



❄️ Winter Newsletter 2017 ❄️

A few words from the Principal: Mr. Eoin Walsh

Term one has been very busy here at the North Dublin Muslim National School with our new and returning pupils settling in so well and working extremely hard throughout the term. We have put together this newsletter to share some of the highlights of the term with you, and more can be found on the school's website which is updated on a monthly basis by each class. You can also follow us on Twitter @NDMNS for the latest updates.

We celebrated Maths Week in October. The boys and girls really enjoyed taking part in lots of fun, practical maths lessons during the week and got to enjoy orienteering, maths trails and many other activities. Many thanks to all of the teachers who prepared the resources and activities for the week.

Extra-curricular activities at the school continue to grow in popularity, with pupils taking part in after-school art, baking, knitting, GAA, book clubs, drama and French. Many thanks to all those involved in their continued success. Boys from 3rd and 4th Class represented the school at an FAI football blitz in October, and 5th and 6th Class took part in Sport Against Racism workshops at the school.

This term saw a School Student Council being established for the first time, with representatives from 3rd to 6th Class. These pupils have not only been doing a great job representing the views of their classmates, but have become actively involved in school life, and raised an amazing €840 in their recent bake sale. This was possible through the generous contributions of our school community.

The Green Schools committee have been working tirelessly on this year's theme of water. The committee will be working to conserve water in the school and encouraging pupils to reduce the amount of water they use at home and in school. We recently had a guest speaker in the school to discuss water conservation. Many thanks to those families who returned completed water surveys, and a huge thank you to the staff who have supported both of these committees this term.

During the last week of term, we are celebrating Friendship Week at school. Children are taking part in activities which focus on the importance of friendship and caring. To demonstrate the importance of community, the Parents' Association are collecting new hats, scarves and gloves to donate to the homeless in Dublin; all donations will be gratefully received.

I would like to thank all of our teachers, SNAs, secretary and caretaker for working so hard during the first term, helping to make our school a wonderful learning environment for our children. Staff have shown huge commitment and dedication, and have gone above-and-beyond to provide additional learning experiences to pupils.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our pupils and their families a lovely Winter Break. We look forward to welcoming you all back on 8th January 2018.



❄️ Winter Newsletter 2017 ❄️

Junior Infants Red

It has been an amazing first term getting to know all our new boys and girls in Junior Infants Red. Ms. Poyntz is so proud of how far each and every one of the boys and girls in her class has come on since starting school back in September.

We have all been working so hard every day and the work is really paying off, especially in English and Maths. We are learning through play every day in Aistear and have become experts in the theme of the doctor and the supermarket. I hope you all have a lovely winter break and I am looking forward to seeing you all again in January. ☺

Ms. Poyntz

Junior Infants Yellow

The first term in Junior Infants Yellow has flown by! We have done a lot of work and been having lots of fun too! The boys and girls have all settled in so well and 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 that they have not done before and they are doing super work. They have done up to number three and are beginning to learn all the ways to make three. They love playing games in maths.

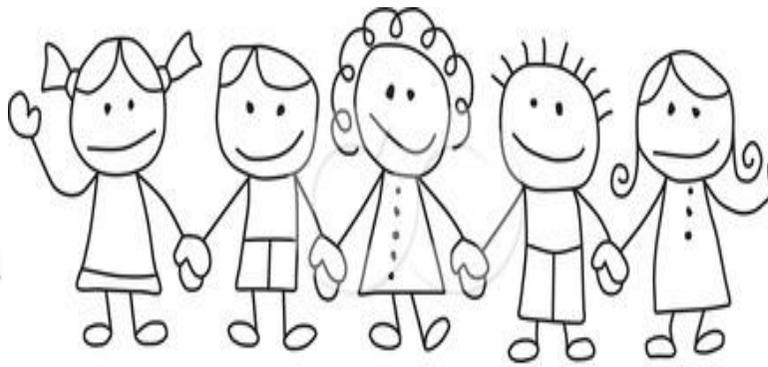
They are learning all their sounds in Jolly Phonics in English and are blending all the sounds to read words. They are improving every day! They are learning to write these sounds and are working on writing their name and practicing lots!

