

St. Finian's Primary School



Board of Governors Report
2009/2010

www.stfinians.co.uk

SAINT FINIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The School is managed by a Board of Governors which includes members nominated by the Trustees, the S.E.E.L.B. and members who have been elected. Parents and teachers are represented by those they elect to the Board.

Board of Governors 2009/13

Chair	Rev Martin O'Hagan
School Principal/Secretary to BOG	Hugh O'Prey
DENI representative	Paul Murray
SEELB representative	Mrs Barbara Walker
SEELB representative	Mr Michael Carville
Parent Governor representative	Mrs Lata McCarthy
Teacher representative	Mrs Emma McGrattan
Trustee representative	Mr John Leonard
Trustee representative	Michael McClean
Trustee representative	Mrs Bette McMullan

All School Boards of Governance were reconstituted in term 1 2009. Elected representatives hold office for four years. Parents will be notified of arrangements to elect a Parent Representative in the Autumn Term 2013 . These elections will be in accordance with the CCMS, Scheme of Management for Catholic Maintained Schools/ESA requirements.

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Sept 2010 Enrolment: 165

Sept 2010 Staffing:

Principal plus seven teachers, four classroom assistants, secretarial officer, cleaner, three supervisors, one kitchen officer and two patrol personnel .
Yet again the number of permanent members of staff has risen.

School population and Enrolment trends:

September 2005: 107 children
September 2006: 126 children
September 2007: 123 children
September 2008: 139 children
September 2009: 153 children
September 2010: 165 children

PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE RATE 2009/2010:

The average attendance rate for 2009/10 was: 95.2

Assessment Educational outcomes 2009/2010

Schools are legally obliged to report the performance of the school at the end of each Key Stage which essentially means Primary Four and Primary Seven. In the tables below you will see how current performance measures against the national average for last year.

At Saint Finian's we are rightly proud of these performance levels as the assessments are honest reflections of the children's capabilities and the classroom practice within. I would like to thank all the adults who work with our children for their endeavour and professionalism. These performance levels compare very, very favourably with other schools locally and nationwide.

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NI Averages for Schools
End of Key Stage one performance: Year 4

CCEA average expected levels for Primary Schools are :

Key Stage 1: (Year 4) Level 2

Comparable statistics for 2009/2010 are as follows;

Children working at levels:	Northern Ireland % average: Liteacy	Saint Finian's % Average: Literacy
W	<i>0.4</i>	0
1	<i>5.77</i>	0
2	<i>52.62</i>	53.85
3	<i>41.22</i>	46.15

Children working at levels:	Northern Ireland % average: Numeracy	Saint Finian's % Average: Numeracy
W	<i>0.42</i>	0
1	<i>5.06</i>	3.85
2	<i>47.28</i>	50
3	<i>47.24</i>	46.15

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NI Averages for Schools
End of Key Stage Two performance: Year 7

CCEA average expected levels for Primary Schools are :

Key Stage 2: (Year 7) Level 4

Comparable statistics for 2009/2010 are as follows;

Children working at levels:	Northern Ireland % average: Liteacy	Saint Finian's % Average: Literacy
<i>2</i>	<i>2.8</i>	0
<i>3</i>	<i>16.24</i>	18.18
<i>4</i>	<i>49.95</i>	27.27
<i>5</i>	<i>30.55</i>	54.55

Children working at levels:	Northern Ireland % average: Numeracy	Saint Finian's % Average: Numeracy
<i>2</i>	<i>2.48</i>	0
<i>3</i>	<i>15.6</i>	9.09
<i>4</i>	<i>40.17</i>	31.82
<i>5</i>	<i>41.29</i>	51.09

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School Development Planning

The school has a three year SDP which focuses on raising standards across all areas of school ranging from Pastoral care, Literacy, Numeracy and Subject Learning Areas to Site Development. The Revised Curriculum is now statutory in all classes . The teaching compliment has risen to seven teachers plus principal. Specific focus will be on problem solving and strategy usage to break down investigations in Numeracy and in reading within Literacy. The possibilities within the ICT accreditation scheme are being explored. The Revised Curriculum builds on the good classroom practice which teachers already have and in-service training continues to develop these areas.

A significant amount of work is currently being undertaken in terms of classroom practice, learner performance and data analysis in Literacy and Numeracy within self evaluation. We are implementing Assessment for Learning in terms of formative feedback and developing pupil and peer evaluation of their own work. Thinking skills and Personal Capabilities are being visibly promoted and the development of strategies that can be used to attack problems is being promoted actively. Teachers are using the interactive whiteboards actively to enhance the nature of daily interaction and we are actively embracing the active teaching methods promoted within the Revised Curriculum documentation.

