



THIS ISSUE

- ✦ WE CAN - collaborate.
- ✦ Family Support and In Your Corner
- ✦ Dept Health Visit
- ✦ Listening to children, young people and parents
- ✦ BOOST
- ✦ Sub-Group Spotlight – Early Years/Transition
- ✦ Learning Partnership – Stranmillis CREU

WE CAN



Apache Pizza Whiteabbey have been spreading the WE CAN messages on their pizza boxes. They love the idea of supporting the local community by promoting positive messages. And we loved eating pizzas they donated for our sub-group meetings.

“ I have young boys and understand the daily struggles that children and their parents go through. I am delighted that WE CAN... help promote THRiVE through putting their information on our boxes and provide pizzas for occasional meetings. ”

Chris Milling (Manager)



Family Support and In Your Corner

Family Connections provided family support for 11 parents this quarter. Parents reported improvements in parenting skills and confidence, well-being, learning and development and community connectedness. 10 pupils in Year 12 completed the **In Your Corner programme** – fantastic improvements with pupil average attendance at 95%.

Dept Health/ PHA visit

In early May, THRiVE was delighted to host Permanent Secretary Peter May, Department of Health with Aidan Dawson, Chief Executive, Public Health Agency & others to discuss early intervention, collaborative investment, collective impact & the urgent need to protect funding for support at the earliest stage.



Listening to children, young people and parents

ASPIRATION



Local youth organisations have been pulling together to find more ways to listen to the voices of children and young people and let them influence what’s happening in the community. Monkstown Boxing Club, Listening Ear, Monkstown Village Initiatives and Monkstown Community Association are all on board, with more groups interested in getting involved.

In May, 200+ Primary 7 pupils in THRiVE schools took part in workshops to tell us what Aspiration means to them and what they need now and in the future in order to THRiVE. They also talked about how they can transition well from primary to post-primary school.

Parent Champions continue to shape change in their community, by sharing information about parenting courses and resources with other parents in the area.

This quarter they helped with the Parenting Your Teen course in Rathfern Social Activity Centre, and worked with other groups such as Rathcoole CREW and Funky Kids Workshop to plan and deliver events for families. They gave their views on the issues facing Families, including concerns about children’s anxiety and the need for improved transport links to services and opportunities as part of a focus group for the Department for Communities ‘People and Place’ Strategic Review.

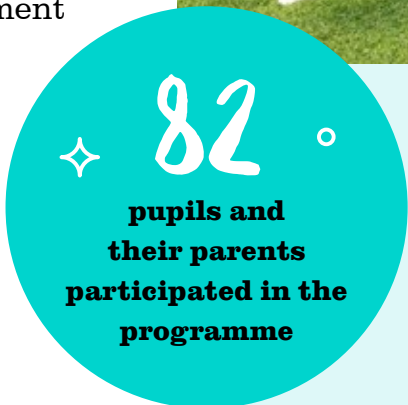
“ Its great being able to do things and feel more confident with doing them! Being a Parent Champion has increased my confidence and helped me speak out when I have something to say. It’s been great to be able to help at events such as the Coronation Family Events, engaging with other community groups to make the event fun for everyone. I’ve made some lovely friends through being a Parent Champion. ”

