



Drimnagh Castle

Primary School

School Plan 2023 / 2024

Attendance	Enjoying School	Reading
Maths	Moving Schools	Parents

Attendance		
What are we working on? Attendance		
Where are we now?	What do we want to do?	How are we going to do it?
<p>Almost 7% of boys missed more than 20 days of school from September to Christmas last year</p>	<p>Reduce the number of boys who are missing a lot of school</p> <p>Encourage boys to come into school every day they can</p> <p>Reward boys for excellent attendance</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rewards for attendance at the big whole-school assemblies – Halloween, Christmas, Easter and summer 2. Remind boys and their parents/guardians of the importance of coming into school every day 3. Mr Kirwan and Mr Briody check every boy's attendance regularly

Enjoying School

What are we working on? Making School More Enjoyable for the Boys

Where are we now?

Just over half (55%) of the boys dislike going to school on Mondays.

What do we want to do?

Decrease the number of boys who dislike coming to school on a Monday.

Make sure that coming to school on Monday will be enjoyable and fun for the boys.

How are we going to do it?

1. Music Mondays. Music playing in the yard on Mondays. Playlist chosen by the boys during the breaks.
2. Monday Full House Award monthly. Winning class decides their prize.
3. At least one fun activity in class every Monday.

Reading

What are we working on? Reading

Where are we now?

Most of the boys in the school enjoy reading (82%!!!).

What do we want to do?

Encourage even more boys to read, even more of the time.

How are we going to do it?

1. DEAR Time every day.
2. Improve class libraries.
3. More visits to Walkinstown library.
4. Teachers help boys find books they are interested in.
5. Teachers will read aloud to their class.
6. Fun reading activities from teachers:
 - Book Tasting
 - First Chapter Fridays
 - Book Week

Maths

What are we working on? Maths – Measures (money, length, time, weight, capacity and area)

Where are we now?

Around one third of boys said that they did not like measures.

What do we want to do?

Decrease the number of boys who do not like measures.

Do measures activities during the year that will be enjoyable to the boys.

Increase self-esteem in maths for the boys.

How are we going to do it?

1. Teach one part of measures every month.
2. Have materials to make learning about measures fun.
3. Practise measures during Stations.
4. Practise measures during mental maths, especially on a Monday.
5. Learn the words we use in measures.
6. Talk about problem-solving at the end of lessons.
7. Pair-work on Fridays.
8. Monthly “Measures Challenge” with prizes.

Moving Schools

What are we working on? Going to secondary school

Where are we now?

More than half of the boys here feel nervous about going to secondary school.

What do we want to do?

We want to decrease the number of boys who feel nervous going to secondary school.

How are we going to do it?

1. Run a 6th class moving to secondary school programme.
2. Visit the secondary school in 5th and 6th class.
3. Invite past pupils of The Castle back to talk about secondary school.
4. Get to know some of the staff from our local secondary school.
5. Give information about open days in nearby school.

Helping Parents and Guardians

What are we working on? Helping Parents/Guardians with Aladdin

Where are we now?	What do we want to do?	How are we going to do it?
<p>80% of parents/guardians are using Aladdin.</p> <p>20% of parents/guardians are not using Aladdin.</p>	<p>Get every parent/guardian to use Aladdin regularly.</p> <p>Make sure that parents/guardians are comfortable using Aladdin.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Find out why some parents/guardians are not using Aladdin.2. Make sure all contact details for parents/guardians are up to date.3. Offer help:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Open Day- Phone call- Letter home- Information signs- Newsletter/website4. Give parents/guardians another option instead of Aladdin.