Wednesday 14th September - Storyboards

1) Craigie HS – Transition – Dundee City Council

Craigie High School has undertaken a project over the last few years to specifically target and reach out to the new S1 parents. Every parent/carer is invited to attend a one-to-one meeting with a member of the Senior Management Team. This has been a very successful approach in building positive relationships, breaking down barriers and involving parents/carers in their children’s learning.
The Growth Mindset/Co-operative Parent Event was designed to work with parents who would not normally engage in a school information session. The aim of the event was to:

- raise awareness of Growth Mindset and explore ways to support children through it;
- use co-operative learning strategies to demonstrate the ways children learn in school

Input to the event was structured to allow parents/carers from other schools to work together and to undertake teambuilding exercises. The event was a real success and parents/carers enjoyed the interactive activities.
3) Sandwood Primary School – Literacy – Glasgow City Council

Parents at Sandwood Primary have run a book club every Monday morning over the last 2 years to encourage children to save and then purchase a book. All books are brand new and are low cost. The book club was set up to ensure that children and parents could access affordable books on a regular basis to help increase literacy. Children are responsible for their own savings plan and sign into this.
4) Hillhead – Family Learning – East Dunbartonshire Council

East Dunbartonshire has a strong network of Parent Council chairs who meet once a term with Council Officers to discuss parental involvement. Exciting ‘Place’ work in Hillhead, one of Scotland’s most deprived communities, utilises a family learning approach to encourage parental involvement. Some interventions have been subject to Early Years Collaborative tests of change and have resulted in increased knowledge of how to re-engage families who choose not to be as involved. The Family Centre in Hillhead is an excellent example of staff building on the relationships they have developed with families in the early years and primary to develop relevant programmes.
5) Lawfield Primary School – Dads – Midlothian Council

'Dad Proofing'. This is the 'Year of the Dad' and Lawfield Primary have worked very closely with the Dads Co-ordinator at Midlothian Sure Start to make the school more welcoming to Dads and male carers. Storytelling has been used as a means for encouraging dads to participate. Having a resident 'Storyteller' in school regularly all year working with children and parents across the school has been a great asset. Lawfield Primary has also started a 'Dads Group' on a Saturday each month and this has been very successful. Dads have put on shows for other dads. Approximately 200 people have attended the events. The impact on parental engagement and on literacy attainment is inspirational. Lawfield Primary have recently been successful in securing funding for the Dads Group to continue into the new session.
6) St Patrick’s RC Primary School – Dads – Falkirk Council

St Patrick’s RC Primary School in Denny have been involved in exemplary parental involvement work over recent years. Staff and parents focus on wider parental involvement with a programme of events such as:

- A Grandparents night where extended family members are invited into school to learn from the children about what they have been doing in school.
- A Storytelling night where families from different cultures who have different first languages come and share stories. Languages and cultures are shared amongst the children and families.
- A Boys night where boys and their male parents/carers come into school and spend the evening doing various activities ranging from literacy games to outdoor learning.

St Patrick’s has had a very high success rate with their parental involvement, engaging a wide cross-section of families.
7) The Caledonian Club – Building the capacity of parents

Partnerships are key to the work of the Caledonian Club. The work carried out shows the benefits of a community group within a nursery, supporting and empowering parents and group users through participation in certified courses and creative and personal activities. It outlines the journey and pilot of transitioning towards a parent led community group.
Mearns Primary School – Creative approaches to engaging families in learning – East Renfrewshire Council

Mearns Primary School recognised the positive impact of working with families to improve learning and achievement. One example that made a real difference for children in school related to home learning kits. The school created a series of home learning kits as part of a programme that helped to improve attainment in literacy and numeracy. The programme supported parents/carers to actively and meaningfully help in their child’s learning and life in school.
9) **Douglas Community Centre – Building the capacity of parents – Dundee City Council**

‘Family Learning: The Power of Experience’ – Community Learning and Development Staff in Dundee have developed and deliver experiential learning activities in a Family Learning (Early Intervention) context. The activities have been designed to provide parents and carers with a real life experience of different stages of their child's development, for example, starting to count, building fine motor skills and imaginary play.
Parents at Auldhouse Primary School have supported their children’s learning in a range of ways. One parent trained to become a Forest School leader and now runs a successful Forest School out-of-school care club. Other parents organise after-school clubs on art, cooking, reading books and gardening. Some parents use their skills and connections with the wider community to bring musicians, chefs, beekeepers and former pupils into the school for topic work and special events. One of the best examples of parents working together with their children and the teachers at the school, and the wider learning community, is the Family Fun Day, which is held at the end of May each year. This is a fantastic community event which brings hundreds of people from all over into the school.
Bankton Primary uses a wide range of approaches to encourage parents to become ‘Learning Partners’ and ensure active involvement in their children’s learning. The school recently organised a highly successful Learning Festival for all parents within the James Young Cluster in Livingston. Participating schools demonstrated the approaches, techniques and technologies used to support literacy learning by using pupils as teachers and parents as learners. Parents are also offered the chance to observe their child being taught on a one to one basis through personal tutorial sessions with the learning support teacher so that the techniques used can be reinforced at home. Pupils with additional learning needs also prepared literacy showcases for their parents where they presented their progress in skills development. These approaches were said to be incredibly helpful and informative to parents and have increased their understanding of how best to support their child’s learning at home.
12) St Alberts RC Primary School – Diverse communities – Glasgow City Council

Our storyboard evidences our journey in pursuing our target of creating and providing opportunities to engage parents in our school. 98% of families in the St Albert’s community are from Minority Ethnic groups and more than 85% of pupils are on the English as an Additional Language scale.

