



# Governors' Report

## 2014 - 2015

## Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the 2014/2015 Board of Governors' report for Donemana Primary School.

Once again you will be able to clearly see from the Calendar of Events and reports just how busy and varied a school year it has been for all of the pupils in our school.

I am sure that you are aware that Donemana Primary School had an inspection which was carried out late in the Summer Term. The Inspection had a very positive outcome with the school attaining an overall recognition as "good" under the headings of achievements, provision and leadership and management. The inspectors concluded by saying "The school has important strengths in its educational and pastoral provision. I would like to applaud Mrs Hay and all of her staff on this fantastic achievement. It is fully deserved.

It is well known that the successful schools work in partnership with the parents of their children. I would encourage all of you to get as involved as you can be with the work of the school because education does work. As parents, we are our child's first teacher and have a vital role to play. With your support, your child can achieve in education and improve their life chances. I would have no doubt that by working in partnership your child can be the best they can be.

In conclusion, I would like to pay tribute to the work of my fellow Board of Governors. They freely give of their time on a voluntary basis to ensure that your child gets an excellent education. I have every confidence that Donemana Primary School will continue to flourish and that the school will actively serve the needs of our local community in the years to come.

Simon Mowbray – Chair – Board of Governors.

## **The Board of Governors**

### **Chairperson:**

Mr Simon Mowbray

### **Vice Chairperson:**

Reverend Robin Stockitt

### **Transferors' Representatives:**

Mrs Alison Wallace

Mrs Ingrid Craig

Reverend Robin Stockitt

### **Western Education and Library Board Representative:**

Mr Simon Mowbray

### **Parents' Representatives:**

Mrs Caroline Young

Mrs Angela Campbell

### **Teacher Representative:**

Mr D Potts

### **Head Teacher:**

Mrs G Hay (Non voting member and Secretary of the Board)

## **Calendar of Events 2014 / 2015**

### August

25 <sup>th</sup> August	Mrs Hay attends Summer School Leading for Impact
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Staff Development and Preparation for the new school year Mrs Hay attends Supporting Playful Learning Course at Glendermott P.S
27 <sup>th</sup> August	Staff Development and Preparation for the new school year Mrs Hay attends Supporting Playful Learning Course –at Glendermott P.S
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Staff Development and Preparation for the new school year Mrs Hay meets Oonagh McNelis ref Extended Schools
29 <sup>th</sup> August	Staff Development and Preparation for the new school year

### September

1 <sup>st</sup> September	New School Year Begins Mrs Hay meets Miss McCaskie to disseminate Playful Learning
4 <sup>th</sup> September	Weekly Foundation Stage Meetings begin Weekly Staff Meetings begin
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Highland Dancing begins for P3/4 and P6/7 Football Coaching (Extended Schools ) begins for Key Stage 2 children School Photographer in School
8 <sup>th</sup> September	Hip Hop (Extended Schools) begins for Key Stage 1 and 2 children
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Mrs Hay meets with parents Spanish Lessons for P1-P4 children begin
10 <sup>th</sup> September	Mrs Hay conducts PRSD Meetings with teachers
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Robert Plant Assembly All staff attend Child Protection Training at Artigarvan PS
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Mrs Hay attends meeting in Omagh Strabane Academy student Cody begins placement in P1 classroom
16 <sup>th</sup> September	Ice Bucket challenge and Board of Governor Parent representative elections Mrs Hay and Mrs Wilson attend SEN meeting
17 <sup>th</sup> September	P5-P7 pupils attend CultureTech ministry of science at Millennium Forum Mrs Hay attends Primary Principals' Meeting in Strathfolye Mrs Mullan attends Signature project training
18 <sup>th</sup> September	Hymn practice Mrs Hay meets with Principal of Holy Family PS Mrs Hay attends CBA Principal information Seminar at the Glenavon Hotel
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Mrs Hay and Mrs Crosbie conduct annual data analysis
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Mrs Hay meets with Julie Baldrick from Pupil Personal Services Staff Meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Mrs Hay attends Extended Schools Meeting in St Patricks PS Mrs Wilson holds parent meetings Mrs Hay attends Hope North West Brainstorming meeting @ Beechill Hotel
24 <sup>th</sup> September	Mr Potts attends CBA Training at Technology Education Centre (TEC), Omagh Miss Browne attends DENI Census Training Strabane Academy students John, Zoe and Chelsea begin enrichment placement Party Planning Meeting
25 <sup>th</sup> September	After school Hockey for Key Stage 1 and 2 children begins Pupil of the Month Assembly Book Fair begins

	Mrs Hay meets with owner of Reach uniform provider
	Mrs Hay and Mrs Wilson meet with R Brennan Educational Psychologist
	Mrs Hay attends Strabane Principals Meeting
26 <sup>th</sup> September	School Council Assembly
29 <sup>th</sup> September	School Council Meeting
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Class teachers meet with Mrs Wilson
<u>October</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> October	Mrs Hay meets with S McCartan, WELB Officer, ref school premises improvements
	Mrs Hay meets with Emmett Norris ref FAST (Families And Schools Together) programme
	Lunchtime Homework Club for P7 children begins
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Mrs Hay meets Child Protection Officer Marion McBride
	Mrs Hay meets SEN Support Officer Helen O'Connor
	Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal Assembly
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Board of Governors Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Hay attends meeting ref Assessment Manager
	Arts and Crafts Club for Key Stage 1 and 2 children begins
8 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Hay and Miss Nutt meet to discuss literacy action plan
	School Reunion Dinner Ticket Sales Morning
	FAST Meeting
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Extreme Team Assembly
	Mrs Hay meets with parent
	Mrs Hay attends Extended Schools Cluster Meeting
	School Reunion Ticket Sales Morning
	Mrs Hay conducts Child Protection Training with staff
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Hay meets with Mrs Dunn, Strabane Academy
	Mr Potts attends Teacher Tutor Training at TEC, Omagh
13 <sup>th</sup> October	School Council Meeting
	Key Stage 2 pupils attend Dr Maths Day at University of Ulster Magee Campus
	Primary 2 children visit Sion Mills PS
14 <sup>th</sup> October	School Council Meeting
	Mrs Hay attends Pre-Departure briefing at British Council HQ, Belfast
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Party Planners Meeting
	Miss Nutt and 2013/2014 Eco club attend reward ceremony at Strabane District Council in recognition of second Green Flag
16 <sup>th</sup> October	CEF Assembly
	Mrs Hay attends Principals Meeting at Omagh Teachers Centre
	Governors attend Training at WELB
20 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photographer in School
	Staff training at 3pm in Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Mrs Hay meets with Chairman of Board of Governors
	Piano Lessons begin
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Harvest Assembly
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Pupil of the Month Assembly
	P7 pupils attend Strabane Academy "Stars Show"
24 <sup>th</sup> October	Pantomime "Dick Whittington" at school for all children and St Patricks PS children
	Parent Interviews

