

# GOVERNORS ' REPORT



**St. Eithne's Primary School**

**2010/2011**



## **"Today's Children, Tomorrow's Future".**

This Annual General Report is a summary of provision and events of the previous year at St. Eithne's.

More detailed information regarding monthly events can be found in our monthly newsheets and on the website.

**<http://www.steithnes.net>**

Dear Parents,

The purpose of the report is to give parents the chance to find out what the Governors, the Principal and the other external agencies have been doing during the past year to ensure that the pupils attending St. Eithne's Primary School receive a good education.

The Board of Governors invite comments or any questions parents/guardians of attending pupils might wish to raise on areas of the report.

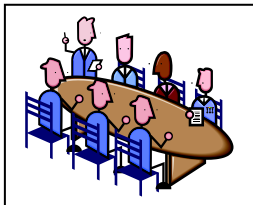
We welcome suggestions in writing that may help us in our continuous development planning to ultimately deliver the best of educations for our children. If you wish to raise individual matters relating to either pupils or members of staff, the usual opportunities to contact the teacher or principal remain.

We would like to congratulate the staff of St. Eithne's after one of the most successful years of the school academically and in sporting spheres. It is fitting as the school completes its thirteenth year that the school community should be thriving and setting standards which indicate the excellent work that goes on in the school in partnership with parents and the rest of the community.

I hope that you find this report informative and we take this opportunity to thank all our parents, staff and pupils for commitment and dedication which has made 2010/2011 such a successful year for St. Eithne's.

Yours Faithfully,

Mr S. Sands (Chairman, Board of Governors).



## **The Board of Governors**

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the effective management of the school. It is composed of nominees of trustees, the Western Education and Library Board and the Department of Education, a parent elected by the parents and a teacher elected by the teachers. The members hold office for four years.

The following members held office last year (2010/2011).

### **Nominated By The Trustees**

Rev. Fr. P. O Kane  
Mr P. Mc Daid  
Mrs A. Coyle  
Mrs P. Ferris

### **Nominated By The Western Education & Library Board**

Mr C. Mc Menamin  
Mr D. Taylor

### **Nominated By The Department Of Education**

Mr. S. Sands (Chairman)

### **Parents' Representative**

Mrs M. Ogilvie

### **Teachers' Representative**

Mr V. Feeney

### **Secretary**

Mr G. Cosgrove (Principal)

The Governors as a group work together in partnership with the Principal and the staff to ensure the provision of good education for our children. They have particular responsibilities in relation to the curriculum, the financial management of the school, the appointment of staff, admissions to the school, discipline, building and maintenance, the parents' annual meeting and community links.

Governors attend regular meetings of the Governing Body at least once per term and any extra meetings or committee meetings that might be called.

The Chairman may be contacted at St. Eithne's Primary School and Mr G. Cosgrove (Secretary to Board of Governors) may also be contacted at the school address.

## The School

### About Us

### Today's Children Tomorrow's Future

We are determined to develop the whole child here at St. Eithne's so we provide an amazing number of clubs. We ensure that all our children are given the opportunity to achieve their potential whilst in our care. The atmosphere in and around St. Eithne's is one of learning, sport, music, educational achievement and extra-curricular clubs. Parents are welcome participants in the school. Many are volunteers, helpers and valued members of our community. We host a number of events which in the main enable our pupils to show their parents what they can do. These are Christmas nativities, music shows and our Primary 7 annual school show and parents are welcome to our special sports days. Last year our 40 strong school orchestra puts on an amazing Summer Concert in July and we take our Primary 6 and 7 children to Gartan Outdoor Activity Centre in July for surfing, sailing and kayaking. As well as all this and much more, we provide excellent teaching and learning experiences and activities throughout the school for all our children.

The teachers of St. Eithne's Primary School have been employed by the CCMS. The number of staff will depend upon the number of pupils attending. In 2010/11 our staff and pupil population consisted of the following:-

Staffing	
Teaching Staff	21
School Secretary	1
Classroom Assistants	13
School Caretaker	1
Supervisory Assistants	7
<i>Further professional educational provision is detailed on page 14 (Visitors).</i>	

Pupils.		
Year	Girls	Boys
1	32	34
2	21	30
3	37	38
4	29	24
5	32	34
6	22	33
7	40	43
	213	236
<b>Total</b>		<b>449</b>

**Attendance:-** The average attendance figure for 2010/11 was **94 %**, a lower than usual average but not surprising as we did not take any days off during the awful snow in November.

**School Meals:** **37.56%** of children received free meals.

### School Year 2010/2011

The term began for pupils on Wednesday 1st September. Our new Primary 1 pupils were began on a phased basis to acclimatize them to their new environment. They came to school for the first half of the day during the month of September and began their full day in October.

We took the usual school vacations and church holidays.

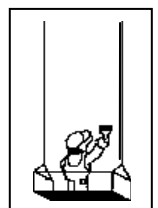
The Christmas holidays were from Wednesday 23rd December until Wednesday 6th January (Incl.).

The Easter Holiday from Thursday 21st April until Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May April (incl.)

The last term day of the year was the Wednesday 29th June.

### Premises.

Our annual painting program continues each year. This year we painted the front foyer of the school and toilets in Areas 1 to 4. The large playground was equipped with basketball nets, football nets and both playgrounds were lined to enhance the whole play area.



## SCHOOL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As a result of the N. Ireland Education Reform Order the Western Education & Library Board has to delegate a significant proportion of its budget to the Governing Bodies of schools in its area. This involves applying a formula based mainly on the number and age of the pupils.

In the financial year 2010/11 we were allocated a budget share of **£1,402,295**. This budget was managed in accordance with the directions of the Board of Governors as set out below.



