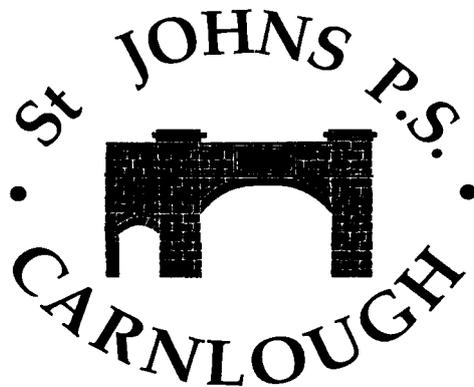


**St John's Primary School
and
Carnlough Community Nursery School**

**Board of Governors'
Annual Report**



2015- 2016

St John's Primary School and Carnlough Community Nursery School

Board of Governors

TRANSFERORS' REPRESENTATIVES

Rev. Fr. D. Mc Kay
Mrs M Scullion
Mrs M O'Dornan
Mr U Magill

CHAIRMAN

Mr S Doherty
12 Tower Road
Carnlough
Co Antrim
BT44 0VW

NEELB REPRESENTATIVES

Mr M Rodgers
Mr S Doherty

SECRETARY Mrs M Haughey

St John's Primary School

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Mrs K McConnell

PARENTS

Mr P Dougan

TEACHERS' REPRESENTATIVES

Miss B Donnelly

The Role and Responsibility of the Board of Governors

The Governors are ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. They are required to meet for a minimum of three times each year but in practice meet much more frequently than this.

Some of their duties include:

1. Promoting the Catholic Ethos of St John's Primary School
2. School Development Planning- ensuring SDP is being implemented and pupils have full curriculum provision.
3. Policy Review – ensure all policies are implemented.
4. Performance Management. Review academic performance. Set targets.
5. Admissions and Enrolment. Review trends and criteria. Ensure St John's offers an environment to fulfil all aspects of a child's education and wellbeing.
6. Staffing and Finance. Budget planning. Staff Audits.
7. Fostering links with the local community and pursuing the objectives of Mutual Understanding.

St John's Primary School and Carnlough Community Nursery School

Staff 2015/16

Teaching Staff

Principal	Mrs Haughey
Nursery	Miss A Killough
P1	Miss Donnelly
P2	Miss Mc Alister
P3	Mrs Black/ Mrs O'Reilly (1 day)
P4	Mrs Mc Hugh
P5	Mrs O'Neill (Miss Torney- Maternity)
P6	Mrs Mc Garry (Miss Mc Auley- Maternity)
P7	Mr Emerson

Ancillary Staff

Mrs J Esler	Secretary
Mrs J Mc Gaughey	Nursery Classroom Assistant
Mrs M Olphert	P1 Classroom Assistant
Mrs U Campbell	P2 Classroom Assistant
Mrs A Campbell	Special Needs Assistant
Mrs P Magill	Caretaker
Mrs J McLoughlin	Cleaner
Mrs M O'Neill	Lunch Time Supervisory Assistant

School Meals Staff

Mrs S Atcheson	Cook in Charge
Mrs S Patterson	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs G Murphy	Kitchen Assistant

Attendance

The percentage daily attendance for the year 2015/16 was

Review of Past Year

Staff

Following Mrs Mc Cartins resignation and anticipated maternity leaves of Mrs Mc Garry and Mrs O'Neill the foundation stage was realigned to provide stability and continuity. Miss Killough joined the staff in a permanent capacity. Mrs Black continued with her 4 day week covered by Mrs E O'Reilly.

The Senior Leadership Team consists of Mrs Mc Hugh as Acting Vice-Principal and Miss Donnelly and Mrs O'Neill as coordinators for Numeracy and Literacy respectively.

