

Dear Parents,

A month in already, it's crazy how the time flies! The children are settling in very nicely into Senior Infants. We've had the wonderful addition of two new pupils, Seb and Viola who have settled in superbly and made fast friends with the rest of the class.

We've spent a lot of September implementing new routines and classroom procedures. The children now have classroom jobs which they take very seriously. I believe that these responsibilities are so important to encourage the children to take ownership of and pride in their class. It is going very well so far!



Below is a brief overview of the work we have done over the month of September:

Literacy/Phonics

We have begun reading, 'The Wishing Chair' collection by Enid Blyton which the children adore. I find reading stories to the class really beneficial as it gives them the opportunity to retain key information, it strengthens their ability to sequence a story, it gives them the chance to analyse characters and provides them with a richer bank of vocabulary.

We have also been focusing hugely on phonics which will continue into October.

They have been revising high frequency words along with Group 1, 2 and 3 of their Jolly Phonics along with CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words, blending and initial, final and medial sounds eg. What sound is missing in 'C_T'? The answer is 'A'.



****Please remember to regularly practice sounds and blending with your child.**

Gaeilge

This year, we are doing the interactive Abair Liom programme. The children have really enjoyed the songs, poetry and games that this programme provides. We have also focused hugely on gaeilge neamhfhormúil (informal Irish). Their use of Irish in their everyday environment has been really wonderful thing to see grow and develop.

Some of the key phrases we have been working on which you could implement at home:

- Dia duit? Dia is Mhuire duit. (Hello)
- Conas atá tú? Tá mé go maith (How are you? I am good)
- Faigh ___ dom. (Get ___ for me)
- Go raibh maith agat. Tá fáilte romhat. (Thank you. You are welcome)
- Tá ocras orm / Tá tart orm. (I'm hungry / I'm thirsty)

Numeracy

This month we focused on a lot of revision. We are doing a lot of hands on lessons with counters and blocks. These lessons have proved very useful for consolidating key knowledge.



Aistear

Our theme for September was 'Me, Myself and I'. The children did loads of fun activities in the different play areas (Construction, Smallworld, Roleplay) but their favourite this month was our Fingerprint workshop. We learned that no two fingerprints are the same which the

children found very interesting. We had great fun using baking powder and cellotape to make our own fingerprints visible on black card. It was a bit messy but very entertaining!

Photos from our 'Me, Myself and I' theme:



We also had great fun learning the Jewish festival, Rosh Hashanah. We ate yummy apple pieces and honey in celebration.



That's all the news for now! I will send you a similar email next month to let you know what we did during the month of October.

Kind regards,
Gráinne