



# **North Dublin Muslim National School**

**April 2019 Newsletter**

# A Message from Mr. Walsh

As we reach the end of another term, it is amazing to look back at how much we have done and achieved as a school community.

Throughout the term we have celebrated a range of themed weeks. During *Seachtain na Gaeilge*, children engaged in a range of activities including art, storytelling and quizzes which helped to promote Irish. During Literacy Week, children had visits from story tellers, travelled to Easons, and visited the book fair in our school. We were also delighted to welcome librarians from Cabra library to the school to read stories to children in Infant classes. Intercultural Fortnight gave us an opportunity to explore countries from around the world. Thank you to the parents who joined us for our class assemblies. A huge thank you to all of the staff involved in making these events possible.

Children continued to engage in a range of extra curricular activities at school, and boys and girls from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Class took part in swimming lessons. We were delighted to be represented so well at both the FAI soccer blitz and Eason spelling bee last week; congratulations to all involved!

Our parent coffee mornings have continued this term and we look forward to welcoming parents back after Spring Break. Last weekend also saw us host a fantastic family fun day. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported on the day, and a special thank you to the parents who invested a huge amount of energy to ensure it would be a success.

All of this was in addition to the amazing work that happens in classes every day of the week. We hope this newsletter gives you a flavour of what has been happening at the school this term. Have a wonderful break and look forward to welcoming you all back in term 3.





# Junior Infants Red

Well, what another fantastic term in Junior Infants Red. It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over! The boys and girls have been working super hard all term and deserve a well-deserved break!

In English, the children have been working really hard at learning all their new sounds and practicing the ones that they learned in the last term. They have been working so hard and have now finished all of their sounds for Junior Infants! They have started to read our first class reader "Look Out Teddy" and have been putting those blending skills to good use!

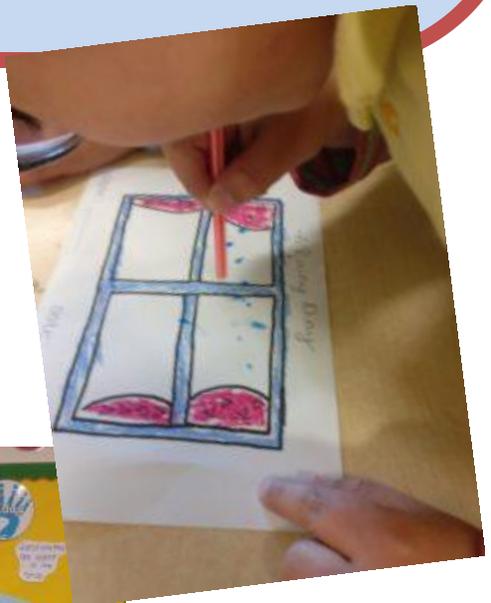
In maths, the children have been doing such an amazing job in maths, and have been trying really hard in all lessons. They had plenty of fun this term getting hands on in math lessons.

In SESE the children have covered many topics! From different kinds of houses and homes to planting our own flowers! They really enjoyed the lessons this term, especially seeing their flowers grow!

Overall, the children have had a fantastic term, and have been doing a super job in all their school work! Mostly, I cannot believe how much they have changed socially in the last term! They are all becoming such great friends and are such a wonderful class to teach!

Have a great break, and see you all in May!

Ms O'Hara



# Junior Infants Yellow

It is hard to believe that we have done two terms in Junior and Senior Infants Yellow. The boys and girls have come on so much since September and it is fantastic seeing their progress.

The class have been working so hard at maths and have learned a lot so far. We have started lots of new topics this term in both classes and everyone is doing super work. We have done up to number five in Junior Infants and up to ten in Senior Infants. We have looked at weight, length and height and recently were working with money. They love playing games in maths. In English in Senior Infants, the boys and girls have learned all their Jolly Phonics sounds and are already revising them all. They are doing great at their reading and writing lots of words and sentences by themselves. Junior Infants are also doing great work in English and are almost finished all their sounds. They are getting so good at reading and are enjoying their class reader.

We have done two different Aistear themes this term, the Garden Centre and the Travel Agent. The boys and girls have completed a lot of art activities through Aistear, including decorating pots and planting seeds. Everyone loved looking after their bean and radish plants.

The highlight of this term for the class was Literacy Week and getting to go to the library and dress up for World Book Day.



# Senior Infants Pink

We had a brilliant and busy second term in Senior Infants Pink! We worked very hard, welcomed four new children and won the class of the month!

We were very busy working on our assembly performance. The children sang The Five Pillars of Islam and Cúigear Fear ag Tógáil Tí for the junior classes in the school. All of their hard work and practise paid off when the children sang their songs beautifully. They were also delighted to get the class of the month trophy after their lovely performance!

