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# Nineteenth Annual Report

and  
**Summary of Accounts**  
of the  
Board of Governors of  
Oakgrove Integrated Primary School and Nursery  
**September 2009 - August 2010**



# Highlights – Autumn term 2009

## Parents Council

The Science Garden, funded by Parents Council, was completed by Conservation Volunteers.

A text messaging service for parents, paid for by the Parents Council, has proved a very useful asset.

Anne Murray and Lorraine Coulter made a presentation about the Extended Schools programme which supports several activities including: 'Time for Me' and 'Smart Parents' with CAW Community Group, Kayak day for P6/P7 underachieving boys, Judo, Breakfast Club with WELB and Sign Language classes for children and adults.

## Activities

A special school assembly celebrated the European Day of Languages on 27 September. Over 6,000 languages are in use around the world, and every one of them is a doorway to a rich and diverse culture.

Louise Anne Quinn, Gertrude Carey and James McGurk performed in a "Strictly Come Dancing" Assembly which raised over £200 for Foyle Hospice. Perennial favourites, the Harvest Festival and the Book Fair were both hugely successful.

**P1** and **P2** parents enjoyed and benefited from their Literacy and Numeracy workshops

In **P3** and **P4** the perennially successful Paired Maths programme and Paired Reading programme were supplemented by reading partnerships.

Parents, grandparents and governors volunteered to undertake three half-hour sessions per week for ten weeks.

Oakgrove teams acquitted themselves well in the inter-schools Football Tournament at Templemore Sports Complex.

Oakgrove pupils sang in the Sam Starrett concert in the Playhouse and represented the school at the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools 20th Anniversary celebrations in Foyleview.

**P3, P4, P5** and **P6** went to the Millennium and watched the Special Needs group 'A Stage Beyond' perform The Emperor's New Clothes.

Pupils also attended the Cross Border Orchestra Peace Project performance at the Waterfront Hall

**P4** History visit to Ulster American Folk Park

**P5** Science study visit to Fahan beach

**P7** Peer Mediation programme and conference

## Comenius Programme

*"We are all citizens of one world, we are all of one blood. To hate a man because he was born in another country, because he speaks a different language, or because he takes a different view on this subject or that, is a great folly. Desist, I implore you, for we are all equally human. Let us have but one end in view, the welfare of humanity; and let us put aside all selfishness in considerations of language, nationality, or religion."* (Comenius)

Oakgrove recently applied for, and was accredited with the International Schools Intermediate Award. This recognises the school's development of substantial curriculum-based international activities and work with international partner schools. The award is having a very positive impact on developing pupils' awareness of both their own culture and the cultures of other countries. Another aspect of this process is the Comenius programme.

Jan Amos Comenius (1592-1670) is widely regarded as the father of modern education, and the Comenius programme encourages teachers and young people to engage with the diversity of European cultures and languages.

To achieve this, schools from five nations are meeting and sharing their approaches to issues of common interest. Each school will host a different topic:

- Chilcote School, Birmingham, England (Pupil involvement);
- Oakgrove Integrated Primary School (the use of ICT in education);
- Sem Skole, Norway (Community Links);
- Szkola Podstawowa in Poland (Health); and
- Gimnazilil De Stat Mihai Viteazul, Romania (Safety).

The first three meetings have been in Romania, Norway and England, and the project will continue in September 2010

**P3** and **P7** began work on the Northern Ireland Housing Executive Community Partnership, working with disadvantaged people

'Reach Across', facilitated by students from St Cecilia's College, gave **P7** a morning of activities including Laserquest, Parachute and Drama.

## Premises

Energy conservation initiatives have been very successful and the school has been assessed as an above-average Grade C.

## Visitors

Throughout the year, Oakgrove played host to a multitude of visitors. Among those we welcomed were:

20 Italian teachers from NW Languages Academy;

20 German teachers;

Teacher Heidi Eberhard, on placement from Switzerland;

Spanish teacher Carmen, teaching in P3 and P4.

Yang Zhou, teaching Chinese on Saturdays.

