry’ and ‘Extreme Weather’ and ‘Ancient Greece’, as well preparing for our end of year celebrations and annual residential trip to Woodhall. The children really inspired us with how well they coped with their new environment at Woodhall, how diligently they listened to residential and school staff instruction. As their teacher, I could not have been prouder of how eagerly they engaged with activities and how many of our pupils overcame personal challenges and fears to become more resilient, holistic pupils.

Primary 7 engaged with various programmes designed to help promote their social, emotional and physical development and wellbeing, in order to equip them with the tools to transition to the next part of their educational journey at secondary school. We took part ‘Healthy kids’, ‘Uber Heroes’ and ‘It’s Your Move’ transition programmes, all of which the children were eager to take part in and found them meaningful and of benefit to them.

Primary 7 benefitted from lots of outdoor learning, whether it was timetable relay races, co-ordinates using a grid on the grass, creating topic-based Art or going outside to write poems based on their senses and how the environment made them feel. The children relished these learning opportunities and were always keen for lessons outside where they behaved very well.

A highlight for the children each week has been Physical Education. Each week the children looked forward to opportunities where they could work together in teams, but also enjoyed showcasing their individual sporting talents with great enthusiasm and delight. Physical Education had an inclusive ethos and all children’s efforts and abilities were celebrated. Even those that found Physical Education a struggle, found themselves in roles that suited them best and enabled them to participate as ‘coach, referee, or provider of group feedback’. The children excelled in competitions outside of school, represented their peers with pride and sportsmanship.

Although I was not with them the whole year, I feel that we made a year of memories. Primary 7 created a safe space where differences were accepted and pupils felt able to express themselves in various ways. Some chose to write, some sang and some created wonderful pieces of art. I watched them grow into wonderful young pupils that cared about themselves, others and began to appreciate the world around them more. We had a wonderful year together and I thoroughly enjoyed being their teacher. They have made me very proud!

**LSC2**

This year in the Key Stage 2 Learning Support Centre we covered Year 6 World Around Us topics. Learning about the Solar System was our favourite topic this year. We were able to go swimming and horse riding all year. We integrated with our mainstream classes for some wonderful events, such as dressing up to celebrate the King’s Coronation, our sponsored charity walk, with the added treat of an ice-cream and Prize Day.

Primary 7 had a fabulous time at Woodhall and ‘We are Vertigo’. To finish off the year Primary 7 had a brilliant Leaver’s party to end their time in primary school. For our end of year class trip, we went to Cheeky Chimps as a thank you parting gift from Mrs Alcock.

**NURTURE REPORT**

Miss Workman and Mrs Allen attended Nurture Group Cluster meetings throughout the year via zoom, visiting another school, and hosting a session in Harpur’s Hill. We also attended training on ‘Nurture ABC with Lego’, and ‘Bereavement and Loss’ organised by the Education Authority. Another member of staff embarked on ‘The Theory and Practice of Nurture Groups’ training programme.

Mrs Brenda Shields, from the EA Nurture group, frequently visited our room this year. She did a Nurture overview session with all our staff, conducted a ‘Connect and Nurture’ session with our wee group, ‘Nurture in 5’ with other classes, and a relaxation session with our children’s parents.

Our SENCO, Principal, Vice-Principal, P1, P2 and P3 mainstream teachers, attended steering group meetings with us, as we discussed the future of the children in our Nurture Room and possible new children.

During the year our wee group visited Somerset Forest, Costa Coffee, Somerset Riverside Park leading to the Christie Park (along the river), Coleraine’s ‘down town’ shopping area, and Cheeky Chimps indoor playground.

Mrs Allen and I also participated in P2 and P3 Shared Education activities with St. Malachy’s Primary School. We held our Nurture Group parent ‘Stay and Play’ afternoons half-termly. At least sixty P4 - P7 children received short afternoon Nurture sessions, fortnightly.

Each teacher had the opportunity to reward children who tried hard in class, and showed beautiful manners, etc. and these kids came to our Sunshine Room for “Shine Time”.

Mrs Allen and myself had the joy of handing out treats to all staff throughout the year; simply to remind everyone that we are all in this together. We hosted afternoon teas during staff training, and staff breakfasts. We also helped in the distribution of the Fareshare deliveries every Tuesday.

Mr Radcliffe, Mrs Allen and I attended a webinar on the Marjorie Boxall Quality Mark award, which we are working towards and the three of us led our annual Nurture session with PGCE students from Coleraine University.