We started the theme of 'travel agent' in Aistear. The children designed lovely postcards from the places they have been or places they would like to visit. They also were working on printing, collage and construction. After we had finished learning about the travel agents, the children started the theme of 'home' in Aistear. They made lovely houses and painted gorgeous patterns on them. They have been enjoying role play about home; the children love dressing up and have been doing a great job of looking after the babies in our home corner.

We have done lots of hard work in maths; learning about shapes, patterns and number sentences. The children did some great work finding the right amount of money to use in our little classroom shops. We have also been looking at sets. The children are brilliant at making equal sets and sets that have more or less than another set.

Senior Infants have done some great work in their English. They have started reading books at home, they finished a reading book in school, and they have learnt all their sounds for Senior Infants!

We did lots of work in our SESE subjects. We learnt all about forces in science; such as magnetic forces and electricity. The children also worked on applying forces on play dough. We all had brilliant fun during that lesson.

The children were working very hard on the themes of 'caitheamh aimsire' and 'éadaí' in their Gaeilge lessons. They learnt lots of new vocabulary about toys and clothes and they started doing some reading and writing as Gaeilge freisin!

We are looking forward to all of the fun activities that Intercultural Fortnight will bring and our summer term.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Class Green

It was a busy term in First Class Green. Everyday 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. We completed stations and have been improving our reading. In Phonics, we studied the ue,oo,ew ,u,oo,ou,ow,ow and ing sounds. We have been working on capital letters and full stops and writing very neatly. We have been writing our news every week. We learned what adjectives are and we participated in paired reading. We started a new comprehension book which is really progressing our English understanding. Literacy week was a lot of fun. We visited Easons with our book tokens and received books!

We learned about weight, length and money in Maths. We are learning our tables every day as well as completing our tables experts.

In Irish, we have been studying the topic of clothes and home. We have also been learning the days of the week and writing our news in Irish. Some of the class can write sentences on their own. Ms. Clarke is very impressed with the progress so far in Irish.

In SESE, we studied the life of the people in the UAE in preparation for intercultural week. We discovered many animals who live in the UAE and we love the camel! It is an interesting country where Ms Clarke lived for five years. We loved watching videos and powerpoints learning all about the UAE.

In Music, we loved learning the fasting song, seven emirates of the UAE and the hello song in Arabic. In P.E, we enjoyed football and basketball skills. In SPHE, we talked a lot about respect and how it is very important to respect friends and teachers in NDMNS.

Next term, Ms. Clarke looks forward to the class continuing to bring all their supplies to class and making an effort to keep following the class rules so we can learn lots more. Have a lovely break, Ms. Clarke.



# 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Purple

What a busy term we have had!

We celebrated Literacy week and visited Easons in Blanchardstown where the boys and girls chose a book to bring home with them. The children also dressed up as their favourite character from a book for World Book Day. It was a great day with lots of interesting costumes! We have also started Guided Reading Stations. We are enjoying them so much every day! Thanks to Mr Cullen and Ms McKiernan for helping us with them.

In maths, 1<sup>st</sup> class were learning about patterns. They also worked really hard on place value and are so good at naming tens and units in numbers. 2<sup>nd</sup> class have been learning digital time. They really impressed teacher in converting analogue time to digital time. They have also been working on money and calculating change.

We have also been super busy during April celebrating Intercultural Fortnight. We have really enjoyed learning all about Mexico. We learned about the Mayans and Chichen Itza. We created Mayan masks and Mexican people in art who wear ponchos and sombreros. We created really interesting acrostic poems in English and included significant facts about the country. We really enjoyed creating a performance for our parents and the rest of the school to see. Ms Broderick is so proud of how hard everyone worked during Intercultural Fortnight.

I hope everyone has a great, well deserved Spring Break. We look forward to seeing everyone back to school in 2 weeks, refreshed and ready for lots more learning!  
Ms Broderick



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Orange

A big hello from Second Class Orange. This term was jam-packed with great fun and learning. In English, we have been working on Story Writing. As a class we focused on learning about fairytales. We read, explored and examined different fairy tales to help us understand this type of narrative writing. We started a new comprehension book called the Green Genie and started working on silent letters, homophones, antonyms and synonyms in our Grammar lessons. A big focus this month was on improving our reading and we did Reading Stations to enhance our skills with Mr Kenny and Mr Walsh. It was loads of fun and made us superstar readers.