Helen Mark of BBC radio, recording childrens' opinions on various topics;

Students from Eastern Mennonite University Hamsonburg, Virginia;

Mayor Fleming

DENI Inspectors Jackie Wallace and Fiona McArthur, who were very impressed by observed lessons in P6 Maths and P2 Linguistic Phonics.

## Christmas Activity

On Thursday 17 December Santa arrived for a breakfast of pancakes, tea and fruit juices with the children and families of Oakgrove. He then occupied the grotto, imaginatively furnished by Kevin Holly, and with the help of elves, gave out presents. At least 500 parents and children participated and the day was a memorable success.

**P1** and **P2** produced 'Toby's Christmas Drum'; and ensured a good turnout for the AGM which took place as they were assembling to take the stage.

**P1** also saw "Snow White" in Waterside Theatre, while P4 enjoyed the Methodist "Follow the Star" presentation.

**P2** held a Christmas Craft Fair and went with P3 to Waterside Library for storytelling.

**P4** led the school's Carol Service in Ebrington Presbyterian Church.

**P7** sang in Foyleside, the Richmond Centre, St Columb's Park Christmas Tree Festival, Carlisle Road Methodist Church and Ardclune. their efforts raised funds for several charities including Children in Crossfire and Save the Children.

## The ECO Council

Pupils from P5, P6 and P7 collected ideas from across the school community and developed ways to make our school more ecologically friendly. Oakgrove achieved the ECO Schools Bronze Award in 2009 and is now working towards the Silver Award. Our thanks to all those who helped the group, including Miss Quinn, Ms Murray, parent helpers Mrs Reynolds and Sinead Carlin, who also donated children's gardening tools, trees and advice, and Ms Campbell, for her gardening skills.

In addition to a variety of recycling initiatives, the children grew lettuce, spring onions, radishes, potatoes, peas, tomatoes, carrots and marigolds in their garden. P4 also made wormeries and bird feeders.

**P3** and **P5** made scarecrows, including a 'Lady GaGa' and constructed a 'Willow Den' for the Integrated Education Fund presence at the Hillsborough Flower Show.

## EFQM

The European Foundation for Quality Model Excellence Award is given to Europe's best performing companies and not-for-profit organisations. Europe's most prestigious award for organisational excellence recognises industry leaders with an indisputable track record for turning strategy into action and continually improving the organisation's performance.

Top executives from leading businesses, public service and peer group organisations subjected the school to a rigorous assessment. We are very proud to announce that Oakgrove has now been awarded the EFQM Mark of Excellence.

We thank all the staff for their work, with particular mention for Ashley Donaghey for heroically completing the report in very challenging circumstances. The award was presented at the Northern Ireland Quality Awards 2009 Winners Gala Ceremony in the Ramada Hotel on 28 January, 2010.

Preparing the application for this award has made valuable contributions to the school community by clearly documenting the school's organisation and structures, defining our aims and purpose for being here, and returning to centre stage the importance of our children.



# Highlights – Spring Term 2010

The first two weeks of school were notable for icy conditions and heavy snowfalls. Our thanks to the caretaking staff for keeping the school open and the traffic moving in sometimes abominable conditions.

The **Nursery** learned about the signs of Spring, planted seeds to watch them grow and sang Spring songs

**P1** worked around the topic of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. They planted seeds, planned a beanstalk race and visited Waterside Library for a storytelling session.

**P2, P3** and **P4** visited the Playtrail, Waterside Library and met the Easter Bunny at an Easter Egg Hunt

**P5** completed a Cultural Diversity project in the Nerve Centre, where they made their own comics.

The Pushkin Prizes promote creative literary expression, and pupils attended a day of Pushkin-related events in Baronscourt

**P6** made movies about about the history of Derry~Londonderry, which were screened in Norway as part of the Comenius project. Some pupils also wrote their own newspaper about the area.

The engineers who are building the Peace Bridge paid a visit and kindled a flame of enthusiasm for their profession.

**P7** completed ICT accreditation.

The 'Slam Dunk' Community Relations programme. explores the idea that sport brings people together and develops sharing, team-working and co-operative skills. P7 pupils attended a film screening, discussions and workshops on story planning and ICT 'Comic Life' software, which enabled them to present their ideas as comics.

