



Our October Woodstock ETNS Review

Dear Parents, Guardians and Pupils,

I would like to wish everyone a safe, fun and happy Autumn mid-term holiday! We hope you will enjoy the Individual Class Monthly Woodstock ETNS Reviews that follows. Each class review offers a little glimpse into the array of stimulating teaching approaches and integrative learning our pupils enjoy on a typical day at school. Undoubtedly during this first term, the pupils alongside their teachers have all put in tremendous work and effort. On top of which we have been promoting both our Restorative Practice approach and Nurture Schooling ethos that helps in promoting positive behaviours and attitudes, friendships and kind play. This is essential as at the heart of our vibrant and welcoming school is the key principle that “educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

Below you will find a few key dates for your calendars.

Notes for the Diary

- School re-opens Monday November 6th @ 8:45 am (8:35am early drop off)
- PE Days Monday (GAA) & Wednesday (PE) please wear runners and suitable clothing.
- Board of Management Vote Monday 6th November @ 7:00 at the school
- *Mandatory DES School closure: **Monday December 11th**: Maths Curriculum.

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/>.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Autumn Break

Kind regards,

Dr Nicola Martin

(Principal Woodstock ETNS)



Philip's Second & Third Class September Woodstock ETNS Review

The 2nd/3rd class children have had a productive October. Along with our usual school activities we have been busy clearing flower beds and planting some spring bulbs that will hopefully look lovely come February and March while also providing food to pollinators.

Here are some of our wonderful gardeners from 2nd and 3rd class.





Student council

The school is setting up its first ever student council and the children in 2nd/3rd class have been learning all about what a student council does and how it will benefit Woodstock ETNS. After hearing from the candidates, we held an election on Wednesday where two students from 2nd class and two students from 3rd class were elected. Elections will take place in other classes before the winter break. I am really looking forward to working with the student's council over the coming year.

In the picture below you can see some of the posters put up by our candidates. Each candidate was given the opportunity to present to the class before we held the election. The students showed great maturity and empathy when they discussed their vision for the student council.

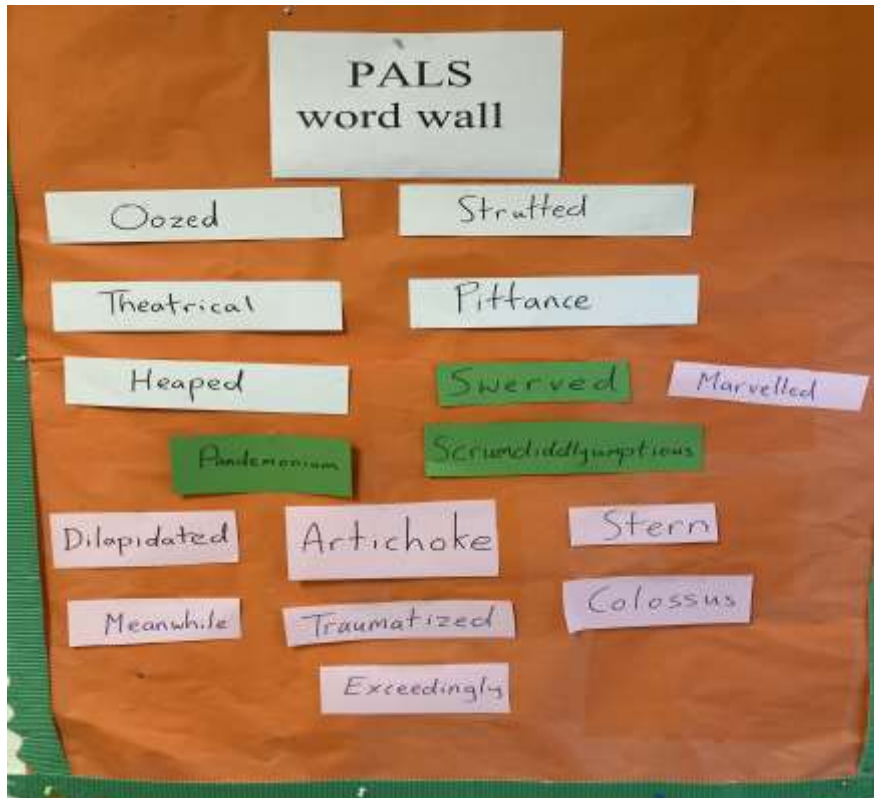


Gaeilge

In October we put a big emphasis on the children's listening and speaking skills. I selected parts of the day where I only spoke in Irish. The children also used their knowledge of the language to speak Irish informally throughout the day. The children have really embraced this. Maith sibh!

Literacy

The children have just completed the PALS reading programme. For this the children were paired up and both given a book to read. Each child listened to the other child reading, they noted any unknown or interesting words as they read. Check out some of the interesting words we discovered in our books in the picture below.



Numeracy

During October we learnt all about addition and subtraction strategies. We used our **RUDE** (read, underline, draw, and estimate) procedure when completing different tasks. We also learnt about money and completed a lot of practical tasks associated with using money. On Friday morning the children focus on hands on maths tasks and games, this has helped them to reinforce what they have previously learnt in class.

SESE

This month we learnt all about Halloween (Samhain) and its origins in Ireland. The children discovered the differences between how it was celebrated in the past compared to today. They thought the costumes that people made in the past were really creative and some of them already knew that in Ireland we originally carved turnips not pumpkins.

As we are coming towards the winter we also focused on hibernating Irish animals. We specifically learnt about the long-eared bat and the hedgehog. We also completed artwork related to the topic.



Sport

This month 3rd class participated in the school's cross-country championships. It was a really wet day which made it challenging, but the children embraced this and really enjoyed running through the mud and puddles. Massive congratulations to James Doyle, who won gold in the boy's race. James was in fourth place approaching the finish and put in an impressive sprint finish to claim gold!

Every second Monday the community hall and pitches are booked for Woodstock ETNS. I am currently doing training for 2nd and 3rd class. The training will relate to whatever sport the



school is competing in. Our next training is on the 6th of November, and we will be doing basketball.



Best wishes,

Philip