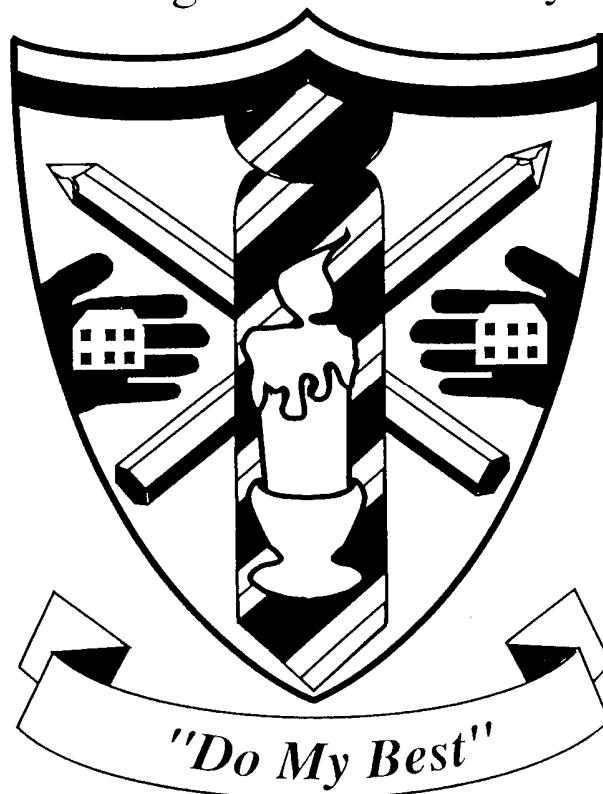


ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

St Eugene's P. S. Derry



FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2012/2013

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Board of Governors of St. Eugene's Primary School I would like to present to you the Annual Report for the year 2012/13.

I am pleased to offer this report as a record of the effort, commitment and care afforded the children by our whole school community. It also gives us an opportunity to reflect on the range of events and experiences that St. Eugene's P S provides for its pupils.

The Governors would wish to take this opportunity to express their thanks and appreciation to the Principal and staff of the school (teaching and non-teaching) for their commitment to the pupils. Their talents and skills are highlighted by their achievements across the wide range of curricular and extra curricular activities. The success of individual pupils or classes is always a source of celebration for the whole school.

I also must thank you, the parents, and my fellow members of the Board of Governors for their on-going and generous support for all the activities engaged in by the school and I look forward to your continued interest and support for our work as we strive to improve the educational opportunities offered to the pupils of St. Eugene's PS.

If there are any comments or issues that arise from the report please address your comments to in writing to, Secretary Board of Governors, St. Eugene's P S.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Gerard Gallagher

Chairperson, Board of Governors.

## THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

### ***TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES***

CHAIRPERSON                      Mrs May Mc Grellis (01/01/09 - 25/06/13)  
    Mr Gerard Gallagher  
    Mrs Mary Crumley  
    Mrs Mary Delargy

### ***WELB REPRESENTATIVES***

VICE CHAIRPERSON              Mrs Chris Ramsey  
    Vacant

### ***DENI REPRESENTATIVE***

Mrs Carita Kerr

### ***PARENT REPRESENTATIVE***

Mrs Martina Mc Carron

### ***TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE***

Mrs Carol Duffy

### ***SECRETARY***

Mr Declan Hegarty (non voting )

The Board of Governors was appointed during the 2009/2010 school year and will serve for a period of four years.

The Board of Governors is required to meet a minimum of three times each school year.

The current term of the present Board of Governors will run until December 2013.

## GOVERNORS' MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors are ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. Some of the responsibilities are:-

Curriculum	Catholic Ethos	Annual Report
Employment	Pastoral Care	
Enrolment and Admissions	Financial Management	

## GENERAL AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

St. Eugene's is a Catholic school and the curriculum offered aims to promote the spiritual, intellectual, social and personal development of each child. We work to promote high morale among the pupils and staff so that both will find the school a stimulating and supportive place in which to work and they will do so with commitment and enjoyment. We also strive to ensure that the resources and facilities are of a high standard so as to enhance the educational opportunities which take place in St. Eugene's PS.