### THE BUDGET



INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance b/f from 2009-2010	£107050	Teaching Staff	£1,036,155
		Auxiliary & Ancillary Staff	£117950
Formula Allocation 2010-2011	£1,262,155	Fuel Oil	£35816
		Electricity	£12,667
Literacy & Numeracy	£1,860	Water	£5031
		Toilet Requisites	£2,834
		Window Cleaning	£930
Other Funding Corrections		Wheelie Bin Charge	£1593
		Maintenance of Buildings	£3298
Extended Schools Total	£29,250	Maintenance of Grounds	£11,760
Revised Curriculum	£1,980	Furniture & Fittings	£2178
		Maintenance of Furniture & Fittings	0
		Equip Books & Materials	£52122
		Equipment	£3664
		Protective Clothing	£997
Total Allocation	£1,402,295	Food	£2641
		Hire of Equipment	£3041
<b>Other Funding</b>		Licence Fees	£450
Youth Service Transfer	£3,684	Hire of Facilities	£1624
Letting of Facilities & Sales	£262	Hire of Security Services	£100
Music Fees		Professional Fees	£2672
Other Income	£700	Educational Visits	£1318
<b>Deficit C/F to 2011-2012</b>	<b>0</b>	Contractual Cleaning	£39,330
		Gartan Transport	£299
		Class Swimming Program	£1205
		Hire of Transport	£5399
		Advertising	£500
		Printing & Stationery	£1620
		Photocopying	£2,649
		Postage	£281
		Telephones	£1,218
		<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£1,351,342</b>
		<b>Savings C/F to 2011-2012</b>	<b>£55,599</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,406,941</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,406,941</b>

## SCHOOL FUND 01/09/10 – 31/08/11



Below is a summary of the school fund. Fund Raising is an important part of the school's activities. It has helped to subsidise trips and to equip our clubs. Raising money for charities is a worthwhile activity not only because we are helping the needy but it does give our children a better understanding of the world today and the need for compassion.

The Chairman, Board of Governors, the Principal and the Staff would like to thank the Parents for the wonderful support that they have given the school over this past year. The partnership, which is developing between the school and parents, is invaluable to us and can only bring success to our many endeavours.

### THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP

Income		Expenditure	
<b>Balance in Bank statement</b>	<b>2246.83</b>		
<b>Fruit</b>	<b>3026.00</b>	<b>Fruit paid</b>	<b>5366.70</b>
<b>Ties</b>	<b>160.00</b>		
<b>Instruments &amp; recorders</b>	<b>542.00</b>	<b>Instruments</b>	<b>650.36</b>
		<b>Clubs Materials / Equipment</b>	<b>600.00</b>
<b>Sports day</b>	<b>352.80</b>	<b>Sports day purchased</b>	<b>458.68</b>
<b>Music Fee &amp; music exams</b>	<b>1776.00</b>	<b>Music Fee &amp; exams</b>	<b>2708.40</b>
<b>DVDs of shows etc</b>	<b>472.00</b>	<b>Play &amp; Skipping</b>	<b>401.24</b>
<b>Halloween Fancy Dress</b>	<b>294.30</b>	<b>Halloween Prizes purchased</b>	<b>274.54</b>
<b>Received from County Photo's</b>	<b>975.00</b>	<b>IT items purchased + photographs copyright</b>	<b>654.43</b>
<b>Gartan Residential Trip</b>	<b>4125.00</b>	<b>Gartan Residential Trip + tuck shop Refreshments &amp; refunds £4000 LMS</b>	<b>4002.36</b>
<b>Book Fair</b>	<b>1641.00</b>	<b>Book fair</b>	<b>1641.00</b>
<b>Milk</b>	<b>4305.56</b>	<b>Milk paid to WELB and purchased from shop</b>	<b>4635.96</b>
		<b>laundry</b>	<b>124.50</b>
<b>Swimming/Goggles, Caps Galas &amp; clubs</b>	<b>785.00</b>	<b>Paid to Swimming gala caps and goggles</b>	<b>387.50</b>
		<b>Stationary clothes etc</b>	<b>277.17</b>
<b>Book bags</b>	<b>158.00</b>	<b>Book bags</b>	<b>336.32</b>
<b>Flowers and gifts donations and prizes</b>	<b>1532.82</b>	<b>Snack time &amp; homework club</b>	<b>312.92</b>
<b>Snack Time</b>	<b>245.00</b>	<b>Costumes y2</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>Rickety Wheel</b>	<b>4628.01</b>	<b>Prizes purchased gifts</b>	<b>1,446.57</b>
<b>Football Athletics clubs etc</b>		<b>Hire of pitch football tournaments</b>	<b>103.65</b>
<b>School Trips Educational</b>	<b>474.00</b>	<b>School Trips Educational</b>	<b>787.00</b>
<b>School Trips Summer</b>	<b>2569.00</b>	<b>School Trips Summer</b>	<b>2854.25</b>
<b>Christmas fun trip Santa</b>	<b>570.00</b>	<b>Fun trips Santa</b>	<b>696.00</b>
<b>School Show , shop programmes tickets etc</b>	<b>2498.00</b>	<b>School Show items purchased costumes etc</b>	<b>748.97</b>
		<b>Charity Blind</b>	<b>80.00</b>
		<b>Concerts</b>	<b>650.00</b>
<b>Holy books y4 test packs</b>	<b>57.00</b>	<b>Bins +cleaning items for toys first aid</b>	<b>99.72</b>
<b>Santa visit</b>		<b>Deaf Unit and Foyle sign</b>	<b>125.00</b>
		<b>Transport Public to library</b>	<b>70.00</b>
<b>Bun sale</b>	<b>181.00</b>	<b>Uniform</b>	<b>20.00</b>
		<b>Various Meeting refreshments Confirmaton etc.</b>	<b>169.07</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£33,614.32</b>		<b>£30732.31</b>
		<b>Balance</b>	<b>£2882.01</b>



## COMMUNITY LINKS



At St. Eithne's we encourage our children to respect all the people with whom they come in contact. We teach them how to play, work and co-operate with others so that they can develop appropriate social and emotional skills needed for today's society.