Over the past three years we have worked alongside parents in a number of ways including; storytelling, translating school information, working with children who are new to English, organising events, social enterprise, developing play, learning workshops etc.

More and more parents are attending, becoming involved and more importantly reviewing our improvement plans, evaluating our practice and questioning us when they need to. We are forming real and lasting partnerships with parents and it is making a difference. We hope that sharing our practice helps us to come up with more creative and innovative ways to engage families in schools.
Maisondieu Primary School – Diverse Communities – Angus Council

Maisondieu Primary in Brechin is typical of many schools in Scotland with growing numbers of families who don’t speak English as their first language. The school have undertaken a project with parents to facilitate and explore parental engagement and support the use of other languages in the school. This project also includes consideration of the role of the pupil’s home language(s) as part of the process of language acquisition and development.

The project is based on school integration and the social participation of parents whose children have English as an additional language in a variety of activities in the classroom, playground, assemblies or school events. Parental participation affects children’s sense of identity, belonging, their ability to make friends and cope within the new culture and ethos of a school.
14) Clepinton Primary School/Dens Road – Family Engagement - Dundee City Council

‘Showcase The Street’ secured grant funding to deliver a family based initiative where advice and guidance could be offered to parents particularly around housing. School and Family Development Workers were approached to work alongside to develop and deliver a bespoke programme for local families. It was agreed to deliver a pilot block of sessions to encourage families to access the building and facilities offered by ‘Showcase The Street’. Embedded within each session was guidance and encouragement around positive family engagement through positive parenting, relationship building, family play and physical activity. Families were able to discuss their personal housing support needs and this allowed the process of guidance and signposting to begin.
15) Calderwood Primary School – Parental Involvement – South Lanarkshire Council

The Parent Council in Calderwood is a vibrant and exciting learning environment through which unique relationships with parents has flourished and grown from strength to strength over the last six years. Working in close partnership with the headteacher and staff, parents feel listened to and appreciated by school staff. Success of the partnership is about accessibility, transparency and productivity. What makes the relationship with parents at Calderwood truly unique are the structures in place which ensure that all parents are partners and there is a positive impact on outcomes for learners.
Peel Primary School is strongly committed to working in partnership with our parents, the local community, partner agencies and businesses. We believe that all members of our school community have an important role to play to ensure every pupil reaches their full potential.

Project Peel was an ambitious whole-school consultation which allowed all members of our school community the chance to share their ideas about our School Vision, Values and curriculum. Our Pupil Council shared their Pupil School Improvement Plan. Pupils led discussion groups with parents/carers around how best our curriculum can reflect skills needed in the 21st century for life, learning and work. Parents had the opportunity to visit classrooms and join lessons around our school ethos, Values and Vision. Our staff and pupils gathered the views and ideas and used these to craft new School Values and our School Vision.

Using the ideas and views gathered during Project Peel, our staff identified Peel Primary’s curriculum drivers. These are being used to shape and evaluate our curriculum to reflect what makes Peel Primary School unique, to ensure learning is relevant and underpinned by the views of our school community.
Parents in the St Bride’s School community were very keen to become involved in the wider life of the school so they volunteered to come into school every Friday afternoon to start a sewing club. Forty five pupils in Primary 4 had the opportunity to take part in the club, collaborating in groups and on individual projects. It instantly became really popular, with boys and girls really looking forward to Friday afternoon! The pupils progressed each week, developing new skills and growing in confidence in their abilities and creativity with the support of the parents. They regularly left school, beaming with pride, showing everyone what they had made. The club has been so successful that the parents now plan to expand it by introducing an adult/child after school sewing club, to encourage families to learn together.
Skills Development Scotland have a new digital school offer to enhance young peoples’ career education from Primary 5. There is also an extended secondary school offer from S1 which supports parents when exploring career options and learning pathways for their young people.
19) **Enquire**

Enquire is the Scottish advice service for additional support for learning. We provide independent advice and information to parents/carers, practitioners, children and young people about the additional support for learning framework. Our aim is to support families and schools to work together to ensure pupils get the support they need in school.

We provide:

- a telephone helpline and email enquiry service: 0345 123 2303, info@enquire.org.uk;
- Parents’ Guide to Additional support for Learning and other publications;
- 18 topic-based factsheets;
- two websites:
  - parents, carers and professionals [www.enquire.org.uk](http://www.enquire.org.uk)
  - children and young people [www.enquire.org.uk/yp](http://www.enquire.org.uk/yp)

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20) Read, Write, Count and First Minister’s Reading Challenge

Read, Write, Count is the Scottish Government’s literacy and numeracy campaign targeted at parents of children in primaries 1-3. You will be able to find out more about the social marketing campaign and the gift packs which will be distributed to all Primary 2 and 3 children in the autumn.

The First Minister’s Reading Challenge which was launched on 1st September 2016 is targeted initially at primaries 4-7 and aims to support reading for pleasure.
21) Save The Children