

## Staff Professional Development

Síghle – Aistear, Integrated Learning through Play. Droichead training 4days in total. Bodhrán for primary school.

Breda – Zippy's Friends Using iPads in the Primary Classroom, Dyslexia workshop.

Ita - Facilitated PDST TiE Digital Storytelling, facilitating ongoing Google for Education CPD for ██████████NS, facilitating local primary and secondary schools in training teachers to integrate animation and film-making into the curriculum for Co. Wexford Education Centre.

Centre for School Leadership – Ita involved in research in transition to secondary school

National Educational Psychology Service – Ita attended in Wexford 9/9/19

Creative Schools – Whole staff meeting with Creative Associate Aileen Lambert

Primary Language Curriculum training took place Dec 2019. Two other half days to be taken; one each term in the next school year.

Green Schools – Ita attended Travel module. Edwina from An Taisce came to do survey. New Green School co-ord for our district appointed.

Selina – delivering course in Mindfulness and Resilience in Gorey to adult learners, after school workshops in own premises, ABA course with Middletown Centre, Teaching Happiness with ICEP, Autism in the Classroom with ICEP

Sarah – completed MAPA course in July, completed SNA Level 6, completed Cert in Managing Challenging Behaviour, will attend Nurture Room programme with next availability in Education Centre.

Droichead – Ita and Síghle completed Droichead training. Officially registered as a Droichead school and currently engaging in the Droichead process. Positive feedback from all involved.

## SSE/ SIP

Phonemic awareness and early intervention.

Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate the sounds of the language. It is important because it is the primary predictor of early reading and spelling skills. Phonemic awareness has nothing to do with intelligence, but children without it will have a difficult if not impossible time learning the sound-spelling correspondences (phonics). Phonemic awareness is all about hearing sounds and has nothing to do with the printed letters.

Testing, grouping, station teaching and testing upon completion of two blocks of six weeks resulted in a 45.5% improvement in phonemic awareness in the Senior Infants class (now 1<sup>st</sup>). Initial testing showed a 40% success rate in phonemic awareness (identifying initial/medial/final sounds, onset and rime, blending, segmenting, syllabification). Success rate in phonemic awareness skills improved to 85.5%.

The process highlighted pupils with language difficulties/delay for targeted early intervention. Practice of systematic assessment, grouping and targeting of phonemic awareness now embedded in Infant classroom.

This process is extended to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> class to include word recognition strategies and fluency. (Literacy Lift-Off) and will be extended to 4th -6th class this term with a focus on fluency and comprehension skills.

Digital Learning Plan reviewed, targets set and implemented. Review due in May.

Wellbeing - Health Promotion: parents surveyed, staff and pupils consulted. Areas for improvement identified and targets set.

PE, SPHE reviewed and implemented.

Curriculum

Green Schools: Travel – Criteria fulfilled, application to be made in March

Health Promotion: School meets all criteria of the Wellbeing Indicators set out by the Department Guidelines - under continuous review. See SSE for details.

Sports: Active Schools, GAA 5 Star School, Soccer, GAA, Swimming planned for last term. Contacted rugby club for Tag Rugby - to commence for 4th - 6th after mid-term.

Math Week – on Senior leader board for the country

Blue Flag: Integrated with math week, geography, history and art

EU Code week - coding with google CS and Scratch. Individual pupils to submit to national competition in February.

4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> involved in Concern Debating. Won first debate. Next debate next week v Galbally.

Mobile Library visit – every second Thursday from one. Junior and senior classes included. Block loans from the library each term for middle and senior room.

Book Fair: Very successful, raised enough to purchase new set of class novels for each room.

Artist – Anne Manning. Anne to work with Sighle's class to develop arts process/project for block of 8 weeks.

Creative schools associate, Aileen Lambert - to help school devise robust arts programme in the school

Cultural exchange: Twinned with school in St. John's Newfoundland. Completed two Skypes and shared information around hobbies, pastimes, traditions of Hallowe'en. ,

Music Generation: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> learning to play the Ukelele for 28 weeks. Total cost per child €20 – includes tuition and rental of instrument. Tutor Gayle Murphy.

Children's work exhibited in the National Gallery and the Arts Centre in Mullingar for Creative Schools Week. Pupils attended.

Piece in local papers re Creativity in schools – voice of the pupil

Children invited to South-East radio to speak about their experience as a part of the Creative Schools process.

Extra-curricular

GAA, Soccer, Mini 7'S, Rackard League - hurling next term

Trip to library for Author's Festival in October

Competitions – Art Credit Union, Folens art competition, Scratch

CU table Quiz to take place shortly

Visit from Gardaí for Road Safety Week

Brian in 1<sup>st</sup> won a prize in the Heritage Park Competition.

After-school clubs: Bricks for Kidz: Little Harvard Medical School, LEGO Technic to be offered for the next term - dates to be confirmed.

Hurling 365 to commence shortly.

Wonderful performance for our Christmas Play. Thank you to Gayle Murphy for leading the ukuleles and Doyle Academy of Irish Dancing for their performance.

#### Parental Involvement

PA AGM 10/10/19 @7.30pm.

Parent-Teacher Meetings: 100% attendance.

Music/Arts – parents and families to be contacted for interests or talents in the music and arts and willing to give time or knowledge to the school.

Garrett – ESB Road Safety in October

Teresa brought garda car and motorbike

School Self-Evaluation – surveys completed by parents at PT meetings

Group of parents have made huge improvements to GP Room and Resource room -many thanks to Ronán and Paul.

Pupil photography - requested by parents for school photos. Breda Murphy did photography at minimal price to parents. Many thanks to Breda for her time and expertise.

Parent Association helped at Christmas Play and next day for the children's Jingle Mingle.

Many thanks to Barry, Annette and Paul and all our parents and friends of the school who helped at the Christmas Play and Jingle Mingle.

#### Health and Safety

Child Protection risk assessment completed. Review of Anti- Bullying and Code of Behaviour completed with input requested from parents and pupils.

Health and safety audit of grounds and interior completed in first term.

Recommended works by Allianz completed in July. Photos of work forwarded to Allianz. Confirmation of approval of work received.

Shortlist of engineers for Summer Works Scheme to be reviewed.

Minor Works grant received. New main front door needed. Doors with single panes of glass to be replaced.

Sacraments

Start of year mass: 27/09/19

Commitment Ceremony for Communion in Nov

Commitment Ceremony for Confirmation in Dec

Christmas Mass cancelled due to weather

Communion: May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Confirmation: April 30<sup>th</sup>