### **Parents' Support Organisation.(10/11)**

Our Parents' Support Organisation does so much to support us. This group of parents and teachers has worked diligently to raise funds for the children. Thanks to Mrs A. Coyle, Mrs M. Ogilvie, Mrs D. Mc Dermott, Mrs M. Mc Chrystal, Mrs E. Godfrey, Mrs D. Shields, Mrs A. Keogh, Mrs M. Walsh, Mrs O. Parkhill, Mrs B. Mc Menamin, Ms. E. Friel Mrs K. Cregan, Mr C. Martin and Mrs Mc Gonagle, Mrs Brady, Mrs Mc Cusker & Miss Coyle.

The organisation meets on a regular basis to organise fund-raising events and in most cases help to organise for these events. They have helped with the Rickety Wheel, the School Show and Sports Day, which have become major events in the school community calendar.

If you wish to be a member of this organisation please contact Mrs Mc Cusker, Cathy Brady or our Parent Governor (Mrs Margaret Ogilvie).

### **Brilliant Volunteers : Thanks.**

We very much appreciate the voluntary work carried out by some of our friends and colleagues. A special mention must go to:

To Mrs. Bronagh Mc Menamin & Mrs. Noeleen Brown who are volunteer classroom helpers.

To Mrs. Annette Coyle, Mrs Margaret Ogilvie & Mrs. Deirdre Mc Dermott who worked in our school library, accompanied classes on school trips and many other tasks.

To Mr Paddy Mc Laughlin who enriches our children's experiences by reading stories and talking to classes about times in the past.

To Mrs Mary Mc Callion & Mrs Ann Doherty who coached our children in the swimming club and those parents who helped in the dressing rooms;

To Thomas Hale helping to coach the Primary 6/7 boys in the soccer club and for helping Miss Morrison coach the Girls' Only Football Club.

### **Coaching Programmes**

The Sports Council provided 6 week sessions of Gaelic football coaching for all of our Primary 2 and 5 classes.

Thanks to Shauna for the P.5 Gaelic sessions and Colm for the fundamental movement in P.1.

Thanks to Patricia for providing soccer skills to our Primary 4's.

Mr Sean Davis provides a coaching programme in soccer for our Primary 4 & 5 children after school on a Thursday. Mrs Kelly coaches a huge number of children for athletics.

### **Time To Read Project (Link with the Business Community)**

Some of our P.5 pupils were involved in the "Time to Read Project". We twinned with Airporter (Jennifer & Maria), HML (Mary & Una) "First Trust Bank (Helena)". The children visited some of the companies for a very enjoyable tour.

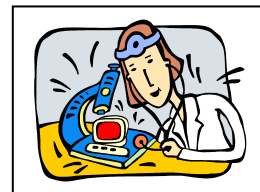
### **Young Enterprise (Business links)**

This year Jeff Gallagher (YE) organised a business linked programme for our Primary 2, 6 & 7 pupils. Once again a special thanks is due to Airporter. The company staff and manager Jennifer got us involved with Young Enterprise. Jennifer and Maria took our Primary 2 children through a lovely series of lessons on Our World. Our P.6 & 7 children experienced a day of learning about global business and gaining new financial skills and capabilities.

## Links with Other Schools & Colleges.

The school assisted local secondary schools with work experience placements. We also provided training opportunities for students from the North West Institute. These were students from NVQ, BTEC, HND and Diploma in Childcare courses helping them to gain a suitable qualification as Classroom Assistants.

Students from St. Cecilia's and St. Mary's, St. Columb's, Lumen Christi, Thornhill Colleges and St. Joseph's Boys School came to the school for work experience in our first term.



All of our year seven children were given the opportunity to visit their secondary school in June to get a flavour of the coming year in their new school.

This year some of our Year 7 pupils who were transferring to Thornhill, St. Mary's and St. Cecilia's Colleges attending special open day competitions and received prizes. A group of children went to St. Cecilia's to participate in an athletic Games day organised by the girls of St. Cecilia's.

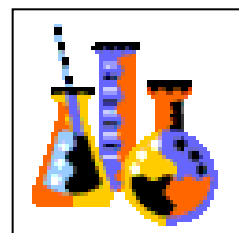


We assisted the Universities and Colleges of Education with the training of students wishing to become teachers. Four students from St. Mary's Training College and The University of Ulster were on teaching practice in Primary 1, 3 and 7. For shorter periods we had students who were given experience towards a PGCE qualification. Our pupils, teachers and students benefit immensely from this experience and we have a duty to share our expertise with younger people with a vocation for education.

## Specialist Schools' Partnerships.

Once again St. Eithne's were involved with St. Cecilia's, St. Mary's College's and Lumen Christi for different projects for the specialists schools. Our Primary 5 and 7 children were involved in a science programmes. They went to a science resource centre and pursued a number of scientific investigations.

A group of our year 6 and 7 children were able to attend an athletics day in St. Cecilia's. They joined with others in a fun athletics competition day.

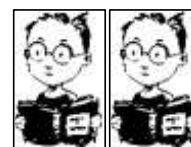


## EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS.

During the school year a number of trips and projects were organised in order to enhance an already strong curriculum delivery. Teachers are encouraged to take their classes on educational visits to places of interest. Every class in the school had at least one educational visit.

### Paired Reading and Paired Numeracy Projects.

As usual we conducted these two projects, which take place every year. They help to reinforce reading with interest at home and a fun interest in Maths. Mrs Doherty and all the P.3 teachers set up a paired reading project with our Primary 3 children and Mrs Mc Cusker and the P.4 teachers ran a Paired Numeracy Project with the P.4 pupils. Thanks to all the parents who volunteer their help for both the Reading and Numeracy project



## **Accelerated Reading, Accelerated Maths & Mathletics.**

These three programmes took on a new life of their own last year. They are new teaching & learning strategies we wished to try so that we could improve our pupils attainment in both Literacy and numeracy. The results are in and we are on the Up.

### **Accelerated Reading Programme.**

Our Primary 5 & 6 pupils became immersed in a new programme called Accelerated Reading. The programme has been an amazing success with all the children involved gaining an huge appetite for reading.

