

A VERY WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the October 2023 edition of our monthly newsletter. Our Halloween Fancy Dress Party will be on Friday 27th 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 30th October – Friday 3rd November 2023. However, we will be running our **Halloween Camp Tuesday 31st – Friday 3rd November 2023** from 9am – 1pm at a cost of €80 full rate/€57.60 NCS Rate*. Please contact Breiffne via Teachkloud to check availability. Lastly, we would like to offer our congratulations to Theo from Class 2 who recently became a big brother to his baby sister Dara and best wishes to all his family.

5 BENEFITS OF MESSY PLAY

1. Gives children the freedom to explore new materials which fosters curiosity and imagination.
2. Helps to develop fine motor skills - e.g. squeezing and squishing objects.
3. Encourages communication and language development.
4. Helps to develop spatial awareness.
5. Boosts brain development which in turn helps ability to problem solve.



the playful Home.

www.thisplayfulhome.com

Messy play enables children to work with their hands, fingers and feet and can be easily done at home. In KBM we incorporate messy play through various activities using paint, water, sand, soil and jelly to name but a few.

School CLUBS

We have limited availability in these clubs, which are available to our morning classes where children can further develop their social skills in a fun and relaxed environment. Please contact Breiffne via Teachkloud to check availability. All clubs €5 each/€3.60 NCS Rate*

Morning Clubs Monday – Friday

Class 1	8.30 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

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 for all children to become competent and confident learners. Further information on Aistear for parents, (which is available in many different languages by clicking on the 3-6 years tab) can be found at <https://ncca.ie/en/early-childhood/for-parents/>.

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 6th October 2023

Autumn

Halloween including Fancy Dress Party on Friday 27th October 2023

*Minimum NCS subsidy may be greater depending on personal criteria when applying for NCS