

UK's Biggest Electrical Retailer Helps Integrated Primary School



Mike Wilson, PC World with Mary Roulston, Principal and students of Millennium IPS

Pupils from Millennium Integrated Primary School, Saintfield, have been given a major boost to their ICT lessons thanks to the generosity of the UK's biggest electrical retailer, DSG Retail, whose companies include Dixons, PC World and Currys. The company presented the school with £5,000 worth of state-of-the-art computer equipment and software, which will enhance the classroom experience for pupils and teachers.

Mary Roulston, Principal of Millennium, said "These laptops will be used on a daily basis by children with Special Educational Needs in the Primary 3 to Primary 7 classes. Our school has recently been chosen as a participant in the Studio ON programme, by the South Eastern Education and Library Board. Studio ON is an exciting and imaginative programme for students and teachers to learn and express themselves through digital multimedia technologies and the arts. This very generous donation by DSG Retail will take the classroom learning experience to the next level." Mike Wilson, Manager at PC World, Sprucefield said "We are delighted to be able to support Millennium Integrated Primary School and we are pleased that our ICT equipment will be making a real difference."

News in Brief

A DAY AT THE RACES



Baroness May Blood MBE, Lady Stella Empey and Gerry Kelly enjoying the day at the races

A Day at the Races proved a real winner for Integrated Education when 140 friends and supporters came along to Down Royal Race Day at the end of August. The event was a colourful and exciting occasion - an opportunity to see racehorses and jockeys close up and for some novice punters to rub shoulders with experienced tipsters to help raise money for Integrated Education.

The programme included a four course lunch in the Down Royal Moscow Flyer Suite with broadcaster Gerry Kelly kindly giving his time to act as host for the day.

The Fund is indebted to Killultagh Companies, who acted as title sponsor for our event, and Fire IMC for their excellent pro-bono promotional materials.

The Fund would also like to take this opportunity to thank our individual and corporate supporters, here in Northern Ireland and abroad, for their continued generosity and support.

Rowallane Integrated College Takes Centre Stage for US Envoy

Children attending Rowallane Integrated College were paid a special visit by the United States Special Envoy to Ireland, Paula Dobriansky at the school's temporary site at Belvoir Park Hospital, Hospital Road, Belfast.

Dr Olwen Griffith, Principal of Rowallane IC said "It was a tremendous honour to welcome US Special Envoy, Paula Dobriansky to our school particularly as Northern Ireland moves into a new era of reconciliation. Integrated Education reflects the kind of society we hope to become - a society in which our children can grow up free from prejudice and mistrust and with open minds."



Paula Dobriansky with students from Rowallane IC

IEF Commits A Further £180,000 To Projects

At their June Board Meeting the IEF Trustees committed over £120,000 in further funding through the Supporting and Developing Integrated Education Programme (SADIE) and over £60,000 through the Promoting a Culture of Trust Programme (PACT).

The additional 15 projects to benefit from SADIE include a transformation support package for Ballycastle IPS and the development of a new Pre-School at Glenraig IPS as well as additional accommodation for Braidside IPS. In terms of

PACT VIII, 14 new projects will be supported, benefiting schools of all management types, not only Integrated, who are engaged in work celebrating cultural and religious diversity and the development of paths of reconciliation through education.

This support is in addition to ongoing funding commitments made to schools and projects under previous allocation meetings and to the independent Integrated schools.

The Integrating Education Project

The Integrating Education Project, which was funded from September 2005 to October 2007 by the International Fund for Ireland has given NICIE an opportunity to explore some of the principles, policies, practices and resources that are alive in Integrated schools. In the spirit of partnership and sharing, NICIE has been able to offer support to schools that are formally Integrated and want to develop their Integrated ethos further and schools that are not formally integrated but who want to develop the concept further within their setting. This pilot project focussed on three key aims:

- 1) To assist schools to realise integration in practice**
- 2) To develop and disseminate examples of good policy and practice in Integrating Education**
- 3) To work with other educational providers to facilitate the development of relevant models of Integrating Education**

67 schools of various management types have availed of the services of the Integrating Education Project to realise 'Integration in Practice'. The intensity of support has varied, but it is significant that this number of schools feel that 'Integration in Practice' is an important part of their school development. The team worked with the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools, the five Education and Library Boards and Comhairle Na Gaelscolaíochta to identify the schools.

