

EDMONDSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL: OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

What a busy two months October and November have been. We have hardly had time to catch our breath and here we are approaching Advent already.

STAFF:

I welcome Ms Federica Mullarkey to our school. Federica will work as an SNA during the mornings and we are delighted to have her on board. Ms Marie Therese Wallnutt has been appointed as our new Deputy Principal and we wish her well in her post.

OPEN DAY

Our Open Day on 14th October was a great success and I particularly want to congratulate our Student Council and friends who gave up their Sunday to talk to our visitors. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school and we really appreciate their help. Our Board of Management were there as too were members of the Parents' Association who provided a nice cup of tea and homemade cakes. Our new Student Council this year is:

ENROLMENT

Our enrolment offers have now gone out to our prospective Junior Infants 2019. Our enrolment policy has been amended to reflect the changes brought about by the enactment of the "Admissions to Schools Act". It is available on the school website.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT:

We are delighted to have been chosen as a pilot school for a demonstration project on in-house Speech & Language and Occupational Therapy. Our staff will get special training from two professionals in the field and all children will benefit from this in the classroom. Some children may receive individualised support.

COMMUNITY LINKS:

We were delighted to forge new links with the Football Association of Ireland this year. The children from 5th & 6th class received training in Futsal – a five a side indoor football game. They also attended Cheeverstown for three Fridays where they played wheelchair football with the pupils. This was a wonderful eye opener for the children and they really enjoyed the experience. The FAI also delivered a talk to the class: "Give Racism the Red Card".

SCIENCE WEEK:

Science Week was a great success and we continue to strive for our third STEM plaque of excellence. On Friday 26th November, the children visited each other's classrooms and got to see all the different experiments that had taken place. Check out the "Events" tab of the website for some lovely photos. Well done to the teachers for all the preparation and hard work.

GREEN SCHOOL NEWS:

We have been chosen as a pilot school for a new flag so our theme has changed slightly. Our new focus is "Global Citizenship – Biodiversity & Food Waste". We encourage you to keep walking on Wednesdays and remember to bring your litter home. 3rd and 4th class attended a Global Goals Conference in Croke Park which was very educational. Congratulations to the members of our new committee who are:

ETHOS

Thank you for supporting our recent Goal Jersey Day which raised €118.40 for this worthy charity. Sr. Anna continues to give short workshops to our Communion class and the children love to see her coming. The next mass in the Do this in Memory programme is this Sunday, 2nd December. We had a recent visit from the Diocesan Advisors and they

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were very impressed with the school and the children.

CHOIR:

Our school Choir continue to rehearse for both the National Children's Choir and the Laudate Festival. We know they are enjoying it immensely.

CUMANN NA MBUNSCOL:

Well done to the boys and girls from 4th – 6th who took part in Cumann na mBunscol football leagues recently. Many thanks to Mr. Shane Egan and Mr. Robert Weldon for coaching the children. The girls made it to the quarter finals but all parties had great fun. In January, the girls will participate in Cumann na mBunscol Hurling with the help of Mr. Egan and Ms Mullarkey. We wish them well. Unfortunately we did not get enough interest from the boys – maybe next year!

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

On 25th October, the Parents' Association held their AGM. At this meeting, Ms Lisa Murphy stood down as Chairperson. Lisa has held this position for the last seven years and has done tremendous work for the school. At the AGM, I presented Lisa with a bouquet of flowers to thank her on behalf of the Board of Management for her commitment and enthusiasm over all those years. She will be a great loss to the Parents' Association but I know she will be on hand if they need any advice or support. As yet, we do not have a new Chairperson, but Ms Maebh Langford Smith has been keeping everything ticking over and she has volunteered to share the role. If you think you can be of assistance, please contact Maebh. Thank you to our new members – you are very welcome and I look forward to working with you in the coming years. The recent Cash for Clobber event raised €295. Many thanks to Karen Morton who organised this.

REMINDER:

Just a reminder that full uniforms must be worn and nail varnish is not allowed. Please keep long hair tied back. Please remember to adhere to our healthy lunch policy (available on the website).

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS:

Some children from 3rd and 4th showed great teamwork, commitment and entrepreneurship recently when they approached me and asked to hold a Hallowe'en fundraiser. They made wonderful ghosts and gifts as spot prizes for every child in the school – a huge undertaking. We are very proud of them. They managed to raise which will go towards outdoor games/p.e. equipment which they will choose. Check out the lovely photos from the day under the "Events" tab on the website:

www.edmondstownns.ie

ACTIVE SCHOOLS:

We continue to have our Active lines and are committed to increasing our physical wellbeing. Our new committee this year are:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Christmas Shows will take place on :

Tuesday 18th December: Junior Infants, 1st, 3rd and 5th.

Wednesday 19th December: Senior Infants, 2nd, 4th and 6th.

Philomena Cleary

Principal