25 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Hay departs for Washington DC for Study Visit
27 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Interviews Birds of Prey visit School for all classes After School I-learn Club begins for invited children Halloween Disco 6-8pm
28 <sup>th</sup> October	Teacher Training Parent Interviews
29 <sup>th</sup> October	Teacher Training
30 / 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Halloween Holidays
<u>November</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> November	Mrs Hay returns from study visit
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Hip Hop Assembly at 10am
5 <sup>th</sup> November	Closing date for Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal Teacher peer observations begin Mrs Hay and Miss Nutt participate in telephone training for Accelerated Reading Mrs Hay meets with M McLaughlin Mrs Hay meets with W Stewart Mrs Hay attends Primary Principals' meeting at St Mary's PS
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay assembly
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay attends budget meeting
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Key Stage 2 pupils receive Energy Talk Mrs Crosbie and Mr Potts attend I-Learn Training Course
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay meets with parent Mrs Hay meets with prefects Mrs Hay meets with teachers ref assessments
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Toddler Yoga begins
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Extreme Assembly Supper with Santa and Reunion Ticket Sales evening
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Supper with Santa and Reunion Ticket Sales
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week begins Mr Potts attends Interactive Design and Managing Data WorkShop TEC, Omagh Governors attend Training at North West Teachers Centre (NWTC)
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay attends Child Protection Refresher Training at TEC, Omagh Final Arts and Crafts Club
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay meets with representative from Reach Mrs Hay and Miss Nutt participate in telephone training for Accelerated Reading Mrs Hay attends SENCo Leadership Training
20 <sup>th</sup> November	CEF Assembly Board of Governors' Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying week Show and Tell Assembly
25 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay and Miss Nutt meet S Thornton, WELB Officer Mrs Crosbie observes good practice at Edwards PS
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Mrs Hay attends Assessment Analysis course at C2K Centre, Omagh Miss Connor observes good practice at Edwards PS
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupil of the Month Assembly Mrs Hay and Mrs Wilson meet ref Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

28 <sup>th</sup> November	School Council Meeting Final Lunchtime Homework Club Miss McCaskie's last day in advance of her wedding
<u>December</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Governors attend Training at WELB HQ
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Mrs Hay meets Rev Stockitt and representative from NI Forest Schools
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Miss Browne attends Admission Training Mrs Hay meets with prospective parent
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Rev Stockitt Assembly Key Stage 2 pupils attend Science Show at Waterside Theatre
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Mrs Hay attends Key Stage 2/3 CPD Project Information Session Mrs Wilson conducts Parent Interviews
10 <sup>th</sup> December	P1 meet Santa at 'Day Today' and have breakfast at Kate's Kitchen
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Extreme Assembly Miss Nutt attends Coordinator Training in Omagh Mrs Hay and Mrs Wilson meet ref IEPs FAST teachers and team members attend Training Supper with Santa
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day FAST training
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Mrs Hay attends School Budget Planning Video Conference Board of Governors Meeting School Council Meeting
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Mrs Hay meets Mr Hampton (Strabane Academy) ref transition
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner
18 <sup>th</sup> December	CEF and Pupil of the Month Assembly School Carol service
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas holidays begin
<u>January</u>	
6 <sup>th</sup> January	Teacher Training
7 <sup>th</sup> January	Primary 7 pupils receive a visit from Strabane Academy
8 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff from W5 Belfast visit P5 and 6 Pupils Hoop It (Adult Fitness Class) begins
9 <sup>th</sup> January	Party Planners Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup> January	P5 and 6 pupils visit Art Community, Strabane Principal of Foyle College visits P6 and 7 children
13 <sup>th</sup> January	FAST Training
14 <sup>th</sup> January	School closed due to heavy snow
15 <sup>th</sup> January	CEF Assembly
19 <sup>th</sup> January	SENCo non-contact day Stabane District Council Coach begins with Primary 1 and Primary 3/4)
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Mrs Young attends Autism Training at NWTC School Nurse in School
21 <sup>st</sup> January	Mrs Young attends Autism Training Hockey team play match against Bready Jubilee Primary School Mrs Hay and Mrs Crosbie attend Foundation Stage Cluster meeting at Bready Jubilee PS
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Hymn Practice Assembly Fast Training and Afternoon Tea

