

Governors Annual Report to Parents – Full Report

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School Flint

September 2016 – July 2017

All governing bodies of maintained schools are required to produce an annual report to parents with statutory contents which are detailed in guidance from the Governor Wales website.

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Introduction from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and supporters of St Mary's

The Governors, Head teacher and Senior Leaders have a clear vision of how to improve St Mary's school and work consistently hard and listen to advice both internally and externally (Strategic Improvement plan 2015-2018).

We are extremely pleased that the very latest assessments have confirmed that pupil learning outcomes in the core subjects (particular focus on Literacy and Numeracy) are meeting or exceeding targets at all levels within the school.

The school with its strong catholic ethos and inclusive community is also taking a leading role in North Wales in implementing the new 'person centred thinking' project which focuses on understanding the needs of individual children through their own personal profiles and developing/delivering learning improvement plans.

The school has also increased significantly the ratio of Ipad's per pupil helping support a large range of new digital competency initiatives (e.g. Purple Mash) and our web site is due for launch very soon.

St Mary's has a very hardworking and loyal staff team and sadly this last academic year we said our fond farewells to some much loved teachers and a teaching assistant who have retired.

Mrs Barnes, Mrs Hammond and Miss Tovey who between had given nearly 80 years of dedicated service to the school having taught in many cases both the parents and their children. They will all be sadly missed by everybody but continue to keep their strong links with the school, as does Mr Swain who, with the help of his wife, is currently building a beautiful prayer garden in the centre of the school for the benefit of both pupils and staff (to be opened at the end of year).

Our deputy head Mrs Murphy has after 27 teaching years just stepped down from her role which has now been taken by Mrs Perrin and we wish them both the very best in their new ventures.

Fr Adrian as Governor and Parish Priest remains a key link with the catholic community of Flint with regular visits to the school for masses and special celebrations (teacher/pupil leaving masses) and the whole school come down to St Mary's Church for special feasts(e.g. Immaculate Conception).

As Chair of Governors I regularly attend the pupil led school council meeting to listen to what our young children have to say and try to support their requests for help with making their ideas work.

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to thank most sincerely all who support the school in a wide range of different ways (Parent volunteers and especially the PTA).

Phil Leddy

Governor Meetings & Annual Report to Parents

Governors meet termly and committees meet two weeks in advance of each Full Governing Body Meeting to discuss Finance, Curriculum, Health and Safety issues and Mission and Purpose and report back to the full board of Governors.

Governors will be available to discuss this report if requested.

If you wish to attend a meeting and have a question, please forward your question to school by 23rd February 2018 so that a meeting can be arranged and Governors can be prepared. **If no questions are received, it is assumed that no one will be attending and the meeting will not take place.**

The Weekly Newsletter will state whether the meeting is taking place. Please note that anonymous question will not be answered.

The current parent governor is Jean Williams. The next election is due in September 2017.

Term Dates

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES & TRAINING DAYS - 2015 – 2021

15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	AUTUMN
01/09/15	01/09/16	01/09/17	03/09/18	02/09/19	01/09/20	Term Start
01/09/15						Staff Training Day
09/10/15						
23/10/15	21/10/16	27/10/17	26/10/18	25/10/19	23/10/20	Half Term Close
02/11/15	31/10/16	06/11/17	05/11/18	04/11/19	02/11/20	Half Term Open
18/12/15	16/12/16	22/12/17	21/12/18	20/12/19	18/12/20	End of Term
						SPRING
04/01/16	03/01/17	08/01/18	07/01/19	06/01/20	04/01/21	Term Start
04/01/16						Staff Training Day
12/02/16	17/02/17	09/02/18	22/02/19	14/02/20	12/02/21	Half Term Close
22/02/16	27/02/17	19/02/18	04/03/19	24/02/20	22/02/21	Half Term Open
24/03/16	07/04/17	23/03/18	12/04/19	03/04/20	26/03/21	End of Term
						SUMMER
11/04/16	24/04/17	09/04/18	29/04/19	20/04/20	12/04/21	Term Start
11/04/16						Staff Training Day
02/05/16	01/05/17	07/05/18	06/05/19	04/05/20	03/05/21	May Day
27/05/16	26/05/17	25/05/18	24/05/19	22/05/20	28/05/21	Half Term Close
06/06/16	05/06/17	04/06/18	03/06/19	01/06/20	07/06/21	Half Term Open
24/06/16						Staff Training Day
20/07/16	21/07/17	20/07/18	22/07/19	20/07/20	20/07/21	End of Term

