

**St Mary's Primary School
Stewartstown**



**Governors' Report
2010-2011**

Abbreviations used

SELB	Southern Education & Library Board
CCEA	Council for Curriculum, Examinations & Assessment
C2K	Body for ICT communications in School
RTU	Regional Training Unit
QUB	Queen's University Belfast
GTCNI	General teachers Council Northern Ireland
PMB	Partnership Management Board
PQH	Professional Qualification for Headship
SCRP	Schools Community Relations Programme
CRED	Community Relations, Equality and Diversity
InCAS	Interactive Computer Adaptive Assessment
MIST	Middle Infant Screening Test
ICT	Information Communications Technology
SIMS	Schools Information Management Systems

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
STEWARTSTOWN

GOVERNORS' REPORT 2010-2011

Dear Parents

It is with pleasure that I present to you the 2010-11 Board of Governors' Report for St. Mary's Primary School Stewartstown. It is our intention that you should be kept informed about your child's/children's school and so this report is one of a number of ways in which information is provided.

This report however cannot cover every aspect of school life, but instead provides a snapshot of the work that is ongoing in St Mary's. If you require information about your own child or have any concern, you should contact the school and arrange an appointment with the principal or your child's teacher.

If you would like to have additional information or clarification of any aspect of this report, again please contact the principal.

On behalf of the Governors, I thank you for your support and look forward to your continued interest.

I commend this report for your consideration

Yours sincerely

Mr J. Logan (Acting Chairman)

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Trustee Representatives

Mr. J. Logan (Acting Chairman) (2013)
Mrs J. Burns (2013)
Mrs A. Campbell (2013)

D.E.N.I. Representative

Mr. D. O'Neill (2013)

S.E.L.B. Representatives

Mr J Quinn (2013)
Mr. D. Lee (2013)

Parents' Representative

Mrs P. Coyle (2013)

Teacher Representative

Mrs. O Duffy (2013)

Principal - Non Voting Member

Mrs M Hamill (Secretary)

The year in brackets indicates the year in which each member's term of office ends.

Governors' Main Responsibilities

The Board of Governors are ultimately responsible for the effective management and running of the school. They are required to meet at least three times each year (usually once per term) but in practice, they may meet more often than this. Their range of duties and responsibilities are diverse and include:

The oversight of the curriculum;

The control of the budget;

The provision of information to parents;

The selection of staff;

The maintenance of the premises - a shared responsibility with S.E.L.B.;

The Admissions Policy; and

Fostering links with the local community and pursuing the objectives of Mutual Understanding.

STAFFING 2010-2011 TEACHING STAFF

Name	Role	Learning Areas Co-ordinator	Classes Taught
Mrs M. Hamill	Principal Designated Teacher Child Protection SENCO	Literacy	Learning Support
Mrs O. Duffy Miss S. Quinn <i>(maternity cover from Dec 2010)</i>	Senior Manager KS1 Co-ordinator Deputy Designated teacher for Child Protection	Numeracy Religion Music	P. 2/P.3
Mrs. P. Mc Bride	Foundation Stage Co-ordinator Public Relations	PD & MU Art	Rec./P. 1
Mrs. B. Hamill	Assessment	History	P. 3/ 4
Miss K. Scullion	Extended Schools	Geography P.E.	P.5 /6
Mr. M. Reilly	KS2 Co-ordinator	Science ICT (WAU lead)	P. 6 /7

NON-TEACHING STAFF

Name	Role
Mrs. P. Kells	Secretary & Supervisor
Mrs. L. Mulgrew	P.1. Classroom Assistant
Miss. L. Cullen	P.2 Classroom Assistant & Supervisor
Miss. N. Devlin	Sp. Needs Classroom Assistant & Cleaner
Miss S. Devlin	Sp. Needs Classroom Assistant
Mrs A McNally	Sp. Needs Classroom Assistant & Supervisor
Mrs. P. Coyle	Building Supervisor
Mrs A.M. Campbell	Cook
Mrs M. Newell	Assistant Cook
Ms M. Newell	Assistant Cook

FINANCIAL REPORT 2010-2011

Taken from SELB Common Funding Formula Allocations for 2010 - 2011

Budget

- Formula Allocation £427,501
- Additional Budget Allocations:
 - Extended Schools £ 17,971
- LMS Accrued carryover from previous year £124,374

Total Budget for 2010/11 school year: - **£ 551,875**

Expenditure **£ 448,971**

LMS accrued carryover to April 2011 **£ 102,904**

REVIEW OF THE PAST SCHOOL YEAR

The school year 2010 - 2011 has been another successful one in which many noteworthy achievements have been made in all aspects of school life. The teachers have continued to present the Northern Ireland Curriculum to the children in many varied and stimulating ways and at the same time developed and maintained good relationships within the school. They have worked tirelessly promoting the Catholic ethos of the school.

