**Virgin Mary B.N.S.**

**Summary School Improvement Plan**

1. **Introduction**
   1. **The Focus of the evaluation**

As part of our on-going work in the school, we conducted a school self-evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated literacy and numeracy. (see school self-evaluation report attached)

This school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school till 2016. The main purpose of these actions is to improve on pupils learning.

1. **Summary of School Self-Evaluation findings.**
   1. **Our school has strengths in the following areas**

**Strengths**

* Literacy levels have improved throughout the school.
* Pupils’ writing has improved throughout the school.
* Staff are very well trained and motivated in literacy and numeracy programmes to cater for pupils needs.
* Pupils understanding of number, problem solving and mathematical processes has developed and improved.
* Pupil enjoyment of, and engagement with, numeracy and literacy programmes has improved and developed

over the past few years.

* Sustained improved school attendance.
* Regular contact with parents through class and group meetings.
* Plans and policies our presented for discussion and ratification regularly at Board of Management Meetings.
* The I.S.M.T. has specific roles and responsibilities in the promotion and development of our literacy, numeracy and Gaeilge Curricular areas.

**We know this because of :-**

* review and updating of our D.E.I.S. plans every three years
* pupil/ teacher/ parent questionnaires
* parent – teacher meetings
* examinations and analysis of test results
* pre and post testing of pupils engaged in various numeracy / literacy programmes
* staff meetings
* focus groups
* assessment folders
* writing genre competitions
  1. **Our school has decided to prioritise the following areas of development:**

**Areas for development**

* **Literacy**
* consolidate improvement in literacy scores to date
* spellings and use of punctuation
* comprehension strategies
* reading fluency
* **Numeracy**
* consolidation of use of problem solving strategies
* development of mental maths strategies throughout the school.
* increased use of concrete materials to develop understanding of number.
* consolidation of mathematical processes.
  1. **Our school has set the following targets for improvement which are related to pupils achievement and has identified the following actions which will help in achieving those targets over the next 3 years:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Targets for Improvement** | **Action** |
| * Increase reading scores * Improve spellings * Improve punctuation * Improve fluency * To embed problem solving strategies * To embed, consolidate understanding of number, number processes | * 1st Steps * literacy programmes * Differentiated groups * targeted spelling programme * use of dictation * teacher focus on areas of need * spelling competitions * focus on punctuation in written work * pupil editing * analysis of written work * paired reading, S.U.A.S. * small group reading * power hour and other literacy interventions * C.A.P.E.R * R.U.D.E. strategy classes 2nd → 6th * problem solving competition * differentiated groups * focused learning * use of concrete materials * maths in the environment * reinforcement * maths for fun (HSCL) |

As a parent you can help us by

* ensuring homework is carefully done
* by reading to and with your child
* by talking to your child about what he is doing in school
* by using as much varied vocabulary with your child as possibly
* by discussing stories / films / things of interest to your son
* by attending class meetings / parent – teacher meetings. Staying contact with your son’s teacher.
* having your child in school and on time every day.
* We know we will have achieved our targets when we analyse standardised test scores for maths and literacy, by continually assessing our pupils work and the programmes in place in the school.