School comparative data

We are an inclusive school and welcome all pupils regardless of race, creed and ability. We believe in high standards and always strive for excellence. Every pupil has targets that are specific to them so that they are aware of how they can improve and develop their life skills and these are shared with parents to support ongoing improvement of their children which then can be monitored.

As a Catholic School we view every child as unique and respect them as individuals who are made in the image and likeness of God, who have potential to grow to wholeness, if encouraged and supported appropriately, which is what all the staff in St. Mary's do.

School Comparative Data – Foundation Phase

This report uses data for 2017 for LA and Wales comparative information

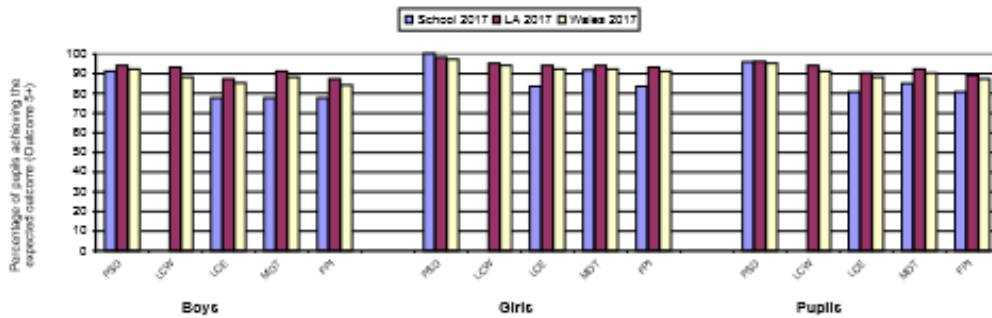
St Mary's R.C. Primary School
Flintshire

LA/School no: 664/3306

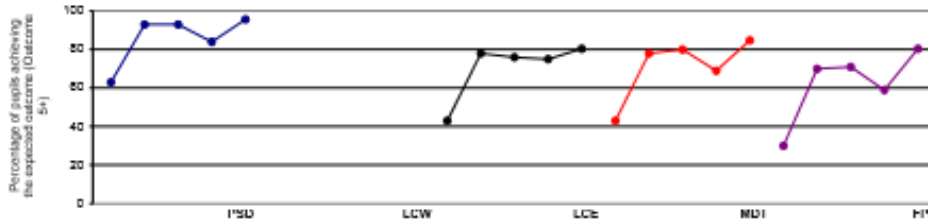
School comparative information: Foundation Phase Outcomes 2017 with benchmarking

Percentage of boys, girls, and pupils achieving at least the expected outcome (Outcome 5+):

	Boys			Girls			Pupils		
	School 2017	LA 2017	Wales 2017	School 2017	LA 2017	Wales 2017	School 2017	LA 2017	Wales 2017
PSD	91	94	92	100	98	97	96	96	95
LCW	0	93	88	0	95	94	0	94	91
LCE	77	87	85	83	94	92	80	90	88
MDT	77	91	88	92	94	92	85	92	90
FPI	77	87	84	83	93	91	80	89	87



School Performance over time (2013 - 2017)



Contextual Information

Benchmarked against schools with a similar percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals.

School's results shown in greyed boxes. Column headings refer to...

- Quarter 1 School is in the top 25 per cent.
- Quarter 2 School is in the top 50 per cent but not the top 25 per cent.
- Quarter 3 School is in the bottom 50 per cent but not the bottom 25 per cent.
- Quarter 4 School is in the bottom 25 per cent.

