

Post-Inspection Update Quality Learning and Teaching

This year we have been focusing on providing a high quality learning and teaching and we feel we have certainly achieved this. We have been working on all areas of the curriculum and in particular ICT, Mathematics: Problem Solving, Writing in P1 - P3 and contextualising grammar and punctuation learning through shared texts in P4 - P7 - this means rather than learning punctuation and grammar as independent areas we are connecting these to our topics. As well as this we have been working on developing resources for differentiation - we have always differentiated children's learning in St. Joseph's however, this year we have had a much sharper focus on ensuring all lessons have clear outcomes for each group within every class.

We have changed our medium term planning in Literacy and Numeracy to ensure we are planning for differentiation and we are monitoring each learner in the class. As a result of this, teaching staff are creating resources and using timetabled slots to help children who may have found some areas difficult. We have been monitoring the use of Lexia and are using this in the most efficient way possible to target as many children as possible. We have purchased Mathletics which is an excellent resource for all children. We would encourage as many children as possible to avail of this over the summer. We would also recommend that your child reads over the summer - if your child is a reluctant reader, little and often will be very helpful.

Learning Support

- This year we have had a very successful year in Learning Support. We continue to offer Literacy and Numeracy support for P3-P7. Children from P1-P7 attended our Creative Voices and Newcomer programmes.
- We had wonderful Writers and Scribblers Clubs running for P3-P4.
- ASCET have carried out a whole class programme in P2, small group and individual programmes in P3.
- Down Outreach have worked with pupils in P4-P7.
- Longstone School also delivered programmes to individual pupils in P3.
- Mrs H O'Malley School Psychologist worked with Mrs Connolly.
- A range of In-service Training has been delivered to Classroom Assistants which included ICT and Behaviour Management training.
- The IEP format was updated and targets have been written for individual pupils and shared with parents and pupils.
- Specialised resources were ordered to facilitate pupils'

Numeracy

We have had a very successful year with lots happening to develop Numeracy in St Joseph's. All staff have been working very hard to improve the teaching and learning of Numeracy throughout the school and as a result we have achieved many of the targets identified in the Numeracy Action Plan.

We have placed a great emphasis on Problem Solving in school this year. Each child has had the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities throughout the year across 4 problem solving types (Finding All Possibilities, Logic and Reasoning, Exploring Patterns and Relationships and Visual Diagrams). In the recent Pupil Voice, many children commented on how much they loved the challenge of problem solving! We are looking forward to building on this success next year. We have a lovely display on the main corridor which shows lots of children's work in problem solving.

We also had a great Problem Solving evening for parents in November, where parents were able to learn more about each of the problem solving types and experience some of the activities that the children take part in. We are looking forward to another one next year!

Numeracy has been monitored closely through Lesson Observations by Mrs Fleming and Mr Thompson (EA), Book

Looks, Pupil Voice and data analysis. All of this monitoring was very successful and highlighted how much we have achieved this year. Areas for development were also identified and these will continue to be addressed in the next academic year.

We have purchased the excellent Mathletics Resource which the children are really enjoying. We have been so pleased with our introduction of this award winning digital resource to develop and improve Numeracy throughout the school, so much so that we have purchased the resource for the academic year 2017/2018!

We have also purchased 2 sets of the Izak9 cubes to enhance problem solving skills throughout the school, particularly in P5-7. The cubes have been utilised well since being purchased and we are really looking forward to using them more next year.

Maths week in February was a great success when we celebrated our love of maths throughout the school. Each class took part in a variety of activities and the week ended with a fantastic celebration of our 100th day of school!

We are delighted with all the success that we have had in Numeracy this year and are looking forward to continued development in the year ahead!

Language and Literacy

This has been an important year for Language and Literacy with all staff working hard to improve learning and teaching across the school. We are now proud to be in the position of having achieved many of the components of the 3 core targets identified in the Literacy Action Plan.

Primary 1-3 teachers have placed a specific emphasis on developing creative writing skills and ensuring that progression from P1-P3 is well established and all teachers attended EA led training in the writing process. The pupils showcased their writing talents through a number of competitions and many poems were published as part of the 'Once Upon a Dream' Anthology. We continue to celebrate a wide range of writing achievements through our Writing Displays and 'Writer of the Month' assembly awards. Teachers have also attended iTeach led training which has encouraged greater use of ICT to enhance the Literacy experience through a range of programmes and Apps.

