



BALLYORAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

**BOARD OF
GOVERNORS'
ANNUAL REPORT**

2008/2009

Excellence – Creativity - Integrity

November 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian

As Chairman of the Board of Governors of Ballyoran Primary School it gives me great pleasure to present you with our Annual Board of Governors' Report.

We are living in a time of unprecedented change within our education system and with change comes many challenges. These challenges include the implementation of the Revised Curriculum, Transfer to Post Primary and the Reform of Public Administration.

Within our own school, 2008-2009 was a year of great change with the appointment of a new Principal and Vice-Principal. I appreciate that change is a challenge for people but it should be viewed as an opportunity and I can assure you that the changes made in the school over this past year, have been brought about to make this school an even better school and ensure that it is able to move into the future with confidence.

Detailed as this report is, it can only give you a brief insight into the many varied aspects of school life during the 2008-2009 school year. Should any parents/guardians need clarification on any aspect of this Report, I would ask you to forward your request in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Governors, Mr Woolsey.

Can I also take this opportunity of thanking all the staff of Ballyoran Primary School for your hard work, commitment and dedication during the 2008-2009 school year.

Next, I would like to thank parents and guardians for your support throughout the year which is vital in your child's educational development and without which the school could not function effectively.

Finally, I would like to thank the pupils, without whom there would not be a Ballyoran Primary School, for all that you contributed in making 2008/2009 a most enjoyable and memorable year.

Yours faithfully

Rev Canon J N T Campbell
Chairman of the Board of Governors

Ballyoran Primary School Board of Governors: 2005 – 2009

Transferor Representatives

Rev Canon J N T Campbell (Chairman)
Mrs I M F McKinney
Mrs A Mallon
Mrs J Stewart (Resigned August 2008)

SELB Representatives

Mr B N Carville (Vice Chairman)
Mr E Fleming

Parent Representatives

Mrs J O'Connor (Resigned June 2008)
Mr C Heaney
Mr K O'Connor

Teacher Representative

Mrs A McCreesh-West

Secretary

Mr R Woolsey (non-voting Member)

As this is the final Annual Governors' Report of this term of the Board of Governors, the Principal would like to thank members for their time, dedication and commitment to the school and their support to him and his predecessor during their four years in office.

Responsibilities of the Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. It is required to meet a minimum of three times during the year, but during the 2008 - 2009 school year it met 10 times. The dates of the meetings were as follows:

26th August 2008
2nd September 2008
29th September 2008
10th December 2008
5th February 2009
26th February 2009
12th March 2009
30th April 2009
28th May 2009
29th June 2009

The main responsibilities of the Board of Governors are:

1. The implementation, delivery and oversight of the curriculum.
2. The management and control of the allocated budget.
3. The provision of information for parents.
4. The recruitment and selection of staff.
5. The maintenance of the premises (Shared responsibility with SELB).
6. The Admissions Policy.
7. The fostering of links with the local community and pursuing the objectives of Mutual Understanding.

School Staff 2008-2009

Teaching Staff

Member of Staff	Class/Responsibility
Mr R Woolsey	Principal
Miss R Daly	Vice Principal (from 1 st January 2009)
Miss C Smith/Mrs A Edgar	Nursery 1, Nursery Co-ordinator
Mrs J Carson	Nursery 2, Charity
Mrs E Mackle	P1, RE
Mrs F Mulholland	P1/2
Mrs G O'Hanlon	P2, Foundation/Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator, Key Stage 1 Literacy, ICT, First Aid
Mrs S Brown	P3 (Job Share), Numeracy
Miss R Sweeney	P3 (Job Share), PDMU
Mrs B McGinnell	P4, SCRP, Teacher Tutor, Charity Team
Ms A McCreesh-West	P5, Music
Mr R Hendron	P5, PE
Mrs L Walker	P6 (Job Share), The World Around Us
Mrs C Breen	P6 (Job Share), Literacy Team
Mrs R Brogan	P6 (Term 1)
Miss R Daly	P6 (Terms 2 – 3), Key Stage 2 Co-ordinator, SENCO, Inclusion & Diversity, Assessment, Designated Teacher
Mrs B Heaney	P7, Key Stage 2 Literacy, Drama, Library, Deputy Designated Teacher
Mrs K Barkley	LSC, Art & Design, SEN Team
Mrs G Garvey	EAL Support

Auxiliary Staff

Mrs H Stewart	Nursery Assistant
Mrs P McConville	Nursery Assistant
Ms J McCourt	P1 Classroom Assistant
Mrs S Glavin	P2 Classroom Assistant
Mrs R McCall	LSC Classroom Assistant
Mrs M O'Donnell	SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs J Glynne	SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs L Weir	SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs A Thompson	SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs J Huddleson	SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs J Donnelly	SEN Classroom Assistant
Mrs R Tedford	Secretary

Ancillary Staff

Mr P Creaney	Building Supervisor
Mrs C McShane	Cleaner
Mrs D Larkin	Cleaner
Miss J Davis	Cleaner
Mr T Tedford	Cleaner
Miss T McBride	Cleaner
Mrs D Larkin	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs S Glavin	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs M Cusack	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs L Larkin	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs J Breen	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant

School Meals Kitchen Staff

Mrs D Campbell	Unit Catering Supervisor
Mrs M Noble	Cook
Mrs H Culbert	Catering Assistant
Mrs H Cassells	Catering Assistant
Mrs I Borodziuk	Catering Assistant

The 2008 – 2009 year saw a change in the Leadership Team of the school. Mr Woolsey replaced Miss Calvert as Principal, taking up his appointment on 1st September 2008. Miss Daly replaced Mr Woolsey as Vice-Principal, taking up her appointment on 1st January 2009.