Free School Meal Group

More than or equal to 8 per cent and up to 16 per cent eligible for FSM

	Quarter 4	Lower Quartile	Quarter 3	Median	Quarter 2	Upper Quartile	Quarter 1
PSD	96	96		100		100	
LCW		89		94		100	
LCE	80	88		93		97	
MDT	85	90		94		99	
FPI	80	87		93		96	

The benchmarks have been calculated using a three-year average for Free School Meal data.

Notes:

1. - = No historical data available
2. Areas of learning: PSD = Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity; LCW = Language, literacy and communication skills (in Welsh); LCE = Language, literacy and communication skills (in English); MDT = Mathematical development; FPI = Foundation Phase Indicator. To achieve the FPI, a pupil must achieve at least the expected outcome (Outcome 5+) in both PSD and MDT and either LCW or LCE.
3. If there were no pupils eligible for assessment in a subject for a particular year the graph will discontinue and show a gap for that year.

School Comparative Data - Key Stage 2

This report uses data for 2017 for LA and Wales comparative information

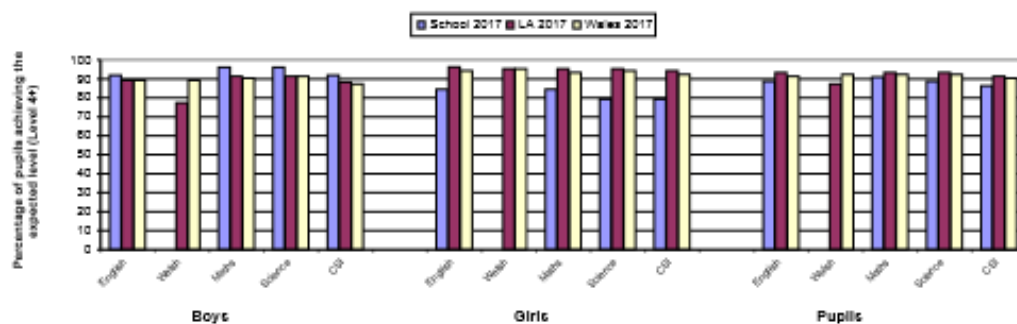
St Mary's R.C. Primary School
Flintshire

LA/School no: 664/3306

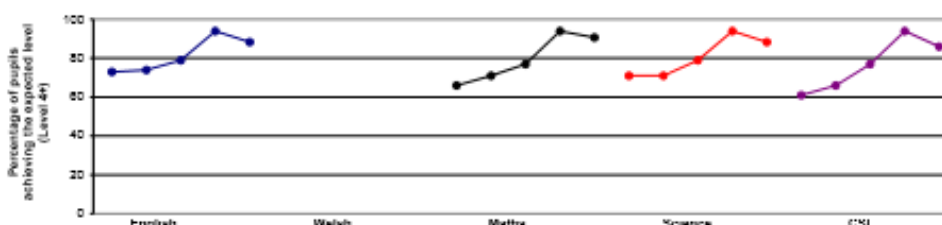
School comparative information: National Curriculum Assessments 2017 with benchmarking Key Stage 2

Percentage of boys, girls, and pupils achieving at least the expected level (Level 4+):

	Boys			Girls			Pupils		
	School 2017	LA 2017	Wales 2017	School 2017	LA 2017	Wales 2017	School 2017	LA 2017	Wales 2017
English	92	89	89	84	96	94	88	93	91
Welsh	0	77	89	0	95	95	0	87	92
Maths	96	91	90	84	95	93	91	93	92
Science	96	91	91	79	95	94	88	93	92
CSI	92	88	87	79	94	92	86	91	90



School Performance over time (2013 - 2017)



Contextual Information

Benchmarked against schools with a similar percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals.

School's results shown in greyed boxes. Column headings refer to...

Quarter 1 School is in the top 25 per cent.

Quarter 2 School is in the top 50 per cent but not the top 25 per cent.

Quarter 3 School is in the bottom 50 per cent but not the bottom 25 per cent.

Quarter 4 School is in the bottom 25 per cent.