23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Mr Potts attends ICT Coordinator Training at St Mary's PS
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Literacy Coordinator non-contact day (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 3/4)
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Primary 2 and Primary 3/4 Young Enterprise Programme begins
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Extreme Team and Pupil of the Month Assembly
	FAST begins
	Dance Lessons for Music Extravaganza begin
	Mrs Hay meets Oonagh McNelis, WELB Officer, ref Extended Schools and School Development planning
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Primary 6 and 7 Swimming lessons begin
	50th birthday reunion dinner at Floyds, Ballymagorry
<u>February</u>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	V Maxwell (University of Ulster Student) begins placement
	Non-Contact day for Numeracy Coordinator (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 2)
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Board of Governors Meeting
	Stay and Play for Primary 1 and Parents
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Mr Potts and Miss Connor attend I-Pad training at the Nerve Centre
	Library trip for Primary 1, 5 and 6 pupils
	Strabane Academy student Megan begins placement
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Primary 7 Pupils attend Bee Safe Road Show at the Fir Trees Hotel
	Mr Potts attends Cycling Proficiency Training
	Rev Stockitt Assembly
	School Council Meeting
	Mr Mowbray and Rev Stockitt attend Child Protection Training at NWTC
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Cinema Trip for Primary 1 pupils
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Non Contact day for ICT Coordinator (Mrs Hay teaching (Primary 6/7)
	Speech and Language Therapist starts in school
10 <sup>th</sup> February	Stay and Play session 2
	Mr Potts and Miss Connor attend I-Pad Training at the Nerve Centre
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Mrs Crosbie attends Charanga Music School event at the NWTC
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Extreme Team Assembly
	W5 Visitors in school
	Primary 6/7 beginning STEM Robotics Programme (Extended Schools)
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Happy Heart Day
16 <sup>th</sup> / 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Holiday
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Mrs Hay meets with S Thornton, WELB Officer
19 <sup>th</sup> February	CEF Assembly
	Mrs Hay meets with O McNelis, WELB Officer
	Governors attend Finance training at NWTC
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	SENCo non-contact day
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Recycling Talk by Yvonne Lecky for all children
	Teachers meet with Mrs Wilson
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Guy Bass Author visits School
	Mrs Young and Mrs Hay attend Thematic Planning at Bready PS
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Pupil of the Month Assembly
27 <sup>th</sup> February	Assembly for Heather's retirement
<u>March</u>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Literacy Coordinator non-contact day (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 3/4)
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	School Closed– heavy snow



4 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Hay and Mrs Crosbie attend Foundation Stage Cluster meeting
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Piano Lessons Whole school attends Eco Schools birthday bash in Magherafelt Mr S Mowbray and Rev Stockitt attend PRSD training at NWTC
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Hay attends ETI conference
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Hay and Mrs Crosbie attend Thematic Planning at Bready PS Primary 5/6 receive Fire safety talk
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Hay and Mrs Young meet ref transition Queens University staff visit Primary 6 and 7
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Hay attends Literacy and Numeracy CPD project Conference
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Extreme team assembly
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Tom Sweeney visits school PSNI visit Primary 2 Radio Foyle interviews pupils Mrs Hay, Mrs Crosbie and Mr Potts meet O McNeilis, WELB Officer
16 <sup>th</sup> / 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Holiday
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Crosbie conducts SEN review meeting
19 <sup>th</sup> March	CEF Assembly Primary 2 visit doctors Miss Nutt attends UTU Conference Mrs Hay attends Budget meeting Mr S Mowbray and Mrs A Wallace attend Managing Attendance training at NWTC
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Bingo Night at Donemana Cricket Club in aid of School funds Mrs Hay meets with Mr Mowbray
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	ICT Coordinator non-contact day (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 6/7) Parents Interviews
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Children participate in Guinness World Record Attempt - Peace Pledge Signature Mrs Hay meets with Principal of Bready PS Parent Interviews
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Mrs Hay attends Transition Symposium at Strabane Academy School Council meeting Parent Interviews
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Pupil of the Month Assembly and hymn practice Final FAST and FAST graduation Primary 5/6 trip to W5
30 <sup>th</sup> March	SENCo non-contact day Board of Governors meeting
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Monthly Classroom Assistant staff meetings begin Evening performance of 'Music Through the Decades'
<u>April</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Daytime performance of 'Music Through the Decades' Half day
2 <sup>nd</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Teacher Training
16 <sup>th</sup> April	CEF Assembly Booster Club begins Mrs Hay, Mrs Crosbie and Mr Potts meet with O McNeilis, WELB Officer

20 <sup>th</sup> April	Mrs Hay attends evening de-briefing meeting with British Council in Belfast Literacy Coordinator non-contact time (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 3/4) Primary 6/7 visit Queens University, Belfast Party snacks cookery begins
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Project Africa Athletes visit school Mrs S Gamble, Woodlands Pre-School, visits Primary 1 to observe practice Mrs Young visits Woodlands Pre-School to observe practice Mrs Hay meets O McNelis, WELB Officer, ref School Development Planning
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Mrs Crosbie conducts numeracy lesson observations Eco Club begins
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Rev Stockitt Assembly Mrs Hay and Mr Potts host WAU Thematic Planning with Bready PS teachers AR reward trip to the park
27 <sup>th</sup> April	Numeracy Coordinator non-contact time (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 2)
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Pupil of the Month and Extreme team Assembly Mrs Crosbie attends training by I-Learn at Altishane PS
<u>May</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> May	School Council meeting
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Holiday
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Test Week begins
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Primary 5 - 7 attend Mayfest in the Millennium forum
7 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed - Polling Station Miss Browne at Sims training, Omagh
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Primary 1 Pirate Party
11 <sup>th</sup> May	ICT Coordinator non-contact time (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 6/7)
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Crosbie attends Numeracy Coordinator training
13 <sup>th</sup> May	School Council meeting
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Extreme team Assembly Miss Nutt attends CPD project literacy Coordinator training Mrs Hay meets with M McLaughlin
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Crosbie meets with Ms D Walsh, Sion Mills PS Mrs Hay meets with Mrs J Carlin, St Patrick's PS
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Hay attends Extended Schools meeting Mrs Hay attends E Safety Seminar, Omagh Library Primary 6 and 7 begin Drug and Alcohol Awareness sessions
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Hay meets with O McNeillis, WELB Officer
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Hay meets with Mr Mowbray
21 <sup>st</sup> May	CEF Assembly Miss Nutt attends CPD Coordinator training Miss Browne attends Sims training Cricket team attends tournament in Strabane Board of Governors meeting Teachers meet with Mrs Wilson Mrs Hay meets with M McBride, WELB Officer
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Teacher Training - Internal Standardisation
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Wilson meets parents Mrs Hay attends pre inspection meeting School Council meeting

