



North Dublin Muslim National School

Winter 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe we have already reached the end of term one. It has been a busy term during which we said goodbye to old friends and welcomed new families and staff to our growing school community.

Throughout the term, children have been working extremely hard and enjoyed themed weeks for maths and science. We are also celebrating Friendship week this week. Children have taken part in after school activities this term, which continue to be a great success. None of these initiatives would be possible without the dedication and commitment of staff and I would like to thank everyone involved in making these activities possible.

Last week, we had our first parents' coffee morning, which had a great turn out and was very enjoyable. We hope to make this a monthly event, and would be delighted to welcome you for a cup of tea or coffee on Wednesday 16th January.

With this newsletter, we hope to share some of the great work that is happening in classrooms and across the school. More updates can always be found on our website.

On behalf of all of the staff here at NDMNS, I'd like to wish you all a pleasant and relaxing break. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Monday 7th January.

Eoin Walsh
Principal

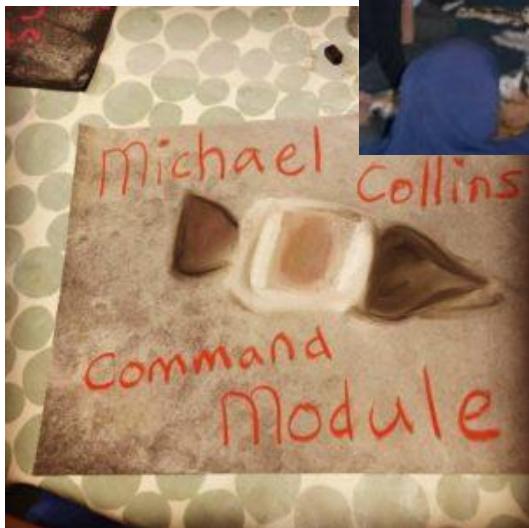


In October, we celebrated Maths Week, with lots of interesting maths activities taking place throughout the school. Children took part in maths games, trails and even created their own board games.





In November, we celebrated Science Week, with a huge number of activities and experiments taking place throughout the school. Our infant classes had a visit from the local vet, 1st Class to 5th Class had a very interesting visitor from Dublin Zoo, and 6th Class went to Dublin to learn about the Apollo 11 space mission.



Junior Infants Red

The first term here in Junior Infants Red has flown by! We have been having lots of fun getting to know each other and settling into life at school. The boys and girls have settled in so well and have made lots of friends.

The class have been working very hard at maths and have made such an improvement since September. The boys and girls have learned up to number 3 and have also done many fun activities on shape and extending patterns. As a class we've been working very hard on learning lots of sounds and have begun blending the sounds to read words. We have also been learning to write our newly learnt sounds and are all doing a fantastic job.

In Aistear, we have covered two themes: The Farm and The Restaurant. The children had lots of fun in the drama area in Aistear, taking on roles of farmers taking care of their animals, and chefs in the Restaurant. They have made lots of pretty art including some hand-painted animals, lollipop stick barns, pizzas, burgers and lots more!

We have covered some interesting topics in Geography, History and Science this term. The children especially enjoyed nature walks on the school grounds to watch the seasonal changes and weather take effect. We also learned about people who help us in both our school and local communities.

Term one has been a great start to what I imagine will be a wonderful year in Junior Infants Red. I am looking forward to seeing what the rest of the school year brings!

Ms. O'Hara



Junior & Senior Infants Yellow

We have done a lot of work and have been having lots of fun in Term 1! The boys and girls in Junior Infants have settled in so well and all are doing great so far.

The class have been working extremely hard at maths and have improved so much since September. We have started lots of new topics and are doing super work. Junior Infants have done up to number three and Senior Infants have reached the number eight! Both classes have also done lots of fun activities on shape and measures. They love playing games in maths.

Junior Infants have learnt lots of sounds so far and are blending all the sounds to read words. They are improving at this each day. They are learning to write these sounds, are working on writing their names and practicing lots. Senior Infants started by revising all their sounds but have moved onto the digraphs so now they can blend and read so many words.

We have done two different Aistear themes this term, the Restaurant and the Space Station. The boys and girls enjoy this time very much. They are great at pretending to be chefs and astronauts and getting into role. They have completed a lot of art activities through Aistear, including making pizzas, handprint aliens, astronaut helmets and much more! We have covered a lot of interesting topics in SESE this term. We looked at all the people in our communities who help us, different types of weather, autumn and much more.

