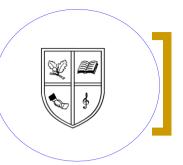
EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Phone: 02871 343864 Fax: 02871 313053

E-mail: wdougherty842@c2kni.net

Principal: W N Dougherty, Cert Ed, B Ed Hons

33 Lapwing Way Waterside Londonderry BT47 6LH

Dear Parents

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2014/2015 Annual Governors Report. Please take time to read through the many articles, as these are intended to give you a 'snapshot'. of the excellent work that is carried on in our School.

A good school will always have the pupils at the centre of its work and will be striving to create an environment which will allow all who work in the school to derive a sense of achievement and satisfaction. Ebrington is no exception and the range of activities mentioned in this report simply bears this out.

As chairman, I wish to thank fellow Governors and all the staff for their support and commitment to Ebrington.

I commend this report to all parents and should you wish additional information on any aspect of the report please contact the principal.

Yours sincerely

JR Manning

Chairman Board of Governors

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is made up of nine voting members as well as the School Principal who is a non-voting member. These members are nominated and elected by the various bodies connected to the School.

Governors for the period November 2013 - September 2017 are as follows:

<u>Chairman</u> Mr J Manning

Secretary Mr W N Dougherty

Trustee or Transferor Representatives

Mr F Stuart Mr R Young Mr T McQuillan

Education Authority (Western) Representatives

Mrs M Garfield Mr N Doherty

Parents Representative

Mr J Foster Mrs M Curtis

Teacher Representative Mrs I Stone

Principal Mr W N Dougherty

The Governors are ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school and their role includes the following main responsibilities:

- Oversight of the Curriculum.
- Selection of Staff and other personnel responsibilities.
- Admissions policy.
- School Maintenance.
- Implementation of new legislation.
- Fostering links with the local community and pursuing the objectives of Mutual Understanding and Shared Education.

During the school year 2014/2015, the Board of Governors met on a number of occasions to discuss the following items of business:

Staffing / Enrolment Trends

Admissions Policy – Nursery and Year 1.

Admission Criteria - Nursery and Year 1.

Health and Safety Issues.

Pastoral Issues

Appointments Procedure

School Budget concerns.

Transport Concerns.

Grievance Procedure for Staff

Curriculum Issues

New School Proposals-Co-location of Ebrington with Foyle and

Londonderry College

New Speech and Language Class

Extended School Activities

The Principal and Staff wish to record their sincere thanks to the Governors for their commitment and interest to the school. Under the Chairmanship of Mr John Manning, Governors have given their time to help with the management of Ebrington Primary School. It is their commitment to the post which goes a long way in ensuring the continued smooth running of our school.

Staffing Complement for 2014/2015

Principal and 19 Teachers

Mr W N DOUGHERTY - Principal

Mrs Irene Stone Vice-Principal, Curriculum Co-ordinator

Numeracy Co-ordinator & PE

Senior Management Team/B.O.G. Rep Support Principal with Assessment

Mrs Christine Baggley Foundation Stage Leader

Child Protection – Designated Teacher

PDMU/CRED

Mr Jonathan Torrens Extended Schools Co-ordinator

The World Around Us

Sport

Mrs Jennifer Kee The World Around Us

ICT Team Leader

Mrs Lorna Irwin R.E./Junior Sports day

Mrs Deborah Armstrong Music / Choir
Mrs Christine Caithness Head of Nursery
Mrs Ciara Dalzell Nursery(Job Share)

Miss Sarah Caithness Nursery

Mrs Lisa Brown Literacy Co-ordinator/Signature Project

Mrs Shirley Pentland Charities

Child Protection - assistant Designated Teacher

Speech and Language Class

Mrs Brenda Throne P/T Learning Support/career break

ECO Schools

Mrs Gael Butcher ICT Assistant

Mrs Brenda Cooke

Miss Karen Dalton Tag Rugby/Mini Rugby

Special Needs (SENDO)

Mrs Jillian Johnstone Library

Miss Christina Farren

Mrs Alison Galligan

Mrs Jenni McKernon Career Break

Miss Joanne Anderson
Miss Yolanda Scobie
Job share with Mrs McKernon/Temporary Yr1
Job share with Mrs Butcher/Temporary Yr 3

Mr Jonathan Moore Temporary Yr4
Miss Janine Coulter Temporary Yr5

Miss Rachel Stone Choir/Temporary Yr 3

Ancillary and Auxiliary Staff

The ancillary staff complement was as follows:

Mrs Dawn Devine Senior Clerical Officer
Mrs Heather Bell Senior Clerical Officer P/T

Mrs Shelley Mitchell Nursery Assistant
Mrs Leanne Watson Nursery Assistant

Mrs Brenda Love Special Needs Assistant
Miss Gemma Rankin Special Needs Assistant
Mrs Sandra Bond Special Needs Assistant

Mrs Amanda-Jayne Bratton Special Needs Assistant/Speech

and Language Class

Mrs Gail Atkinson

Special Needs Assistant

Special Needs Assistant

Yr 1 Initiative Support

Mrs Janice Greenwood Special Needs Assistant

Mrs W McDowell Yr 1 Initiative Support

Special Needs Assistant
Mrs Saritta Harley Yr 2 Initiative Support
Miss D Doherty Temp Special Needs Asst
Mrs LesleyAnn Wasson Yr 2 Initiative Support

