

EDUCATION AUTHORITY – NORTH EASTERN REGION

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Board of Governors
Chairman:
Rev Dr J Curry

Magherafelt Controlled Primary School
32 Castledawson Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6PA

December 2016

Board of Governors Annual Report 2015-2016



Chairman's Comments....

I am pleased to present to you the report of the Board of Governors for Magherafelt Primary School. . Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to build for the future by working together as staff, parents and pupils. I trust that you find the contents of this report useful and informative.

Rev Dr Jonathan Curry

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Governors' Responsibilities include:-

- (a) The oversight of the curriculum;
- (b) the control of the budget;
- (c) the provision of information to parents;
- (d) the recommendation to Education Authority – NorthEastern region of applicants to fill staff vacancies;
- (e) the maintenance of the premises;
(This responsibility is shared with Education Authority - North Eastern Region)
- (f) the Admissions Policy.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

2015-2016

CHAIRMAN	Rev Dr J Curry
VICE CHAIRMAN	Archdeacon T Scott
SECRETARY	Mr G Buckley
TRANSFEROR REPRESENTATIVES	Mrs I Glassey Mr S Hudson Archdeacon T Scott Rev Dr J Curry
Education Authority REPRESENTATIVES	Dr D Hutchinson Mrs K Semple
PARENT REPRESENTATIVES	Mrs D Caskey Mrs S Johnston
TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE	Mr M Anderson
PRINCIPAL	Mr G Buckley

STATEMENT OF SCHOOL AIMS

SCHOOL ETHOS

Our mission is to give every child the best possible start in life by providing a caring environment in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect, enabling children to develop their full potential by learning, enjoying and succeeding together.

AIMS

In the context of the school ethos, the aims of the school are:-

- A. to promote the intellectual, spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of pupils;
- B. to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum for each pupil;
- C. to encourage pupils to develop a positive attitude to learning;
- D. to encourage pupils' independent endeavour through the development of lively, inquiring minds and confident application to tasks;
- E. to provide pupils with a range of worthwhile experiences to assist in the development of skills, understanding of concepts, assimilation of knowledge and acquisition of appropriate values;
- F. to enable pupils to appreciate the achievements of others in the fields of art, music, science, mathematics, technology, literature and sport and having developed appropriate skills, find enjoyment in their own participation and thereby fulfil their potential;
- G. to foster the development of a personal Christian faith;
- H. to enable pupils to appreciate their environment, both in the school context and in the wider community;
- I. to encourage pupils to develop habits of self-discipline and acceptable behaviour, respect for the opinions of others and consequently the capacity to become contributory members of the community, both in the school and beyond it;
- J. to prepare pupils for their teenage years and adult life, at home, in the workplace and at leisure as co-operative and useful members of the local community and society in general.

TEACHING STAFF 2015-2016

Mr G Buckley BA Hons PGCE M Ed	<i>Principal</i>
Mrs D Doherty B Ed Hons M Ed PQH	<i>Vice-Principal / P4/5</i>
Mr M Anderson BA Hons PGCE	<i>P7</i>
Mrs E Hutchinson B Ed	<i>P6</i>
Mrs M J Barfoot B Ed	<i>P5/6</i>
Mrs L Wilson	<i>P3/4</i>
Miss B McCloy BA Hons	<i>P2/3</i>
Mrs J M Lowery B Ed	<i>P2</i>
Mrs A Campbell B Ed Hons	<i>P1/2</i>
Mrs L Mawhinney BA Hons PGCE	<i>P1</i>
Mrs P Brown B Ed Hons	<i>Part-time Learning Support</i>

PERIPATETIC STAFF

Mr G Murray	<i>Brass and Woodwind</i>
Mrs S McConnell	<i>Strings</i>
Mrs D Johnston	<i>Literacy Training & Support</i>

CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS

Mrs J Anderson	Mrs V Caskey
Mrs M Clements	Mrs F Fulton
Mrs J Greer	Mrs R Penman
Mrs A Stewart	Mrs L Suiter
Mrs S White	Miss E Wojcik

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mrs V Sloss	<i>Secretary</i>
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ANCILLARY STAFF

Mr F Lennox	<i>Building Supervisor</i>	Mrs F Fulton	<i>Supervisory Assistant</i>
Mrs V Caskey	<i>Cleaner</i>	Mrs A Stewart	<i>Supervisory Assistant</i>
Mrs S White	<i>Cleaner</i>	Mrs D Michael	<i>Supervisory Assistant</i>
Mrs S Crooks	<i>Cleaner</i>	Mrs M McCrory	<i>Supervisory Assistant</i>
		Mrs J Anderson	<i>Supervisory Assistant</i>
Mrs J Fleming	<i>Senior Supervisory Asst.</i>	Mrs S White	<i>Supervisory Assistant</i>