We have had a great start to Junior and Senior Infants and I am looking forward to the rest of the school year!

Ms. Adams



Senior Infants Pink

We have had a brilliant first term in Senior Infants Pink! The children have been working really hard, especially in their English and Maths. They have been learning lots of new sounds and getting very good at writing addition number sentences.

The class has been really enjoying Aistear time and they have recently been learning all about going to a restaurant. The children have been having great fun all term during drama. They have created drama around different stories, like 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'The T-Rex Who Lost His Specs'.

We were very proud to win the 'Junior Class of the Month' award for November during assembly. This means that over the whole month we had the best lines walking around the school and the tidyest classroom!

For the December assembly, the children will be making a special effort to get along with each other in the hopes of getting a certificate.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy winter break!

Ms. Brennan.



1st Class Green

It has been pleasure getting to meet and know so many unique individuals in First Class this year. Everyone is working has been working so hard! We use the Class Dojo system to promote good behaviour in class and so far we have been earning loads of points. For every 10 points we earn we get a reward! Every day we are working on following instructions and class rules which is very important.

In English, we have been working hard on our phonics and spellings and we have been studying hard for our spelling tests every Friday. Everyone is trying their best.

We have been working on capital letters, full stops and writing very neatly. We learned what report writing is. We even learned what nouns are and we participated in paired reading. We have been revising all our phonics sounds and learning some new ones too to help us with our writing.

In Maths, we learned about 2D and 3D shapes, place value and numbers up to 20. We had a lot of fun for Maths Week this term also.

In Irish, we have been studying the topic of Food and School. We have also been learning the days of the week and writing our news in Irish. Some of the class can even write 'Mo Nuacht' on their own! I am very impressed with the progress in Irish so far.

In SESE in December we studied old Irish stories in History, animal lifecycles in Science and the weather in Geography. In Music we love singing Bismillah and the Friendship song. Next term I will look forward to the class bringing all their supplies to class and making an effort to keep following the class rules so we can learn lots more.

Have a lovely winter break! Ms Clarke



1st & 2nd Class Purple

What a busy term it has been in First and Second class! We have been working hard on our reading with the books 'Finn's Dream' and 'The Grumpy Teaspoon'. All the boys and girls have improved their reading since the start of the year.

In Gaeilge, we have been learning all about Bia (food) and Caitheamh Aimsire (past times). Ms. Broderick is really impressed with the level of Irish in First and Second class. They are so good at using Irish throughout the day and asking questions as Gaeilge.

In Maths we have been learning about 2D shapes and the calendar. We went on a 2D shape hunt outdoors, finding lots of shapes in the environment. The boys and girls are now really good at identifying days of the week, months of the year and the seasons.

We celebrated Science Week during November which was definitely the highlight of the month! The children loved the different experiments during the week and came up with really interesting predictions. Well done to Furqan and Rumaisa who got an award for 'Scientist of the Week'. The whole class made some delicious butter during the week which all the children tasted on crackers. We also explored Science outdoors during Science Week and went on a science hunt outdoors. All the boys and girls really enjoyed this activity and loved sharing what they found afterwards.

In Art this month we used the material clay. The children created some really impressive clay pots. We also created Winter scenes, blending colours together and adding lots of sparkle with some glitter! The boys and girls loved this and many said it was their favourite art lesson this year!

I wish all the boys and girls and their families a happy, well deserved winter break and I look forward to seeing you all back in school in January. Ms. Broderick



2nd Class Orange

A big hello from Second Class Orange! This term was full of great fun and learning. In English, we have been working on the First Steps Programme which has, so far, helped us become experts at writing reports and explanatory texts. We have become really confident at writing now. We have also been improving our reading and comprehension work. When we first started in September, we struggled to read our 'The Grumpy Teaspoon' reader and to get all our questions done, but now we are writing full sentences with capital letters, full stops and lovely handwriting.

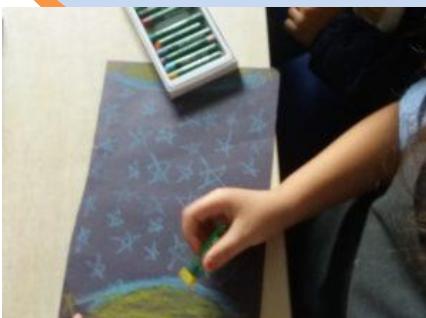
In Maths, we have explored lots of different topics including Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Shapes, Time, Sequences and Patterns, to name a few. Throughout all these topics, we have been focusing on strategies that help us complete our work. For number work, we have learned all about using our number-lines, hundred squares, using friendly numbers and rounding.