Religious Education forms part of the core curriculum and we hope to bring each child closer to God and to others through an increasing awareness of God and our relationship with Him. Our Staff, our Parents and our Clergy have a very important role to play in this process.

Parents are urged to take an active part in their child's education by attending the parent/teacher meetings each year, by being aware of and encouraging their children in their school work, by reinforcing the standards expected in the school.

In continuing the tradition of good practice in St. Eugene's, we value

- the child as an individual
- the teachers who will be afforded every help in improving professionally
- the links with the community through an awareness of local needs and a fund raising response to chosen charities and Cross Community Links

<i><b>The School Day</b></i>
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<b>Nursery Unit</b>
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<b>8.45am - 1.15pm</b>
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<b>Primary 1 - Primary 2</b>	9.05 am - 2.30 pm	<b><u>Lunch</u></b>	12.00 - 12.50pm
<b>Primary 3</b>	9.05 am - 2.40 pm		
<b>Primary 4 - Primary 7</b>	9.05 am - 3.00 pm		

The school opens to receive pupils from 8.30am. All pupils will gather in the Assembly hall before being brought to their class by their teacher. The school cannot accept responsibility for children before 8.30 a.m. Children are supervised inside the school from 8.30 a.m. Class begins for pupils with a prayer at 9.05 am

## ***Meals***

The price of the school canteen lunch is £2.20 and is paid to the class teacher.

- Application forms for 'free meals' are available from the WELB

## ***Child Protection Teachers 2012/13***

Our designated Child Protection teachers are:

1. Mrs S. Wake Designated Child Protection Teacher
2. Mrs M. Herron Deputy Designated Child Protection Teacher

Concerns regarding the welfare and 'protection' of pupils can be reported to these teachers or to Mr Hegarty, Principal. All teachers and staff are aware of child protection issues and will respond using defined school procedures. A Child Protection Policy is available to all parents on request.

**Admissions:** In selecting children for admission to the school we will apply the criteria as set out by our school in the WELB's handbook.

## **PUPIL ENROLMENT**

The number of pupils admitted to P1 in September 2012 was 19 and the total enrolment was 151 made up of 80 boys, 71 girls and 26 children in Nursery Class.

## **ATTENDANCE**

The Average Attendance for 2012/13 was 93.1%.

## **SCHOOL FINANCES**

The Board of Governors of the school operates a delegated budget in co-operation with the LMS Department of the Western Education and Library Board. The budget allocation of the school depends on factors such as pupil numbers, Free school meals uptake, Newcomer children and Special Needs profile of the school and the floor area of the school.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012/13

### AUTUMN TERM

Term Began	03 September 2012
Baker Days	29, 30, 31 August, 31 October 2012
School Development Days	28 September, 07 December 2012
Governors' Meetings	26 September, 21 November, 19 December 2012
Hallowe'en Break	01 and 02 November 2011
KS1 and KS2 Christmas Pageants	13,18 December 2012
End of Term	21 December 2012

### SPRING TERM

Term Began	07 January 2013
School Development Days	03,04 January, 15 March 2013
Governors' Meetings	06 February, 27 March 2013
Mid Term	15,18,19 February 2013
Confirmation	02 February 2013
End of Term	28 March 2013

### SUMMER TERM

Term Began	08 April 2013
Baker Days	27 May 2013
Governors' Meetings	01 May, 19 June 2013
Spring Bank Holiday	03 June 2013
First Holy Communion	18 May 2013
P1 Parents' Meeting	25 June 2013
Sports Days	11 June 2013
End of Year Mass	17 June 2013
End of Term	28 June 2013

**SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT TO YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012**

**INCOME**

Budget 2012/13	£579 790
Carry Over 2011/12	£ 34 039
Extended Schools	£ 18 775
Other Income	£ 2 414

**EXPENDITURE**

Salaries - Teachers	£429 907
Salaries - Non Teaching	£ 98 758
Fuel Oil	£ 13 516
Electricity	£ 5 471
Water	£ 3 211
Toilet Requisites	£ 1 132
Waste Disposal	£ 1 476
Main. Buildings	£ 2 294
Furniture/Fittings	£ 156
Equip.Books, Pract Mats	£ 10 979
Licence Fees	£ 146
Hire of facilities	£ 950
Hire Security Services	£ 2 157
Professional Fees	£ 4 978
Contractual / DSO	£ 26 062
Hire of Other	£ 1 325
Printing & Stationery	£ 994
Photocopying	£ 524
Telephones/Postage	£ 1 380
Surplus	£ 29 602

Total £635 018

£635 018

### **TEACHING STAFF: 2012-13**

Mr Declan Hegarty Principal  
Mrs Margaret Herron VP, Literacy Coordinator, SenCo, P1 teacher  
Mrs Sheena Wake, Nursery teacher  
Mrs Dolores Mullan P2 teacher  
Mrs Carol Duffy P3 Health and PE Coordinator  
Mrs M Neely P4/5 teacher  
Mr Hugh Marley Numeracy Coordinator and P5/6 teacher  
Mr Feargal Carlin ICT and Music Coordinator P7 teacher

### **CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS:-**

Mrs K McDermott (Nursery Assistant)  
Mrs Patricia Doherty P1  
Miss Martina Fegan P2

**SECRETARY:** Mrs Maura Carlin

**CARETAKER:** Mr Raymond McDonald

### **LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS:**

Mrs Gladys Nelis  
Mrs Kate Meehan  
Mrs Josephine Mc Carron  
Mrs Jacqueline Woodrow  
Mrs Margaret Lynn



## THE CURRICULUM

The education of pupils in St. Eugene's does not entirely focus on formal lessons. It also includes all the opportunities for learning provided including out of school and extra curricular activities. The relationships in the classroom and Staffroom are important as is the caring and secure atmosphere provided in the school. The teaching and expression of Catholic values are fundamental in creating the ethos of the school. Although the Governors are responsible for overseeing the management of the school, the organisation of educational provision is the responsibility of the Principal. A written school policy and school aims are available as are policies for all areas of school life. St. Eugene's PS provides a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils and implements all the statutory requirements of the N.I, Curriculum. It also continues to provide specialist help for children with learning difficulties through our Special Needs provision.

### END OF KEY STAGE ASSESSMENT 2012/13

Key Stage One Literacy N=15	Key Stage Results June for 2012/13			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
<b>St. Eugene's P.S</b>		86.6%	13.3%	
NI Average				
Key Stage One Numeracy N=15	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
		86.6%	13.35	
NI Average				
Key Stage Two Literacy N=19	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
	5.3%	26.3%	63%	5.3%
NI Average				
Key Stage Two Numeracy N=19	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
	5.3%	21%	68%	5.3%
NI Average				

### Reporting to Parents

The year began with our Parents' Information evening on 03 October 2012. The Principal and staff took the opportunity to explain the curriculum and the main areas of focus for the year ahead. Parents of P3, P4, P5, P6 and P7 children had their Computerised Based Assessments reported to them before the end of the Autumn term 2012. Mid-year meetings were used to talk to the parents of the children in classes P1 and P2 and our final communication to parents came through the pupil's annual report at the end of the year, June 2013.

## **Special Needs Provision**

Those pupils identified as having special education needs are provided for initially by the class teacher who is supported and advised by the school's Special Needs Co-ordinator, Principal as well as other available outside agencies. Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) has received CCET training and this provides additional expertise in the assessment and delivery of provision to meet the pupil's needs.