We said farewell to two members of staff, Mrs J Glynne who worked as a Classroom Assistant as well as Librarian and Administration. Mrs J Breen who worked as a Classroom Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant. Presentations were made to both ladies and the Board of Governors would like to thank them for their commitment to the school during their time working here.

Mr T Tedford and Miss T McBride joined the cleaning staff.

The Board of Governors would like to thank the Principal and all the Staff for their hard work and dedication during the year. They appreciate the efforts of all who contribute so effectively to the smooth running of the school.

Vision, Aims and Mission Statement

During the 2008-2009 school year the Vision and Aims of the school were reviewed. A new Mission Statement was also put in place:

Mission Statement

Excellence, Creativity, Integrity

Vision for the School

As an Inclusive School we aim to provide a happy, caring, safe and stimulating learning environment which will enable each child to develop to his or her full potential - academically, personally, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually, in preparation for becoming responsible citizens.

This will be achieved by giving all pupils equal opportunities to a broad and balanced curriculum which is tailored to meet their individual needs and abilities, coupled with access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

We aim to foster in all pupils respect for themselves, respect for other people and respect for the environment in which they live and raise each child's self esteem and confidence to help them realise that they are valued members of our school community.

The development of each child's potential is reflected in the strong relationships which we attempt to foster within school and, indeed, those with our parents and other bodies that support the work of the school.

These values are inherent in all areas of school life and provide the basis for, and are implicit in, all school policies. All members of staff in Ballyoran Primary School share these ideals, values and beliefs and value the contribution made to school life by each individual child.

Aims

- 1) To fulfil the school vision by developing each child as:
 - an individual
 - a contributor to society
 - a contributor to the economy and environment.

- 2) To develop in each child the following skills –
 - Communication
 - Using Mathematics
 - Using ICT
 - Thinking skills
 - Managing information, problem solving and decision-making
 - Being creative, working with others and self management.

3) To foster the following attitudes and values –

- Personal responsibility
- Self-confidence
- Tolerance and respect for others
- Commitment, determination and resourcefulness
- Community spirit
- Integrity
- Independence
- Openness to new ideas.

Ultimately to provide stimulating, relevant and enriching learning experiences with equality of access for each child so as they may develop an enthusiasm for learning as a lifelong process

2008 - 2009 Calendar of Events

Many events, interwoven through the Curriculum, reflect the variety of activities the pupils experienced throughout the school year. It should be noted that the list below is not exhaustive.

Autumn Term

- Ø Baker Days
- Ø Ambassadors In Sport Lunchtime football for P5/P6/P7
- Ø Hospice Coffee Morning
- Ø Gaelic Coaching with P1/P2
- Ø InCAS Assessments
- Ø European Day of Languages
- Ø Annual Book Fair
- Ø P4 Enrolment Ceremony for First Communion at St. John's
- Ø P6 Activity Day at Drumcree College
- Ø Parent/Teacher Meetings
- Ø P6 International Food Day
- Ø Visit of Diocesan Advisor for RE
- Ø P6 and P7 Schools Community Relations Programme (SCRP) with Hart
- Ø Transfer Test
- Ø Football match v Edenderry
- Ø Visit of St. John's Accordion Band/Orchestra – Workshop P5 – P7
- Ø P7 Schools Community Relations Programme (SCRP) with Hart
- Ø West Midland Theatre – 'The Legend of the Golden Dragon'
- Ø P6 Pupil – Eoin McKee at Presentation for being a Runner Up in the Craigavon Borough Council Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Calendar Competition
- Ø Conservation Volunteers Tree Planting with P7 Eco Team
- Ø Christmas Concert
- Ø Christmas Dinner in Canteen
- Ø LSC Trip to Armagh Planetarium
- Ø 'Jo Jingles' in Nursery
- Ø Non Uniform Day for 'Children In Need'
- Ø Christmas Celebration
- Ø Choir sang at Rushmere Shopping Centre
- Ø Nursery Trip to Peter Pan's Indoor Play Area

Spring Term

- Ø School Development Days
- Ø Nursery SCRCP Project with Hart – 'Enjoy A Ball'
- Ø Gaelic and Hurling coaching
- Ø P4 BEAM Project Workshops
- Ø Jones' 5 A - Side Soccer Tournament
- Ø Soccer Match v Carrick
- Ø P7 Fitness event at Drumcree College
- Ø Fire Service talk to P5s
- Ø Credit Union Quiz

- Ø Annual Reviews of all SEN Pupils at Stage 5 of Code of Practice
- Ø Transfer Test Results
- Ø P6 Trip to Vikings Exhibition – St. Patrick’s Trian, Armagh
- Ø Soccer Match v St. John’s
- Ø Boys’ Gaelic Blitz – St. Theresa’s
- Ø Nurse Reviews
- Ø P4 BEAM Performance in Town Hall
- Ø Review of Caretaking & Cleaning
- Ø Girls’ Gaelic Blitz – St. Theresa’s
- Ø P4 Mass at St. John’s
- Ø P6 – PSNI ‘Bee Safe Event’
- Ø Parent Teacher Meetings
- Ø Nursery outing to Peter Pan’s
- Ø World Book Day
- Ø Boys’ Gaelic Blitz – Aghagallon
- Ø Extended Schools trip to Lurgaboy Adventure Centre
- Ø P7 Mass at St. John’s
- Ø P7 Young Enterprise Day
- Ø P6 Young Enterprise Day
- Ø P5 Young Enterprise Day
- Ø ‘Jo Jingles’ in Nursery
- Ø Ballyclare Music Festival – Irish Dancers
- Ø Soccer Match v Hart
- Ø P7 Confirmation at St. John’s Church
- Ø Portadown Dancing Festival at the Town Hall
- Ø P7 Shannaghmore Residential
- Ø LSC Easter Egg Hunt at Edenvilla Park