We have done two different Aistear themes this term, the Post Office and the Doctor's Surgery. The boys and girls enjoy this learning through play very much. They have completed a lot of art activities through Aistear, including x-rays, doctor's bags, post men and more. Their colouring is very good now and they all remember the five colours rule! We have also covered a lot of interesting topics in Geography, History and Science this term. We looked at all the people who help us, weather, autumn and much more.

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

Ms. Adams





Senior Infants Pink

It has been an amazing and very busy first term in Senior Infants Pink Class! In Maths, we have worked really hard and have had lots of fun exploring our number bonds of 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. We also explored the topic of 2D Shapes, Patterns and Time. In English, we have become great readers and we are trying our best to sound out any new words that we see. We have also been learning lots of new Dolch words and are getting better at recognising them in our reading every week. In Science, we took part in lots of exciting experiments especially during Science Week in November. More recently, we have been learning about Winter. We explored the topic of 'Hibernation' and even made some brown bear crafts using brown paint and paper plates.

In Aistear this term, we have explored three different themes. The first theme we explored was 'The Supermarket'. We really enjoyed playing shop in the roleplay area and making shopping bags in the Art area during this time. The second theme we explored was 'The Post Office'. We loved writing letters and posting them in our very own post box. The last theme we have explored this term is 'The Arctic'. We thoroughly enjoyed this topic and theme. We learned all about arctic animals and what it would be like to live in the Arctic. In the roleplay area, we pretended to be Inuit people and went fishing for food in the Arctic sea. We even had an igloo in the roleplay area too!

Well done to all the boys and girls in Senior Infants Pink Class for all their hard work this term, I am very proud of you all. I hope everyone has a super Winter break and comes back to school in January ready for more learning, fun and adventure! Ms. Feeney

Senior Infants and First Class Green

In Term 1, we have had loads of fun learning new exciting topics. This past few months, we have been working hard on improving our reading and writing in Senior Infants and 1st Class. In Senior Infants, we have focused on revising sounds we know and learning new sounds. This has helped us to read harder words in our station work and our books at home. In both classes, we have been working on improving our handwriting and writing skills. Senior Infants have begun to use their phonics knowledge to write sentences independently during our news time and free writing activities. Our first-class pupils have expanded their writing skills through learning new genres, editing, revision of our phonics and new grammar topics. Both classes have done excellent work in our English Aistear station this month, especially in our new favourite game 'Teach My Monster to Read' on the laptops and iPads.

In Maths, both classes have become addition masters focusing on numbers from 0-20. We have also explored loads of other Maths topics this term, between the two classes including: Spatial Relations, 2D Shapes, Length and Time. We love doing Gaeilge lessons every morning and we have become very confident in using different phrases based on food, school and ourselves in class and in our lessons. We love reading Irish stories and listening to the story of the day on Cúla 4.

This term we have worked so hard especially in History, Geography and Science. We learned about the Polar regions of the world, magnets, hibernation, lifecycles of different animals and plants, the people who help us, Ireland long ago and a variety of different stories for sequencing activities. We really enjoyed this work especially when we got to use these topics in our Art, Music and Drama work. We created art from different materials including collage flowers, winter hats, cupcake snowmen, listening and art in chalk and newspaper polar bears. You can see some of these on our website each month.

If you want to see more of our fantastic work, check out our website page or ask any of our wonderful about our work this term! See you next term for more fun in Senior Infants and First Class.

Ms. Flanagan



❄️ Winter Newsletter 2017 ❄️

First Class Purple

We have been so busy in First Class Purple this term. We love reading and learning lots of new words. We have become fantastic readers and love our reader 'Finn's Dream'. Maths was really fun as we looked at different topics such as length and learned our tables up to 10. We have worked really hard at our Gaeilge. We have been learning the themes of 'Ar Scoil' agus 'Bia', finding items such as 'clár bán', 'crián', 'bioróir' agus 'cás peann luaidhe'.

We took part in lots of experiments during Science Week. We had great fun, testing our predictions and discovering what the results were. Also, we had a special visit from a zoologist and learnt lots about the animals in the zoo. We loved hearing all about her job and we even had a few questions to ask her too! She answered all our questions and we learned so much about the various animals. It was our turn to perform at the whole-school assembly and we practiced our two songs '5 Pillars of Islam' and 'What I Am' lots. We sang and performed all the actions so well that everyone clapped and cheered for us. We were very proud of our performance and even gave ourselves a pat on the back!