Mrs MJF Stanage
Mrs J Harkness
Supervisory Assistant

Mr A O'Bryan Building Supervisor

Mrs O Brown
Mrs H Stevenson
Cleaning Staff

Financial Report for the 12 Months Ending 31 March 2015

| Income | £ | Expenditure | £ |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Savings/Deficit from 2013-2014 | 80,858 | Teaching Staff | 845,826 |
| | | Auxiliary Staff | 152,610 |
| Budget Share 2014-2015 | 1,187,813 | Ancillary Staff | 40,408 |
| Curriculum Reserve | 0 | | |
| Nurture Units | 0 | Fuel Oil | 15,390 |
| Total Reading Recovery | 0 | Electricity | 11,160 |
| Total Class Size Policy | 3,347 | Gas | 0 |
| Enriched Curriculum Pilot Prograrr | 0 | Water | 2,592 |
| Irish Medium | 0 | Toilet Requisites | 1,232 |
| Contingency (Total) | 0 | Window Cleaning | 0 |
| EMAs Additional Funding | 0 | Apportioned Fuel Costs | 0 |
| Funding Corrections - Internal Aud | 0 | Wheelie Bin Charge | 1,329 |
| Funding Corrections - Other | 0 | Maintenance of Buildings | 5,178 |
| STEM | 0 | Maintenance of Grounds | 5,215 |
| Collaboration Between Schools (En | 0 | Furniture/Fittings/Equipment | 810 |
| Area Learning Communities - Stra | 0 | Maintenance of Furniture/Fitting | 0 |
| Community Education Initiatives P | 0 | Books & Practice Materials | 53,813 |
| Split Site | 0 | Equipment | 0 |
| Extended Schools Total | 28,450 | Exam Fees & Expenses | 0 |
| CASS OTHER | 0 | Protective Clothing | 0 |
| Revised Curriculum | 0 | Food Licence Fees | 2,358 |
| | | | 146 0 |
| | | Hire of Equipment Hire of Facilities | 0 577 |
| | | Professional Fees | 1,864 |
| Total Allocation | 1,300,468 | Residential Courses | 0 |
| Total Allocation | 1,300,408 | Maintenance of Equipment | 0 |
| Other Income | 22,345 | Contractual Cleaning | 39,749 |
| Other meome | 22,543 | Link Course Fees | 0 |
| Letting of Facilities | 0 | Music Tuition Contribution | 2,617 |
| Letting of Facilities | O | EOTAS | 0 |
| | | School Swimming Program | 588 |
| | | PPP/ PFI Contribution | 0 |
| | | Travel & Subsistence | 344 |
| | | Hire of Transport | 10,905 |
| | | Minibus Expenses | 59 |
| | | Educational Visits | 0 |
| | | Advertising | 1,438 |
| | | Printing & Stationery | 220 |
| | | Photocopying | 3,437 |
| | | Postage | 741 |
| | | Telephones | 3,236 |
| | | Training Expenses | 0 |
| | | Other | 91 |
| | | TOTAL | 1,203,931 |
| | | Capital – F&E | 0 |
| | | Capital - Veh | 0 |
| | | Carry over to 2015-2016 | 118,882 |
| Rounding Adjustment | 0 | | |
| TOTAL | 1,322,813 | TOTAL | 1,322,813 |
| | | | |



Ebrington Primary School

Parent Teacher Association

| EBRINGTON PTA Financial Statement to 30 September 2013 | | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| | INCOME | | EXPENDITURE |
| Balance at 30th Sept | | | |
| 2013 Halloween | 9,198.03 | City Print | 102.00 |
| Disco | 344.45 | Day with Santa Foyle Search & | 435.54 |
| | | Rescue | 100.00 |
| | | Musgrave/Disco | 256.88 |
| Christmas Draw/Sale | 4,701.23 | Infant Concert Homebase Infant | 283.47 |
| infant Concert | 402.42 | Porch | 299.05 |
| | | School Sale | 442.79 |
| | | Clubs | 296.72 |
| Day with Santa | 1,041.05 | Feis Fees | 32.00 |
| | | Musgrave /Disco Oliver Stage | 148.82 |
| | | Show | 572.80 |
| Valentine Disco Donation | 362.25 | Currys | 159.98 |
| Trophy | 80.00 | Fun Night Krazy Kartz/ Fun | 525.35 |
| | | Night | 250.00 |
| Fun Night | 2,050.00 | SU Books | 115.20 |
| Bank Interest | 4.95 | Sports Day | 324.73 |
| | | Bank Charges | 41.68 |
| | | | 4,387.01 |
| Ser Rev | | | |
| Interest | | Balance | 0.00 |
| тотл | AL 18,184.38 | TOTAL | 18,184.38 |

John Manning Hon Auditor Dawn Devine Hon Treasurer

In-Service Courses Held During 2014/2015

Here in Ebrington, Staff from Principal to beginner teachers, took part in many In-Service Training Courses. The diversity of some courses is indicative of a Staff, loyal to their profession and to the children under their care.

Mr Nigel Dougherty, Principal Principals' Conferences

Assessment Training Ex Schools Update NAHT Conference

Mrs Irene Stone, Vice Principal Assessment Training

VP Training

Numeracy Training Paths Co-ordinator Training

Mrs Jennifer Kee My School

IMAC Training

Computer Based Assessment

Mr Jonathan Torrens Assessment Units

Computer Based Assessment

Mrs Karen Dalton Managing SEBD

Senco Leadership Signature Project Contested Space

Computer based Assessment

Mrs Shirley Pentland Heartstart Co-Ordinator

ASD Assessment

Mrs Lisa Brown Mentor Training

Literacy

Signature Project

Mrs Christine Baggley Child Protection

Welcomm Training

PICBS Assessment

Miss Christina Farren Assessment Units

Autistic Spectrum

Computer Based Assessment

Mrs Deborah Armstrong

Assessment Units Computer Based Assessment

Mrs J Anderson

Early Yrs Primary Movement Contested Space

Mrs J Johnston

Computer Based Assessment CRED Course Imac Training

Miss R Stone

Wellcomm Training Managing SEBD

Miss Y Scobie

ICT Training

(All Staff took part in the Paths, WAU (World Around Us) and Website Design In-house Training Courses).

Review of the School Year

This was another busy YEAR in the life of Ebrington Primary School and the YEAR we cut the sod for our new school.

Enrolment

Thankfully the school has entered a time of stability regarding Finances, Staffing and Numbers. A general increase in our yearly Enrolment figures is very welcome news and allows the school to maintain its staffing quotas. The school operated with :- Principal + 18 Full Time staff

+ 0.6 Learning Support

The total enrolment for the school was:- Nursery 52
Year 1 – 7 375
Overall Total **427**

Attendance

The average attendance for 2014/2015 was the very commendable figure of 96.5%

Staffing

The introduction of our first Speech and Language led to a number of staff changes. Mrs Shirley Pentland was appointed to the Speech and Language class, while Mrs Dalton came out of class to coordinate Special Needs. Mrs Lisa Brown continued to support senior pupils through the Signature Project. Mrs Janine Coulter stepped into Year 5 to replace Mrs Dalton. Mrs Scobie covered Mrs Galligan's maternity leave while Mr Moore covered Mrs Armstrong's maternity leave. Miss Rachel Stone moved to Year 3 with the extra class. Mrs Tracey Curtis and Mrs Julie Vance covered one day job shares and teachers on extended leave. A number of temporary Classroom Assistants and Special Needs assistants were also appointed - Mrs Bratton to support the children in the Speech and Language Class while Mrs Atkinson took over her role. Miss Delia Doherty, Mrs Mary Cowan, Miss Samantha Thompson and Miss Gemma Rankin filled a number of temporary posts.