Parents' Council and children organised a 'Buy-a-Square' which raised £2,919 for the Haiti Earthquake Appeal, and £1400 was collected for NSPCC.

**Multi-Cultural Evening** 4 March 2010

After the runaway success of 2009, the Multi-Cultural Evening, was held in Oakgrove Integrated College.

The extra space was needed as the crowds returned to enjoy food, music, dance and costume provided by our families from all over the world. Roe Valley IPS, Groarty Controlled IPS and Oakgrove College all made valuable contributions to the evening, which was sponsored by the Integrated Education Fund.

**Creativity Week**

**Nursery** pupils enjoyed visits from parent helpers and music sessions from Jo Jingles.

**P2** parents taught yoga (Amy's dad), Art (Angus and Daithi's mum) and Russian dance (Sophia's mum).

**P3** went to the VOID Gallery, the Tower Museum and the Riverwatch Centre.

**P4** created their own sea creature animation

**P5** visited the Riverwatch Centre.

**P6** visited the VOID Gallery, Playhouse, Riverwatch Centre and worked with Echo Echo Dance Company. Pupils also made films about the sinking of the Titanic.

**P7** learned circus skills from "In Your Space".

**Chinese New Year**

Nursery pupils had a special playtime in the Chinese restaurant and practised eating noodles.

**P1** made stir fries, Chinese lanterns and Chinese dragons.

**P4** made Chinese knotting cards and organised their own table parties.

In **P5** Frank and his mum taught the class about Chinese culture and provided a special food tasting.

**Sports Training**

**P1, P2:** winter walks in the park.

**P3:** Fundamental soccer skills

**P4** PE sessions led by John Laverty from Magee College.

**P5:** football skill training, provided by Derry City Council, and the University of Ulster health and fitness programme 'Sport for Life'.

**P6:** Gaelic football.

**P7:** basketball skills, weekly swimming sessions and hockey training with Foyle Hockey Club..

The school football team, ably coached by Mr Gill, had a good season in a difficult league, even winning 7-5 against the fearsome Drumachose P.S.

**Integration Week**

Families and friends of Oakgrove also enjoyed a convivial night at the Bowling Alley.

**The whole school** made kites and flew them in St Columb's Park with their friends from Foyleview.

**P3** welcomed pupils from Holy Family Primary School

**P4** entertained children from Ebrington PS and paid a return visit in June.

**P5** enjoyed Church study and visited different places of worship around the community.

Jonathan Bardon's book "The Struggle For Shared Schools in Northern Ireland" was launched. This book is a definitive account of how the integrated education movement was founded.

# Highlights: Summer Term 2010

## Nursery and Pre-School

- The children due to enter P1 in September met their teachers and enjoyed a Teddy Bears Picnic

## P1

- Assemblies on 'Dancing Talents' (PIA) and 'Jack and the Beanstalk' (PIB);
- Musical Pathways sing-a-long programme;
- Speech and Language programme; and
- Visit to the Playtrail and Bananas with P2.

## P2

- Research visit to Belfast Zoo followed by their Assembly about 'Animals';
- Mini World Cup tournament on the astroturf pitch in St Columb's Park; and
- Ben Kennedy received the 'Child of Courage 2010' Award. Classroom assistants Lorraine and Elaine both received the Carers Award.

## P3

- P3 made scarecrows for Hillsborough Garden Show;
- Visit to the Playhouse for the launch of the Heritage website;
- P3 and P4 attended the Interactive Drama workshop at the Playtrail with Stage Beyond; and
- 3 weeks work with local artist Aiden Lynch.

## P4

- Fun trip to Bowling Alley;
- Visit to the Active Play Environment at St Columb's Park with Ebrington P.S; and
- Interactive Drama workshop, organised by 'A Step Beyond' at the Playtrail.