In Irish, we have covered the topics of 'Mé Féin', 'Bia', 'Ar Scoil' and 'An Aimsir'. We learned songs and rhymes in Irish and played a variety of games such as Bingo, Cluiche Kim, An Crochadóir and many more. We have spent a lot of time working on writing sentences in Irish and recognising verbs in Irish. We are growing in confidence every day and learning to bain trial as (give it a try)!!

This term we covered a lot of different areas in History, Geography and Science. We even completed two big projects about the counties of Ireland and People Who Help Us in Our Community. We also explored the topics of homes, the people who help us in our school, communication in the past, clothes in the past, our area in the past, light and space. A real highlight was Science Week when we had visitors from Dublin Zoo, explored oobleck (a curious substance!), had Senior Infants Pink for a visit for experiments and had a Science Fancy Dress Day.

We were lucky enough to perform first this year for assembly and the boys and girls did an amazing job performing three songs. We have been exploring creating rhythms and writing rhythms in Music as well. In Art, we created work in clay, beautiful space pictures and many more.

Of course, we have much more to share from our first term but if you want to check out all about our work, simply check out our blog entries throughout the term on the school website or follow our school Twitter account (@NDMNS). Have a restful winter break everyone and see you all in the new year! Ms. Flanagan



3rd Class Blue

What an incredibly fast, fun-filled, action-packed sixteen weeks we have had this past term. It was great in August getting to meet and know all the students. We have since welcomed a new student to our group, as well as sadly saying adieu to another. Our past few months have been filled with lots of fun and activity. We had Maths and Science weeks which provided lots of opportunities to engage in practical investigations, both inside and outside of the classroom. We welcomed many visitors to our room and we now have become more mature and responsible members of the school community.

We have worked hard in all areas of the curriculum, notably SESE where we have created wonderful projects and displays. We have engaged in a new English programme the past six weeks, reading lots of great novels and using ICT which has been lots of fun. In Art our work has been incredible and there are truly great inventors and creators in our midst.

These past few months we have welcomed lots of visitors to the classroom these included our community Garda and an educational officer from Dublin Zoo. These events gave great joy to the students and helped them learn new nuggets of information.

We are now seniors in the school, so getting to pray and make wudu has been a new concept to us, but we have engaged very respectfully in this. We also work hard with the younger students for peered reading, which is enjoyed by the older and younger students alike.

After-school clubs started this term and lots of the students from the class are taking part. This has made the weeks seem shorter for those involved, as well as providing them with new skills for life.

The first term is always a long one and there have been plenty of humorous and fun times to make the time go quicker. We have had lots of worthy winners at our assemblies and really enjoy getting to hear other classes perform, they have all been spectacular so far! We cannot wait until next year for ours.

We wish everyone a safe and fun-filled winter break. See you all on the 7th of January, 2019.

Ms. Nugent



4th Class Silver

We have worked very hard in 4th Class Silver this term.

In Maths, we are making a lot of progress, especially with our multiplication and division tables, time, fractions and word problems!

In English, we have really enjoyed report and explanation writing and we love reading and are becoming increasingly more confident in our abilities. We are especially pleased with our book reviews, acrostic poems and comprehension work this term!

We have made our classroom bright and colourful by displaying all our excellent artwork! Check out the school website to see our excellent 'The Scream' mural and our 'Starry Starry Night' pointillism art.

Our interactive whiteboard is used to help us explore Geography, to become historians, experiment in Science and to play Maths games. We have loved all the science experiments that we undertook during Science Week.

Term one has been a great success but we can't wait for an even better second term.

Happy holidays!

Mr Kelly



4th Class Violet

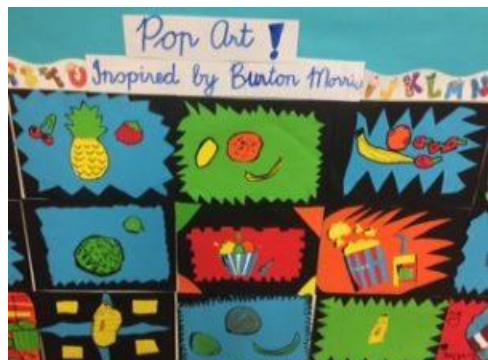
We have had a great start to the school year and the boys and girls have settled in well into Fourth Class.

