

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

STRAIDBILLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Liscolman

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Pupil enrolment 103

Age range 4 to 11

Controlled school

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SCHOOL YEAR 2012 - 2013
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Chair of Governors

Mr J McConaghie

Principal

Mrs V McIntosh

Parent Representatives

Mr G Cox

Mrs H Adams

Transferors

Mrs H McVicker

Mrs M Graham

Mr C Currie

Mr J. Campbell

Board Representatives

Mrs M. Warner

Mr J. McConaghie

Teacher Representative

Mrs L Morrison

These Governors will serve from 2009 – 2013.

In 2013 a parent meeting will be held at which two parent representatives will be voted on to the Board of Governors for a four year period.

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the effective management of the school. The Principal acts as Secretary but does not have a vote. The Governors have responsibility in relation to the

curriculum, the appointment of staff, admission to the school, discipline and the school budget.

There were six meetings altogether during the school year 2012 to 2013. There were five full time teachers employed during this school year – Mrs J Ramsey, Mrs R Baker, Mrs L Morrison, Mrs R Vandevyver and Miss H Ramage.

The Principal, Mrs V McIntosh no longer has a role as a class teacher and is now employed only three days a week. Mrs R Vandevyver was acting principal on the two days Mrs McIntosh was not in school.

Mrs J Campbell, Mrs J Verner, Mrs Z Barr, Mrs L Montgomery and Miss L Sharp were employed as classroom assistants. Mrs F Hannah was a part time building supervisor and Miss L Sharp, Mrs J Campbell, Mrs Z Barr, Mrs J Verner and Mrs L Montgomery were lunchtime supervisors. Mrs C McKeeman was the full time cook and Mrs L Hunter her assistant. Mrs L Hunter, Mrs C McKaig and Mrs L Montgomery were the part time secretaries.

AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

The children from this school, through their work and experiences, will be enabled to develop aesthetically, intellectually, morally, physically, culturally and spiritually.

They shall therefore

1. develop independence and self-confidence
2. acquire knowledge, skills and practical experiences which will prepare them for further education
3. develop self respect, self-discipline and consideration for others
4. become well adjusted members of the community, demonstrating a sense of responsibility and good citizenship.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The Board of Governors appreciates the continued support of the P.T.A. The excellent support given to the pupils at home and the friendly helpful

communication between parents and staff is an important and valuable contribution to school life. The high attendance rate of parents at school functions is worthy of praise. The PTA raised well over £3000 and bought new library books for our Accelerated Reader library, and easter eggs for the children. In addition to all of this they purchased the children's Christmas presents. They paid for supper for the children during the annual sponsored walk.

Their fundraising involved a variety of activities including school discos, a craft fair, a sponsored walk and a clothes collection.

They also, through a sub committee, have taken over responsibility for school uniforms.

Again this work was much appreciated by the entire school community and the staff are indebted to them for all the effort and enthusiasm they put into fund raising.

VISITORS TO SCHOOL

The pupils gain valuable information and experiences from people who visit the school. It provides a starting point and inspiration for a variety of activities within the classroom. Over the 2012 - 2013 school year there were visits from Guide Dogs for the Blind, Coaching for Christ, Local Community Artists, Rock Ministeries, PSNI and the Fire Brigade. The minister of Mosside Presbyterian Church, the Rev. William Harkness visited school every month to take assembly. Rev P Wilson of Bushmills Presbyterian Church and Rev P Douglas of Toberkeigh Presbyterian Church also took assemblies at different times over the school year.

THE CURRICULUM

All pupils from P1 to P7 are taught the full range of subjects . These are

English	The Arts (to include music,
Mathematics	art and drama)
Religious Education	Philosophy
Physical Education	
Spanish	
The World Around Us	

The following cross curricular skills are also promoted through the teaching of these subjects-

Numeracy
Communication
ICT
Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

This year the foreign language initiative continued to allow pupils from P1 to P4 to be taught Spanish with the assistance of the NEELB. The Spanish was delivered by Miss Sharon Hoy, a language assistant employed by the NEELB and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Staff continued to deliver the new curriculum, which was implemented in all classes in September 2009. This curriculum is a skills based curriculum and in order to prepare for this we have already added a range of thinking skills and talking and listening skills to our timetable. During the 2012 - 2013 school year five exceptional closure days were held to facilitate staff development in these fields and also in ICT and thinking maps. We also held two joint staff development days with our P1EE partners where we looked at thematic planning and how we could link our writing to these themes.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All extra curricular activities are arranged in order to widen the pupils' experiences in the above areas of the curriculum.

SPORTS

Girls and boys from P4 to P7 were involved in a variety of sports after school.

FOOTBALL—football coaching was provided for the year by Mrs R Baker. Teams were involved in a small schools' tournament where the children played very well. The support of all parents who kindly provided transport is much appreciated as the children could not participate without this help.

HOCKEY - Hockey coaching was provided for part of the school year by Mrs L Morrison

RUGBY - Rugby coaching was provided by an outside coach and parents paid for this. Mrs L Morrison assisted with this.