Mrs Alen and I both very much appreciate working in a Nurturing School, and the privilege and challenge of working in our Sunshine Room. We endeavour to continue the work of ‘Nurture’ in Harpur’s Hill, encouraging a whole-school approach as always.

### NURSERY REPORT - Learning Through Play in a Happy Kind Way.

### Nursery had another large class this year of twenty-seven children. One child had SEN statements prior to registration and assistant support was allocated. During the nursery year an additional two children were assessed for SEN and support was allocated for part of the year for these children. A large number of children in this year group presented with significant delays in speech and language and were supported in small group sessions using the Wellcom language scheme.

### SEN Support Comprised of Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Valerie Levy and Mrs. Denise Doherty. During the year Mrs. Houmann-Green and Mrs. Bell were absent due to bereavement. In June we wished Mrs. Loraine Gibson a happy and healthy retirement and welcomed Mrs. Andrea Bell as our new permanent assistant.

### SEN ANNUAL REPORT (Mainstream)

### From results analysis and through teacher judgement, the low achieving children were identified as needing additional Literacy and Numeracy support. The school SENCo (Miss McCaw) worked full-time supporting these children from P2-P7. It was clear that of the selected children, most also required additional support, to help develop their confidence and self-esteem in school. From this support the children are making progress really well at their own individual levels. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the small group work and were keen to participate in the planned activities.

The SENCo has also had numerous responsibilities to complete; including strategic and operational SEN tasks throughout the year. A crucial task was prioritising children to be assessed by our Educational Psychologist and holding Annual Reviews for those children with statements of SEN. The SENCo also amended and kept up-to-date the SIMS system throughout the year and evaluated and created new Personal Learning Plans using this system. Time was given this year for the SENCo to support Nursery staff and LSC staff with the new digital PLPs and various other documentation required by the board, including numerous referral forms.

The SENCo spent a lot of time liaising with various outside agencies and most importantly parents throughout the year, this was to ensure that vital communications were kept in the best interests of our SEN children.

**AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

After school activities can be a huge benefit for children. The activities allow them to develop socially, physically and creatively while also teaching them new skills and learning habits that they can apply in school. Even though teachers being encouraged to follow Industrial Action, we were able to offer an array of activities to the children throughout the year. These included:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Drama | Football | Film Club | Film Club | Gardening Club |
| Tennis | Hockey | Art Club | Steel Band | Spanish Club |
| Rounders | Senior Choir | Maths Club | All Stars | Cheerleading |
| Cricket | Girls Football | Scooter Training | Multi-Sports | Netball |
| Needlework | Craft Club | Table Tennis | Athletics | Infant Choir |

**EXTENDED SCHOOLS**

During the year the school received a grant of £22,197 to implement an extended school’s programme, to meet the needs of both the children and the wider community. Following a survey of the main stakeholders, we held a variety of clubs. These included a Library Club, 2 Home-Link Workers, Breakfast Club and a Homework/Activity Club for all the children in the school. All of these activities were well supported and with appropriate funding will continue again next year. We were also able to support our teachers/parents Homelink by purchasing resources such as Mathletics, AR and Twinkle that parents and children can access at home.

BREAKFAST CLUB

The Breakfast Club continues to be well supported with around 30 children from nursery age to Primary 7, availing of this service on a regular basis. This facility offers the children a healthy breakfast and provides them with the opportunity to play games and take part in fun activities, supervised by qualified staff. The parents have also found this to be very beneficial, as this enables them to fulfil work commitments.

**HOMEWORK/ACTIVITY CLUB**

Every afternoon, approximately forty children from Foundation Stage to KS2, benefited from the additional educational support. During the first half hour of this provision, the children were supervised and assisted with their homework and the remaining part of the session focused on taking part in a variety of fun, planned activities; including art & crafts, cookery and indoor/outdoor play. We also targeted children who we felt would benefit from extra support with their Numeracy and Literacy and this was very beneficial. Some parents who also had difficulty getting their child to do their homework at home, found Homework Club a lifesaver as the children could do most of it in school.

**LIBRARY**

We place a great emphasis on encouraging children to use our library. In school we have over three and a half thousand books already on our library shelves, for the children to choose from. The Accelerated Reading system is very popular and is an excellent resource which improves reading ability. Children in classes compete to see who can read the greatest number of books or the most words during a specified period.

**FILM CLUB**

Each Tuesday afternoon, children from P4 to P7 enjoyed watching various films through our partnership with INTO film. All films screened were age appropriate and provided thought-provoking discussions. This enabled the children to develop Literacy skills through discussing the main story/plot and their favourite characters. On special occasions we all enjoyed treats such as ice cream and popcorn.

