

# April Newsletter

## Gold Standard Team – Fully Compliant Dream!!

We are absolutely delighted to announce that following our recent Tusla inspection, we achieved a fully compliant result across all areas. This is a fantastic accomplishment and a true reflection of the dedication, care, and professionalism shown by our entire team each and every day. Their commitment to creating a safe, warm, and enriching environment for the children and families in our care is at the heart of everything we do, and it was wonderful to see their hard work recognised and rewarded through this outstanding outcome. We are immensely proud of this achievement and would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to every team member whose passion, teamwork, and commitment made this possible. Together, we continue to strive for excellence, and this success is one we can all celebrate.



# Green Room

Sharing our month of learning, play, and discovery in the Green Room.

April has been a joyful and busy month in the Green Room, filled with celebrations, new experiences, and lots of springtime learning. Throughout the month, the children's activities were closely linked to the Aistear themes, supporting their holistic development through play, exploration, and meaningful interactions.

## 🇮🇷 Special Celebration

We had a lovely time celebrating Teacher Rebecca's birthday. The children enjoyed singing, making special cards, and helping to make the day extra special. This experience strongly supported the Identity and Belonging theme, as the children expressed care, kindness, and an understanding of being part of a community.

## 🐣 Learning Through Real-Life Experiences

A highlight of the month was our special visit from baby chicks. The children were fascinated observing them up close and learning how to handle them gently and respectfully. This hands-on experience linked beautifully with Exploring and Thinking, encouraging curiosity, questioning, and early scientific understanding. It also



supported Well-being through the development of empathy and care for living things.

## 🚜 Our Farm Animal Theme

Our theme of farm animals connected naturally with the chick visit. Through play, stories, songs, and creative activities, the children explored different animals, the sounds they make, and where they live. This supported Communicating as children developed vocabulary and language skills, while also encouraging Exploring and Thinking as they learned about the world around them.

## 🌸 Springtime Nature Walks

While playing outdoors, the children noticed the beautiful cherry blossom tree blooming in the garden. They spotted the pink flowers and talked about the changes happening in nature. The children also created their own blossom



artwork. This fostered creativity and imagination under Communicating, while also supporting Exploring and Thinking through observation and discussion.

### ★ Proud Moment for Our Crèche

We are delighted to share the positive outcome of our recent Tusla inspection, where we achieved full compliance across all areas. This reflects the ongoing commitment of our team to providing a safe, nurturing, and high-quality environment for all children in our care. We would like to thank Niamh, our manager, for providing us with such a wonderful crèche to work in. Your support, leadership, and dedication create a positive and welcoming environment for both staff and children. We also truly appreciate the thoughtful vouchers, which are a lovely gesture and mean a great deal to us all.

### 🌱 Outdoor Play & Well-being

With spring in full swing, we spent lots of time outdoors noticing new growth, enjoying the fresh air, and engaging in active play. Outdoor experiences supported Well-being, promoting physical development and a sense of freedom, while also encouraging Exploring and Thinking through interaction with the environment.

### 🌸 Looking Ahead to May

We look forward to another exciting month of learning and discovery in May. We can't wait to see what the new month has to offer in the Green Room!

### ❤️ Thank You to Our Families

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our

parents for your continued support.

Your

encouragement, understanding, and involvement mean so much to us and play a vital role in creating a positive and nurturing environment for the children. We truly appreciate your ongoing partnership.

Warm wishes,

Sarahlouise, Rebecca, Ciara, Aelwen and Iluta



# Orange Room

April has been a fun-filled and engaging month in the Orange Room, with lots of hands-on learning, creativity, and exploration.

We began the month by getting ready for Easter. Our Easter nest buns activity provided a lovely hands-on baking experience, supporting Aistear's Well-being and Identity & Belonging, as the children practiced independence, turn-taking, and took pride in their creations. The children enjoyed sharing their experiences from home and chatting about the Easter Bunny 🐰



The children developed a strong interest in animals, leading to a variety of play-based learning experiences. From sea world sensory play and animal tuff trays to creative activities like paw print painting and farm drawings, the children explored textures, colours, and imaginative play. These experiences supported Aistear's Exploring & Thinking and Communicating, as the children shared ideas and made sense of the world around them. Our nature walks were a highlight this month. The children loved searching for bugs and were especially excited to spot a caterpillar. Seeing the train pass by was a bonus and brought great excitement and curiosity, encouraging observation and discussion while supporting Exploring & Thinking and physical well-being.

Music and movement also played an important role in our learning. The children thoroughly enjoyed dancing along to The Animal Boogie, expressing themselves through movement and building confidence, linking to Well-being and Communicating.

