

Drumcondra NS

September/October Newsletter

23/10/2023



Students from Ms Neale's Junior & Senior Infants celebrate the beginning of the school year!

Topics inside Newsletter:

School News, Class News, Dates for your Diary, Trips, Maths Week & More.

A Message from the Principal

Hi everyone,

That was an incredibly busy term, and I would like to say a belated big welcome in particular to our new Junior Infants and new students who have joined us! Please find information inside this term's newsletter on the events and activities which have been happening here in Drumcondra NS.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact:
office@drumcondrans.ie or principal@drumcondrans.ie

Best regards,
Karl Lawless



Allergy Awareness

As we all know, we have students at Drumcondra NS with severe nut allergies. Please remember that no food with nuts should ever be brought to school. We appreciate your help on this matter.

The Infants Room

Ms Neale's Junior & Senior Infants



Junior & Senior Infants have had a fantastic first term at school! Students enjoyed a Teddy Bear's Picnic in September and had a great day celebrating their favourite teddy.



The Infant Classroom took part in a Well-Being workshop. We learned lots of different breathing exercises to help calm and regulate our body. Some of these were snake breathing, dragon breathing and octopus breathing. We also listened to a story about sharing and then learned how to do a story massage on our friends.



Infants have been learning all about Autumn. Ms Neale brought her students on a walk to look for signs of Autumn. Students were very successful with what they found! The children collected leaves and created some beautiful autumnal art.



The Infants have been very busy learning nursery rhymes in English to help recognise rhyming words. Students have also learned how to recognise and write their own names through fun Art lessons.



The Junior Room have been working very hard on their Maths this term. Students had great fun playing problem-solving games during Maths Week. Ms Neale's classroom practiced turn taking and developed their teamwork skills.



The Middle Room

Ms Hogan's 1st, 2nd & 3rd Class



The Middle Room have had a brilliant first term back to school! Students have enjoyed outdoor learning, collaborative Maths lessons and developing their Gaeilge through song singing. Ms Hogan has had a wonderful time getting to know her students, as well as all the children, parents and staff at Drumcondra NS.



Ms Hogan is a traditional musician and has shared her love of music with her students. The Middle Room were introduced to the tin-whistle in September and have been making amazing progress so far. Students were delighted to receive their first book of tunes. We hope to hear our young musicians very soon at the Christmas Show!



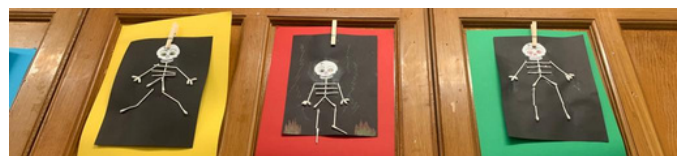
Students in the Middle Room explored the season of Autumn through tree trails, investigating nature and creating art. Moreover, students have been learning about the significance of the Harvest and are very busy preparing songs, poems and dances for the Harvest Service this coming Friday, 27th October.



All students in the middle room have worked very well together as a team, most notably during our Maths lessons. We have been very busy exploring Maths through games, using various materials, carrying out experiments and problem solving with our peers! Students enjoyed researching Maths riddles and recreating 2-D/3-D shapes during Maths Week.



The Middle Room are very talented Artists! Students explored colour theory and the technique of Pointillism. The Middle Room have also been busy learning about various countries associated with the Rugby World Cup. Students even learned the Haka as Gaeilge!



Happy Halloween!

The Senior Room

Mr Lawless' 4th, 5th & 6th Class



The Senior Room kicked off their training for the Marathon Kids Programme: 600m each day is our target per week. What a great way to start the school year!



Drumcondra NS are 1 in 4 schools in Ireland taking part in the Christ Church Christmas Choir service this year. The Senior Room have enjoyed their choir workshops so far and are looking forward to their big performance at Christ Church Cathedral on Tuesday, 12th December 2023. Each child is permitted to bring two guests.



