

St Joseph's Primary
Standards and Quality Report
Aug 14- June 15
Parent Leaflet





School Improvement Priorities 2015-2016

- ✓ To maintain high levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy and reduce the gender gap in reading.
- ✓ To embed the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child.
- ✓ To embed the cluster Science framework and create a similar model for technology, ensuring coherence, progression and continuity.
- ✓ To ensure RE is planned and delivered in accordance with Diocesan guidelines.
- ✓ To ensure staff have a clear understanding of our rationale for Curriculum Design.



ⁱ Parental feedback P4 reading Workshop October 2014

ⁱⁱ Parental feedback God's loving Plan P6&7 Workshop January 2015

Dear Parent,

The purpose of this short leaflet is to give you a summary of the work and achievements the school enjoyed last year, as well as outlining the areas we will cover this year.

The school priorities for last year were:

1. **Mandarin:** To deliver the 1+2 Language Programme.
2. **Transitions:** To enhance our transitions within the school and beyond.
3. **Maths / Numeracy:** To implement the appropriate recommendations and findings from the ERC review of Mathematics to ensure a greater consistency in assessment.
4. **Literacy:** To implement the appropriate recommendation and findings from the ERC review of Literacy to ensure a greater consistency in our approach to the learning and teaching of Reading and to produce a cluster framework for 'Talking and Listening'.
5. **Science:** To produce a cluster framework for Science.
6. **RE:** To implement God's Loving Plan.

To help compile the evidence for this report the school has used the following methods:

- ERC Standards and Quality report
- Evaluations compiled by parents, pupils, staff and other agencies following a special event or visit to the school.
- Feedback given following learning visits, professional dialogues and other evaluation sessions
- Benchmarking the quality of work with schools of similar characteristics through the use of our tracking database and other mechanisms.

- Staff and Pupil dialogues and comments made by parents in homework diaries, jotter work etc.
- Departmental and whole school evaluations using Improvement guides, How Good is our school 3 and Shining the Light of Christ.

How good are we at recognising achievement and raising attainment?

Attainment in St Joseph's remains a key strength, with children consistently reaching or excelling national and local benchmarks.

During 2014-2015 the school's scores in Standardised Tests remained very strong. The overall score in Reading for P3, 5, 7 improved to an excellent 108 and in Maths we scored a consistently high score of 106.

In P1 we used Developmental Milestones to help us look at how well our P1 pupils were progressing. In St Joseph's, 83% of our P1 pupils were deemed to have reached the necessary developmental milestones for 5 year olds, this rests in comparison with the average for ERC of 69%. This coming year we will once again conduct this exercise and use the data, along with baseline results, to meet with pre 5 staff and discuss next steps. As a result of last year's analysis, the school organised a fine motor control group for P1 and P2 pupils who were deemed would benefit from extra support to develop these skills. The group worked with a Pupil support Assistant twice a week for 2 terms in half hour slots.



Maths remains a strength in our school. This year we enjoyed visits from a secondary Maths teacher from St Ninian's who worked with P7 pupils. Our excellent Maths Champion, worked with the Cluster

- Adopt a House system based on four Scottish Saints where children's achievements are recognised and celebrated.
- Work with the Parent Council on better ways to ensure that parents know their views are taken into account.
- Allow 'Pope Francis' pupils to visit Bonnyton House and Hawthorn Court as part of their Faith Journals.
- Make better partnership links using East Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and other local businesses to help the children further develop their skills for employability.
- Continue to be involved in developments at school, Cluster and Authority level.
- The school will create a 'Self-reflection' booklet for staff which outlines key points in the process and gives further advice on where to seek professional reading, etc

What is our capacity for improvement?

The school is very well placed to continue its programme for improvement associated with this report and the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.

The school has a clear vision, strong leadership and strives to deliver the highest quality of education for all pupils. There are numerous opportunities for pupils to attain, achieve and maximise their potential. The strong collegiate approach within the school ensures that the excellent partnerships with parents, learners and other agencies will continue.

The school will continue to work to Get It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC), ensuring pupils are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included (SHANARRI). The school will continue to work towards and show commitment to East Renfrewshire's vision of **Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving through Excellent Experiences.**

Support staff			
Staff treat all pupils fairly and with respect	100%	0%	0%
Staff communicate effectively with each other	90%	3%	7%
I am aware of the school's procedures for protecting children	100%	0%	0%
Parents and carers			
My child enjoys learning at school	98%	1%	1%
The school takes my views into account	74%	5%	21% (15% didn't know)
Overall I am happy with the school	96%	1%	3%

What will we do next?

We will:

- Make teachers and parents further aware of the 5 capabilities; Prevention, Digital Community Engagement, Data Evidence and Benchmarking and Modernising How We Work.
- Implement the school's Improvement Plan.
- Further develop profiling within the school and improve pupils' ability to speak about their learning and skills development.
- Conduct a small scale enquiry into possible causes of a gender gap data in reading.
- Ask the Eco Team to re-apply for Eco Status, the Rights Respecting Team to apply for accreditation at Level 1 and Fairtrade status to be maintained.

Maths Standing Committee to create a parent friendly Common Maths Policy This has been broken into various leaflets for parents e.g. one on fractions and percentages, another on how to lay out division calculations, another on algebra etc and they are available from our school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StJosephs>

The school was awarded 1 silver and 3 bronze medals in the Junior Maths Challenge organised annually by the University of Glasgow.

In Literacy, our overall score was excellent (108) however it again showed that boys perform higher than the Authority average but less well when measured against girls.

Further analysis of the data shows that this pattern has been repeated over the three years. The school will work with neighbouring schools and Psychological Services to explore this issue in more detail, devising an Action Plan to address this discrepancy.

