



## Welcome to Our September Woodstock ETNS Review

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning pupils, parents and teachers. We look forward to the exciting year ahead.

Settling-in September is an active time for everyone, as it offers an opportunity to get acquainted with basic school routines, meeting new teachers and getting prepared for the vast variety of learning over the coming school year! Indeed, it is apparent from the children's eager entrance to school for Early Mellow Mornings sessions that they are happy and content to be back at school and meeting their friends and teachers.

For all new parents/guardians we have an active Parent Association Community (PAC) who will be holding their annual AGM on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of October at 7pm at the school – they will be seeking votes for parent class Reps (re-nominations & new) from Junior Infants upwards. The PAC have been invaluable to the school, helping to run events and raise key funds for much needed projects. So, save the date as all are welcome to attend on the night!

Additionally, the school will be seeking two Parent Nominees; (One Mother and One Father) for formation of our New Board of Management 2024 – 2028. This exciting opportunity is open to everyone in the school from all class levels. The role of the Parent Nominees on the BoM differs from the PAC in that parent nominees are not representing parental/PAC groups. They do not bring issues from those groups to the Board or report back. Rather, they are providing a perspective from an individual parent, but are not a route directly to the Board. Any issues to be raised at board level would go through the usual channels via the Principal (as secretary) and the Chairperson. A letter will follow detailing confirmed dates, eligibility and voting protocols. We look forward to seeing you all on the night and forming our new BoM for a December 1<sup>st</sup> start.

After school activities (Anyone for Science, Playball, Ukulele, Art & Craft camp) are in full swing! Please note it is important parents/guardians have contact details for the outside providers as these are optional paid extras. Lastly, just a reminder that you will find helpful information, policies and relevant updates at our website: <https://woodstocketns.ie/>.

### **Notes for the Diary**

- Admissions & Enrolments Open 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- PE Days Monday (GAA) & Thursday (PE) please wear runners and suitable clothing.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Avondale Sports: 24<sup>th</sup> October
- PAC AGM Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 7pm at the school
- Halloween Break –30<sup>th</sup> October-3<sup>rd</sup> November \* Children are welcome to dress up (Optional)

Remember, in addition, to our 'Monthly Reviews' <https://woodstocketns.ie/> we also load 'weekly' communications sharing our learning, outdoor fun & class activities:

<https://www.facebook.com/WoodstockETNS/>.

*Dr Nicola Martin* (Principal Woodstock ETNS)



## Philip's Second & Third Class September Review

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> class children have been settling in well to the new school year. They have all been very helpful to me as it is my first year in the school and I am still getting to know the place. We have all also been getting used to the structure of the school day. Each morning the children check in by using their emotional thermometers which lets me know how they're feeling as we start the school day. We use class dojo points to reward positive behaviour and each week a couple of children get to spin our interactive rewards wheel, which creates great excitement amongst both classes.



### Gaeilge

For September the children have been learning the 'mé fein' (myself) theme in Gaeilge. They have revised how to say their name, how to ask others their names and how to introduce other people. While doing this we have also learnt many new phrases and played a number of games as gaeilge including snakes and ladders and the abbreviation game. The children have been learning the haka gaelach and how to sing the Pharrell Williams song 'Happy' as Gaeilge too! Check out the picture below of Laila and Lucia using our greenscreen while performing the haka gaelach.



### Literacy

The children have recently started the PALS reading programme. For this the children are paired up and both given a book to read. Each child reads for five minutes while the other child listens and makes a note of any interesting or new words that come up in the text. This programme will increase the children's range of vocabulary. It has started really well, and we are delighted to have Leigh working in class with us each day during PALS.



## Numeracy



During September we learnt all about time and place value, *Maths week* also took place during the month. Each day during maths week we completed a maths brain teaser which the children really engaged well with. We also played hands on maths games like shut the box, strike it out and place value wars to reinenforce what we were learning in class.

## SESE

This month one of the things we learnt about was the importance of our teeth. The childre learnt about the different type of teeth and their roles. We completed an experiment picture below using eggs and various liquids to show the damage that can be caused to our teeth by sugary and acid liquids.





## Sport

This month 3<sup>rd</sup> class participated in the Inter schools' relays in Avondale. We had two boys teams and one girls team. All the students participated really well in what was the schools first attendance at the event. A big thank you must go to James's dad Lee who came along to help on the day and provided bibs for the teams. We can't wait to compete at the event again next year!



Best wishes,

Philip