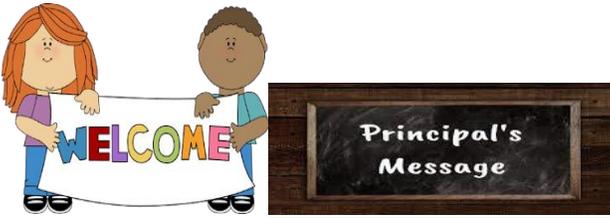




Monthly Memoirs: September, 2021

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Ennis Educate Together NS
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Welcome Back To School:

All the staff in Ennis ETNS would like to offer a warm welcome back to all our children and families as we embark on another fantastic year in your child's education and together.

What a busy five weeks it has been!! Everyone has really hit the ground running and there are so many exciting things happening in the school which you'll read about throughout this newsletter. We wish you all a wonderful school year ahead and look forward to all the adventures that are to come!!

New pupils:

We'd like to particularly welcome all our new children who have joined us including Aryaz, Manal, John, Kyle, Sophie, Nicolas, Vanessa, Ammar, Katie, Wissiam, Yasser, Taysir, Noura and Osman. We hope all your parents have gotten used to you coming to our school each day and we look forward to building strong connections with all our families throughout your time here in our school.

September Birthdays:

Happy birthday to Viktoria, Hannah, George, Vladimir .

We hope you all had a wonderful celebration!!

Happy Birthday!



Keeping in Touch:

Please make sure the school has an up to date email address and contact phone number for your family. You can ring Geraldine in the office on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday to share your details

Announcement of a new school building:
During the summer Educate Together announced that the Department of Education is to construct a permanent school building for Ennis Educate Together. The Department has proposed the provision of an 8 classroom building for the school. This new building will include 2 special educational needs (SEN) classrooms. The design will allow for us to expand to a 16 classroom school should this be required in the future.

Staffing:

Congratulations to Aoiffe Lynch as she starts the year as our new acting Deputy Principal. Aoiffe brings a wealth of experience to her new role and is a welcome addition to our leadership team as she looks forward to working even closer with you all. We're also delighted to have secured Deirdre Hayes on a permanent basis in our school, after working diligently for three years in our school in a temporary position. We'd like to welcome Amber Allan back, who continues her great work as our Nurture teacher in the Cherry Blossom classroom. Your children are in safe hands with fantastic staff!! Congratulations to Marian on the birth of her beautiful baby boy during the summer. Welcome to Mary Hartogh who is covering Marian's maternity leave.

School Social Media:

Please like our school Facebook page and follow us on Twitter to keep informed of events and news from our classes. Our page will be updated daily showing off all the amazing work going on within our school. We would love if you would like and share our posts so we can show ourselves off to your family, friends and the wider community.



Holly Class:

All the boys and girls in Holly Class have had a wonderful time getting to know each other this September. We love to share our news and chat about all the fun we have at the weekend.

We spent time learning the rules and routines of our classroom. We are very kind and help each other out remembering everything.

We listened to the story Wash your Hands Rufus and know how important good hygiene is.

The weather has been so good we are spending lots of time outside playing and learning.

We are on the lookout for signs of Autumn and went on an Autumn Hunt around the school grounds. We found autumn leaves, apples, raspberries and conkers. We raked up piles of leaves and are always looking for hedgehogs and squirrels hiding there!

Our class SEESAW is set up and all families given a pass code. Please make sure to log in and keep up to date on all the things we are doing in school. If you are experiencing any difficulties please ask a member of staff for help. Seesaw is a wonderful communication tool and we hope to use it a lot this year.



Hazel Class:

Hazel class have been having lots of fun making new friends and learning new things with the Rowan and Elm Classes! We enjoyed a trip to Lee's Road for a nature walk and a picnic. We are also mastering our skipping and basketball skills outside at break t



Beech Class:

Beech Class has had a glorious start to the year taking a trip to the local playground in beautiful sunshine. The children started into IXL online maths with gusto and also enjoyed online reading with 'getepic.com'.

Exploring texture through bark rubbing and many other objects in our school grounds was a great outing too.

On another exciting day the class took a nature trail to find leaves and identify trees. On returning to class they had great fun learning how to print with leaves.

We are also piloting a fantastic evidence based programme called 'Words Their Way' in Beech Class this year. Pupils are really enthusiastic about investigating how words work in an interactive and exciting way. Literacy hour is so much fun!

Words Their Way in action in Beech Class.



Elm Class:

Elm class have settled back into school fabulously and we couldn't be prouder of all the children.

We have been very busy since our return. We have gone on some walks, we had a big trip in Lee's roads where the children went on a nature walk, did obstacle courses and had a picnic and got to play in the playground. We also started playing hurling with Ollie from the Clare GAA.

As part of a school display the children were asked to draw a self-portrait of themselves. Elm class were super at this and really enjoyed the lesson. We are looking forward to many more adventures during the year.