Staff Training

-CPD (In School) TRAINING

Year	Course	Course Provider	Details of Content
Previous Year- 2015-2016	SEN Training	Mrs McHugh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differentiation• Access to EPs• SMART Targets• Target groups• MASTS training
	Child Protection Training	Mrs McHugh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training of all staff.• Signs of abuse• Details of designated and deputy designated teacher• Legislation and laws surrounding child protection
	Using ICT	Miss McAlister	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 E's• Assessment tasks• In school moderation of tasks
	Numeracy	Miss Donnelly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numeracy assessment tasks• Mental Maths games and timetable mental maths lesson

	Assessment	Mrs McHugh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of PIE and PIM data • Setting of targets for LoP
	Literacy	Mrs O'Neill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing genres • In house moderation of tasks • Grammar • AR training • World Book Month
	Drama Through Scnce	Mr Webb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modelling appropriate drama strategies to use within topics across all key stages

Enrolment

Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2012/2013	23	23
2013/2014	17	17
2014/2015	18	18
2015/2016	22	22

Twenty –two pupils were enrolled in Primary One in September 2015.

The Curriculum

Under the Education Reform Order the responsibility of governors for the curriculum i.e. what is taught in the school, has been increased. The day-to-day organisation of the curriculum remains the Principal's responsibility. The Governors' control of the curriculum is mainly determined by the government.

It is however our responsibility to ensure that a broad and balanced curriculum is provided for all pupils. To this end the school implements the statutory requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Teachers continued to thoroughly plan, deliver and evaluate all aspects of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. A school prospectus is provided for all new parents and is available from the school office.

Literacy

Accelerated Reading

We are sincerely grateful to the PTA who continue to pay for the Accelerated Reading programme in school. Children are continuing to benefit and make great progress with this programme which is a very important part of the daily routine in school for P3-P7. The growth reports in each class reflect a trend of continued improvement with reading and comprehension. Staff regularly monitor and evaluate reports to inform teaching and learning. Accelerated reading is included in P3-P7 literacy planners.

World Book Month

Many activities were organised during the month of March in order to boost the area of reading within school. Mrs O'Neill held a 'bedtime reading' session for Nursery and Foundation Stage children. Key Stage One children took part in a book treasure hunt and in Key Stage Two all children took part in a Bumper Book/Author Quiz. On World Book Day all children were encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. The book fair visited during this month too.

Spelling Programme

The embedding of 'The Complete Spelling Programme' continues in P3-P7. The programme allows for continuity and progression throughout Key Stage One and Two and teachers are seeing the benefit of the programme within their classes. Costs of the programme were met by the PTA.

Numeracy

Mental Maths games continued to be developed and implemented by the teachers from P1-P7. An information evening was hosted by P5 using the outdoors to enhance their numeracy. This included the use of Izzak 9.

Numeracy Planners continue to include detailed learning intentions from each area of mathematics within the 6 week planner.

Standardised tests were administered as well as submitting CCEA levels in accordance with the Levels of Progression.

Michelle O Tool from St. Killian's visited to endorse the levels and consider strategies used for delivering mathematical concepts throughout the school.

Science and Technology

With Mrs Haughey being a fellow of the Primary Science Teaching Trust St John's strives to promote Science throughout the Curriculum. Mrs Haughey has attended many courses and conferences accessing the most up to date research and resources to enhance the opportunities for the pupils not only in St John's but in neighbouring primary schools.

PSTT Conference at the Waterfront Hall

Primary 6 demonstrated the delivery of science through drama in the conference held in the Waterfront Hall. Mr Webb and Mrs Karen Mc Cormick prepared the pupils and parents accompanied them to this event.

CSi Transition Project

PSTT funded a transition project which involved St John's PS and seventeen other feeder Primary Schools to St Killian's take part in solving a "crime". Principals and teachers came together to plan the project, with Teachers returning to St Killian's for training in delivery of the lessons. The culmination of the project was a final day held at St Killian's where the mystery was solved and all participants received an award.

Primary Food Sciences

The Primary 7 pupils were linked with an expert in the field of Bio Sciences – St John's were linked to a Scientist who worked with the pupils to investigate how our brain works. It turned into a fabulous project with the pupils presenting their findings at Stormont. They also went to Queens University Belfast where they presented their project to their parents and other schools and members from Queens University Science Department. In the Summer term they entered it into the Sentinus Young Innovators where they were the overall winners.

SEN

To assist in the early identification of specific difficulties which children might experience, standardised tests in Mathematics and English were carried out and an Intelligence Test was carried out with P4 – P7 children. Again the Code of Practice and SENDO Legislation continued to be embedded. Individual Education plans were drawn up and children referred for further assessment to the Psychology Service when required.