A massive thank you to Lisa White (Alfie & Teddie's Mam), who came into 4th, 5th and 6th class during this term to teach the children some Science lessons based around the topic of solids, liquids and gases. Lisa used dry ice and brought in some lovely treats to make the lesson fun and interesting. The children really enjoyed this workshop and are very thankful to Lisa!

Our Student Council



Congratulations to our new Student Council who were officially elected this term. It was extremely close and there was only a vote or two between those elected and those who were unsuccessful this time around.

The 2023/24 Student Council for Drumcondra NS are as follows:

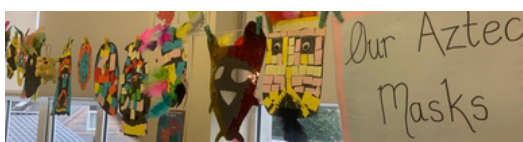
President: Valeria
Vice President: Ross
Treasurer: Ben
Secretary: James C
Marko
Adam
Ana
Saorlaith
Darcy
Cooper

Well done to everyone involved!



The Senior Room have enjoyed many outdoor activities this term!

Senior Room's display of their Aztec Masks!





Dates for your Diary



Before Mid-Term:

- We have arranged our annual trip for 1st - 6th class to visit the Botanic Gardens for a tour of their famous gardens & greenhouses, next Tuesday 24th October, 2023 @ 9.30am sharp. There is no cost to parents/guardians for this trip. We will be leaving the school at 8.40am.
- Friday, 27th October 2023, will also be a Halloween Dress up Day. We can't wait to see all of your creative and imaginative costumes.
- After the Halloween Hunt there will be a Harvest Service @ 10.15am sharp in the Church (St. John the Baptist Church). Children from Junior Infants - 6th Class shall attend. 1st, 2nd & 3rd Class have prepared a few songs and prayers for the service. Parents/Guardians are welcome & encouraged to attend.

After Mid-Term:

- School Cake Sale: Friday, 17th November 2023 (more info. to follow from the PA)
- Parent Teacher Meetings: Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st November 2023. a link to signup.com (to book a time slot) will be emailed to parents/guardians after the midterm break.
- Movie Night: Date TBC.
- Staffing Crisis in Irish Primary Schools: We are still trying to recruit a Special Education Teacher to replace Mr. Rogers while he is on leave. We have advertised numerous times and are continuing to try and put a teacher in place. We are doing our best to continue on as normal but this staffing crisis isn't sustainable and we would greatly appreciate you raising your concerns with your local representatives.
- Christmas Break: The school will close at 12pm on Friday, 22nd December, 2023 and will reopen @ 8.25am, January 8th, 2024.
- Quiz Night: Rescheduled for after Christmas (more info. to follow)

Dance, Sing, Act Company (DSA)

A fantastic company called DSA (Dance Sing Act), who we have worked with the last two years in preparation for our Christmas Performance, will begin after the midterm break.

Every Tuesday for a 6 week block, every class will go over to the Ierne's hall for some dancing, singing and acting, with a trained professional.

Dates for DSA:

1. Tuesday, 7th Nov, 2023 - DSA Instructor
2. Tuesday, 14th Nov, 2023 - DSA Instructor
3. Tuesday, 21st Nov, 2023 - DSA Instructor
4. Tuesday, 28th Nov, 2023 - DSA Instructor
5. Tuesday, 5th Dec, 2023 - DSA Instructor (Final rehearsal with instructor)
6. Tuesday, 12th Dec, 2023 - (Final rehearsal led by school staff)
7. (Provisionally) Friday, 15th Dec, 2023 - DSA Instructor - Christmas Performance and Carol Service

Drumcondra NS

Trip to St. Anne's Park

The school had a brilliant day out at St. Anne's Park! Students saw various rescue animals at the local farm, visited an archeological excavation site and also got the chance to do their own big dig! The children found plenty of Viking artefacts and enjoyed exploring in the sunshine. We finished our day with a trip to the playground. What a fabulous day out!



Drumcondra NS

Trip to Drumcondra Library

