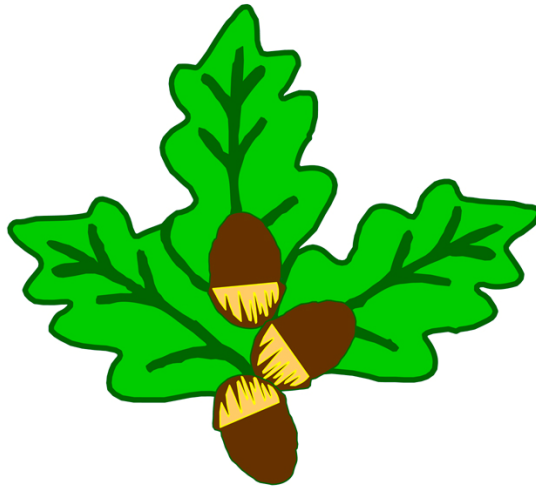


KNOCKBRED A PRIMARY SCHOOL

South Eastern Education and Library Board



ANNUAL REPORT

of
Board of Governors

2010/2011

KNOCKBREDA PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

This report includes:-

- Information about the Board of *Governors*
- A summary of the school year 2010/2011
- Information about the curriculum
- Information about school and community links
- Information about educational provision
- Information about the achievement of pupils
- Information about the financial position of the school
- A summary of other school accounts
- Child protection policy



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PERIOD OF OFFICE 2009 - 2013

Transferors' Representatives: Archdeacon Patterson (Chairman)
Mr A Moore (Vice Chairman)
Mrs E McKeeman
Mr I Gibson

S.E.E.L.B. Representatives: Mr E Downey
Miss N Porter

Parents' Representatives: Mr S Sharma
Ms J Walker

Teachers' Representative: Mrs L McCormick

The school is indebted to the *Governors* who willingly give of their time to ensure that the administration of Knockbreda proceeds smoothly and effectively.

During the year the *Governors* met regularly to deal with a wide range of issues, which included staff appointments, school policy matters, School Development Planning, admission policies, school maintenance, health and safety issues, security matters, teachers' pay awards and also to discuss and monitor the school's finances.

The *Governors* wish to record formally their appreciation of the work carried out by the teaching and non-teaching staff of the school. The *Governors* appreciate the dedication and expertise of the staff who, each play their part in helping to make Knockbreda a successful school. Children and staff give of their best to achieve success in all aspects of school life.

KNOCKBREDA PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF

TEACHING STAFF

Mrs P McKenna	Acting Principal
Mrs L McKnight	Primary 1
Mrs S Gamble	Primary 2
Mrs J Grant**	Primary 3
Mrs L McCormick	Primary 4
Miss C Briggs	Primary 5
Mr C Bell	Primary 6
Mrs E Patterson	Primary 7



LEARNING CENTRES

Mrs G A Murphy*	Primary 6-7 Acting Vice-Principal
Mrs P Hart	Primary 3-5

CLASSROOM & GENERAL ASSISTANTS

Mrs J Blemings	Mrs M Davey	Mrs I Lowry	Mrs R Graham
Mrs S McCoy	Mrs J McKee	Miss C McNeill	Mrs M O'Hara
Mrs L Pollock	Mrs J Smith	Mrs L Thompson	Mrs C Turner

SECRETARY

Mrs S Taggart

SUPERVISORY ASSISTANTS

Mrs I Lowry Mrs J Blemings

ANCILLARY STAFF

Mr S Scott Caretaker
Mrs S Darragh
Mrs S Osbourne

CANTEEN STAFF

Mrs R Dickson
Mrs P Hobday



*Designated Teacher for Child Protection

**Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection

School could not function effectively without the help of Mrs Murphy (SENCO), Mrs Taggart (Secretary), Mr Scott (Caretaker), Mrs Darragh and Mrs Osbourne (Ancillary Staff) and Mrs Lowry and Mrs Blemings (Luncheon Supervisory Staff). Their contribution is very much appreciated by staff and governors.

SCHOOL YEAR 2010 – 2011

After 26 and 33 years respectively Mrs Murphy and Mrs Lowry both decided it was time to spend more time with their families and retired from their positions at the end of August 2011.

