

Scoil Ide, Ardnamara, Salthill, Galway. School Improvement Plan – Gaeilge.

Plean Feabhsucháin Scoile don Ghaeilge – 2016-2017.

Baseline Data:

In November, 2015, we distributed questionnaires to a cross section of children and parents and all teachers. 1st class, 2nd Class and 4th Class children and their parents were selected.

Data collected from Children's Questionnaires:

53% say they like Oral Irish, 51% like Irish Reading and 45% like Irish Writing. Re. Children's perception of their own ability, results were lower especially in the more senior class – 42% believe they are good at Oral Irish, 60% feel they are good at Reading and 47% believe they are good at Writing. Only 39% say they make an attempt to speak Irish outside of the school.

Data collected from Parent Questionnaires:

Parents are positive about the learning of Irish. 90% felt it is important for their child to learn Irish. 70% felt Irish is important for their Children in order to facilitate further education at third level. 64% felt their child has a positive attitude to Irish. 82% say they do not try to speak Irish at home with their children. 89% say their children never watch any Irish TV programmes.

Data collected from Teacher Questionnaires:

Our staff are very positive about teaching Irish. They have identified the need for more in-school opportunities for the children to speak Irish. They feel it would be beneficial to have a structured progression for the teaching of Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiúil within the school. They have identified the need for better home-school links, especially with regard to spoken Irish.

STRENGTHS.

- Our Junior classes have a positive attitude to Gaeilge .
- We operate Gaeilgoir na Seachtaine – with termly prizes awarded – again, this is very successful with Junior classes.
- We have a list of frasai already displayed throughout the school building.
- We celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge every year – this includes a Ceili Mor- allchildren learn and perform Irish dances and sing/play. Trath na gCeist – 2nd – 6th.
- All classes from 2nd upwards, learn a selection of Irish Music on tin-whistle, Fiddle or accordion – taught by an accomplished Irish musician, Coley Mullin.
- Junior Infants to Second Class teachers have just introduced Bua na Cainte, a highly interactive programme, with a strong emphasis on Oral/Aural and Obair Bheirte.

WEAKNESSES

- Pupils perception of their own abilities with regard to Irish diminishes as they progress through the school.
- Attitudes towards Irish diminish as children progress through the school.
- Most parents(82%) , do not attempt to speak Irish at home with their children.
- Irish does not hold relevance to children outside the school environment.

Information gathered from interpretation of Drumcondra Irish Tests :

Tests administered to 2nd and 4th class – Jan 2016.

(Not fully collated as of yet, but a marked decrease in Eisteacht scores in comparison with Leitheoireacht and Scriobhneoireacht in the junior class. Fourth Class scored higher on the Eisteacht section.).

Targets	Actions	Success Criteria/Measurable Outcomes	Persons Responsible	Timeframe
<p><u>Target 1.</u></p> <p>Organise teaching and learning that will help foster better attainment and a more positive pupil attitude towards Oral/Aural Irish and aim for a 5% improvement in pupil attitudes over three years.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and update our Frasná Seachtaine list and promote its use around the classroom, yard, assembly, etc. 2. Teach the phrases – link to Irish homework 3. Display Frasná Seachtaine on Gaeilge notice board in foyer . 4. Assess mastery of the spoken phrases at intervals. 5. Junior Infants to 2nd class to continue to use Bua na Cainte integrated Irish programme. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number of pupils reporting they like Oral Irish will increase from 53% to 56% over 3 years. 2. The number of pupils who feel they are good at oral Irish will increase from 42% to 50% over 3 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eileen and Ailbhe responsible for updating of our existing Frasná Seachtaine. All teachers to have input. This will be continue to be available on our website and all teachers and pupils from 2nd -6th will be given a copy. • Eileen and Ailbhe responsible for keeping Frasná Seachtaine Notice board in foyer up to date. 	<p><u>Year 1 :2016-2017.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By September, our Frasná Seachtaine list will be updated, uploaded , distributed to all relevant pupils and all staff. • From Sept. 2016, Frasná Seachtaine will be in use throughout the school. • By the end of year, show some increase in the number of positive pupil responses to the Pupil Questionnaire questions on Oral Irish.

	<p>6. Monthly Assembly with an extra focus on Gaeilge. Include an Irish prayer/element in ALL Assemblies – responsibility of participating class teachers.</p> <p>7. Claire will question children informally at Assembly – to consolidate their familiarity with Frasai Na Seachtaine relevant to each month(whole school assessment).</p> <p>8. Source a FUN song as Gaeilge, that can be learned by all and sung at assembly.</p> <p>9. All classes to have one assessment per term on the oral mastery of Frasa na Seachtaine.</p> <p>10. Frasa na Seachtaine to be uploaded on school website – develop a U-Tube link – click and say- Ailbhe to say phrase and possibly children to repeat.</p> <p>11. Children to come around every day – to say frasa na seachtaine and to remind us all!</p> <p>12. Investigate possibility of Ticker Tape in foyer, displaying frasa na seachtaine.</p> <p>13. As a staff, we will be participants in CPD in Oral Language, over the coming</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • () responsible for emailing /texting parents with weekly frasa na seachtaine. • All staff to encourage incidental use of frasa na seachtaine throughout the school. • Eileen to investigate possibility of purchasing ticker tape unit. • Class teachers responsible for Gaeilge element of Assembly when it is their turn to participate. • Claire to question children informally at each Assembly, to consolidate their familiarity with Frasai Na Seachtaine. 	<p><u>Year 2.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue on from Year 1. • By end of year, review and update Whole School Gaeilge Plan <p><u>Year 3.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue on from Year 2
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	<p>year.</p> <p>14. Develop fras na seachtaine into a termly inter-class comhra –also to be modelled by children on stage at assembly.</p>			
<p><u>Target 2.</u></p> <p>Every class will be familiar with and actively use, the Feidhmeanna Teanga relevant to their year , aiming for a 5% increase in Eisteacht (Drumcondra) scores over a 3 year period.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Every class teacher will have a copy of the Feidhmeanna Teanga – to be highlighted as mastered by children –2 stage process – highlighted and ticked when mastery achieved. This will be passed along to the subsequent teacher as part of a Spiral Curriculum. 2. Feidhmeanna Teanga for each class level will be displayed on classroom walls and updated by class teachers. 3. Staff encouraged to give children opportunities to use Feidhmeanna Cainte in Obair Bheirte, Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiuil etc. 4. From 2nd -6th class, children to keep a Feidhmeanna Cainte Notebook - at the back of their Maths Notebook – this will move with them from class to class. 5. Focus on OB AIR BHEIRTE throughout the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a 5% increase in the amount of children Scoring in the 40th percentile and below,(Eisteacht Drumcondra Scores) over a 3 year period. • When questioned, children will be familiar with and able to use, Feidhmeanna Cainte listed for their Class Grouping – teacher designed tests to check proficiency to be administered at Christmas and end of year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eileen to ensure all class teachers have a copy of Feidhmeanna Cainte . • All class teachers. • All staff to encourage use of na Feidhmeanna Cainte throughout the school. • Teachers will examine Bua Na Cainte as it is published for more senior classes, with a view to developing whole school access 	<p><u>Year 1.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By September 2016, all class teachers will have a copy of Feidhmeanna Teanga – to be highlighted as taught. • Feidhmeanna Teanga for each class to be displayed in individual rooms. • All children from 2nd to 6th to have a Gaeilge Notebook – to be added to each year. <p><u>Year 2.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue on from Year 2. <p><u>Year 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue on from Year 2. Re-administer Drumcondra Gaeilge at the end of January and compare results. Re-evaluate plan.