

### A VERY WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the October 2022 edition of our monthly newsletter. Our Halloween Fancy Dress Party will be on Friday 28th October and children are invited to come to school in their fancy dress costumes for a day of fun and games. Any children who do not wish to dress up, they can come into school that day in their favourite clothes. Just a reminder that we will be closed for Midterm Break for the week of Monday 31st October – Friday 4th November 2022. However, we are delighted to announce we will be running our **Halloween Camp Tuesday 1st – Friday 4th November 2022**. Further details and Booking Form are attached to this Newsletter.

#### The benefits of music play

Music offers many benefits for children. It is important that there are a range of different types of music, different songs, different ways children experience music. Singing is important to do with children you can emphasise elements and it supports relationships with children.



##### Language concepts

Through songs children can learn about rhyme, rhythm (patterns), tempo (speed), dynamics (volume), pitch (high or low). All of these aspects are important to verbal communication and develop hearing skills and children are exposed to, and identify, these different aspects.



##### Literacy concepts

Written music allows children to engage with literary concepts that can be transferred to reading. Music has symbols that represent meaning, like text does. Music also has letters applied to the notes which can support children to become familiar with letters in meaningful ways.



##### Movement

Children enjoy moving to music and this can be free dancing, finger rhymes, movement songs etc. These different types of movement support children to develop their fine and gross motor control and strength. Vary songs and music types to encourage different movements.



##### Relaxing

Music can be soothing to children and calm them down, it can also encourage children to make big movements that releases energy and helps regulate children to calm them down. Singing to children can also strengthen attachments which minimises stress and anxiety.



##### Exploring concepts

There are so many different songs and many of them support children to learn new concepts e.g. counting, science, classifying etc. Another great way to explore concepts with children through music is to create songs, modifying known songs, with the children based on their knowledge.

Here in KBM we incorporate music daily via Song Time, Jobs Time (Days of the Week and Weather Songs), outdoor Music Wall and an abundance of various musical instruments in our Music Boxes.



These clubs, which are available to our morning classes, are an ideal way for children to further develop their social skills with other children in their class, in a fun and relaxed environment. Clubs are payable in advance on the 1st of every month.

#### **Morning Clubs Monday – Friday**

Class 1 8.15 am – 9.15 am

Class 2 8.30 am – 9.30 am

#### **Afternoon Clubs Monday – Friday**

Class 1 12.15 pm – 1.00 pm

Class 2\* 12.30 pm – 1.15 pm

**Monday – Lego**

**Tuesday – Science**

**Wednesday – Buntas/Keep Fit**

**Thursday – Arts & Crafts**

**Friday – Free Play**

Please speak to a member of staff or text us if you wish to book your child into any of these clubs. (\*Class 2 Afternoon Clubs are full and waiting list applies)

### A LITTLE INSIGHT INTO OUR CURRICULUM

We incorporate a Montessori and play based approach through Aistear, the national curriculum framework for early years education in Ireland. Maria Montessori (1870-1952) is famous for developing a child-centred educational approach to early childhood education. The Montessori approach views the child as naturally eager for knowledge and capable of initiating learning in a supportive and thoughtfully prepared learning environment, which will assist in developing children physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively. This approach blends in with the Aistear Curriculum. Aistear is the Irish word for *journey* and represents the beginning for children as they embark on their lifelong journey of learning and development. It celebrates early childhood, with children enjoying and learning from experiences, as they happen. It also highlights the important role early years practitioners and parents play in nurturing and extending a child's learning and development. There are four main themes in Aistear, *Well-Being*, *Identity & Belonging*, *Communicating* and *Exploring & Thinking*, which ensures learning opportunities provided by us, will assist all children in becoming competent and confident learners.

Along with following the children's emergent interests, our themes for the month of October will include:

Road Safety Week incorporating Beep Beep Day on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Transportation

Halloween including Fancy Dress Party on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022