

West Barns Primary School

Standards and Quality Report 2018-19

Another amazing Year for Team West Barns!

We have now come to the end of another busy year at West Barns Primary School. Let's have a look back and see some of the things the school has been involved in this year.

In September Our Primary 7 pupils joined children from Innerwick, East Linton and Stenton Primary Schools for camp (residential holiday). We also launched our Building Blocks project with Primary 1 families.

We celebrated Harvest by holding a Harvest Festival service, led by the Rev. Neil Watson and collected food to donate to the Dunbar Food Bank. Parent Council organised a highly successful Halloween party. Our Primary 7 pupils took part in a series of activities at the Risk Factory.

In November we welcomed work experience students from Dunbar Grammar School. Most parents and carers were able to attend our Parent's Evening and participated in our annual Parent's Survey. Our Pupil Council organised our Children in Need event. We also held a successful Curriculum Evening, attended by many parents. We invited Stenton Primary School to be part of our STEM Masterclass day.

As usual December was a busy month with pupils taking part in a Xmas House Challenge as well as enjoying a Panto, Christmas Dinner and their Christmas parties. Our Primary pupils in P1/2 and P3/4 produced a fabulous Christmas Show and all our pupils performed for parents at the end of term assembly. In January we took part in the Dunbar Rotary Quiz.

In February the P5-7 pupils treated us to an excellent performance Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies. In March we supported the Rotary Club in their Purple Pinkie programme and almost all our parents and carers attended Parent's Evening. We ended the term with an Easter Egg Hunt and a brilliant Easter assembly. In May Our Primary 5 pupils undertook Bikeability Training. We held a very successful Sports Day. Our P7 pupils attended a STEM day at Dunbar Grammar School.

June saw pupils across the school taking part in a variety of transition activities. Our Primary 7 pupils held their traditional meal with staff at Umbertos. The end of term assembly saw Mrs McCaw (P3/4), Miss Gallagher (Student Teacher) and Mrs Hyndman (Acting Principal Teacher) leaving us as well as saying goodbye to our Primary 7 pupils.

Themed Days/Weeks

All our pupils were given the opportunity to participate in a House Team Sports Day which included football, rounders and Highland Games.

Our MFL Masterclass Days were well supported by Dunbar Grammar School and many local businesses and individuals. Our Planned Digital Technology Masterclass Day has been rescheduled for September so that more staff and pupils from DGS can be involved.

Sporting Events

West Barns pupils have taken part in many different sporting activities and events this year. This has included taster sessions for rugby, club golf, cricket, football, dance and hockey. Some pupils have taken part in Multisports.

We performed well in the inter-school cross country competition, swimming gala and Meadowbank Athletics event. The whole school enjoyed our Sports Day and Potted Sports event.

Mr Gray has worked hard to train our budding footballers this year. We were invited to play inter-schools football matches with Belhaven Hill School and other cluster schools.

Miss Gordon and Mrs Whiteley-McPhee ran a successful running and athletics club.

Miss Bower has started and trained our West Barns netball team who competed for the first time in June.

Children from P4-7 were given the opportunity to learn to surf through surf club.

Many thanks to Mrs Hay, Gareth Hill and Active Schools for organising many of these events (and parents for transporting pupils too).



Leadership Opportunities

Across the school we are providing more meaningful leadership opportunities for all our pupils. All our pupils are members of a school committee and work on a variety of projects throughout the year including leading events and assemblies.

We now have a well established system of Buddies for our Nursery pupils when they move into P1.

Many pupils have positions of responsibility in the day to day running of the school including roles as class librarians, looking after the school garden and organising pupils' milk and take leadership roles within their own classrooms.



Enterprise Events

Our pupils have been busy this year raising money for charity. This has included Healthy School Committee arranging Sports Relief events including assembly, Pupil Council arranged a fabulous Children in Need event. Eco Committee have looked after the school garden and grounds. Our Junior Road Safety Officers have supported our P1 pupils to deliver a road safety campaign. The whole school supported The Dunbar Rotary Club in their Purple Pinkie appeal. Many thanks to parents and families for helping us to support all these activities.



What did we aim to do this year?