I hope everyone has a lovely break and will be ready for lots more exciting things in the next term. Slán! Ms. Lenihan

Support Team

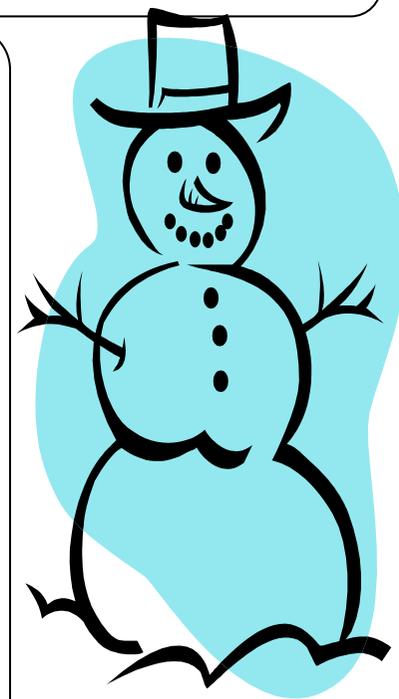
The Support teachers have had a wonderful term and we want to thank all the boys and girls for their hard work and dedication this term.

Ms O'Reilly says, 'I absolutely love teaching in the various classes every day. We are so lucky in NDMNS to have such fantastic hard working class teachers and it is a privilege to teach with them every day. As for our lovely pupils - what can I say? Thank you for your hard work and putting a smile on my face every day. Keep up the good work and best wishes for 2018.'

Ms. Hurley says, 'I have really enjoyed first term in NDMNS. I have really enjoyed working with the boys and girls in English, Maths and Aistear. I have gotten to know my withdrawal groups very well and have seen them make progress this term. Enjoy your winter break!'

Ms. Brennan says, 'I am very lucky to be working with so many wonderful boys and girls this term. I really enjoy working with Ms. Adams' Junior Infant Class, Ms. Faughnan's Sixth Class and Ms. Wehrly's Fifth Class. We have been busy reading lots of different texts in English and have been answering tricky comprehension questions. I love teaching my different groups every day. They are all working extremely hard and there has been some great progress this term. Well done everyone. I look forward to next term with all the amazing boys and girls in NDMNS. Have a safe and happy Winter Break!'

Mr. O'Séaghdha says 'Have a fantastic Winter Break, boys and girls! Thank you for your hard work this term. We have had a great time over the past few months and I feel we have all learned so much. It has been a pleasure teaching you all this term, and I wish you all a wonderful 2018. See you next year!'





Winter Newsletter 2017



Second Class Orange

What a busy term it has been in Second Class Orange!

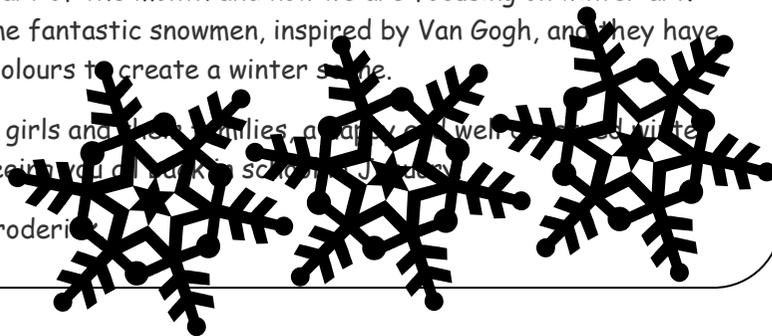
In English we have been busy writing our first stories in Second Class. The boys and girls are very creative and have limitless imaginations. Ms. Broderick really enjoyed reading all the stories. We have also been learning a poem called 'The School Kids Rap'. The boys and girls love this and say this poem with a great rhythm and beat. In Gaeilge, we have been learning all about 'Caitheamh Aimsire'. We had great fun learning all the different poems and songs about past times. Maths has been all about 2D shapes and square corners. We really enjoyed exploring 2D shapes and right angles outdoors.