<u>Curriculum and Staff Development.</u>

It is the aim of this school to maintain our high standards by facilitating the successful learning of all pupils. One of the main elements in achieving this aim is to have an enthusiastic, reflective and skilled teaching staff, able to respond to the ever present range of new initiatives and curriculum demands.

The term 'curriculum' refers to all the learning that takes place within school.

Each year the school sets Curriculum priorities through its **School Development Plan** and works towards implementing these throughout the year.

This year our key focus was the World Around Us and the PATHS Programme.

PRSD for staff and Principal (Performance Review and Staff Development) directed by our unique **School Development Plan** allows us to reflect on our school and classroom practice. Staff planned under the following main headings:-

Professional Practice (Teachers)

Leadership and Management (Principals)

Pupil and Curriculum Development

Personal and Professional Development

Staff attended selected courses throughout the year relevant to their Year Group or relevant to their Personal and Professional Development (see courses attended)

Parental Involvement (see also curriculum initiatives)

Schools throughout the country have different approaches to parental involvement. Here at Ebrington we realise that success in the education of children depends, at least in some part on the involvement of their parents. To this end we engaged with our parents through a questionnaire to all homes. The information back from parents played a major role in our School Development Plan and was central to our staff discussions at the start of the year and prioritize for School Development Plan.

Questionnaires

P.T.A. events

School Events

School web site

School also held:-

Curriculum Review evenings in September for all classes and sought feedback from parents

Two sets of Parental interviews in October and February

We built on these evenings by **continuing with our** Home Learning News Sheets at all class levels - these as well as many other interesting articles are now on our NEW Website.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS(Baker Days and Exceptional Closure Days)

| August 14 | Planning and Preparation with year group colleague |
|------------|---|
| August 14 | Preparation for Curriculum Evenings with Parents |
| August 14 | General staff meeting outlining all the changes and And looking at the element of Inclusion regarding Our new Speech and Language Class |
| August 14 | Audit – TTI(T/L) |
| August 14 | Feedback and discussion on Parental Questionnaires |
| October 14 | World Around Us – Anne McErlane |
| October 14 | World Around Us – Anne McErlane |
| January 15 | Feedback from CCEA on Cross Curricular Skills and Internal Standardisation. |
| March 15 | 5Es and Website Design |
| May 15 | Assessment/Report Writing/End of Key Stage Assessment |

Numeracy - I Stone Co-ordinator

Numeracy continued to be a major focus for development to help maintain the high standards we expect in Ebrington. Key Stage results remain above the Dept of Education targets for Numeracy of 80%. In Ebrington 83% of pupils achieved level 4 and above by the end of Year 7. Underachievers are identified early in the year and targets for improvement are set and implemented. The cycle for improvement continues throughout the whole year.

Our September curriculum evenings highlighted the year ahead for all children in terms of Literacy and Numeracy and our well established Home Learning sheets also help to keep parents informed. Years 2 and 5 ran their PIN maths games programmes and I was really delighted with the numbers of families involved in this very beneficial initiative. What a super fun way to reinforce concepts and improve mental agility! Thanks, as always, to my colleagues who manage these programmes – Mrs Butcher, Mrs Irwin, Mrs Kee and Mrs McCrea. We were also indebted to the parent helpers who so willingly checked games on a weekly basis. Year 7 pupils visited the Bank of Ireland as part of our financial capability work. We also planned some exciting challenges for Maths week.

Training of staff using the 'Assessment of Cross Curricular Skills' in mathematics was completed by all staff. The development of internal standardisation of samples of work will be completed during the school year 2015-2016. Staff were also trained in using 'Assessment Manager' to analyse class scores.

Daily bursts of Mental Maths in each class continue to be the practice and this is followed by lessons which are fully differentiated to meet all children's needs and abilities. As part of the monitoring process and PRSD, Mr Dougherty and I carried out observations in all classes, reporting back to teachers on an individual basis. The co-ordinator monitored books and was very pleased with the variety of work undertaken.

All and all I am very pleased with Numeracy standards throughout the school.

Literacy: Mrs. Lisa Brown

Foundation, KS1 & KS2 Co-ordinator

LINGUISTIC PHONICS: This approach to phonics is very well embedded in everyday classroom practise. Short, sharp lessons took place at least 4 times a week in every classroom. This has impacted on how children read, write and spell. Many thanks to those parents who worked really hard with their children at home.

ACCELERATED READING: This was the 3rd year of a very worthwhile programme. The Year 7s just loved the challenge of reading as many books as they could with super accuracy.

PAIRED READING: This continued in Year 4 in Term 2. This was our 15th year running the scheme. Many thanks to the children and their parents for their enthusiasm, which made it all worthwhile.

WORLD BOOK DAY: This was celebrated in school in March. All children were involved in 'pirate' related activities for the week and the Scholastic Book Fair came to school which the children always love! We raised over £1,500 in free books for our classrooms! Fantastic!

LITERACY RESOURCES: Many new reading / non-fiction books were bought for all ability levels in Key Stage 2.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Ebrington Primary School continues to provide specialist support for pupils with learning difficulties and much of our year is spent identifying and working with these pupils to ensure that they achieve their potential.

The early diagnosis of our pupils' particular needs/difficulties is through support by the Class Teachers, Learning Support Teacher, and our Special Needs Coordinator (SENCO) (Mrs. Karen Dalton). Staff work alongside Mrs Dalton to prepare, develop and review Education Plans (EP's) on a termly basis for those children with specific difficulties. Mrs.Dalton works with small groups of children to support their individual needs.

We continue to work closely with outside agencies including the Boards' Psychology Service to further meet the needs of our pupils. Ms Bairbre NiChurain is our School Educational Psychologist providing excellent support and guidance throughout the academic year.

We believe that our arrangements for support are effective in addressing the children's difficulties and meet the demands of the Code of Practice.

<u>Extended Schools - Jonathan Torrens - Extended Schools Co-Ordinator</u>

The Extended Schools programme at Ebrington aims to provide a range of services and activities which meet the needs of the children, their families and the wider community.

With an average attendance of 60 children and adults the Breakfast Club is a popular way to start the day in Ebrington. During the past year the very successful Breakfast Club has continued to develop under the guidance of Mrs Wendy McDowell. The children and parents can choose from several healthy breakfasts and there are always plenty of activities on offer to make this a fun, relaxing and sociable time.

The breakfast club now operates a membership system and it is pleasing to note that many of the club's members have the best attendance rates in the school. A huge thank you to Wendy and the entire canteen staff for their hard work throughout the year.