**STEEL BAND**

This year children from P5 and P6 auditioned and were selected to join the Steel Band. This was very exciting as we haven’t had children playing for two years due to Covid. Miss McLaughlin and Miss McCaw began training new children from scratch and are delighted that all band members learned the songs very quickly. They have been practising every break time and once a week with both teachers. Even though it was early days, the children were very brave and played in the foyer as parents arrived for our Harvest Assembly in October 2022. Parents were thrilled and impressed by how quickly they had picked up their musical skills. The children worked well as a team and supported each other in their new roles. We are looking forward to working with the children next year and hope to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence to perform in front of others more often.

**INSTRUMENTAL TUITION**

In 2022-2023, instrumental tuition again proved a popular choice amongst the pupils with an encouraging number of children from P5-P7 requesting to learn a new instrument. Mrs Jill Kutlu, our E.A. tutor, continued to deliver a great level of support to our enthusiastic flautists and it has been heart-warming to see our pupils avail of such a great opportunity to understand and enjoy music within the school. As the year progressed, so did the children’s confidence in the instrument. We look forward to another successful year ahead in the school’s instrumental tuition.

**CHOIR**

The KS2 Choir went from strength to strength throughout 2022-2023! Having had a lull in choir activities due to Covid, it was refreshing to see the children, with a renewed drive and determination, consistently perform with great confidence and enthusiasm this year. With the ability to pick up any song within minutes, it cannot be denied that this choir has been the strongest and most talented choir I’ve had the pleasure of working with in recent years.

The academic year began with the children combining their voices with meaningful actions to perform a heart-warming rendition of ‘Thankful’ for parents, pupils and staff at the annual Harvest assembly.

During December, the Choir were thrilled to be asked to entertain audiences at numerous locations throughout the town. The residents of Brookmount Nursing Home, as well as the diners attending the Hearts of Gold Community Association ‘Meet & Eat’ held in our School Canteen were, as always, delighted to hear the Choir sing not only countless familiar carols, but also lively renditions of many well-known Christmas hits! It was also encouraging for the children to be invited back to sing for the shoppers of Tesco and Kenny’s Spar, and a new one for us; performing for the many Translink commuters who passed through the foyer at Coleraine Train Station! We received so many lovely comments from members of the public and this undoubtedly boosted the children’s confidence and their overall enjoyment of the whole experience!

Again, after a break due to Covid, the Choir were back representing the school at the Portstewart Festival in March. In the face of tough competition, their energetic performance of ‘Naughty’ from Matilda the Musical saw them not only achieve first place in their section, but they were also awarded the ‘Ulster Cup’ for the ‘Best Vocal Performance’ at the entire festival – an amazing achievement and greatly deserved!

The end of another successful year culminated with the Choir entertaining parents, teachers and governors at our annual Key Stage 2 Prize Day. They again sang ‘Naughty’, reminding us of their fantastic vocal ability and clearly illustrating all the hard work and effort that the children consistently put into their performances! They have certainly set the bar high in terms of what we can expect from Harpur’s Hill choirs in future years - a hard act to follow.

**COLERAINE EDUCATION COMMUNITY PROJECT**

Working in a cluster with nine local schools, we have been very fortunate to fund a reading programme for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, called ‘Bug Club’. This is a fantastic resource which allowed numerous children to access books at home to improve their reading and comprehension skills.

**PRIZE DAY**

**Primary 4 Awards**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Effort** | Victoria Tomasiewicz  Jax Nicholl | |
| **Achievement** | Matthew McCook  Kara Rushby | |
| **Sports** | **Girls** | **Boys** |
| 3rd | Ayla McNeill | Bryton Campbell |
| 2nd | Aaliyah McAfee | Scott Catherwood |
| 1st | Esmee McPeak | Matthew McCook |

**Primary 5 Awards**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Effort** | Carson Aiken  Sophia Logan | |
| **Achievement** | Ellia Watt  Blake Lindsay | |
| **Sports** | **Girls** | **Boys** |
| 3rd | Hollie Thompson | Jenson Hutchinson |
| 2nd | Molly McCurdy | Alfie Streeter |
| 1st | Brooke Macauly | Carson Aiken |

**LSC2 Class Awards**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Effort** | Travis McDowell  Jenson Hutchinson |
| **Achievement** | Riley Alcock |