In SESE we have been learning all about the skeleton. We now know what the function of the skeleton is and we can name different body parts. The boys and girls had great fun taking part in all the exciting activities during Science Week. There were some very interesting predictions for the egg-in-vinegar experiment. Two girls in Second Class predicted that the egg would bounce at the end of the week after being left in vinegar. Well done Zainab and Roma! They were both delighted with their prizes! The boys and girls also really enjoyed doing the lava lamp experiment. Teacher was very impressed with how well the class could talk about the experiment to Junior Infants.

In art we have been very creative using the material clay. We started off by making some pots at the start of the month and now we are focusing on winter art. The boys have created some fantastic snowmen, inspired by Van Gogh, and they have done great work blending colours to create a winter scene.

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

Slán go fóill, Ms. Broderick



Third Class Blue

We have worked very hard in 3rd Class Blue this term. In maths we are making a lot of progress, especially with our multiplication tables! In English we've learned a lot of grammar and new vocabulary. We are especially pleased with our book reviews, Haiku poetry and our new class library! We've enjoyed singing songs such as "Wavin' Flag", "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" and "Ging Gang Goolie"!

We are trying to make 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 'Savannah Sunset' art.

Our interactive whiteboard is used to help us explore Geography, become historians, experiment in Science, and play math games. We have studied and discussed water conservation this term. Hopefully this will help our school achieve another green flag. Fingers crossed!!!

Mr. Kelly





Winter Newsletter 2017



Third Class Silver

It is hard to believe we have already finished four months of school and how that time has absolutely flown! The boys and girls in third class got up to a lot this first term and showed enthusiasm and vigour in everything they did. Our work has been incredible this term and we are all putting in a mighty effort. There has been significant improvement in many students' work since September. We need to continue this hard work in the New Year and continue to build on how we are doing. Remember: set goals and they will be achieved!

We selected our class representatives and Green schools committee members for the class. Since then, we have been engaging in activities which both these committees are organising. We helped raise funds for the school through the bake sale and are actively conserving water each week in order to gain another Green School flag.

We were lucky this term, to not get one, but three, guest speakers! Our first speaker discussed the importance of good dental practices whilst the other visits involved the local library in Cabra and the importance of water. The students loved hearing from these people and gained great insights from the issues discussed in these talks.

Our peer reading with Junior Infants was great the last few months. The students enjoy working with the younger students and we all love reading in the class. Furthermore, many of the students engaged in after school activities also which was a positive experience for them. We had many assemblies this term and numerous students got their hard work rewarded in handwriting, being organised and so forth. It is always difficult for teacher to choose students and that is a very positive reflection on the class that there is so much competition.

To conclude on behalf of the class, I would like to wish you all a relaxing winter break and look forward to seeing you on the 8th of January, refreshed for more engaging work! Slán go fóill, Ms. Nugent.

Fourth Class Violet

We have had an industrious term in fourth class violet which varied from tree trails to chair yoga. We welcomed four new wonderful students into our class and have loved getting to know one another.

During the busy term we covered plenty of important topics in Maths including multiplication, division and most recently, length. We have really enjoyed working in stations on Fridays and getting a chance to use the iPads. In English, we have been building a word wall of the new language we come across. We try to include our new words in our writing which has comprised of descriptions, recounts, procedures, expositions and more. We all wrote a speech which we presented to our class in the hope of being elected for the Green Team or Student Council. Congratulations to all the successful candidates!

We've now completed several themes in Gaeilge. We enjoy utilising our new vocabulary through bingo, conversations, listening activities and fiche ceist (20 questions). Our SESE work has allowed us to explore schools, shops and the lives of people from the past. We interviewed family members and researched online to gather as much information as we could to gain our own insight into these areas. We became familiar with other urban areas around Ireland and what they had to offer; now we can't wait to explore them! We typed up impressive projects on a volcanic explosion of our choice. Linked to other SESE topics, we also put our construction skills to the test in trying to build the tallest tower we could using spaghetti, marshmallows and tin-foil. We conducted a number of experiments relating to sound, light, static electricity and more. We were especially busy during science week where we managed to squeeze in four experiments. We then showed the senior infants our findings. We love meeting the senior infants to read to them in the afternoons too. This helps us practise our reading and we are fantastic at bringing the stories to life for our younger partners.