In total, 155 schools were visited and offered support in terms of developing integration. As well as this, schools were asked to share any developments that may occur through their involvement with the project as well as any practice that they felt has worked to proactively encourage integration. A publication will be available to all schools in the autumn term 2007.



Clíodhna Scott Wills (Governance Officer), Dean Lee (Good Relations Officer), Roisin Marshall (Project Manager), Kelly McKeaveney (Secretary), Terry McMackin (Ethos and Culture Officer) and Judith Searle (Peer Mediation Officer)

This project has helped schools to reflect and initiate things that they can do to promote integration in their own setting. The challenge is to proactively encourage those from minority faiths to come to their schools. This project has helped to collate and disseminate some principles, practices, policies and resources to support schools to do just that. It has also helped schools to manage conflict, take risks and deal with difficult issues in a safe way. The resources developed through this project have all been underpinned by ethical social research conducted in partnership with a consultant from Queen's University Belfast.

The employees in NICIE will continue to offer support to people in schools who want to develop 'integration in practice'. The team would like to take this opportunity to thank the International Fund for Ireland and NICIE for their support in this pilot project.

GCSE Success for Mill Strand Integrated Primary School Pupil!



Constantine Arnscheidt celebrating his double GCSE success

Constantine Arnscheidt, a Year 7 pupil at Mill Strand Integrated Primary School, Portrush, is celebrating a double GCSE success having attained remarkable A* grades in both German and Mathematics.

Constantine joined Mill Strand in Year 5 with limited English but his ability became clear to staff at the school at an early stage, as Principal Philip Reid explains, "Constantine is a very intelligent yet modest pupil. He quickly mastered the English language to the extent that his NFER standardised English scores were off the top of the attainment chart by the time he had reached Year 7. Integrated schools are essentially child centred and strive to meet the educational needs of each individual pupil. In Constantine's case we decided, following consultation with Constantine and his parents, to enter him for GCSE German and higher tier GCSE mathematics."

Dates for your diary

1. Gala Dinner

Event: Le Grande Bal
Date: Saturday 20th October
Location: Europa Hotel



BC Plant JCB Ltd will host a Gala Dinner in support of the Integrated Education Fund on the 20th October at the Europa Hotel, Belfast.

Four hundred and fifty guests, including corporate partners, donors, volunteers and friends of Integrated Education will come together to celebrate the achievements of the Fund and to help raise money for the future growth and development of Integrated Education.

2. Symposium

Event: The role of Education in Promoting Equality and Social Cohesion
Date: Wednesday 21st November
Location: W5 at the Odyssey Pavilion, Belfast



Trevor Philips, Chair of the Commission for Equality and Human Rights, will be giving a public lecture on the subject of 'The Role of Education in Promoting Equality and Social Cohesion.'

Integrated Schools Celebrate their Academic Success

The GCSE and A Level results this year have shown the immense wealth of talented young people attending integrated colleges today. They are also a reflection of the dedication of the staff who continue to offer a first class education to their pupils.

Oakgrove Integrated College pupils Kieran Pradeep and Darren Moore, both aged 16, received exceptional GCSE results this summer as they both came in the top five of the 37,000 students across the UK who took the English Literature GCSE. Their English teacher, Noreen Carolan, said, "We are particularly delighted to have not one pupil in the top five in the UK but two; it is superb. Traditionally this is a subject that girls excel at so this is a testimony to the fact that boys can do well in it too."

Students leaving Integrated College Dungannon also obtained some remarkable results, with the Head Girl, Emma Church, and Head Boy, Colin Gervin, setting a commendable example to their peers. Emma received four A grades at A Level, securing her place at Edinburgh University to study medicine. Colin received one A grade and two B grades at A Level which ensures his entrance to study Law and Criminology at University of Ulster, Jordanstown.