In Maths, we have explored lots of different topics: 3D Shapes, Symmetry, Weight, Length, Place Value, Problem Solving and Operations. We have spent this term becoming more confident with adding and subtracting with renaming and regrouping. We have come such a long way but we still need lots of practise to keep our operations skills sharp. This term, in Gaeilge, we have covered the topics of An Aimsir, Caitheamh Aimsire, An Teilfís and Sa Bhaile. 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 reading storybooks in Irish and also we made our own storybooks. We also have been doing a Gaeltacht half hour in our class on Fridays when we only speak Gaeilge as we do Irish stations. It's loads of fun or spraoil!

This term we covered a lot of different areas in History, Geography and Science. We even completed a project about a country in Scandinavia, learned all about Scandinavia, The Vikings, Games from the Past, Myths and Legends, Owls, Snails, Recycling, Sound and Forces. A real highlight was our work for Intercultural Fortnight when we got to explore the life and times of the Vikings. In PE, it was all about games. We played Cricket, Rounders, Bandy, Hockey and Basketball.

For Intercultural Fortnight we learned two songs, one called Heave Ho and another we rewrote called the Vikings Came From Here. We loved sharing our work with our school friends and with our parents. In music, we also explored singing in tonic solfa, Kodaly's hand signs and instruments in the orchestra. In Art, we created pastel Northern Lights, a viking Ship Collage, viking Shields and hats. We also made our own board games, explored origami and learned about the artist Banksy.

We would love to stay and tell you more but we would be here all day long. If you want to check out all about our work this term, check out our blog entries online throughout the term. Have a restful break and see you all for Term 3!!



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Blue

An incredibly fast term two is now behind the students in 3<sup>rd</sup> class and what great fun we have had in that short space of time! We went on class outings, celebrated Intercultural Fortnight, Literacy week and Irish week. We have also covered many areas in our curriculum and have learnt new skills and information.

This term we visited Cabra library to see all the great books they have on offer and also got a chance to engage in reading whilst there. We went to Easons in Blanchardstown to get books for World Book Day. Furthermore, teacher thought a trip to the National History Museum was a nice treat for the boys and girls, for all their hard work this term. We have had such great fun on these trips and teacher is already planning the next one.

We got a chance to dress up as book characters and wear green for Irish week this term. We also had a great story teller into our classroom to tell the students some fabulous stories. Moreover, we all got a chance to practise drumming and use many interesting drums and bells in music- which were great fun altogether.

We studied lots of wonderful topics in all our subjects and all students have impressed teacher by their ability to work together as part of a group. This was very evident on our recent Intercultural Fortnight projects, in which we chose to study the beautiful country of Scotland. The efforts put into all projects were incredible! There was great team work and design created on all tasks.

The students also got to take part in swimming lessons this term which was both a fun and educational pastime. All students who participated agreed the lessons were very worthwhile and they had a great time with their friends. Many of the 3<sup>rd</sup> class students also took part in after-school programmes and had fun in these clubs which was great to see and to work with those who did them.

We have had such a great time this past term and endeavour to work hard and have fun in our last term as 3<sup>rd</sup> class students. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable spring break. See you all back on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April!



# 4<sup>th</sup> Class Violet

What an action packed second term we have had.

This term we studied the narrative genre in English. We took our time in familiarising narrative texts, analysing the features, completing character profiles, and problems. To assist in developing our writing, we examined 'tired' words. These are words that are overused. We used a thesaurus to help find words with similar meanings to make our sentences more interesting and exciting. Using all of this knowledge, we wrote a class narrative, paired narrative, and finally our own independent narrative. These are proudly displayed on our English board.

In Maths, we explored a number of topics. Hearing the boys and girls explain strategies, demonstrates the progress they have made on each of these topics.

In Gaeilge, we have made a huge effort in our oral language and will continue to work hard at this.

We were busy scientists this term. We investigated the weather, rocks, magnetism and electricity. We also examined the parts and functions of plants, and the conditions plants need for growth. We planted tomato seeds. The tomato plants are coming on great and our classroom is beginning to resemble a garden.

We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge, Literacy Week and Intercultural Fortnight this term. These were enjoyable learning experiences. The effort put in by all has not gone unnoticed. Teacher hopes to see the same enthusiasm next term!

