

## Scoil Phádraig School Improvement Plan (Literacy)

OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN	
Summary of main strengths as identified in last SSE (2012/2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading Initiatives to encourage reading – Paired reading, Readathon, shared reading , Bookworm Club.</li><li>• New English Curriculum Plan being researched and planned for 2014/2015 school year.</li><li>• Commercial products used with reference to Curriculum Objectives.</li><li>• Good Resources available.</li><li>• Variety of Assessment tools used.</li><li>• Print rich environment – lots of sight vocabulary.</li><li>• Jolly Phonics up to third class.</li><li>• Good variety of reading texts used.</li><li>• Children engage in listening comprehension activities.</li><li>• Good variety of reading material available in all classes.</li><li>• Diagnostic and standardised tests administered.</li><li>• The process of writing is fostered and children write for real purposes.</li><li>• Draft, edit and redrafting are at the heart of the writing process.</li><li>• A variety of writing genres are taught.</li><li>• Good handwriting is fostered from Junior Infants.</li><li>• There is an agreed source of varied content for spellings and a variety of methods used.</li><li>• Results of assessments are used to inform teacher planning.</li></ul>

<p><b>Summary of main areas requiring improvement as identified in last SSE(2012/2013)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Oral Language Skills</u></b></p> <p>Improvement in Oral Language confidence and fluency and a development in the expressive capacity of pupils.</p> <p><b><u>Reading</u></b></p> <p>Develop the pupils' appreciation, reading fluency and pleasure through the use of a wider diversity of reading material.</p> <p>Develop a range of reading comprehension strategies.</p> <p>Support exceptionally able students through differentiation, accelerated reading, quizzes, ICT and independent research projects</p> <p><b><u>Writing</u></b></p> <p>Expose the children to a range of strategies and techniques to improve their planning, composing, evaluating and publishing in a variety of genres.</p> <p>Examine ways we can support Parents in terms of phonics, handwriting, oral language development, reading and the development of comprehension.</p>
<p><b>Improvement targets (related to pupils' achievement)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Oral Language Skills</u></b></p> <p>Improvement in Oral Language confidence and fluency and a development in the expressive capacity of pupils.</p> <p><b><u>Reading</u></b></p> <p>Develop the pupils' appreciation, reading fluency and pleasure through the use of a wider diversity of reading material.</p> <p>Develop a range of reading comprehension strategies.</p> <p><b><u>Writing</u></b></p> <p>Expose the children to a range of strategies and techniques to improve their planning, composing, evaluating and publishing in a variety of genres.</p> <p><b><u>Overall Target</u></b></p> <p>We expect that the achievement of the targets outlined above will raise our very good literacy levels even more.</p>

<p><b>Required actions (related to teaching and learning that will help to achieve the targets)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Oral Language Skills</u></b></p> <p>Specific Oral Language skills are to be taught and practised.</p> <p>Offer opportunities for pupils to develop oral language skills at each class level.</p> <p>Visits by poets/storytellers to the school.</p> <p>Discrete oral language lessons in higher classes.</p> <p>Debating in senior classes.</p> <p>Higher order comprehension in senior classes.</p> <p>Develop confidence in oral language to promote competent self-expression.</p> <p><b><u>Reading</u></b></p> <p>Continue and expand paired reading, Bookworm, group work.</p> <p>Increase variety and genres of reading materials for middle &amp; senior classes</p> <p>Reinforce phonics and word attack skills in senior classes.</p> <p>Teachers will explicitly teach and model comprehension strategies as part of Literacy.</p> <p>Support exceptionally able students through differentiation, accelerated reading, quizzes, ICT and independent research projects</p> <p><b><u>Writing</u></b></p> <p>Introduction of First Steps .</p> <p>More Free Writing.</p> <p>Cover a variety of subjects and genres.</p> <p>Encourage more expressive language.</p> <p><b><u>Staff Professional Development</u></b></p> <p>Our Literacy Committee will support other staff members in exploring various approaches, strategies and techniques eg. “First Steps”, “Building Bridges” and “Guided Reading” to help us to achieve our targets.</p>
<p><b>Persons responsible</b></p>	<p>All staff to be responsible for our School Improvement Plan led by our Literacy Committee and co-ordinated by Deputy Principal Martin Eyres</p>
<p><b>Timeframe for action</b></p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 2013 TO SEPTEMBER 2015</p>

<p><b>Success criteria / measurable outcomes</b></p>	<p><b><u>Outcome No.1</u></b>  Our aim is to have as many of our students as possible reading at or above their level of ability as measured by the standardised NRIT test.</p> <p><b><u>Outcome No.2</u></b>  We expect that the achievement of the above outcome will increase our students' scores in the end of year Standardised Test (Drumcondra Reading Test).</p> <p>As we are starting from a relatively high level of literacy we feel that an increase of 1% of students scoring above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile and a subsequent 1% decrease in those scoring below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile is realistic and achievable this year. We will review our progress in September 2014 and set new targets as required.</p>
<p><b>Review dates</b></p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 2014  SEPTEMBER 2015</p>