

EDMONDSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE 2017



NEW MOTTO & SIGN:

We are delighted to announce that, following suggestions and brainstorming from all the stakeholders, our new motto is: Creideamh, Cairdeas, Crógacht. This means Faith, Friendship, Fearlessness. We see ourselves as partners with you in handing on the Faith. We try to teach children how to be a good friend to themselves and others and we know that friendships made in Edmondstown last a life time. We hope that the children in our care will go out into the world as Agents of Change and that they will be fearless in standing up for justice and what is right, and that they will become committed and caring citizens. Our new motto encompasses these ideals. Our new sign will be installed shortly. We have such a wonderful school we want to let everyone know about it.



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR:

We are so proud of the children from 4th, 5th and 6th who took part in the National Children's choir in the Basketball Arena and more recently in the National Concert Hall. We are very grateful to Ms Wallnutt for her fantastic enthusiasm in giving our children such a wonderful opportunity. I am quite sure it is an experience they will never forget. It certainly brought a tear to my eye listening to the beautiful repertoire.

EXCELLENCE IN STEM

Our recent Science Exhibitions in the hall and in the Junior room were a great success. The children really enjoyed explaining about all their experiments to their peers and to their parents. Thank you to our Student Council who welcomed parents in and showed them around. Thank you to all our teachers for putting in so much effort in Science and Technology over the course of the year. I am

delighted to announce that Edmondstown has been awarded the Excellence in STEM award. Don't forget to check out the link on the front of our website.



ACTIVE SCHOOL FLAG

As you know, we have been striving all year to achieve the Active Flag. Mr. O'Dwyer and the Active School Committee have been keeping us on our toes (literally) ensuring that we keep physical education to the fore. We are very aware of the connection between a healthy mind and a healthy body. Our slogan, "No need to slouch, get off the couch", inspires us to keep moving. We will shortly have an inspection around this area and so we are keeping our fingers crossed for a successful outcome. Please keep an eye on our blog which Mr. O'Dwyer kindly keeps up to date: activeedmondstown.wordpress.com.

FRIENDSHIP WEEK

We had a very successful Friendship Week recently and it tied in nicely with our Stay Safe Lessons which are ongoing. Edmondstown is a "Telling" school. The children understand that they can come and talk to any adult if they are worried or upset about something.



SPORTS DAY

Sports day will be held this Friday, 9th June in Three Rock Rovers. As always, the emphasis will be on fun and each child will be allocated to a team. We look forward to seeing a great turn out of supporters!

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to all the boys and girls in First and Second class who made their First Holy Communion. It was a beautiful ceremony and we thank Fr. Lyng and Fr. O'Callaghan who celebrated the mass. We especially thank our school choir who came along on a Saturday morning to sing for us. We are very grateful to the class teacher - Ms Wallnutt - and to Bernadette Toal, our parish worker, who helped prepare the children and organise the event. Parents from third and fourth served up some lovely refreshments at our school gathering afterwards, which went down a treat.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Fifth and Sixth class had two wonderful days on 23rd and 24th May, courtesy of Bank of Ireland volunteers and "Biz World". The children were taught the rudiments of setting up a business and they had to put their entrepreneurial skills into action.

Fifth and Sixth also got to visit Trinity college on Friday 2nd June for an exciting workshop. Working with the Bridge 21 Project, the pupils co-operated in teams to produce short films. They had to draw on their skills of communication and co-operation to work to a deadline. They had a great day out. Many thanks to Mr. O'Dwyer for organising the day and to Linda and Ms Cooney for accompanying the group.

LIBRARY BOOKS:

The last day for returning books to the library is Thursday, 22nd June. I would like to thank Marie and Colette for all their hard work in the library over the past year.

NEW JUNIOR INFANTS:

We were thrilled to welcome our new Junior Infants to school on Tuesday 30th May. There was great excitement as they met their new teacher and future classmates. Thank you to members of our Student Council who assisted on the day.

SCHOOL TOURS

School tours will take place this month to various locations. Please ensure that your child has sun cream, sun hat and raincoat.

SCHOOL BOOK LISTS

We will be sending out next year's school book lists shortly. If at all possible, we would encourage you to pay for your child's books before the end of June. If you have any outstanding money owing from last year's books/dancing please settle up as soon as possible.

MOO CREW:

Junior and Senior Infants recently enjoyed learning all about the story of milk - from the cow to the table. They made a fantastic collage of the journey and worked as a great team.



GRADUATION

Our sixth class graduation will take place on Monday, 19th June. As always, our fifth class will participate in a short play with sixth, before the actual ceremony. We will be saying goodbye to some families who have had a long history with our school and we will be very sad to see them go. We are delighted that our past pupils know that there is always a welcome here in Edmondstown for them.

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SAVINGS CLUB

Once again, the school's Savings Club was a great success and a total of €5,229 was saved. Well done to all the children who took part. A special word of thanks to Imelda Lambert and Bridget Alipour who ran the Savings Club every Tuesday.



GREEN SCHOOL NEWS

We continue to strive for our Biodiversity Flag and our slogan: "We Love Life, Little and Large" encompasses how we hope to look after and indeed increase, the Biodiversity of life around the school. The improvements to our school environment made possible by parents such as Ben Curtin and Declan Nutley are helping us greatly in this regard. Keep walking on Wednesdays!



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

Can I take this opportunity to thank Ms Lisa Murphy and all the committee for the fantastic work they do throughout the year. They make a significant difference to the life of our school and they do so voluntarily. We are very grateful. The children and teachers are delighted with our new Amuigh Faoin Spéir learning zone and we will soon have our Sensory Garden vegetable zone. This is all possible due to the fundraising activities of the parents' association and for the support they receive from you the parents. The Easter Bingo and Raffle fundraiser amounted to €736. The recent Cash for Clobber event is set to raise €420. Well done one and all!

THANK YOU

I would like to thank my Deputy Principal, Ms Win Collins, our hard working teachers, Statia and Linda in the office, Marie, Collette and Geraldine, Jean, our Board of Management and all the community and parental volunteers that are associated with Edmondstown such as Seán our GAA coach, Sr. Anna, Bernadette Toal, Catherine and Mick Behan, Aodhan and Jenni Cullen, The Lambert family, Derek Mc Grath and Damien Gallagher. Thank you all for everything you do and please enjoy a well-deserved rest over the summer. Please keep Valerie, Marie and Ms Tallon in your prayers as they are still out on sick leave.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Due to increased postage costs, school reports will go out in the school bags on Monday/Tuesday 19th/20th June. Please keep an eye out for them!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

9th June : Sports Day (9.30 am at Three Rock).
15th June: Feis (12 noon) & Sponsored Walk
19th June: Graduation 7.30pm
21st June: 3rd – 6th Class Tour
26th June: Junior Infants – 2nd Class Tour

Please Note:

The school will close at 12 noon on Friday 30th June and re-open on Thursday, 31st August 2017, at 8.45am.

Finally, can I wish you all a safe and sunny summer. Thank you all for your support and encouragement over the past year, the staff and myself really appreciate it. Slán agus beannacht.

Philomena Cleary
Principal