Free School Meal Group

More than or equal to 8 per cent
and up to 16 per cent eligible for
FSM

	Quarter 4	Lower Quartile	Quarter 3	Median	Quarter 2	Upper Quartile	Quarter 1
English	88	92		96		100	
Welsh		89		95		100	
Maths	91	93		96		100	
Science	88	93		97		100	
CSI	88	90		95		100	

The benchmarks have been calculated using a three-year average for Free School Meal data.

Notes:

1. Figures for Welsh refer to attainment in Welsh first language only.

2. CSI = Core Subject Indicator. To achieve the CSI a pupil must achieve at least the expected level 4 in both Mathematics and Science and either English or Welsh first language.

3. If there were no pupils eligible for assessment in a subject for a particular year the graph will discontinue and show a gap for that year.

National Reading and Numeracy

St Mary's R.C. Primary School
 LA / School code 664/3308
 LA name Flintshire

School Comparative Report: National Reading and Numeracy Tests

Age-standardised score

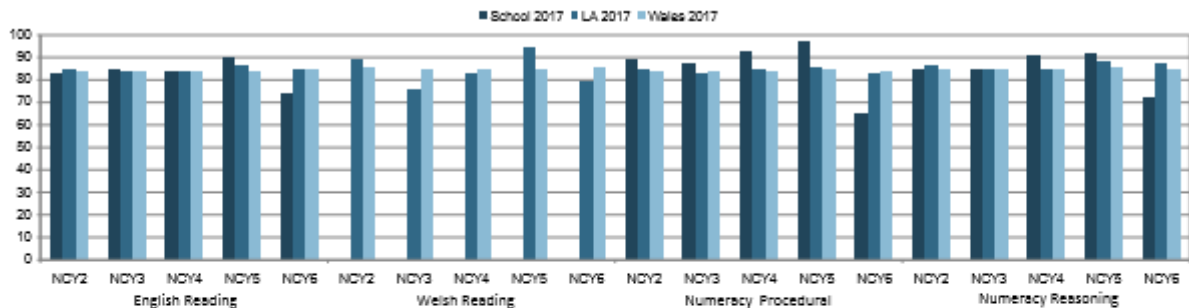
Age-standardised scores enable you to compare each pupil to all other pupils in Wales of the same age (in years and months) who took the same tests in April and May 2017.

The tables and charts below summarise the age standardised-scores for each year group in your school, along with your local authority and Wales for comparison.

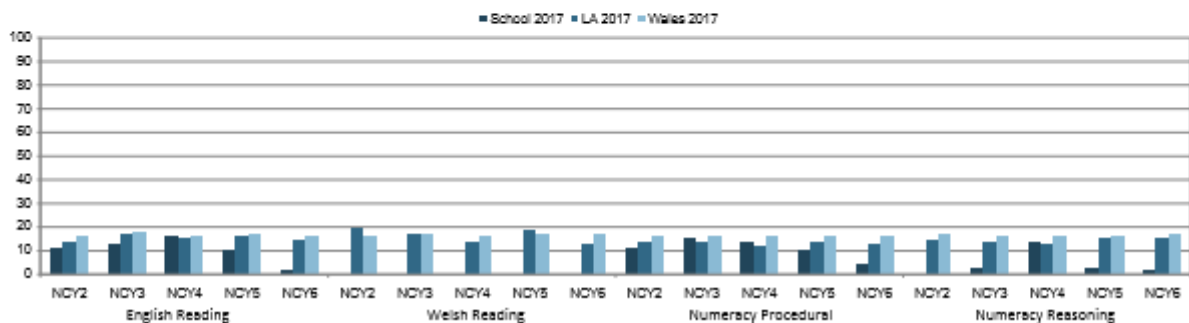
Percentage of pupils within each range of scores:

NCY	English Reading			Welsh Reading			Numeracy Procedural			Numeracy Reasoning		
	School	LA	Wales	School	LA	Wales	School	LA	Wales	School	LA	Wales
	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017
<85	17	15	16	-	11	14	11	15	16	15	14	15
2 Between 85 - 115	72	71	68	-	69	70	78	72	68	85	71	68
>115	11	14	16	-	19	16	11	13	16	0	15	17
<85	18	16	16	-	24	15	13	17	16	16	15	15
3 Between 85 - 115	72	67	66	-	59	68	72	70	68	81	71	68
>115	13	17	18	-	17	17	16	14	16	3	14	17
<85	18	16	16	-	17	15	7	16	16	9	15	16
4 Between 85 - 115	67	69	67	-	69	69	79	72	68	77	72	68
>115	16	16	17	-	14	16	14	12	16	14	13	16
<85	10	13	16	-	5	15	3	15	15	8	12	14
5 Between 85 - 115	79	70	67	-	76	67	87	71	68	90	73	69
>115	10	16	17	-	19	17	10	14	16	3	15	17
<85	26	15	16	-	20	14	35	17	16	28	13	15
6 Between 85 - 115	72	70	68	-	67	69	60	70	68	70	71	68
>115	2	15	17	-	13	17	5	13	16	2	16	17

Percentage of pupils achieving a score of 85 and above:



Percentage of pupils achieving a score of 115 and above:



Targets for Improvements

All staff have performance management meetings to set targets for the year. They are allocated a member of the Senior Leadership Team who monitors their progress towards these targets throughout the year. There is then a review of progress before setting new objectives. These targets link to Diocesan Priorities and Local or National Initiatives.

The Head teacher has targets set by a Diocesan Adviser, an external assessor and a panel of Governors. She has to meet the Governors and inform them of progress towards recommendations with evidence e.g. raising standards of literacy and numeracy.

There is also a School Improvement Plan which has annual targets for Improvement which all staff work towards to raise standards across the school for all pupils so that they can achieve their potential regardless of ability. These are closely linked to the Performance Management Targets to ensure a consistent approach. All staff attend a variety of training courses throughout the year to support professional development so that they keep abreast of new initiatives. Each member of teaching staff has a Subject Leader role and they attend training which is specific to their subject and then share information with staff, Senior Management and Governors.

Analysis of targets against results

Raising the percentage of pupils achieving the expected and higher levels has been the main school priority in recent years.

As a result of the schools strategic approach to improving target setting, the school met or exceeded its targets in all areas in the Foundation Phase and key stage 2 both at the expected and higher levels in 2017.

Foundation Phase

	Target for 05+	Actual	Target for 06+	Actual
LLC	52.17%	80.43%	6.5%	26.09%
MD	56.52%	84.78%	4.35%	17.39%
PSDWCD	71.74%	96.65%	21.74%	34.78%
FPOI	52%	80.43%		

At Key Stage Two, apart from Science at L5+, where the target was met, all other targets were exceeded in 2017.

Key Stage Two

	Target for L4+	Actual	Target for L5+	Actual
English	80.85%	88.37%	14.29%	16.28%
Maths	78.57%	90.76%	11.9%	23.26%
Science	78.57%	88.37%	9.3%	9.3%
CSI	80.95%	86.05%		

Attendance information:

Attendance in school is critical for children's future life opportunities. If children are absent they miss valuable curriculum time which affects their learning when they return from the absence because the curriculum is developmental. Our school Welfare Officer visits every half term to check attendance data and letters are sent to those children who have a pattern of absences e.g. Fridays or Mondays off or children who have a block of two weeks absence.

Targets are set by Welsh Government annually and school have failed to meet the annual attendance figure of 96% which is a concern. The Welfare Officer visits families where there is an attendance issue i.e. if the child's attendance is below 80%. Letters are written to any parents whose attendance is below 85% and parents are expected to phone school or attend a meeting to discuss their child's attendance.

Staff ask that unless your child is physically sick or has visited a doctor you send them into school please. If they are really unwell and cannot cope with learning, their teacher will phone you and send them home. Medals for 100% attendance are given out at the end of year assembly and the children receive certificates to affirm this achievement. 9 pupils out of 303 achieved 100% attendance...2.97% of the total school population.

Each class has a challenge weekly to improve on their previous week and class attendance percentages are put onto twitter so that all parents can be aware of which age groups are achieving the best results. Since this 'competition' was introduced the children have tried their best not to let their friends down. The class with the best attendance has a choice of a prize e.g. extra 15 minutes play time, additional time on the Trim Trail.