27 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Crosbie @ Numeracy Coordinator meeting training 2-4pm
28 <sup>th</sup> May	Pupil of the Month Assembly and Hymn practice
<u>June</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Literacy Coordinator non-contact time (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 3/4)
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	School Council meeting Inspection begins
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Woodlands sports day (am) Inspection continues Board of Governors meeting
5 <sup>th</sup> June	Primary 6/7 pupils attend athletics sports day at Melvin Sports Complex Uniform Swap Shop day
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Numeracy Coordinator non-contact time (Mrs Hay teaching Primary 2)
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Swimming Gala at Riversdale Mrs Hay attends Sims discover training Omagh library
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Extreme Team Assembly
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports day Strabane Academy Primary 7 induction morning Primary 7 residential parents meeting
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Primary 3/4 trip to City of Derry Airport
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Primary 5 - 7 attend dodge ball tournament at Melvin Sports Complex Fizz Buzz Final Mrs Hay meets with R Hassard with reference to PRSD Mrs Hay and Mr Potts meet Mrs Dunn, Strabane Academy
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Primary 7 Residential Trip- Belfast Primary 6 attend Strabane Academy Robotics Workshop
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Primary 7 Residential trip CEF Assembly
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Teacher Training - School Development Planning
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Play date for new Primary 1 children Meeting for new Primary 1 parents
25 <sup>th</sup> June	School trip to LurgeyBrack Fun Farm Pre-School Lunch Speech and Language talk to New Primary 1 Parents Uniform sales 2-4pm
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Pre-School Graduation Prize Giving Assembly Summer party Fun day
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Leavers Assembly Annual Reports out AR treat
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Half Day

**Enrolment:**

At the end of 2014/2015 school year our enrolment was 97.

**Attendance:**

Our attendance figure for the 2014/2015 school year was 96.48%. This is a good attendance figure however this figure has fallen from 97.3% during the previous academic year. We would like to praise the positive efforts of staff to make school a warm and welcoming environment and also of parents to ensure children attend school on a regular and timely basis. We would also like to stress the importance of good attendance at school and point out that holidays during term time are strongly discouraged due to the interruption they cause to children's education and progress.

**Staffing:**

The teaching complement for the year was 4 teachers and the teaching principal.

Primary 1: Mrs Hay / Miss McCaskie

Primary 2 : Mrs Crosbie

Primary 3 and Primary 4: Miss Nutt

Primary 5 and Primary 6: Miss Connor

Primary 6 and Primary 7: Mr Potts

Support Teacher (Sunshine Room): Mrs Wilson

Signature Project Teacher: Mrs Mullen

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Mullen for all of her work during the past two years and now that the Signature Project has ended we wish her all the best in her next post.

We would like to congratulate Miss McCaskie on the occasion of her wedding.

We wish Heather, our cook, a very healthy and happy retirement.

We welcome Valeen, our new cook, to the DPS team.

**Ancillary Staff:**

The Ancillary Staff complement was as follows:

Part time Secretary: Miss Browne

Boiler Man: Mr Cochrane

Foundation Stage Classroom Assistants: Mrs Dougherty and Mrs Robinson

Special Educational Needs Classroom Assistant: Mrs Parkhill

Canteen Staff: Mrs Witherow, Mrs Campbell and Mrs Parkhill

Supervisory Assistants: Mrs McElhatton, Mrs Gardiner / Mrs Rogers, Mrs Boyd, Mrs Robinson

Cleaning Staff: Mrs McElhatton and Mrs Robinson

## **School Improvement Work**

### **Targets achieved during 2014/2015**

#### **Learning and Teaching:**

- To ensure children reach their expected level in communication of level 2 at the end of Primary 4 and level 4 at the end of Primary 7 through the implementation of a variety of strategies including Delivering Social Change Signature Project, Accelerated Reader, use of iPads and Extended Schools clubs.
- Through the use of Accelerated Reader all children in Primary 3 - 7 will read for pleasure for an increased period of time and parents will access information on their progress through the use of 'home connect'.
- Continue to improve numeracy scores through a variety of approaches including Extended Schools clubs.
- Assess and level children in line with the new levels of progression for literacy, numeracy and ICT.
- Begin to develop a policy for Assessment.
- Develop an up dated scheme of work for the World Around Us.
- Ensure all children participate in a programme of work to develop an understanding of what bullying is and appropriate strategies to respond to it.

#### **Child-Centred Provision:**

- Provide a child centred environment in which all children actively participate, develop fully both academically and socially and stay healthy and safe.

#### **Celebrate Our School:**

- Events to celebrate our birthday will take place.

## **ETI Inspection**

During June we welcomed the ETI (Education and Training Inspectorate) into our school. The ETI is an organisation which provides inspection services and information about the quality of education being offered in all settings in Northern Ireland. All schools are inspected and visited regularly by Inspectors. The inspection tells you how well the children are progressing in their learning, how our school is helping them to learn and develop and how our school is attending to the children's care, welfare and safety.

You can read a copy of the report on our inspection at <http://www.etini.gov.uk/index/inspection-reports/inspection-reports-primary/inspection-reports-primary-2015/primary-inspection-donemana-primary-school-strabane-co-tyrone.htm>.

We are very pleased to share the overall findings of the inspection which were as follows:

<b>Overall Performance Level</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Achievements and Standards</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Provision</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Leadership and Management</b>	<b>Good</b>

The Inspectors noted many positive aspects of our school in their report, including the following:

- 'In particular, the parents highlighted the kind and helpful staff, the high quality learning experiences provided for their children in a supportive and caring environment and the very good levels of communication.'
- 'Most of the children are confident and develop well a positive attitude to their learning.'
- 'The school's performance data shows that most of the children, including those who require additional support with aspects of their learning, make good progress in English and mathematics in line with their ability or above expectation.'
- 'The children identified as having additional needs benefit from the good quality withdrawal sessions to support literacy and are supported well in class by the classroom assistants.'
- 'An inclusive and caring ethos in which the children's ideas and opinions are valued and acted upon permeates the school. The school council and Eco council are developing well the children's confidence.'
- 'There is a well-established culture and ethos of collegiality within the school which is characterised by very good working relationships at all levels and effective team working across the school. The staff have a shared vision for providing a high quality education which values each child and ensures that

the school motto, "*Be the best that you can be*" is central to the life and work of the school.'