Parent Champion



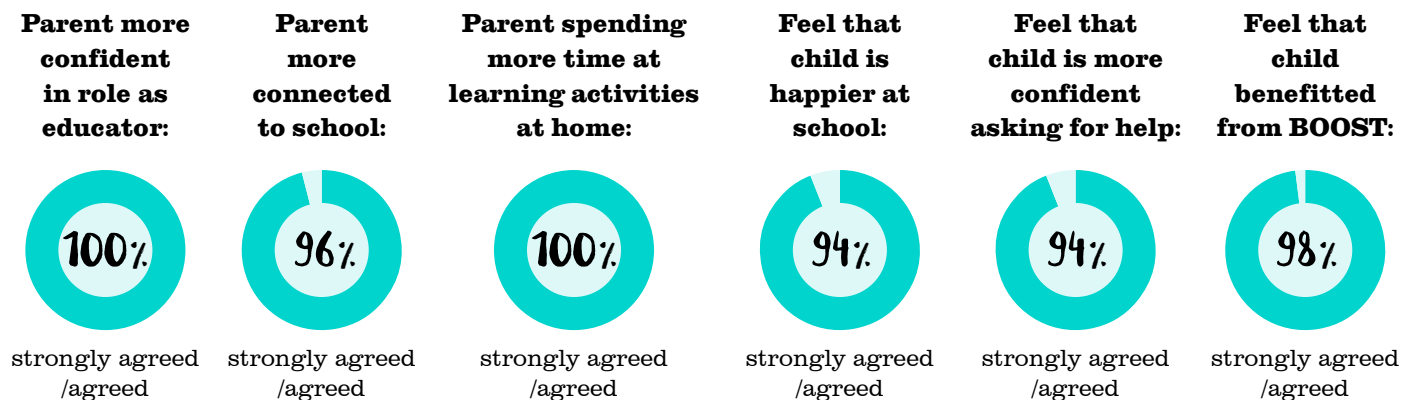
BOOST

BOOST is a numeracy and literacy programme delivered in six THRiVE primary schools to improve the attainment of P5 children identified as under-achieving. There are three strands to the work-learning engagement sessions for pupils, parent engagement sessions and family learning sessions. Parents are supported in their role as co-educators and are actively involved to promote literacy and numeracy learning at home.



Family learning events in May and June focused on communication, number and time and measure in scavenger hunts, communication games and a Sports day at Hazelbank.

Parents completing the end of year survey reported:



Pupils said:

“ I feel that BOOST has helped me a lot with my grammar because it breaks it down in easy steps and is also fun. It makes me want to read more.”

“ I don't have to worry about questions, really big ones or confusing ones now as they are kind of easier to understand. I can do my work a bit faster.”

“ I feel okay about making mistakes and don't feel worried anymore.”

“ I was a little bit more shy asking or answering questions in class and now I feel more confident to ask and put my hand up. Now I'm racing my hand up for all the questions.”

Sub-Group Spotlight

Early Years/Transition



THRiVE has working groups that meet regularly to plan together and work towards the four key outcome areas of THRiVE – Aspiration, Attainment, Well-being and Collaboration.

This edition will focus on the Early Years Group.

Nursery school units and pre-school playgroups, Abbey Sure Start, Family Connections, Abbey AllSorts, local Health Visitors working in this area are working on helping children get ready for their next setting.

“ I found the Stepping Into School workshop very helpful, informative and reassuring. Lots of tips to help my child and me through this stage in life.”

Parent participant

THRiVE Early Years subgroup worked with Parenting NI to deliver a **‘Stepping Into School’** workshop which took place in The Link, Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church. Parents were given tips on how to help children transition well to P1 and all received a copy of **‘WE CAN GET READY TO LEARN’** a transition focused booklet produced by THRiVE Newtownabbey in conjunction with Abbey SureStart. These were also given to every child moving from nursery or pre-school to primary school.

“ The children at Whitehouse Primary School & Nursery Unit were delighted to receive our “We can get ready to learn” books. Thank you to Thrive for helping us get ready for big P1.”

**Mrs Spratt
(Whitehouse Nursery Unit)**



THRiVE Learning Partner – Stranmillis University College



Above: Dr Emilia Symington Stranmillis CREU, Dr Karen Orr Stranmillis CREU, Claire Humphrey THRiVE, Linsey Farrell Deputy Secretary DE, Michelle Janes, Director Barnardo's NI, Prof Noel Purdy, Stranmillis CREU

Over recent months THRiVE Newtownabbey has been partnering with Centre for Research in Educational Underachievement at Stranmillis University College to learn from those involved with THRiVE about the impact and effectiveness of what we are doing and how we might improve. They were also asked to help THRiVE think about how to share learning about place-based collaborations making a collective impact. Two Learning Events took place this quarter, one for THRiVE in April and one with key stakeholders across the public sector in May. We were delighted to have Linsey Farrell, Deputy Secretary

DE introduce this event, encouraging departments to be curious about the underlying causes of issues, getting closer to communities and having a more empathetic approach to policy-making.



THRiVE

To find out more about THRiVE keep an eye on our Facebook page or check out our website: www.thrivenewtownabbey.co.uk