The Government's Code of Practice on the identification and Assessment of Special Needs (1998 DE) and the Supplement to the Code of Practice (2005 DE) established the way the special education is managed in schools. The Board of Governors and teaching staff have work to ensure that our school meets the requirements of this legislation and to develop an inclusive school community of equal opportunity.

In 2012/13

Special Needs Support was offered to children from P1 to P7 who were at Stage 2 or above on the Code of Practice. IEPs were used to plan for their provision. All children with an identified additional need (academic or behavioural) had an Individual Education Plan (IEP) which is constructed and reviewed on a half termly basis in consultation with the teacher, child and his/her parents/guardians.

- Adapted reading material or other resources were provided for P3, P4, P5, P6 and P7. Any child with a Statement of Educational Needs was provided with additional support from WELB as appropriate.
- Our SenCo used the DENI Special Needs Resource file to develop understanding across a range of Special Needs and continued to provide a lead in promoting Dyslexia Friendly school.
- SenCo employed CCET training to facilitate the identification of Special Needs within the school.
- The school received support from Little Oaks Behaviour Unit who also provided a classroom assistant with specialist experience in behaviour support.
- Support was received from the Reading Centre for a number of pupils.

### **In Service days**

5 'Baker Days' and 5 'Staff Development Days' were used to develop and revise school practice and policies, to train for incoming initiatives from the Department of Education and to disseminate good practice.

### **Security**

The door entry monitoring system on both sites currently restricts access to those individuals who have business in the school. All external doors are locked to ensure the safety of the premises. All such doors can be opened from the inside in case of emergency exit.

## **Charges and Remissions policy**

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the NI Curriculum. Voluntary contributions: When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

The school makes a distinction between the term `charges` which are considered to be an obligatory cost and `voluntary contributions` which are self-explanatory. Subsidies from various sources e.g. School Funds, Extended Schools will be considered to cover deficits. Whenever possible, the school will give sufficient notice to allow parent/carers to pay by instalments.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive: visits to museums; sporting activities; outdoor adventure activities; visits to or by a theatre company; school trips; musical events and transport. Residential visits are not part of the school provision.

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the NI Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. Charges for these lessons are paid directly to the WELB

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the Curriculum therefore no charge is made for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place and we ask parents for their permission for their child to take part.

## **Religious Education**

Religious Education is an important part of the school's work. The religious programme is based on the Alive-O series and reflects the school's commitment to the aims, values and

teachings of the Catholic There assemblies and Church services that unite the school and provide a focus for our faith journey. Our school chaplain through regular visits provides support and assists in the preparation of the children for the sacraments.

### **Choir 2012-13**

The choir under the direction of Mr Carlin throughout 2012/13 continued to represent the school with great distinction. They had a very busy Christmas period supporting local charities, Children in Crossfire on 06 December in Foyleside, 11 December in Quayside for the Foyle Hospice and in the Bank of Ireland on 19 December 2013.

At Feis Doire Colmcille 2013 our school choir retained the Bishop Daly Cup for Sacred Music with a Gregorian Chant. Our most sincere congratulations went to all the pupils in the choir and to Mr Carlin for this achievement.

### **Supporting Pupils and Parents.**

Parents were invited along to an information talk on 'Healthy Lunch boxes' given by Action Cancer on 25 September 2012. Parents of P4 children had the chance this year to engage in our 'Paired Reading' Project October 2012. The project gave parents an opportunity to help to improve their child's reading in a positive and supportive fashion.

### **Community links**

Our links with our local community remain extensive. Our choir especially at Christmas sings for a number of charities at different venues in the city. We have regular engagement with Derry City Council and Community groups focusing on improving the local environment. Through competitions our pupils have the opportunity to express their views and imaginative ideas. Pupil health and safety has seen engagement with a number of organisations and projects, Bee safe, YES, Action Cancer and Royal Life Saving Society etc Safety Education for our pupils has meant visits from local Fire and Road safety Education Officers. Our pupils also had opportunities to visit local secondary schools in preparation for transfer.