- 'There can be confidence in the aspects of governance evaluated. The board of governors ... have been very proactive in accessing a wide range of relevant training (and) ... have articulated clearly their intention to develop further their knowledge of and participation in the school development planning process.'

We are very pleased with the result of our inspection and will build upon all the good work we do to ensure we are the best we can be!

### **Learning and Teaching - Accelerated Reader**

Accelerated Reader is a literacy programme which has been in operation in DPS since September 2013 and is used with Primary 3 - 7 children. Its aim is to develop literacy skills by increasing the number of books read by each child. It does this through incentives offered in the form of rewards which the children can earn by reaching their own individualised Reading Target. They reach their target by completing and passing an on-line quiz on each book they have read from the Accelerated Reader library.

In August and September 2013 all books in the DPS library were checked against a database to see where they would fit in the Accelerated Reader Programme. We also added 300 books to our library for use in AR. In 2014/15 we added another £150 worth of AR books to our growing collection to ensure that every child has a good selection of titles to choose from at their own particular level. Part of the shelving in our school library has been reserved for Accelerated Reader with books set out in order.

At the start of each term each child sits a Star Reading Test. This gives them a range from within which they can select books appropriate to their ability. 81.5% of the 55 children on the AR programme increased their reading age from October to April 2015!

Children who reach their targets are mentioned and applauded in assembly to encourage others. In 2014 we changed the reward system from the amount of 100% quizzes each child completed to the more obtainable reaching of individual targets. Those who achieved their target were allowed to choose an end of term treat. The treats the children received were:

Term One: Movie and popcorn afternoon (12.7% reached their target)

Term Two: Donemana Play Park and picnic (63.6% reached their target)

Term Three: Free play afternoon and picnic (58.2% reached their target)

We have been really pleased with the enthusiasm and interest shown by the children through the AR programme. The data analysis below shows just how much of a resounding success AR has been and we are delighted to offer it again next year.

<b>Number of children on Star Reading Test</b>	<b>Reading Age increased</b>	<b>Reading Age same</b>	<b>Reading Age reduced</b>
55	81.5%	7.2%	11.3%
Primary 3 — 13	92%	8%	0%
Primary 4 — 11	91%	9%	9%
Primary 5 — 8	87.5%	0%	12.5%
Primary 6 — 16	87%	6.5%	7%



## **Child Centred Provision - FAST**

We have had an exciting and eventful year with FAST (Families And Schools Together). This has been the first year that Donemana Primary has had the opportunity to run the FAST programme and it has been a great success! We have been very lucky to get involved with Save the Children to create a FAST team within our school. Over 18 families began the FAST course last year which ran for 8 weeks and took place every Thursday from 3pm-5:30pm.

### **What We Did**

The participants were split into two groups called the 'Sunshine Room' and the 'Rainbow Room'. Every week we would sing the 'FAST' song, complete scribbles and art activities, and play various games. The children would play these games along with their parents and when completed they would share their experiences with the group. The parent would then stay in the classroom with their FAST child and the other children would accompany the teachers to the hall or outside to play various games. The parent and their FAST child would play organised games and when this was completed the FAST child would join the other children whilst the parents had 'parent time'. 'Parent time' allowed the parents to play ice breaking games and enabled them to talk to each other and get to know one another.

Each FAST day ended with a beautiful meal made by two of the parents. Every week two families would win a £25 hamper; whoever won the hamper would cook the meal the following week for all FAST participants. We had various tasty meals including chicken and pasta bake, lasagne, spaghetti Bolognese and pizza!

### **Who Took Part?**

#### **Teacher members**

Miss Connor and Mrs Young

#### **School members**

Joanne and Joan

#### **Parent members**

Gayle and Clodagh

#### **Outside members**

Shauna, Margaret and Sally

#### **Families**

O'Neill, Scott, J Robinson, B Robinson, Magee, McClintock, Gardiner, Campbell, C Gamble, Gourley, Hepburn, Arbuckle, Curry, Nixon.



## FAST Graduation

On our last week of FAST we had a graduation ceremony in which all the children got to wear a robe, get a FAST certificate and we had a huge party! Elsa and Olaf from Frozen came to visit and played lots of games with people, we had a disco and we also had lots of party food.



## **Celebrate our school - 50th Birthday Celebrations**

This year saw the 50th Anniversary of the opening of Donemana Primary School and this momentous occasion was celebrated with three main events during the academic year.

On Friday 30th January Donemana Primary School hosted an evening in Floyds of Ballymagorry joined by past and present staff, past and present Governors, past and present parents and past pupils. Our past pupils in attendance included 2 gentlemen who were at DPS the day it opened in 1965. Past principals Mr Marshall Kilgore and Mr Carwyn Guy were also in attendance and had some lovely words to say about Donemana Primary School.



On Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April the next event to celebrate the 50th birthday of DPS took place. A musical extravaganza saw every class take on board a song and a dance from one of the decades during which the school has been open. The 1950's, 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, 1990's and modern day were all represented. Groovy dance moves and vocal talent took to the stage for this 'Music Through the Decades' show!





The final event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of DPS was an outdoor summer party. The children enjoyed bouncy castles, face painting, games and a balloon release.



## School Council

Wow! What a busy year School Council have had at DPS! This year the children have been busy bees creating 'child friendly' aims for our school, raising money for charities, ordering new outside activities, devising new behaviour rules, appointing librarians, painting walls and creating new outside chalk boards!



School council felt the aims of Donemana Primary School were quite difficult to understand, so they changed them into 'child friendly' language. These are displayed for everyone to see.

During December school council raised £88.00 for Save the Children by having a Christmas Jumper Day!

They also changed our red card behaviour system. They felt that if a child got a red card at lunch time they should receive ten minutes off golden time as this would discourage children from being naughty at lunch time.