**Primary 6 Awards**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Effort** | Amelia McKee  Mason Davies | |
| **Achievement** | Emily McKee  Amelia Boyd | |
| **Sports** | **Girls** | **Boys** |
| 3rd | Darcy Mulholland | Oliver Aiken |
| 2nd | Nahy Le | Ronan McCormick-Brennan |
| 1st | Amelia Boyd | Alfie Archer |

**Primary 7 Awards**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Effort** | Chelsea Kerr-McCloy | |
|  | Jacob Kennedy | |
| **Achievement** | Caitlin Ferguson | |
|  | Daniel Dorans | |
| **Sports** | **Girls** | **Boys** |
| 3rd | Aimee-Leigh McMullan | Ty McConaghy |
| 2nd | Macey-Jane Beech | Noah Hutchinson |
| 1st | Skye Smith | Jude Brown |

**SPECIAL AWARDS:**

The McLaughlin Literacy Cup: Xander Allen

Haslett Numeracy Shield: Ella Watt

The Rankin Challenge Cup: Grace Campbell

The Henry ICT Shield: Jacob Kennedy

The Lee Challenge Shield: Ella-Rose White

Music Shield: Riley Alcock

Sportsperson Shield: Ty McConaghy and Jude Brown

Watton Cup: Jason Jess

Citizenship Shield: Noah Hutchinson

Cross-Glebe Community Cup: Carter Gamble

Drama Cup: Daniel Dorrans

The Clinton Memorial Cup for Creativity: Macey-Jane Beech

Silver Salver for Vocal Performance Amelia McKee

The Alcock trophy for the Most Nurturing Pupil Tyler McKee

**END OF KEY STAGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:**

Primary 4 End of Key Stage 1: Xander Allen and Jacob Allen

Primary 7 End of Key Stage 2: Carter Gamble and Aaron Glenn

**Accelerated Reader** – Word millionaire: Xander Allen and Jacob Allen (P4)

Molly McCurdy and Molly Connor (P5)

Three Million Words: Nahy Le (P6)

**FULL ATTENDANCE:**

1 Year’s Full Attendance: Brooke McCauley (P5)

Molly McCurdy (P5)

6 Year’s Full Attendance: Polly Calvin (P6)

**FRIENDS OF HARPUR’S HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BALANCE | **£3,010** | EXPENDITURE | **£6,734** |
| **INCOME** | **£8,441** | BALANCE | **£4,717** |

This year we benefited from three funding streams:

* Live Here, Love Here: £1250 to enhance the outdoor learning environment
* CC&GBC, King’s Coronation: £1000 to organise an intergenerational tea party with stakeholders from the local community.
* Food for Life: £125 to organise an intergenerational Christmas dinner/party.

Thankfully for the first time since covid, we were also able to run our themed discos for the children and our end of year school fete. The disco’s raised £538 and our school fete £4,460. The CGCA also supported us again this year and gave us £300 to provide everyone with an ice-cream at our Coronation event.

**SCHOOL POLICY/CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

**PARENTAL INFORMATION**

Parents can obtain a copy of the school’s policies from the Secretary’s office. These policies include the Special Education Needs Policy, Positive Behaviour Policy, Anti-bullying Policy and the Safeguarding Policy which is updated annually and made available to parents.

Any parent wishing to speak to their child’s class teacher should make an appointment with the school secretary to agree a suitable time. All parents are welcome in the school and their views and opinions are valued. To keep parents informed, a weekly Wednesday letter is produced and given to every family. We have also strengthened our links with parents by posting relevant information via our Facebook page, Website and Seesaw app. All parents are connected to their child’s class Seesaw account and information can be exchanged between parents and teachers in a seamless way.

To support parents, we have introduced ParentPay so that parents can pay for their children’s trips, milk etc without having to find the right change or bring it to school.

**SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT**

The school continues to review and develop the whole school curriculum. Examples of initiatives highlighted in our School Development Plan for the 2022-2023 year were:

1. To improve children’s understanding and performance in using Shape and Space.
2. To provide the children with more opportunities for Outdoor Numeracy and Literacy activities
3. To improve children’s confidence when writing independently and enhance the quality of written work.
4. To improve the quality and presentation of handwriting
5. To Promote the Health and Wellbeing of both the staff and pupils.
6. To target underachievement and SEN within the school.
7. To develop knowledge and understanding of the new stages of the Code of Practice and inform staff of these upcoming changes.
8. To write PLPs for those children who are on the SEN Register and introduce Group Learning Plans for those children who are not on the SEN Register, but who also require additional support
9. To continue to be a Nurturing School.

