

EDMONDSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL: SPRING NEWLETTER 2022



Dear Parents,

We have had a lovely Spring term and the children have been wonderful. Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy, Holy and Chocolate-filled Easter! Keep safe and well.



SPRING

Spring is definitely in the air in Edmondstown. Buds are opening on our Horse Chestnut tree, the daffodils and crocus are in full bloom and the birds are singing their hearts out.

SACRED SPACE:

Our Sacred Space is currently depicting a Wilderness Garden to remind us of the time spent by Jesus in the desert wilderness. We are reminded to try to give something up, to pray more and also to try to do something good during the time of Lent. It's never too late to start over if you've forgotten!

TRÓCAIRE:

Please return your Trócaire box on Tuesday, 5th April as they will be collected then from the school. If you forget to return it you will have to bring it to your local church.



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

We celebrated World Down Syndrome Day on Friday 25th March. Thanks to staff and children for wearing two odd socks to show their support and appreciation of neurodiversity.

SCHOOL WEBSITE AND TWITTER

It is great to see so many people accessing the school website at www.edmondstownns.ie It is a wonderful showcase for all the fantastic work that goes on in Edmondstown. Our

twitter account @edmondstownNS is updated daily and we love to receive a "like" or a comment.

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING & MATHS: STEM

We are on track to achieve a 6th Plaque of Excellence in STEM once again this year. All classes are working hard on maths, science, technology and engineering.

From 7th March – 11th March, we celebrated Engineers' week and the children had great fun designing and making various structures out of paper, marshmallows and pasta of all things! They completed various challenges and the children in 1st and 2nd learnt how to code micro bits. 5TH & 6TH class designed working balances. During Eco Week, the children had wonderful workshops using recyclable materials.

IT

Safer Internet Day was celebrated on 8th February with various informative lessons, some via our online platform. 1st & 2nd class became "WebWise Guards". 3rd and 4th class made wonderful posters. All children were taught safety lessons and received cool wristbands.

GREEN SCHOOLS

Our Green School committee was invited to Cruagh wood by Coilte on 15th February. They planted lots of native trees and learned all about the importance of trees. They have planted potatoes in our school garden and hopefully these will produce an early crop in June. Third and fourth class planted peas in the school garden too. They also planted sunflower seeds in little pots.



EDMONDSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL: SPRING NEWLETTER 2022



ACTIVE SCHOOLS

We are doing our best to keep the children active and out and about as much as possible, whether this be by extra P.E., daily circuits, nature walks, maths trails etc. GAA has not yet resumed with our external coach but teachers are continuing to put emphasis on fundamental movement skills. Well done to those children who are walking, cycling and scooting to school.

3rd – 6th class are enjoying their after school training and Cumann na mBunscol matches with Mr. Dunne and Ms Browne. We are very proud of them all!



WORLD BOOK DAY:

We celebrated World Book Day on 3rd March. This was organised by the Student Council – well done to the children and Ms Tighe! Children brought in their favourite books and dressed up as their favourite character. Some classes were treated to author readings via Zoom. It was great fun! Every child received a Book Token – don't forget to use them!

GAEILGE:

We made an extra effort to speak Irish during Seachtain na Gaeilge. During our Zoom assembly, each class sang a song or recited a poem. Everyone dressed up in their green, white and/or orange on the day. Maith-sibh!



UKRAINE FUNDRAISER:

We were blown away by the response to our fundraiser for Ukraine. We organised a

sponsored activity morning and the Active Committee and Student Council kept everyone busy and moving on the day – we all slept that night! A cheque for €4,194 was sent to the Irish Red Cross for their Ukraine humanitarian appeal. A further cheque for €225 was also sent from money that came in later. Thank you so much to everyone – what a great lesson for the children to inspire them that their efforts can make a real difference. We continue to pray for an end to this terrible crisis.



EASTER CLOSING:

The school will close for Easter on Friday, 8th April at **12 noon** and re-open on Monday 25th April at 8.45am. We will no longer be staggering our start and finish times so **all** children will start at **8.45am**, junior/senior will finish at 1.30pm and all other children will finish at 2.30pm. School uniforms will be worn on Tuesdays and Thursdays and school tracksuits will be worn on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

6th April: Ceremony of Light 5th/6th Class: 7:30
30th April: Confirmation Ceremony : 10:30am
2nd May: Bank Holiday
3rd May: School Holiday

Le gach dea ghuí,

Philomena Cleary
Principal