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Monthly Memoirs October 2023

Ennis Educate Together NS
Dulick,
Gort Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare.

New pupils:

We'd like to particularly welcome some new children who have joined our school this month, These included Sofhia, Marat, Anna, Mykahailo and Milena.

October Birthdays:

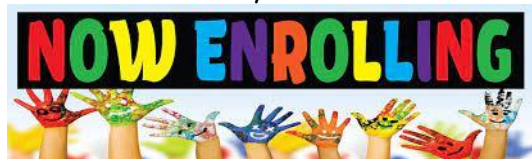
Happy birthday to Mert, Nela, Daniela, Dahlia, Tomas, Kyle, Annalise and Winita.

We hope you all had a wonderful celebration!!



Admissions September 2024:

Our Admissions Notice was published on our website and Facebook page on October 1st and remains open until December 1st. If you have a child of age to start school next September, please get in touch with the school so we can help you ensure the application form is submitted on time. If you have family, neighbours or friends with children of school going age, we'd really appreciate you letting them know that it is time to make an application to join our school community.



Peace Proms:

We are very excited to have been accepted into the Peace Proms choir which will take part in a huge concert on January 2024 in UL. Preparations have already begun and our choir had their first get together this week. They have loads of catchy tunes to be rehearsing in the coming months and we are looking forward to the show already and singing our way into the New Year!! Further details to follow on how parents can get tickets for the concert to see our superstars sing their hearts out!!

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. Finally we ask that no cars park in front of our gate as this is very dangerous when reversing out on to oncoming traffic and children walking. Thank you for your co-operation.

Halloween:

We had a spooktacular day on Friday to mark the start of our Halloween break. Children and staff celebrated by getting dressed up in costumes including witches, goblins, doctors, princesses, clowns and superheroes. We hope all our children and their families have a lovely break together next week. We look forward to seeing you all after the Halloween break on Monday 6th November.



School Contributions:

Thanks to all our families who have paid the school contribution. We ask that all other families pay what's due in the coming weeks. Please discuss with David Quinn if you would like to setup a payment plan.

All families are requested to pay **€60** per child to pay for the following:

- Educate Together subscription
- Digital licences
- Art and Crafts
- Photocopying
- Children's insurance

Thank you for your continued support.

Department of Education Inspectorate visit:

We were delighted to welcome our school inspector, Anne Fitzpatrick, who carried out an incidental inspection on the provision of English as an Additional Language in our school as well as checking that our child protection and anti-bullying procedures were up to date. Anne spent the day observing teaching and learning in a variety of settings. We were delighted to receive such positive feedback and recognition for all the hard work that is evident throughout our school on a daily basis. Anne was particularly impressed with the warmth and welcome given to her by our wonderful children who enjoyed sharing all the different things they like about school life. Well done everyone!!



Condolences:

We wish to offer our condolences to Lisa Quinn and her family on the recent loss of her mother Eileen and to Tricia Ó'Cuailáin and her family on the recent loss of her uncle Oliver. Our thoughts are with Lisa and Tricia at this sad time.

Congratulations:

Huge congratulations to Sean and his family on the arrival of baby Sadhbh and to Mary Hartogh and family on the arrival of Mena!! We wish you years of happiness and adventure with your little girls!!

Child Protection and Anti Bullying policy updates:

At our Board of Management meeting on September 28th, the school's Child Protection and Anti Bullying policies were reviewed by the BOM using checklists provided by the Department of Education. These updated policies can be accessed through the 'Parents' tab on our website(www.eetns.ie). Thanks to all our school community for your compliance with these essential policies.



New jerseys:

One of the first tasks of our Student Council, which was reformed last year, was to write to local business seeking sponsorship for a new set of school jerseys. We were delighted to hear that Barry Lynch from Lynch's Centra and Elm Café nearby was willing to sponsor us. The final design is very impressive and many schools commented on how well they looked at recent school events. Huge thanks to Barry for supporting our school. We ask all our school community to support our sponsors where possible. Well done to the Student Council on working together with Lisa to achieve something huge for the children of our school.