Towards the end of the month, the children became particularly interested in horses, which developed into our emerging interest topic. They learned about different types of horses, what they eat, where they live, and about foals. This interest carried into our 2-day paper plate horse project, where the children painted and decorated their own creations, supporting fine motor skills, creativity, and self-expression in line with Aistear's Identity & Belonging and Exploring & Thinking. Our horse-themed tuff tray further extended this learning, as the children



engaged in imaginative role play, feeding the horses with oats, apples, and carrots. One of our peers has a horse, she brought in pictures and told us all about her horse "Tiffcrumb" at circle time. The children really enjoyed their chat and learning from a friend. It was lovely to see the children connect their home life to what we are doing in the Orange Room. This encouraged language development, cooperation, and social interaction, supporting Communicating and Well-being 🐾

We also celebrated two very special birthdays this month, Archie and Amber both turned 4! 🎉 We hope they had wonderful days celebrating.

Overall, April has been full of curiosity, creativity, and meaningful play. It has been wonderful to see the children's interests guide their learning throughout the month.

Aoife and Leonne xx



# Blue Room

What a wonderful month we've had in the Blue Room! It was so lovely to welcome all of our ECCE friends back after their break. The room has been full of energy, smiles, and excitement as everyone settled back into their routines.

We had some very special celebrations this month. We celebrated Rome's 5th birthday with a delicious Sprunki cake 🍰 and lots of cheerful birthday wishes. We also celebrated Luke's and Sadie's 5th birthday in the classroom, making it a truly joyful time for everyone. These



experiences support the Aistear curriculum: Identity and Belonging – developing a sense of community and celebrating special occasions

We also said a heartfelt goodbye to our friend Freya, who is moving away. We will all miss her very much and wish her lots of happiness in her new adventure. Supporting Aistear: Identity and Belonging – building relationships and understanding change and transitions; Well-being – expressing feelings and emotion.



The children showed great curiosity during our observation of the beautiful cherry blossom tree. This was their next step following previous observations and inspired a lovely follow-up art



activity, where the children expressed what they saw and felt through creativity. In line with Aistear: Exploring and Thinking – observing, investigating, and making connections; Communicating – expressing ideas

through art.



Our theme this month was animals, which brought lots of fun and learning. The children enjoyed taking part in an animal quiz, exploring animal sounds, and watching animals perform in America's Got Talent. They were amazed by all the incredible things animals can do and showed fantastic listening skills throughout. Animal-themed small world play, art and sensory play were also a big hit with the group.

Aistear: Exploring and Thinking – developing knowledge about the natural world; Communicating – listening and responding; Well-being – enjoying active and sensory experiences.

We also began preparations for our Graduation. The children have been learning graduation songs, creating artwork for our displays, and watching previous years' graduation in Lisdoo, which has helped

to build excitement and confidence for their special day. Aistear: Identity and Belonging – developing confidence and sense of achievement; Communicating – expressing through music and performance.

Our emergent interests this month included the fuel protests. The children engaged in imaginative play and meaningful discussions around these topics, helping to deepen their understanding of the world around them. Aistear: Exploring and Thinking – understanding the world and problem-solving; Identity and Belonging – developing awareness of community and environment.



Our Green Garden continues to grow beautifully. We have already tasted some radish and parsley, which the children were very excited about. Our strawberries are blossoming, and our tomato plants have grown bigger, we are looking forward to enjoying cherry tomatoes very soon. The children take great care of our plants, showing responsibility, teamwork, and pride. Aistear:

Well-being – healthy eating and active learning; Exploring and Thinking – learning about growth and nature; Identity and Belonging – caring for the environment.

We also enjoyed some lovely community walks this month. The children loved watching the train pass by and observing the changes in spring. They noticed the warmer weather, blooming flowers, and new life in nature, which sparked great conversations and curiosity about the world around them. Aistear: Exploring and Thinking – observing seasonal changes; Well-being – physical activity and outdoor experiences; Communicating – sharing ideas and observations.

We also enjoyed some relaxing time in the classroom during rainy days. This supported the children's wellbeing and linked with Aistear themes such as Well-being and Identity and Belonging, as the children learned to rest, regulate their emotions, and enjoy calm moments together. Aistear: Well-being – emotional regulation and relaxation; Identity and Belonging – feelings.

Love Anna, Hannah, Ellie and Jenna



# Yellow Room

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We cannot believe it is already the end of April! It has been another busy and exciting month in the Yellow Room, full of learning, creativity, and discovery.