Enjoy a well-deserved break!  
Ms. Lee

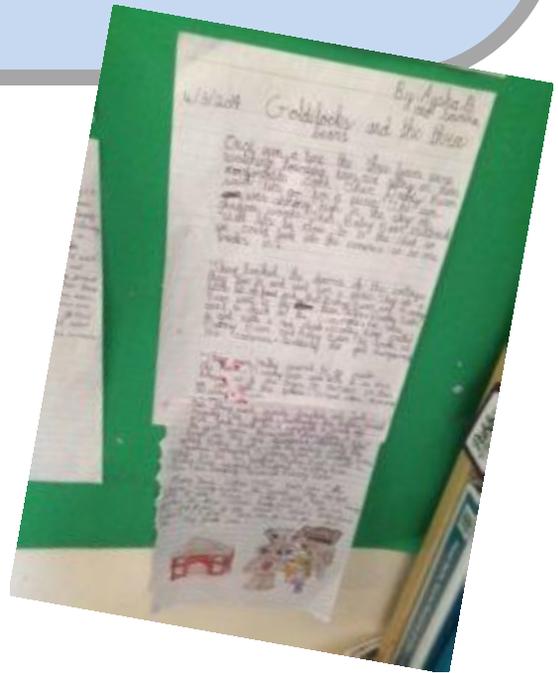


# 4<sup>th</sup> Class Silver

We have worked very hard in 4<sup>th</sup> Class Silver this term. In Maths we have learned a lot and we have made a lot of progress, especially with are long multiplication and division! In English we've learned a lot of grammar and new vocabulary. We have really enjoyed reading our class novel 'There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom'. It is hilarious. We recommend it highly.

We have learned many songs including 'Colours of Islam' and 'La Me Nona l'è Vecchierella'. We try to make our classroom bright and colourful by displaying all our excellent artwork! This term we had an amazing Literacy Week and World Book Day, where we visited Eason's in Blanchardstown. We spent two weeks learning about Italy for Intercultural fortnight. Everyone had a great time creating some wonderful projects.

Congratulations 4<sup>th</sup> Class on all your hard work this term. Well done! Enjoy your holidays!  
Mr Kelly



# 5<sup>th</sup> Class Amber

The boys and girls in 5<sup>th</sup> class have had a very busy and productive Term 2.

We really enjoyed Seachtain na Gaeilge and made a big effort to speak Irish throughout the week. We had a super World Book Day and Literacy Week with the boys and girls producing wonderful six-word stories and book covers for the school competitions. We visited Easons book shop to trade in our World Book Day tokens and Literacy Week was rounded off by a visit from a storyteller, who kept us all on the edge of our seats with her intriguing tales.

We attended an Engineering Workshop in Cabra Library at which we learned all about the fascinating world of engineering. There are definitely a few future engineers in 5<sup>th</sup> Class given how expertly they answered so many of the engineer's questions. We also attended a play in the Ark Theatre entitled "Peat". We had the whole theatre to ourselves and thoroughly enjoyed the drama and interaction with the actors on stage.

We are incredibly proud of our classmate Isaac who represented the school at the Easons' Spelling Bee. He held his nerve and did an amazing job on the day.

Some boys and girls represented the school in the FAI Tournament and we are very proud of their achievements and all the training they did in preparation.

We have done lots of project work this term, including projects on the Celts, World War One and the Human Eye. We are currently exploring Japan for Intercultural Fortnight and our projects are coming along nicely. We have even learned a few Japanese phrases and we can't wait to share all our learning with our parents. We might have a few Karate moves to show off too thanks to a demonstration we were given by a Japanese Karate black belt.

Seeing as we have been so busy, we are looking forward to Spring Break and Ms Wehrly hopes that all 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 3.



# 6<sup>th</sup> Class Turquoise

Term two in 6<sup>th</sup> Class has been a busy and exciting one. In English, we completed the novel 'Benny and Omar' by Eoin Colfer. It was very enjoyable and a lot of excellent oral and written work was completed based on our reading. In writing, we explored the narrative genre. This took a lot of time and effort, with fantastic results. The boys and girls really enjoyed reading aloud their finished products to Fifth Class. Literacy week was packed with storytelling, visits to Easons, writing six-word stories and poems about trees and plants.

In Irish, we have examined the topics of Sa Bhaile, An Aimsir, Ar Scoil and we have begun An Teilifís. Teacher is very impressed by the childrens' comprehension and the efforts of our newest students, Ahmad and Hania! Seachtain na Gaeilge was a really enjoyable week and the children put their knowledge of seanfhocail to use in their whole-school competitions. The 'tráth na gceist', or quiz, was a fun way to wrap up the week and to speak in Irish with friends from different classes!

In maths, the children have worked very hard and were delighted to welcome back our in-class support teacher, Ms. McKay. The class have worked on the topics of division, time, speed and distance, area and percentages. The boys and girls have enjoyed hands on activities and are brilliant at connecting our maths topics to real life scenarios!