### **Cross Community Activities**

P6 pupils were involved in a very interesting and valuable Cross community, Cross border project this year with the Fountain P S and St. Patrick's PS., Carndonagh. They went to the City Hotel twice and visited St. Patrick's PS, Carndonagh to discuss and explore a wide range of issues. This project was run by Junior Achievement, Ireland. The project also invited the parents of the children to come together at Easter and concluded with a sports activity day in June 2013.

Our P7 pupils were involved in a cross community project with the Fountain PS in the first term. The aim of the project was 'to engage children from different communities in personal development and media activities to discuss the importance of shared space and a shared and peaceful future for all'. Our pupils did very well. They expressed their views in an open and honest way and much fruitful and worthwhile discussion followed. Their work was published along with the work of other schools in a very impressive magazine called, 'Choices', a copy of which was presented to each pupil. Other children's opinions were recorded as pod casts and these could be heard on the Headliners website.

### **Pastoral Care and Anti Bullying Week 2012**

A number of activities were planned for Anti Bullying week 19-23 November 2013. Each class in the school worked on issues associated with the theme 'Everybody is Somebody' Mr Marley's P6 class highlighted the issue through their class assembly performed for their parents and KS2 pupils. St. Eugene's P S continued to reinforce the anti-bullying message as part of our pastoral care provision.

An In-school counselling service continues to be made available to all pupils and parents on request or by teacher referral. All counselling sessions are conducted with the permission of parents.

P3, P4 & P5 were taken on their Road Safety walks accompanied by their teachers and Road Safety Team on 09 October 2012.

Childline also came and spoke to the P6 and P7 pupils about keeping safe, on the same theme the P7 pupils had talks on Internet Safety and Bullying.

### **Book Fair 2012/13**

Mrs Herron Vice Principal and Literacy Coordinator organised a very successful Book Fair during the week 17 September 2012. Our thanks went to all the parents and children for their support. Our World Book Day was also great success when the children dressed up as their favourite character from a book. The event helped promote the pupils' interest in literacy and proved a very enjoyable day.

### **Student Placements.**

We believe that as St Eugene's P S has an important role in the community we must play our part in providing opportunities for those who are seeking to find a career in education. We have played host to many students this term. We have had students from University of Ulster, North West Regional College, St Cecilia's College, St. Mary's College and from St Columb's College. We thank the students for their work in the classrooms and hope they have benefited from their time with us.

## Our Healthy School.

We in St Eugene's P S value greatly and continue to promote healthy living and making good lifestyle choices.

All classes during 2012/13 continued to participate in a "Healthy Break," in the morning including bringing fruit and water. The Dairy Council came and gave a workshop for parents and pupils on the Healthy eating message on 25 September 2012. The 'Munch Box Challenge' provided another initiative to help us focus on providing healthy foods. P1, P2, P3 and P4 and P5 children participated in Road Safety Week by engaging in a guided walk around our local area to help them understand the dangers when out on the streets. Our commitment to healthier pupils was supported by the range of Extended Schools' Clubs aimed to improve fitness and games skills. P5 had a visit from the Fire Station to talk about the work they do and how to keep themselves safe.

Primaries 1-3 had an introduction to dental health on 15 October 2012, and how to look after their lovely teeth. P7 pupils had a very informative afternoon in St Columb's Park on 15 January 2013 at the 'Bee Safe' event learning about the work of the emergency services, P6 pupils attended an afternoon of workshops organised by YES on 21 November 2012 highlighting many social issues. P7 pupils were introduced to the HeartStart programme. This programme gives the pupils the opportunity to learn the basics involved in CPR and proved to be a very worthwhile undertaking.