Summer Term

- Ø School Development Days
- Ø Prize Giving for Credit Union Poster Competition in Town Hall
- Ø P5s and LSC Visit to Armagh County Museum
- Ø Belfast Marathon – Mr Hendron & Relay team
- Ø Delta meetings for Nursery and P1 Parents
- Ø Gaelic Blitz – St Patrick’s Aghacommon
- Ø Test Week
- Ø PSNI Talk to P6 pupils
- Ø CASE – P7 Pupils
- Ø Mrs McCreesh-West PQH Reception at SELB
- Ø Soccer Tournament at Craigavon Leisure Centre
- Ø Gaelic Blitz – Ballyoran
- Ø ‘Jo Jingles’ in Nursery
- Ø P4 First Communion – St. John’s Church
- Ø PSNI visit Nursery
- Ø P7 Puberty Talk from School Nurse
- Ø Nursery Teddy Bear’s Picnic in Loughgall Park
- Ø School Closed – European Election
- Ø Presentation to Mrs Breen who has retired as a Lunchtime

Supervisor

- Ø Show – ‘The Golden Key’ by Venture Productions
- Ø Sports’ Day
- Ø Library visit to Nursery with Treasure boxes
- Ø Brownlow Cup Soccer Tournament
- Ø P7 Transition Talk by EWO
- Ø Presentation of CASE Certificates to P7 by PSNI
- Ø Cheque for £1260 presented to Macmillan Cancer
- Ø Sports’ Day Medal Presentations
- Ø Fire and Rescue Service visit Nursery
- Ø Annual Irish Dancing Festival
- Ø Key Stage End of Term Trips
- Ø Prize Day
- Ø Annual Reports issued
- Ø Class Changes
- Ø P7 Cycling Proficiency Test
- Ø P7 Talent Show
- Ø Presentation to Mrs Glynne formerly a Classroom Assistant
- Ø Nursery Trip to Loughall Park
- Ø LSC Trip to Lurgan Park

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Use of Baker Days & School Development Days 2008-2009

Date	Type of Day	Inset	Venue
26/08/08	Baker	Classroom Preparation	In School
27/08/08	Baker	Staff Meeting Review of School Vision & Aims Classroom Preparation	In School
28/08/08	Baker	Revised Curriculum – The World Around Us Review of School Discipline Policy	In School
29/08/08	Baker	Classroom Preparation	In School
23/10/08 – 24/10/08	SDD	Linguistic Phonics Training	Clounagh Centre
05/01/09	SDD	Revised Curriculum – The World Around Us	In School
11/03/09	Baker (Twilight in lieu of)	SEN	In School
16/03/09	SDD	SEN	In School
18/03/09	SDD	School Care Policy Day	In School
29/04/09	Baker (Twilight in lieu of)	Assessment & Reporting	In School

Staff were involved in the following training and development during the 2008-2009 school year. A more specific list of which members of staff were involved in training is kept by staff members:

- Ø New Principal's Training
- Ø Statistical Returns Training
- Ø Review of Anti-Bullying Policy
- Ø Literacy Project Training & Clusters
- Ø Early Professional Development (EPD) Training
- Ø Revised Curriculum Training and Clusters
- Ø Linguistic Phonics Training
- Ø Child Protection Training for Designated Teachers
- Ø Supporting Pupils With Medication
- Ø First Aid
- Ø Revised Curriculum Classroom Assistant Training
- Ø ICT Co-ordinators
- Ø Art Co-ordinators
- Ø Induction
- Ø Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

- Ø SENCO Cluster meetings
- Ø Inclusion & Diversity Training
- Ø Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS)
- Ø ICT
- Ø Special Educational Needs
- Ø 'Leading Change From Policy to Practice' Principal's Conference
- Ø Literacy Co-ordinators
- Ø Assessment Manager
- Ø C2K Annual Report Overview
- Ø School Development Planning
- Ø InCAS and Annual Report training
- Ø Assessment and Reporting
- Ø SEN Classroom Assistants training
- Ø New Vice-Principal's Training
- Ø C2K Training for SIMS
- Ø Whole Staff Child Protection Training
- Ø Roles and Responsibilities
- Ø HR Policies

Continued Professional Development

PRSD

All teaching staff completed a cycle of PRSD which is the current model of Continued Professional Development in schools. Staff members set three objectives for the year as part of this.

Induction

Miss Smith completed her Induction during the 2008-2009 school year.

EPD

Miss Sweeney completed her Early Professional Development (EPD) during the 2008-2009 school year

PQH

Mrs McCreesh-West graduated with her PQH (NI) qualification. This was presented at a special ceremony at The Ramada Hotel in Belfast on 4th February 2009. This qualification was the result of two years hard work on Mrs McCreesh-West's part.

The Curriculum

Under the Education Reform Order, the responsibility of the Governors for the curriculum, ie. what is taught in school, has been increased. The Governors' control of the curriculum is, however, more apparent than real as much of what is taught has now been determined by law in the form of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Generally the day-to-day organisation of the curriculum remains the Principal's responsibility.

