



Great oaks from little acorns grow

Gortjordan N.S.  
Kilmaine,  
Claremorris,  
Co. Mayo.  
Tel: 093 33470

## School Improvement Plan

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 The focus of the Evaluation

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self- evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated Maths. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self Evaluation Report which is available on our website.

The school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next three years in Gortjordan National School. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our pupils' learning,

### 2. Summary of School Self Evaluation findings

#### 2.1 Our school has strengths in the following areas:

##### Strengths:

- We have excellent resources and a good quantity of books to choose from.
- Very wide selection of concrete materials.
- Parents are supportive of the work the school is doing with Maths
- School grounds and environment provide ample opportunities for active Maths lessons and Maths trails.

##### Our school has decided to prioritise the following areas of development:

- The implementation of a specific 'mental maths' timeslot in teacher's timetable from Junior to 6<sup>th</sup> Class throughout the year. All class teachers will implement this strategy.
- Agreed whole school policies in relation to Maths concepts/ language.
- Increase Maths games with the incorporation of ICT.
- Integrate Maths with other curricula areas where applicable.
- Scratch incorporated into Maths lessons in the senior room during Term 1.
- Inform parents/ children of the methods we use when teaching Maths via our website (Videos will be posted to the website to help parents/ children).
- Publicise Maths Week within the school. This will increase the awareness of the importance of Maths within the school.

- List of Maths websites and App's will be placed on the Maths page of the school website for the parents and childrens' benefit.
- Organisation of Maths resources, a list of resources will all be made and the resources will placed in a general area for easy access to staff.
- "Maths for fun"- playing/ design of Maths games.

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 three years.

**Targets for Improvement:**

Increase Mental Maths:

**Action:**

Using Mental Problems  
 Discussing various strategies  
 Using ICT games  
 Using concrete resources  
 Applying abstract reasoning

Whole School Maths Language and Methods

Language consistent from classroom to classroom.  
 Language used will be published on our website.  
 Staff discussion at the start of the 2014 school year.

More Active Maths:

Increase active/ fun Maths using the environment.

Buddy Maths  
 Maths Games days during rainy days

Increased use of ICT/ IWB:

Scratch in the Senior Room  
 Children will be involved in updating the Website "Maths Section"

Maths Language:

Parents will be made aware of Maths language used in the school.

Increase Awareness of Maths:

Use more 'real maths'

Increase Group/ Paired Maths:

Rainy day Maths  
 Maths Buddy

Organise Maths Resources:

Reflective Maths Journal:

We will increase the amount of children who enjoy Maths from 55% to 65%

Organise Maths Resources for ease of teaching

Whole class reflective journal for children to see taught Maths concepts for future reference.