Continue to develop our skills and knowledge of a modern foreign language...

The school has continued to embed French from P1-P7 and German from P6 through daily classroom routines and experiences including active learning with play, songs, stories etc. and the use of technology. We have begun to use the Learning Journeys as a way of sharing our learning with parents.

Staff continue to develop their own skills through in-house training and attending courses and conferences. Pupils and staff are developing confidence in using French and German in formal and informal ways across learning and in every day life in the school.

Our next steps... to work with staff to make develop their confidence and skills in delivering two modern foreign languages at primary school.



Continue to develop our children's numeracy and maths skills at all levels...

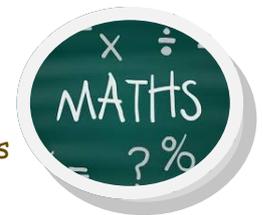
The school continues to use an active approach to teaching numeracy and maths and pupils enjoy playing games, solving practical problems together and participating in interactive teaching sessions as well as the more traditional approach of practising the skills using textbooks and jotters. Pupils have taken part in a maths challenge.

This is helping them develop their mental maths skills and will be continued next year. Across the school most pupils are making appropriate progress in maths and numeracy and those pupils who aren't are being supported to develop their skills.

We continue to find different opportunities for pupils to use their maths skills across the curriculum and share these with parents and families through the Learning Journeys. This year we held an open afternoon to share our learning in maths and numeracy with parents and families. Parents and carers are now developing a better understanding of how their child learns in maths and numeracy.

We have found that diagnostic assessment and focussed support has helped those pupils who find numeracy difficult to gain a better understanding and raise their attainment. We continue to train staff in the Maths Recovery techniques and engage with East Lothian's Framework.

Our next steps will be to continue to identify support and challenge needs to raise confidence and attainment in numeracy and maths for all pupils across the school.



Develop a restorative approach to help us solve problems...

This year all staff and pupils at West Barns have been using a restorative approach to help us solve problems and disputes. Staff have worked with pupils using a five step approach to help them understand a problem from all perspectives and look for a solution. This has supported an improvement in behaviour across the school.

Our next steps... to continue to build on this in the new school session and give pupils the opportunity to lead these conversations.



Continue to support all children to think and talk about their learning and how they can improve.

We have continued to develop and improve our use of Learning Journeys as a tool for learner and teacher reflection, support target setting, skills evaluation, parental sharing and evidence gathering. Pupils are becoming increasingly more independent and focussed on reflecting on their learning and can identify strengths and next steps.

Our next steps... to continue to look at how we can help pupils reflect against the National Benchmarks in each area of the curriculum and share this information with parents.

reflective



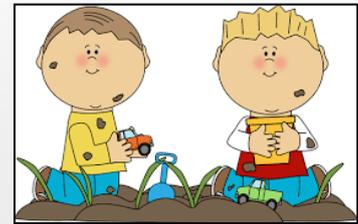
We find ways to be better.

Develop the learning and play in our Nursery to provide support and challenge for all our children.

In Nursery we have continued to develop our practice through professional reading and research. We have used this information to develop a learning environment built on positive, nurturing and challenging relationships which is leading to higher-quality learning.

We have seen our pupils becoming increasingly more independent and engaged in their play, especially in outdoor learning and develop positive and supportive relationships across the nursery.

Our next steps... to continue to develop our playroom and outdoor learning area to ensure that all pupils are provided with high quality opportunities to learn and play.



Reviewing our approach to health and wellbeing across the whole school.

We have changed the way to teach relationship education this year at West Barns. We have also been looking at how we can help pupils and parents recognise how they are supported to feel safe, healthy, active, nurtured, respected, responsible, included and achieving in our school and nursery. Parents and carers will be able to see more evidence of this in their Learning Journeys from next year.



What are we improving next year?

School Improvement

We will share our progress in these developments on a regular basis during the year. If you would like to know more about these developments please contact the school for a copy of our School Improvement Plan.

- Learning new IT skills and using these in our learning.
- Changing our Learning Journeys so that they show more clearly how we are improving in our learning.
- Thinking about how we can improve how we learn at West Barns.
- Develop our leadership skills through lots of opportunities in and out of school.