A broad and balanced learning experience is provided for all pupils attending Ballyoran Primary School. This has been achieved through the efforts of the Principal, Vice Principal, Senior Management Team, Subject Co-ordinators and Teachers spending many hours in discussion and planning to produce Policies and Schemes for use in the classroom and ensuring that classroom practice gives pupils the best learning opportunities possible.

The Curriculum Development Programme involved In-service Training, both inside and outside school on Baker Days, School Development Days and was on-going through Directed Time throughout the year. The Programme involved all members of Staff working individually, in year groups, in key stage groups or as a whole staff as appropriate and was supported by SELB Advisers and other outside agencies.

A major part of Curriculum Development this year was the continued implementation of the Revised Northern Ireland Curriculum.

The aim of the Northern Ireland Curriculum is 'to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives.' It has three objectives:

1. To develop the young person as an individual
2. To develop the young person as a contributor to society
3. To develop the young person as a contributor to the economy and environment

There has been a major shift from content to skills within the Curriculum. The Whole Curriculum Skills and Capabilities which should underpin all teaching and learning are Communication, Using Mathematics and ICT, as well as Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities.

There are seven new Areas of Learning:

1. The Arts
2. Language & Literacy
3. Mathematics & Numeracy
4. Personal Development and Mutual Understanding
5. Physical Education
6. The World Around Us
7. Religious Education

The implementation of the Revised Curriculum has been phased and is following a dual approach with individual teachers receiving training and the whole school focusing on development areas. During 2008-2009 P3, P4 and P7 teachers received three days training in the Revised Northern Ireland Curriculum. A particular focus for all teachers was 'The World Around Us'.

All staff attended two days Linguistic Phonics training with the SELB. The school has adopted this strategy and it forms a major part of Language and Literacy in every classroom on a day to day basis. The feedback from staff and pupils regarding this has been very positive.

ICT development focused on the introduction of seven new Interactive Whiteboards which have greatly enhanced learning and teaching in the school.

Foundation/Key Stage 1 teachers received Fundamental Movement Skills training.

Art & Design – Mrs Barkley worked with P4 and P6 pupils and drew up an Art Scheme for these year groups.

The Hi Five P6 Literacy Project continued, funded under Neighbourhood Renewal by the Department of Social Development. This involved target groups of 3 pupils receiving extra support for a 10 week period with Mrs Weir. The outcomes from this support were very encouraging with many of the pupils showing improvements at the end of the 10 week block.

Aspects of these areas featured in teachers' professional development through the "Performance Review and Staff Development" (PRSD) Scheme.

Nursery

'A safe, happy and stimulating learning environment, where children and adults feel of value.'

Ours is a two class Nursery Unit, each class has 26 children, a teacher and a classroom assistant. Extra assistance is sometimes available for children with special educational needs.

In Ballyoran Nursery, staff plan the indoor and outdoor curriculum to develop the children's 6 areas of learning:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. Language Development
3. Physical Development and Movement
4. The Arts
5. Early Mathematical Development
6. The World Around Us

The Nursery builds the bridge between the parent, dependence of the toddler and the relative independence of the primary child.

We have a well equipped outdoor play area which includes towers, slides, see-saws, a playhouse, chalkboards and a beautiful willow structure.

Visits to Parkanaur with the Hart Memorial Primary School, as part of the Schools Community Relations Project (SCRP) link the two nurseries.

Ballyoran Nursery works closely with the 'Blossom Sure Start Team' a support network we value immensely.

During the 2008-2009 school year there was a major review of the Nursery which highlighted deficiencies in its accommodation and resources. This was followed by a major investment in Nursery resources which has greatly benefited the pre-school curriculum at Ballyoran Primary School.

Foundation Stage and Key Stage One

Foundation Stage and Key Stage One include pupils from P1 to P4 and the LSC. Pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum, with much emphasis on Play and practical experiences. Play, Literacy and Numeracy form the main structure of the timetable while other curricular areas are covered through topic work.

All pupils in Key Stage One are continually assessed in a range of ways and grouped and taught according to their ability and needs.

In addition to classwork pupils actively participated in morning assembly, Christmas concerts, etc.

Pupils in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One also participated in several class trips.

Mrs O'Hanlon was appointed as Foundation Stage/Key Stage One Co-ordinator in February 2008.

Key Stage Two

Key Stage Two caters for pupils from P5 to P7 and the Learning Support Class. Pupils are provided with a broad and balanced curriculum based around Literacy, Numeracy and ICT extending to all of the Areas of Learning in the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

In addition to classwork, Key Stage Two pupils participated in morning assembly, Christmas concerts, class trips, swimming lessons, inter school team matches and a wide variety of after school activities throughout the school year.

Special Educational Needs

Last year SEN policy and procedures were completely reviewed and overhauled by the new Vice-Principal, Miss Daly who has taken on the role of SENCO. This development has been carried out in close co-operation with Special Education Advisors from the SELB.

The following development took place as part of the SEN Action Plan in 2008-2009:

A new SEN Register format for the school was introduced. Pupil tracking for 30 children at Stage 2 of the Code of Practice was carried out. Thirteen children were subsequently referred for Literacy Screening and eleven of them were accepted for assessment. Two referrals were refused under the criteria of EAL and we are currently awaiting the outcomes from Educational Psychology. Eleven children were moved from Stage 2 to Stage 3 of the Code of Practice. Eight Records of Concern were received from teachers. One child has moved from Stage 4 to Stage 5 and he is now in the LSC. One child has moved from Stage 3 to Stage 4. One child (at Stage 3) moved to a neighbouring school.

