

# SSE Seminar

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# John the Baptist Community School

- ▶ Nearly 1,000 students
- ▶ 70+ teachers
- ▶ Community School
- ▶ De La Salle Brothers, Presentation Sisters and Vocational School
- ▶ 20+ feeder Primary Schools

# SUMMARY

- ▶ Process and structure
- ▶ Success factors
- ▶ Value for school improvement
- ▶ Lessons we have learnt

# PROCESS AND STRUCTURE

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## What needs to be done:

1. Gathering evidence
2. Analyse data
3. Strategy development
4. Implement strategy
5. Evaluate

# School Self Evaluation

## Literacy

2012/13  
2013/14  
2014/15

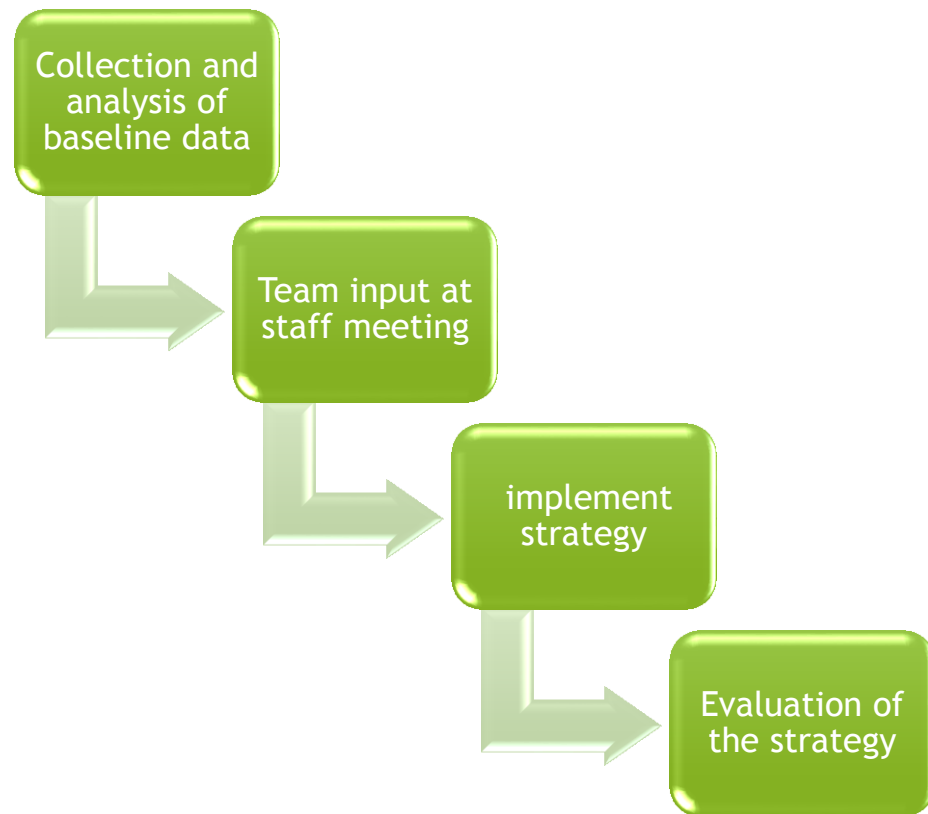
## Numeracy

2013/14  
2014/15

## Assessment

2015/16

# What we did in John the Baptist Community School:



# Academic Year 2012/2013

## Literacy: KEY WORDS

October: *Baseline data*

November: *Phase 1*

- Teacher presentation
- Subject groups: key words and definitions bank
- Team provided methodologies
- 4 weeks of teaching
- Questionnaire and Best Practice List

January: *Phase 2 (6 weeks)*

- New bank of key words
- Pre-test
- Methodologies
- Post test



# Academic Year 2013/2014

## Literacy: Love of Reading Embed KEY WORDS

September: Baseline data

### October:

- Lexile reading programme started
- Age appropriate, colour coded, graded books for SEN students
- Library visits, DARE
- Key days celebrated

April: Post test

## Numeracy: Integers and Estimation

September: Baseline data

### October:

- Numeracy team developed
- Presentation on numeracy moments
- Common strategies on use of integers in the classroom (10 weeks)

April: Post test  
(student survey and test, focus group)

# Academic Year 2014/2015

## Literacy: Spelling EMBED KEY WORDS AND READING

October: Baseline data and staff meeting

November:  
Strategy of LCWC  
Quizzes and spelling tests, spelling bee

Ongoing...

## Numeracy: Graphing EMBED INTEGERS AND ESTIMATION

October:  
Baseline data  
Presentation to staff

November:  
Introduced to classroom

Croke Park Hours: team presentation each time

Ongoing...