Jim Frizelle, Principal of North Coast

Integrated College, Coleraine, commented on his own school's results, "Results showed a marked improvement since 2006, with 44% achieving an A* - C grades in 5 or more subjects, while 98% attained an A* - G."

Drumragh Integrated College students now look forward to moving on to study at universities all over the United Kingdom, including Stephen Webb who received three A grades at A Level and is now looking forward to studying Civil/ Structural Engineering at Newcastle University and Kieran McCusker who is heading to Liverpool to study Psychology after attaining A, B and C grades at A Level.



Shimna Integrated College, Newcastle, also enjoyed GCSE and A Level exam success. Students pictured above are Alec Coole, Kerri Smith, Ryan Doran and Cary Buchanan

Integrated Education Fund
41-43 University Street,
Belfast BT7 1FY
Tel: 028 9033 0031
Fax: 028 9033 0061
E-mail: info@ief.org.uk Website: www.ief.org.uk

ief INTEGRATED EDUCATION FUND

Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education
13-19 University Road,
Belfast BT7 1NA
Tel: 028 9023 6200
Fax: 028 9023 6237
E-mail: info@nicie.org.uk
Website: www.nicie.org

nicie
NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR INTEGRATED EDUCATION



Two New Integrated Schools Open

Last year the Integrated Education movement celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Lagan College. This September we celebrate the opening of two new integrated schools Rowandale IPS, Moira, and newly transformed Kindle CIPS (formerly Tyrella PS). The two new schools bring the total number of integrated schools in Northern Ireland to 62.



The new Principal, Frances Hughes (3rd from left), parents and children celebrate the opening of Rowandale Integrated Primary School in Moira.

Rowallane IC and Clogher Valley IPS, which have both been funded independently through the IEF continue in their bid to secure government funding. Clogher Valley IPS which was awarded conditional approval by the Department of Education in March, continues to pursue enrolments to meet the Department's requirements of 12 P1 pupils for this academic year.

Rowallane IC and Down Academy, an established controlled integrated school in Downpatrick, have set up an Interim Board of Governors made up of representatives from both schools and this September will submit a Development Proposal to the Education Minister, Catriona Ruane, outlining their plans for a new 550 place, grant-maintained integrated college in the wider Crossgar area. The Interim Board was formed following the previous Education Minister Maria Eagle's acknowledgement that there was a gap in the provision of integrated post-primary places in the mid-Down area.

Other parents across Northern Ireland have not been so fortunate in realising their vision to provide an integrated choice for their children. Groomsport PS, which received conditional

approval in 2004, closed its doors at the end of June 2007 due to the continued demographic decline in the area.

Antrim parents also received a setback when in June Parkhall College held a parental ballot to transform to integrated status but narrowly failed to produce a positive result. However parental activity in the Antrim area continues with a development proposal for Sixmile Integrated College, a new GMI school, being prepared. Parental activity in Ballymoney and Strabane has also encouraged local schools to consider integration.

Interest in transformation continues to rise. In Belfast, Suffolk PS parents recently voted 100% in favour of transformation and Cliftonville PS will proceed with a parental ballot in the autumn. Parents at Knockbreda PS and Conlig PS have voted overwhelmingly to resubmit their bids to transform after being turned down last year.

As long as parents continue to demand places for their children, the drive for Integrated Education will be sustained through the dedicated work of both NICIE and the IEF and their supporters.

IN THIS ISSUE



US Consul General Dean Pittman Honoured

Crumlin High School's Journey To Integration

Leading Philanthropists Fly In To Visit Integrated Schools

UK's Biggest Electrical Retailer Helps Integrated Primary School

The Integrating Education Project

If you have any stories that you would like included in future Integrated Education newsletters then please contact Emma Hassard at NICIE or Siobhán McKenna at IEF

Email: ehassard@nicie.org.uk

Phone: 028 9023 6200

Email: siobhan@ief.org.uk

Phone: 028 9033 0031

Peace Wall at Hazelwood Integrated Primary School



Two pupils from Hazelwood IPS's Nursery

Despite Northern Ireland moving into a new era with devolved government, the Northern Ireland Office has plans to erect a 25ft high security fence within the perimeter fence of Hazelwood Integrated Primary School in North Belfast.

