HT report for Parent Council – Tues 18th Jan 2022

Happy New Year

A very happy and healthy 2022 to everyone. On a personal note the year started with my being very chuffed, if slightly stunned, about receiving an MBE for services to education. I was absolutely delighted.

Staffing

The term has started well overall. Staff and learner absence continues to be part of the daily routine and I continue to be extremely grateful to our school community for their flexibility and understanding. The revisions to the isolation period required for positive cases will be helpful in our endeavour to keep school open and functioning well.

We have several members of staff on temporary contracts who are currently applying through central recruitment for future temporary contracts or for permanency. We are also in the process of establishing any changes to staffing likely from August – career breaks, flexible working etc. Two of our PSA team have applied for teacher training and we wish them every success.

Session 2022 / 2023

Our projected class organisation for Aug 2022 may require the formation of five classes at P7 and P6 rather than six. We are keeping a very close eye on numbers. Our 4 current P1 classes will move to 3 classes for P2. We have still to discuss what other stages we may or may not reconfigure.

Facilities

The continuation of the 2m distancing between adults in the school building will require the setting up of two separate staff bases. We are hoping to acquire some staffroom chairs from the old Victoria Primary – our current chairs are certainly past their best and are particularly large. It is hoped that the dining hall will be back in use for some stages by the time of reading this. After school club and breakfast club are looking to return to using the dining hall. Our TPSA have been given the go ahead to apply for lets at Trinity Academy to allow clubs to recommence. Hopefully all a step in the right direction.

Budget

Budget has been made available from Scottish Government for each cluster to appoint a transition teacher to support closing the poverty related attainment gap from PS - S3. Whilst it is encouraging to have additional staff it is an extensive remit and one that is requiring some careful deliberation. Our cluster is taking time to carefully consider the rationale and remit before advertising and appointing.

Learning @ Trinity

We were delighted to be able to invite parents and carers of P3, P5 and P7 to share aspects of learning, albeit outdoors. All stages will be given this opportunity. It was great to have our Christmas service in the playground. One thing that COVID has certainly taught us is to be resilient against the cold and other weathers! Our whole school topic for the summer term will be Coast to Coast – we are ever hopeful that it will culminate in our school trip to Aberdour beach. We can but hope.

Jacqueline Scott