Pupils identified as being in the lowest 20%, were supported in various ways:

- those in the early years, received intensive 1-1 and small group support in basic phonics and writing.
- those in the middle and upper school, received additional support in reading comprehension.

This year we held a number of Parental Workshops on Reading which were very successful and next year we intend to expand these to Maths. This will mean that parental workshops for P1,3, 5,7 will continue with Reading and P2,4,6 will concentrate on Maths.

"It was great to see some of the reading techniques used in class and to get a wee idea of how I can help with reading homework".

In terms of Curriculum for Excellence results, the percentage of children at P1, 4 and 7 who reached or excelled the National benchmarks were as follows:

CfE attainment	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Target 2013-2015
Reading	90%	84%	90%	91%
Writing	89%	82%	84%	89%
Maths	90%	82%	92%	91%



P3 – P7 Pupils	Strongly agree or agree	Disagree or strongly disagree	Don't know or not answered
Teachers share learning Intentions and Success criteria in lessons	100%	0%	0%
I am supported and challenged in my learning	95%	2%	3%
I have opportunities to celebrate my personal achievements	98%	1%	1%
All pupils get help and support when they need it	93%	4%	3%
Teachers			
Staff regularly discuss how to improve achievement for all pupils at both stage and whole school	100%	0%	0%
Support for pupils with additional support needs is effective	100%	0%	0%
All pupils participate in activities which meet their learning needs	100%	0%	0%

Reconciliation and Communion and P7 pupils received the sacrament of Confirmation in St Mirin's Cathedral along with the children of Our Lady of the Missions Primary. Bishop John Keenan visited the children in preparation for this sacrament and commented on how well prepared the children were.

The school worked closely with Cartsbridge Evangelical Church with P3 children attending the 'Christmas Cracker' event and older pupils enjoying 'The Easter Experience'.

The school also enjoys close links with both Bonnyton House and Hawthorn Court, care homes for the elderly. Older children visited these homes to perform for the residents and links within the community were strengthened with children having a stronger awareness of the positive impact they can have on others.

Further links have been established through an After School Club run by MACS and a wide variety of after school clubs organised by the school's Active Co-ordinator Kerry Comerford.

How well do we meet the needs of our stakeholders?

ERC conducted a survey of parents, pupils and staff and we were delighted to learn that 96% of parents agree or strongly agree that overall they are happy with the school. Some other significant data is listed in the table below:



Attendance in St Joseph's is excellent; the table below indicates that over the last three years it has been consistently above the authority average.

The school will continue to work with parents and pupils to maximise these high attendance levels.

P1-7 Attendance	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	3 year average
St Joseph's	96.8%	97.7%	97.4%	97.4%
ERC	96.4%	96.9%	97.4%	96.7%



Pupil achievements very important to us in St Joseph's and their achievements are recorded through Class Blogs (P1-4) and Profiles (P5-7). Celebration of wider achievement takes place in class, at weekly assemblies and on the school's Achievement Wall.

Over 66% of pupils took part in at least one after school club.

The school has a long history of helping others less fortunate and has been heavily involved in fundraising for Marys' Meals, Missio,

St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society and our sister school in Sierra Leone, also named St Joseph's.

Through the generosity of the school community, over £4800 was raised last year for Sierra Leone with fundraising reaching over £7000.

Once again we held a wide range of committees including; Eco, Rights Respecting, Pastoral, Fair Trade, Pupil Council, Junior Road safety Officers and Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC).

All children participated in these committees and played an active role in making decisions which affected them. Additionally, two members of the Pupil Council met with the Director of Education to discuss pupil voice in St Joseph's.

The annual Provost Debate in the local Council Chambers provided a welcome opportunity for P7 children to develop their debating skills, along with enhancing their confidence.

Almost all children in P6 successfully completed the on-road Bikeability Training and the P7 pupils' personal and social skills were further developed through a residential trip to Dounan's Scottish Outdoor Educational Centre.

Pupils participated in National and Authority awards such as K-Nex Challenge, the P7 Cluster Maths challenge and this year St Joseph's also participated in a competition run by the Chemical and Process Engineering Department at Strathclyde University, called the FIRST® LEGO® League (FLL) competition. The school was very successful, as we won the Lego Trophy for Best Project. Due to the generosity of the Parent Council and the wider parent body, we were able to purchase additional Lego equipment and hope to run another LEGO club next year for those pupils who are identified as having a particular strength in technology.

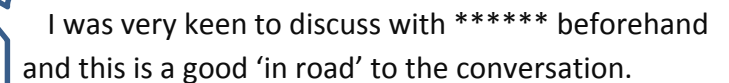
Modern Languages

This year we expanded Mandarin to P5-7 pupils. The visiting Mandarin teacher explored Chinese culture, food, drink, arts as well as simple Mandarin phrases and handwriting. P5-7 pupils worked together to showcase their work in a display area and received very positive feedback from visitors to the school and the wider school community.

Religious Education

The school introduced 'God's loving Plan' throughout the school. This programme was rolled out across the school with two different Parent Information Meetings being held. One meeting gave general advice on God's Loving Plan while the other gave particular advice on lessons taught in P6 & P7.

ii



I was very keen to discuss with ***** beforehand and this is a good 'in road' to the conversation.

Parents were also given the opportunity to take materials home and also to examine it in more detail during a later Parents' Night. A few parents felt that the key teaching vocabulary used was too 'advanced' for their child however it was explained that all content and delivery had been agreed nationally by the Bishop's Conference of Scotland.

We continue to have excellent partnership arrangements with the parishes of St Joseph's Clarkston and St Bridget's Eaglesham. P4 pupils were well prepared to receive the sacraments of