### **Accelerated Maths.**

This was a trial project last year. 2 classes tried this as an extra strategy (15 mins per day) and Mr. Cosgrove, Mr. Gormley & Mrs McGonagle withdrew selected groups of children (6 per group) to boost their Maths attainment. All the children who participated in the project improved their Maths scores considerably.

### **Mathletics.**

This Fun Online Numeracy gaming programme was also introduced last year as pilot amongst all the Key Stage 2 pupils. It created such a stir amongst pupils and staff as they competed to outdo each other that we found many of our classes becoming top of the UK charts and even the Mathletics World charts. The pupils just love Mathletics.



## **Term Educational Trips.**

There has been a huge increase this year in sending our children on educational trips. All children went on such trips at least once per term..

### **List of Trips-Environment/World Around Us-07**

For example the P.6 children visit the The Cairn (Green castle)to learn and be part of the Viking Worls, Our P.4 pupils go to Ulster American Folk Park whilst the 2 children went to The Playtrial in Belmont. Other trips include the P4 Year Group- experiencing Halloween Traditions Customs/ Halloween long ago in the Ulster American Folk Park.

All Year groups enjoyed an end of year fun trip in June.

## **Education for Mutual Understanding.**

Throughout the school teachers deliver lessons on the new area of Personal Development and Mutual Understanding which incorporates the building of self-esteem and respect for others. Primary 3 and Primary 7 pupils experience a series of lessons run by Paddy Duddy (NIHE Community Officer) which helps to broaden our children's minds and understand the different needs and behaviours in our community. The Fire service, the PSNI and other groups visit to give them an insight to their neighbourhood and the wider world and how stay safe as they grow up in society today. Our P.6 pupils attend a special course in the Shantallow Youth Centre run by the organisation "YES" to advise them on how to respect the community and warn them of the dangers of drugs and alcohol. The Fire Service pay a special visit to our Primary 5 children. ,

## **Pastoral Care & Pupil Promotion.**

Pastoral care is of major importance to us and we operate with the pastoral element uppermost in our minds. We have a pastoral team made up of Senco, Child Protection Teacher & Principal which meets at least every term. This year 2011/12 a new member (Pastoral Leader) has been added to this team. We have a Pastoral Care Policy which includes Child Protection, Pastoral Care & Behaviour /Discipline policies. We also have a comprehensive Bullying Policy. All these we follow vigorously keeping in mind the children's safety, safeguarding as well as promoting and rewarding positive behaviour.

Each year as part of our pastoral policy we conduct a “Pupil Promotion Scheme”, which gives all our children a chance to excel in academic and other curriculum areas including sporting activities, sports day, swimming competitions and football matches. Excellent attendance is recognised when pupils from P.1 to 7 receive a certificate at the end of each term thus promoting and encouraging good attendance. At the end of each term pupils are chosen from each year group as P.1 to 7 children receive awards for academic achievements within each year group every month rewarding artistic, poetic and writing skills. One pupil per year group receives an award for general behaviour and helpfulness. At the end of the year prizes are also given to those children who have surpassed all expectations.

Playground Buddy’s are selected every year from the Primary 7 pupils after a recruitment exercise mirroring real life situations. Children apply for the posts and if successful are trained to carry out the duties expertly. They fulfil a number of tasks during the break times and also are looked on as role models by their peers.

### Student Council.

The school has a student Council which meets once per month. These are elected members who have a lot of influence in many aspects of school. Their last request (playground equipment) was well received and followed up.

### Extra Curricular Activities (2010/2011)

Our clubs are always a very strong feature of our ethos and this year was extra special. The Extended schools’ Project helped us to set up a number of new clubs and strengthen already existing activities.



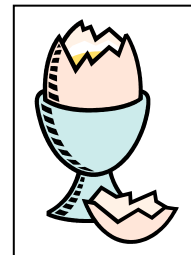
We try to include, as many Primary 4 to 7 children in our extra-curricular clubs as possible. All the teachers organise and manage a club because they realise how beneficial this is to the growth, development and behaviour of our children. The following list demonstrates the great dedication of teachers, parents and volunteers to our school community.

<b>Netball Club</b> (Mrs Kelly & Mrs Logue)	<b>Breakfast Club</b> (Mrs C. Kelly)
<b>Swimming Club</b> (Mr G. Cosgrove, Mrs Mc Gonagle & Mrs M. Mc Callion). Parent Volunteers: Mrs A. Coyle & Mrs L. Kelly	<b>Computer Club</b> (Mr Meehan ) <b>Computer Club</b> (Mrs Harrigan) <b>Sewing Club</b> (Mrs McGuigan)
<b>P.4/5 Football</b> (Sean Davis & Mr Kerr)	<b>Homework Club</b> (Tracey, Linda, Catherine & Laura)
<b>P.6/7 Football</b> ( Mr Feeney & Thomas)	<b>Homework Club (P4 to 7)</b>
<b>Reading Games Club</b> (Mrs Miller) <b>Credit Union Savings</b> (Mr Cosgrove)	<b>Athletics Club</b> (Mrs Kelly) Volunteers: Mr Breslin & Mrs Foy)
<b>ECO Club</b> (Mrs Mc Clean)	<b>Youth Club Games</b> (Mrs Dunne)
<b>Maths Club</b> (Mrs Mc Guigan / Mrs Flanagan)	<b>Credit Union Savings Club (Mr Cosgrove)</b>
<b>French Club</b> (Muriel D’Oria)	<b>Choir:</b> Mr Gormley
<b>Orchestra, Trumpets &amp; Violins:</b> Mr Gormley	<b>Violins:</b> Mrs Devlin
<b>Art Club</b> (Mrs Mc Monagle & Mrs McGirr)	<b>School Council</b> (Mrs Doherty)
<b>Maths Club:</b> Mrs Mc Cusker & Miss Coyle	

The Board of Governors wish to thank all the teachers for their work with the children in school clubs. The benefit to children cannot be accurately assessed but we are sure that the benefits are immense. It should also be mentioned that some parents have very graciously given up free time to help with some of our clubs. A special thanks to them also.