The NIO said it was being erected to protect Catholic residents in the nearby Throne Park area after attacks last summer and the decision had only been taken after extensive consultation with residents, political representatives and the school.

It has been suggested that youths may have crossed through the school grounds to gain entry to the area.

Michael Wardlow, Chief Executive Officer of NICIE, commented "We are looking to a future with shared schools and more shared space, where sharing must take precedence over separation for social, moral and economic reasons. However, we also recognise that we are emerging from conflict and that we are in a huge period of transition.

Once they go up, so-called peace walls don't come down overnight. Only when talking ultimately fails, and only if the security situation absolutely demands it, then we may have to accept that a wall does go up. If it comes to this, it is imperative that ongoing discussions continue to take place.

The situation with this proposed new wall is a reflection of where we are at right now in Northern Ireland, it is a microcosm of our current situation as, while there is a new co-operation and sharing in government at Stormont, the divisions on our streets remain and have yet to be resolved. If we can solve this problem, imagine what else we can solve within and across Northern Ireland?"

Education Minister Visits Priory Integrated College

On 30 May Education Minister Caitriona Ruane accompanied by Lady Sylvia Hermon, the MP for North Down, visited Priory Integrated College, Holywood. They were given a tour of the school and met some of the students and teachers. Acting Principal Peter McCreddie commented "The visit gave our governors and parents the opportunity to make the Minister aware of the situation regarding the proposed new build of the school. The support for the new build was



Caitriona Ruane with Lady Sylvia Hermon at Priory Integrated College

demonstrated by a 1,500 signature long petition, 400 supportive letters and an e-petition directed to 10 Downing Street website with 590 signatures."



Setanta Cup Final

Forge Integrated Primary School pupils support the 'Football for All' Anti-Racism Campaign at the Setanta Cup Final, Linfield vs Drogheda, on 12 May

Crumlin High School's Journey to Integration

Transforming a school to Integrated status is a challenging process. Crumlin High School is one of the most recent schools which has taken a commitment to make further changes in order to become even more accessible for everyone in their community.

Crumlin High School opened in 1962 and has proved itself to be a popular school which has always welcomed pupils from both sides of the community. The school has become formally integrated from September 2007, following a parental ballot where 75% were in favour of the change.

The Headmistress Dr Annabel Scott explained 'This is an exciting time for the school and the decision will give local parents from all communities another choice for their children's education.'

Following this decision, the school has relished the opportunity to modify existing practices and resources to ensure that the Integrated ethos is fully and unequivocally immersed in every area of school life

including reviewing school policies, updating resources, and changes to uniform and signage.

The school's new signs now say 'Crumlin Integrated College'. This proud declaration reflects the school's commitment to adopting all that Integrated Education entails. It also is a signpost for the future as the school continues to thrive under the ethos and values of an education where children, parents, teachers and governors from Protestant and Catholic traditions alongside those of other faiths or none can learn together.

The school received a total of £45,000 in grants through the IEF's Supporting and Developing Integrated Education (SADIE) grant making programme, to assist in the transformation process.

For more information on Crumlin Integrated College please contact the Headmistress, Dr Annabel Scott, at the school on (028) 9445 2497.

For further information on how NICIE can support transforming schools, please contact Terry McMackin, Transformation Officer, on 9023 6200.

US Consul General Dean Pittman Honoured

On 11 June, Ulidia Integrated College hosted a poignant farewell event for US Consul General Dean Pittman during his last month in post.

Baroness May Blood MBE, Campaign Chair of the Integrated Education Fund, stated "You are truly a great friend to Northern Ireland and the Integrated Education Movement."



Dean Pittman on a visit to Strangford IC

Highlights of the evening included the contribution by former Ulidia Integrated College students Rosie Hassin and Shannon Graham and Year 8 pupils, Tony O'Malley and Ryan Montgomery from Rowallane Integrated College. They spoke of how Dean Pittman provided them with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to represent the Integrated Education Movement at a closed meeting with President Bush at the White House in 2005 and 2007 respectively.