Derry City Council provided Athletic skills for P1/2 pupils, Basketball skills for P6 pupils, and P7 pupils enjoyed six weeks of 'Tag' rugby through the auspices of Derry City Council. They put these skills to the test on Wednesday 20 March 2013 when they attended a Tag Rugby Blitz hosted by City of Derry Rugby club.

P1-P4 had a visit from the Wally and Wise Puppet Show on to help them understand the importance of making healthy choices and to raise money for 'Action Cancer'. Nursery children had visits from our Road Safety Officer on 25 January 2012 and St. John's Ambulance. P1 - P3 pupils also had a talk about the importance of looking after their teeth.

A number of P7 pupils successfully completed Cycling Proficiency Award and deserve great credit for taking on and succeeding in this very worthwhile exercise.

Looking after our health featured strongly in our last term with visits from Bradley's Pharmacy helping the pupils understand how to be safe when you are having 'Fun in the Sun.' The Dairy Council came along on 31 May 2013 to speak to P5 and P6 about health and fitness.

On 18 June 2013 pupils from the P5 - P7 classes received lessons from the Royal Life Saving Society as part of their campaign to reduce the number of accidental drowning each year.

### **Clubs**

Our clubs, many of which are funded through our 'Extended Schools Programme' gave the children the opportunity to learn new skills and develop new interests, Homework, Computer, Dance, Football, Swimming and Table tennis. The Board of Governors offers their thanks and appreciation to all those teachers/coaches involved in this very important aspect of school life. All of our clubs offer the children opportunities to broaden their interests and enhance their school experience.

Our Extended Schools' programme has also helped the children develop their literacy skills through the ongoing development of our library provision and our continuing 'Accelerated Reading' project and Reading Partnership programme.

### **Shows**

Primaries 1-7 all had the opportunity to visit the cinema during National Film Week 22 - 26 October 2012. Mr Carlin and his class were also suitably frightened on the 'Ghost Tour' in the Tower Museum. Our P5 Class were involved in an African Drumming Class. The results of their efforts were heard with a grand finale performance On 26 March 2013.

### **Charitable Contributions**

My thanks go to the children for their efforts and to you the parents for your continued generosity towards our designated charities. The pupils have sung, shone shoes, dressed up and not wore their uniform all in the aid of charity. Recently we were able to donate £300 to GOAL in advance of their traditional Boxing Day walk. The children have been most generous in their donations for our Christmas appeal, 'Help the Old, Keep out the Cold,' the proceeds of which will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their kind contributions to our sponsored charities this term. We gave £100 to the Rainbow Centre and £150 to Action Cancer.

### **Sacramental Preparation.**

P4 and P7 parents were invited along to St. Eugene's Cathedral on 26 November 2012 for a talk on the sacraments that their children would receive before the end of the school year. P5 pupils represented the school at a mass celebrating the season of Advent on 03 December 2012 organised by the local diocesan youth minister.

Catholic Schools' Week 27 January to 2 February 2013 was marked in the school by each of the class teachers developing the theme 'Catholic schools in the Community of Faith:

Sharing the Good News." The Diocesan Mass for Catholic Schools' Week was held on 24 January 2013 and was celebrated by Monsignor Eamonn Martin. St. Eugene's P S was represented at the Mass by our P7 class, Chairperson, Principal and School Secretary.

P4 held an assembly celebrating the role of Grandparents in our families on 01 February 2013. Invited parents and grandparents were very impressed with the range of talent on show. P3 followed this up with their assembly on 'St. Patrick,' on 14 March in which they told the story of St Patrick through drama, song and prayer.

Our P.7 children were confirmed on Saturday 02 February 2013 by Monsignor Eamonn Martin. It was a special day in the sacramental lives of the pupils.

P7 children marked this year of their Confirmation by attending a special Mass with the theme, 'Fan The Flame' on 06 June 2013..

