

How did our pupils perform?

FALKIRK COUNCIL
Education Services

St. Mary's RC Primary School and Nursery Class Standards & Quality Report Session 2008/09

Attainment		2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8
Reading	St.Mary's RC PS EA	83%	86%	86%	89%
		83%	84%	85%	85%
Writing	St. Mary's RC PS EA	82%	79%	74%	79%
		79%	81%	81%	81%
Mathematics	St. Mary's RC PS EA	90%	91%	89%	88%
		86%	87%	88%	87%

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

Overall our attainment is very good. There was a 5% increase in Writing and we are hoping to build upon this in session 2008/2009. Attainment in Reading and Mathematics are both above the Authority average which is good. We have a growing number of children whose first language is not English and I ask you to bear this in mind when looking at the data provided.

Julie Hanlon
Headteacher

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. Mary's RC 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

Julie Hanlon
Headteacher



What we achieved in 2007/08 ...

- Writing- A more structured approach in Writing is now in place. Pupils have the opportunity to write in various styles across the curriculum. Our attainment in Writing has increased.
- Mental Maths- All classes are working on Interactive Mental Maths.
- Social Studies- We have looked at the topics taught in light of A Curriculum for Excellence. Last session all classes studied a topic relating to Bo'ness. The work of the children and the staff has been identified as good practice by Learning and Teaching Scotland.
- Enterprise and Citizenship- In preparation for the Bo'ness Fair all children participated in events and as much responsibility as possible was handed over to the children. The Fair Day was a day for all to remember.
- Health Accreditation- The School and the Nursery Class were awarded Level Two Accreditation. Our Health Group were very active promoting all aspects of health throughout the year. We had another very successful Health Week.
- Eco Schools- We were awarded our Green Flag in May. Again, there was a lot of hard work put into this by the Eco Council. We will continue to work towards our second Green Flag.
- Numeracy and Literacy within the Nursery- The Nursery Staff focussed on Numeracy and Literacy within the Nursery setting. Our baseline assessment results were very positive. The children also had weekly ICT sessions with Mrs Bark, Principal Teacher, in the Computer Suite.

Overall we had a very busy and very successful session. We had a lot of visitors who commented on the good behaviour and confidence of our pupils which made us all very proud.

Our Priorities for 2008/09

- Handwriting and Presentation-We will work on this area this year. We may introduce a new handwriting style and would appreciate your support at home.

- Grammar- This was identified as an area for development by the majority of the staff. It will be a main focus in Language lessons.
- ICT- We will be setting up a new website so watch this space. We will also be looking at our resources and continue to have Smartboards installed as the budget allows.
- Active Learning- We will be introducing this style of learning in line with Falkirk Council Policy. We hope to have workshops for parents later on this session.
- Library- A new library is being created in Room 6. Falkirk Council Library Service are helping with the funding for this project which will benefit all the pupils in the school. We are hoping to set a parents' area within the library and will be asking parents to form a small focus group this session.
- Outdoor Area- We will be developing the Outdoor Area with the help of our Active Schools' Coordinator, the Pupil Council, the Eco Group and the Health Group. We have been awarded a £4000 grant and will be developing a small part of our grounds in conjunction with RBS Supergrounds Project.
- Learning and Teaching- An extensive Quality Assurance programme is to be introduced ensuring that the pace and challenge is appropriate for all our children.
- Nursery-Outdoor Area-We will continue to develop this area with the support of parents. We will be introducing a new system which will allow the children to access the outdoor area for the whole session.