Student Council:

Our Student Council 2022/2023 are after a really busy year. It was very important to set up a foundation in its first year for how children can join the Students Council in years to come. They had a number of meetings to discuss what needed to be included and it was very rewarding to see them work together to finalise a Student Council Constitution was approved by the BOM before the summer holidays. Many thanks to last year's council which included John, Daniela, Taysir, Chantelle, Lili and Thomas. You set the standards very high!! It's now time to prepare for the new council. Children in Rowan, Willow and Oak classes were busy before Halloween presenting to their classmates why they think they should be on this year's council. It was lovely to see so many children have the interest and confidence to speak in front of their classmates to outline why they would like to be considered. Members of the new Student Council 2023/2024 will be revealed when we return from the midterm break.



Athletics:

We were delighted to have 22 of our children represent our school so well at the Schools Cross Country Athletics championship recently. They were our first group to wear our new jerseys and they did us all proud. In tough weather conditions every one of them gave 100% and pushed themselves all the way to the finish line. Well done everyone and many thanks to Geraldine and Alan for all their help in preparing the children for the event.



Gaelic Football:

Our boys Gaelic football team took part in a blitz recently which included teams from St Aidans, Broadford, Stonehall, Scoil Chríost Rí and the Holy Family. They played absolutely brilliantly and it was great to see the boys progress their skills so much over the last month under the guidance of Sean, Alan and Mandy. We really appreciate you giving of your time after school to coach the boys. The boys will continue with their training as they prepare for more matches between now and Christmas.



Green Schools:

We were delighted to have a new bicycle and scooter rack installed in our school recently, as part of an An Taisce Green Schools initiative. We hope that families would consider cycling or scooting to school and reduce the number of cars coming to school each day. It would be a good idea to provide a lock for your child's bicycle/scooter to ensure they remain secure for the day. Thanks to our Green School's co-ordinator Jackie for arranging the installation of the new racks.



Board of Management Parent Nominees:

As the school prepares for the next term of its Board of Management(2023-2027), all parents received correspondence inviting them to express an interest on being considered as a parent nominee. We need one father nominee and one mother nominee to join the BOM. We ask for all nominations to be returned to the school by 3pm on Friday November 10th. If you've misplaced the nomination form, please pop into the school next week and we can give you another one. Parental involvement and representation is very important to us so we hope you consider putting yourself forward for these positions over the coming weeks.



Parent Teacher Meetings:

Parents will be invited in to meet their child's teacher on Tuesday November 21st and Wednesday November 22nd. To facilitate these meetings, the school will close at 2.35pm on Tuesday November 21st. On Wednesday November 22nd, school will close at the normal time of 2.50pm. We ask all parents to make sure you attend these meetings as it's very important for our teachers and parents to have time to discuss your child's progress. All children will be given a 10-minute slot each. If more time is needed to discuss anything, our teachers will be happy to arrange a follow up meeting at a later date. The times for your child's parent teacher meetings will be sent home after midterm break.



Staff training:

On November 15th, the school will close to children at 12.45pm to facilitate staff training. We appreciate you ensuring that your child is collected on time.

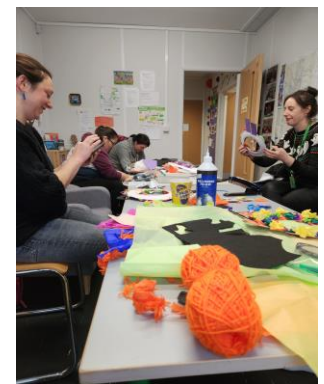


HSCL:

Parent Classes: Some of our parents got in the mood for Spooky Season with a wonderful Arts & Crafts session making Halloween decorations this October! HSCL David and Nurture teacher Sean also got stuck in making some creepy Halloween wreaths. Many thanks to CLDC tutor Andrea for facilitating this session. There will be further winter decoration-making sessions for parents next month, so let David know on 0894771298 if you're interested in joining these.

6th Class pupils and secondary school applications.

Shortly after the midterm break, it will be time for parents of 6th class pupils to complete application forms for secondary schools. HSCL David will be in contact with each family to assist with the application process. It's an exciting time for our oldest pupils and we wish them all good luck as they make their decision!



