Project name/focus

Background

Bushes Primary School is a non-denominational school in Paisley, Renfrewshire. We have a very mixed catchment area with over 48% of our children coming to us as a result of placing requests. We have been supporting MoD children and their families since 2012.

Currently our School Roll is 371, rising to an anticipated 389 next session. This includes 5, maybe 6 new MoD families joining us with 9, maybe 11 children.

Aims

Our aims have always been to make the families as welcome as possible, and to give their children a good education. We understand the anxieties that parents have when transferring between the Scottish Curriculum and the English Curriculum. We help, where possible to alleviate these anxieties.

We gave our MoD families an individual PEF funding suggestions letter.

We celebrated Red, white and blue day by having a non-uniform day and raising money for the charity.

What we did and how it impacted on Armed Forces children and young people

We created Bertie’s Den, a nurture room within our school. This was a quiet space that all our children could use. The room was set up to replicate a domestic setting with sofa, beanbags and a kitchen. The focus of the work was on building emotional resilience in children. Some of our MoD children have used the space and evaluated it highly.

Next Steps

We will continue to support all our families to the best we can, and make them feel included in our school community.

We will continue to use Reading Force, which a few of our families have used previously and evaluated it highly.