A LEARNING ADVENTURE

Oak Class:

5th and 6th class have been extremely busy learning about The Normans.

John in 5th Class has written about what he learned.

The Normans were descendants from the Vikings and they were amazing builders. They built massive castles and used the pulley system. They used the pulley system to help them build their castles and they are still used to this day, examples include cranes, elevators, etc. We are currently building our own Norman castles in Art.

The Normans had a mostly vegetarian diet only eating meat on special occasions like Saint Bridget's day which marked the beginning of spring. The Normans ate bread made from wheat or oats; they also made porridge, crazy to think that your porridge was invented that long ago.

The Normans also were amazing fighters; they had a vast selection of weapons including helmets, swords, bow and arrows, lances and claymores. In Art for the first couple of weeks, we made our own Norman warrior helmets from scratch using paper mâché, they were tricky to make but we had good fun making them too.



Cherry Blossom Class:

We have had a fantastic start to the year in the Cherry Blossom nurture room, with the children enjoying a range of activities to help their communication and social skills. We have had such fun in the past few weeks doing activities together such as, playing turn taking games, gardening and making yummy pancakes! We are looking forward to a great year ahead learning lots of new skills with our friends.



Rowan Class:

We have had a wonderful September in Rowan class. The children are working really hard and they have produced some fantastic work.

In Science we have been learning about the respiratory system and the effect exercise has on our breathing.

In PE we have been practising our hurling and camogie skills. We even have a professional coach called Ollie who is from the Banner Club!

In Geography we have been learning about the counties and provinces in Ireland. We have been learning to read maps by looking at Atlases. It's a pretty big world out there!



Oak Class 20/21

Last spring 5th and 6th class students were very busy in the school garden. They cleared the area and then made some raised beds with their teacher Seán and with the help of Mary H and Sarah B. Potatoes and onions were sown and this week (20th to 24th September 2021) they harvested the potatoes. This was followed by washing, cutting into wedges and choosing wonderful flavours eg curry, paprika, salt, mild chilli powder etc. The best part was eating the wedges! Yum Yum.

Well done to the next generation of gardeners



Drop offs and Collections:

We'd like to thank all our parents for co-operating with our traffic management plan to ensure the safety of all our children. We'd like to remind all parents that we ask you to park your car in a parking spot before coming to the gate to pick up your child. We also ask that the one-way system is kept free for cars to continuously move rather than stop here and wait for your child to get into your car.

School Fees:

At the start of each year, we request that parents pay a number of essential costs in relation to your child's educational provision. Each family received a letter indicating the costs due to the school which provide for the following:

- Book rental
- Workbooks
- Stationery
- Child insurance
- Photocopying
- Art and crafts

These are costs that every family need to pay. Parents do not need to pay for your child's lunches and drinks in schools as we are in a fortunate position that this is government funded.

Thanks to all families who have paid these costs already and a reminder to others that these are now overdue. These bills need to be paid at the start of each year so we greatly appreciate your cooperation as these are costs that schools are not in a position to pay.

Hot Lunches:

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to The School Food Company who are providing hot lunches and snacks to all our children this year. We have a fully kitted out kitchen installed in the school where the food is prepared and cooked on-site. We'd like to welcome Sarah and Joanne in particular who work so hard to prepare and deliver the food each day to our classrooms. We hope you settle in well to our school! We'd like to remind all families to ensure food is ordered for your children each day. It is good practice to login to the app each week and ensure that food is ordered for the week ahead. Please talk to your children about their lunches and change the meal

choices if your child would like to try something new. Unfortunately, due to food health and safety regulations, we cannot send the hot lunches home as they need to be consumed on site within a specific timeframe.

Covid Awareness:

Advice for parents during Covid-19:
Symptoms to look out for

If your child has any of the following symptoms of Covid-19, do not send them to school and contact your GP:

- > A temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more
- > A new cough
- > Loss or changed sense of taste or smell
- > Shortness of breath or an existing breathing condition that has become worse
- > Fatigue
- > Aches or pains
- > Sore throats
- > Headaches
- > Diarrhoea
- > Runny or stuffy nose
- > Feeling sick or vomiting

For more see gov.ie/backtoschool

An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

We continue to maintain high levels of vigilance in the school and we ask that if your children have any of the following symptoms that you keep your child at home until at least 48 hours after symptoms have gone. We always encourage families to seek the advice of your GP should your child develop any of the symptoms related to Covid 19.

Our main aim is to keep everyone safe and we thank all our families for their support in keeping our school safe for everyone.

Symptoms:

- Fever (high temperature: 38 degree Celsius or above).
- A new cough
- Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties.
- Loss or change in your sense of smell or taste
- Fatigue
- Aches and Pains
- Sore throat
- Headaches
- Runny or stuffy noses
- Feeling sick or vomiting
- Diarrhoea

Condolences:

The Board of Management would like to offer its condolences to Mary Fallon on the loss of her brother, John Fallon. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Dates for your diary:

October 25th October to 29th inclusive; School closed for midterm break.