## Assessment: Questioning

September:  
Baseline data

## PLANNING

The four principles:  
Effective  
Efficient  
Have value  
Explicit

5W's and 1H our new theme!

Success Factors:  
What worked well?

# What worked well?

- ▶ Guide on the side, not the sage on the stage
  - ▶ Creative, active participants
  - ▶ see the potential, foster the potential, give ownership!
- ▶ Staff teaching staff
- ▶ Staff supports:
  - ▶ Pimp my Croke Park Hours: Cheltenham Evening
  - ▶ Learning wall in staff room

# What worked well?

- ▶ Celebrate the success!
- ▶ Events:
  - ▶ Murder Mystery
  - ▶ Key days
  - ▶ Quizzes
  - ▶ Timetabled visits to the library



# What worked well?

- ▶ Investment
  - ▶ PERMANENT word walls: that were photographed weekly
  - ▶ Lexile reading programme
  - ▶ Table books, Laminated number lines and signs
- ▶ We were involved in the LSP 4, 5 and 6
  - ▶ Valuable guidance along the entire journey



# VALUE FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, including dark forest green, medium green, and light lime green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side and bottom of the frame, creating a modern, dynamic feel. The text is centered in the white space on the left.

# VALUE FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- ▶ Teachers
- ▶ Learners
- ▶ Environment



# Teacher practice

## ▶ Engaged, empowered, encouraged

- ▶ Dept heads - dept meetings
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Collaborative approach to strategy development
- ▶ Timetabled Literacy class
- ▶ Team teaching

# Learner outcomes

- ▶ **Interested, engaged and enthused**
- ▶ Broader range of methodologies
- ▶ Key Skills: Creativity and Communication, Managing information and Thinking
- ▶ Enjoyed learning
  - ▶ Reading
  - ▶ Visual
  - ▶ Group and Peer learning

# Learner Environment

- ▶ **Enriched, differentiated, inclusive**
- ▶ Print rich
- ▶ Differentiation
- ▶ Encouragement in the classroom
- ▶ Self-assessment

# Student Voice

“They Stand out and get stuck in your head and you dont forget them

“Worked well in all subjects especially Maths”

“ Worked well in Irish  
s could see where  
as went”

“Brighten up the Room”

“words are not spelt the way you think they are”

# LESSONS TO BE LEARNT:

What a journey!



# Get your team together!

- ▶ SSE
- ▶ Literacy
- ▶ Numeracy
- ▶ Assessment
- ▶ Link teachers



# Gathering and analysing the evidence:

- ▶ Design of the survey
  - ▶ FORGET THE PAPER
- ▶ Focus groups
  - ▶ The home of valuable information... Find it!
  - ▶ Time!
- ▶ **KEY: Direct it**
  - ▶ Develop **TARGETED** questions



# Strategy development and implementation:

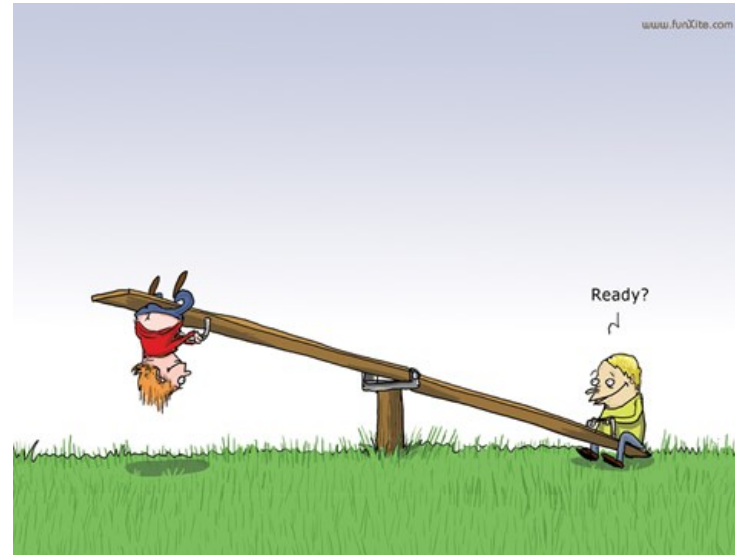
- ▶ Good input to staff
- ▶ Identify barriers
- ▶ Encourage, Encourage, Encourage!
  - ▶ Give the time to teachers





# Strategy development and implementation:

- ▶ Break it down, Keep it small
  - ▶ Integers → Graphing
  - ▶ Questioning
- ▶ Strike a balance!



# SUMMARY

- ▶ Opportunity to empower teachers, to interest pupils and implement change
- ▶ Fosters collaboration among both teachers and learners
- ▶ To do this you have to invest in it: give it the time, the space and the resources

**“In aghaidh an lae a thógfair an caisleán”**

GO RAIBH MÍLE MAITH AGAIBH!