Mrs Murphy was responsible for successfully setting up our Senior Learning Centre class 26 years ago and has made a significant impact on the lives of many children in this time. She has also made a considerable contribution to school life in her various roles, most notably, Acting Vice-Principal and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. During her years at Knockbreda Mrs Murphy has received many accolades including winning Special Needs Teacher of the year.

Mrs Lowry has worked in various classes throughout the school but has spent the majority of her time at Knockbreda in the Senior Learning Centre supporting Mrs Murphy and countless numbers of children. All the children in school knew Mrs Lowry as she also was a lunchtime supervisor and first aider. Mrs Lowry was always on hand with a 'magic tissue' or a plaster when required.

The contribution made by both Mrs Murphy and Mrs Lowry has been greatly appreciated by all at Knockbreda Primary School. We wish both ladies and long and happy retirement.

Mrs Smith also left us to take up a position in another school. During her 6 years at Knockbreda Mrs Smith has supported many children in her role as classroom assistant and we are sorry to see her leave. We wish Mrs Smith all the best in her new job.

During the year children from Knockbreda achieved successes in many areas:

The Christmas Choir sang at Castle Court, Connswater and Forestside shopping centres and helped raise over £750.00 for Meningitis Research and Clic Sargent. This provides a great opportunity for the children to perform for the wider community and all involved thoroughly enjoyed the children's performances.

Every child in school participated in our Christmas Carol Service which was held in school and parents were invited to attend. Pupils from P.1 - P.4 entertained the audience with an entertaining performance of 'Tinsel and Tea Towels'. P.5 - P.7 pupils provided a range of dramatic and musical performances and the school band also performed. Well done to all staff and pupils who worked extremely hard to prepare for this successful event.



All classes took responsibility for a whole school assembly and throughout the year we enjoyed a great range of performances and diversity in talent. All classes also participated in our Harvest and Easter celebrations with donations of food made to Age N.I. following our Harvest Assembly.

At Knockbreda we encourage our pupils to think of others and through various fundraising activities pupils and staff at Knockbreda raised funds to support the following charities:

Meningitis Research	£750.00	Autism N.I.	£500.00
Barnardos	£600.00	Children in Need	£407.00
Clarity (RNIB)	£40.00	Uganda Appeal	£150.00
Rwanda Appeal	£200.00		

Donations were also made to The Poppy Appeal and Clic Sargent.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

School attendance for the year was 95%. Whilst this is a good percentage and reflects a slight increase from last year it could be higher if a small number of pupils were to improve their attendance record.



CURRICULUM

Curriculum development focussed on the following areas: Structured play, Mathematics and ICT, Healthy Living, Pupil Assessment and The Role of the Subject Co-ordinator. All teachers completed relevant training and took part in staff development to further enhance these areas.

Throughout the year staff attended training provided by S.E.E.L.B. on the use of data systems to assist with the analysis of pupil data. This formed a basis for further future development in this area.

Staff also attended training sessions provided by S.E.E.L.B. in the area of Middle Management with a particular focus on developing the role of the subject co-ordinator. Where appropriate, co-ordinator teams were established, to create a collaborative approach to planning and implementation of the curriculum.

A review of current approaches to structured play and available resources was carried out. Following this review new resources were purchased and a collaborative approach to Structured Play was established to include outdoor play sessions when weather permitted. A new policy and overview of Structured Play was drawn up and approved by the Board of Governors.

This year we introduced our Healthy Living policy and encouraged pupils to review their snack and lunchtime choices. On the last Wednesday of every month pupils made a small donation and received a selection of fruit and vegetables for break. Many pupils tried something new and enjoyed the variety that was provided. We also ensured that there was plenty of opportunity for physical exercise as well as sending home information about healthy choices.

ICT continues to be an integral part of the N.I. Curriculum and this year the focus was to review links between ICT and mathematics. A list of suitable ICT resources and links was provided to all staff and this is constantly under review. Teachers make use of the inter active whiteboards and suitable mathematics software or websites to complement the teaching of mathematics in their classrooms.

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) continued to ensure that pupils attainment was closely monitored and that all children who were identified received additional support in line with Special Educational Needs procedures.



Music continues to play an important role in Knockbreda. Tutors from S.E.E.L.B. provided pupils with opportunities to play woodwind and brass instruments. Throughout the year these pupils have the opportunity to perform for



their family and peers at various events. Several children were entered for and comfortably passed Associated Board Music examinations. Recorder was taught to all children from Primary 4 to Primary 7. Mrs McCormick, Miss Briggs and Mrs Patterson organised weekly choir practices, which prepared the children for concerts, special assemblies and other school events.

