

MEADOWPARK – NEWSLETTER – WEEK 29 – 02.03.18

While there might have been no contact with pupils for the last three days due to the Red and Amber Warnings for Adverse Weather conditions, Meadowpark pupils have never been far from my mind while I have been able to work remotely updating the progress record for our Key Priorities and planning for our forthcoming visit from David Watt <https://inclusivepracticessite.blog/@dknwatt>.

I attended a presentation by David Watt about 2 years ago when he spoke about experiential approaches to inclusive education for pupils with ASN, especially those with severe and complex needs, and was inspired to take forward this approach into Meadowpark. We have such a diverse range of ability within Meadowpark and teachers work hard to ensure that inclusion prevails through careful planning underpinned by the Curriculum Frameworks. I regularly support classes and particularly enjoy watching pupils from a different class join in with activities suited to their age, stage and ability such as Music, Swimming, HE, and Sensory. Once staffing is settled I want to expand this approach so that pupils are taught Literacy and Numeracy, HWB at their ability stage whether taught by their class teacher or another.

I hope Meadowpark pupils have been able to have some access to the snowy outdoors while schools have been closed, and held true to the principles of Loose Parts Play which staff will be receiving full training on in the near future by the effervescent Kelly Clarke.

In many ways I have relished the opportunity to be able to work uninterrupted, but I am really missing the flow of chatter and sense of happy busy-ness that Meadowpark offers. Meadowpark staff have been busy working on learning activities and planning the curriculum these last few days and have kept me regularly updated to this effect.

The 'Beast from the East' and Storm Emma are forecast to abate over the weekend and I for one will be ready to begin a new week with pupils and staff in school on Monday 5th March, although this also brings some sadness as we bid farewell to one of our ASN Learning Assistants, Elaine Smith who is returning to her primary school roots and starting a new position in Longniddry Primary School. Elaine we wish you all the best in your new post.

Be warm, stay safe.

Charli Prime DHT 02.02.18