Mrs Neely's P.4 class received First Confession on 11 April and First Holy Communion on Saturday 18 May 2013 in St. Eugene's Cathedral. The First Communion was a most memorable day. Some of the children took the chance to dress up again and attended the final mass in the 'Do this in memory of me' first communion programme on 02 June. These children also received a special medal in commemoration of the Eucharistic Congress coming to Ireland.

Our school Mass took place on, 17 June 2013. The Mass was conducted by Father Paul Farren with Deacon Brendan Collins, our chaplain and marked the end of another year and the leaving of this year's P7 pupils. The P.7 pupils took their pledge to abstain from alcohol until 18 and from illegal drugs for the rest of their lives. They are to be congratulated on making this commitment. We will continue to offer our prayers for their success in maintaining their pledge and in their new schools.

### Christmas 2012

The Nursery class had their Christmas pageant on 11 December 2012. The Christmas Pageant for P1-P3 was held in the Assembly Hall on 13 December 2012 and the KS2 Christmas show ' The story of Silent Night,' was performed in the school assembly hall on 18 December . Congratulations go to all the children who read, sang and performed in front of a very appreciative audience of parents, family and friends.

### Educational Trips

St Eugene's P S values the part played by our educational trips in broadening our pupils learning experiences. This year's educational trips saw the children travel far and wide. Nursery children went to see the animals at Barrontop Farm 04/06/13 whilst P1, P2 and P3 children travelled to Jet Centre, Coleraine on 21 June, 2013. P4/5 went to Magilligan Field Centre on 04 June 2013. P5/6 attended Ulster Museum 25 June 2013 to follow up on their Egyptian project whilst P7 finished off their year with a trip to Creggan Country



Park on 26 June 2013. P7 were out and about again when they paid two visits to Ulster American Folk Park to follow up the work they have been doing on the Famine and Emigration. The school choir went to the Dunluce Centre on 27 June 2013 for their trip this year. The choir deserve much credit for their contribution to our Religious services during the year, Pageant, Confirmation, Communion and End of Year Mass. Each time the event is enriched by their contribution.

### School News 2012-13

Autumn term saw many classes involved in significant projects. P5 engaged in a very lively and creative project entitled, 'Spaces to Be.' The objective of which was to give the children the chance to demonstrate their creativity through artistic exploration, they took a great deal of paint, glue and glitter and made some weird and wonderful things.

Nursery and P1-P4 children are part of the Musical Pathways Programme re-introduced this year to Primary schools as part of the City of Culture music provision promise.

Artistic success came this term in a number of competitions with first in the photographic section and first in the poster section of the Mental Health Competition "What Makes Me Happy". In this year's annual Credit Union Art one of our pupils attained third place and in the Verbal Arts Hallowe'en Competition, "Draw a Monster" one of our pupils was highly commended. We had a second place in the Derry City Council's 'My Culture' competition and first in the Verbal Arts Centre, 'Colmcille versus the Loch Ness Monster,' competition. Two pupils were successful in the Road Safety poster competition 2013.

At the North West Schools' Swimming Gala on June 2013 all our swimmers did very well. Medal successes came with a first in U.11 backstroke and second in second in the U.11 butterfly.

Our children have played a very active role in the City of Culture 2013 celebrations, forming a guard of honour for the arrival of the Dalai Lama on the Peace Bridge, reading our Peace Pledge at the 'Brand Bright New Day' celebrations in the Guildhall Square, dancing with Echo Echo dance studios in the making of the 'Without Walls' art installation and enjoyed a concert given by the Ulster Orchestra.

Our P7 children have been involved in a Poetry workshop, P5/6 a football event at the Venue, P1- P3 visited the Fire Station and P2 went to help in Tesco's. P3 and P7 learned all about India and P1 about Japan as part of Derry City Council's Shared Future programme. As you can read every opportunity was taken to give the pupils of St. Eugene's PS as interesting and stimulating educational experiences as possible. My thanks go to all the organisations who offer these opportunities.