Over the last number of years the school has implemented the accelerated reading programme for year 7 and we have been delighted with the results. The children have an extensive library from which to choose books and are rewarded with some great incentives when they reached their reading targets. 100% of the children reported a more positive attitude towards books and reading. The boys who have always been the focus of this scheme discovered new authors whom they really enjoyed and would not have thought of reading. 88% of boys thought they had read more books than usual and 76% believed it had improved their reading.

In year 2 extended schools helped to fund the extension of the school day until 3pm. This was very successful and allowed the children to benefit from increased learning and the experience of quality play provision.

The school continues to stress the importance of language development in early years and to this end we continue to employ the services of a Speech Therapist who works exclusively with the nursery staff and Foundation children to help in the early identification of difficulties. The language therapist also provides a workshop for new nursery parents at our open evening. Last year

the language progress of all our children was very pleasing and the teachers certainly benefit greatly from the addition of this expertise within the classroom.

The school works closely with Clooney Estate Residents' Association in the funding for the ever popular Summer Scheme which attracted 50 children from the local community. This ran for the first 2 weeks in July from 9am -3 pm each day and provided a very rewarding and fun filled programme for all the age groups.

Ebrington is also part of an Extended schools Cluster. This group allows the school to avail of the support from two 'Family Mentors' who work alongside 'Action for Children' in signposting and arranging intervention to help families and children within the community. Another service which the cluster provides is a programme called 'Talk to our Babies.' This service concentrates on raising awareness of language development in pre-school children and you will often see literature or workshops in a variety of locations across the Waterside.



THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



"The hills are alive with the sound of music!" If this was the case for the vonTrapp family singers in the hills of Austria, it was certainly true of Ebrington Primary SchoolMusic2014-2015 within (and beyond!) the walls of Londonderry! The musical school year began with the choir competing in the International Choral Festival. November turned out to be a busy month; we were delighted to be asked to perform at the Adair and Neely Remembrance Service which was held in Lisneal College. We also performed in the Remembrance Service held in The Waterside Theatre.

Preparations for Christmas 2014 were as busy as ever, with the Choir's first festive engagement being a performance in The Ulster Bank. This was followed by our annual trip to Starbucks where the children once more sang for their hot chocolates as a reward for all their hard work! One of our favourite places to sing in is Seven Oaks Nursing Home; we just love spreading Christmas joy and having a chat to all the residents. We were delighted to perform for the PSNI in the City Hotel as part of their "building bridges" incentive. The year 2014 was then finally brought to a close with our own Carol Service in Ebrington Presbyterian Church. Here the choir, scripture union and nursery children also added to the festive cheer, as well as our Years 1-4 children who performed songs from their Christmas Shows.

As the New Year began, we were over the moon to hear that the Choir had passed the audition process for the BBC's School Choir of the Year. We quickly began preparation as our heat was held in Lisneal College at the start of February. We won the local heat and proceeded to the live finals in Belfast's

Ulster Hall in March. The children performed their socks off and represented Ebrington Primary School in such a brilliant way, we were all so proud of them!

Ebrington choir are part of a Contested Space Choir- part of a Peace Building Initiative for our city entitled <u>Bright Brand New Day.</u> The launch of this project took place in November 2012. This year we sang our schools anthem <u>Trust Can Build A Dream</u> at the Mayors Ball with pupils from Lisnagelvin, Ballougry and St John's Primary Schools.

The choir competed in the Derry Feis in March. Competing against five of the best schools in the city, we were so proud to come in 2nd place. The Choir know the stiff competition they face; they will be well ready for a repeat performance at next year's Feis!

In May, the Choir enjoyed singing for the elderly folk at Faughan Reformed Presbyterian Lunch Club. After reminding them of their younger days by singing songs like, Oh My Darlin' and She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain, they enjoyed chatting to some of the members and were well refreshed with some juice and biscuits before heading back to school..

The school year finished as musically as it began in June with a school production of Oliver! Due to a complete team effort from all members of staff the show was a success. Adam Baggley solidly played the role of sweet Oliver and performing brilliantly beside him were Calum Spain (Fagin), Aidan Connelly (Dodger) and Lauren Baker (Nancy). The school production highlighted the talent and enthusiasm that exists within Ebrington Primary School.

Musical tuition continued throughout the year for those with brass, woodwind and stringed instruments. Reports from the peripatetic tutors show that the teachers were generally pleased with their pupils' progress and ask that the children continue to work hard in the coming year.

All in all, it is no understatement to say that this was perhaps one of the busiest years on record for Ebrington Primary School Music. To our ever-faithful accompanist Lesley-Ann Wasson and all our instrumental tutors, a big thank you and here's to even more music-making in the year ahead!

Peripatetic Music Staff

Our thanks to the following Peripatetic Music Staff of the Western Education and Library Board.

Mrs Theresa Callaghan Woodwind Mrs Lucia Spacirova Strings Mr Robert Goodman Brass

Religious Education

Our thanks to: The Extreme Team Rev Linkens

Their regular visits greatly enriched the life of the school.

AQE TESTS

This was the fifth year in which children did not sit the Department of Education's Transfer Test. Unfortunately no agreement between Grammar Schools and the Minister of Education could be found or between our Political Parties. The end result was the continuation of the unregulated test system run by the Association for Quality Education(AQE). In other words children who wanted a place in a Grammar School still had to sit 3 Tests based on Maths and English.

Most children who sat the AQE tests were eventually admitted to Grammar School.

All other pupils were offered the school of their first choice.

Building and Repairs

The Education Authority (Western) continues to give the school great support by providing equipment, carrying out essential repairs and looking to the development needs of the school. We do understand the reluctance of the Board to carry out major new work with a new school pending.

However this school is indebted to Board Personnel for their help and guidance on many matters.

Extension/New Works

The Board carried out extensive work in the following areas:-

- Upgrade to three senior classrooms
- Creation of Speech and Language Class
- Repairs to the Heating System caused by major leaks
- Repairs to tiles in the Link Corridor

Scripture Union

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good". Psalm 107v1.

We were delighted to welcome the new P4s to our Tuesday gatherings this year. Overall there were about 40 children attending SU each week. During term 1 we studied the life of Joni and how a terrible accident changed her life in a way amazingly different to what she had expected. It was wonderful to see God's plan revealed in her life. The children loved this true real life story and couldn't wait to see what came next. We also had Mr Robert McFaul talk to the children about the 10 commandments and Rev. Linkens paid us a visit keeping our link with Ebrington Church strong.