### **The Breakfast Club.**

The Breakfast Club starts every day at 8 a.m. and the children play games like draughts, chess and snakes & ladders. They can also get part of their breakfast free. Mrs. C. Kelly gives each child a ticket worth 30 pence. On the menu are pancakes and scones. Most of the children pop in for a cup of tea, a slice of toast and a game of Hangman.



### **Homework Clubs**

The homework clubs were quite successful last year giving children a chance to homework in a more structured environment. The homework club took place everyday except Friday.

### **Athletics Club**

Our Athletics club has become extremely successful over the last couple of years. More and more children are taking it up and the fitness level of these children is great. The children in the club are coached in a number of exercise techniques and run for a mile at least each week. Mrs Kelly then offers extra day-time training (Lunchtime) so that the children can raise their fitness levels for competition. The Athletics Team as usual do well in competitions winning as a team and individuals in cross country and athletics events throughout the year.



### **Swimming Clubs**

The Swimming Clubs which already caters for P.4, 5, 6 & 7 children in numbers over 90. A session takes place now in the “Large Pool “William Street. These children now learn to swim in a 25 metre pool. The success of the team was reflected in the large haul of medals won by all the children at the NWSSA Inter Schools’ Swimming Gala.

### **Healthy Eating.**

At St. Eithne’s we promote of healthy eating and leading a healthy lifestyle. Pupils do not eat chocolate biscuits or crisps at break time. Fruit has been available at break times for a reduced price and subsidised by our “Extended Schools Fund”. Pupils only have to pay a small amount per term for a piece of fruit every day.

### **Super Clubs (Online Safe Social Network)**

Forget Facebook and Utube; they are not for children under the age of 14. Our Primary 5, 6 & 7 children are able to access a safe educational website which is absolutely crammed with great educational games, information and fun ways of learning. This is a government-sponsored link and can be accessed at home. It is moderated by teachers so that no untoward material is seen or passed from one pupil to another.

### **Summer Scheme**

Outdoor Activities for P.6 and 7 Children.

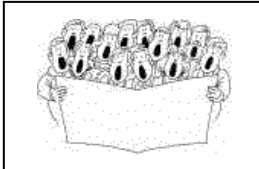


This year the Extended Schools fund was used to subsidise the trip to Gartan for the Primary 6 and 7 children. Last year we held this in July. Pupils only have to pay half the costs of the trip. The residential stay was great as usual. Pupils went orienteering, kayaking, abseiling and Sailing. Expert qualified leaders conducted each individual course and 4 teachers; Mr Cosgrove, Mrs Mc Gonagle, Ms Coyle & Miss Brady were on hand to look out for our pupils.



## Christmas Presentations.

There were Nativity plays in all Primary 1 classrooms and little Christmas presentations in the hall by P.2, 3 & 5 classes. All children in Primary 5 to 7 have their own little carol service in the hall on the last week before the Christmas Holidays.



## Choir

As usual the children of the School Choir had a busy year. They sang at the Holy Family Church at least once every other month at 11:00 mass and then at Christmas in the Church Carol Service and in the

Cosy Club in Hazelbank.

The Choir also performed at the P.7 Mass of Commitment, the First Communion and Confirmation Masses. We would like to thank all those pupils, their parents, and Mr. Gormley for their commitment.



P1 Nativity

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

### **Angling Course**

In September/October we embarked on a new and novel project for the first time. 14 Primary 7 children were chosen to take part in a Fishing Course. Two Enniskillen Fishermen took the children through their paces over a couple of weeks in September teaching them how to make fly hooks



and casting a fishing line. The children were working in the classroom and casting on the playground. They had a great day out fishing with a



number of them catching up to 8 fish altogether. Above Cameron shows the rainbow trout he caught with PackieTrotter, the angling teacher from the Loughs Agency. Well done Rhys, Abbie, Amy, Keith, Sean, Cameron, Chelsey, Hannah, Shay, Paul, Rebecca, Courtney, Oran & Conor. Their work can be seen on the website.

[www.steithne.net](http://www.steithne.net).

## The Annual School Show.



Evil witch, Veronica enslaved the children's father, Carlachanging him into a robot slave.

The Primary 7 children presented "Hansel & Gretel" in February. This event was such great fun for our Primary 7 children, hard work of course but an amazing experience for them. The children gained a wealth of experience on stage and off in preparing for this production. Staff and parents worked brilliantly as a team to produce a wonderful show for the community at large. We had great fun throughout and always find the experience exhilarating and worthwhile.

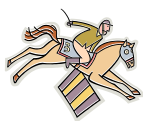


Hansel(Hannah) & Gretel (Eve) search for their parents.

Year after year the professionalism and slickness of this production gets better and better and is down to the sheer commitment and dedication of all those involved in its production. Well Done.

*The Board of Governors would like to express its thanks and pay tribute to all the staff for the great effort and extra work put in to produce such a brilliant production. Special thanks are due once again to the ladies of the PSO and all the staff who helped on the night.*

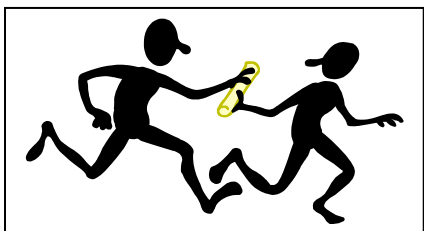
## Rickety Wheel.



Once again we held our annual Rickety Wheel Event on the first week in December. This was a very enjoyable evening for the school community and a good fund raising event. We managed to raise £2900 altogether, an astonishing amount. Thanks to all those who contributed and helped out in any way.



Tickets please..



## **School Sports Days**

It was a wet windy rainy sports this year but the children did have a great time in the end. Our children and teachers are made of tougher stuff and we lasted the day with ice creams provided for all. Brrrrr! These were great days out for our parents, grandparents and other members of the school community.