We have studied addition, subtraction, multiplication and division in Maths. We also studied time and can easily recognise analogue and digital time. We have all improved our problem-solving skills using the RUDE method. The only time you can be 'RUDE' is when you are faced with a word problem. We even created our own word problems and challenged each other to solve them.

In Literacy, a great effort has been put into the First Steps Programme this term. We have developed our skills in the writing process, with the genre of report and explanation. We read examples and analysed them. We then worked together by sharing our research to write a whole class report and explanation. The shared writing included reports on 'Penguins' and 'Sea Turtles', while the explanation writing informed us 'Why Cows Chew the Cud' and 'How Wool is Made'. This was very interesting as we all learned from each other. We then progressed to writing our individual reports and explanations, which Ms. Lee has proudly displayed in the classroom. Well done to everyone! We are looking forward to the writing genres 2019 brings.

We completed many group projects, including Shops and Fairs, Food in the Past and Tanzania. Not only did we all learn about these topics, we also learned how important it is to listen to each other and share the workload when completing a group project. We showed our creative side in our Art. We worked with paint, oil pastels, clay and paper. Fabulous art was created!

Ms. Lee hopes you have a lovely, relaxing winter break.
Well done to everyone this term!



5th Class Amber

The boys and girls in 5th Class have had a very busy and productive first term filled with lots of hard work and plenty of fun too.

We especially enjoyed Maths Week and Science Week as we had the opportunity to participate in lots of hands-on activities both in the classroom and in the wider school environment. Ms Wehrly was impressed by the enthusiasm shown for scientific and mathematical exploration and it was great to see the boys and girls make the most of their artistic side too when they designed Maths Hats and dressed up as famous scientists.

5th Class performed at two whole school performances this term, the 'You Can Do It!' assembly on the theme of Confidence at the end of October, and the November monthly assembly. The boys and girls showed their co-operation and collaboration skills in preparing for these assemblies and Ms Wehrly is very proud of each and every child's efforts and hard work.

In October we visited the Phoenix Park with 6th Class and participated in a walk around the grounds in which our guide told us all about the trees of the park. We learned that there is a tree in the Phoenix Park that dates back to the Jurassic Period!

In November, we participated in two workshops hosted by Concern, an Irish charity. We explored gender equality and debating skills in these workshops, while also learning about the valuable work that Concern does worldwide. We have done lots of project work this term, including projects on the Ear, Scientists and The Celts. The children are really developing their research, note taking and communication skills through this work and they should be very proud of all that they have achieved.

All this hard work means that we are all ready for winter break and Ms Wehrly hopes that the boys and girls have a good rest and enjoy lots of fun experiences; so that they will be ready to return to school full of energy for Term Two.

Ms. Wehrly



6th Class Turquoise

What a productive, fun and interesting first term we have had in Sixth Class. The boys and girls have taken on responsibilities and shown great example towards the entire school community at every possible opportunity.

In English, the boys and girls in 6th Class have worked progressively on different writing genres through the First Steps Writing Programme. The class were introduced to debating this term through a workshop with the charity Concern. They also participated in the learning and discussion of gender equality during that day of workshops. Skills in oral language, reading and getting along, have truly impressed Ms. Faughnan. The graded reading programme was a huge success for all of the class and it's clear to see an increased positivity and enthusiasm towards reading since the programme!

In Maths, the children have been working at a fast pace through topics such as operations, multiplication, fractions, algebra, length, etc. During Maths Week, the boys and girls demonstrated impressive collaborative skills as they produced amazing games for 1st Class students to play. In Gaeilge, the children are showing high levels of vocabulary development and listening skills. We hope to develop more story-writing and independent reading skills in the new year ahead.

In SESE, projects have been continuously keeping creative and inquisitive minds busy. From the Ancient Aztecs to Space and Planets to modes of transport; the themes and presentations have been endless hours of fun, cooperation, peered-teaching, dedication and hard work. During Science Week the class had the lucky chance to visit the National Museum of Archaeology in order to attend an 'Apollo 11' workshop that integrated Science and Visual Arts! Everyone, teacher included, was fascinated by what happened in the lead up to the moon landing of 1969. In the Arts, the children have shown admirable skills in masking out in mono-printing, expansion painting, drawing, winter scenes and more. Music lessons have only proven the rhythmic skills and secret talents of even our modest students!