In term 2 Mr Robert McFaul visited us again and Troy from the Extreme team brought lots of enthusiasm and energy to our meeting. The children listened well, learnt verses from the Bible and sang lots of favourite choruses.

Term 3 focused on the P7s. They studied lessons based on "It's Your Move", a booklet produced by Scripture Union. We feel this was of benefit to the children and we trust that they will have learnt guidelines that will have helped them as they settle into their new schools. This booklet was financed by Ebrington Presbyterian Church. We appreciate their ongoing interest and link with us in SU especially in this way.

Thank you to Mrs Ann Sinclair, recently retired, who came along each week to help us. We really appreciated an extra pair of hands! Above all we give thanks to God for His help and guidance during the year and for His many blessings.

Charities

Ebrington Primary School thoroughly enjoyed the many opportunities to raise money for great causes. From sponsorships, be it, walking, silences, reading to litter picking to pastry making.

It is wonderful for our children to know they have made a difference and caused a positive impact to the lives of people less fortunate than themselves.

This school year, family and friends of Ebrington have been very generous helping us to pledge support to:

WAF Wings Appeal
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
Dr Barnardo's Money boxes
Solaís
Blood Transfusion Service for Northern Ireland
Foyle Hospice
Shoe Box Appeal
Children in Crossfire

Next year we pledge to continue our work to support our local community and charitable events. Many thanks again for your continued support and generosity.

After School Clubs 2014-2015

After School Clubs

Teaching staff played a significant role by offering a wide selection of After School Clubs. Clubs ran over terms 1 and 2 and catered for a large number of children from Primary 4-7.

| Term 1 Clubs | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| Teacher | Club | Number of children | |
| Mrs Irwin | Scripture Union | 40 | |
| Mrs Armstrong | | | |
| Mr Moore | Football | 20 | |
| Mrs Baggley | Netball | 15 | |
| Mrs Anderson | Art & Craft | 16 | |
| Miss Scobie | Art & Craft | 16 | |
| Mrs Butcher | Cookery | 10 | |
| Mrs Dalton | Tag Rugby | 19 | |
| Mrs Kee | ICT | 12 | |
| Mrs Brown | British Heart | 12 | |
| | Foundation | | |
| Mrs Stone | Maths | 20 | |
| Number of children catered for: | | 180 | |

| Term 2 Clubs | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Teacher | Club | Number of children | | |
| Mrs Irwin | Scripture Union | 40 | | |
| Mrs Armstrong | | | | |
| Mr Moore | Football | 20 | | |
| Miss Coulter | French | 24 | | |
| Miss Stone | Cheerleading | 22 | | |
| Ms Cooke | Cookery | 10 | | |
| Mrs Brown | Cookery | 10 | | |
| Mrs Johnston | Art & Craft | 15 | | |
| Number of children catered for: | | 141 | | |

Football

Ebrington School Football Team

Within the first two weeks of term, Mr Moore organised team trials for any pupil within years 5-7. The tough job of selecting a squad of 20 was made slightly easier with the help of Craig Lynch and his Maiden City soccer coaches. Having eventually narrowed selection down to 20, the squad undertook 8 non-competitive matches against other local primary schools organised by North West Primary schools Football Association.

We at Ebrington P.S. were fortunate as these 8 games all took place at our own school due to our fantastic pitch facilities. These games allowed me to get a look at all players playing in their respective positions.

As term 1 came to a close, a squad of 12 players were selected to attend St Columb's College for the first competitive blitz tournament of the season. With 3wins, a draw and two defeats we narrowly missed out on finals day.

After Christmas we continued to attend a variety of tournaments. This included the "Martin Gallagher memorial tournament" which saw us come out victorious following a dramatic penalty shootout victory over Chapel road P.S. in the final. Following this there was the "Derry and District Primary Schools" indoor tournament; however on this occasion we were eliminated in the knockout stages.

Another 8 non-competitive matches took place at Ebrington Primary school between February and March, this time against another 8 local schools. This allowed me to test players in new positions to prepare them for the tournaments to follow.

The second competitive Blitz tournament, again at St Columb's college, saw us come ever so close to winning the tournament. A narrow 2.1 defeat in the semi-final against Sacred Heart led us to win the 3rd / 4th placed playoff game against Ballykelly Primary School.

The Final tournament of the year was the Annual "Sammy Sheppard" memorial shield. Unfortunately Drumahoe P.S could not attend due to other commitments however Ballykelly P.S stepped in to ensure the tournament was as successful as in previous years. In a nail biting final game, Ebrington clung on to draw the game with Lisnagelvin P.S two each, a result which ensured the shield would sit in Ebrington's trophy cabinet for the first time in its history. A fabulous way to end what was a great year for everyone involved.

Special mention this year must go to Luke Curry and Christopher Colhoun. Both players were selected to represent the Primary schools County team. May I also take this opportunity to thank Craig Lynch and his Maiden City soccer coaches for assisting with coaching throughout the year and also to Gary McClements who gave up his time to assist with the squad on match days. - Jonathan Moore.

Parent Teachers Association (PTA)

Events kicked off this year with a very successful Halloween Disco. It was well attended and proved to be a real hit with our older children. All the kids participated well in the fancy dress and produced some amazing outfits. This event, being more of a social event for the children and not really a major fundraiser.

Secondly, and this event is a major fundraiser, our Annual Sale and Christmas Draw netted a fabulous £4400. A lot of work goes into this event, in preparation, behind the scenes and also front and centre on the night. The annual sale here is always well attended and the kids love it, so we are always thinking of new ways to make it even more fun and have developed it well over the years. The auction is always well supported both by people who show up to buy and also our contributors who donate items for sale each year. So we would urge our faithful supporters to bear in mind the bargains to be had before they start their Christmas shopping. We also attempted to streamline our stalls, which improved on the quality of items that were donated, resulting in a better shopping experience and ultimately more profit for the school.

This year our Christmas entertainment event, A Day With Santa, was a huge success. The turn-out was great, we had a lot of fun, the kids enjoyed themselves making a profit of £950.

Valentine Disco, again a hit with the kids.

Our final event of the year, in the interest of variety, we hired in some excellent entertainment in the form of inflatable games. This proved to be a winner with the kids and brought the final profit to £1010.

Other smaller items being – New Lawnmower, plants for gardening club, scripture union books & BBQ, prize day tokens, treats for the pupils etc...

Full details of our expenditure can be seen on the financial statement.

