

# Eureka School Newsletter Insert May 2015

## **School Self Evaluation (S.S.E.)**

A school based self-evaluation of teaching and learning was undertaken during the period December 2013 to May 2015. We looked at how well our students are doing in **Literacy** and **Numeracy**. The focus of SSE in Eureka is to improve student outcomes in both areas through student engagement and teacher practice.

We found that our school has **strengths** in the following areas:

### **Strengths**

- Our attendance levels are above national averages. Our students' behaviour is excellent.
- First Year NGRT Results 2013/14 are well above National Norms with regards to Reading Ages and SAS scores.
- The Numeracy STEN results conducted on the 2014/15 First Year Group indicated that the 5, 6 and 7 scores achieved were 16% above the National Average.
- The Literacy STEN results conducted on the 2014/15 First Year Group indicated that 5,6 and 7 scores achieved were 14% above the National Average.
- Teachers use a wide range of strategies to promote Digital Literacy in the classroom.
- 75% of pupils read a minimum of one hour per week for pleasure.
- 67% of pupils indicated that working in groups of 3 or more would encourage them to speak in class.
- 69% of students replied that their teachers have a positive attitude to Numeracy.
- 58% of non-Maths teachers felt they could recognise Numeracy in their subject area.
- 65% of Junior Cert. pupils took Higher Level Maths in their 2014 Exam, as opposed to a National Average of 54%.
- 74% of Junior Cert. pupils achieved a Higher Level Grade of either A,B or C in the 2014 Junior Cert. English Exam as opposed to a National Average of 56%.

We know these are our strengths because these results have been collated from both various surveys conducted and comparisons made with National Averages.

We have decided to prioritise the following **areas for development**:

### **Areas for development**

- To improve student confidence levels in contributing to class discussions without teacher prompting.
- Strategies should be introduced to improve student proficiency in spelling and grammar.
- Teachers should focus more on the development of literacy in addition to the teaching of both knowledge and skills.
- Keyboard skills of students should be improved.
- To improve both the use/understanding of mathematical language, estimation skills in converting fractions to percentages, converting fractions to percentages using a calculator and 'rounding off' decimals to the nearest whole number.
- To ensure a more consistent approach to the teaching of Numeracy throughout the whole school community.

**For more information on how we intend to improve our students' learning, please see an outline of our School Improvement Plan which is available on the school website, [www.eurekasecondaryschool.ie](http://www.eurekasecondaryschool.ie).**

**John Daly**  
**SSE Co-ordinator**