

Shared Education Newsletter

Issue 3

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPALS

December 2017

Welcome to our Shared Education Newsletter. This will give you an insight into our two main programmes: the *Shared Education Signature Project (SESP)* and the *Shared Campus Programme*. The SESP funds transport between the two schools and our shared lessons which focused this term on Mutual Understanding with our shared teacher, Miss K Butler (See Page 2). Through the SESP we have also been able to introduce a number of exciting new initiatives which the children are enjoying. These include:

- ◆ Accelerated Reader
- ◆ Forest Schools
- ◆ Rights Respecting Schools
- ◆ Global Learning

The prospect of the Shared Cam-

pus is becoming a reality, with campus plans now available to view in either school.

There are exciting times ahead. We have been engaging in regular meetings with our Project Team which consists of members of the EA and CCMS and our Business Case is nearing completion. The two principals met recently with members of The Executive Office (TEO), to discuss what sharing looks like at grass roots level and so as the Executive Office could further their understanding of the practical operation of sharing partnerships. The TEO members were delighted with our progress and gave lots of encouragement and support to the partnership.

Our children working 'in partnership'



FOREST SCHOOLS

This term the pupils in Y1-4 across the partnership took part in the Forest Schools Programme with Brian Poots from NIFSA. Brian spent six Thursday mornings with our pupils, their teachers and assistants and also a number of parents, outdoors in our school grounds. They built an outdoor classroom and had lots of learning outside, not to mention FUN!

Our teachers and classroom assistants are currently working towards a Forest Schools Accreditation and our schools will become registered Forest Schools!

NIFSA is a local charity that has been set up to promote outdoor environmental education for children in Northern Ireland. For further information please visit their website on www.forestschoolawards.org and www.nifsa.org.uk

Why not get involved yourself with Forest Schools by joining the Forest School Family Programme. Register on-line, carry out six activities in your local Park with your children and you will receive a personalised certificate for your family. You will be given ideas on what you can do and no experience or expensive equipment is required. Visit

<https://www.forestschoolawards.org/cgi-bin/main.cgi?page=FamilyZone;vat=1504168921>

Our thanks go to Northern Ireland Forest School Association for giving us this wonderful opportunity to become involved in this exciting venture. Check out our websites for information on Forest Schools.



Y2 Experiences

The Year 2 children from Duneane travelled to Mon-eynick by bus in Term 1 this year to have lots of fun with their friends and shared lessons with Miss Butler. The lessons followed our Mutual Understanding theme. This is what our pupils had to say about their experiences.

"I like meeting my new friends, Ellie, Lilly-Rose and Matthew, in shared lessons. It's fun." **Niamh**

"I like the games we play together in shared lessons." **Bláithín**

"I like Miss Butler and all her teaching." **Adele**

"I like going on the bus to Mon-eynick school." **Lily - Rose**

"I like getting out of class and going to the hall to learn new things with Miss Butler." **Alessa**

"I like learning new things and playing with my new friends in shared lessons." **Muireann**

"I like my new friends Lilly-Rose and Ellie. I like learning in shared lessons." **Charley**



Y3/4 Experiences

"Shared lessons make me happy. My favourite part was learning about families." **Aoibh**

"I like shared lessons because I made new friends. I liked learning about families." **Clíodhna Y4**

"I love shared lessons, they are fun. I like going to Moneynick. I have learned about our rights." **Hannah**

"Shared lessons are fun. I have learned lots.." **Clíodhna Y3**

"I like that we get to draw in shared lessons." **Ruby**

"I liked watching the videos in shared lessons." **Cory**

"I liked learning about people across the world in shared lessons." **Julianna**

"I like shared lessons. I liked learning about different kinds of families." **Ronan**



Y5 Experiences

"I like shared lessons because all of the Duneane children are friendly. My shared teacher is very kind she helps us when we are wrong. My favourite thing is that I learn new things. I really like shared lessons, they make me happy." **Pierce**

"I liked shared lessons this term. I really liked matching the country's name to its flag." **Lucy**

"I loved shared lessons because I love working with Duneane and finding out new things that I did not know before. My favourite part was learning about children's rights." **Lucía**

"My favourite part of shared lessons was the flag activity. I liked it because I got to match the flag to its country." **Rebecca**

"I enjoy shared lessons because it is fun. My favourite lesson was on children's rights. I made two new friends called Rebecca and Sarah." **Aoife**

"I like learning in shared lessons. My favourite part was when we made our identity jigsaw." **Liam**

"I liked shared lessons because we have learned lots of things. We learned about the rights of a child and about different countries. I have met new friends and I enjoyed

shared lessons." **Laura**

"My favourite thing about shared lessons was learning about children's rights and designing a poster on them." **Lydia**

I think these shared lessons have been the best ever and Miss Butler is EPIC!" **Sean-Óg**



Y6 Experiences

"I really liked learning about rights and I made new friends." **Erin J**

"I liked learning about the apartheid. We also learned about children's rights." **Amy**