Overall, Sixth Class are showing upward steps at every angle as they progress throughout their final year in primary school. I look forward to 2019, as we take on more adventures, projects, visitors, tours and fun learning! Remember, this has only been a mere snippet into the vast array of activities undertaken by Sixth Class, so make sure to catch us on the school website or via Twitter @NDMNS, for more regular and in-depth updates of our journey throughout the academic year! Ms. Faughnan.



Rainbow Class

We have had a very exciting first term in the Rainbow Room. We have gone on leaf hunts and created beautiful leaf men inspired by the story Leaf Man.

We have conducted experiments during science week and learned how to be good friends during friends week.

We are practising skills such as, taking turns, waiting and sharing. We are also working on requesting for items from our friends.

We wish everyone a lovely winter break and look forward to next term.



Special Education Team

It has been a busy first term here with the support team and we want to say a big well done to all the boys and girls for their hard work since September! Ms Feeney, Mr. Kenny, Mr. Cullen, Ms. McKiernan and Ms. O'Regan have all enjoyed working with children from lots of classes this term.

Ms. Feeney says, "It has been so lovely getting to know all the new Junior Infants in Ms. O'Hara's and Ms. Adam's class during my in-class support time. They are doing really well with learning their Jolly Phonic sounds and are even starting to blend these sounds together to read words! I have also been working in class with Senior Infants Yellow who are learning new things every day and are being good role models for their fellow Junior Infants. Well done everyone and enjoy the Winter break".

Mr. Kenny says, "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far in NDMNS. I want to say thank you to the whole school community for making me feel welcome and at home from my first day. I am very lucky to be working with First and Second classes where the children are always hard-working and good humoured. I hope you all enjoy your well-deserved rest!"

Mr. Cullen says, "This has been my first term in NDMNS and it has been a unique experience. I have enjoyed working in Ms. Nugent's 3rd class and Ms. Wehrly's 5th class. The withdrawal groups I work with each day helped to set goals for themselves this term and I think they have done themselves proud in pursuit of those goals. The children deserve a pat on the back and a good rest during the winter break".

Ms. McKiernan says, "It has been a joy to teach the children from my withdrawal groups. They have worked well on their projects this term. In Maths, the children have worked hard on a few different topics including Place Value and Multiplication. Keep up the good work everybody! I am so proud of you all."

Ms. O'Regan says, "I have had a great time during the first term working with children in NDMNS. I have come to know the students that I take for withdrawal very well and they are a pleasure to teach. I really enjoy working in class with Ms. Adams and Ms. Brennan. I wish everyone the best for the winter break".



Student Council

In October of Term 1, the NDMNS Student Council was formed for the current academic 2018 – 2019 year. NDMNS Student Council is made up of pupil representatives from each class in the school. Members from 3rd to 6th Class represent their classes in biweekly meetings.

These members of the Student Council for the 2018 – 2019 academic year are:

3rd Class Blue: Zainab and Madasir

4th Class Silver: Abdulmatin and Noor

4th Class Violet: Aaron and Aisha

5th Class: Rayaan and Karim

6th Class: Mohammed M (Chairperson), Kauthar (Secretary), Haikal and Mordyat.

The Student Council meet every second Friday to discuss ways to make NDMNS a better place. We are here to be a voice for our fellow students and to make sure our school is a happy place.

Our first fundraiser this year was in the form of a bake sale. It was held in October and it was a great success. The money we raised is intended to cover the costs of school yard equipment, such as basketball hoops.

We are currently considering a Cosy Clothes Day for the Friday of the last week in Term 1. This will entail students wearing comfy winter clothes into school like pyjamas and big jumpers or ‘onesies’ and we hope the teachers might extend our Friday treat policy as far as hot drinking chocolate, biscuits... and a movie! We’re hoping that if each student who wears cosy clothes into school brings in at least €1, we could possibly raise a few hundred euro which could potentially go towards the Muslim Sisters of Éire charity!

We wish everyone a wonderful winter break and look forward to more progressive work in order to make our school community a safe, happy and positive environment for everyone! See you all in the new year!