6<sup>th</sup> Class have worked extremely hard on projects for Intercultural Fortnight. Integrating all the curricular subjects, the children researched all things associated with Germany. In SESE history, the children empathised with the millions of people who suffered and endured harsh lives during World War II. In Science, the class looked at German-born Nobel prize winner in theoretic physics, Albert Einstein. In the same lesson, we had lots of fun investigating static electricity with balloons and rubbing hair frantically to make streaming water bend! For Intercultural Fortnight assembly, the boys and girls prepared two songs for their fellow Senior classes. One song was a child's song completely in German, called, 'Was machen wir mit muden Kindern?'. The other song performed, '99 Luftballons' or '99 Red Balloons' was a very interesting song lyrically, and the children sang in both German and English throughout this one. They even ended their performance with a nice surprise of flying red balloons!

A huge well done to all the boys and girls in 6<sup>th</sup> Class for their hard work and efforts this term. There has been lots of extra-curricular activities going on this term, such as Spelling Bee, Student Council and Green Committee activities and FAI tournament participation. Ms. Faughnan is super proud of everyone's achievements!

I hope you all have a lovely spring break and we will see you in the new (and final) term! It's surely going to be a memorable and emotional one for all!

Ms. Faughnan



# Rainbow Class

The Rainbow Room had a enjoyable 2nd term. Our themes this term have been Spring, Space and The Farm.

We enjoyed making our sensory room into a spaceship, watering plants in our school garden and learning about farm animals and the different noises they make. We started our outings to Insomnia Cafe once a week. We are learning to sit nicely, order food we like and improve our social and conversational skills.

We also started our music lesson this month with the our music teacher Laura. We are learning how to use different percussion instruments and how to hold them properly as well as lots of new songs. We hope everyone has a lovely Spring Break and we look forward to the next school term.



# Support Team

It has been a busy spring 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! Ms. Feeney, Mr. Kenny, Mr. Cullen, Ms. McKiernan and Ms. McKay have all enjoyed working with children from lots of classes this term.

Ms. Feeney says, "It has been great working with the boys and girls in Junior Infants red and Junior/Senior Infants yellow this term. Everyone has been working really hard and it is lovely to see all the progress they are making with reading, writing and maths. It has also been really good working with some children from third and fourth class. They always try their best and I am looking forward to seeing how well they all get on in term 3. Have a super spring break everyone!"

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

Ms. McKay says, "It has been a busy few weeks in support for me. After returning to school, I had to learn lots of names again, but hopefully I won't have to learn them again after spring break! It has been lovely working with Senior Infants Pink - who always work so hard! Junior and Senior Infants Yellow are a great bunch who always try their best every day. 6<sup>th</sup> Class have been working on some quite tricky topics in maths but have been persistent in their work. Well done! Have a lovely spring break everyone!"

Mr. Cullen says, "3<sup>rd</sup> class have been working well on 'Shape and Space' in maths. The class explored the concepts of Symmetry and 2D shapes through the medium of art. The class have also read about and discussed Tom Crean's adventures in Antarctica. 5<sup>th</sup> Class are enjoying reading about the happenings down at Camp Green Lake. They are eager to finish it. Keep up all the good work, kids!"

Mr. Kenny says, "It has been my pleasure to work with all the fun filled and hard working children in 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Orange and 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Class Purple. The children in both classes are really progressing in their studies and are always kind to each other which is a pleasure for me to be around. It has been lovely to watch them grow in confidence as the months have passed. Keep up all the good work everybody."



# Student Council

What a busy and successful term it has been for the school's Student Council! After last term's successful bake sale fundraiser, the students decided to put the money towards funding yard equipment for the school. In February, the school received new goal posts for soccer (which are huge!) and a basketball net. Since then, everyone in school has benefited from more fun at lunch times, in P.E, during Golden Time and even in extra-curricular activities!

Drawing from these achievements, the Student Council decided to put their imaginations, talents and organisation skills to the test, as they planned out the revival of our school garden. With great ideas and enthusiasm, the Student Council organised for a local gardener and volunteers to come in and visit the school. We were so appreciative of the wonderful tips we were given on how to maintain our garden, the resources we received (plants, seeds, pots, compost, tools, and more!). The garden is looking fresh and colourful thanks to an afternoon spent outside pulling the weeds and planting. It really is true, many hands make light work! The Student Council would like to thank Ms. O'Hara for all her help in getting such fantastic helpers to get the ideas in action! Also, a big thanks goes out to the parents, boys and girls who helped to rejuvenate the garden!

Term 3 leaves room for some more planning and ideas. Undoubtedly there'll be a few projects in the pipeline, such as our intention to work with the Green School Committee to create recycled water-saving equipment for the school garden to feed our new plants and vegetables!