With all schools being given access to MASTS, St. John's was able to avail of professionals in speech and language development. This programme was completed in the P1 classroom by MASTS and resources given to the class teacher to use in the coming years.

SEN Meetings

In the previous years teachers have completed ASD training in fields relevant to pupils in their classes. Teacher required no training this year.

SEN	Date	Present
Meetings with Psychologist	9 th October 2015	Mrs McHugh Mrs Anita Homes

Swimming

As part of the PE curriculum Primary 5, 6 and 7 attended swimming lessons in Larne Leisure Centre. Although transport is costly this is a very worthwhile part of the curriculum.

Music Lessons

Mrs Mc Fetridge took piano lessons in the school on Tuesday mornings and parents paid privately for these lessons. Pupils were privately entered to complete their grades.

School Council

During the month of September class council elections were held and two representatives from each class P3-P7 elected on to the school council. The council met monthly with Mrs Mc Hugh to discuss ideas to help make the school a thriving environment for all pupils. They held meetings with Mrs Haughey on a regular basis to discuss their ideas and make suggestions to the school SLT.

ECO Friendly

Walk to School

Staff and pupils participated in Walk to School Week in May. This was very well supported by pupils, staff, parents and friends of the school.

RSPB

Primary 5 continued to develop links with the RSPB. They participated in a workshop where they made feeders for the birds and went on a bird recognition walk.

SUSTRANS

Sustrans is a nationwide initiative to encourage pupils, parents and teachers to become more active in their journey when coming to school. During the school year Emma Keenan , Sustrans Officer for the area, worked closely with the school in each of the key stages to facilitate training sessions. This cumulated in the school receiving the Bronze Award at prize giving in June 2016.

Events

Opening Mass

On Thursday 10th September there was a school Mass to celebrate the opening of the school year. This was attended by parents and parishioners. P4 and P7 attend each Monday in preparation for their Sacraments. Other classes continue to attend mass on a rota basis ensuring children develop their spiritual needs and are well prepared for the other Sacraments.

Anti-Bullying Week

This annual event took place in November 2015. Resources from the NIABF were signposted by Mrs Mc Hugh to all teachers. Each class organised their own events within their teaching time incorporating elements of PDMU.

Nativity

The Nativity was held in St John the Evangelist Church on Thursday 17th December for all classes and Carnlough Community Nursery. We are extremely indebted to Fr. Mc Kay for accommodating this event which as always is a very special occasion. Mr Webb helped to prepare the pupils for this performance.

Grandparent's Mass

During Catholic School Weeks a Grandparents Mass had been organised for Thursday 4th February. Grandparents and friends came to the school to visit their grandchild/grandchildren's classes.

Sacraments

Primary 3 received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 8th March 2016.

Primary 4 received the Sacrament of the Eucharist on 21st May 2016.

Primary 7 received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 21st April 2016 along with Seaview Primary School Glenarm.

These were all very special occasions attended by family and friends in the church and afterwards in the school hall for refreshments. Again many thanks to all the staff who assist during these religious occasions.

June Fair

The annual June Fair was held on the 18th June 2016 by the PTA who continue to work diligently to ensure that despite the recession the June Fair was a tremendous success and provided a great family day for the community. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this event such a success.

NI Opera

Primary 5 participated in an opera class organised by Anne Mc Cambridge along with pupils from CCIPS. Following the workshop, a summer school was organised as part of Glenarm festival. NI Opera were delighted with the success of the event.

African Drummers

Releasing Rhythms , funded by the PTA , completed workshops on drumming with each class in June 2016.

Sport's Day

Sport's Day was held on 4th May. It was a lovely day and supported by many parents. Ulster School's Council and primary 7 provided support for organising the nursery activities for which we are very grateful. Many thanks to Miss Donnelly for co-ordinating this event. The PTA provided tea, coffee and cakes for this occasion.

Prize Giving

The annual prize giving took place in St. John's the Evangelist Church on 22nd June 2016 with guest speaker Ruth Jarmon.. The whole school community were invited to celebrate the successes of the pupils. The Principal took the opportunity to thank everyone for their support in ensuring pupils have access to a wide and varied curriculum while at the same time striving to develop each individual's potential. Representatives from BOG, St. Killian's, ABO,CCA, PTA, AES, Mayor, Team Kit, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council, PSTT awarded prizes for a range of accomplishments to students throughout the school. Afterwards coffee and scones were served in the school for all attending. It was a great occasion to celebrate the success of the school community.

