

St. Finian's Primary School



Board of Governors Report
2008/2009

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 2005/09

Chair	Rev Joseph Gunn
School Principal/Secretary to BOG	Hugh O'Prey
DENI representative	Paul Murray
SEELB representative	Mrs Barbara Walker
SEELB representative	Mrs Eileen McGuigan
Parent Governor representative	Mrs Pauline McCready
Teacher representative	Mrs Emma McGrattan
Trustee representative	Mr John Leonard
Trustee representative	Michael McClean
Trustee representative	Mrs Bette McMullan

All School Boards of Governance are being 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 . These elections will be in accordance with the CCMS, Scheme of Management for Catholic Maintained Schools.

Sept 2008 Enrolment: 139

Sept 2009 Enrolment: 153

Sept 2008 Staffing:

Sept 2009 Staffing:

Teaching principal plus five teachers, four classroom assistants, principal release teacher and support teacher, secretarial officer, cleaner, three supervisors, one kitchen officer.

Teaching principal plus six teachers, four classroom assistants, principal release teacher and support teacher, secretarial officer, cleaner, three supervisors, one kitchen officer.

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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

PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE RATE 2008/2009:

The average attendance rate for 2008/9 was : 95.4

Assessment Educational outcomes 2008/2009

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

	% Pupils at levels					%Pupils at levels			
English	W	1	2	3	Maths	W	1	2	3
	0.49	5.54	53.48	41.49		0.53	4.82	47.15	47.5

English	% Pupils at levels				Maths	% Pupils at levels			
St.Finian's	W	1	2	3	W	1	2	3	
Average	0	0	25.00	75.00	0	0	33.33	66.67	

CCEA average levels for Primary School

Key Stage 1: Year 4 Level 2

Key Stage 2: Year 7 Level 3-4

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

NI Average Performance	Pupils working at level (English)				Pupils working at level (Maths)			
Level	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5
%	2.7	17.67	50.41	28.78	2.46	16.62	39.14	41.31
St. Finian's Performance	Pupils working at level(English)				Pupils working at level (Maths)			
Level	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5
%	0	6.67	26.67	66.67	0	6.67	33.33	60

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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 phased implementation continued in September 2008 with Years 1, 2, 5 and 6 active in terms of statutory requirement. Presently this year Year 3, 4 and 7 teachers have received training to allow full implementation in 2009/2010. The Revised Curriculum builds on the good classroom practice which teachers already have and in-service 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 2008/2009

School Budget

Resources available	-	£493	092
Expenditure	-	£432	806
Approximate Cumulative Carryover as part of prudent 3 year financial planning (relative to end of year accruals and committed spend)	-	£60	286

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 2012 to 2.16 % of the total available resources.

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School Fund

Account

Balance at 4 th Sept 2008	-	£1719.66
Balance available 6 th June 2009	-	£3752.73

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
- Mass attendance
- Do this in Memory initiative
- Sports Day
- Curriculum/Parents meetings and interviews
- Leavers Mass
- Community Relations programme

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

Term 1

- Swimming
- Saint Finian's have re-entered the Newtownards and District Football League on full time basis.
- Gymnastics
- Modern Dance
- Work Experience 2 pupils hosted.
- Breakfast Club - daily
- Year 1 and 3/4 visit to farm
- Year 5 SCRIP - Londonderry P.S. Mount Stewart Countryside Guardians - year long project
- Year 6/7 SCRIP - Millisle P.S. 2 term long project
- Fortnightly Liturgy at St Patrick's Church/Sacramental Penance
- Languages Day
- Ecological USA partnership project - Year 7 - year long project renewed

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- 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 Year 12 child hosted.
- Breakfast Club each morning with numbers growing
- Year 5 Country Side Guardians initiative with Londonderry P.S.
- Year 6 SCRP with Millisle P.S.
- Fortnightly 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 being phased in
- Education for Life visiting Workshop
- Year 4/5 Fire Safety visit
- Bryson House Recycling Workshop
- Birds of Prey Visit
- Healthy Lifestyles Dairy Council visit
- Belfast Giants Diet & Hygiene Presentation
- Barnardos
- Ards Borough Council Multi Skills workshop
- St John's Ambulance visit
- W5 Maths Challenge Day in partnership with Northern Bank
- School Nurse vision and hearing screening
- Buddy reading P1 and P7 children to be continued with P2 and P6 classes
- Football and Netball competitions

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)
- Youth Speak Environmental Competition
- 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 x4, netball x3, girls' football x1 competitions

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- Puppet workshops
- 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
- Fundamental movement skills weekly
- Extension classes Tuesday and Friday post school
- Gateway Concert
- First Holy Communion
- Cross Community DVD making with Londonderry PS
- Sports Day
- Trocaire Fund raising
- End of Year Disco
- Leavers Mass
- Awards Presentation
- Beach Party

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.

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding/ SCRIP

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
- Visit to St Patrick's church and DVD making session
- Countryside Guardians year long environmental initiative
- Healthy Diet group work, provided by school nurse/dental nurse

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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
- Special Needs Coordinator, class teacher and support teacher.
- Provision of a part-time teacher for children requiring additional support.
- Provision of Classroom Assistant support
- Liaison with Special Needs Department, S.E.E.L.B.
- Reading Partnership opportunities being explore presently
- Ascet team working in partnership with Year 1/3 teachers and children to meet needs in terms of language/behavioral/motor/ thinking skills needs.

Code of Practice Finance 2008/09

£887

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

£88 7

SECURITY

A whole site risk analysis has been undertaken and safety and security priorities dealt with. Rolling maintenance and upgrade continues on site.

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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