

School improvement plan 2013-2016



St. Mary's Primary School *Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire*

2013-2016

Literacy : Reading Fluency

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self-evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated literacy.

School improvement plan

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LITERACY : READING FLUENCY

1. Introduction

1.1 The focus of the evaluation

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self-evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated literacy. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self-Evaluation Report which is available on eg this website www.stmasrysross.com

This school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next three years in 2013-2016. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our pupils' learning.

2. Summary of school self-evaluation findings

2.1 Our school has **strengths** in the following areas:

Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's results in Standardised tests for English reading show an improvement year on year over the last three years • Children report liking and enjoying reading and writing and feel that they are good at it. Many children report reading for pleasure at home • Early intervention is implemented by analysing the MIST test and highlighting areas that need attention with specific pupils. • Early intervention is implemented by testing senior infants and first class on fifty sight words at the start of the school year. • Children are generally able to recite, recall and sequence stories orally and in written form • Children are able to confidently speak and write about a topic of personal interest • Children write in a small variety of genres, have a good grasp of grammar. • Teachers report that they use a variety of teaching approaches including talk and discussion and teacher questioning • 76% of pupils like being a good reader, 42% read at home with their family. • 11% use a dictionary if they find a word they do not understand, 69% agree that they learn a lot from reading. • 42% ask someone if they don't understand a word.

We know this because we consulted with pupils, parents and teachers, we examined test results, analysed data from parent and pupil surveys and teacher focus groups.

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2.2 Our school has decided to prioritise the following **areas of development**:

Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources: increase the amount of readers available per child. • Begin literacy lift off in the classes to improve fluency and comprehension. • Increase time for literacy. • To increase the pupils sight words in senior infants and first class. • Use a whole school approach to literacy lift off PM+ readers and jolly phonics.

We have decided to prioritize these areas because we felt reading fluency was an area that needed attention. We targeted the junior end of the school first then by 2016 reading fluency should have improved up the senior end of the school as well.

2.3 Our school has set the following **targets for improvement, which** are related to pupils' achievement and has identified the following **actions**, which will help in achieving those targets over the next three years.

Targets for improvement	Action
<p>Target 1: To increase the average of the senior infants sight words up to 100/150 sight words. (Based on the overall average of the class) going into first class.</p> <p>Target 2: First class to increase the average of the class' sight words to 200 and upwards going into second class.</p> <p>Target 3: Standardised test results to be evaluated and used to group pupils accordingly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up literacy lift off in all classes from junior infants-sixth class. • Purchase PM+ readers for Junior Infants to second class. • Purchase novels for third to sixth class. • Differentiate the groups in literacy lift off. • Information evening for parents on literacy lift off.
<p>Results September 2014</p> <p>Target 1: The average of the class' recognition of sight words is 203.4</p> <p>Target 2:</p> <p>Target 3: Standardised tests were used to group pupils accordingly.</p>	

As a parent, you can help us by:

- Listening to your child read aloud each night
- Signing the reading sheet each night
- Reporting to the class teacher if your child is presenting with difficulty reading at home.

2.4 We know we will have achieved our targets when

- 25% of senior Infants sight words increased to 150 by June 2014
- 40% of senior Infants sight words increased to 150 by June 2015
- Up wards of 60% of senior Infants sight words increased to 150 by June 2016