School Meals

We would like to thank Mrs Atcheson and her staff for continuing to provide an extensive range of meals which are to the highest nutritional standards. All meals conform to the standards required by the school's participation in Healthy Eating Initiative.

Sport

After school activities 2015-16

There was an extensive range of after school activities offered to pupils from Primary 3 to Primary 7 this year.

Sporting activities changed every half term. All children thoroughly enjoyed the range of activities which included:

- Mini golf
- Rugby
- Basketball
- Netball
- Hurling
- Gymnastics
- Dance
- Soccer
- Camogie

sporting activities were led by Miss B. Donnelly ,staff and qualified coaches from the Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.

Other After School Clubs that ran throughout the year were:

- Art and textiles
- Choir
- Homework Club

Coaching

Mr Dominic Mc Kinley delivered foundation coaching sessions in hurling and camogie to Primary 5, 6 and 7. The Ulster Council provided fundamental movement skills for nursery, Primary 1 and Primary 2 throughout the whole year.

Tournaments 2015-16

St. John's participated in several events throughout the year. Primary 5-7 children represented the school in an indoor and outdoor hurling and camogie blitz's organised by the by Cumann na mBunscol. A very enjoyable and competitive day was had by all.

School Trip

All classes took part in school trips throughout the year using the locality to promote learning within their topics.

Bushmills

The annual residential trip to Bushmills OEC for Primary 7 took place from the 21st- 23rd October 2015. During this experience the pupils participated in a variety of outdoor pursuits. St. John's staff joined the group in the evening taking part in additional activities.

Charities

This year we had a number of fund raising events to raise money for a range of charities including Trocaire and a special effort was made during Lent to raise money for the Missionary Sisters of Africa.

Links With The Community

School Choir

The school choir is made up of children from primary 3 to primary 7. They had a busy year with preparation for the Sacraments and the Nativity.

Parent / Teacher Association –

The PTA continued to be very active and ran many successful events for parents, children and the local community. They organised Fire side quizzes, Christmas Raffle and the very successful June Fair. The Governors would like to thank all involved with the PTA events and would encourage as many parents as possible to support the group. The PTA used the funds this year to purchase many items the school would be unable to and allow the pupils the

opportunity to participate in many events. This account is discussed and viewed at the AGM. Further information was displayed on the PTA Noticeboard and is available from the treasurer.

The Officer Bearers for the year 2015-2016 were displayed in the front foyer of the school for parents information.

Management

A review of 2014-2015 SDP, a School Development Plan and detailed Action Plans for 2015-2016 were drawn up.

BOG Meeting 5 was held on 14th September 2015

BOG Meeting 6 was held on 30th November 2015

BOG meeting 7 was held on 4th May 2016

Finance Committee Meetings were held 16th November 2015 and 28th April 2016.

SMT meetings were held on Monday afternoons regularly throughout the school year.

Sustaining Improvement Inspection May 2016

The school participated in a Sustaining Improvement inspection where ETI commented on the clear vision for continuous improvement within senior leadership. They mentioned how the data was being used effectively to identify priorities within the school and were monitoring and evaluating rigorously the quality of the children's learning. ETI commented very positively on the planning, the development of the children's mathematical skills and knowledge, their WAU investigations. They highlighted the impact of the staff's professional development work in drama and partnerships in the community.

Their conclusion stated "St John's Primary School continues to demonstrate a high level of capacity for sustained self-improvement in the interest of the learners."

Use of Development Days (Baker Days)

The training undertaken by staff reflect the sections in the *Every School a Good School document*: - **Effective Leadership, High Quality Teaching and Learning, Child-Centred Provision and A School Connected to its Local Community.**

	Date		FOCUS OF STAFF DEVELOPMENT
Baker Day	Day	Date	
Day 1	26 th	August	School Development Planning-led by SLT
Day 2	27 th	August	Role of the co-ordinators- Led by SLT
Day 3	28 th	August	Assessment Analysis Led by SLT
Day 4	29 th	August	Shared Staff Development Day with St. Killians College-‘Developing Confident and Competent Children’
Day 5	30 th	May	Developing Links With The Community
SDDs	Day	Date	
Day 1	24 th	Oct	UICT-Staff Training in the requirements for 2014-2015
Day 2	22 nd	Dec	Literacy-Assessment Portfolios-tracking pupils
Day 3	1 st	May	Assessment
Day 4	4 th	May	Numeracy
Day 5	29 th	June	PRSD