The Head teacher will no longer authorise holidays if the child has attendance of less than 96%. If a parent insists on taking the child on holiday during term time the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Whole School Attendance	93.27%	Authorised Absences	5.93%
Unauthorised absences	0.80%		

a) Governors

Governing Body:

Governor	Name & Address
Headteacher	Rachel Molyneux
Chair	Phil Leddy
Deputy	Laura Loftus
Foundation	Fr Adrian Wilcock
Foundation	Ian Evans
Foundation	Phil Leddy
Foundation	Sian Williams
Foundation	Tomaz Szczuka
Foundation	Clare Hansen
Teacher	Ash Knight
Staff	Anne Tovey / Karen Dalton
Parent	Jean Williams
Town Council	Mike Moore
Clerk	Carol Sheane: 1, Bro Deg, Flint CH6 5XW

Governors regularly attend training provided by the Diocese and the LEA.

b) Prospectus

The school prospectus is reviewed annually and is available from the Head teacher .

c) Policies

Policies are reviewed by Governors regularly on a rolling scheme.

All policies are available to be viewed and parents can ask for a copy of any policy but a small fee will be charged to cover the cost of photocopying

d) Curriculum

The Aims and Ethos of Our School



In line with **Our Mission Statement**,

‘We Live, Learn and Grow Together in Jesus’
‘Dwi’n byw, dysgu ac tyfu efo’n gilydd yn Iesu’

our primary aim as a Catholic Voluntary Aided School is to enable the children to become aware of God’s presence in their lives and encourage their response to His invitation to enter a personal relationship with Him.

We would hope that all that occurs in our school gives us the opportunity to show God’s loving care for each other and for everyone involved with the family of St. Mary’s.

Our school is committed to the development of the whole child, we hope that by fostering a caring Christian community with a secure, happy, stimulating environment linked with a broad, balanced, differentiated curriculum each child will fulfil their potential spiritually, academically, physically and emotionally. It is our belief as teachers in a Catholic school that every child and adult in our care is unique and created in the image and likeness of God and possesses special characteristics and qualities, which it is our task to bring out to the full.

Religious Life of The School

Religious Education is the core of our Catholic School. The school uses the ‘Come and See’ Religious Education programme to encourage and support children to further develop their own knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith. We aim every day to live out our Mission Statement:

‘We Live, Learn and Grow Together in Jesus’
‘Dwi’n byw, dysgu ac tyfu efo’n gilydd yn Iesu’

Throughout the year we relate to the cycle of the Church’s year with liturgical celebrations and assemblies. Fr. Adrian visits school to share Mass with us every term and on special occasions so that we can celebrate all our achievements during the term and ask God to bless us in all that we strive to do in our school and Parish community. The School joins with the Parish to prepare and celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Foundation Phase Curriculum

Children throughout Foundation Phase follow a curriculum designed to allow the holistic development of the child. Young children’s growth and development varies and the Foundation Phase curriculum acknowledges and promotes this. The curriculum sets out experiences and skills within the areas of learning and the activities and provision set out in our excellent indoor and outdoor learning environment supports this.

The areas of learning are:

- Language, Literacy and Communication
- Personal and Social Development, Wellbeing and Cultural Diversity
- Mathematical Development
- Welsh Language Development
- Knowledge and understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development

ICT skills and Curriculum Cymraeg enhance each of these learning areas wherever possible.

School Curriculum

School provides a broad, balanced, differentiated curriculum, where all children can develop independence and skills for life. We work with individual children to ensure that they achieve their potential and cater for all children's unique characters, talents, needs and interests.

Religious Education

Religious Education is the heart of the curriculum in our Catholic school. The children enjoy the experiences from the 'Come and See' programme that we use.

Core Subjects at Key Stage Two

English

Key Stage 2 work within the National Curriculum Guidelines covering **Oracy, Reading** and **Writing**. We enable children to develop skills to communicate their ideas both verbally and in written form. Children are encouraged to read widely, for pleasure as well as for information.

All learners' needs are met through a variety of creative teaching approaches that develop the three main strands of the English Curriculum.

