

How did our pupils perform?

Attainment		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Reading	SCHOOL	91	96	95	96
	EA	83	84	85	85
Writing	SCHOOL	88	90	91	93
	EA	79	81	81	81
Mathematics	SCHOOL	95	97	97	98
	EA	86	87	88	87

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

Within our school and nursery we have a set of clear and important priorities that gives a focus to all that we do. Your child's safety and well-being are of prime importance and we try hard to be responsive and supportive of all the children. Your children tell us that they are happy at school. We strive for an ethos that values self and is caring of others. In issues of teaching and learning we are ambitious for the children and encourage and help them attain and achieve their best.

Our health lessons are an example where all the issues noted above can be learned and practised. In the year gone by we have added to our health agenda by encouraging the children to make healthy lunch choices through the introduction of our coloured band scheme. During the two health weeks the pupils were involved in a range of activities from taster sessions to activity sports to fun competitions. All of these helped the school in being recognised as a health focussed school.

We also turned our attention to the health of the planet by devising learning opportunities and activities to help our children be more eco friendly. We recycled paper products and old clothes. There were a variety of activities to keep tidy the classrooms and the playgrounds. As a result of all our eco efforts the school was commended for its care of the environment.

Thank you to all who contributed to another successful year.

FALKIRK COUNCIL
Education Services

St Francis Xavier's Primary School and Nursery Class Standards & Quality Report Session 2007/08

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 Francis Xavier's Primary School and Nursery Class 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. 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.

Frank Doran
Headteacher



What we achieved in 2007/08

- **Links with Nursery and High School**

There is excellent professional dialogue between nursery and primary colleagues. Staff try hard to find opportunities to work together. Information is passed on as the children move forward in their education. We have expanded the link programme with our High School to include more pupil visits and we carry out a science project that makes connections between the two schools.
- **Active Start**

In P1, 2, and 3 the children start some of their mornings in a more lively fashion when they are engaged in a range of learning activities which they choose. This encourages each child to take responsibility, to share and cooperate with their fellow classmates and smooth the transition from nursery to P1.
- **Child Safe Barriers**

The school has received great support from Falkirk Council Education Services in paying for and installing safety barriers in both our playgrounds. This now means that there is a physical barricade keeping children out of the car park and safe in their own playground.
- **Development of Nursery Outdoor Area**

The nursery staff are very keen to use the external environment as a teaching place to further enrich the learning experiences of the children. As a result they have extended their activities onto the grounds around the school as well as adding to the play area beside the nursery. It is bright, colourful and attractive. We have been very fortunate in receiving support from local businesses.

Our priorities for 2008/09

- **School and Nursery Aims**

We want to consult with the Parent Council, parents, children and staff about the aims of the nursery and the school. We want to make sure that what we aspire to is shared by all who have an investment in the school and that the objectives reflect good educational thinking.
- **Cooperative and Active Learning**

It is our aspiration to find new ways to better involve each child with their learning. We want to look not only at the knowledge to be gained but also the skills that will help children be more successful learners. If they are shown and encouraged to take more responsibility and get involved in the decisions about their learning we believe that the work they do will have more meaning and relevance.
- **Feel Think Do**

We have a very successful sexual health programme that has now been running for a few years in the school. We would like to add another aspect to this work in P6 and P7. We have trained staff in rolling out a programme called Feel Think Do. This helps children better understand how to keep themselves safe and gives them strategies and techniques to deal with delicate issues.
- **Communication and Language in the Nursery**

In our nursery we want to be inclusive, celebrating cultural and religious diversity so that all children are valued in our friendly working environment. Through a good communication and language policy and appropriate activities we will make improvements to nursery life.