## P5

- Healthy Tuck Shop, managed by the children raised £782.80, which funded P5 trips to the swimming pool and bowling alley, plus a £200 donation to school funds;
- Attended Sport for Life Festival at University of Ulster in Coleraine; and
- Visit by the Fire Brigade

## P6

- one-point perspective drawing;
- Visits to Oakgrove Integrated College for Geology, Citizenship, Orienteering and PE; and
- Mini World Cup tournament

## P7

- P6 and P7 trip to Delphi. Pupils who could not go

had a great local activities week;

- Performed the show 'Don't Stop Believing' ;
- End-of-school trip to Waterworld;
- RC Confirmation children attended the 'Fan the Flames' mass with Bishop Hegarty at Celtic Park;
- Visit to Letterkenny for the Aurora Olympics initiative; and
- P6 and P7 attended the anti-bullying workshop facilitated by Ernst & Young. Four pupils went to the K'Nex Sentinus design and build problem solving workshop.

## Whole School

- Parents' Council hosted a convivial Bowling Night;
- NI Cancer Fund fun day in Templemore;
- Swimming Gala in William Street pool;
- The boys' cross country team, the Judo Club, the Netball team and the boys' football team all acquitted themselves well in their respective competitions;
- 'Cash for Clobber' organised by Ms McCorkell continued raising money for charities;
- 'Take Care' child protection programme. Nursery had a 'Stranger Danger' session;
- 18 June: Pyjamas and Football Day. Helen, our school cook, prepared a special lunch and organised a World Cup penalty kick;
- The Sports Days were favoured with good weather. The Key Stage 2 House Cup was won by 'Swilly' who also enjoyed a trip to Lisnagelvin Leisure Centre;
- The end of the school year was marked by school discos with DJ Simone, the P7 Oakgrove School Musical and a non-uniform day in aid of UNICEF.

## Penny Crawford retires

Penny has been part of the Oakgrove community since the school opened its doors for the first time in 1991, as a founding parent, classroom assistant, wardrobe manager, part-time clown and full-time mummy. We wish Penny a long and happy retirement. Her retirement dinner was an exuberant affair in the Mandarin Palace, complete with a guest appearance by Elvis Presley (aka Stan Lee).

## Liz Jamison

We thank our much-loved classroom assistants, Liz Jamison and Paula Feathers for their invaluable contribution to the primary school and wish them well in their new jobs at Foyle and Oakgrove College.

## Nurture Centre

Oakgrove's Nurture group provides a safe haven for young children who have difficulty thriving in a normal school environment. While these children are in the Nurture Centre, social, emotional and behavioural issues are addressed until they are ready to fully benefit from the classroom experience. Over the last 30 years the experiences of primary and post primary schools, endorsed by numerous academic studies, have confirmed the value of nurture centres. *"Children who go through*



*a nurture programme are likely to fare better than others from similar backgrounds in terms of employment, school attainments, further education and incidence of teenage pregnancies."* (Berrueta, Clement et al, Reort on Nurture Education). Nurture groups are extremely successful for a wide range of children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties *"Not only do these children improve in terms of their emotional and behavioural functioning, but improvements occur relatively quickly, typically in two terms. Behaviours associated with engagement with the curriculum improve- ability to settle down to work, the ability to work collaboratively with other children- and children become more sociable."* (Cambridge University).

By contrast many children with conduct disorders, if they are not helped by early intervention, often grow to become a huge burden on the criminal justice system and social services, and restitution becomes many times more costly.

Despite the clear educational, social and financial benefits of nurture education, several centres have been forced to close by lack of funding. We are therefore hugely grateful to the staff and the parent volunteers whose commitment ensures the continuing work of the centre at Oakgrove.

In February 2010 the NI Nurture Centre association of schools lobbied politicians, the Education Committee, the Minister for Education and the new Permanent Secretary Mr Paul Sweeney. We live in hope that wisdom will prevail and the work of the Nurture Centres will be allowed to continue.



## Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education

At the NICIE Conference and AGM in the Dunadry Hotel, Antrim, a Question Time on "The Role of Education in Building a Shared Future" featured Professor Tony Gallagher, Dawn Purvis, Naomi Long and Bob Collins, chaired by the sublime Colm Cavanagh. Noreen Campbell debuted as the feisty new Chief Executive of NICIE,.