**Evaluation of Numeracy Action Plan**

After analysis of the results in May 2022, it was evident a lot of children were not performing at their expected level and there were large percentages not reaching Stanine 5 or above. After analysis it was shown scores did improve but targeted work is still required to ensure further progression for the 2023-24 school year.

Following teacher evaluation and completion of a Numeracy Audit, it was agreed the starting point needed to be in Shape in Space. Several staff meetings were used to disseminate information in this area of learning and teachers were also given the Lines of Progression and able to plan tasks and activities around these.

Although the school did receive funding and employed an Engage teacher, this resource was not utilised to its full potential due to Covid staff absences and a shortage of supply teachers. For the academic year 2022-23, the SENCo was employed in a full-time role and addressed Numeracy as well as Literacy.

Guidance from EA and our own school analysis suggested Outdoor Learning should be more prevalent within all classrooms and this area continued to progress from the previous year. Children used the outdoors to reinforce and learn topics in Numeracy and staff made sure planners were updated and incorporated this area.

**Evaluation of Literacy Action Plan**

After discussion with the staff, it was decided that it would be beneficial to further embed good practice from the previous year in writing and handwriting.

Having taught through a year of Pie Corbett based retell, teachers felt that they were in a much better position to refine their resources and improve teaching experiences to ensure that pupils were provided with the best experiences to write proficiently. Further discussions at the end of the 2022/2023 year established that this focussed teaching of retell had a positive impact and was well received by children and teachers. It has been agreed that this style of teaching will continue once each half term, alongside Collins Primary Literacy. The current writing scheme supported by Collins will be a focus for the 2023/2024 school year.

Further discussions and planning for handwriting will continue.

Analysis of the end of year results (2022) highlighted that a number of children were working at stanine 4. It was agreed that the Engage Project teacher and afternoon group sessions with classroom assistants would help to support underachievers. This will continue to be one of our targets again next year in 2023/2024; although we will not have the benefit of an engage teacher to provide extra support.

**PREMISES AND GROUNDS**

Entrance to our school is via the front door where the secretary will monitor visitors using our security system. The other two entrances to the school will only be open at times of entry and departure of the pupils. Any parent or visitor wishing to consult a member of staff should make an appointment with the school secretary and a mutually convenient time will be given. This is to avoid disruptions in class teaching and ultimately the child’s learning.

The alarm and security systems, the fire safety equipment, plumbing and electrical installations have all been inspected and serviced as required.

The Building Supervisor has the responsibility for closely monitoring the electricity and water meters, to ensure maximum efficiency.

This year we received two bicycles shelters due to our involvement in the SUSTRAINS project and we also created an outdoor learning environment for the foundation stage children to use. The primary six children also planted four different fruit trees along with strawberry and blackberry bushes at the front of the school. These new developments plus the hard work of the children, helped us achieve the prestigious ECO School Green Flag.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

We at Harpur’s Hill Primary School have a Pastoral Care responsibility towards the pupils and staff in our care and we will take all reasonable steps to ensure that their welfare is safeguarded, and their safety is preserved. We will ensure that:

* A report on the school’s maintenance of Child Protection Records is kept in a secure area,

e.g.

1. Concerns of abuse

1. Complaints against staff
2. Referrals to Social Services

* Appropriate stakeholders have Child Protection Training, e.g.

1. Designated/Deputy designated teacher
2. Principal
3. Governor
4. Whole School

* Our Safeguarding Policy is reviewed and updated annually.
* Relevant stakeholders are regularly updated and fully informed.
* Staff receive training every year from the Designated Child Protection Officer.



Our award-winning school choir.

***2022-2023 School Year***

(Dates are inclusive)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **School Year Commences** | Thursday 1st September 2022 |
| **Halloween Break** | Monday 31st October to Thursday 3rd November |
| **School Improvement Day** | Friday 4th November |
| **Christmas Break** | Thursday 22nd December 2022 to Tuesday 3rd January 2023 |
| **School Improvement Day** | Wednesday 4th January 2023 |
| **School Improvement Day** | Monday 13th February |
| **Half-Term Break** | Tuesday 14th to Friday 17th February |
| **Holiday** | Friday 17th March |
| **Easter Break** | Thursday 6th to Friday 14th April |
| **May Day Holidays** | Monday 1st May  Monday 8th May – King’s Coronation  Monday 29th May |
| **School Improvement Day** | 30th & 31st May |
| **School Year Ends** | Friday 30th June 2023 |

The Board of Governors present this report to inform parents of their efforts to carry out their responsibilities, on behalf of the children, parents and staff of Harpur’s Hill Primary School and Cuilrath Corner Nursery.