They also created a new reward – A PE uniform pass. They had to use their negotiation and problem solving skills and work with the Board of Governors for this! Well done school council!

The school library was getting very disorganised so as a council they decided to ask the members of Primary 6/7 to become librarians. In order for someone to become a librarian they had to give council an application form stating why they thought they would be the right one for the job. School council then selected two librarians, Molly and Megan, and the library has never been so organised and tidy!

One of the main topics they looked at this year were outside activities. They decided that our school needed some more outside activities for morning, break and lunch times so Mrs Hay allowed them to choose and purchase new resources. They bought a huge dartboard, busy bee golden time plaques and an 'aim at me' cricket activity. They also painted two walls with chalkboard paint so all classes can use their artistic talents to create chalk masterpieces. To ensure every class got a go they created a timetable.

### Our Council consisted of:

Nicole, Chloe, Adam, Katie, Dylan, Jacob, Ethan, Charlie, Jemma, Summer, Lily and Megan.



## **Eco-Work**

Elected Eco-Committee Members for 2014 - 2015:

Nicole, Megan, Cody, Calvin, Mark, Rebecca, Jake, Ryan and Jack.

The green team were very busy growing fruit and vegetables. They made good use of our planting boxes, green house and compost by planting a variety of flowers and vegetables such as carrots, beet-root, lettuce and scallions. They were very lucky to welcome James Donaghy to our weekly gardening sessions where they were taught a lot about the process of growing our own fruit and vegetables - from preparing the soil to looking for signs of growth, they did it all!



The team enjoyed getting to know James and hearing about his love for gardening. They even got to take sunflowers, lettuces and scallions home to sample for themselves. James owns his own fantastic landscaped garden which the team went to visit and they were very impressed with the beautiful scenery, a result of James' hard work.

Along with our weekly gardening After schools club the team were busy keeping our school recycling and power saving efforts going. The ECO committee did an excellent job throughout the year at remembering to empty the compost bins, use scrap paper, turn off taps and lights and pick up litter. This was all in aid of keeping with our motto: Don't be mean remember green.

This year marked ECO Schools 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and as a way to celebrate our whole school was invited to Magherafelt for a birthday bash. The organisers of the birthday celebration were very impressed by the whole school attending. There were a variety of free goodies on offer, exhibitions to watch and competitions to enter to entertain and educate our children throughout the day.



## **Extended Schools**

The Department of Education's (DE) Extended Schools programme provides additional financial support to eligible schools to improve the life chances of children and young people particularly from deprived areas. Extended schools services are designed primarily to raise standards of achievement and allow children to realise their full potential in an environment where education is valued.

Our school continues to offer a huge range of extra activities outside of school hours, many of which are funded through Extended Schools.

These activities include:

Breakfast Club

Drug and Alcohol Awareness sessions

Football Coaching

Foundation Stage After School Club

After School and Homework Club



The chart above shows the high level outcomes achieved through our provision. Provision is very well attended and enjoyed by those participating.

Some comments about our clubs this year:

### **Breakfast club**

'This is a great club as my child arrives early at school.'

### **2—3 club**

'This is brilliant as children get used to being at school until 3pm, have fun activities and can get the bus home.'

### **Late club**

'Essential for our family...fantastic facility, great for kids...we would be lost without it.'

### **Booster Club**

'Brilliant method to teach children through fun.'

### **Number Busters**

'Loved it and got to mix with other ages.'

Our school is also a part of an Extended Schools Cluster and through our cluster funding this year we were able to purchase an additional PC, provide a robotics programme for P6/7 and provide Speech and Language support for some of our children in the Foundation Stage.

The Lego Robotics programme was led by an engineer from Radox, Bosco Devine. The children

were responsible for building their own robot from scratch, attaching sensors and programming it to do certain things or move it around a desired area.

Robotics was an exciting way to bring **science, technology, engineering** and **mathematics** to the classroom (STEM). By the end of the project the children were able to work brilliantly on the Lego software as well as control their robots with ease.



At the end of the school year a questionnaire was sent out to all families to seek opinions on which activities should continue and which new activities they would like to see for 2015/2016.

We would like to thank the 44% of families who completed and returned the questionnaire on our after school provision.

Following the responses we plan to have the following activities, some of which will be supported by Extended Schools funding:

Breakfast club

2-3 club

Homework help

Late club

Football coaching

Number Busters

Party Snacks Cookery

Parent and Child Cookery

Computers

Eco-Club

Arts and Crafts

i-Learn



## **Parent Teacher Association**

During the academic year 2014-15 our PTA had the following members:

Mrs Allison Wallace	Mrs Fiona Gamble
Mrs Ruth Lowry	Mrs Caroline Gamble
Mrs Angela Campbell	Ms Lisa Magee
Mrs Glenda Wallace	Mrs Lindsay Ann Gardiner
Mrs Gail Arbuckle	Mrs Tanya Cunningham
Mrs Gillian Hay (Principal)	Miss Lara Nutt (Teacher rep)

Throughout the year the Committee met to organise various events. These were:

- Supper with Santa
- Halloween Disco
- Sports' Day tuck shop and tea shop
- Birthday Celebration tuck shop

The PTA also generously funded a whole school treat which was a Pantomime of the story of Dick Whittington by M and M productions.

We would like to thank our PTA for their hard work this year.

### **Summary of income and expenses for PTA 2014-15**

<u>Money In</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Opening Balance	1474.39	Bank Charges	20.95
Lodgement	918.44	Halloween disco expenses	95.71
Closing Balance	1400.67	M and M Productions	582
		Supper with Santa	40.65
		Sports' Day Tuck	137.89
		Summer Fair Tuck	114.96

**PTA membership is open to all friends and family of DPS. Speak to any of our current PTA members or any staff member about joining. Donating a little of your time could make a big difference to our school and help us to provide even more experiences, excursions, resources and treats for our children.**

Again, this year our school has held and participated in a huge range of activities and it would not be possible to include them all. The pages that follow contain details of just a few events of note.

