

**HADDINGTON INFANT SCHOOL**  
**HEAD TEACHER REPORT TO PARENT COUNCIL**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010**

**STAFFING**

Mrs May Wood will be retiring from her post as auxiliary and clerical assistant at the end of session. Mrs Wood has worked in the school for 13 years.

Mrs Emma Black will commence maternity leave on 18<sup>th</sup> May. Parents will be informed who her replacement is as soon as we know.

**BUDGET**

To the end of February 2010 we have accumulated an under-spend of approximately £8 000, there will be adjustments on this figure to accommodate any spending in March of which there has been very little. A more accurate figure will be presented after the close of the financial year. Primary schools are allowed to keep 1.5% (£14 145) of total budget and we are well within that.

The overall budget for Education and Children's Services has increased by £4.187M for the coming financial year. Within that overall budget there are specific savings for primary schools, which have been set at 0.5%, which translates to £118,000.

**CURRICULAR**

The reading policy has been revised by teachers and now reflects current practice, particularly in respect of Curriculum for Excellence and the move towards active reading.

A draft copy is attached. The document is primarily for teachers, it is really saying – 'this is the way we do things here' and for parents and carers to give them an insight into how reading is approached in this school. Parent council members are welcome to comment constructively, flag up anything you think we've missed or could explain more clearly.

I have also attached the 'Ideas for the Classroom' and the Overviews for Nursery – P3. 'Ideas for the Classroom' is just a reminder to teacher of the types of activities they can engage in and is by no means exhaustive! The Overviews give teachers new to the school or new to a stage a quick one page summary of reading at a specific stage, again other resources are used but we have identified the core ones used.

The parent council may also be interested to know that at the beginning of this session we bought a new grammar programme which was put in place to ensure continuity, progression and coherence, breadth and depth and challenge and enjoyment in learning. We have a new approach to spelling and are using a new spelling programme in P2 and P3. Teachers are also using ideas developed at Musselburgh Burgh Primary School, which make learning to spell more active, multi-sensory and enjoyable. Teachers have reported favourably on all resources introduced. We will evaluate this area in more detail when we are evaluated our development plan.