Baroness May Blood MBE said "Dean devoted an enormous amount of time to Integrated Education. The amount of personal commitment he has invested in Northern Ireland issues in general and more specifically Integrated Education should never be underestimated. There is no doubt his support and encouragement has helped to raise the profile of Integrated Education to the highest levels in Washington. I want to extend best wishes to him, for the future."

Colm Cavanagh, Chair of the NICIE Board

of Directors said "We wish a fond and sad farewell to Dean Pittman. Since the opening of Lagan College in 1981, we have had the active, personal support of the US Consul Generals often, as in the case of Dean Pittman and his predecessor Barbara Stephens, because they had personal experience of the negative impact of segregation in their schools and their communities."



Dean Pittman and Jan O'Neill at the launch of Rowallane IC prospectus



Baroness May Blood MBE and Dean Pittman hit the right note at Glengormley IPS



Dean Pittman with pupils from Portaferry IPS



Dean Pittman with Ryan Montgomery, Tony O'Malley and Rosie Hassin

The Irish Consul General to Scotland Praises Integrated Education

Leading political, church, civic and business figures from Scotland and Northern Ireland attended a special reception at the Irish Consulate in Edinburgh to mark 25 years of Integrated Education in Northern Ireland. The event, hosted by Irish Consul General in Scotland Cliona Manahan, took place on Wednesday 27 June at Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh.

Speaking at the event were Baroness May Blood MBE, Rosie Smyth, former Head Student at Lagan Integrated College and Colm Cavanagh.

Cliona Manahan praised the work of Integrated Education

in Northern Ireland. She said "It's a pleasure for me as Consul General to welcome representatives from the Integrated Education Movement on this first official visit to Scotland. The contribution being made by integrated schools is vital to help tackle sectarianism, foster genuine reconciliation and work to build a society based on the celebration of diversity for a peaceful and prosperous future for Northern Ireland."



Irish Consul General to Scotland, Cliona Manahan, with Baroness May Blood MBE and Colm Cavanagh

...The contribution being made by Integrated schools is vital to help tackle sectarianism...

Leading Philanthropists Fly in to Visit Integrated Schools

Some of the world's leading philanthropists from the Ireland Funds, the world's largest charitable foundation of Irish Diaspora, arrived in Belfast to be guests at a celebration to mark the completion of a new pre-school and after school facility at Oakwood Integrated Primary School in June. They later attended the first year celebrations and prize giving ceremony at Rowallane Integrated College near Belfast.

The Ireland Funds are key supporters of Integrated Education and provided \$350,000 to help complete the Oakwood facility and to date have pledged \$1million to support Rowallane as an independent school.

Jack and Jackie McDonnell, of The American Ireland Fund said "We have strong links with Northern Ireland and it means a lot to us to think we can support parents who want to send their children to an Integrated school. We are firm believers that children being educated together in an environment where culture and diversity are celebrated will lay the foundations for a peaceful and prosperous future for Northern Ireland."

Kingsley Aikins, Chief Executive Officer of The American Ireland Fund said "We have been long standing supporters of Integrated schools

and believe they have an integral part to play in building a shared future in Northern Ireland. The Fund is delighted to be able to see at first hand the difference our support has made to the pupils at Oakwood and Rowallane."



Jack and Jackie McDonnell at Oakwood IPS



Jack and Jackie McDonnell presenting the trophy for excellence in Mathematics, which was donated by George Moore from Belleek Pottery

Schools Receive Top UNICEF Award

Oakgrove Integrated Primary School and College and Clogher Valley Integrated Primary School have each been awarded a UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award.

Paul Clark, Northern Ireland UNICEF Ambassador, and Patricia Lewisley, the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People, presented the schools with their prestigious awards at the North Eastern Education and Library Board Centre in Antrim, on Wednesday 13th June.

The UNICEF 'Rights Respecting School' initiative which puts the teaching of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school's ethos, is currently being piloted in Northern Ireland.



Oakgrove Integrated Primary and College and Clogher Valley IPS Receiving their UNICEF Award