# Staff

## Leadership

Dr Anne Murray	Principal.
Lorraine Coulter	Vice-Principal. INSET, Pastoral Care/Discipline

## Primary School

Lorna McSparron	Learning & Assessment Co-ordinator SMT
Honor Slattery	Nurture Unit
Gertrude Carey	(PIA)
Lisa McCorkell	(PIB),
Ashley Donaghey	(P2A) Foundation Stage Co-ordinator SMT
Catriona Sargent	(P2B) PE/PD Co-ordinator SMT
Kevin Holly	(P3A) Extended Schools Co-ordinator
Eileen Barber	(P3B) Creative & Expressive Co-ordinator
Nial Gill:	(P4A) Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator
Alissa Williamson	(P4B) Integration Co-ordinator SMT
Louise-Anne Quinn	(P5A) World Around Us Co-ordinator)
Rachel Doherty	(P5B)
Paul McKernan	(P6A) Key Stage 2 Co-ordinator, SMT (Part time 0.8)
Ann McGonigle	(P6A) Key Stage 2 Co-ordinator SMT (Part time 0.4)
Aisling McMonagle	(P6B)
James McGurk	(P7A)
Simone Bartlett	(P7B) ICT Co-ordinator

## Nursery

Ms Ruth Doherty	Nursery Manager SMT
Ms Christine Ross	Nursery Assistant:

## Peripatetic Support

Brass:	Mr Stuart Hague, M. Strawbridge, J. Hutchman
Upper Strings:	Ms Clare Cunningham
Cello:	Ms Niamh Doherty
Educational Psychologist:	Ms Maria Phillips
School Nurse:	Ms Roisin McGarrigle

Maternity cover and Learning Support was provided during the year by **Ms Edel Sweeney, Ms Julie Young, Ms Maria Cregan** and **Ms Laura Elder**.

*SMT: Senior Management Team*

# Staff

## Classroom Assistants

Martina Cassidy	Aine Hasson	Rachel Sherrard
Rhyll Christie	Josephine Heath	Liz Thomas
Lorraine Concannon	Liz Jamison	Mia Whoriskey
Penny Crawford	Alyson McCormick	Maria Wilson
Adrian Doney	Roberta Martin	Michelle Wray
Paula Feathers	Elaine Moran	Julie Wray
Natalie Finlay	Michelle Morrow	Sarah Murray-Gates (Temp)
		Debbie Thompson (Temp)

## Ancillary Staff

Administrator (Part-time):	Irene Cosgrove	
Secretary:	Karen Finlay	
School Meals Clerical Officer:	Sonya Barrett	
Caretaker:	Raymond Wray	
Cleaner:	Ruth Parkhill	Sharon Maguire
	Mary Wray	Avril Hutchinson
	Adrian Doney	
Cook (WELB):	Helen McArthur	
Dining Attendants:	Elaine Norris	Ruth Carr
	Meta Hyndman	Patricia Rankin
Senior Supervisor:	Raymond Wray	
Supervisory Assistants:	Mary Wray	Sonya Barrett
	Sharon Maguire	Ruth Parkhill
	Avril Hutchinson	Martina Bradley
	Josephine Heath	

## After-School Clubs

Animation Art	Football (Nial Gill)
Guitar (T. Cassidy)	Gaelic (J. McGurk)
Moviemaking	Netball (Julie Young, Gertrude Carey)
Chess (Alan Turnbull, M. Morrow)	Drama (Lisa McCorkell)
Computer (Simone Bartlett)	Swimming
Cycling Proficiency (Louise-Anne Quinn, Julie Young)	

## Privately run clubs

Monkeynastics	Judo
Maiden City Soccer	Yogabugs



# Board of Governors September 2009 - June 2010

The dates in brackets are the terms for which each governor has been elected or appointed to serve

## Teachers Council

Aisling McMonagle (2006-2010)  
Ashley Donaghey (2008-2012)

## Department of Education for Northern Ireland

Ian Bennett (Dec 2007-Dec 2011)  
Irene Lindsay (Dec 2009-Dec 2013)  
Kathy Laverty (Dec 2009-Dec 2013)  
Grace Fraser (Dec 2007-Dec 2011)