TENNIS

The coaching for tennis was provided by a qualified tennis coach, Mr Anam Kapur and was paid for by parents.

SCRIPTURE UNION

This was run by Miss H Ramage assisted by Mrs R Vandevyver

ICT CLUB

This was run for part of the school year by Mrs L Morrison

BOARD GAMES

This was run by Mrs R Vandevyver and Mrs J Ramsey

CYCLING PROFICIENCY

This was run by Mrs R Baker and Mrs J Ramsey

PIEE – PRIMARY INTEGRATING AND ENRICHING EDUCATION

The link between Barnish and Straidbilly was further strengthened in 2009 when both schools became part of a larger partnership under the umbrella of PIEE. The two schools are now also linked with St Olcan's Primary School in Armoy and Armoy Primary School. This link has continued throughout the school year 2012 – 2013 and has been still further strengthened by the appointment of a shared teacher to move between the four schools. The shared teacher was Mrs K Bredin, who worked on joint PDMU schemes within the four schools and who left all four schools with an excellent PDMU scheme which will be used for many years to come.

During the school year 2012 – 2013 the Key Stage 1 classes (P3 and 4) met together with children from the other schools on several occasions. There was also a visit to the zoo to link with the current World Around Us theme being delivered in all four schools.

The key stage 2 classes (P6 and 7) visited the Ulster Folk Museum in line with their World Around Us theme of Changes.

Art day in Armoy

Staff from all four schools met up on a regular basis for curriculum development.

OTHER OUTSIDE VISITS

P6-7

Two night residential visit to Castlewellan

A visit to Ballycastle High School for a Fantastic Plastic day

Street wise in Ballycastle

Whole school

Trip to the Jet Centre in Coleraine to view the latest Christmas film.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2011 - 2012

Expenditure	£
Staff Costs (Teaching and Non-teaching)	£308,369
Other Costs	
Heating & Lighting	9,350
Maintenance	4,020
Books and materials	7,000
Administration	3,900
Total Expenditure	£ 332,639
Total Resources Available	£ 324,039
Balance brought forward	£ 49,000
Total Budget	£ 373,039
Less expenditure	£ 332,639
Approx. balance to carry forward	£ 40,400
This is used to maintain the number of teaching staff.	

SCHOOL FUND

Balance at end of year £169.59

Examples of what expenditure was for: sponsorship of child in Uganda through Rock Ministeries, buses for transport, subsidies for various trips, prizes, medals and books.

This account has been audited by NEELB auditors.

As Governors, we appreciate the support and co-operation of parents, pupils, teaching staff and ancillary staff who, together, assist in the smooth running of the school.

PASTORAL CARE

Teachers adopt a positive and caring attitude to children in the classroom. A policy on child protection is in place.

The designated Child Protection teacher is Mrs J Ramsey and her deputy is Mrs V McIntosh.

The Chairman of the Board of Governors is Mr J McConaghie. Any queries regarding matters of Child Protection should be addressed to the above.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Parents are offered two formal interviews with their child's teacher each year. At the first of these interviews in the first term, parents of children from P4 to P7 are given written information about their child's performance in INCAS (individual computerized assessments). Parents also receive a formal report of their child's progress in the third term of each school year.

POLICIES

A wide range of policies are kept in school and these include Child Protection, Anti Bullying, Special Needs, Discipline, Parental Access, Attendance and policies for the full range of curricular issues. These are also available on the school website. Any parent requiring a hard copy of any policy can obtain one by ringing the school.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This school acknowledges that the needs of all pupils who have special educational needs, either throughout or, at any time during their school careers, must be addressed, and that these pupils have the right to have access to a broad and balanced curriculum which covers all aspects of the National Curriculum. The Special Educational Needs co-ordinator is Mrs J Ramsey. During the school year 2011 -2012 fifteen children were recorded on our register as requiring extra help.

ACCESS FOR DISABLED PUPILS

There is a ramp leading up to the front of the school and a disabled toilet is provided within the school. Two disabled parking spaces are available in the school car park which parents of disabled pupils can use when leaving their children to school or collecting them.

SCHOOL SECURITY

The school has a burglar alarm installed which is linked to a central call station in Manchester. In the event of the burglar alarm being set off a number of staff can be contacted immediately. There are also security lights in the playground. A security system has been fitted on all external doors.

END OF YEAR ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Key Stage 1 (end of P4)

English 100% Level 2
 12% Level 3

Maths 100% Level 2
 6% Level 3

Key Stage 2 (end of P7)

English 100% Level 4
 25% Level 5

Maths 100% Level 4

Please note that from the 2012/13 school year, all schools assess pupils using the more challenging Levels of Progression. Due to the more demanding nature of the Levels of Progression, the outcomes for some pupils are likely to seem lower than might have been the case if

assessment had been carried out using the previous system of assessment. 2012/13 outcomes are not therefore directly comparable with results in previous years.