## Inter-Class Swimming Gala



Well done to all those boys and girls in Primary 5, 6 and 7 who took part in the Inter-class Swimming Gala. The races were very exciting and all the competitors had to swim at least 1 length (25m) of the large pool in William Street. The class, which won the overall trophy, was Mr. Kerr's P.5 class.

### **Book Fair**

World Book day took place on Thursday 3rd March.

To celebrate this, the children dressed up as their favourite book character we are having a book fair. The book fair came to the school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March until Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

The takings were £1641. This meant £984 worth for new novels!



### **First Communion Day**

Our primary four pupils made their First Communion on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 11:00 in Holy Family Church. The children making their first communion were able to save in the Credit Union Club to help meet the cost of First communion day.



Erin & Ciara lead the procession

### **Confirmation**

Bishop Lagan performed the confirmation ceremony on Sat. 29<sup>th</sup> January at 11a.m. at the Holy Family Church.



Instrumentalists

### **School Photographer**

The School Photographer (County Photographs) visited the school to take individual photos, class photos, family groups and a staff

group in February. They also took photos of the First Communion & Confirmation classes being present at the Confirmations to take individual photos.



### **Primary 1 Music Extravaganza**

This year Catriona Gormley & Ronan O Doherty have been conducting music lessons with the Primary 1 & 2 classes. This is a project organized by the "Derry Bright Futures" project and goes under the name "Musical Pathways".

Primary 2 children also receive similar lessons.

A little presentation took place on Friday 11 March. The whole show was around 30 minutes and was just amazing. Pupils really performed wonderfully for their parents.

Well done Catriona, Ronan, P.1 & P.2 Teachers and children.



## Visitors to the School:



It is part of the school policy to invite people of interest to the school and many people have come to St. Eithne's to help us with those extra little areas of education that our pupils need.

### Community Safety

Every year we have a series of informative visits by the Firemen, the PSNI, the Hazelbank community wardens and other members of the community to teach our P.3 & P.5 pupils some awareness of the dangers in the neighbourhood and also to educate them to understand how to be a caring member of our community. This project is organised by Paddy Duddy of the Housing Executive.

### French.

French Tutor, Mademoiselle Muriel took the Primary 5 and Primary 7 children for French once a week and Madame Martine took the Primary 6 children. Muriel also ran a French Club every Thursday after school.



### School Nurse

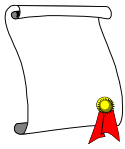
The school nurses visit the school regularly and on two separate occasions gave talks to our P.7 boys and girls about puberty which ties in with our RSE policy. This coming year the P.7 girls will receive the talk in October. This is a very worthwhile video and talk for the boys and girls and it prepares them for adult life. At 11 parents want to be sure that our children are getting a proper understanding of the changes they are going through and this is best done at this young age by a professional. So thanks again to Michelle for helping us out in this way.

Brigeen McCann has helped us out throughout the year offering short counselling sessions for pupils who may have suffered trauma, been through bereavement or are experiencing behavioural difficulties.

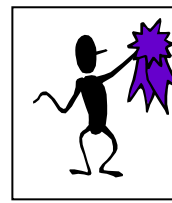
### The Professionals.

The School Doctor	Dr. A. Knowles	The School Dentist	Mrs. G. Quinn
The School Nurse	Ms Jackie Wade, Christine Diamond & Michelle Doyle	The EWO	Mrs G. Morrin
Peripatetic Music Teachers:	Mr G. Moran & Mr R. Goodman	The School Chaplains -	Fr. P. O Kane
The Psychologist.	Mrs J. Finn & Miss U Brolly	Outreach Teachers:	Ms M. Forbes & Ms M. Farrell
ASD Support:	Ms A. Greer	Speech & Language:	Mrs U. Sheerin
Occupational Therapist:	Mrs J. White	Physiotherapists:	Ms M. Mc Ternan & Ms P. Hillick
Counsellor:	Brigeen McCann		

We are indebted to those people who visited us or were of assistance to us over the last year: Many other people come to the school to provide one essential service or another. The WELB Grounds maintenance men and women cut the grass and maintain the grounds. Contractors are called in regularly to upgrade or mend electrical appliances, to complete the annual painting programme and in emergencies sort out problems that may arise with the building.



## Achievements



We encourage all our pupils to realise their own potential academically and physically. They are given the opportunity to compete in competitions within the school and when their talent shines through they may even be chosen to compete in inter-school or even national competitions.

Below is a list of some of the successes for the year.

### Credit Union Art Competition Winners .



**CONGRATULATIONS ALL ARTISTS TOP SCHOOL AGAIN!!!**  
**TOP PRIMARY SCHOOL.** (Credit Union Competition)

Well done to all the artists who took part in the Credit Union Poster Competition. St. Eithne's was the TOP SCHOOL.



#### Our Winners were:

1st in Age Group: **Eve Devlin & John Paul Harkin,**

2nd in Age Group: **Clare Coyle & Annabel Brown**

3rd in Age Group – **Lucy Harkin & Ryan Holmes**

4<sup>TH</sup> in Age Group **Lee Mooney , Colleen Moore, Dylan Doherty, Colleen Morrin & Stephen Mc Bride.**

The school also received a first prize of £150. This went straight into the school fund where it can be used once again to purchase practical equipment for clubs etc. and anything from which our pupils can benefit. Eve's picture went on to win the Chapter Final and then to the All Ireland finals where she received a prize for Highly commended. Well done Eve.

### Boys & Girls League Winners of The Derry Soccer Championships.



Back: Eoin, Ciaranie, Stephen, Diolain, Diolain, Ryan, Nathan, Rhys & Ryan.  
Front: Cathal, Joe, Callum, Scott, Rachel, Oisín & Michael.

Well done to both our soccer teams. The school Team won the Derry Schools' League this year and also managed to win the IFA 7-A-Side Outdoor championships taking them through to the Northern Ireland finals in Cookstown. The girls' Team was runners up and they also went to the Finals in Cookstown



Back: Molly, Caitlin, Aoife, Aoife, Maggie .  
Front: Aoife, Caitlin, Kayleigh, Maya & Nicole

We had a visit from Nigel Worthgington , Manager of the Northern Ireland team. He met both both and girls teams.

