

# EDMONDSTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL: SPRING NEWLETTER 2023



Dear Parents,

This has been a busy Spring term in all classes. The children have been working hard and are a credit to their parents. Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy, Holy and Chocolate-filled Easter!



## **SPRING**

We love Springtime 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. The squirrels have made a reappearance after their winter sleep and it won't be long before the rabbits are back jumping about.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL:**

Congratulations to the Student Council who were wonderful welcome ambassadors for our school during Catholic Schools' Week. They were fantastic leading our Grandparents' Day. Sincere thanks to Ms Vivien Leigh who spoke about what it means to be a Grandparent, and to Ms Sarah Clifford who read a beautiful poem written by her father. Sincere thanks to Ms Tighe who coordinates the activities of the Student Council.

## **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 to your local church.

## **SCHOOL WEBSITE AND TWITTER**

It is great to see so many people accessing the school website at [www.edmondstownns.ie](http://www.edmondstownns.ie) It is a wonderful showcase for all the fantastic work that goes on in Edmondstown. Our twitter account @edmondstownNS is updated frequently and we love to receive a "like" or a comment.

## **SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING & MATHS: STEM**

All classes are working hard on maths, science, technology and engineering and we are striving for our next plaque of excellence. We are hoping to achieve a Platinum award.

From 6th March – 10<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated Engineers week and the children had great fun designing and making bridges, tall structures and 3D designs out of marshmallows and spaghetti. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> attended a Robotics workshop and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> had a visit from a real, live Engineer!

## **IT**

Safer Internet Day was celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> February. All children were taught safety lessons and received cool wristbands. The school purchased ten new ipads and these are in weekly use.

## **GREEN SCHOOLS**

On Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, the Inspector from An Táisce visited our school to assess us for our 7<sup>th</sup> Green Flag (sixth Renewal flag). She was delighted with all the work that the children had been doing and really impressed with the Green Schools' Committee. A little birdie has told us that we will be presented with the "Global Goals Citizenship – Litter and Waste" flag in May. Congratulations everyone and a special thanks to Ms Browne, the Co-ordinator for all her work.

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## ACTIVE SCHOOLS

The children are currently “running around Ireland” by doing laps of the school garden and they are clocking up the kilometres!

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class enjoyed their after school training and Cumann na mBunscol matches with Mr. Dunne and Ms Browne. We are very proud of them all! Huge congratulations to the girls from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> who were runners up in the Primary 5s in Irishtown. They received a lovely medal and will participate in the Regional Finals in the coming months.



## WORLD BOOK DAY:

We celebrated World Book Day on 7th March. This was organised by the Student Council – well done to the children and Ms Tighe! Children brought in their favourite books and made a little badge of their favourite character. It was great fun! Every child received a Book Token

## SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE:

We made an extra effort to speak Irish during Seachtain na Gaeilge. Each class sang a song or recited a poem. Everyone dressed up in their green, white and/or orange on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. We also had an exciting Tráth na gCeist.

## KIDS INC.

There has been a lot of interest in the return of this on-site, after school, child-minding service. As interest is very high, this is likely to resume soon. Please contact Kids Inc. if you are interested in your child attending.

## UNIFORM:

School uniforms should be worn on Tuesdays and Thursdays and school tracksuits will be worn on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.



## WRITE A BOOK COMPETITION:

Congratulations to Niamh Dolan who won a Merit award in the recent Write a Book Competition organised by Blackrock Education Centre. Niamh's story will be printed in an anthology of stories. Well done Niamh on becoming an author and well done to all the children from 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> for participating.

## SCHOOL CHOIR:

The school Choir performed wonderfully at the Laudate Festival earlier in the year. Their next performance is in the Basketball Arena in Tallaght. They will be joined by over 500 children. Sincere thanks to Ms Wallnutt for all the work she puts in to the choir.



## COMMUNITY LINKS:

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class are working hard on their enterprising Bí Gnóthach project “Bracelets for Good”.

We were delighted to host two past pupils (who are now Transition Year students in Rockbrook Park School) during the month of February, for a week of Work Experience.

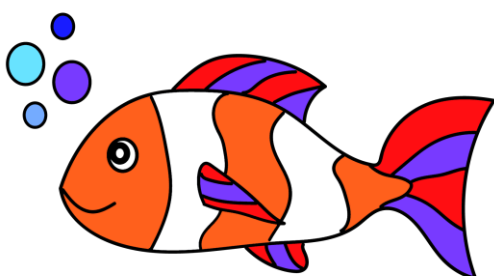
5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class went on a visit to Dáil Éireann on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Sincere thanks to

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Minister Catherine Martin and Mr. Frances Duffy, T.D. for facilitating this informative trip.

On 25<sup>th</sup> April, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class will receive a workshop from The Fisheries Board. This is called the "Something Fishy" project. On a later date, they will check out our Owendoher River to explore it.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

18<sup>th</sup> April: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class: Choir Rehearsal in Basketball Arena (day time – lifts needed).

19<sup>th</sup> April: National Children's Choir performance in Basketball arena (evening)

21<sup>st</sup> April: School closes at 12 noon: Teachers training in Primary Language Curriculum

28<sup>th</sup> April: School Closed: Teachers Training

1<sup>st</sup> May: Bank Holiday – school closed

2<sup>nd</sup> May: School Holiday

20<sup>th</sup> May: Sacrament of First Holy Communion

2<sup>nd</sup> June: Junior – 2<sup>nd</sup>: School Tour

5<sup>th</sup> June: Bank Holiday – school closed

9<sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day – Three Rock Hockey Grounds (weather permitting).

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

We are blessed to have a very hard working Parents' Association in Edmondstown. They held their AGM on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March. Ms Jen Kelly has stepped down as Chairperson as Karl is now in 6<sup>th</sup> class and he will leave us in June. We are sincerely grateful to her for all the work she has done for the school over the years and we wish her well. Ms Louise Lambert Monks is the new Chairperson and she will be ably assisted by Ms Sinéad Arthurs as Assistant Chairperson. The Parents' Association are always looking for new members so please consider joining them.

## EASTER CLOSING:

The school will close for Easter on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March at **12 noon** and re-open on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 8.45am.

Le gach dea ghuí,

**Philomena Cleary**  
**Principal**