There was a review of training needs for teachers and teachers participated in much SEN training. The SEN Team also participated in relevant training and disseminated information to other teachers. The following SEN training was received during the 2008-2009 school year:

• Code of Practice & IEPs
• Assessment
• Overview of ASD
• SENCO Cluster for LSC
• Using Clicker 5 to support pupils within L1
• How to meet the needs of a child with SEN
• SEN & ICT
• IEP Target Setting
• Developmental Co-ordination/Dyspraxia
• Supporting SENCO'S in developing SENCO policy
• Make my Word Tree Grow
• SEN Classroom Assistant Training

Miss Daly outlined procedures for each stage of Code of Practice on 12th January 2009 at staff meeting. An audit of provision of SEN within the school was carried out. There was a request for SPLD which has been submitted to Banbridge Reading Centre for training in SPLD for teachers in the next academic year

Monitoring and Record Keeping was reviewed and updated. Three IEPs are now completed for Children on Stages 2 – 5 on the Code of Practice and a new IEP format was introduced.

The school complies with the requirements of the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs and we believe in a policy of early intervention. All pupils who require Learning Support are listed on an SEN register. Initially teachers keep Records of Concern on pupils before they formally go on to the Register. Education plans are formulated in consultation between class teacher and the SENCO, for all pupils at Stages 2-5 on the register. These are then discussed with and signed by parents. We believe that the SEN register should not be a static document and that pupils should be constantly moving either up or down the stages.

The programme for pupils receiving extra help is monitored regularly. It is our aim, that having completed a programme of support, some pupils will no longer require extra support and can therefore be removed from the register.

Assessment and Reporting

In the Autumn term, pupils in P5 and P6 completed statutory InCAS (Interactive Computerised Assessment System). InCAS included assessments of reading and spelling, mathematics, mental arithmetic, picture vocabulary, non verbal ability and attitudes. The results give a profile for individual classes and individual pupils.

Pupils in Primary 4 and 7 completed Statutory End of Key Stage Assessments.

The school used Granada Learning Literacy and Numeracy Standardised Tests in classes from P3 to P7.

The Assessment Co-ordinator also tracked pupils and classes using 'Assessment Manager' on SIMS. These results helped to identify which pupils need support for Special Educational Needs.

Parents are kept regularly informed about the outcomes of all assessments. The results of the InCAS tests were given to the parents during the autumn term.

In October and February Parent/Teacher meetings took place to discuss pupils' progress.

At the end of the school year a written 'Annual Report' was issued to parents. There was a new format for this report last year.

The new Vice-Principal as Assessment Co-ordinator led a review of Assessment Policy and Procedures.

During the 2008 2009 school year the schedule of testing for the whole school was amended in light of the Revised Curriculum. A NRIT (IQ) test was introduced from P3 -P7 and scores have been recorded on Assessment Manager.

The Principal & Assessment Co-ordinator attended relevant training on Assessment Manager & Annual Report to Parents. The Assessment Co-ordinator lead staff through end of year assessment procedures and reporting to Parents.

The Principal and Assessment Co-ordinator attended training 'Effective use of data' organised by C2K. The Assessment Co-ordinator attended Incas and Annual Report Training organised by CCEA. The Assessment Co-ordinator led staff through twilight training on 'End of year Assessment & Reporting'.

It was decided that the school's Standardised Tests – Progress In Maths and Progress In English would be sent away for analysis by GLS and that the data would be evaluated on return. This data was returned to Ballyoran Primary School and the Assessment Co-ordinator forwarded it to the Principal, Literacy & Numeracy Co-ordinators. This data will assist management in planning for the future with the main aim being to raise standards in Literacy and Numeracy.

2008/2009 Statutory End of Key Stage Assessment Results

LEVELS AT END OF KEY STAGE 1

ENGLISH

Percentage of pupils in the final year of Key Stage 1 (P4)		
	Level 2	Level 3
Ballyoran Summary	58.62	10.34
N. Ireland Summary	53.48	41.49

MATHEMATICS

Percentage of pupils in the final year of Key Stage 1 (P4)		
	Level 2	Level 3
Ballyoran Summary	41.38	27.59
N. Ireland Summary	47.15	47.50

LEVELS AT END OF KEY STAGE 2

ENGLISH

Percentage of pupils in the final year of Key Stage 2 (P7)			
	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Ballyoran Summary	23.33	70	0
N. Ireland Summary	17.67	50.41	28.78

MATHEMATICS

Percentage of pupils in the final year of Key Stage 2 (P7)			
	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Ballyoran Summary	20	63.33	13.33
N. Ireland Summary	16.62	39.14	41.31

Child Protection

The school's Child Protection Policy and procedures were reviewed during the 2008-2009 school year:

- Child Protection Audit
- Parents informed of Child Protection procedures - leaflet
- Designated Teacher Training for Principal and Vice - Principal
- Child Protection Policy updated
- Staff Code of Conduct put in place
- Intimate Care Policy put in place
- Child Protection Register established
- Record Keeping reviewed
- New Procedures put in place for Record Keeping and Passing on information
- Staff Vetting reviewed
- Child Protection now on the Agenda of every Board of Governors meeting
- Review of Roles - Child Protection Team established
- Support network put in place – Posters around school and Notice board
- Meeting with SELB Designated Officer for Child Protection
- Child Protection Training for all staff

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care was reviewed during the 2008-2009 school year and many changes were made:

