

March Newsletter

This month, we were delighted to celebrate a very special milestone with two of our wonderful teachers, Brigid and Amanda, who both turned 40! 🎉 It was a lovely opportunity for us all to come together and mark the occasion. We are so grateful for the warmth, dedication, and positivity they bring to our setting every day. Wishing them both a fantastic year ahead filled with happiness and continued success.



We would also like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Ellie on her recent engagement and the exciting news of her new home.

🏠 This is such a special time, and we are thrilled for her as she begins this new chapter. Wishing Ellie and her partner every happiness for the future.



Finally, we are proud to unveil our beautiful new kitchen and front door! We would like to sincerely thank all of our families and staff for their patience, support, and cooperation throughout the renovation process, especially for adhering to the signage and helping everything run smoothly. A big thank you also goes to the skilled professionals who brought this project to life, the fantastic team who fitted the kitchen, our tiler for their excellent work, and the lovely man who installed our new front door. We are absolutely delighted with the results and look forward to making great use of the space.

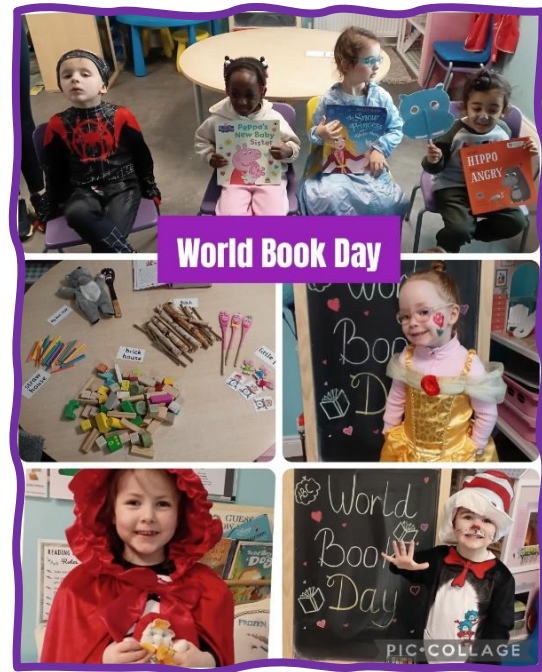


Blue Room

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to share our March newsletter with you from the Blue Room.

This month, we had lots of fun celebrating World Book Day. Our teacher Anna visited the library and brought back a wonderful selection of new storybooks, which the children have absolutely loved. Fairytales have been a big favourite, and we have also introduced books that support the children's emotional well-being. The children enjoyed sensory play and story sack activities, using props to bring stories to life. Dressing up as their favourite characters made the day extra magical!



With the arrival of spring, we have been spending more time outdoors, enjoying the sunshine together. One of the highlights has been planting seeds. The children planted tomatoes, pumpkins, parsley, and radish, and were so engaged in getting their hands into the soil and learning how plants grow. We even used AI to discover interesting facts about what plants need to thrive. We are delighted to share that our seeds have now sprouted! Our little plants have been carefully looked after by the children, who have shown great responsibility in watering and observing their growth. In the last week of March, we built a greenhouse and are preparing to transfer our plants outdoors, an exciting next step in their learning journey.



Following the fire incident in McDonald's Dundalk, we introduced small world play based on a recent local event involving firefighters. The children explored the role of firefighters through play and circle time discussions, sharing thoughtful ideas about helping others and keeping people safe. We even had a special visit from a firefighter Stephen, who spoke to the children about fire safety and their important role in the community.

There has been lots of creativity in the classroom, with the children working hard on arts and crafts for Mother's Day and St. Patrick's Day. They were very proud of their creations. We also had a fantastic Green Day in the classroom. The children took part in green-themed activities, enjoyed watching a St. Patrick's Day parade, and had great fun dressing in green.



In Miniminds, the children enjoyed a very special visit from a dancer who performed beautiful Irish

dances.



Some of the children even joined in, making it a lovely celebration of Irish culture. Throughout the week, the children explored Easter-themed activities through arts, crafts, and sensory play.

The children have also shown a growing interest in our kitchen area, which led to a creative painting activity outdoors, where they used rollers and brushes to paint walls, combining creativity with active play.

To finish the month on a high, we prepared for Easter with lots of lovely artwork. On Friday, we had a very special visit from the Easter Bunny, who surprised the children with chocolate eggs, there were lots of smiles and excitement all around!