Go néirí on bóthar leat:

We'd like to thank Darina Hogan for all her work in our school over the last couple of years. After Halloween, Darina is going to start a new job. We wish you the very best Darina and will miss you at EETNS!!

Winter weather ready:

As the temperatures are dropping and we prepare for the winter, parents are asked to ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for it and that everyone brings a coat to school for the next few months.



TV stars:

Congratulations to Denis who participated on the new RTE gameshow The Money List over the last few weeks. Denis kept us entertained on Sunday nights throughout October and we were delighted to see him do so well. Our children in 5th and 6th classes participated in an activity challenge last year as part of a new programme on TG4 called 'Uiscenauts' We look forward to seeing our children make their claim to fame in the coming weeks. Make sure to tune in to TG4 at 6pm on November 15th to spot our celebrity children!!



Board Games Club:

As we expect the weather to deteriorate in the months ahead, our extra-curricular activities will be held indoors for the months ahead. Board Games club will be commencing after Halloween. Jane will provide you with details of this after the mid-term break.



Holly Class:

This month Holly class have been learning all about Autumn. During Aistear, they got to make soup outside for the hedgehogs in water play, go on a nature walk and collect leaves, make art pieces using natural materials, create hibernation huts and play with the autumn theme sensory tray. We also have been practising our pencil grip and writing using chalk, markers, salt, and rice. Last week we started Buddy Maths with Oak Class. This will take place every Thursday to help Holly class use IXL on their laptops. We are really looking forward to Halloween and have been doing spooky dances every day in preparation.



Beech Class:

Beech class have been practising yoga with Máire creating their own sequences in groups or in partner pose. Some included Extended Hero, Backbend, Shoulder Stand, Plough Pose and Bridge. They enjoyed a STEAM lesson where they are learning to problem solve and work as part of a team and an online art lesson with an Irish artist drawing spooky Halloween houses. The class enjoyed dancing and singing to "Spooky Scary skeletons" getting ready for Halloween.



Rowan Class:

Rowan Class are rolling into autumn with a focus on collaborative learning. We have been making lessons really active and fun! We made play dough while learning about adjectives, and using materials to deepen our understanding of mathematical concepts. We created self-portraits and still life drawings for art and singing and dancing to the Safe Cross Code!



Willow Class:

Willow class have had a great month. We had the opportunity to attend a book launch and listen to author Ellen Ryan read extracts from her new book 'Gods Don't Cry.' Ellen even signed a copy of her book and donated it to the school! We've been working on colour mixing and construction in art and have created colour wheel umbrellas and have practiced 3D paper sculpting techniques. In Maths, we have been very busy collecting data and creating bar charts, line graphs and pictograms. Thanks to Mary for all her support with Maths. We were lucky enough to spend some more time with Aine in the polytunnel and did some weeding and harvesting of potatoes and courgettes.



Oak Class:

We had a busy October in Oak Class. We harvested sunflower seeds growing on our school grounds. David from Heritage Ireland visited our class and taught us all about our native bird species. This inspired us to put up our own bird feeder by our class window and to record the different birds we see. We learned all about the

artworks of Wassily Kandinsky and George Seurat and loved experimenting with their unique styles.



EAL 1:

Children from Junior Infants to Second Class are really enjoying taking part in our EAL sessions this month. We are developing our communication skills through working on how to ask and say our names, where we live and how we feel each day. We love learning new words through songs and games in relation to myself, school, food and Halloween. We are now able to recognise, understand and name parts of the body, school equipment and resources as well as items and pictures associated with Halloween. We are learning to put our new words into sentences. We also loved listening to the story 'Room on the Broom' this week!



EAL Class 2:

October was a busy month for us!! Some of our newer students were learning different ways to express how they were feeling this month. We learned how to say if we are thirsty, hungry, hurt, sad or ill. We learned different ways of saying hello and goodbye. We also learned how to count to thirty in English. We learned the names of many different classroom objects like pencil, whiteboard, ruler, scissors, paper and more. We were also learning about Halloween this month. As usual, we did loads of speaking, reading, writing and listening this month. We did matching adjectives with the picture games, guessing games, chitty chatty cards, name five things game and our oral language question cards based on different topics ranging from going to the cinema to music.