Mathematics

Our aim is that all children acquire mathematical skills and concepts in a way that has relevance for them in the outside world as well as throughout the curriculum.

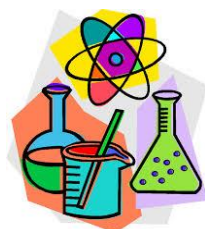
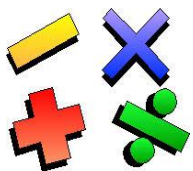
We work within the National Curriculum Framework for Wales that covers four areas;

- Using and Applying Mathematics,
- Number and Algebra
- Shape, Space and Measures and
- Handling Data.

Science

Science gives us an understanding of ourselves and the world around us. As a core subject it has an important part to play in our school curriculum. By building upon the natural sense of wonder and curiosity of the children we aim to help them to find answers to their questions. This is mainly through the use of practical activities and first hand investigations in which they will develop their scientific skills, knowledge and understanding.

There are two main areas of Science - Planning and Communicating and Developing and Reflecting.





Digital Competency

Digital competency at Key Stage 2 is taught during focused ICT sessions and through planned activities in other subjects. The school keep abreast of up-to-date and relevant technology. We also put a strong emphasis on teaching the children to use ICT safely.

-

Welsh

Welsh is taught as a second language to;

-
- Ensure that the children enjoy lessons therefore fostering a positive attitude to the Welsh Language
- Endeavour to make Welsh a living language within the school community
- Foster a real interest in Wales, Welsh Heritage and Culture through class - work, assemblies and visits



National Literacy and Numeracy Framework

This provides a structured and progressive framework for schools to develop and embed children's literacy and numeracy skills across all areas of the curriculum. In May children from Years 2-6 will sit National Tests in Reading Comprehension, Procedural Maths and Numerical Reasoning.

Foundation Subjects at Key Stage Two

The Foundation Subjects at Key Stage Two are; Art, Design Technology, Geography, History, Music, Physical Education and Personal, Social and Health Education and are taught through vibrant cross-curricular themes.



ESDGC

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship is a special part of the whole school curriculum every year. This is a time where children have the opportunity to explore, investigate, experience and develop their awareness of different countries and their cultures to ensure a respect for all.

Relationships and Sex Education

The school has adopted the Diocesan Policy for Relationships and Sex Education (Currently being updated). All children have lessons in Personal and Social Education (appropriate to their age) and Years 5 and 6 are sensitively taught about issues relating to growing up. Parents are kept fully informed and are welcome to view teaching materials/discuss any issues prior to lessons.

Governors and the Head teacher liaise with the Diocese and Local Authority to ensure that our Policy complies with Diocesan Guidelines.

Record Keeping and Reporting to Parents

Staff are continually assessing the children and recording progress. An early assessment is made shortly after they have started school. This helps the teachers to get to know each individual child ensuring that all make appropriate progress.

We invite you into school to discuss your child's progress with the teacher during the Autumn and Spring Terms. A full report is provided in the Summer Term celebrating your child's achievements and progress.



Additional Learning Needs

St. Mary's is an inclusive school. We recognise the uniqueness of every individual and the contribution that each individual brings to our school community. We work together with pupils and parents to ensure that all children regardless of any 'additional need' receive the best quality education in order to meet their individual needs.

All pupils' learning needs are met through a differentiated curriculum. Sometimes, it may be necessary for pupils to receive additional support in order to make sufficient progress in their learning. Support from the Additional Learning Needs Teacher may be provided within the classroom or pupils may be withdrawn on an individual/group basis. Parents are always kept fully informed and are an integral part of the process of agreeing and reviewing pupil learning targets.

Equal Opportunities

At St. Mary's we believe that as God's children all people are of equal value and, as such deserve equality of opportunity, thus enabling them to fulfil their maximum potential. To achieve this we endeavour to promote equality and to minimise discrimination in all aspects of school life. All members of our school community, irrespective of race, culture, religion, sex or disability are valued and respected, and treated with courtesy and consideration, so each individual has a true sense of dignity and self-worth.