The 'School Development Plan' formed a major part of the work in June and September for the school teaching staff, formulating and agreeing targets and plans for the next three years following outcomes of audits and evaluations. The table on the next page outlines the school development priorities for the 2010-11 school year. Staff Development priorities as detailed in the table emanated from the School Development Plan and formed the major part of the school's work in 2010-11

Alongside these actual staff development days, work has been ongoing in developing long term plans for World Around Us (led by Mr Reilly) and integrating Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities into Personal Development and Mutual Understanding plans.

The Multi Agency Support Team (MAST) provided an information session for KS1 and Foundation Stage teachers on early identification of needs in young children.

Declan Evans (Banbridge Reading Centre) provided in-depth training, advice and resources for all teaching staff to support pupils with Dyslexia or dyslexic tendencies.

The school was successful in a bid for ICT Digital Story support with the AMMA centre in Armagh. This year long project enabled all staff to avail of professional development in ICT and all KS2 pupils to experience creating a digital story using iMac computers.

The Principal provided training for classroom assistants in the use of the ICT programme Lexia and completed year three of the RTU Beginning Principals Development Programme. As SENCO the principal attended termly Special Educational Needs cluster sessions and C2K seminars.

The Principal, Building Supervisor and Dining room supervisor attended Fire Safety training provided by SELB.

The DoE Road Safety personnel provided training, advice and support for three teachers.

The school was part of the CCEA pilot for the Revised Assessment levels of Progression. This involved three phases of training - 'face to face', online and whole school. This training was jointly delivered by CCEA and SELB. Teaching staff focused on online training (3 consecutive weeks of twilight sessions and one additional staff development day).

Additional funding of £1193 and £479 was allocated to the LMS budget in term 2 which facilitated each coordinator two non contact days to monitor and assess development in their particular learning area

School Development Priorities 2010/11

Regarding (DE Circular 2011/21) schools should include within their Board of Governors' Annual Report, details of days on which the school was closed for staff development work in 2010/11, together with a short summary outlining the outcomes of the main activities carried out on each day.

SDP Major Priority areas	Evidence base/justification for identifying this issue for major development	CASS Support Required Y/N	Details of CASS Support required: whole staff SD Day/series of after-school sessions / in-class support, etc.	Possible date(s) of Support	Contact Person for support arrangements	Area of ESaGS being Addressed
Linguistic Phonics: Spelling	Self evaluation Outcomes of SS in June 10.	Yes M McConville	After school sessions Staff Development day In class support	8 th , 15 th September 2 nd November	M Hamill(Literacy Co-ord)	High quality teaching and learning
Comprehension	Self evaluation Outcomes of SS scores in KS2 in June '10	Yes M McConville	After school sessions Staff Development day In class support	6 th , 20 th October 2 nd November	M Hamill(Literacy Co-ord)	High quality teaching and learning
ICT Levels and processes	Audit of T & L areas June 10	Yes AMMA V McNicholl	After school sessions CPD Development day After school sessions Whole staff development day	13 th September 22 nd September 12 th & 19 th October 28 th October	M Reilly (UICT Co-ordinator)	High quality teaching and learning Effective leadership
Revised Stat. Levels of Progression	Pilot Programme Teachers previously involved developing materials	No CCEA	CPD Development Day After school sessions Staff Development day	7 th April 9 th & 10 th May 17 th May 2011	B Hamill (Assessment Co-ordinator)	High quality teaching and learning Effective leadership
Extended schools Provision	Questionnaires of pupils and Adults	Yes D Hasson	After school sessions	28 th October (Questionnaire)	K Scullion (ex schools Co-ordinator)	School connected to local community
World Around Us Policy & Planning	Audit of Learning ESAGS document	Yes Joan Shine	Staff Development Days Staff Development day After school sessions	26 th & 27 th August 4 th January	M Reilly (WAU lead Co-ordinator)	High quality teaching and learning Effective leadership
Thinking Skills & personal Capabilities	Audit of Learning ESAGS document	No - CCEA	Whole Staff Development Day Staff Development days After school sessions	26 th & 27 th August 4 th January	P McBride (PD & MU Co-ordinator)	High quality teaching and learning Effective leadership
Development of Class Council Pupil Voice	Audit of PD & MU area of learning ESAGS Document	Yes Michael Kelly	After School Sessions	8 th & 15 th November	P McBride (PD & MU Co-ordinator)	Child Centred Provision

PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The Performance Review and Staff Development scheme was once more successfully implemented throughout the school, with Mrs Duffy assisting the Principal in acting as a Reviewer. Targets for development with teaching staff were set and both Mrs M. Hamill and Mrs O. Duffy observed classroom practice.

Mr J. Logan and Mrs J. Burns continued to act as the Governor Reviewer, observing the practice of the principal. They were assisted in this role by Mr John Keenan, who was appointed by CCMS as the External Adviser.

The Performance Review and Staff Development scheme once again proved to be a positive experience for St. Mary's P.S.

INTAKE

2010-11 began with the arrival of sixteen P.1 pupils and twelve Reception pupils. Fifteen pupils left the previous June to embark on second level education thus the enrolment for 2010-11 was 133 (including Reception aged children).

As part of our enrolment procedures, Mrs McBride held an induction meeting for P1 Parents in June 2010. 100% of Parents attended and all were provided with information, policies and relevant information regarding their child starting Primary school in September 2010.

TRANSFER

In June 2011, fifteen pupils transferred to Post Primary education. Eleven of these pupils took part in the Unregulated Transfer Test. Primary 7 children transferred to the following schools:

St. Patrick's Academy	8
Holy Trinity College	5
St Joseph's Grammar	1
St. Mary's CBS Grammar	1

The Board of Governors would like to wish all pupils every success in their new post primary schools.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT & MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

Through our Catholic Maintained system of education we ensure that children learn about and experience respect and tolerance. We encourage the children to respect one another by both words and deeds regardless of their beliefs and traditions.

It is with regret that the 'School Community Relations Programme' (SCRIP funded by D.E. has drawn to a close in the 2010-11 school year. A small amount of residual funding was used to support a number of joint programmes for each of the classes in school with our partner school Ballytrea P.S. This programme was an invaluable part of developing mutual understanding and supported the school's commitment to cross-community relationships.

The school was invited along with Ballytrea P.S. and Stewartstown P.S. to participate in a shared heritage Art competition by the Castle Stewart family at Stuart Hall. Pupils from across the school had the opportunity to visit Stuart Hall and draw some of its buildings. The pupil's art work was on display when the grounds opened for the European Open Heritage Day in September.

In addition, Constable Marty Allen (PSNI) completed a four week Citizenship programme with the P6 & 7 class. All pupils were presented with certificates at assembly.

Constable Allen provided a 'Personal Safety' Talk for the whole school at assembly in May.

ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

Statutory Assessment

During 2010-11 pupils were formally assessed at the end of K.S. 1 and K.S. 2. Parents were informed of the outcome of this assessment in the end of year reports.

Key Stage 1

KS1 English		
St. Mary's PS	L2+:93.3%	L3: 13.3%
N.I. Average	L2+:94 %	L3: 42.8%

93.3% of end of Key Stage 1 (Year 4) pupils have attained the expected level of 2 or above in Communication.

KS1 Maths		
St. Mary's PS	L2+:86.67%	L3: 26.67%
N.I. Average	L2+:94.12%	L3: 47.48%

In St. Mary's P.S. 86.6 % of end of Key Stage 1 (Year 4) pupils have attained the expected level of 2 or above in Using Mathematics.

At the end of Key stage 1 the average child should be attaining Level 2

Key Stage 2

KS2 English		
St. Mary's PS	L4+: 93.34%	L5: 6.67%
N.I. Average	L4+ 81.42 %	L5: 32.28%

In St Mary's P.S., 93.3% of end of Key Stage 2 (Year 7) pupils have attained the expected level of 4 or above in Communication.

KS2 Maths		
St. Mary's PS	L4+: 100%	L5: 73.33%
N.I. Average	L4+: 82%	L5: 43.2%

In St Mary's P.S., 100% of end of Key Stage 2 (Year 7) pupils have attained the expected level of 4 or above in Using Mathematics.