Elm Class:

What a busy month Elm class have had!! We were learning all about autumn and went on some beautiful nature walks looking for signs of autumn. We also were learning all about Halloween. We learned lots of new language and had lots of fun making Halloween decorations. We even got to carve pumpkins and make chocolate apples!! We also got to go to Ennis Gymnastics Club through an initiative run by Clare Sports Partnership. Finally, we got to go out and explore our school gardens with Aine the gardener.



Students of the Month:

We had double celebrations this month by celebrating September and October's Students of the Month together. You may not recognise many of our recipients as they arrived to school as their alter ego on Friday!! Well done everyone, fantastic achievements!



Hazel Class:

Hazel Class have had a very busy month of October. We were learning all about autumn and animals that hibernate. We are looking forward to Halloween and everything spooky. We started gymnastics and really look forward to our Monday sessions in Ennis Gymnastics Club. We are taking part in the Wake & Shake every Friday where we dance and move to our chosen song. We are learning all about 2D shapes, counting sides and vertices and sorting them into groups. Our sensory room has recently been serviced and repaired. We are really loving spending time there enjoying new lights and relaxing. Our school gardener Aine was with us last week and we planted seeds in the polytunnel. We have been practising our Cosmic Yoga and are getting very good at doing our poses. We are looking forward to midterm break and dressing up for Halloween.



Roots of Empathy:

The Roots of Empathy programme has started in 1st & 2nd class. Roots of Empathy is an international, evidence and empathy-based classroom program that teaches children about feelings, their own feelings and the feelings of others. Once every three weeks, baby and her parent will visit the classroom. This year our Baby Teacher is called Pippa and her Mum is Bernie. Please say hello and make them feel welcome anytime you see them in the school. The children are coached in observing and reading the cues the baby gives as to how the baby is feeling: "Is the baby happy or sad?" "How can you tell?" And we use this discussion as a lever for the children to talk about their own emotions and to understand how their classmates feel. Emotional literacy develops as children begin to identify and label the baby's feelings, reflect on and understand their own feelings, then bridge to understand the feelings of others.



Dates for the diary:

November 9th: Peace Proms choir practice in UL

November 15th: School closed to children at 12.45pm

November 21st: Parent teacher meetings. School closed at 2.35pm

November 22nd: Parent teacher meetings. School closed at 2.50pm

Halloween isn't all about scares!:

1. How do vampires get around on Halloween?
On blood vessels.
2. Why did the Headless Horseman get a job?
He was trying to get ahead in life.
3. The skeleton couldn't help being afraid of the storm...he just didn't have any guts.
4. What do ghosts wear when their eyesight gets blurred?
Spooktacles.
5. What can you catch from a vampire in winter?
Frostbite.
6. Why didn't the skeleton go to prom?
He had no body to go with.
7. What's a zombie's favourite cereal?
Rice Creepies.
8. What's it like being kissed by a vampire?
It's a pain in the neck.
9. Where do ghosts go on holidays?
The Boohamas.
10. What did one ghost say to the other?
Get a life!
11. Where do fashionable ghosts shop?
Bootiques.
12. How do you know vampires love baseball?
They turn into bats every night.
13. Where do ghosts like to travel on vacation?
The Dead Sea!
14. What do skeletons fly around in?
A scareplane or a skelecopter.
15. What did the fisherman say on Halloween?
Trick or trout.
16. Knock, knock!
Who's there?
Boo.
Boo who?
Don't cry! I didn't mean to scare you.
17. Why are ghosts so bad at telling lies?
Because you can see right through them.
18. Where do baby ghosts go during the day?
Day-scare.
19. Knock, knock!
Who's there?
Howl!
Howl who?
Howl you know unless you open the door!
20. What do you call two witches sharing an apartment?
Broommates.
21. What's a ghost's favourite dessert?
I scream.
22. What's a skeleton's favourite instrument?
A sax-a-bone.
23. Why are graveyards so noisy?
Because of all the coffin.
24. How do ghosts search the Web?
They use ghoul-gle.
25. Wanna know why skeletons are so calm?
Because nothing gets under their skin.