This year we were once again fortunate to be participating in the Primary Modern Languages Programme. This resulted in our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils receiving tuition in Polish from a qualified tutor. The children enjoyed learning not just the language but also about different cultures.

At Key Stage 2 pupils continued to receive tuition in French from Ms Lunney, a qualified language teacher from Grosvenor Grammar School. As part of this programme the school was also fortunate to receive a one year subscription to 'Linguascope', an online language resource which further enhanced teaching and learning of modern languages.

At Knockbreda the curriculum is designed to stimulate children's thinking and encourage effective learning. Children with special educational needs are given additional help by class teachers and, when necessary, advice is sought from outside agencies including educational psychologists, speech and language teachers etc. Thus the needs of all children are assessed and addressed. Teachers also meet regularly with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) to discuss any concerns. Once again the school was pleased to be able to continue to fund support for an in-school reading programme. Many children benefited from this extra provision.



CHILD PROTECTION

Knockbreda's Child Protection policy is available to view on our school website, www.knockbredps.co.uk, or available in paper copy upon request from the school. Child Protection procedures continue to be implemented fully and criminal background checks are carried out on all newly appointed staff and volunteers. The Designated Teacher and the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection attended training provided by S.E.E.L.B. Staff received updated Child Protection training and the Child Protection policy has been updated to reflect this.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Educational visits form an integral part of the curriculum as they enhance and extend the learning which takes place in school. Children from P.1 to P.7 enjoyed a wide range of visits including The Ark Open Farm, Carrickfergus Castle, The Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, Crawfordburn Country Park, Exploris, Belfast Zoo, The Ulster Museum, Queen's Film Theatre and other equally interesting venues. Primary 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed residential trips to Killyleagh Outdoor Education centre where they participated in a range of outdoor activities including orienteering, canoeing and a river walk to name a few. Primary 7 children visited Aviemore in May. Children were commended for their behaviour on a number of occasions by local residents. Our children were always well behaved and well mannered as well as enthusiastic in all they did, a credit to their school and to their parents. Mrs McKenna, Mrs Patterson, Mrs Lowry, Mrs Davey, Mrs Graham and Mrs Smith are to be congratulated for making the visit such a successful one.



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SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Mrs Hart is responsible for the school environment and, along with her gardening club and help from Mr Scott, continued to keep the school grounds in good condition. They also maintain our wildlife garden, providing an attractive, quiet area for children to enjoy. Seasonal plants have been added in the wildlife garden and the pots around the school grounds and a selection of herbs has also been planted in the school garden. There was plenty of recycling and eco-awareness carried out. Our thanks are due again to Mrs Hart for her enthusiasm and hard work.



LEARNING CENTRES

Mrs Murphy and Mrs Hart continue to develop an integrated approach to education in the Learning Centres. Children in both classes took part in a number of educational visits. The children experience a wide curriculum which helps develop literacy and numeracy skills and raise their self-esteem. The pupils from the learning centres integrated into the mainstream classes for Art, Music and P.E. and participated fully in school performances and special events. All of the pupils from the Senior Learning Centre transferred to mainstream post primary education.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Football was once again a very popular activity for boys and girls. This year the football team enjoyed considerable success and our 4-A-Side team which made it through to the semi-final at an indoor tournament against local schools. Towards the end of the school year we were very proud when the team won the N.I. Small Schools Trophy in a nail-biting final that went to extra-time. Thank you to Mr Bell who worked hard to develop children's skills and encourage all participants.



Our hockey players also enjoyed a busy year. The players were enthusiastic and enjoyed participating in weekly practice sessions and matches. Mrs McKnight in her role of hockey coach showed dedication and continued to ensure that hockey flourishes at Knockbreda.

All pupils from P.4 - P.7 took part in swimming lessons at The Robinson Centre. Those who wanted to compete in the annual swimming gala had the opportunity to win points for their houses.

Pupils in Primary 6 and Primary 7 enjoyed a taste of indoor golf coaching provided by Castlereagh Borough Council. A team of six pupils represented the school at a tournament held at Castlereagh Hills Golf Club. We were delighted to win the competition and bring a fabulous trophy back to school. Congratulations to all involved.