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mr G Buckley	Principal
Mrs D Doherty	Vice-Principal
Mrs M Barfoot	
Mrs E Hutchinson	
Mrs L Mawhinney	

CURRICULUM CO-ORDINATORS

Mathematics and Numeracy	Mrs E Hutchinson
UIC (Using Information and Communication Technology)	Mr M Anderson
Language and Literacy	Mrs M Barfoot
The World Around Us	Mrs E Hutchinson
The Arts - Music	Mrs M Barfoot
The Arts - Art & Design	Miss B McCloy
Physical Development and Movement	Mrs D Doherty
Personal Development and Mutual Understanding	Mrs D Doherty
Assessment	Mrs D Doherty
SENCo	Mrs D Doherty
Activity Based Learning	Mrs L Mawhinney
Primary Movement Level I & 2	Mrs L Mawhinney

CURRICULUM

The current School Development Plan and associated action plans for 2015/2016 provided the framework for schools curricular provision during this year.

Literacy and Numeracy remain as a central focus for school. Co-ordinators completed our joint Literacy and Numeracy Policy this year which included our aims for these curricular areas.

These are summarised as follows:

- I. effective leadership
- II. child centred provision
- III. high quality teaching and learning
- IV. a school connected to its local community

Staff continue to develop a range of assessment tools to assist this development. School introduced new GL Assessment tests in Numeracy and Literacy. The pupils also completed the NI Computer Based Assessments tests (NINA (Northern Ireland Numeracy Assessments) and NILA (Northern Ireland Literacy Assessments) in October.

Professional Development/In-service provision included:

- Development of Multi Agency Support team (MAST) provision
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Transitional Service Training
- Council for Examination and Assessment (CEA) Assessment Training
- Numeracy Co-ordinator Training
- Developing mindfulness and Child Centred Provision
- Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator (SENCO) In-service
- Foundation Stage Transition
- Using Information and Communication Technology (UICT) Online literacy tools
- Child Protection Child Exploitation and On-line Protection (CEOP) Training
- Heartstart/Anaphylaxis/Epilepsy/Defibrillator

Mrs Doherty co-ordinated SEN provision. Mrs P Brown delivered additional learning support with LTSS (Learning Teaching Support Service) being provided by Ms B Devlin.

Our P6 class participated in the International Reading Literacy Study 2016.

The Inclusion and Diversity Service (IDS), Mr Eamon McNamee provided transitional support. Our Reading Together programme was co-ordinated by Mrs L Suiter and delivered by our classroom assistants.

Ms P Lindsay from Barnardos provided counselling in school.

School based and out of school visits in support of a wide range of curricular areas included the following activities:

P1	Wacky Workshop, Portrush
P1-2	'Snoopy' at Movie House, Maghera
P2	W5
P3	Maghera Fun Day
P3-4	Junction Jacks and Antrim Castle
P4-5	Ulster Museum
P5-6	Lisburn Leisureplex
P6	Recycling Show at the Bridewell
P7	Edinburgh Residential
P7	Bee Safe (Magherafelt District Council)
P1-P7	RSPB
P7	Somme Heritage Centre

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

This year's visiting theatre companies performed 'Robin Hood' and 'Jungle Book'

Other activities included:

P1-2	Cancer Focus Group - Genevieve
P3	Time Steps
P4-7	Maths Fun Day
P6-7	NIE Kidsafe
P6	Springclean (Magherafelt District Council)
P7	School Nursing Services Welfare Talk
P7	Bryson Energy
P7	Cycling Proficiency (PSNI)
P5-P7	Something Special Drama Group
P1-P7	Ms B Devlin – Stories & Songs

Our senior pupils visited Sperrin Integrated College, Magherafelt High School and Rainey Endowed School.

Our P7 pupils made a number of 3D models as part of the 100th Anniversary Somme Commemorations at Magherafelt High School.

OPEN DAY

Held on Saturday 5 December, our staff, PTFA and pupils enjoyed a festive morning in school. There were a number of fun activities for visitors and friends and Santa was in attendance.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

Our kitchen had another successful year, with a number of themed, special meals providing a highlight.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Our thanks to a number of local businesses for their kind sponsorship. Particular thanks to Cuddy's, one of our uniform suppliers for their kind donation and Highfield Service Station for their kind sponsorship of Sports Day.

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR / LIBRARY

This year's theme was 'The Mad Hatter's Tea Party'.
We also had our annual Parade of Hats around the town.
Thank you to all of our parent helpers on the day.
Thanks also to PSNI for their assistance with traffic and crossing safely.
Thank you to all of our parents who supported the Book Fair, we were able to purchase nearly £800 worth of books with our commission.
Book donations, for our library throughout the year, were also greatly appreciated.

SPORTS DAY

Good weather returned this year for our Sports Day.

Our children enjoyed the activities as always.