More than £1000 of Scholastic Book Rewards were used to purchase resources and novel sets for all classes. P3-P7 now have a range of class novels that they can use to contextualise learning in grammar and punctuation. The Scholastic Book Fair was another great success that helped accumulate these rewards and we thank you for your support here and hope to see you at next year's Book Fair!

Literacy has been monitored closely through Pupil Voice, Lesson Observations and the recent 'Book Look', this has allowed us to identify and share good practice and highlight areas for further development in the upcoming academic year. We have reviewed our monthly Literacy planning across the school and are currently in the process of updating all long-term (yearly) Literacy planning. We will continue to use the Monthly Newsheets in the next school year to inform you of progress and achievements in Literacy.

ICT

What an exciting and successful year it has been for ICT. Each class now has Apple TV and 6 iPads as well as additional computers. This has not only ensured the development of ICT skills which are essential for the world we live in but it has also helped enhance and extend their learning across the curriculum. Children have used numerous apps from Green-screen, Book Creator, i-movie, Puppet Pals to Mathletics and Bee-bot.

With the popularity of ICT growing we offered 3 ICT Clubs - Go Media, Miniversity and Coding Club to cope with demands.

Keeping up to date with the school has also never been easier through Twitter and also the introduction of See-saw app in some classes. It's a great way to engage with your child and to see what they have been learning in class.

We are all looking forward to building on the huge progress we have made this year and taking ICT to another level next year.

We are pleased with the improvements made so far in all areas of the curriculum and have identified the targets for next year as well. We have adjusted our School Development Plan accordingly and will share that with you in the autumn term. Next year we will have our follow-up inspection from the ETI. It will be a 2 day inspection at some point before May 2018.

Sporting achievements 2016/17

This year has been our most successful sporting year to date. Our foyer is full of bright, shimmering, new trophies and we are so proud of everything that the children have achieved. As Mrs Gartland has been saying all year, we really are a Primary School of sporting excellence. Below is a list of all our major achievements, but we congratulate every single child who has played any sport this year, who has represented their school, themselves and their families. To us you are all stars!



- **P7 Girls Olympic Handball Champions** (Hannah Gartland, Enya Daye, Katie Magee, Mia Law, Tyler Hillier, Shannon Johnston, Sian Rooney, Moya O'Kane, Rihanna Lawlor, Kamile Ramanauskaite)
- **P7 Boys Olympic Handball Runners Up** (Fionn Dobbin, Conall Gorman, Oliver Nejmo, Conor Broderick, Ruairi Gallagher, Oisin Casey, Anton Beattie, Caelin McKenna, Lewis Hooke)
- **P6 Boys Olympic Handball Runners Up** (Kaelan Smyth, Ray Brady, Charlie McLoughlin, Jack McMahon, Conn Rush, Noah McGlade, Eoin Ryan, Shay McClure)
- **Cumann na Bunscoil Indoor Camogie Champions** (Enya Daye, Hannah Gartland, Mia Law, Eve Watson, Katie Longley, Anna Broderick, Molly Gribbon, Dearbhla Lynch, Aoife Doherty)
- **P7 Girls Indoor Athletic Champions** (Hannah Gartland, Enya Daye, Kamile Ramanskaite, Moya O'Kane, Sky Gaffey Sian Rooney, and selected for Rising Stars Programme (Hannah Gartland, Moya O'Kane, Enya Daye, Kamile Ramanauskaite)
- **Outdoor Athletics Boys** (Conor Broderick - also selected for Rising Stars)
- **Cross Country Champions** Conor Broderick and Enya Daye
- **Swimming Gala Medley P6/7 champions** (Moya O'Kane, Mia Law, Rihanna Lawlor, Anton Beattie)
- **Swimming Gala Freestyle P7 champions** (Anton Beattie, Cormac Marshall, Moya O'Kane, Rihanna Lawlor)
- **Individual Swimming Medallist's** (Moya O'Kane, Rihanna Lawlor, Justine Bigornia, Eve Watson, Yzabelle Pacia, Charlie Lawlor)
- **Antrim Schools Girls Four Wall Handball Champions** (Hannah Gartland, Enya Daye)
- **4 x P7 children selected for Cumann na Bunscoil Dublin/Belfast Games** in GAA handball (Hannah Gartland) and Gaelic Football (Conor Broderick, Enya Daye, Ruairi Gallagher) Winners: Enya Daye (Gaelic Football) Hannah Gartland (Handball)
- **Participants in Cumann na Bunscoil One Wall Handball Championships** (Conall Gorman, Ruairi Gallagher, Hannah Gartland, Enya Daye)
- **Netball Lisburn League Runners Up** (Enya Daye, Hannah Gartland, Katrina Visomirskye, Katie Magee, Shannon Johnston, Moya O'Kane, Rihanna Lawlor, Sian Rooney, Mia Law, Isabelle Barrett, Ella Maloret, Eve Watson)