For disabled pupils there are ramps for access throughout the school and two disabled toilet facilities. Adaptations have been made to allow easy access to all parts of the school buildings.

e) Finance

Financial Outturn 2016/17

Due to resource constraints at County Hall, the Financial Outturn has not been completed and sent to the school in time to include with this report.

As soon as this information is available, it will be published in the School Newsletter.

Community Links

There are informal links with the local community at different times throughout the year:

Links with Church of the Immaculate Conception

- Sacramental Programme,
- Masses when whole school go to Church e.g. Feast of the Immaculate Conception- this is a big commitment from school as buses have to be ordered because of weather and little legs!
- Beginning and End of term Masses – Fr. Adrian visits school and Mass is celebrated in the school hall, these are always a very dignified celebration and a great success with increasing parental support.
- Feast Day Masses
- One Parish catechist works as a Teaching Assistant in school so can maintain an ongoing links and support children through the Parish

Links with Local Community

- Very good links with Saint Richard Gwyn school-there are regular meetings, discussions about standards, transition projects and involvement in their annual drama productions and Eisteddfod.
- Plas Bellin, Flintshire Food Bank, local vulnerable families – all receive harvest products in the Autumn Term
- Fairtrade stalls are present at Summer and Christmas Fayres. Also support the Fairtrade 'Big Brew' event. which is a great success and is growing annually.
- Staff and pupils visit the Library and staff from there come to talk to pupils about holiday Reading Projects
- Community Police visit school each term and lead sessions on various topics that relate to the curriculum.
- All of Year 6 attend the annual Mass at St Winefred's Holywell which is for every child in the Diocese – this is always a great celebration.
- The five Catholic Flintshire schools go to Pantasaph for the annual retreat. Saint Richard Gwyn send their transition staff; Head of Year 7, School Nurse, Welfare Officer and Diocesan Officers, the Bishop and Fr. Adrian are invited.

Links with the Global Community

- Mission Together – annually the children hear from Mr. Cawley about a specific family in a particular country and raise money for that country
- World Gifts – this has been a fabulous success and has grown over the years. Children are asked to send only one Christmas card to the whole class and donate the surplus for a World Gift. Each class chooses what their gift will be.

Miscellaneous:

All pupils have at least two hours of curriculum PE during their week. This includes manipulative skills in Foundation Phase where cutting and malleable play are included. Swimming lessons for children from Year One to Year Six are an important part of Physical Education.

There are a variety of after-school clubs available for the pupils which are led by staff on the basis of good will.

Thanks must be noted to Mr. Nev Powell, Manager of Aberystwyth Football Club who leads an after school club every week to support our children, His commitment is commendable. He also runs holiday soccer schools here in St. Mary's which many of our children attend.

Language Category

The school language category is Welsh bi-lingual. Bi-lingualism and the teaching of Welsh as a second language is a priority in St. Mary's Catholic School. All staff, including support staff, secretary and DRA's are encouraged to support the school in developing the use of incidental Welsh in all aspects of the school day. Welsh is now a core subject in schools in Wales and as such, children's achievements have to be reported. Oracy carries 70% of the score so it is important that the children are encouraged to speak Welsh wherever possible.

Toilet Facilities

4 blocks of toilets are available for use, all of which are maintained to a high standard on a regular basis.

Healthy Eating

St. Mary's have worked hard with parents and pupils to support the healthy snack. All pupils are encouraged to donate 25p per day and choose from a variety of fruits and vegetables (season dependent). Some children still bring in crisps and chocolate which is a shame because funding is allocated for additional sporting events if a school supports the healthy eating programme.

School worked hard on three actions across the school to earn their Healthy Schools Award every year.

School Council

St. Mary's have a very active School Council who meet at least once a term to discuss issues that their classes raise, their class representatives who are voted for then represent their views at the meeting. They take responsibility for typing the minutes and e mailing them to the Chair of Governors, who also attends the meetings. They also put information on Twitter for parents to be aware of e.g. World Gifts at Christmas.

The children lead the meetings and Mrs. Jones and Miss Molyneux attend. Each year, the children, who are as young as six, surprise the stage with their ability to share information and listen to other points of view.

Thank you for your support.