### Charities

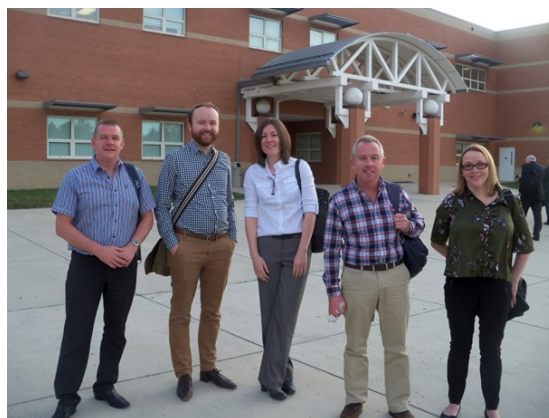
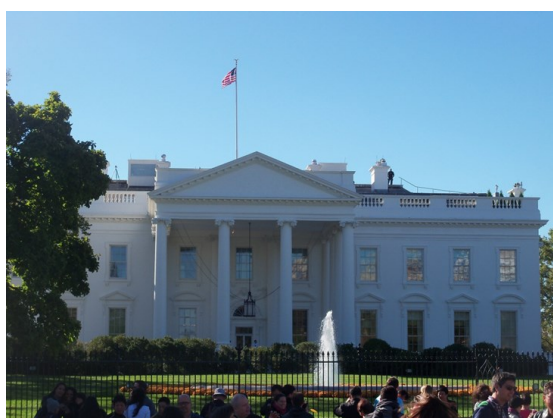
Save the Children and the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal were supported this year. Thank you to all who gave so generously on Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children and to all those who filled a much needed shoe box.



### Mrs Hay participates in British Council study visit

On Saturday 25th October Mrs Hay flew to Washington DC for the week on a British Council Study Visit. She was one of only 5 applicants successful in obtaining a place on this trip. While there she visited numerous schools and met with policy makers to learn about best practice for 'closing the gap' - for making sure that each child reaches his / her full potential. The trip was focused on the importance of parental involvement and high quality after school provision for improving standards in literacy and numeracy.

Mrs Hay had a very interesting trip and came back to school with lots of ideas to benefit our school.



### Professor Fluffy Programme

Primary 6 and 7 participated in the Professor Fluffy Programme in conjunction with Queen's University, Belfast this year. They received a visit from Queen's University and Professor Fluffy! Professor Fluffy is a colourful academic character created by the University of Liverpool as part of the Government's 'Aim Higher' initiative to encourage young people to enter higher education.

During the visit, with the help of Professor Fluffy, QUB introduced Primary 6 and 7 pupils to Queen's University; taught them about university life in a fun, engaging and interactive way; and ensured they were aware of the exciting opportunities available through higher education.



The pupils also got to visit Queen's Campus where Professor Fluffy introduced them to various places on campus, the vocabulary of university life, the history of Queen's and the employment options that higher education offers.

To mark the end of the programme the pupils had the opportunity to attend a celebration event at Queen's. They were treated to bacon rolls on arrival for breakfast, a fabulous science show, a presentation of a certificate and a book in a Queen's Lecture Theatre and Dominos pizza for lunch!

The children thoroughly enjoyed the programme and it provided them with many ideas for their futures.

### Author Visit



On 25th March we welcomed award winning children's author, Guy Bass, to our school. His book series includes Stitch head, The Legend of Frog and Dinkin Dings. He introduced the children to some of his books which they can read as part of the Accelerated Reader Programme. The children thoroughly enjoyed his lively presentation and the opportunity to meet a published author!

### Around the World in Story Tales

Primary 5 and 6 took part in a story writing project this year. They created their own story tales based on Austria with help from Austrian student David who came to school and told the children Austrian stories, games and facts. They also had two trips to Belfast and W5 as part of this project. The children created their own movies based on the stories. Their stories and movies were entered into the project competition against other schools and our school had two winners of the story competition, James and Ethan, and two winners of the movie competition, Dylan and Ben.





### School Premises

Our school saw two new improvements to our premises this year with the addition of the canopy and soft play area outside Mrs Hay's / Mrs Young's classroom and a large covered sandpit in the outdoor play area. The children have been able to benefit from outdoor learning opportunities regardless of the weather.



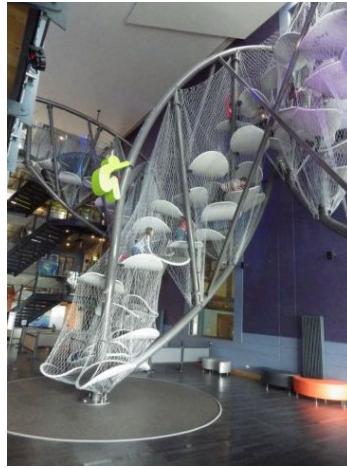
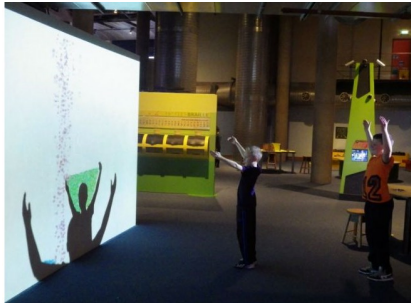
### Primary 7 Residential

Our Primary 7 children enjoyed an action packed residential in Belfast this year. They enjoyed ten-pin bowling and ice-skating at Dundonald Ice Bowl. From here the children travelled to 'We are Vertigo' where they enjoyed hours of fun on trampolines before taking to the high rise climbing obstacles and adventure park. After checking into the hotel, the group headed for the Odeon cinema to watch 'Jurassic World' and gobble down lots of popcorn!



Day two of the trip began with a walk to Victoria Square and a delicious breakfast in Frankie and Benny's. This was followed by a trip to W5 where the children explored the exhibitions and enjoyed 'Climb It' - the indoor climbing area.

Following lunch in Pizza Hut the children enjoyed two fun filled hours at Lisburn swimming pool which was the highlight of the trip for many of the children. A trip to McDonalds for tea marked the end of the trip. A fantastic two days were had by all and all pupils behaved impeccably.