School Security

Article 15 of the Education Order 1999 requires Boards of Governors to include within their Annual Report the arrangements, in general terms, made for the security of the pupils and staff at the school. Needless to say Ebrington has treated the Safety issue seriously and has devised procedures which we feel have improved the safety of our pupils and staff, i.e.:

1 Our emergency evacuation system was revamped in line with new legislation and is practised once a term.

This allows pupils and staff to:

- (i) Recognise the fire alarm signal.
- (ii) Become familiar with exit routes.
- (iii) Practice roll call.
- 2 All safety equipment is checked for faults throughout the year to ensure it is in full working order.
- 3 All repairs are carried out promptly to the building to prevent accidents.
- 4 The playgrounds and all hard core areas have been upgraded and Are inspected daily for broken glass and other dangerous objects.
- 5 New security lighting has been installed around various parts of the school.
- 6 Certain access doors are locked as a precaution against uninvited quests.
 - Adults entering the school must do so through the main school entrance and be monitored at the office.

Outside gates are closed at break time and lunch time with all pupils being under the direct supervision of teaching staff, classroom assistants or midday supervisors

An additional 14 security cameras around the school allows us to further monitor the school.

Our perimeter fence around the whole of the school has further improved security. The Governors are now satisfied that these arrangements meet the needs of staff and pupils alike but of course we will continue to review the situation from year to year.

NURSERY

A year in the life of Nursery 2014/2015

As usual we had a very busy and productive year in the Nursery. Staff changes – Mrs Sinclair retired after many years of hard work and dedication to Ebrington Nursery. Mrs Caithness continued with the job share in Nursery 1 and Mrs Dalzell was appointed as job share teacher.

September

Our Nursery year began with all staff carrying out our home visit programme. Feedback from parents was as usual very positive. Staff continue to find this a hectic, but lovely start to the year.

As a result of our settling in procedure, all children were very happy to come to Nursery and begin their learning.

October

Dinner time began in Nursery, with all children and adults enjoying the social interaction.

All Nursery staff were given time to carry out the Wellcomm Toolkit. This is an age appropriate screening tool which allows us to clearly target language activities for the individual child.

Speech and Language began with Miss Bronagh Dooley. This is funded by extended schools and we thank them for recognising the importance of promoting language within the Nursery setting.

The half term finished with a Halloween fun day. This children (and staff!) all enjoyed coming to school dressed up in their Halloween costumes. The children all brought in £1 which was donated to charity.

November

All staff were involved in carrying out Child Involvement Level Observations. This assisted staff when drawing up each child's individual settling in report. The Nursery teachers met with all our parents to share the information on how their child has settled in.

December

A very busy month in Nursery!!

The Nursery staff took part in the 'Early Years Capacity Building Programme'. Nursery teachers attended a variety of informative clusters throughout the year at the NWTC. This programme started in December and ran all the way to June.

Mrs Haslett kindly offered her services as accompanist for our Nursery concerts. We are very grateful for her support and as usual our children stole the show. As part of our transition programme, the Nursery concerts were held in the main Assembly Hall on the stage. This will help to develop children's confidence in performing to an audience.

The Nursery visited Santa's Magical Kingdom in the Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana. Mrs Claus met us off the bus and took us down the magical pathway to the Mrs Claus' kitchen. Here the children all decorated (and ate) a Christmas

cookie and made a Christmas decoration before settling by the fire to hear a Christmas story. Mrs Claus then took us into Santa's living room where he came down the chimney! Each child had an opportunity to sit with Santa and get a present. The hotel provided lunch for everyone before heading home. A great day out!

Our term finished by joining the whole school at Ebrington Presbyterian Church for the annual Carol Service.

January

As part of our topic 'babies' Mrs Farren and baby Rosie visited us. The children were delighted to meet the baby and hear how mummy looks after her.

February

We started the month by celebrating Chinese New Year through the Media Initiative puppets.

Due to our People Who Help us topic the paramedics came to visit in the ambulance.

Our Nursery curriculum meeting was well attended and a very informative evening for our parents. Through our feedback, a significant number of parents commented on just how much work goes into delivering the Pre-School Curriculum and the level of opportunities that their child has each day.

March

As part of World Book week, the children visited the book fair in the Assembly Hall and helped to decorate the hall with pictures from the story we had been learning about called 'Owl Babies'.

<u> April</u>

As part of our new transition policy, 'Getting to Know me' booklets were sent out to our new parents. This allows staff to begin to build up a relationship with our new parents and children. We found it very helpful and having photographs and general information about our new children and made the transition smoother for everyone concerned.

Kidz Farm came to Nursery! The children all came to Nursery dressed as farmers. They were so excited to go outside and meet and feed the different animals, and even take some for a walk. A fantastic service and a wonderful rapport was built with the children, we look forward to having them back!

<u>May</u>

Our visit to Castlerock was a great success. This is the second year that we have carried out this trip. The highlight of the day for the children was bringing a packed lunch and going on the train! The children loved building sandcastles on the beach, that it until the hailstones came!!

<u>June</u>

We ended the year with a very busy month of transition in and out of Nursery. Our transition programme into Year 1 continues to prove to be very successful. All children were involved in the following:

- Visit of their new teacher to the Nursery for a day.
- Several visits to their new playroom, classroom and outdoor play area.
- Dinner in the school canteen.

- Outdoor play session in the Year 1 playground.
- Circle and story time in their new classroom.

We joined with the infant classes for our annual Sports Day races on the field. Our transition programme into Nursery involves an Information Evening for Parents and a 'play and stay' session for the children in their new classroom. Each child and parent met with their teacher and passed on relevant information. All children left with an Education Pack.

The Nursery teachers met with each child's parents to discuss their Transition Report. This was a lovely way to end the year as it gave staff the opportunity to share their child's achievements as Nursery came to an end. Each child took home a special Year book which showed the child's journey from their home visit all the way to winning their medal on Sports Day.

All in all typically busy but extremely enjoyable and beneficial year for everybody.

The year came to a close with the retirement of Mrs Caithness, who had dedicated a number of years as head of the Nursery at Ebrington. Mrs Dalzell took up the post of full time Nursery teacher in Nursery 1.

Year 1

A Year in the life of Primary 1

56 pupils joined Mrs Baggley and Mrs Anderson in September to begin their first year at Ebrington. All settled in very quickly and soon were enjoying a range of experiences in the classroom, playroom and our outdoor play area. We had lots of fun in our Halloween house in the playroom and loved making chocolate apples and various other treats to take home. Preparations for our Infant Concert began when we returned to school following our half term holidays. We said 'NO' to bullies by wearing red to school on Red Day for Antibullying Week. December was a busy month for us; we had great fun preparing for and performing our "Star Light, Star Bright" concert for the boys and girls at Ebrington, our friends at Oakgrove Primary School and of course all the Mums and Dads! After all our hard work we were treated to a trip to the Millennium Forum to watch the pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk". There was lots of excitement when Santa came to visit us in his Grotto and then we finished our term by joining the whole school at Ebrington Presbyterian Church for the annual Carol Service.