Assessment 2015-2016

- Pupils are tested at the end of Key Stage 1 (P4) and at the end of Key Stage 2 (P7). Tests are normally carried out around mid-May.
- Government targets recommend that the majority of children in **P4 will reach Level 2** and the majority of children in **P7 will reach Level 4**. Level 5 is the highest attainment at Key Stage 2 and Level 3 is the highest attainment at Key Stage 1.

KS1 Results-Present P5

English	% of pupils at level			
	w	1	2	3
 St. John's	0	5%	58%	37%
NI				

Maths	% of pupils at level			
	w	1	2	3
 St. John's	0	5%	58%	37%
NI				

KS2 Results-Present Year 8

English	% of pupils at level					
	w	1	2	3	4	5
 St. John's	0	0	0	62%	33%	5%
NI						

Maths	% of pupils at level					
	w	1	2	3	4	5
 St. John's	0	0	5%	43%	52%	0
NI						

Please note that due to industrial action by schools the data for the Northern Ireland average is unavailable.

Links with Outside Agencies

Antrim Coast Lion's Club

As always the school receives overwhelming support from the Lions. This year they made their annual Christmas visit distributing a gift to every child in the school.

Once again the Lion's assisted at the June Fair organising the Barbecue, assisting with the Wheel of Fortune and helping to set up and clear away the premises.

Carnlough Community Association

The annual trip to Stormont for Primary 7 pupils along with CCIPS and Seaview PS was held on 19th October 2015. This was a wonderful opportunity for the pupils and we are very grateful to all involved.

All pupils took part in the Christmas Card competition.

St Killian's College

St John's continues to develop their links with St Killian's College which are developed for the benefit of the pupils and to enable the process of transition from KS2 to KS3 to be as seamless as possible given that the majority of the pupils transfer to St Killian's. Activities to enable this throughout the year have included a Taster Day for Primary 7 pupils, an Open Day, Faith Friends programme where pupils are mentored in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. St Killian's students have also visited St John's as part of their work experience. Primary 6 pupils participated in a CSI transition project with 17 feeder primary schools culminating in a final skills day for each school in June 2016.

St Joseph's Primary School Dunloy

Mrs Haughey continues to work closely with Mr Mc Guckian gaining advice and expertise in Leadership and also in Teaching and Learning strategies.

Missionary Sisters of the Assumption

St John's pupils continue to support Sr Mary Mc Ateer, a native of Carnlough currently working in South Africa. Having pledged money to her via her sister Mrs Catherine Mulvenna, Sr Mary has provided feedback directly to the pupils telling them what their money is being used for and providing photographs.

NIFRS

Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service maintain very strong links with St John's. They supervise our Fire Drills and offer practical advice. They also visit the classes to provide advice on keeping safe particularly before Halloween.

Premises

The Governors would like to thank Mrs Magill and Miss Mc Laughlin for their hard work around the school maintaining and keeping the school.

Thank You

The Governors would like to express their sincere thanks to the Principal and staff (both teaching and non-teaching) of St John's Primary School. They are to be commended for their high level of commitment which has allowed high standards of achievement both inside and outside the classroom.

The Governors would also like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and wider community for their support of the school. During the year many events were organised for the school and local community which were enjoyed by everyone.

Carnlough Community Nursery

Carnlough Community Nursery participated in the Early Years Initiative and were a member of the Central East Antrim Area Project (CEAAP). Throughout the year this

provided much training and resources with CCN hosting training sessions in their setting. Mrs Haughey assumed the role as the chairperson of this group and organised events and presented to other Nursery teachers at Antrim Board Centre. Carnlough Community Nursery continued to develop relationships with parents organising information sessions guiding parents on how they could assist in their child's development and education.

Parents assisted with trips and events and were invited for 'Stay and Play' sessions which proved to be a great success.

Fundraising events were organised to purchase equipment for outdoor use and these events further strengthened relationships with parents.