This month we explored Amazing Creatures and Their Habitats and the Animal Kingdom. Through this theme, the children developed their curiosity, language, and early scientific thinking in line with Aistear, particularly through the themes of Exploring and Thinking and Communicating.

We read the story *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, and the children were fascinated to learn how a tiny egg can grow and change into a beautiful butterfly. This supported children's understanding of change and life cycles while encouraging questioning and prediction. To extend this learning, the children created the butterfly life cycle using pasta shapes, rice, and coloured paper, supporting creativity and problem-solving. They also drew their own versions of the story and made beautiful butterflies using paint-print folding techniques, developing fine motor skills and self-expression.



The children proudly brought in pictures of their pets and favourite animals and happily shared stories about them with their friends. This helped to build confidence, strengthen their sense of identity and belonging, and develop important communication skills.

Some of the children also returned from holidays and were so excited to tell their friends all about their adventures. They enjoyed sharing stories about places they visited, what they saw, and the fun they had with their families. This supported language development, listening skills, confidence, and a strong sense of belonging as children connected their home experiences with preschool life.

We enjoyed sensory play with different animals and creatures and went on nature hunts in our wellbeing garden using magnifying glasses to search for insects and mini beasts. These experiences encouraged exploration, investigation, and physical wellbeing through active outdoor learning.



The children also developed an emergent interest in calling the police. To support this interest, we engaged in role play and discussed the different emergency services, who they are, and how they help us in many situations. This promoted social understanding, language development, and awareness of the wider community.



The children were amazed by the beautiful cherry blossom tree

in our back garden. Inspired by this, we created our own cherry blossom trees using paint, paintbrushes, and finger painting for the blossoms. This activity encouraged observation of the natural world, creativity, and sensory exploration.



### Planting Update 🌱



Our plants have grown so well! The children harvested our spring onions and each child took home their very own sunflower plant. Through planting and caring for our garden, the children learned responsibility, patience, and how living things grow and change.



Thank you for your continued support.

With love,

Iluta and Amanda

# Red Room

This month in the Red Room, the children developed a wonderful interest in Artemis 2, which led to lots of conversations about space, rockets, and astronauts. We explored this through space-themed tuff trays, building our own rockets, and learning new space songs. The children used their imagination to create exciting space adventures while developing their language and understanding of the world around them ✨. Aistear: Exploring & Thinking; Communicating

We were delighted to introduce our new Red Room friend, Ballerina Cuppachina, who has already become a very special part of our classroom. Each child will have the opportunity to bring her home, returning with photos and stories to share with their friends. This has been a lovely way to build connections between home and preschool while encouraging confidence, storytelling,

and a sense of belonging among the children. Aistear: Identity & Belonging; Communicating

The children have also shown a strong interest in animals, especially after many exciting visits to petting farms and zoos. To support this, we created a variety of sensory tuff trays and gave the children opportunities to make their own animals, from unicorns and horses to kittens. This type of play encouraged creativity, imagination, and exploration while also supporting fine motor

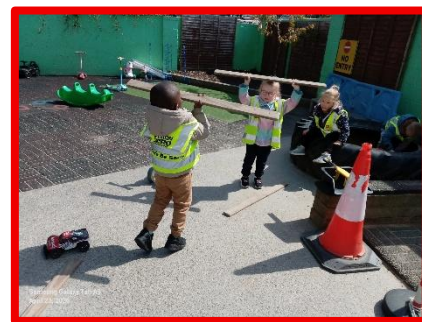
development and collaborative play. Aistear: Exploring & Thinking; Well-being

With the lovely weather this month, we have been spending lots of time outdoors enjoying the sunshine. The children engaged in active play, explored their surroundings, and enjoyed social games with their friends. Outdoor play has supported their physical development, wellbeing, and confidence as they navigate and explore their

environment together. Aistear: Well-being; Identity & Belonging



Donnacha at the Petting Farm



Another emerging interest has been playing doctors and helping others. We set up a doctor's surgery with beds and props, where the children took on different roles and used their imagination in their play. This encouraged empathy, cooperation, and communication, as the children learned about caring for others and working together in meaningful ways. Aistear: Well-being; Communicating.

We also had a very special celebration this month as our friend Rian turned 4 🎂 🇬🇧. The children enjoyed celebrating together, creating a sense of community and shared joy within the room. Birthdays are a wonderful opportunity for children to feel valued and celebrated as part of the group. Aistear: Identity & Belonging; Well-being



Thank you for your continued support, we are so proud of all the learning, kindness, and creativity shown by our Red Room children this April.

Love, Jade, Keri and Brigid 💕💕