The Board of Governors would like to congratulate all children on their results and thank Mrs B Hamill for the management and coordination of all assessment processes in St. Mary's.

In Term 1 of the school year children from P.4 to P.7 were assessed using— InCAS (Interactive Computer Adaptive Assessments). The results from these diagnostic assessments were reported to parents at the Parent Teachers interview in November.

Non Statutory Assessment and Support Programmes

In addition to statutory assessment, pupils in P. 1 were assessed using the Bury Infant Check. Children in P. 2 were assessed using the Middle Infant Screening Test (MIST). These assessments were carried out to detect as early as possible any difficulties that a child may be having so that a support programme could be put in place.

The 'Forward Together' Programme was successfully implemented by Miss Quinn, with 8 P2 pupils and their parents. All pupils' scores increased following the programme and Parents provided very positive feedback in their evaluations. This programme was funded by the Extended Schools Programme.

The support programme provided by the Classroom Assistants enabled 26 pupils to participate in the Reading Partnership and Lexia programme, whilst a further 13 pupils participated in a Numeracy programme using the ALTA programme. Outcomes of the Reading Partnership Programme showed an average increase in reading scores of 8.2 months. The Governors would like to thank the Classroom Assistants who worked with the pupils and commend the professional way in which they carried out the programme.

All children were assessed regularly throughout the year using class tests and formal standardised tests in English (PiE), Reading and Maths (PiM) were administered in May by Mrs B Hamill, (Assessment Co-ordinator) for children from P3- P7. The outcomes of these assessments were reported to parents in the end of year report.

P.7 were also assessed under CCEA's ICT Accreditation Scheme. Each child was awarded with individual certificates stating the level achieved in ICT.

Parent teacher interviews were held in November 2010. A further interview was held in March for Parents of P1 pupils. These were beneficial to both parents and teachers alike.

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE

Attendance at St. Mary's continued to remain at a high level with the overall percentage record being 95.4% for pupils from P.1 to P.7. Class awards were issued once a term for highest attendance in each month. Individual 100% attendance awards were issued at the annual Prize giving ceremony. The class with the best attendance rate was Mr M Reilly's (P6 &7).

15 children achieved 100% attendance for the school year. In the month of March the school had a focused target for full attendance.



100% Attendance June 2011

FUND RAISING

The parents, pupils and staff of St. Mary's were involved in a variety of fund raising events to support school funds. These included a successful 'Tyrone Minor Day' celebrating the good fortunes of past pupil Ryan Devlin in September which contributed £110. Ticket sales and a raffle raised £1750 for school funds.



CHARITY

The school raised a significant amount of money for a variety of well deserved charities. These included a Healthy Breaks fundraiser for Trocaire (£511.15). 50 shoe box donations for the Romanian Shoebox Appeal, a Halloween Coffee Morning for Action Cancer £257, and a polio awareness Non-Uniform day which raised £149. The school's main fundraiser of the year was Barnardo's 'Share and Care' campaign which raised £477. The Governors would like to congratulate pupils, parents and the Stewartstown community for the continued charity and fund raising efforts made on behalf St. Mary's Primary School.

SCHOOL BUILDING & RESOURCES

All internal doors were replaced in classrooms, staffroom and the Principals office to ensure visual panels (in accordance with Child Protection best Practice guidelines). A set of fire doors was installed in the middle of the main school corridor.

Security at front of school was updated and enhanced with new DVR recording equipment being installed.

A major refurbishment programme commenced during the summer months where the remaining classrooms were stripped and refitted with suitable storage. All classrooms have now been repainted. New flooring for the school's main corridor and two classrooms was laid during the summer months; this involved the removal of asbestos material. This cost was met by the SELB maintenance department.

To allow access for outdoor play and a new morning entrance for the P1 and Reception class a new doorway was built and the surrounding area was refurbished with a decking and gardening area specifically for the youngest members of our school.

The sports hall was enhanced through the purchase of stage lighting and sound equipment. In addition more staging was purchased with curtains. A screen and data projector to facilitate talks and events was also installed.

There was a large investment in pupils' resources throughout the school year which included: new novels for all of KS2, mathematics textbooks and teacher resources, ICT hardware, including the installation of a further nine PC's and software, four iMac computers, two digital video cameras, four digital cameras and the Activote system were purchased.

SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES

Participation at a wide range of sporting events took place throughout the year. The girls and boys both took part in local schools Gaelic tournaments, with the boys coming runners up in the annual Academy blitz.

A basketball tournament was held in St Josephs College with P6 & 7 pupils participating. A netball tournament took place in Term 2 in St. Marys with all local parish schools taking part. This was made possible through the Extended Schools Programme.

Children in Primary 5, 6 and 7 availed of swimming lessons on a termly basis at Cookstown Leisure Centre.



Children's skills were developed through a range of expert coaching facilitators namely Cookstown Council's IFA for all pupils in Term 1, a DE funded Fundamental Skills Programme for P1-4 and a County Board Gaelic skills programme for Key Stage 2 pupils.

In May, St Mary's hosted their very own successful Gaelic football and Rounders tournament with six local primary schools participating at the Stewartstown Harps grounds. The girls achieved success with the rounders.

The annual Sports Day event was very enjoyable with parents both spectating and participating.

RECOGNITION & ACHIEVEMENTS

In line with our ethos St. Mary's recognised and valued all pupils social, physical, creative and academic achievements by including and acknowledging them throughout the school year. These achievements were celebrated in many different ways and were an on going process in all aspects of school life.

St. Mary's were once again committed to highlighting the positive nature of children's behaviour and achievements and rewarded all hard work and effort despite any academic difficulties that some children may have experienced. Verbal or written praise by teachers, peers, Principal and parents was encouraged. Pupils' work regardless of standard was displayed to encourage self-esteem and raise achievement. Pupils from P. 1 to 7 were rewarded at the end of each month for behaviour / hard work / effort and/or their personal capabilities.

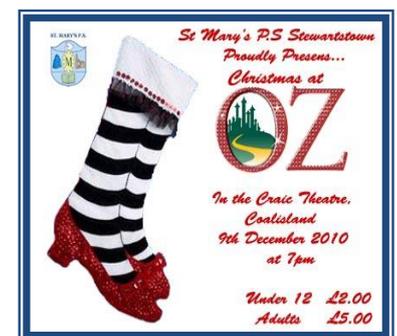
These rewards were as follows. -

- Star pupils of the month;
- Golden Rules awards- listens well; kind and helpful; being honest; looking after property; being gentle;
- Improvements in Literacy and Numeracy;
- Top fundraisers;
- Attendance and punctuality was also valued and recognised each term with certificates being awarded for 'best class attendance' and the month of March was highlighted as full attendance month.

The school hosted their 'Christmas at Oz' Christmas production in December 2010 in the Craic Theatre. Both nights were a sell out and the standard of their performance bore testimony to the effort, enthusiasm and dedication of both pupils and staff.

The Nativity play was hosted by the Primary 1 and Reception pupils for Parents on Thursday 16th December. This was a memorable event with our youngest members representing the school so well.

Governors would like to offer their sincere thanks and appreciation to all staff members who worked so hard in each of the productions.



VISITORS

St Mary's was visited by many organisations and groups either to inform or to entertain. Over the year we had the pleasure of hosting the DoE Road Safety branch and SELB library service.

Visitors to school have included, staff from Edendork P.S., observing practice in KS1 classrooms,

Non Government Agencies kept us abreast of current developments, these included: Recycling and Barnardos

The school hosted work experience students from a number of different organisations, namely: University of Ulster, St. Mary's College Belfast, St. Joseph's College, Coalisland, St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon, Holy Trinity College, Cookstown and St. Joseph's Grammar, Donaghmore.

The school welcomed parents from Ballytrea and Stewartstown P.S. as part of the Extended schools programme to a cookery event held in St. Mary's Sports Hall.

Many professionals also attended the school either to provide advice or to support a particular pupil. These included the Physiotherapist, Speech and language Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Behaviour Therapist, a member of the Behaviour Support Team, Autism Advisory Support Service, Educational Welfare officer and the SELB's Psychologist.

PROMOTING CATHOLIC ETHOS



The school celebrated Catholic School's week (31st January- 4th February) through activities in class, pupil's displays, a whole school assembly, through the making and blessing of St Brigid's crosses and attending Mass on the Feast of St Blaize.

The Primary 4 Children received the Sacraments of Reconciliation on 30th March and First Communion on 4th June 2011. Fourteen P.7 children participated in the 'Ceremony of Light' in April and received the Sacrament of Confirmation on 5th May from Cardinal Brady. These were very memorable occasions for all involved and the Governors' extend their appreciation to the efforts of Mrs B. Hamill, Ms N. Devlin

and Mr M. Reilly and Ms S. Devlin in the pupil's preparations.

School Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Mac Court for the whole school each term: for the beginning of the school year, Feast of St Blaize and end of school year thanksgiving. Children from P.4 - P.7 also received the sacrament of Reconciliation periodically throughout the school year. Primary 6 and 7 children continued to participate in serving at daily Mass. The Diocesan RE Advisers made their annual school visit on 3rd March 2011. Their feedback emphasised the high standard of Religious instruction provided by the staff of St. Mary's. Each class presented two assemblies during the year, promoting the values of the school and/or a special feast, for example, Christmas, St. Patrick, Easter and Mary. Michelle Robinson and Lynette Cullen continued to take school choir practice every Monday in school in preparation for the children singing at the vigil Mass each weekend. The Governors extend their appreciation to both ladies for their continued efforts.



PARTICIPATION

Children from all classes participated at the local Feis in Coalisland and scooped many of the top awards.. The Traditional Music Group represented the school on numerous occasions throughout the year, most notably at the St Patrick's Day Concert in The Burnavon, Cookstown, for Cardinal Brady at Confirmation and for Fr Mac Court at the P4 First Communion. On each occasion the children did themselves and their school proud.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Last year, funding totalling £15,275 from DENI's Extended Schools' Programme enabled St Mary's to be part of a number of cluster groups with local schools. St. Mary's clustered with the Parish schools - St. Joseph's College and Primate Dixon P.S. where both parents and pupils availed of a variety of activities. A further cluster - 'Cairn Cluster' with Ballytea and Stewartstown controlled primary schools enabled St. Marys to host a number of events where the pupils and staff were able to meet and engage in a variety of activities including, an environment programme and digital media. In addition, St. Mary's hosted a cookery event in March, where the parents from Ballytea PS and Stewartstown PS and the wider community were invited to. On this occasion, the school worked in conjunction with the Deli on the Green, Dungannon and the event was well attended.

The funds allocated to the school ensured children from P.1 to P.7 participated in a wide range of programmes outside of curriculum time that benefited them their families and the wider community immensely. These activities included: gaelic football, handball, ceili dancing, multi skills, netball; drama, art, ICT, first aid, music: choir & orchestra, gardening, cookery and photography. All programmes were very well attended and contributed greatly to the school's overall experience.

The Governors would like to thank Miss K Scullion for successfully coordinating and implementing the Extended School Programme.

DEVELOPMENT OF IRISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE



Through the Primary Modern Languages Programme (D.E.) St. Marys was able to offer Irish language culture and language classes to pupils in P1-P4 classes. The pupils participate in oral language development and enjoy speaking the words, phrases and songs they have learned with their tutor Miss C. Molloy.

Traditional Irish music was taught to P4 -P7 pupils. Tuition in tin whistle, guitar & mandolin took place weekly in school and was made possible by part funding from Cookstown Council. These pupils represented their school by performing at different occasions throughout the school year, for example, St. Patrick's day concert at Burnavon, at the Confirmation ceremony and at the beginning of school year Mass.

Pupils from each class participated in the speaking section of the Coalisland Feis. St. Mary's continued its tradition of high standards and achieving either first, second or third in each section. This year the school also entered pupils for the traditional music section, again the school experienced great success. The Governors would like to congratulate all pupils who participated and represented the school so well.

As part of Extended schools funding pupils in KS2 participated in ceili dancing for six weeks, this culminated in a 'Ceili Mor' in Kildress Parish Hall in which P6 and 7 girls participated.

Two end of Key Stage awards were presented at the annual prize giving ceremony the 'Gaelgoir na Bliana' (Irish Speaker of the Year) was nominated by Miss C. Molloy. The Governors would like to take this opportunity to wish Miss Molloy every success in her studies as she starts her BEd Hons in Education. Her contribution to the Irish language and culture at St. Marys was deeply appreciated.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Miss Scullion's Primary 5 pupils were involved in a year long "Musical Pathways" project led by Miss Keenan and Miss Rice, staff of the SELB Music Service. They completed their project with a recital for parents in May.



Throughout the year the school welcomed a variety of tutors & coaches to support, mentor and to develop and extend the children skills and capabilities. These coaches represented the

- o D.E. GAA programme developing fundamental skills for P1-4;
- o Tyrone County Board developing football skills to KS 2 children;
- o Cookstown Council developing traditional musical skills in the guitar, mandolin and tin-whistle and multi skills to KS2 children.