"I enjoyed learning about different personalities and I liked making the identity shield. I learned lots of things and I learned about other people." **Rebecca**

"I enjoyed learning about our identity and I have made lots of friends. I also have loved learning with other people." **Cathy**

"I love shared lessons. My favourite bit was culture and identity. I liked the literacy as well. It is so much fun." **Maeve**

"I liked learning about rights. I made a friend. We learned about apartheid and South Africa." **David**

"My favourite thing from shared lessons was the lesson on children's rights. I also liked the punctuation. I like shared lessons." **Katie**

"I've learned lots of things at shared lessons. My favourite thing we have done this year is about rights of children. I have learned about Unicef." **Ewan**

"I like shared lessons because I learned lots of things about people and different cultures and I got to meet two new friends." **Adam**

"I thought that all of shared lessons was fun. My favourite part was learning about different cultures." **Ruby**

"I love shared education. I liked it because we learned lots of facts. We have made lots of friends and every week is a different subject." **Rhyan**

"I liked learning about rights and Africa. They were very interesting. Some things were sad but I learned a lot. Everyone in Duneane is very nice and friendly." **Eilidh**

"Shared lessons are fun. I loved the first week when we played get to know you games. I've learned a lot." **James**



Y7 Experiences

"Shared education is good. I like doing the activities and learning stuff. I liked the shared residential." **Matthew**

"My favourite thing we did in shared lessons is learning about children's rights and learning about disabilities. I loved learning these things and I have become more friendly with the children from Duneane." **Aine**

"My favourite part of shared education is getting to communicate with children from a different school. I also liked learning about disabilities and how other people can't do some things that other people can do." **Daniella**

"I liked shared lessons. I liked talking about things and working in a group. I liked learning about children's rights. I learned a lot about disabilities that I didn't know before." **Clodagh**

"I enjoyed learning about disabilities and stereotyping during shared lessons." **Gemma**

"I really liked shared lessons because we learned about children's rights and I learned so much. We also learned about stereotypes and disabilities which I enjoyed." **Fintan**

"I liked learning about children's rights. I liked learning about disabilities as we played a fun game. I also liked learning about stereotyping." **Cloe**

"I liked shared lessons because I made a new friend. I liked it when we learned about people with disabilities." **Eoin**

"I liked learning about children's rights and stereotypes in shared lessons." **Rob**

"I liked learning about children's rights. I also liked learning about people with disabilities." **Gillian**

"I really love coming to shared lessons. I loved making new friends. I

liked learning about children's rights." **Colleen**

"I liked shared lessons. I liked making new friends and learning about stereotypes." **Thomas**

"I love shared lessons. I love discussing about needs and rights. My favourite part was learning about our rights." **Erin**

"I liked learning about disabilities and about stereotyping." **Patrick**



ACCELERATED READER

Accelerated Reader is a personalised reading programme which allows children to follow their own reading interests and move on at their own rate. It allows teachers to carefully monitor individuals and track progress. The online quiz at the end of each book generates excitement and we have already noticed that some of our pupils are enjoying the competitive element of achieving book points. Across the partnership we are eager to see which children can achieve 10 book points first!



RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

As part of our work across the partnership this year we have registered as Rights Respecting Schools.

'A rights-respecting school is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted. Young people and the school community learn about children's rights by putting them into practice every day.' (Unicef Rights Respecting School Award)

We are excited to build on the good practice which already exists within our schools and to achieve our Record of Commitment over the next while. Through the completion of this award the children will understand how they are valued members of our community who have opinions which are truly appreciated.

Work carried out within the individual schools and during shared lessons with Miss Butler, helped the children understand the reasoning behind the RRS Award. Each class has now drawn up a Charter for their classroom. The Charter lays out the rights of the child within the classroom setting.

We have had elections for our new School Councils who will help to promote Children's Rights across the partnership and in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. We look forward to earning Rights Respecting School status for our individual schools and for the partnership, as we move towards our shared campus.

GLOBAL LEARNING PROGRAMME



What is Global Learning? Global Learning is essentially education for a fair and sustainable world. This means a world free of poverty, where all human beings are treated with respect and dignity. Global Learning equips children and young people with the essential knowledge, skills, attitudes and dispositions that will enable them to realise their potential and make a positive contribution to our world.

Both schools have embarked upon the GLP this year in order to raise awareness of Global issues. We already contribute much to society as two schools, however being a part of the Global Learning programme teaches our children where their place is in the Global world. Global issues open up children's eyes to what is going on in the world and getting them to see themselves as global citizens.

This term we focused on Global goals during a workshop with Rosie from the GLP. The children had the opportunity to investigate some of the 17 Global Goals. Rosie delivered a serious message to the children in a fun and interactive way. The timing of this workshop was significant as it was held on International Children's Day. United Nations Universal Children's Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.

(For further information visit www.globallearningni.com)