



First Class December Woodstock ETNS Review

Dear Parents,

December proved to be an extraordinarily busy time! We had an English Curriculum Inspection with Catherine King. She visited our classrooms, looked at samples of written work and spoke with pupils and teachers. Over the last four years, we have put a concerted effort into our School Self-Evaluation (SSE) process with the main aim of supporting and promoting both the children's Oral Language and Reading skills. These two areas were noted as particularly good over the two days of Inspection- so well done everyone. We now look forward to turning our focus to the 'Written Word' and will work on any recommendations forwarded by the Inspector to enhance the children's written competencies in the New Year, So, you can all look forward to the creation of stories for you to enjoy in a variety of genres!

We also went on a host of trips to welcome in December! The Senior end enjoy a trip to see the musical Matilda and also proving their literacy skills with their Fighting Words trip. Whilst the Junior end of the school hosted a fun Festive PJ day. However, the one event that stood out above all others was the incredible Winter Festive Performance hosted at the Community Centre on December the 20th. The children alongside all their teachers worked incredibly hard to offer a glittering array of Festive Songs, drama's, poems which I am sure all parents agree proved to be a fantastic night. I would also like to thank our PAC who helped organize the Raffle and a selection of baked goods and gifts. It proved to be a highly successful and fun occasion and a wonderful way to close off our 2023 School year!

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Festive Holiday. We look forward to see you all again on Monday the 8th of January 2024.



*Nollaig Shona agus Bláin úr faoi
Mhasíc Doaibh*

*Ó gach duine i Woodstock ag
Foghlaim le Cheile!*

Dr Nicola Martin

Principal (Woodstock Educate Together National School)



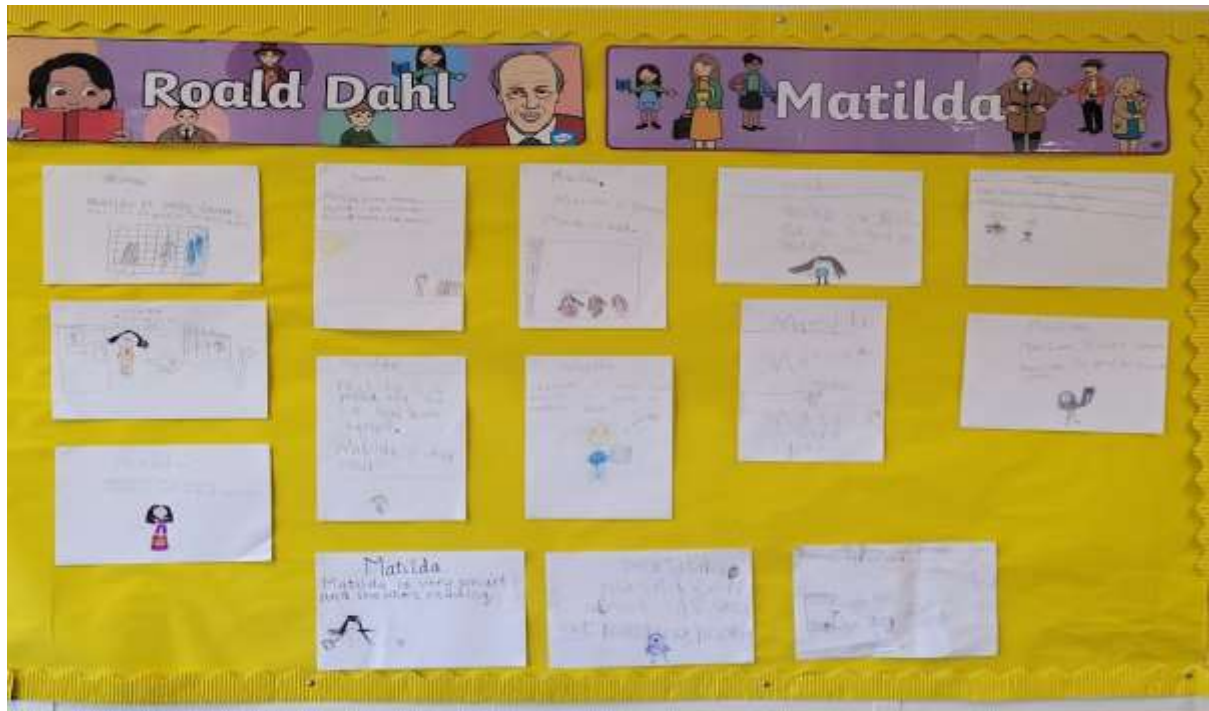
Hi everyone,

I cannot believe that it is December. We have had an amazing month and we have been so busy. Here is just a brief outline of the many topics we covered this month.