The Primary 7 children were presented with a number of talks and presentations throughout the year on a variety of themes including 'Transition' and 'Puberty and Drugs Awareness'. They also had visits from teachers and pupils from a number of secondary and grammar schools.

The school photographer (Tempest) visited the school to take pupil and family photographs in October and again in May in preparation for the school's 50th Anniversary.



Primary 7 pupils availed of a very successful four week ICT programme in St. Joseph's College, Coalisland.

In November, the Fire Service visited Miss Scullion's class and gave a 'Fire Awareness and Safety' talk to the children and the school celebrated 'Anti-bullying Week' with a talk from Barnardo's Charity.

The Scholastic Book Fayre visited the school in the first week in December.

Due to the exceptionally cold weather conditions in December the school closed on two occasions - 7th and 17th December 2010. The decision was not taken lightly and parents were informed through the BBC website, through the Parentcall text messaging service and the school website. Over the Christmas period the school was regularly checked and we were relieved that there was no damage to the property.

Governors would like to extend their appreciation to Mrs Patricia Coyle (Building Supervisor) for her diligence throughout the period of extreme weather.

The DoE Road Safety Agency provided a programme for P3 & 4 children, leading to a 'Safe Pedestrian Walk' around the town in Term 2.

The whole school attended the Grand Opera House to see the pantomime in January. The school nurse visited the school in January to carry out the Primary 1 Health Appraisals and Nurse Reviews throughout the school.



P7 pupils were involved in 'Taster Days' at St Joseph's College, St. Patrick's Academy and Holy Trinity College. All classes attended the Library in Coalisland in February and March.

Patsy Cavanagh entertained the whole school with his interpretation of 'The Children of Lir' in March. The 'Wally & Wise' puppet show entertained KS1 pupils whilst informing them about healthy choices and life styles.

District Inspector - Jane Sidor visited the school in May. She was welcomed into each of the classrooms and toured the school. Ms Sidor commented very positively on the children, their behaviour and the school in general.



The school's Eco Team were successful in the second round of 'Eco Schools Award' gaining silver status. The team invited a number of speakers to the school in Term 3.

In June the NI Health & Safety Executive gave a 'Farm Safety' talk to all classes; the Lough Neagh Rescue Team provided a 'Safety around Water' talk and demonstration to KS2 classes. A hugely successful Sports Day took place in June with a large number of parents and friends in attendance.

Also in June the P6 & 7 children took part in the annual St Mary's Tournament which took place in the Stewartstown Harps grounds. The girls were successful in winning the Rounders title. The Primary 5 class listened to the Ulster Orchestra in Dungannon

A fun day hosted by the DE Gaelic coaching programme and an end of year concert by the 'Armagh Rhymers' were a welcome reward for the pupils hard work throughout the year.

Healthy Spot Checks were made each half term to monitor the success of the 'Healthy Breaks' initiative in school. The school developed submissions for professional development and support for Music, ICT and an International Fund for Ireland 'Welcoming School's Project' for the next school year.

To mark their final year in St. Mary' P.S. the Primary 7 children produced a Leavers' DVD which they presented at their leavers' Assembly at the end of June.

Local businesses 'Coalisland Clothing Company' and 'Springisland Supermarket' sponsored prizes for the Halloween and Easter events.

The Sports Hall continued to be used extensively by groups from the wider community. Activities included gymnastics, bowling, yoga and gaelic football.

The school website was continually updated to reflect the wide variety of activities and learning experiences offered at St. Mary's.

PRIZE GIVING 2011

To highlight the many outstanding successes of the 2010-11 school year and to celebrate all our achievements, the school held its annual Prize Giving Ceremony in June.

Awards were presented to the different and varied sections of Sports Day; Cups were presented for the winning Houses, with Teach Bui winning overall

Academic and achievement awards were for the following categories: Most improved Pupil in each year band; 100% attendance; class award for greatest number of 'Star pupils'.

Participation awards were for the following categories: traditional Musicians; Choir Participation; Altar servers; as well as awards for Irish Speakers of the Year and Eco Award.

Team awards were presented to the school's rounders team.

Our Prize Giving Ceremony was very well attended and was a fitting way to round off an excellent school year.



Confirmation 2011