

FALKIRK COUNCIL
Education Services



Bo'ness Public School

Standards & Quality Report **Session 2008-2009**



Enterprise in Education
Gold Standard School

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you probably know, each year the government and the Council publish information designed to show how well schools and local authorities are improving pupil performance year on year.

In similar fashion, we in Bo'ness Public School would like to tell you how we are progressing in our school. This leaflet has been designed to do just that. It is our "Standards and Quality Report" for last session.

Inside, you will find a brief description of our main achievements during last session. We will report our progress under the four capacities of a Curriculum for Excellence.

I hope you find the leaflet helpful. If you have any questions about it, please do not hesitate to phone the school office for an appointment. I will be please to offer clarification.

Gillian Genoe
Headteacher

How did our pupils perform?

Attainment		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Reading	School	81	86	87	87
	EA	84	85	85	85
Writing	School	80	80	88	87
	EA	81	81	81	82
Mathematics	School	89	86	89	91
	EA	87	88	87	88

(Note: EA = Average for all Falkirk Council Primary Schools)

The percentages above show the attainment of pupils at minimum 5-14 levels or above. They show pupils in Primary 3 who have attained Level A or above, in Primary 4 who have attained Level B or above, in Primary 6 who have attained Level C or above and in Primary 7 who have attained Level D or above.

We are delighted to report a continuing trend in improved attainment, with only a very small 'dip' of 1% in Writing. We continue to exceed the Education Authority average results in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Our result in Mathematics is particularly pleasing. It reflects the hard work of all staff and pupils to improve in this area, and the effectiveness of our key whole school resource, Teejay Maths.

School Improvement continues to be the main priority in school, and with the efforts of a very committed staff and enthusiastic and hard-working pupils, we have the capacity for further success.



What we achieved in 2008/09.... 'A Curriculum for Excellence'



Successful Learners

- National Assessment levels in Reading, Writing and Mathematics were all higher than the Local Authority average. Some Primary 7 pupils attained at Level F in Reading.
- Miss Barclay continued her role as an Additional Early Years teacher to provide support for targeted pupils in the Nursery – Primary 3.
- Primary 7 took part in a successful transition project on Food Technology with Bo'ness Academy and Caledonian Produce.
- Interactive Smartboards are now installed in all classes, the nursery and Support for Learning classroom.
- New literacy resources were purchased for the upper primary stages.
- All pupils took part in a Creativity Project where they were supported in their learning by an Art and Drama practitioner throughout an extended topic in class.
- The school gained an Enterprising School 'Gold Award'
- The school was accredited at Level 1 as a UNICEF Rights Respecting School, the first school to be given this award in the Education Authority.



Responsible Citizens

- We took part in a wide variety of fund-raising activities for local and national charities throughout the year including: UNICEF, Jeans for Genes Day, Strathcarron 'Go Yellow Day', Rachel House, Valley FM, Charity Christmas Shoe Boxes for pupils in need and collecting unused/unwanted glasses for our Primary 1 appeal, Children in Need.
- We went out into our local community and delivered Harvest Goods, entertained with our school choir in local care homes and hospitals and took a full and active part in the Bo'ness Fair Day.

- Primary 7 pupils all carried out the role of Prefect in school, and Primary 6 pupils were trained as Playleaders.
- The SPCA and Red Cross visited classes.



Effective Contributors

- All pupils took part in our Christmas Enterprise afternoon run jointly with the PTA, fund-raising and running the activities on the day.
- The whole school took part in the community 'Big Fit Walk' in June.
- Pupils across the school took part in a variety of competitions and there were notable successes in the Seabox Society Art Competition and the Annual Flower and Bulb Competition
- Mrs Niblo again set up a support for learning pupil focus group to listen to views and take action on issues raised by pupils about how their needs were being met in school. Mrs Love also audited pupils' views on several key areas of school life.
- The Pupil Council/Eco Committee led the way in ensuring pupil voice was heard throughout the session. They also impressed a variety of visitors to their meetings with their willingness to contribute to discussions and decisions about the running of the school.
- Primary 7 pupils sat on the UNICEF Rights Respecting School steering group and assisted in implementing the action plan throughout the session.
- Our Primary 4/5 Choir performed at 'Accent on Schools' in Falkirk Town Hall in May 2009.
- Primary 7 took part in a 'World of Work' Day in Forth Valley College.



