

## Areas for School Improvement 2016/17

To raise attainment through improved Literacy and languages curriculum.

To increase pupils skills for learning, life and work and build effective and sustainable partnerships with stakeholders to promote a coherent approach to learning for sustainability.

### Additional tasks

- \* Further develop pupil profiling using on line Learner's Journals and Did-book
- \* Further develop 1+2 Modern Languages
- \* Develop mathematics and numeracy moderation processes and planning
- \* Develop the use of AAL and digital learning

### Our Achievements this year have included:

Rights Respecting Schools Recognition of Commitment Award

Fairtrade FairAware and FairActive Award

Christmas Enterprise Fayre

Development of a secure and active Parent Council

P6 participation in the West Lothian heat of the Euro quiz

West Lothian Council Safer Internet competition winner—P7 pupil

Sports Relief Fundraiser

New Nursery facilities opened

McMillian Coffee morning fundraiser planned, organised and run by group of p7's

P3 participation in the big litter pick and publication in Keep Scotland Beautiful flyer

P5 and P6 ocharina learning experience

Scottish Parliament learning experience and Parliament Outreach Worker

P1 and P2 Catapluf music learning experience

Participation at various Active Schools sports festivals

All classes participating in the Walk a Mile initiative at least three times a week

The Little Mermaid School Show

Gala Day participation

*Thank you to everyone in the school community for their support this year.*



## **BLACKRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Main Street

Blackridge

EH48 3RJ

Tel: 01501 751 223



### About our school

Blackridge Primary School and Nursery Class are pleased to share the progress made in Session 2015/2016 with parents/carers and the wider community. The school enjoyed a highly successful year following a very full programme of changes and improvements. There is strong evidence of continuous improvement with the nursery and school have raising their profile in terms of educational achievements and innovations in learning and teaching. The school and nursery have worked hard on ensuring that developments meet the needs of the 21st Century in line with Curriculum for Excellence.

The school benefits from a supportive and proactive Parent Council who have supported the school this session with our Enterprise Christmas Fayre, developing our school grounds, fundraising and developing our school uniform policy. A variety of events have taken place within the school to help develop parental involvement, these have included our open mornings, school show, class assemblies, meet the teacher session and planned parental consultations.

We have a clear vision, supported by our values and aims at Blackridge and create an ethos which is:

inclusive    respectful    supportive    welcoming    nurturing    innovative



### What did we plan to improve last year?

#### Area for development 1

To raise attainment in Numeracy and Mathematics

#### Area for development 2

To improve the Social Studies Curriculum in order to provide a more coherent and relevant experience for all pupils which is designed to promote depth in learning.

### What you thought about our Nursery last year



Communication is good when collecting from Nursery

My little girl is always welcomed and treated as an individual

Great information about kids in the on line Learners Journal

Good at encouraging positive behaviour

Staff have been brilliant with my child. The improvement in her has been amazing.

All the staff know the children really well

What you thought about our school last year



You help with charitable causes

Continue to do whole school events that include the community like the Christmas Fayre

Knowing what I could do at home to improve would be helpful

There are lots of opportunities to get involved

My child gave me brilliant feedback from homework club

You liaise well with parents

**Priority 1**

***We have made very good progress .***

Maths and numeracy is one of the most important aspects of primary education, so we took the opportunity to focus on how good our provision is within this area. As a team we explored current research and information relating to mathematics progression and language. We worked together to embed mathematical language in our teaching and maths displays which highlight the importance of the correct use and understanding of maths terminology. We purchased new resources for mental agility. Teachers shared their good practice, putting in place fresh and creative ideas. The teaching staff undertook training in new and innovative approaches that will benefit early numeracy and assist those children that often need gaps filled. Throughout the year, we involved the pupils in the process by engaging them in learning conversations to see if improvements were evident in their thinking, work and profiles. Good practice has now been written into our maths policy so we can build on this progress next year.

What does this mean for our pupils:

* Greater awareness and ability to explain their mathematical thinking	* More challenge
* Clearer progression and depth	* Greater awareness, understanding and use of correct mathematical language
* Mental agility skills being developed	* variety of learning activities

**Priority 2**

***We have made very good progress.***

As a whole school, we looked closely at what we were teaching in social studies (people, past events and societies, places and environments). We took time as teachers and with the pupils and parents/carers to determine how we could make it better. Staff looked at our curricular coverage and amended planning to ensure breadth, balance, depth and relevance. The pupils became much more involved in choosing topics and telling us what and how they learned. Most importantly, everyone enjoyed exploring social studies themes in a new and engaging way and having a say in what was learned. We are now linking learning better to other areas of the curriculum in a meaningful way. The teachers are currently ensuring that planning closely with the pupils is a key feature of our curriculum.

**What does this mean for our pupils?**

* Appropriate learning across the curriculum	* Better progression through and beyond a level
* Pupils knowledge is broader and deeper	* Greater links to skills development
* Pupils involved more in choosing how and what they learn	* Coherent and relevant programme of work

## What our pupils thought about their learning last year



It's ok to make mistakes— that's how we learn!

I like blooms stickers because people can see inside your head!

I like a combination of feedback from the teacher depending on what I am learning

Linking our learning to other areas and to Blooms helps us to learn

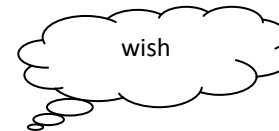
I like the targets that we can see on the table (for literacy and numeracy)

It helps me when the teacher shows me 'what a good one looks like'.

## What our pupils thought about our school and last year



- \* The good work we do in reading
- \* Assemblies
- \* Lovely teachers
- \* The laptops/I-pads
- \* Kick pitch
- \* We all care for each other
- \* Feel safe
- \* Lots of opportunities
- \* New extension
- \* Always get heard



- Trampolines
- Markings for our mile a day walk
- Jungle gym
- Better goals on the weather-pitch

We will be working with the Pupil and Parent Council to try and address a few of the pupil's wishes!