Our art work has sent us home with messy fingers more than once due to clay, slime, paint and glitter. We look forward to our art project each week and the mess is well worth the completed product. We thoroughly enjoy our drama lessons and adore acting out stimulating scenarios together. Music has allowed us to discover lots of new genres which we have creatively added actions and lyrics to. We relish watching videos and playing music games.

SPHE has primarily consisted of showcasing our 'Organisation' and 'Getting along' efforts. We have been trying super hard to be awarded certificates recognising these skills. Friendship Week has helped us appreciate all our friends.

I wish all our fantastic Fourth Class pupils a brilliant winter break and am looking



Winter Newsletter 2017



Fifth Class Amber

The boys and girls in Ms. Wehrly's 5th Class cannot believe that 2017 is nearly over. They have all worked really hard and deserve to have a super winter break.

Term 1 has been jam-packed with lots of hard work and plenty of fun along the way too. Everyone produced super projects on the Ear and the Celts, and it was clear from listening to the Student Council election speeches that the boys and girls are really developing their oral presentation skills. We visited the Phoenix Park at the end of October, which was the perfect time to view the array of colour of the autumn leaves and to learn all about the trees our guide showed us during our walking tour.

We also had some interesting speakers come in to our class this term. We had a zoologist from Dublin Zoo visit us during Science week and we learned many new facts about animal life. We had a dental visit during which we learned all about dental hygiene and good food choices to keep our teeth healthy. We also participated in a sports workshop hosted by SARI (Sports Against Racism Ireland) during which we learned about the importance of looking out for one another, co-operating with others and understanding that we are all equal as human beings.

During Term 1 we also enjoyed lots of fun activities during Maths Week, Science Week and currently Friendship Week. Ms. Wehrly was so proud to see the children working together in pairs and groups to complete tasks and challenges. We won the 'No Homework Pass' in October for excellent lining up and keeping our classroom tidy. We are determined to win it again next term!

Teacher would like to wish all the boys and girls, and their families, a very happy, peaceful and fun-filled winter break. I look forward to hearing all the children's news in January, Inshallah! Ms. Wehrly.

Sixth 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.

Teamwork has been the most distinctive trait the class has shown. Throughout all subjects, Sixth Class have shown a real talent at putting their unique skills, traits and personalities into a unified force of positivity and success.

In English, the boys and girls in 6th Class have worked on various writing genres, such as comparative poetry, recount, exposition and descriptive writing. The progressive journey each child takes towards their final draft in writing is a wonderful glimpse into their vivid imaginations. Most recently, the class have begun their Eoin Colfer novel, 'Benny and Omar', which has led to some very insightful, comprehensive discussions, as well as some hilarious drama-integrated scenes. The class were introduced to debating this term which will be developed in more detail next term. Skills in oral language, writing, listening carefully and getting along, have wowed both Ms. Faughnan and Mr. O'Séaghdha, by most students! In Math, 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. Role-play activities have been hugely invested in so far, including real breakfast ingredients and clothes-related paper fashion shows.

In SESE, projects have been continuously keeping creative and inquisitive minds busy. From the Ancient Aztecs to European countries, from Space and Planets to work lives and transport; the themes and presentations have been endless hours of fun, cooperation, peer-teaching, dedication and hard work. In the Arts, the children have shown admirable skills in printing, expansion painting, drawing and more; beyond what their teacher could have imagined! Music lessons have only proven the rhythmic skills and secret talents of more 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 2018, 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.



Winter Newsletter 2017

Rainbow Class

Hi everyone! We have had a very exciting and busy first term in The Rainbow Class. We have had lots of new pupils and been busy getting to know each other . We are loving our new sensory room and getting into routine nicely. We are looking forward to our Winter break and will be back very soon for lots more fun and learning !

Have a safe break all. Ms. Mc Kay , Ms. Herron and Ms. Lawler



May you all have a happy and safe break from 12pm, Friday, December 22nd, until we reopen at 8:50am on Monday, January 08th. Go dtí sin, go dtéigh sibh slán is go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as na laethanata saoire!