We had lots going on in Term 2 as well. We had a chance to look at and purchase books from the Scholastic Book Fair and for World Book Day The Banyan Theatre Company put on a puppet show called 'Tales from Around the World'. We had a visit from the Dental Hygienist and Roo the kangaroo telling us all about the importance of keeping our teeth clean. We really enjoyed our 'Frozen' day at the end of our 'Brrr it's Freezing, Phew it's Hot' topic. We came to school in our pyjamas and brought our pillows and favourite teddies with us. We enjoyed some yummy hot chocolate and treats as we curled up and watched 'Frozen' together.

We enjoyed getting outside more to play in our outdoor play area in the better weather of the Summer term. We enjoyed digging, cycling, climbing and playing in the house. Following our 'Who Lives in a House like This?' topic we had a visit to Barontop Farm. We really enjoyed meeting all the animals and finding out where they live on the farm. We got a chance to have a pony ride, had lots of fun in the soft play area and we even got to meet Spiderman! To finish of our 'Splish, Splash, Splosh' topic we visited the Aquarium at Riverwatch and had a super time feeding the trout outside. We really enjoyed our annual Sports Day on the field and had an opportunity to meet our new teachers for Primary 2.

Year 2

A year in the Life of Primary Two

This year saw big changes to how our year looked. We started off with our 'Getting Bigger' theme – enjoying learning about how we, plants and animals grow and change. At the end of this topic we had fun dressing up in our Halloween costumes and taking part in art and craft activities before going off on half term holidays.

Our next topic 'In the Toybox' generated a lot of excitement and enthusiasm and we drew close to Christmas and our Christmas play! We did take some time to think of children less fortunate than ourselves as we packed 40 shoeboxes to send off to Eastern European countries.

We enjoyed performing 'The Little Angel' for our parents and friends and reflected on the true meaning of Christmas.

In the new year, we introduced the theme of 'Once Upon a Time'. We celebrated a Knights and Castle Day – everyone (including the adults!) dressed up and we had a banquet in our hall. The food for our banquet was prepared – by us – in class – we had 'cannonball crisps', 'fruit joisting sticks' and 'sword and shield' decorated biscuits.

Our next topic, 'Over the Town' took us out and about. We learnt lots about our locality. We walked around our school, the City Walls and the Waterside. This was a tiring topic!! Thank goodness we were off on our Easter holidays to recover after that!

Finally we thought about transport and moving on during our 'Off We Go!' topic. During this topic we travelled by train on our school trip and had lots of fun at the Wacky Workshop in Portrush. Our sports day tied in well with this topic as we were fast off the starting line!

Not to mention all the literacy and numeracy activities which were carried out on a daily basis – this sure was a busy year!

Year 3

We had P3A, P3B and P3C during the year 2014-15.

We were delighted to have an IFA – (Irish Football Association) coach, Patricia Doherty, teaching Year 3 the fundamental skills required for most sports, not just football. We had this coaching every Wednesday from September to June. Throughout the year we took part in, and experienced many events in and around our community for example;

- We went to 'Babar the Little Elephant' in the Waterside Theatre
- Every child participated in our year three Christmas production of 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'
- As a whole school event we had an amazing experience at the Millennium Forum watching the pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk'
- As part of our thematic work on 'It's a Bugs Life' we went on a visit to Tropical World
- And as part of our thematic work on 'Yum Yuck' we had a fabulous experience in Tesco and their educational programme 'Farm to Fork'.
 We got to explore the fish counter, their large cold room, bakery and fruit and vegetable departments and best of all we got to taste lots of fruit.

Year 4

The academic year 2014/2015 started with Mr Moore covering Mrs Farren's maternity leave in P4A while Mrs Deborah Armstrong taught P4B. September and October started as busy as ever with pupils focusing on Digits, Place Value and Addition within Numeracy, whilst in Literacy the focus was very much on the investigation of fairytales from Hans Christian Anderson. Early September also saw our "Curriculum Evening" take place, and as always this was very well attended. As well as focusing on P.E, PDMU, R.E and the Arts, the topic of "Weather" was the focus for term 1, pupils undertook investigative and scientific experiments such as exploring which materials would be best suited to make an umbrella.

November and December saw the introduction of 2D shapes, Decomposition and Money within Numeracy. Literacy took a new focus linked to our new topic "Light and Dark." Here we used the novel "The owl who was afraid of the dark" to explore adjectives, chapter patterns, story writing and much more. The latter part of November saw the Year 4s come together to practice for the Christmas Concert. Pupils learned words, actions, songs and energetically put on yet another fabulous show. As we approached Christmas, the primary 4 pupils also had the opportunity to visit Santa in school, visit the Millennium Forum for a Christmas Show, and also finish the term with a wonderful Carol service at Ebrington Presbyterian Church.

January and February saw Primary 4 introduce Multiplication, 3D shape and Time. Within Literacy we continued to develop our reading skills by learning many new strategies. This helped our understanding of books especially during

our "Paired Reading" programme which ran for 8 weeks. With our Topic now World War 2, a lot of our Literacy focused upon the "Spywatch" story which the children thoroughly enjoyed. February seen the introduction of our new PDMU scheme entitled, "PATHS". This programme proved to be very successful for the children as not only could they relate to the weekly stories; they also received their own compliment certificates regularly.

As we moved into March, numeracy progressed once more to investigate Fractions, Division and Handling data. Our Literacy stories followed our "Transport" theme; we looked at words such as How/Why, Verbs and paying particular attention to comprehension activities.

As we entered the final term, much emphasis was placed on getting ready for our end of year testing. April was spent consolidating many of the areas covered across the whole curriculum, whilst in May, pupils sat their examination papers. As well as this pupils prepared for Sports day and investigated new topics such as "School in the past".

Overall we had another fantastic year in Primary 4 with pupils succeeding across many levels. Academic results remained very high and underachievement was successfully tackled. Pupils loved the variety of activities taught throughout the year and also thrived on opportunities to lead learning within topic work.

Year 5

Year 5 is always a busy year at Ebrington Primary School. In Term 1, Primary 5A were very fortunate to have Multi Skills with Mr David Scanlon once a week, they were working on improving their skills in various team games.