## Mini Chef Champions.

Well done to our special chefs in Primary 7. Winners of the Ulster University Mini Chefs competition.



Kayleigh, Zara, Carla & Clare offer a vegetarian alternative.

We sent two teams to the competitions and both reached the finals in Coleraine only to win the competition. Yummmmm! & Well done.



Sean, Naimh, Eve, Ciaran & Caoimhin delight in their winning dish.



Winning Swim Team. Swimmers who won medals in the North West Schools' Swimming Gala parade their medals proudly.

## Success in the North West Schools' Swimming Gala.

Congratulations to all those boys and girls who took part in the North West Schools Swimming Gala. There was a massive haul of medals at the event with all the Teams winning places.

### School Class Gala.

The school runs its own Inter-class gala every June. This is a great fun event. All primary 5, 6 & 7 pupils come to watch the chosen swimmers from their classes compete to win medals and ultimately see who wins the coveted Class Swimming Trophy. This year Mr. Kerr's P.5 class, although the youngest group were just too strong for all other classes.



Grades gained in November

Back: Una, Susana, Aoife, Cathan, Maria, Oisín & Dearbhla.  
Front: Eoin, Orla, Annabel, Megan, Mark & Chloe.

### Music Grades.

The school provides a number of musical instrument tuition lessons for children from P.4 to 7. This year pupils were strong enough musically to achieve Grades at the beginning and



Music Grades achieved in June.

end of the year.

This was a phenomenal success.

**Violin Initial Grade:** Aodhan Kehoe, Meghan O Doherty, Lauren Martin & Aimee Clarke.

**Violin Grade 1:** Aine Doherty, Megan Gillespie, Chloe McIntyre, Una Grieve, Annabel Brown & Orlaith McGough.

**Violin Grade 2:** Dearbhla Brady, Maria Doherty & Susana Granado.

**Trumpet Grade 2:** Mark Mc Cusker, Eoin Tuffy & Cathan Parkhill.

A special thanks to Mr. Gormley & Mrs Devlin for helping them to achieve this success.



## Investors in People

After three years we put ourselves forward again to be reviewed for the Investors in People award.

This is not an easy award to achieve. All staff members had to complete an online survey and then a number were chosen at random to be interviewed by the Investors assessor.

We came out of the whole process SHINING! Well done to all staff members. You're a great staff with excellent child caring and teaching & learning skills.

### Primary Four & Primary Seven Pupils ICT Awards

Well done to all our Primary Four & Seven boys and girls. They have all been awarded ICT Accreditation Certificates by the CCEA after a course on Computers over this last year.

These certificates are not easily achieved. Pupils have to achieve a number of information and communication activities on the computer and produce some quite amazing presentations to achieve the appropriate standards.



### Primary Seven Swimming Badges

Congratulations also to our Primary Sevens. They completed a 15 week swimming course and received badges from Level 1 to 3 proving their proficiency.

## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

### PARENT, STAFF, PUPIL & GOVERNOR QUESTIONNAIRES.

**Thanks to all parents for your responses to the questionnaire. There was a great response. 317 questionnaires were returned.**

Results of the survey are available on the school website: [www.steithnes.net](http://www.steithnes.net)

We are grateful to parents for the lovely things said about the school and also for the suggestions made. Many of the responses were of great interest to us. Many suggestions were made which we are already addressing.

These questionnaires were just one facet of an audit and survey which has helped us to determine our future development needs for the curriculum, the school environment and the pupils & school community.

We have studied our standardized test results, discussed with teachers and co-ordinators their understanding of our needs and also analysed the responses. The School Development Plan has been completed and we shall use it to develop our pupils and community over the next three years.

# Our Vision Statement

## "Today's Children, Tomorrow's Future".

### Vision & Mission

#### Aims for pupils

**At St. Eithne's we encourage our pupils to achieve their full potential by enabling them to:**

##### Personal Attributes

- develop into confident children with high self esteem respecting others and their environment;
- become socially adept working collaboratively and respecting others;
- personally develop high standards of self discipline and commitment to their Catholic tradition;
- 

##### Standards Progress

- achieve their own highest standards possible in all areas of the curriculum and develop skills of information communication preparing them for an advanced technological adult life

##### Qualities as Learners

- become highly motivated, independent learners properly equipped for the modern world
- develop lively, inquiring minds, acquiring skills of life-long learners.

### Mission for the school

**Our mission is to provide an ideal environment for our pupils' learning by:**

##### Ethos, Welfare Opportunities

- creating a safe, caring, sympathetic and understanding atmosphere and stimulating learning environment;
- encouraging them to value the school community in an atmosphere of openness, honesty and trust;
- bringing each child closer to God in a supportive Catholic community
- promoting confidence and self esteem through a rich programme of extra-curricular activities and educational visits;

##### Leadership Management Efficiency

- creating an open supportive, collaborative school environment in which all members of the community can contribute and progress.
- using rich, varied and up-to-date strategies designed to ensure that all pupils experience challenge and success
- providing appropriate resources that are managed effectively to facilitate learning;
- establishing close partnerships between school, home and the community for the development of our children

##### Teaching Curriculum

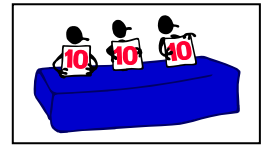
- offering a broad balanced challenging curriculum to enable children to realise their maximum potential;
- providing wide ranging opportunities for pupils to investigate, research and make their own connections as self-learners.
- working to provide the greatest possible academic, social, spiritual and physical benefits for our pupils;

##### Information Communication Technological Capabilities

- providing wide ranging opportunities for pupils to use up-to-date tools and ICT resources preparing them to become effective adults in a modern technological world;
- ensuring that the pupils attain effective ICT skills and capabilities through the provision of effective teaching and learning opportunities from appropriately trained teachers and teaching assistants;

**Assessment Results.**

Last year teachers conducted an assessment of pupils who were in their final year of Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2. This was a good year for us as it was an improvement on last year's results and inline with our School Development Planning.