Confident Individuals

- Senior pupils ran and managed 'The School Factor' allowing all pupils from Primary 3-7 the opportunity to display a range of talents, Children in Need Day and Red Nose Day.
- **ALL** our Primary 7 pupils took part in a very successful outdoor education residential week to Kingswood in March 2009.
- Primary 7 held their own Burns' Supper in school.
- All pupils learned a Scot's poem for our poetry competition.
- Pupils across the school took part in out of school and in school sporting activities including: Football, Rugby, Country Dancing, Orienteering and Cross Country.
- The school played a full part in the annual Bo'ness Children's Fair Festival in June.
- Primary 6 took part in the Primary Schools Athletics Competition in Grangemouth Stadium
- Primary 4-7 pupils all attended a Cluster Carol Concert in Bo'ness Old Kirk.
- Primary 4 pupils set up and ran a 'Likeable Recyclable' shop as part of their Rights Respecting Schools topic, making a healthy profit that was given to the school Eco-Committee to purchase plants for our school garden

It was extremely pleasing to note that throughout the session a variety of adult visitors to the school including, external assessors, college tutors and an extensive list of individuals and groups who enhanced learning opportunities in the curriculum, all commented not only on the positive ethos in the school and the way in which our pupils behaved and engaged in learning, but also on how willing they were to take a meaningful role in discussions and have their voices heard.

Our priorities for 2009/2010....

This session we will continue to develop the four capacities of 'A Curriculum for Excellence' and work towards accreditation at Level 2 as a UNICEF Rights Respecting School.

Our main priorities will be:

- **Engaging with the experiences and outcomes from a Curriculum for Excellence in taking literacy, numeracy and health and well being through the curriculum**
- **Maintaining and improving attainment in Reading, Writing and Maths.**
- **Ensuring equality and fairness for all, and the development of Restorative Practices in our school playground as a way of diffusing conflict**
- **The continued development of Active Learning and Assessment is for Learning throughout the school, improving practice by setting up a Teacher Learning Community.**
- **Pupil voice and involvement in all areas of school life.**
- **The further development of the Parental Involvement Support and Policy Strategy support by our Parent Council.**
- **The development of our school library and other strategies and projects to encourage 'Reading for Enjoyment'.**
- **Early intervention and prevention strategies to reduce all barriers to effective learning in conjunction with other agencies where appropriate.**

We would hope to provide the following opportunities under the four capacities:

Successful Learners



- To maintain and improve attainment in English Language and Maths.
- To take forward programmes in Listening and Talking throughout the school.
- To deliver to all classes three ‘Cross-Curricular’ topics throughout the session, one of them having a Rights Respecting School focus, to enable pupils to see further common themes between subject areas and make learning more meaningful.
- To develop in pupils skills to learn independently and creatively, and provide opportunities to experience a variety of learning opportunities.
- To seek the views of pupils in the quality of teaching in school.
- To increase opportunities for peer and self assessment.
- To extend the principles and strategies of ‘Active Learning’ through developing Cooperative Learning through the school.

Responsible Citizens



- To reinforce and teach new pupils in school the difference between ‘needs and wants’ as defined by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- To teach all pupils to be givers and receivers of the enjoyment of rights.
- To give over the running of events to support charities to pupils.

- To continue to develop the role of playground leaders, House Captains/Vice Captains and prefects.
- To use infant and upper school assemblies as an opportunity to teach pupils key messages about health and personal safety.

Effective Contributors



- To further develop enterprise activities throughout the school to sustain our Gold Award status.
- To develop further the role of the Pupil Council in giving a voice to pupils and make better provision for information sharing on their decisions.
- To establish mechanisms for pupils to take a lead in furthering Restorative Practices in the school playground.
- To take our Rights Respecting Schools agenda into the cluster through Pupil Council meetings, and for some pupils to become UNICEF associate assessors and assist the organisation in accrediting schools.
- To continue to contribute to a wide variety of competitions and events in school, the local community and beyond.



Confident Individuals

- To improve personal safety for pupils in relation to ‘rights’
- To develop a Sexual Health and Relationships programme across the school and deliver the ‘Feel, Think, Do’ programme to all Primary 6 & 7 pupils in school.
- To ensure there are no barriers to Primary 7 pupils taking up their entitlement to the residential week planned for March 2010 to Dalguise.
- To improve systems for sharing with pupils how ‘bullying’ and other incidents are dealt with.
- To ‘showcase’ the success and talents of our pupils in as many ways as we can.