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Monthly Memoirs February 2024

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

February Birthdays:

Happy birthday to Oisin, Jonath, Ibtisam, James and Marharyta.

We hope you all had a wonderful celebration!!



New pupils:

We'd like to particularly welcome all our new children who have joined us including Leticia, Yurii, Maryem and Oleksandar. We hope you are settling in well.

Home School Community Liaison:

Games for Fun: It's been a wonderful month for the junior side of the school as parents joined us in Holly sand Beech classes for a number of Games for Fun sessions! Children got to play some exciting board games, led by their mummies, daddies and grandparents. It was wonderful to have so many involved. Watch this space for details of activities for parents in the senior classes in Term 3!



Attendance: February continued our drive for improved attendance, and every month so far this school year has shown an improvement on last year. Keep it up everyone! As always, if you are experiencing problems with school attendance, contact David on 089 4771298.



Easter Arts & Crafts for Parents: On March 14th and 21st, there will be FREE Easter decoration-making sessions for parents in the school. There are a few places still available - contact David to book yours! See the poster for details.



Marion Keane Basketball Tournament: Our boys and girls had a great day at the Marion Keane basketball competition on Friday the 23rd of February. Thanks to Clare Comets Basketball Club and the Clare Local Development Company, they looked the part in our lovely new kit. They backed the style up with amazing performances throughout the day for both sides. We were very proud of them. All games were played in fantastic spirit with Scoil Chríost Rí, Holy Family, and Cbs Ennis...the future of Ennis basketball is bright!



Primary Mathematic Curriculum: On Monday 26th February our teachers took part in the first training day of the new primary maths curriculum. The curriculum presents a fresh vision for children's mathematical learning that is characterised by playfulness, creativity, challenge, risk-taking, collaboration and opportunities for reasoning and solving real-life problems.

Rowan Class: Rowan Class have had a fabulous February! We have been learning about St. Brigid and the story of her cloak. We celebrated Chinese New Year by making lanterns and learning about how it is celebrated. In English we have started Words their Way which is really helping us with spelling and identifying letter patterns in words. We have started drumming lessons and are very excited about all the rhythms that we will be playing. We are looking forward to spending more time learning outside with the coming of spring!



Elm Class: Elm class had a fabulous February. We celebrated Chinese New Year. We got all loved up for Valentines and ate lots of yummy pancakes on Pancake Tuesday. We have been doing lots of sensory work. We have been playing with water, theraputty, fake snow, play doh and synthetic sand. We went to Lidl and bought some buns and decorated them with chocolate and sprinkles. There is a lot of work being done getting our new classrooms ready. We love watching the diggers at work.



EAL Class 2: We had a busy month in February in EAL. Some of our students were learning how to write a news story using the five w's: who, what, when, where and why. Our students had lots of fun coming up with them and wrote some really interesting news stories. We also created a little drama where we played different roles in the news room: news reader, reporter and camera man. Other groups were learning about food, clothes, colours, shapes and opposites this month. We did lots of oral language, pair work, crosswords, matching and guessing games. We went outside and searched for shapes in our environment which was lots of fun. We also learned some songs and poems this month. We look forward to exploring the theme of Spring in March.

Hazel Class: Hazel Class had a wonderful time in February. We had lots to celebrate and learn about. We celebrated Chinese New Year the Year of the Dragon. We listened to the story and made lovely Lanterns. Together with Elm Class we made delicious pancakes on Pancake Tuesday and tasted lots of different toppings. Valentine's Day on the 14th was special and we spent time making art all about love. We enjoyed time outdoors jumping in puddles and running in the rain. We are learning all about staying safe using the Stay Safe Programme and will send home booklets as we complete them. We continue to go to Fun Kidz Club every second Friday and all children have so much fun. We made JELLY and loved watching it dissolve in hot water turning a bright red colour. It smelled wonderful and tasted delicious.



EAL Class 1: Our junior EAL students were learning about 3D shapes this month. We practised drawing them on our whiteboards. We experimented to see how the different shapes moved. We went on a 3D shape hunt in our environment. We placed 3D shapes in a bag and the children were able to describe the shapes by feeling them. We made 3D shapes using toothpicks and bluetac which the children loved. Our senior EAL learners were learning about African animals this month. We watched some videos about African animals to learn about their habitat, what they eat, and where they sleep. We learned elephants can sleep standing up and parrots sing when they are happy. We did word searches, comprehensions, poems and cloze tests. We played lots of games such as Just for English and English Language Learners.

Oak Class: We had an art-filled February in Oak Class! We loved the freedom of creating our own artworks for the Texaco Art Competition. We also learned about the artists Wassily Kandinsky and Keith Haring and we responded to their work. We completed the Ficheal online chess course and we're looking forward to our chess competition in March.



Willow Class: On Pancake Tuesday, Willow class thoroughly enjoyed making, cooking and eating pancakes. The children weighed and mixed all the ingredients and got to choose from a variety of toppings. They also wrote and drew the recipe for pancakes. We had great fun challenging ourselves to create mazes for the Beebots in Science. In pairs, children created mazes for their Beebots and challenged others to navigate their way around them. Thanks to Sarah, Patricia, Jackie and Amber we have been making excellent progress in spellings and phonics through Words Their Way. We have started to learn all about Italy and the Ancient Romans in History and Geography and look forward to learning more about them in the coming weeks.



STEAM workshop: Willow class were very lucky to have their second STEAM workshop with Maeve O'Dwyer from Clare Education Centre. As we have been learning all about Italy in history and geography, our challenge was to build the Leaning Tower of Pisa. It had to be 70cm tall, have 7 distinct stories and lean or tilt by itself. The children planned and designed their towers in groups and worked together to create their towers. They met some challenges, but were well able to adapt their plans. It was a really enjoyable workshop, thanks again to Maeve, we can't wait for the next one!



Holly Class: Holly Class have been very busy this February learning about the Doctors. We read big books about feelings that you have when going to a Doctor's appointment. In SPHE we learned about medicine safety. We made x-rays of our hands and got to examine some real x-rays as part of role-play. The children made Valentines cards to someone they loved before midterm. It was our turn to decorate the notice board in the reception area. We designed our display using the story of *The Dot* as inspiration.



Beech Class: Beech class started off February with making St Brigid's crosses from rushes which is an old Irish tradition. We learned all about St Brigid. Beech class also invited parents in to their classroom for board games on a Tuesday morning and both parents and children had great fun. We also said goodbye to our classmate Blaze who has gone back to South Africa. We wish him the best of luck. The children made a lovely card for him to remember us by.



Condolences: We wish to offer our condolences to Patricia Ward and his family on the recent loss of her cousin Derek. Our thoughts are with Patricia at this sad time.

Dates for the Diary

School Closed Monday Friday 8th March (Referendum)
 Bank Holiday Monday 18th March
 School Closed at 12pm Friday 22nd March for Easter Break