- Review of Discipline Policy
- Review of Pastoral Care Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy put in place
- Use of Images Policy put in place
- Medical Register established
- Review of access to school
- Policy for removing pupils from school early established
- First Aid Policy put in place
- Three staff trained as Designated First Aiders
- Health & Safety Policy put in place
- Health & Safety Inspection of Nursery
- Communication Policy put in place
- School Care Policy put in place
- Mobile Phone Policy put in place
- No Smoking Policy put in place
- Review of school uniform

School Management

There were many developments in the management of the school during the 2008-2009 year which included:

- Appointment of new Principal
- Appointment of new Vice Principal
- School Vision & Aims reviewed
- School Development Plan for 2009 - 2012 drawn up
- All operational procedures reviewed
- A Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator was appointed
- A Senior Management Team was put in place
- A review of roles and responsibilities
- Responsibilities delegated to staff
- School Management Structure reviewed
- Staff Job Descriptions were reviewed
- Classroom Assistant Job Evaluations completed
- Vacant responsibility posts were filled
- Salary Policy reviewed
- Implementation of new Planning procedures
- PRSD Policy reviewed
- Management file established
- Principal/Teacher Termly consultations established
- Principal Class Contact established
- Weekly Staff Briefing Sessions established
- More regular staff meetings
- Minutes of all staff meetings kept
- More frequent Board of Governors' meetings

Student Placements

During the year the school once again welcomed students in completing various courses/degrees as well as work experience.

- Ø PGCE Student from Queens University Belfast on a 2 week placement
- Ø Three Drumcree College Students on Work Experience
- Ø Two Stranmillis College Students doing School Based Work
- Ø One Brownlow College Student on Work Experience in Nursery

Home School Liaison – Partnership With Parents

Links between the school and parents which are vital, continued to be fostered and encouraged in various ways.

All new pupils and their parents received a new School Prospectus and a new Information Booklet For Parents.

Nursery and P1 parents were given an opportunity to visit the school prior to admission in order to meet their respective teachers and view classrooms at Induction Evenings held in June.

All parents were kept up to date with happenings in school through monthly News Sheets sent out by the Principal.

Other Information Sheets and Permission Notices were issued regularly as and when required.

Additional Parents' Meetings – 4 week Delta Parenting Programme for Nursery and P1 Parents.

Parents were invited in for Christmas Concerts, Refreshments after First Communion, Dancing Festival, Sport's Day and Prize Day.

A Parents' Questionnaire was sent out last September dealing with all aspects of school life and the feedback from this was very positive.

Formal Parent/Teacher Meetings were held in October and February. A written Annual Report was issued in June.

We continue to operate an 'Open Door Policy' whereby parents can come to the school or telephone and make an appointment to speak to the Principal or class teacher at any time

The school website www.ballyoranps.com was further developed and used as a valuable tool to communicate with parents.

The Board of Governors, Principal and staff would like to take this opportunity of thanking all parents for the valuable contribution that they made in supporting their child's education during the 2008-2009 school year.

Community Links

At Ballyoran Primary School we believe that the link with the local community is vital. This relationship is a two way process, the school reaches into the community and the community is welcomed into school. The following are some of our community links from last year:

- Pupils had opportunities to take part in a wide variety of educational trips to local facilities eg Tannaghmore Gardens
- Regular use of community facilities eg Cascades Swimming Pool
- Represented on the Local Neighbourhood Renewal Committee
- Supported the local Community Association – Drumcree Community Trust as part of our Extended Schools programme
- Linked with other local Primary and Secondary schools through an Extended Schools' Cluster

- Part of the School's Community Relations Project (SCRP) which provides a cross-community link with The Hart Memorial Primary School
- Links with local Tir Na Og GFC who provide coaching for pupils in Gaelic games
- Strong links with local PSNI Community Affairs team who came into school on numerous occasions to speak to pupils eg. Firework Safety, P7 CASE Programme
- Use of Website – www.ballyoranps.com
- Use of local press – Portadown Times to promote the school
- The Choir and Recorder group sang at Rushmere Shopping Centre at Christmas.
- Strong links with local church in particular with reference to First Communion and Confirmation
- Links with other local agencies: EWO, Social Services, School Nurses, Council etc.
- Competitions eg. Credit Union
- The Nursery continued its strong links with the local Sure Start team who came in to do Speech and Language sessions and 'Jo Jingles.'
- Links with business and enterprise as part of the Young Enterprise Programme P2 – P7
- At Christmas the school made up hampers with items brought in by the pupils for local Old Aged Pensioners.

Charity

The school continued its fundraising for Charity and the Board of Governors would like to thank staff, pupils, parents and friends of the school for their generosity:

1. Southern Area Hospice	£160.50	(Coffee Morning)
2. Children In Need:	£384.50	(Non Uniform Day)
3. Macmillan Cancer	£1260	(Belfast Marathon Relay)

Playground Development/Playground Friends

Primary 7 pupils continued to carry out the role of Playground Friends in both the Senior and Junior Playgrounds. Each day at lunchtime, pupils working on a rota basis zoned the playground, set up the activities and supervised them.

Enrolment

Enrolment at 30th June

Nursery	Primary	LSC	Total
51	186	7	244

Attendance

The attendance over these past few years has been improving steadily and parents and staff are to be commended for this. It does however need to be better.

Average Attendance % for 2008 -2009

90.7%

Punctuality

Punctuality has improved during the last school year and we commend parents and pupils for this. This positive change must however be sustained throughout the year.

