



Phone: (065) 6820070
 E-mail: info@eetns.ie
 Website: www.eetns.ie
 Uimhir Rolla: 20086b
 Eircode: V95KP29

Monthly Memoirs January 2024

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

January Birthdays:

Happy birthday to Yasser, Taysir, Shirelle, Daniil, Thomas, Wissam, Peter, William, Mykahailo, Patrick and Steven.



We hope you all had a wonderful celebration!!

New pupils:

We'd like to welcome Polina to our school. We hope you are settling in well with your new class!!

Home School Community Liaison:

6th Class Transition

It's that time of year again when offers of places in secondary schools are being made to our 6th class pupils. We wish them the best of luck with the process and we are sure they will continue to thrive in their future schools. We will be supporting their transition in the coming months with a special transition programme and school visits to their new schools. Anyone who needs support with the transition process, please reach out to David on 089 4771298.

Games for Fun - Holly Class

Over the coming weeks, Infant parents will be invited to their child's class to participate in Games for Fun sessions. They promise to be lively, loud and most of all fun! If you haven't already let David know if you can attend these - make contact on 0894771298



Hug Your Book Course

On Wednesday 21st February, a course entitled 'Hug Your Book' starts in the Scout Hall on Station Road. It runs from 10am to 12am for 5 weeks, and registration is necessary. Contact David (0894771298) for more information. Many thanks to the LCETB for providing this course, which will give you many creative ideas for reading with your child!

Student Council:

At the beginning of the year, the Student Council wrote to various Irish people we admire. Luca received a reply to his letter from Michael D Higgins' secretary today. We visited all of the classrooms to share our exciting news! Kay included a signed photo of President Higgins and another photo of him with his two dogs, Bród and Misneach. Unfortunately Bród has since passed away. If you would like to learn more about the role of President, you might like to visit the new child friendly section of the President's website: <http://www.president.ie/en/childrens-section>



Welcome:

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to Lauren Whelan who will work with children from 4th-6th classes for the rest of the school year. We hope you enjoy your time here Lauren!!



Rowan Class:

A big welcome back and happy new year from everyone in Rowan Class. We have had an exciting start to 2024. The children have been eagerly awaiting the start of Spanish lessons with Vicky and she got a wonderful reception from the children on her return to EETNS. We look forward to developing our language skills over the next eight weeks. We have also been enjoying our rugby coaching sessions on the cold frosty mornings! In Science lessons, we have been learning about the solar system and we are using a mnemonic to help us remember the order the planets are from the sun. We are also super excited about the upcoming Peace Proms Concert in Limerick. We can't wait to take to the stage!



Oak Class:

We are busy learning how to play chess for our tournament in March. We loved playing all the mini-games associated with each piece and learning different openings. We also started Buddy Reading with Holly Class this month. We taught our buddies the letters S, A, T, P, I and N and how they sound.



Elm Class

What a great start to 2024 Elm class have had. We have been learning all about New Year's celebrations and Arctic Animals. We have been reading the story 'Brown Bear Brown Bear what do you see?' The class really loved this story so we decided that we would make all the animals in the story and put up a very colourful display in our classroom. We have also been busy working on the chromebooks daily doing our Maths and letter formation. We have gone on some lovely walks with our friends from

Hazel class. We visited Clare Haven Charity shop where we bought some arts and craft items.

Hazel Class:

We have had a wonderful January in Hazel Class. Everyone had news after the holidays. We really enjoyed the cold and icy weather. We froze water balloons outside and had fun watching them melt in class. Storm Isha hit in January. It was very windy and very wet! We were learning all about winter, weather and emotions. We learned all about the different winter sports and made snowboarding art. There is a lot of work being done getting our new classrooms ready. We love watching the diggers at work. We have went on walks outside of school grounds to Lidl, Vaughan's Garden Centre and McDonald's. We went to Barneys with Elm Class and had so much fun playing together.



EAL Class 1:

Our EAL students have had a great start to the New Year. Throughout January, we have learned the days of the week. We have become familiar with school days and days of the weekend and read the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We have learned the months of the year and the seasons that each month belongs to. We have explored the theme of winter and 'The Arctic' in Aistear. Over the past week we have moved on to weather. We have gone on walks outside to identify the different types of weather and discuss the weather conditions each day. We identified what clothes are suitable in various weather conditions. On a daily basis, we work on our vocabulary by revising our name, age, family, favourites and feelings. We have added the 'o' and 'g' sounds to our list of phonics. Our students continue to educate us by teaching us words and phrases in their native languages and we are looking forward to exploring new themes together in February.

EAL Class 2:

This month in EAL we were learning all about different types of clothes that people wear. We played matching and sorting games, unscramble the words, word searches and a clothing guessing game. Other groups were reading all about people who help us in the community. We learned lots of new words, drew maps of our own

community, visited the polytunnel in the school and played 'Who am I?' guessing games.