Primary 5 also participated in a road safety walk around our local community; this increased the children's awareness of the high way code.

Every few weeks, we had visits from local churches. They choose relevant activities that encouraged the pupils to talk about themselves and learn more about Christianity.

January saw Primary 5A rehearsing and preparing for their annual class assembly titled, 'Friendship and Forgiveness.' The assembly focussed on the importance of friendship and admitting when we are sorry.

Likewise, Primary 5B performed their assembly in February on the theme of 'Teamwork.' We highlighted the importance of working together.

We had another successful year with our PIN project with all children fully enthused with their numeracy games. Both parents and pupils completed evaluation forms that showed how much they enjoyed the 5 week project with many asking for the project to run longer.

Primary 5B had the pleasure of having Mr Lynch, who was placed in Ebrington P.S for his teaching practice from University of Ulster, Coleraine. The highlight of his time with us was when he took three pupils to take part in a science expedition in Belfast.

Primary 5 had musical pathways lessons throughout the whole year with Ms. Carlin. The children thoroughly enjoyed these lessons and were learning about beats, rhythms, explored music from other cultures and even composed their own pieces of music. This also led Primary 5 to the Millennium Forum where they participated in 'May Fest' celebrations. Musical pathways concluded at the end of the school year with Primary 5, 6 and 7 coming together for a musical ensemble in our school assembly hall.

During Term 3, we were preparing for Sports Day and our junior tournaments. Sports day was a fantastic day with many pupils enjoying the friendly competiveness.

Year 6

In term one Year 6 embarked on their St. Columb's Park topic which the pupils thoroughly enjoyed. The project aimed to develop and embed the practical skills of a local study. This included a visit to the park to observe their woodland, locate the ruins of an historical church and complete an observational survey of St. Columb's Park House. Pupils from 6a also had the opportunity to commemorate World War One by planting trees at Brackfield wood.

In February the pupils enjoyed a day trip to the Y.E.S (Youth Education in Safety) programme. The project incorporated a wide range of community safety related workshops which were geared towards improving awareness on the issues that are important to the health and safety of our pupils, their families and wider community.

Throughout Term 2 pupils from both classes took part in the Junior Warden project, working alongside Derry City Council. The pupils learned about the history of our city through a bus tour, did a litter pick and discovered the different types of anti-social behaviour in our city.

In February both classes had the opportunity to visit Foyle and Lisneal College for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) workshop. Scientists demonstrated how robots are designed and then the pupils had the opportunity to design their own.

Pupils from 6b took part in the Temple Project. The pupils had the opportunity to design a piece of wood which could be used to help build the structure. Amy Orr and Allie Bratton's were chosen to be placed on the temple.

In March the children enjoyed World Book Day. Each class had time to view and buy from a selection. All children entered the book competition and Brooke Campbell was our winner from Year 6.

Throughout the year 6a worked closely with St. Bridget's Primary School in Warrington. In June nine pupils from the school came to visit Ebrington for the day. Some of our pupils had a chance to show our visitors the sites and history of our city. It was a busy day enjoyed by everyone!

Pupils from 6a enjoyed taking part in our class assembly based on Harvest in Term 1 and all of Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in our Oliver production during Term 3. Everyone performed exceptionally well and the night was a huge success. Many proud parents and teachers enjoyed the evening.

The year ended with the excitement of Sports Day. All children enjoyed participating in the various events. The final of the High Jump was a favourite again.

Year 7

Primary 7 was a very busy year for everyone.

This year the children were encouraged to get involved in as many activities as possible.

In November the pupils took part in the 'Bee Safe' initiative at St.Columb's Park House which highlighted the dangers of online social media, alcohol, household hazards and public transport. In football Christopher Colhoun and Luke Curry did us proud by representing our school at county level.

In February the children began their 18 weekly swimming lessons at Lisnagelvin swimming pool. All the children made significant progress under the watchful eye of Leanne, their instructor. We have now moved to the New Foyle Arena.

In March a group of Yr7 pupils took part in Cross Country running events, Tag Rugby and Cricket Competitions.

In April Zara Smallwoods and Finn McDonnell performed very well in 'Strictly Come Dancing, Cool Kidz' for Foyle Hospice. At the end of April, 26 children went on the wonderful school trip to Manchester.

The highlight of the year was in early June when many of our Yr7 children took part in our school show 'Oliver'. It was a show of fabulous performances and great fun and hopefully something the children will never forget.

The children concluded the year with our 'Leavers Assembly' which focused on the children's memories of Ebrington. This was very enjoyable and highlighted how our children have been provided with many opportunities to develop their talents throughout their time in school. It was pleasing to see so many parents and friends join us for this assembly and afterwards for tea in the canteen.

Best Wishes to our leavers.

Speech and Language Class

September 2014 brought the introduction of Ebrington Primary School's Speech and Language Class. The class provides specific learning for children identified with a Speech and Language Impairment. Mrs Pentland, Class teacher, Mrs Bratton, Classroom Assistant and Mrs Cosgrave, Speech and Language Therapist, worked together to deliver a curriculum that supported the individual needs of the children.

This year the class was made up of ten boys from all different schools that integrate with Ebrington Classes Monday to Thursday and return to their Mainstream Schools every Friday.

What a busy year we had!!!!

During the year the topics we studied included, Transport, The Seasons, Weather, Over the Town within our Language Building Lessons.

We enjoyed putting our learning into Everyday Life skills by visiting the Post Office- a walk to Supervalue Post Office, Rossdowney early in the school year. Next, an unforgettable Bus Tour of our City on Mr O'Bryan's school bus-observing and naming the very beautiful buildings in our town. What an experience!!

In term 2, we set off again to get the Translink Bus to Foyle Street Depot, learning to buy tickets and stopping on the way back to school at the Railway Station to view the trains.

In term 3, we visited the River Watch at Prehen, and found out much about wild life around The River Foyle. Some of the boys finding out a little too much about the water's edge!!!!!!!!

In the latter end of the school year (June 2015), we were delighted to receive the news that Ebrington would have a second Speech and Language Class beginning in September 2015.

What great things to look forward to!!!!!!

The Governors would like to take this opportunity to express their thanks to the Officers of the Education Authority (Western) and their support agencies for their help and guidance throughout this year.

A great deal of gratitude is also due to the Principal and Staff of the school for both their high level of commitment and standards achieved inside and outside the classroom.

Parents must also be commended for their support of the staff and all functions relating to the running of the school.

It is this unique partnership which makes Ebrington the school it is!