

How did our pupils perform?.....



Attainment		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Reading	School	93	95	94	93
	EA	83	84	85	85
Writing	School	82	87	83	87
	EA	79	81	81	81
Mathematics	School	90	94	90	90
	EA	86	87	88	87
Listening	School			96	95
	EA			85	87
Talking	School			96	93
	EA			85	85

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

Our overall attainment figures remain high ; the figures above demonstrate that the pupils of St. Andrews Primary School continue to make good and steady progress. We were particularly pleased that in 2007 - 2008 32% of the children in P7 attained Level F in Reading.

Listening and Talking are key communication skills and these aspects of Language are now also included. The development of these skills will be part of our School Improvement Programme in 2008 - 2009.

The pupils of St Andrew's Primary School continue to make steady progress and this is being maintained each year.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend staff and pupils for all their hard work during last session.

Congratulations to all.

FALKIRK COUNCIL
Education Services
St Andrew's RC Primary School
Standards & Quality Report
Session 2007 - 2008

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 St Andrew's RC Primary 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. Whilst we do many things in the course of a year, we have focused on what we consider to be the most important areas. In similar fashion, I have outlined the School's main priorities for next Session.

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 pleased to offer clarification.

Maria Cassidy
 Headteacher

What we achieved in 2007 / 2008

As part of Falkirk Council Education Services quality improvement programme a review team visited St. Andrew's in June 2008 to monitor and evaluate the school's performance. The key focus of the day was inclusion. The team gathered information from class visits, interviews with teachers, support staff, pupils and parents. This review was a very positive experience for the school, indicating areas of strength and also areas for us to work on to improve in line with A Curriculum for Excellence.

This year we examined the programmes of study in Social Studies to make sure that we were enabling children to develop their understanding of the world in its widest sense - these include historical, geographical, social, economic and business contexts. Teachers and pupils were consulted for their views. Our programmes of study were revised and we had a trial of projects in term 4. P6 and P7 held very successful events for parents in the school. P7 were involved in displaying their work at Falkirk Council's 'My Future's in Falkirk' showcase event.

St. Andrews took part in the worldwide SIMS survey of Science Education in May 2007, and this year we have been looking at ways to develop children's enthusiasm for Science. We identified "Improving Science" as a potential new resource for the school, and we made links with the Science Department at St. Mungo's High School. Science will remain a priority for 2008 - 2009 with a focus on teaching materials and resources to make sure that the children are fully involved in their learning and understanding of Science.

Attainment for all learners is a priority for St. Andrews. In line with the Additional Support for Learning Act we have taken steps to ensure we now have a clear system for staff and pupils to share information and provide progression in learning. Improved skills and confidence in spelling and phonics was another area that we identified for development. Studies have shown that the teaching of spelling is more effective when a multi-sensory and interactive approach is used. We have introduced an ICT based approach to teaching phonics and are reviewing the resources available for teachers.

The work of the staff and children in the school were recognised with two excellent awards this year. We achieved a Level 2 for Health Promoting Schools in November, and in May were awarded Gold Standard for Enterprise in Education.

Our Active Schools Coordinator provided a number of very popular lunchtime clubs which included Dodgeball league and aerobics. Members of the school staff provided a lunchtime club for Scottish Country Dancing, with the children then participating in the "Day of Dance". We had an after school club for Drama, resulting in a production to parents in May. These activities have been greatly enjoyed by the participating pupils, helping to raise the children's self-esteem and confidence.

Our priorities for 2008 / 2009....

We intend to further develop our programmes for Social Studies and provide appropriate resources for these topics. Co-operative approaches to teaching and learning encourage children to be more actively involved with the learning process and to develop their social and communication skills. We will explore ways to use this approach more extensively in the teaching of Social Subjects.

This year we aim to further develop our approaches to teaching Science. Science is a particularly important subject to develop due to the employment opportunities available in the Falkirk area. We, therefore, also intend to develop links with local science and technology based industry to give relevance to the children's learning of this subject. We will also source more science resources to use in the classroom

St. Andrew's Primary School is a Roman Catholic school with our aims firmly based within this Christian vision. The new outcomes for Religious and Moral Education in A Curriculum for Excellence were published by the Government in April 2008. We will be working with Learning and Teaching Scotland in collaboration with other schools in the Archdiocese to pilot these outcomes this session. We will review and develop our school policy in line with the new learning outcomes.

Talking and Listening are vital communication skills and we look to review and develop our programmes for Listening and Talking in line with the outcomes in Curriculum for Excellence. We will also develop children's awareness and appreciation of the Scots language. In the past we have had visits from Scottish storytellers and theatre companies. We will continue this practice and further develop aspects of Scottish culture with particular reference to Talking and Listening.

Following our success in Health Promoting Schools and Enterprise, this year we are hoping to achieve Silver Status as an Eco school. This will involve establishing an Eco Committee of teachers and pupils, as well as an Eco School after school club. The purpose will be to plan and make a school garden and make improvements to the school grounds.