Financial Statements 2009/2010

School Budget

Resources available	-	£489 618
Expenditure	-	£446 118
Approximate Cumulative Carryover as part of prudent 3 year financial planning	-	£43 500

The entire school has been rewired with new lights installed in every room other than the kitchen. New toilets have been installed in P1 and the Pre-school as well as a refurbishment of the staff toilets. A disability friendly hygiene room and stair lift have also been added as well as new cloakroom facilities. A new car park ,drainage and an additional playground has also been completed . The assembly hall has been refurbished, refloored with sports markings and painted as well as a new stage front being added to compliment the new safety railings on the stage sides. In a busy year with a lot of construction occurring I thank you for your patience and support.

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Over the last two years every classroom has had new tables and chairs procured and has had an interactive whiteboard installed as well as the 21 work base computer room established. New flooring has been installed where required.

The current 3 year plan approved by Board of Governors and SEELB finance officers is designed to manage and utilise available resources efficiently and effectively, thereby bringing the approximate carryover in March 2013 to 4.86% of the total available resources.

School Fund

Account

Balance available 6 th June 2009	-	£3752.73
Balance at Sept 6 th 2010	-	£1266.64

LINKS WITH THE PARISH AND COMMUNITY

St Finian's has continued to work to develop links with the local community. In the past year the following events took place:

- Christmas Concert with performances from all children.
- Christmas Carol Service for residents in local nursing home.
- Opening of school year Mass.
- Open Day/induction day for Year 1 Parents and Children
- Service of Light and Commitment
- Sacrament of Confirmation
- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Sacrament of First Communion
- Fundraising for Trocaire
- School production- the Wizard Of Oz
- Mass attendance
- Do this in Memory Communion initiative
- Sports Day
- Curriculum/Parents meetings and interviews
- Leavers celebratory Mass
- Community Relations programme
- Confirming our children programme

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**A flavour of some school and community events occurring
on daily/weekly/termly basis:**

Term 1

- Swimming
- Saint Finian's compete in the Newtownards and District Football League on full time basis.
- Gymnastics
- Streamvale farm
- Work Experience 2 pupils hosted.
- Breakfast Club - daily
- Year1 ASCET pencil control programme
- Year 5 SCRCP - Londonderry P.S. Mount Stewart Countryside Guardians - year long project
- Killyleagh outdoor education centre
- Face inclusion project
- Waste management project
- Armagh rhymers
- ARDS arts initiatives
- Trocaire workshop
- SEELB music workshop
- Year 6/7 SCRCP - Millisle P.S. 2 term long project
- Liturgy at St Patrick's Church/Sacramental Penance
- Gaelic football
- Helping hands emotional intelligence programme
- Trip to "Annie the musical"
- Fundamental skills/Gaelic Games programme coaching - P1/3 year long project
- Traditional Fiddle and Tin Whistle tuition - P5/7 - year long project

Term 2

- Swimming
- Gymnastics
- Work Experience
- Breakfast Club each morning with numbers growing
- Year 5 Country Side Guardians initiative with Londonderry P.S.
- Year 6 SCRCP with Millisle P.S.
- Liturgy at St Patrick's Church and Sacrament of Penance
- Fundamental skills/Gaelic Games programme coaching P1-3 - year long project
- Traditional Fiddle and Tin Whistle tuition - P5/7 - year long project
- Guitar Tuition
- Education for Life visiting Workshop
- Year 4/5 Fire Safety visit
- St Dunstan's project
- Bryson House Recycling Workshop
- Healthy Lifestyles Dairy Council visit
- Disability NI workshops
- Olympic handball and Rugby competition
- Belfast Giants Diet & Hygiene Presentation
- Barnardos
- Ards Borough Council Multi Skills workshop
- St John's Ambulance visit

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- W5 Maths Challenge Day in partnership with Northern Bank
- School Nurse vision and hearing screening
- Buddy reading P1 and P7 children