Levels achieved in Year 4 at St. Eithne's		
<b>English</b>		
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
1.85%	42.59 %	55.56 %
<b>Mathematics</b>		
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
1.85 %	50.00 %	48.15 %
<b>Levels achieved throughout Northern Ireland</b>		
<b>English</b>		
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
5.92 %	50.84 %	42.80 %
<b>Mathematics</b>		
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
5.08 %	46.64 %	47.78 %

Levels achieved in Year 7 at St. Eithne's			
<b>English</b>			
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
	19.05 %	48.81%	32.14 %
<b>Mathematics</b>			
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
1.19 %	20.24 %	38.10 %	40.48 %
*****			
<b>Levels achieved throughout Northern Ireland</b>			
<b>English</b>			
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
2.96%	15.16 %	49.14 %	32.28%
<b>Mathematics</b>			
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
2.44 %	15.05 %	38.73 %	43.28 %

**Information Technology Achievements.**

At St. Eithne's Primary School we complete the CCEA ICT Accreditation Scheme. This scheme tests the skills and capabilities of our Primary 4 & Primary 7 pupils on Information 7 Communication Technology. We pride ourselves in being able to provide a comprehensive ICT teaching and learning experience throughout the school and also in giving our pupils the opportunity to avail of so many up-to-date ICT resources.

Levels achieved in Year 4 & Year 7 at St. Eithne's			
<b>ICT Assessment Outcomes Key Stage 1</b>			
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	
9.57 %	88.33%	2.11%	
*****			
<b>ICT Assessment Outcomes Key Stage 2</b>			
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
3.00%	21.05%	75.36%	0.13%

Well done to all or last year's Primary 4 & Primary 7 children. Technology Wizards all.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION**

Children with special learning difficulties will be identified as soon as possible and from time to time require additional help. There are a number of ways in which we at St. Eithne's hope to help. Class numbers will not go above 30 so that the class teacher can cope and concentrate on the individual needs of his/her pupils. Other teachers who have free time may be on hand to offer extra-specialised help for those pupils who need it.

The 2010/11 Special Needs Co-ordinator (Mrs Mc Gonagle) also withdrew pupils from class for extra help or work with these children in class alongside the class teacher. Extra special needs support is provided by Mr N. Gormley who took groups of children for extra tuition in class or in withdrawal sessions as well as music lessons. This coming year (2011/2012) Mr. Gormley has taken over as SENCO. The child's Educational Development Plan is discussed with the parents before such help is given. Close liaison with parents will also ensure that the pupil is receiving encouragement and some useful help at home. If the child's difficulties persist, the pupil may receive help from outside agencies such as the educational psychologist and Outreach teachers.

The school's Special Educational Needs Policy is available at the school office to any parent who requires it. It is also available on the school's website. Please note that we follow to the letter "The Special Needs Code of Practice". Children are assessed and placed on a list. The WELB Educational Psychologist assesses the need for further assessment following strict criteria and decides whether the child should receive a statement.

## **2010/11 Priorities.**

As with every year, we set targets to develop the teaching and learning in the school. Last year our main priorities were:

### **1. Literacy**

- Implement New Literacy Strategy;
- Accelerated Reading Programme with targeted group (P.5 & 6).
- New Strategies in Using of Data (standardised Scores)
- Review & Adjust Literacy Scheme.
- Pilot Inset Assessment for Cross Curricular Skills (Communication);

### **2. Numeracy**

- Implement New Numeracy Strategy;
- New Strategies in Using of Data (standardised Scores)
- Pilot Inset Assessment for Cross Curricular Skills (Using Mathematics);
- Review & Adjust Numeracy Scheme.

### **3. Assessment**

- Implement New Strategies in Using of Data (standardised Scores etc.)
- Pilot Inset Assessment for Cross Curricular Skills (Communication & Using Mathematics);

The children all benefitted from a strong focus on these particular areas.

**In 2010/11 we completed a three year development plan which has seen a massive improvement in the teaching and learning strategies of writing & reading. Reading lessons have become much more pupil friendly. New methods such as shared Reading, guided reading and accelerated reading have placed an emphasis on encouraging children to read and enjoy it.**

**We hope to continue these great strategies and move now to review our mathematics teaching & learning strategies.**

**A new three year plan is to be put in place so we shall be sending out further surveys and questionnaires.**

**Parents' views are important and your contribution will help us shape the teaching & learning environment at St. Eithne's for the future.**

**Visit our website for up-to-date information policies and a real insight to what goes on here at our school.**

### **Next Year 2011/2012.**

The school development plan for 2011/2012 is now available on the school website. After a comprehensive audit, questionnaires and surveys the plan was constructed and is now up and running through its first phase.

Priorities for the year 2011/2012 are as follows:

- Literacy:** Identify higher achievers and cater for their extra needs in class teaching;  
Begin to build "Reading Linked Activities" to tie in with reading lessons.  
Set up and deliver lessons which improve Reading Narrative skills.  
Increase Accelerated Reading Provision.  
*NB. We continue, as usual, to offer an excellent service for those children with special needs.*
- Numeracy:** Identify higher achievers and cater for their extra needs in class teaching;  
Improve all round Numeracy teaching & learning experiences (Individual class results analysis and intervention);  
Conduct accelerated maths lessons for a differentiated group in class as a booster.  
Foundation Stage progression in Number (Lines of Development)
- ICT:** Assess readiness and aim to attain the Becta Kite Mark; Review hopefully completed and the school to be evaluated in Term1 2011/12.  
Organise existing ICT lessons/activities / lessons and their learning outcomes around the Individual Learning Outcome list of ICT skills and capabilities.  
On a weekly basis assess & record your pupils' attained skills in ICT.
- Assessment:** Cross Curricular Skills (Communication & Using Mathematics) levels agreed and samples collected.  
Review Primary 1 & 2 to base lining & Testing.