Inclusion and Diversity

Many New Comers have settled in the local community and our enrolment includes a significant number of pupils from other countries including Portugal, Lithuania, Poland and India. We are an inclusive school and highly respect the cultural diversity within our school community.

In order to meet the challenge of providing education for the many pupils for whom English is an additional language, Mrs Garvey worked as a full-time teacher to support them. She co-ordinated the programme with the class teachers to support pupils in the classroom and withdrew pupils in small groups.

Bi – Lingual signs have been placed around the school to make it more welcoming for newcomers and Interpreters were provided for Parent/Teacher Meetings.

Work was started on a new Welcome Booklet for Newcomers and on the CEFR – Common European Framework.

Once again the school celebrated European Day of Languages in September when the whole school focused on the diversity of our pupil base.

Mrs Breen organised a European Food Day for Primary 6 pupils and their parents in the Autumn Term which was very successful.

First Communion and Confirmation

As well as the 'Alive O' programme being taught in school, P4 and P7 pupils were prepared for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. This programme has been extended by Father O'Dwyer to include other celebrations at St John's Church throughout the year. Parents also participated in these celebrations. Father O'Dwyer visited the pupils on occasions in school as Chaplain and was most welcome.

Cross Community Links

The school continued to participate in the Schools' Community Relations Programme as follows:

The Nursery took part in a creative programme of music and dance called 'Enjoy A Ball' with Hart Memorial Nursery.

P6 and P7 pupils participated in a four day programme with partner classes from Hart Memorial Primary School. The programme was facilitated by An Creagan Visitor Centre in Omagh. Children visited An Creagan twice, and had the opportunity to work in each other's schools. This was a very worthwhile programme as children had the opportunity to discuss the need for rules and laws in society and how these are maintained and enforced; to talk about rights and responsibilities, wants and needs; to focus on cultural identity and conflict resolution; to cover issues related to ethnic diversity, gender and stereotyping.

Nursery Sure Start Links

Jo-Jingles visited the Nursery on 3 occasions. Half the cost was funded by Sure-Start and the other half by the children. *'The Music and Movement Experience'* programme was aimed at developing the children's rhythm.

Speech and Language support was also provided by Sure Start.

Extra Curricular Activities

The School continued to provide pupils with a wide variety of activities outside the classroom through a varied programme of extra curricular activities.

- Breakfast Club
- P2 and P3 Kids' Club
- Polish Book Club
- EAL Homework Club
- Boys' Gaelic
- Girls' Gaelic
- Boys' Soccer
- Girls' Soccer
- Choir
- Recorder Group
- Irish Dancing
- Cookery Club
- Cycling Proficiency

The Board of Governors wishes to thank all the staff involved in the above activities for their commitment and dedication shown during the 2008-2009 school year.

School Choir and Recorder Group

The school Choir and Recorder Group, conducted by Mrs McCreesh-West, had a busy year, fulfilling engagements both within school and around the local community. They excelled in their performances at the Christmas Celebration and Rushmere Shopping Centre. They also sang meaningfully at the Services of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Soccer and Gaelic Clubs

Boys and girls in P5 to P7 attended after school Soccer coached by Mr Hendron and Ambassadors In Sport. Ambassadors In Sport also provided Lunchtime Soccer on the pitch three days each week.

Those involved in the School Soccer Team competed in League and Cup games throughout the year.

Boys and Girls in P5 to P7 attended after school Gaelic coached by Mr Hendron. Those involved in the School Gaelic Team took part in a number of 'Gaelic Blitz's' with other local schools.

Irish Dancing Club

Again last year many pupils benefited from attending the Irish Folk Dancing After School Club led by Mrs Heaney. P5 – P7 pupils attended Ballyclare Music Festival, Portadown Festival and our own Dancing Festival in School.

Cookery Club

P7 pupils got the opportunity to attend an after school Cookery Club in the Breakfast Club Room. This club was led by Mrs Barkley and Mrs Carson and pupils produced some very appetising food each week.

Cycling Proficiency

Under the Cycling Proficiency Scheme, three P7 pupils were trained by Miss Daly and successfully completed this award. The children were presented with certificates and badges. Mrs L Dougan (DOE-Road Safety) administered the Cycling Proficiency Test which involved both a written and a practical aspect.

Extended Schools

The school again was fortunate to receive money as part of the Department of Education's Extended Schools Programme whereby schools are encouraged to extend their activities beyond the normal school day. The following activities were possible because of this funding:

1. Breakfast Club
2. P2/P3 Kids' Club
3. Polish Book Club
4. EAL Homework Club
5. Gaelic Club
6. Soccer Club
7. P4 Irish Dancing Club
8. Playground Development

Shannaghmore Residential

Shannaghmore 2009 proved to be as successful and enjoyable as previous trips. P7 pupils were enthusiastically accompanied by Mr Hendron, Mrs Heaney and Mrs McCreesh-West.

On arrival all pupils and teachers were equipped with a variety of outdoor pursuits equipment ranging from climbing helmets to wetsuits. Once sleeping accommodation had been sorted out all groups were then dispersed to their different activities. Over the duration of the stay these included adventure walks in the forest, canoeing in Castlewella Lake, abseiling and rock climbing, hillwalking and strolling along deserted beaches in search of marine life.

As always instructors were exceptional in terms of organisation and in motivating and caring for the children who responded well to all activities.

Accommodation and food at the centre were first class. Pupils enjoyed a hearty breakfast and a filling lunch and tea – this they thoroughly deserved after some exhausting but nonetheless enjoyable activities.