Value of the Month: Thanksgiving

P1	Maram Tarab Aaron Patton
P2	Kori Jennings Eve Trimble
P3	Freya Jose Darragh Stewart Elisa Micu
P4	Maia McGaughey Anna Newnham
P5	Donal Wright Pia Dunlop
P6	Emma Duffy

	Alex Pienowski
Pope Francis Award	
P1	Ben Campbell Jazmin Vaczy
P2	Molly Richardson Roisa Magennis
P3	Lexie Williamson Wojciech Tunkiewicz Cara Cardwell
P4	Rosie Skates Ryan McGhee
P5	Daire Kieilty Sophie Jennings
P6	Dearbhla Lynch Luke Newnham Katie Hunter
Writer of the Month	
P1	Carter McFall Isabelle Vaczy
P2	Neil Jayan Molly McKenna
P3	Sarah Brady James Maloret
P4	Hannah Dougherty Jonah Dunlop
P5	Arvin Joshy Yzabelle Pacia
P6	Privia Saji Aoife Moran
ICT Whizzkid of the Month	
P1	Daniel Johnson Kacper Graczew
P2	Finn O'Hare Rodrigo Franco Daniel Jefferson
P3	Ryan Nokes Ronan Southwell Riley Brady
P4	Callum Agnew Charlie Green
P5	Ben Donaghy Eric Dowds
P6	Lorcan Cushnahan Chloe Quinn Beth Healy
Mathlete of the Month	
P1	Nicholas Badoi Samuel Bowman
P2	Caleb English Ethan McKeown
P3	Benjamin Jeffrey Jack McCann
P4	Imogen Murray Finn Lappin
P5	Euan Lappin Yzabelle Pacia
P6	Grace Mulholland Felix Jose

Mr Reid's class have earned the most certificates all year

Top Ten Mathletes By Activity Points 2016-2017

1	Yzabelle Pacia	185,320
2	Ethan McKeown	167,880
3	Imogen Murray	158,760
4	Caleb English	141,620
5	Rebecca English	119,810
6	Lucia McConville	112,050
7	Richard Mathew	79,590
8	James Wilkinson	76,640
9	Niamh Wilkinson	70,810
10	Felix Jose	64,680

Parent and Pupil Surveys May 2017

The results of both surveys have been very positive and are both improved from the surveys in October 2016.

Pupil Surveys

Over 95% of pupils said they were:

- Happy in school
- Felt safe
- School keeps them healthy
- They learned a lot in lessons
- Lessons were fun and interesting
- Adults in school care for them
- Teachers show them how to make their work better
- They know themselves how they are doing in school
- They know who to speak to in school if they are worried
- They get the chance to say how they feel in St. Joseph's
- Teachers listen to their ideas

Over 90% of pupils said:

- They learned problem solving in maths this year
- They were using ICT more in school to help with their learning
- The work their teacher gave them wasn't too hard or too easy

Parent Surveys

- 100% of parents said their child was happy in school
- 100% of parents said their child was safe in school

Over 90% of parents said:

- Their child made good progress in St. Joseph's
- They receive valuable information about their child's progress from the school
- Their child has developed maths problem solving skills this year
- Their child has used ICT across the curriculum this year
- Their child's work has been appropriately differentiated this year
- School communication has improved this year

Over 85% of parents said:

- St. Joseph's makes sure its pupils are well behaved
- St. Joseph's is well led and managed
- St. Joseph's responds well to concerns made by parents

The key areas for improvement arising from both pupil and parent surveys are ensuring that children are well behaved during break time and lunchtime as well as ensuring that we as a school deal effectively with bullying. These areas will take priority in the School Development Plan in 2017/2018.

Religion News:

We have had a great year for fostering the faith of the children in St Joseph's.