English:



We linked our learning in Geography to our English writing. We learned about Tom Crean and his three expeditions to the South Pole. We then imagined that we were Tom Crean, and we made a plan for his next adventure and listed all of the people and items that we would bring.



In preparation for our trip to Dominican college, we read some chapters from Roald Dahl's "Matilda". We then made a character profile and wrote some facts about Matilda.

Maths:





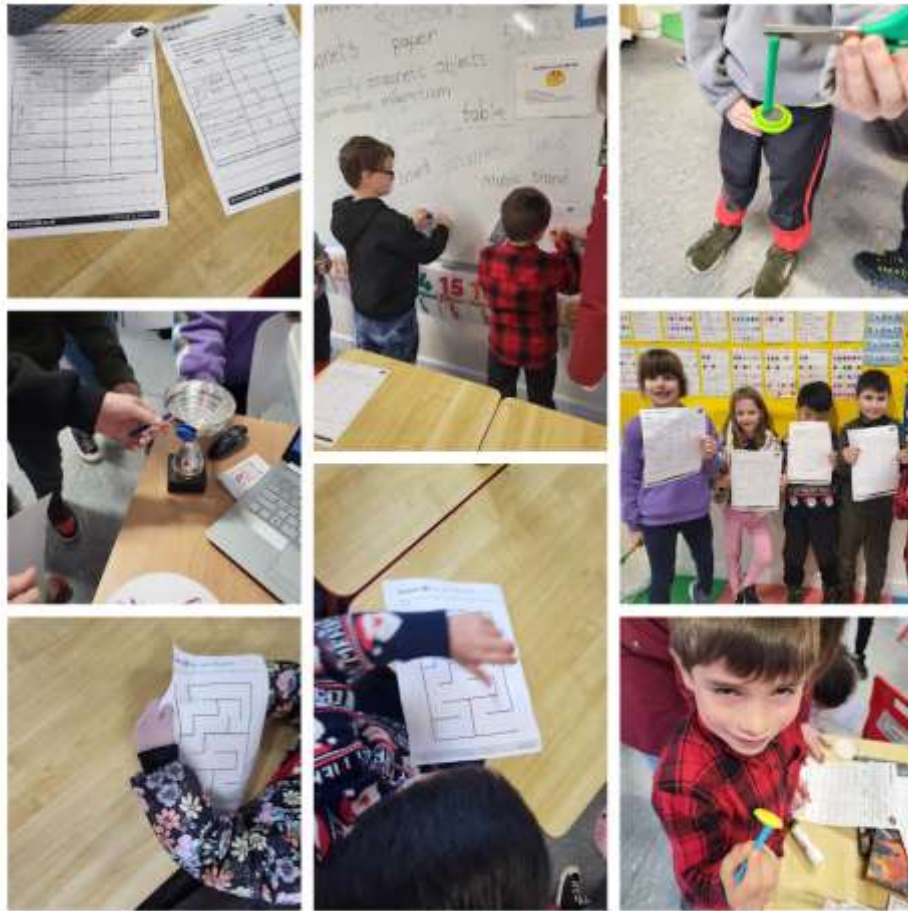
We have been busy learning about the days of the week, the clock and money this month. We played games putting the days of the week and different times in order. We enjoyed looking at the coins and calculating how much we were spending with our shopping lists.

Gaeilge:

Our phrases this month were - Faigh (get), féach (look) and cuir (put).

We enjoyed learning lots of Christmas words like San Níoclás (Santa), síóg (elf), stoca Nollag (Christmas Stocking), sneachta (snow), scútar (scooter), soilse (lights).

Science:



We enjoyed learning about magnets. We learned that the opposite end of the magnets attract and the same ends repel each other. We conducted an experiment using magnets and items in our classroom. Before we did the experiment, we made predictions about what items would repel and what items would attract.



We also learned about static electricity, and we had a great time using the balloons to create energy. We found lots of funny ways to see the static electricity when our hair stuck to the balloon or when the balloon stuck to different parts of our bodies.

Art, Music and Drama:

We have been really busy rehearsing for our Winter Performance, but we did manage to make time for some lovely pasta art and some lovely Christmas art.



SPHE:

We have continued with the “Stay Safe” programme this month and we have covered the topic of bullying.

Ethical Education:

We learned about Hanukkah, Thanksgiving and Christmas this month and we listened to the stories of how each of them began.



We also enjoyed some free time to build some marble run together. We are learning about working together and communicating our thoughts and opinions and listening to other people's thoughts and opinions at the same time.



That's all for December. I wish you all a happy and restful winter break and I look forward to seeing you all again in January.

Kind Regards,

Alison.