Competitions

- Credit Union Poster Competition
- School Christmas Card Competition
- SELB Christmas Card Competition
- Meadows Super Hero Competition
- High Street Mall Colouring Competition
- Craigavon Borough Council Environmental Calendar
- World Book Day Short Story Competition
- Young Writers Competition
- Dancing Festival

Music Tuition

Pupils continued to avail of SELB Music Tuition during the 2008-2009 school year playing instruments such as the flute, saxophone, clarinet and violin.

Sports

Each year the school is fortunate to have coaching from outside agencies coming into school. Last year we had two coaches doing Gaelic Football and one coach doing Hurling.

Healthy Breaks

Ballyoran Primary School is a Health Promoting School and is also a 'Boost Better Breaks' School. Last year the school adopted a new Healthy Breaks Policy whereby pupils are only permitted to bring in fruit and vegetables to eat at break time. This policy has been very successful.

Christmas Performance

Last Christmas saw a new event in School when we hosted a Christmas Celebration. All pupils in the school including the Nursery, took part in this event and the Assembly Hall was packed to capacity with parents and friends. The event was followed by refreshments.

School Leavers

Thirty P7 pupils left Ballyoran Primary School on 30th June 2009, transferring to the following schools:

1. Drumcree College	12 pupils
2. Lismore Comprehensive	14 pupils
3. Brownlow College	1 pupil
4. St. Catherines, College	1 pupil
5. Integrated College, Dungannon	1 pupil
6. St. Patrick's Grammar School, Armagh	1 pupil

Prize Day

Prize Day continues to get bigger and bigger with more awards each year. Last year we introduced a new format for this event holding a Foundation/Key stage one event and a Key Stage two event on the same day and inviting all parents. Miss Calvert was the Special Guest.

Budget & Expenditure

Financial Year: April 2008 – March 2009

With the introduction of Local Management of Schools (LMS) each school receives an annual budget, which is largely based on the number of pupils attending the school. Since April 1992 the LMS budget for Ballyoran Primary School has been fully delegated to the Board of Governors.

Please note that the LMS budget report covers the financial year from April to March as distinct from the academic year from September to June.

1. Total Available Budget	£916,781
2. Expenditure	
Staff	£804,618
Running Costs	£89,862
Total Expenditure	£894,480
3. 2008 – 09 Accrued Carry Over	£22,301

School Security

1998 regulations require formal information to be presented regarding school security. Please note the following:

- 1) Visitor access control - during school hours all visitors to school must enter by the front door and report to reception, sign the Visitor's Book and get a Visitor's Pass which must be worn at all times.
- 2) The front doors of the School and the Nursery are protected by electronic access controls.
- 3) A closed circuit television system operates on school premises.
- 2) Secure doors and windows.
- 4) Fire Detection Systems - the school is fitted with a fully functional fire alarm.
- 5) Computer security - information held on computer can only be accessed by using confidential passwords.
- 7) Intruder Alarm - the school is protected by an intruder alarm system.
- 8) Security lights cover the exterior of the building.
- 9) A security fence is in place around the site.

A Security Assessment is carried out annually by the Board of Governors and forwarded to the SELB.

School Premises

The Governors, with the assistance of the SELB Architects and Maintenance Departments continue to upgrade the school building and grounds. Much maintenance work has been completed during the 2008-2009 school year on improving the physical appearance of the school. The Board of Governors view this work as vital for the school's survival:

- Refurbishment of staffroom – kitchen, seats, painting and blinds
- Removal of asbestos from all the ceiling lights in the school
- Security Cameras fixed
- New telephone system installed
- Glass put in doors for Child Protection and Health & Safety reasons
- Holes in mobiles fixed
- Drainage on All Weather Pitch
- Outside Security lights fixed
- Nursery wired into C2K Computer system
- New vertical blinds in Nursery and Foundation Stage Classrooms
- Interview Room refurbished – painted, blinds, table and chairs
- New visitor seats in Foyer
- New P4 Classroom – asbestos floor removed and new vinyl floor put down, painted
- Seven Interactive Whiteboards installed
- Two new notice boards erected in Assembly Hall and Nursery
- Two sinks removed from Literacy store and new P4 classroom
- Eight new benches placed in playgrounds
- Two cigarette bins placed at school entrances
- Fire Assembly Point sign erected
- 'No Trespassing' signs erected
- Ivy removed from Central block and Nursery
- Leak in Nursery roof fixed
- New Foundation Stage/Key Stage One Literacy store shelved
- Security grill moved to Computer Suite window
- Assembly Hall painted
- New Curtains in Assembly hall
- All internal and external wooden doors painted
- New storage cupboards in Nursery
- New soil and grass planted in Front and Central areas of the school

Minor Works

Last year an application was made to the SELB under its Minor Works Programme to refurbish the Nursery, Foundation Stage and Key Stage One Toilets, provide a covered outdoor play area for the Nursery and Refurbish the office accommodation. Work is due to be started on these improvements in 2009-2010.

Review of Caretaking & Cleaning

Last year saw a review of Caretaking and Cleaning in the school by SELB Building Support Services which was very worthwhile. As a result of this review an extra cleaner was employed, new equipment purchased and training provided for members of staff.

The Governors would like to thank everyone involved at the SELB for their help during the year, in particular Mr E O'Reilly (Maintenance), Mr D Orr (Health and Safety) and Mr J Glavin (Building Support Services).

School Closures: 2008 – 2009

September	-----
October	23, 24, 30 & 31
November	-----
December	22 – 31
January	1 – 5
February	12 – 13
March	16 – 18
April	10 – 24
May	4, 25
June	4, 8