Willow Class:

Willow class have been busy in Maths learning all about 3D shapes and symmetry. We constructed 3D shapes from toothpicks and blue tac and from card using their nets. We also went on a shape hunt around the school and yard. Willow have thoroughly enjoyed their rugby sessions with Emily. In Art, we made New Year scratch art and optical illusion art which was lots of fun. The Bee Bots have been a great addition to Science lessons in our class and we are becoming experts in programming them! Willow have been learning lots of different songs and dances for the Peace Proms concert which is coming up soon. We are so excited for this!



Beech Class:

Beech class have had a busy start to the New Year. We have started "Words Their Way" as part of our literacy intervention. This is a highly effective, differentiated spelling programme which is proven to improve children's spelling abilities. We had great fun with the Beebots which are on loan to the school. This is an introduction to coding and is great fun.



Holly Class:

This month our theme for Aistear was the Arctic. In small world, we were playing with arctic animals and icebergs. In role play, we became arctic explorers, we learned about the Inuit indigenous people and created art based on this. As part of Science, we tested different materials to see which ones were the best materials to make a waterproof coat for Teddy. Holly class started reading this week and were very lucky to have Oak class in for Buddy Reading.

We love singing Row, Row, Row your Boat and had great fun acting out this nurse rhyme.



Peace Proms:

We had a fantastic adventure last Saturday when 36 children in our school choir travelled to University of Limerick to participate in the Peace Proms Concert. They were joined by over 1,000 children to form a huge choir, accompanied by a full orchestra. We were also treated to a variety of other entertainers including singers, Irish dancers, Highland dancers, bag pipers and much more!! It was a fantastic experience and the children will remember the day for years to come. We were very proud of how they represented our school. Great fun was had and they were still singing when we pulled into the school carpark after a long day!! Huge thanks to Jane, Denis, Mary, Amber, Patricia and Fiona who accompanied them on the day. Special words of praise and gratitude to Jane for preparing the children so well for the concert. Huge amount of work went into getting the children ready and all the hard work paid off. Of course, the children were the stars of the show and we hope this inspires you keep singing as there's no sound sweeter!



Board of Management:

We are delighted to share that all positions on the school's Board of Management have now been confirmed and are as follows:

- David Dineen (Chairperson)
- Darina Greene (Treasurer and Patrons Nominee)
- David Quinn (Secretary to the BOM and Principal)
- Tricia Ó'Cualáin (Recording secretary and Staff Nominee)
- Clare Buckley (Parent Nominee)
- Jason Noone (Parent Nominee)
- Catherine Taafe (Community Nominee)
- Larry Brennan (Community Nominee)

We thank all our BOM members for volunteering their time and their continued support of our school.

Happy retirement:

Last Friday, saw Mary Fallon work her last day in Ennis Educate Together NS after teaching for 20 years in our school. Mary has been a huge asset and influence in our school community and we will miss her presence around the place. At last week's assembly, some of our children presented Mary with a book of Retirement Advice from all the children in the school, which they were secretly working on for weeks! The children's recommendations have given Mary plenty food for thought!! Wishing you well in all your future endeavours Mary and thank you on behalf of the entire school for your commitment and dedication to Ennis ETNS!!



Basketball Jerseys:

We were delighted to welcome Wayne from the Clare Comets and Ailbhe and Emmet from Clare Local Development Company who sponsored a new basketball kit for our school. They visited us last Friday to present them to the school at assembly. They look fantastic and we look forward to showing them off when we participate in the Marian Keane basketball tournament later this month. Our boys and girls' basketball teams have been busy practising in recent weeks after school with Sean, Lisa and Alan and we can't wait to play some games against other schools! We are very grateful for this very generous gift!!



Chess:

Our after-school's chess club with Rachel and Denis has been a big hit with our children. Some people are learning the game for the first time while others are developing their skills and strategies that they started last year. We are looking forward to taking part in the Ficheall event in the Holy Family School on the 5th of March.

Ficheall.ie

Primary Teachers Promoting Chess

Condolences:

We wish to offer our condolences to David Rundle and his family on the loss of his uncle Desmond, to Patricia Ward and her family on the loss of her uncle Thomas, to Aoiffe Lynch and her family on the loss of her cousin Paudie, to Deirdre Hayes and her family on the loss of her sister-in-law Alice and to Alan Leamy on the loss of his granny Mary. Our thoughts are with David, Patricia, Aoiffe, Deirdre and Alan at this sad time.

Dates for the Diary:

Reminder that there are a number of closures over the coming weeks. Next Monday, February 5th is closed for the Bank Holiday weekend. The school is closed on February 15th and 16th for mid-term break and the school is closed to children on Monday February 26th to facilitate staff training in the new Primary Maths Curriculum. We have also received notice that our school will be closed on March 8th as it will be used as a polling station for the upcoming referendum.



Upcoming closures:

February 5th: Bank Holiday
February 15th and 16th: Mid-term break
February 26th: Staff in-service
March 8th: Referendum
March 18th: Bank Holiday
March 22nd (12pm finish): Easter holidays
April 8th: Reopen after Easter holidays