## **Cricket**

**Boys' Mini Cricket team:** Ben, William, Kris, Lewis, D-Jay, Adam, Jacob and Dylan.

**Girls' Mini Cricket team:** Nicole, McKenzie, Jennie, Chloe, Katie, Cody, Hannah and Charlie.

This year the boys' and girls' mini cricket teams travelled to Strabane to take part in what they thought was the annual Strabane District tournament. Unfortunately, a lack of participating schools meant that the tournament was changed to a cricket fun day. Four schools attended and each school played each other twice. The boys team from DPS played brilliantly and only lost one game.

This year the Northern Ireland Mini Cricket tournament was an invitational event and both teams from Donemana PS were invited. However, the date clashed with the P7 Residential and we were therefore unable to participate.



### Swimming

Children in Primary 6 and 7 once again had the opportunity to attend Swimming lessons. The children went to Riversdale Leisure Centre in Strabane where they had 15 high quality swimming lessons. At the end of the lessons the swimming instructors chose six pupils to represent the school at the annual Primary Schools Gala. They had a wonderful time at the event.

### **Donemana Primary School Gala**

**Team:** Megan, Cody, Adam, Kris, Ben R and Ben N.





## Assessment

Towards the end of each school year the children in Primary 4 and Primary 7 are required to undertake formal statutory assessment and the results are gathered nationally. The average child completing Primary 4 (Key Stage 1) is expected to achieve Level 2. The average child completing Primary 7 (Key Stage 2) is expected to achieve Level 4.

The results for our school over the last 3 years are shown below.

		<u>2012 / 2013</u>	<u>2013/2014</u>	<u>2014/2015</u>
<b><u>Key Stage 1</u></b>				
<b><u>Key Stage 1</u></b> <b><u>Communication</u></b>	% of pupils at:			
	Working towards level 1	0	0	0
	Level 1	21	10	36
	Level 2	79	90	64
	Level 3	0	0	0
<b><u>Key Stage 1</u></b> <b><u>Using Maths</u></b>	% of pupils at:			
	Working towards level 1	0	0	0
	Level 1	21	10	36
	Level 2	64	90	64
	Level 3	14	0	0
<b><u>Key Stage 1</u></b> <b><u>ICT</u></b>	% of pupils at:			
	Level 1	29	10	0
	Level 2	71	80	100
	Level 3	0	10	0
<b><u>Key Stage 2</u></b>				
<b><u>Key Stage 2</u></b> <b><u>Communication</u></b>	% of pupils at:			
	Level 2	0	20	0
	Level 3	26	33	62.5
	Level 4	74	47	37.5
	Level 5	0	0	0
<b><u>Key Stage 2</u></b> <b><u>Using Maths</u></b>	% of pupils at:			
	Level 2	0	20	0
	Level 3	26	20	62.5
	Level 4	74	60	37.5
	Level 5	0	0	0
<b><u>Key Stage 2</u></b> <b><u>ICT</u></b>	% of pupils at:			
	Level 1	0	0	0
	Level 2	0	0	0
	Level 3	26	20	0
	Level 4	74	80	100
	Level 5	0	0	0

## School Finance

The Financial Report below refers to the period ending 31st March 2015. It relates to the money allocated to the school through the Western Education and Library Board's LMS formula. Responsibility for the management of this budget lies with the Board of Governors.

Financial Statement			
Income	£	Expenditure	£
Budget Share	496625	Teaching Staff	258561
Other Income	6671	Non-teaching staff	53091
		Fuel Oil	6530
Total Available	503296	Electricity	4687
Total Expenditure	366583	Gas	418
		Water	241
Savings C/F to 15/16	136713	Toilet Requisites	701
		Window Cleaning	80
		Waste Disposal	401
		Maintenance of buildings	2876
		Maintenance of grounds	2508
		Furniture and Fittings	1412
		Maintenance of furniture and fittings	484
		Equipment, books and practice materials	12407
		Protective Clothing	17
		Food	15
		Hire of Equipment	50
		Professional Fees	1915
		School Swimming	1009
		Advertising	966
		DSO Cleaning	11852
		Hire of transport	2570
		Printing and Stationery	640
		Publications	150
		Photocopying	1315
		Postage	79
		Telephones	848
		In Service Training	760



## School Finance

The Financial Report below relates to the school fund which is money raised by the school. It relates to the period from 21st August 2014 to 27th August 2015 .

Financial Statement			
Income	£	Expenditure	£
Opening Balance	1244.93	Treats, Prizes, Rewards	335.97
Uniform sales	1723.85	Uniform stock	2003.32
Sales of other items (money envelopes, water bottles etc.)	76.80	Lesson resources	85.80
School Photographs	396.20	Misc. items	160.93
Rental of Premises	87	Snack	31.70
Bookfair	630.55	Bookfair	630.55
Parental contributions towards swimming costs	884	After school clubs (not Extended Schools funded)	23.22
P7 enterprise work	48.47	Refreshments for meetings	122.16
P7 residential parental contributions	1145	P7 residential (not including staff costs)	1423.17
P1—P6 summer trips	435	P1—P6 summer trips (not including transport or staff costs)	311.50
Fund raising	529.87	Charity donations	429.04
Halloween Disco	95.71	School Council	45.36
Children's Christmas Raffle	107.76	Children's Christmas Raffle	48.95
Bingo Night	558	Information Commissioner	35
Heather's collection	247.50	Heather's gifts	239.51
50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations	1426.51	50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations	1003.99
Cash for Clobber recycling	274.50	Visitors	290
FAST	2500	Advertising	89.40
Electricity Charges (Woodlands)	173.22	FAST (not including staff cover costs)	1971.18
Donations	10	Prize giving engraving	112
Other Income	21.84	Gifts	65
		Access NI Payments	59
Total available	12616.71	Staff training	35
Total expenditure	9631.75	Laptop repair	80
Total carried forward	2984.96		