## Parents' Council

Siobhan Curley (Dec 2009-Dec 2013)  
Jonathan Gray (Dec 2009-Dec 2013)  
Chris Schnurr (Dec 2008-Dec 2012)  
Jackie Greaves (Dec 2008-Dec 2012)

## Foyle Trust for Integrated Education

Herbert Montgomery (Dec 2009-Dec 2013)  
Stanley Page (Dec 2006-Dec 2010)  
Tim Webster (Dec 2007-Dec 2011)  
Sandra McCallion (Dec 2009-Dec 2013)  
Marie Cowan (Dec 2006-Dec 2010)  
Celine Ryan (Dec 2007-Dec 2011)

Dr Anne Murray Principal

## Governor Appointments

### Dec 2009-Dec 2013:

FTIE: Herbert Montgomery, Sandra McCallion;  
Parents' Council: Siobhan Curley, Jonathan Gray  
DENI: Kathy Laverty, Irene Lindsay.

Aiobheann Mullan has retired after completing her second term as a DENI governor. Our thanks go to all the above for their time and commitment to the school.

## Assessment Outcomes

	Key Stage 1		Key Stage 2		
	L2	L3	L3	L4	L5
<b>English</b>	87(94)	26(41)	45(20)	55(80)	21(31)
<b>Maths</b>	89(93)	46(47)	34(19)	66(83)	22(41)

( ) = Northern Ireland Reported outcomes

## Committee members

### Finance & General Purposes

I. Bennett • H. Montgomery • S. Page • J. Gray •  
M. Cowan • T. Webster

Anne Murray attends all sub-committee meetings

## B.O.G. Meetings

### September 2009-June 2010

September 2009  
18 October 2009  
16 November 2009  
16 December 2009 (BoG AGM)  
18 January 2010  
15 March 2010  
26 April 2010  
17 May 2010  
15 June 2010 Premises Inspection

## School Attendance and Enrolments

Attendance:	94.5%
Enrolment (Sept 2009):	389
Nursery (part time):	52
Primary Admissions:	54

## Holidays 2009-2010

Autumn Term: 1 September-18 December 2009  
Mid-term break: 26-30 October 2009  
Spring Term: 5 January-31 March 2010  
Mid-term break: 15-19 February, 17 March 2010  
Summer Term: 13 April-30 June 2010  
Mid-term breaks: 3 May, 31 May 2010



# Financial Summary 2009-2010

## Income and Expenditure Account, Year ended 31 March 2010

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Department of Education Grants:	<b><u>1,573,099</u></b>	<u>1,582,189</u>
<b>Payments</b>		
Teaching staff costs	<b>868,196</b>	879,068
Non-teaching staff costs	<b>454,380</b>	463,152
Other operating payments		
Rates and Water	<b>48,220</b>	46,278
Insurance	<b>9,840</b>	9,542
Heat, Light and Power	<b>27,097</b>	20,034
Laundry and Cleaning	<b>3,477</b>	4,133
Repairs and Renewals	<b>18,995</b>	33,102
Office costs inc: stationery and printing	<b>283</b>	1,636
Telephone and Postage	<b>2,610</b>	2,874
Advertising	<b>554</b>	1,114
Accountancy/Audit Fees	<b>3,419</b>	3,226
Legal Fees	<b>1,500</b>	-
Teaching materials inc stationery and books	<b>62,316</b>	100,684
Transport, travel & school trips	<b>4,753</b>	5,071
Course Fees	<b>1,139</b>	3,820
Bank Charges	<b>-</b>	-
Miscellaneous	<b>3,668</b>	4,277
Equipment	<b><u>1,213</u></b>	4,884
	<b><u>189,084</u></b>	<u>240,675</u>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b><u>1,511,660</u></b>	<u>1,582,895</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) from operations</b>	<b>61,439</b>	(706)
<b>Other receipts</b>	<b><u>22,319</u></b>	<u>14,543</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>	<b>71,650</b>	13,837
<b>Surplus brought forward</b>	<b>87,028</b>	73,191
<b>Surplus carried forward</b>	<b>158,678</b>	87,028
<b>Fundraising surplus</b>	<b>12,786</b>	12,155
	<b><u>171,464</u></b>	<u>99,183</u>