The parents' race was particularly exciting, with a number of 'fallers at the first fence' in the dad's race.

Our thanks again to Highfield Service Station for their continued support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL AND ECO-COMMITTEE

Our School Council and Eco-committee had a very successful year.

The council participated in the NI Schools Peace Pledge initiative and their pledge was adopted for inclusion in the Northern Ireland Peace Display.

The Eco-Committee maintained our Green Flag status with a number of well supported and enjoyable activities.

Mrs Doherty's class planted bluebells in Polepatrick as part of the Magherafelt District Council scheme.

PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (PTFA)

The group had a marvellous year and worked very hard in support of the children.

This included:

- help with the Mad Hatters' Parade
- baking buns for the tea party afterwards
- helpers at School Book Fair
- providing hospitality for guests at two drama productions and our Christmas Open Day
- helping to organise and staff our School Summer Fair
- school based mini fundraisers

All of their hard work and commitment is greatly appreciated. The money raised will be used to purchase UICT equipment for the children.

SCHOOL FAIR 2016

Our School Fair, co-ordinated by our Vice-Principal Mrs Doherty, with support from PTFA and school staff was a tremendous success.

We had a wide range of activities for the children to enjoy, with good food, great weather and a real sense of the school and community together.

The magnificent sum of £2200 was raised.

On behalf of the Governors, I wish to thank Mrs Doherty, our PTFA and all of our staff for their wonderful work on the day.

COMPETITIONS

Our children participated in a number of local and national competitions.

Two of our P7 pupils, Jessica Stewart and Ella Byrne, had stories published on the C2K Newsdesk.

Particular mention goes to Kirsty Stevenson who was the UK winner of the Young Writers competition for 2016.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The programme this year included:

- Football
- Hockey
- Cookery
- Choir
- Literacy & Numeracy Club
- Art and Craft
- Spanish
- French
- Tin Whistle
- Cycling Proficiency

Active Communities and IFA coaches continue to deliver their school programmes.

Kirsty Stevenson represented school at the Environmental Youth Speak competition at Magherafelt District Council.

The footballers played at a number of tournaments, acquitting themselves well. Our girls narrowly missed silverware at the Antrim Hockey Tournament this year. Imogen Graham and Kirsty Stevenson were selected for the Primary Schools Ulster Development Squad this year.

SPEEDWELL TRUST

Our P5 class participated in the very worthwhile Speedwell scheme, bringing children from all sections of our community together. This culminated in an exciting 'Gathering Drum' performance as a finale.

On a sad note, Eamon McLean, the Speedwell Trust manager passed away suddenly this year. We were sorry to hear of his untimely passing and greatly valued the contribution he made to school life.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Our children were involved in two productions this year, 'Cinderella' and 'None Shall Separate Us' to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

HEANEY PROJECT

As part of the Verbal Arts project, our P7 class took part in learning and performing the poetry of Seamus Heaney. The children were filmed and the project culminated in a visit to the Burnavon Theatre to watch the finished film involving a number of local schools.

WORSHIP

Our local ministers continue to support our children in weekly assemblies. Hope for Youth Ministry also held a summer club in June.

CHARITIES

Our children supported the following charities this year:

RAF Wings Appeal
Royal British legion Poppy Appeal
RNIB – Clarity

A number of children sang with the African Children's Choir on their NI tour.

Maddie Mawhinney from P6 organised a 'Bring a Bun' day for Macmillan Cancer.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS

RECORDS OF ACHIEVEMENT

We said farewell to our Primary 7 pupils at their annual Records of Achievement ceremony in June. The Vice-Chair of Governors, Archdeacon T Scott, presented each pupil with their Record of Achievement and Leavers' Shield.

The McClure Cup was presented this year to Peter Clark and Alex Leacock.

The Music Cup was presented to Kirsty Stevenson and Cora Stewart.

TRANSFER

Thirty four children transferred to secondary education in September 2016. They took up places in Magherafelt High School, Rainey Endowed and Sperrin Integrated College.

PUPIL ENROLMENT

The total enrolment at the end of June 2016 was 252.

The Primary 1 enrolment for September 2015 was 32.

The annual attendance rate for 2015/2016 was 96%.

Fifty seven pupils received attendance awards for this year.

SECURITY

External doors are secured each day. Entry to school is controlled and monitored using a double door reception area.

Visitors to school are required to sign in and out and are required to wear a visitors' identification badge.

All class bases / teaching areas have telephone contact with the school office.

Risk Assessments are developed, implemented and reviewed as appropriate.

Appreciation

The Board of Governors would wish to take this opportunity to express their thanks and appreciation to the Principal and Staff of the school (teaching and non-teaching) for both their commitment shown to the pupils and the high standards achieved both inside and outside the classroom. Thanks are also due to the NEELB's Advisory Staff and to the representatives of the various external agencies who visited the school during the year.