

The session is off to a great start. We have hit the ground running and already making progress with our School Improvement Plan for session 23/24.

School Improvement Project 1 - Raise attainment by improving approaches to learning and teaching.

So far in this project we have:

- Collaborated with North Skye Cluster schools to agree planning formats. These formats have been implemented across our cluster and place a strong focus on core skill development.
- Issued an assessment calendar so all teaching staff are clear about when to assess, what to assess, how to assess and how to use the assessment information to inform planning.
- Carried out baseline assessments at the very start of the year, analysed the data and planned for specific interventions to meet gaps in learning or target significant barriers to learning for individual children.
- HT attended 3hr professional development training on the monitoring of good quality teaching in schools.

School Improvement Project 2 - Raise attainment in writing

This project started on 12th September and so far we have:

- Met with teaching staff from across the whole of the ASG to look at pieces of writing across all three levels (early/first/second) and collegiately assess and evaluate the pieces using Highland Council writing rubrics with Scottish Government's Benchmarks for writing. We established shared understandings of attainment at a particular level.
- Completed Part 1 of 5 of Stephen Graham's writing pedagogy training.

Gaelic Medium Education Intervention Plan

So far in this project we have:

- Extended full immersion stage to include P4.
- Improved Gaelic visibility around the school with displays, signs and useful language prompts.
- Improved the audibility of Gaelic in the school with Gaelic assembly and Gaelic input at whole school assembly, non Gaelic staff and adults using basic Gaelic around the school with all pupils. Reward system to positively promote the use of Gaelic. Gaelic phrase of the week.
- Gaelic language lessons for English medium pupils as their +1 language.
- HT visits to other bi-lingual schools across Skye and beyond

- Reviewed approaches to Quality Assurance making use of Government Guidance on Gaelic Medium education.
- Weekly meetings with Gaelic staff to review delivery of Gaelic medium practice, establish shared understandings and promote use of Gaelic throughout the school.
- Collaborated with Shona Paterson, Gaelic Learning and Development Officer to devise a development program for the year. This includes:

Film G, Gaelic & Culture Day, Pupil run Gaelic community cafe, Gaelic Family Learning Classes, Sports Club, Arts and Drama Club.

We have already enjoyed our High quality Gaelic experiences through drama on Tuesday with visiting specialist Arthus Donald.

So far Sgoil Araich has:

- Appointed Marion Macgregor as nursery manager to promote Gaelic language through planned play experiences.
- Weekly song, story and rhyme session weekly with GM1/2 pupils
- Enjoyed song and rhyme time as part of the gaelic arts and drama day.

Parent Open Afternoon will be postponed till next week due to strikes.

We still have a vacancy for a Gaelic EYP two days per week.

Parking

I approached estates about parking but due to the plans for the new school, it is not possible to extend the car park. However, we can raise this again now that the plans have been put on hold. In the meantime, staff who arrive before 8.30am are parking at the back and the side of the school. Other staff members are encouraged to park at the back of the car park to allow for turning and create more spaces. End of day procedures have been tightened up so that we can try and get buses and taxis away quicker.

Transport

2 runs for the Harlosh / Roag bus as it is very difficult to find a driver for a bigger bus. Bus club in school - doors are open and permitted to play on tarmac when dry, otherwise children are able to wait in a classroom with some things to help pass the time.