P3, P4 and P7 children received the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The children all showed great understanding and reverence and respect during each of the services.

Catholic Schools Week - This year the theme was Catholic Schools: Learning with Pope Francis to Care for our Common Home. The children took part in a variety of activities in their class to celebrate this special week. The week ended with assemblies from P3 Miss Clarke and P5 Mr Reid on Pope Francis and Laudato Si.

P1-4 now follow the new 'Grow in Love' programme, which has been a great success. We are introducing this new programme to P5 and P6 in September.

Throughout the year each class performed assemblies based on the themes from 'Grow in Love', Alive O and Liturgical Feasts. P1, P2, P5 and P6 invited their parents to assembly and P3, P4 and P7 invited their parents to Sacramental Preparation services. All assemblies and services were fantastic with the children delivering the themes with great confidence and enthusiasm.

P3-7 also attended Mass in St Patrick's on a rota system with all children attending at certain times of the year to celebrate the Liturgical Feasts. All of these masses were lovely celebrations, bringing together the school community of St Joseph's with the Parish and wider community of

Catholic Schools Week 2018:

Dublin has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the World Meeting of Families 2018. From 21-26 August 2018, families and

others from all over the world will gather in Dublin to celebrate their lives together, to share their experiences from different parts of the world, to reflect on the different challenges they face and to grow together in faith.

In partnership with World Meeting of Families 2018, Catholic Schools Week 2018 will be the height of a yearlong programme. The theme of Catholic Schools Week 2018 will be: **Catholic Schools: Called to be a Family of Families**. The programme invites Catholic schools to reflect on and to celebrate the relationship that exists between home, school and parish. There will be 4 sub themes at different times throughout the year: November 2017: Families of Hope
January 2018 (Catholic Schools Week): Families of Faith
February/March 2018: Families of Love
March/May 2018: Families of Joy
We look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week 2018 together within the family and community of St Joseph's.

Sal's Shoes!

Well Done everyone! We collected 179 pairs of shoes for this worthwhile charity!

Thank you so much to Bronagh Kennedy (Darragh and Kian's mum) for sorting and delivering. Thank you to the following P6 girls for helping to sort the shoes:

Katie McGurnaghan Isabel Barrett
Dearbhla Lynch Shannon Lavery

Code Club Success!

This year saw the introduction of the Code Club as an additional extra-curricular activity offered by St Joseph's in Terms Two and Three. The club has been very successful in exposing pupils to coding and teaching them valuable skills. The children completed the following activities:

Term Two

- Using Scratch to create algorithms to move a sprite.
- Programming Sphero, a motorised spherical object, to navigate a maze

Term Three

- P4 used the Tynker app for creating algorithms to move sprites to complete missions, including using loops.
- P5 used BBC Microbit computers, a pocket, codeable computer that allows you to be creative.
- P6 and P7 were introduced to HTML and CSS for web design.
- Some pupils also used Swift Playgrounds where they were exposed to creating code using programming language commands currently used for building apps.

Congratulations to all pupils who attended the club, the knowledge they gained and demonstrated at the club was fantastic.

Beat the Street Initiative

Next year we hope to participate in the very popular 'Beat the Street' initiative. In order to publicise this Helena from beat the street will visit our school assemblies on Friday 8

PTA News:

What a wonderful year of fundraising for our brilliant PTA! At the end of June, the PTA will have raised almost **£9,000** this year which is just fantastic! Thank you to all our parents and school community for supporting each of the events throughout the year. The PTA couldn't do it without you and are very grateful for your support!

Our last 2 events in June were fantastic. The Summer Fun Day was a great event and raised **£2,176**. The PTA also entered a team into the Lisburn Fun Run. There were 150 runners from St Joseph's who took part which is just amazing! Brian Magee led a brilliant warm up to get everyone ready for the big event. It was a super night for the community of St Joseph's and we hope to enter an even bigger team next year! A fantastic amount of **£1,110.50** has been raised so far through sponsorship – thank you!!

So far this year, the PTA have purchased blinds for classrooms, paid for the Pantomime deposit, organised the Communion refreshments and lots more.

All of the money raised this year will go towards supporting the school and your child's education, particularly next year when the school budget is very tight.

Don't forget to like the PTA page on Facebook to find out more about events!

<https://www.facebook.com/stjosephslisburnpta/>