This year we also provided coaching in football and fundamental movement skills. Short tennis coaching was



available as another after school activity. All pupils who participated in these activities benefited greatly from their experiences. A team of P.6 and P.7 pupils competed in a local cross-country event at The Lough Moss Centre. Our P.7 pupils attended the Northern Ireland Athletics Association event held at Strathearn School and won a trophy.

Clubs afternoon offered a wide range of activities for pupils from Primary 4 - 7. P.4 pupils took part in craft and sport activities. For the P.5 -7 pupils choices included computers, drama, animal club, fitness, gardening and clay modelling to name a few. The children really enjoyed the weekly interest clubs and benefited greatly from the opportunity to participate in new experiences.

Scripture Union was replaced with KEE Club (Knockbreda eight to eleven). Mrs McCormick, Mrs Gamble, Miss Briggs and Mrs Grant provided the children with a variety of fun activities throughout the year and there was always a nice snack available!

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association raised a fantastic £6000.00 for school funds this year. Mrs McCoy and her committee organised numerous events for both children and parents. A magician entertained the younger pupils at Christmas while the older pupils enjoyed a disco. The Christmas and Spring fairs were, as ever, well supported with lots of activities for everyone. The table quiz for parents in February was again very successful. The Halloween disco, Barn Dance and bedtime story nights were also most enjoyable events. The jewellery making evening was a great success and was enjoyed by all who attended. The end of term barbecue provided everyone with a tasty meal and a chance to socialise while the children enjoyed the disco entertainment.

We are indebted to the Parents' Association for their continued hard work and commitment to the school and were very pleased to be able to purchase additional furniture and resources and also to subsidise events and trips throughout the school year.



TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL



Mainstream Pupils transferring to Post-Primary School - September 2011

School	No of Pupils
Ashfield Boys' High School	1
Grosvenor Grammar School	4
Knockbreda High School	5
Lagan College	3
Methodist College Belfast	4
Newtownbreda High School	3
Royal Belfast Academical Institution	1
Saintfield High School	1
Strathearn School	1
Sullivan Upper School	1
Wellington College	3
Total	27

Learning Centre Pupils Transferring to Post-Primary Schools - September 2011

School	No of Pupils
Ashfield Boys' High School	2
Nendrum College	1
Newtownbreda High School	1
Orangefield High School	1
Saintfield High School	1
Total	6

ASSESSMENT



Assessment is an integral part of the teaching at Knockbreda. Work is continually assessed in school and records of pupil progress and achievements are carefully maintained. Reports are regularly sent to parents and parents meet each year with their child's teacher to discuss his/her progress.

Pupils are formally assessed at the end of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Results of these tests for the 2010/2011 school year indicate that pupils at Knockbreda perform at a level equal to or higher than the Northern Ireland average at Key Stage 2 and higher than the Northern Ireland average in levels 1 and 2 at Key Stage 1. These results reflect the good work which takes place in school every day. The results obtained in the mainstream are as follows:

Primary 7 - Knockbreda Primary School

	W	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5
ENGLISH				7.41%	51.85%	40.74%
MATHS				14.81%	25.93%	59.26%

Primary 7 –Northern Ireland

	W	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5
ENGLISH	0.05%	0.41%	2.96%	15.16%	49.14%	32.28%
MATHS	0.04%	0.46%	2.44%	15.05%	38.73%	43.28%

Primary 4 – Knockbreda Primary School

	W	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5
ENGLISH		6.25%	37.5%	56.25%		
MATHS		6.25%	37.5%	56.25%		

Primary 4 – Northern Ireland

	W	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5
ENGLISH	0.46%	5.92%	50.82%	42.80%		
MATHS	0.05%	5.08%	46.64%	47.78%		



Primary 7 pupils participated in CEA's Information Technology Accreditation Scheme. Children completed a series of tasks as part of an ICT assessment process. Their work was then assigned a level from 1 to 5, with level 4 being the expected highest attainment for Primary 7 pupils. Results of the ICT assessment are given below. These results reflect the continued progress made by staff and pupils in the area of ICT.

2009/2010	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4	LEVEL 5
IT School Summary P7 Mainstream Class	0%	3.71%	22.22%	74.07%	0%
IT Northern Ireland Summary	0.46%	3.08%	21.18%	75.15%	0.13%