Term 3

- Girls soccer coaching
- Gymnastics
- Cycling Proficiency
- Breakfast Club each morning
- Be Safe Multi disciplinary awareness for pupils (internet, fire, Road, Bus, Stranger Danger, peer group safety)
- Inter School Competitions
- School of the Week - Ards Chronicle
- Termly confessions
- Mobile Library
- Class Library visits
- Tempest photography
- Ards Borough Council Waste Management/recycling
- Swimming
- Guitar tuition
- Tin whistle; Traditional Group
- ASCET Language and Emotional Development - cool kids
- St Mark's Day celebration
- Netball coaching
- Soccer , netball, girls' football competitions
- Polish
- Book Fair
- Choir
- Year 5 Country Side Guardians initiative with Londonderry P.S.
- Year 5 Dental Initiative
- Post Primary consultations/induction days
- Multi Sports Fun Day P2/3
- Football and Netball competitions
- Student teachers accommodated
- Fundamental movement skills weekly
- Extension classes Tuesday and Friday post school
- Gateway Concert
- First Holy Communion
- Glebe House residential with the Harmony Trust x2
- Sports Day
- Trocaire Fund raising
- End of Year Disco
- Leavers Mass
- Wizard of OZ school production
- Rainforest creatures workshop
- People who help us visitors
- Rededication of the parish church liturgy in Comber
- Traditional group and guitar ensemble concert
- Parish reflection day
- Spiritual retreat
- Pirate adventure
- Exploris trip
- Pizza express trip
- Zoo trip
- I'm Special your special relationship workshop
- School nurse puberty awareness
- Summer fair / quizzes/craft nights/fun nights
- Clubs : French,Rugby, craft,cookery,gardening X2
- Awards Presentation

We are genuinely grateful to all those PTA members who provide voluntary and vital support at many of these events throughout the year without fail.

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Personal Development and Mutual Understanding/ SCRP

In addition to the work outlined above the school continues to maintain strong links with Londonderry and Millisle Primary Schools in an effort to promote Education for Mutual Understanding.

During the school year the Primary 6 and 7 children and children from these schools were involved in a range of activities.

- Ice breakers in each school
- Visit to the Titanic Quarter
- Visit to UFTM Cultra
- Conclusion of DVD making session
- Countryside Guardians year long environmental initiative
- Healthy Diet group work, provided by school nurse/dental nurse

PROVISION FOR CHILDREN requiring support.

St Finian's Primary School continues to implement the Code of Practice for the identification and assessment of Children with Special Educational Needs.

Provision for children with special educational needs is outlined as follows:

- Education Plans drawn up, implemented and reviewed by Special Needs Coordinator, class teacher and support teacher.
- Provision of teaching for children requiring additional support.
- Provision of Classroom Assistant support
- Liaison with Special Needs Department, S.E.E.L.B.
- Reading Partnership
- Ascet team working in partnership with Year 1/3 teachers and children to meet needs in terms of language/behavioral/motor/ thinking skills.

Code of Practice Finance 2009/10

£1033

Expenditure for Support teacher to allow for activity provision and the Implementation of the SEN Code of Practice

£1033

Additional support

- Time to Read initiative provides additional reading opportunities for some Year 5 children.

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PASTORAL CARE IN SCHOOLS:CHILD PROTECTION

CHILD PROTECTION: Communication lines in ascending sequence

I have a genuine concern about my/a child's safety



I can talk to the class teacher or call the teacher on
02891815229



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the designated teacher for
child protection: Ms McMullan or in her absence Mrs McGrattan



If I am still concerned, I can talk to Mr O'Prey



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the
Board of Governors
Father Martin O'Hagan on 02891 812137

At anytime I can talk to the:

- Social Worker - 02891 818518 (James Street)
- The Police - 02891 818080 (Newtownards Station)

List of other possible help organisations:

- Child Line - 0800 1111
- NSPCC - 0808 800 5000
- Samaritans - 08457 90 90 90
- Kidscape - 08451 205 204

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There are three fully trained first aiders in school:
Mrs B Russell, Mrs N McKinney and Mrs B Reid

SECURITY

A whole site risk analysis has been undertaken and safety and security priorities dealt with. Rolling maintenance and upgrade continues on site as occurring and in a planned capacity.

Thanks

The Board of Governors of St Finian's wish to take this opportunity to express their thanks and appreciation to all the staff of the school, both teaching and non-teaching for their high level of commitment and achievement over the past year.

To all those parents and grandparents within our learning community who contributed in a voluntary capacity this year, your endeavours are greatly appreciated as we strive to meet the needs of the children in our care.

Similarly thanks are due to all those who assisted the school either in a professional outside agencies capacity or those who visited the school during the year to assist the children's learning.

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