Aistear Link:

Our activities this month supported the Aistear themes of Well-being (emotional awareness and outdoor play), Identity and Belonging (celebrating events and sharing experiences), Communicating (storytelling, discussions, and role play), and Exploring and Thinking (planting, investigating, and creative play).

It has been a busy and enjoyable few weeks, full of exploration, creativity, and hands-on learning. We are so proud of all the children and the enthusiasm they bring every day.

Kind regards,

Anna, Ellie, Hannah and Jenna



Red Room

March was a lovely and busy month in our room, full of fun, laughter, and meaningful



learning experiences 😊. We were very lucky with the beautiful sunshine and made the most of it by spending lots of time outdoors. The children explored their environment, engaged in imaginative play, listened to stories, and took part in planting and watering activities. They showed great curiosity and care while looking after their plants. These experiences supported Aistear, particularly Well-being, Identity & Belonging, and

Exploring & Thinking

We had great excitement celebrating World Book Day. The children made a fantastic effort with their costumes and loved showing them off to their friends. They enjoyed sharing their favourite characters and stories, followed by lots of singing, dancing, and fun activities. This supported Aistear Communicating, as the children expressed themselves through language, creativity, and role play.



We celebrated Teacher Ellie's engagement. The children worked together to create a beautiful card filled with colour and creativity. We then visited Ellie to present it, which was such a lovely experience for everyone. This supported Aistear Identity & Belonging and Well-being, helping the children understand kindness, relationships, and celebrating special moments together.



We also had lots of fun celebrating Green Day. The children took part in a little concert for their friends, showing great confidence as they sang and performed. Afterwards, we had a fun dance party where everyone joined in.

The children also shared their stories about what they did on St. Patrick's Day, which helped build their confidence and language skills. This linked with Aistear Communicating and Well-being through music, movement, and storytelling.



Planting and growing continued to be a big interest this month. The children planted cress seeds in plastic bags and placed them at the window, watching them grow day by day. They were very excited to see the changes! The children also helped Keri in our wellbeing garden, planting and caring for different plants. These activities supported Aistear Exploring & Thinking and Well-being, encouraging hands-on learning,

responsibility, and care for nature.

The children were also very busy creating beautiful Mother's Day arts and crafts. They put so much effort and love into making special surprises for all their wonderful mummies. This supported Aistear Identity & Belonging and Communicating, as the children expressed their love and appreciation through creativity and meaningful artwork.



There was great excitement when the Easter Bunny visited our room. The children were delighted with the surprise and loved receiving their yummy chocolate eggs. There was lots of joy, laughter, and chatting about the visit throughout the day. This supported Aistear Well-being and Identity & Belonging, as the children shared in a fun and happy group experience.



We also celebrated some very special birthdays this month. A big happy birthday to Teacher Brigid and to Shèa, who turned 4! The children loved celebrating together with songs, smiles, and lots of excitement. These celebrations supported Aistear Identity & Belonging and Well-being, helping each child feel valued, included, and part of our classroom community.

March was a joyful and memorable month filled with fun, friendship, and learning.

♥ Love from the Red Room, Jade, Keri & Brigid ♥

Green Room

We have been very busy in the Green Room and wanted to share some of the lovely activities and celebrations your children have been enjoying!

Mother's Day 🌸

For Mother's Day, the children created special handmade cards and little crafts to show



their love and appreciation. We talked about the important people in our lives and encouraged the children to express kindness through art. It was a lovely opportunity for them to explore colours, textures, and creativity while making something meaningful.

Aistear Links: Well-being (developing positive relationships), Identity and Belonging (sense of family), Communicating (expressing feelings

through art).

St. Patrick's Day 🍀

We had great fun celebrating St. Patrick's Day! The children dressed in green, listened to Irish music, and took part in simple themed activities. We explored shamrocks, rainbows, and enjoyed green-themed sensory play. It was a joyful day full of colour and celebration.

Aistear Links: Identity and Belonging (developing cultural awareness), Exploring and Thinking (sensory exploration), Well-being (enjoyment and participation).



Easter Celebration 🐣

Easter brought lots of excitement to the Green Room. The children enjoyed Easter-themed arts and crafts, including decorating eggs and making bunny pictures. We also had a mini-Easter egg hunt, which encouraged movement, curiosity, and lots of smiles!

Aistear Links: Exploring and Thinking (problem-solving and curiosity), Well-being (physical activity), Communicating (sharing experiences).

Pirates 🏴‍☠️

Our pirate theme has been a big hit! The children loved dressing up as pirates, going on pretend treasure hunts, and exploring imaginative play.

This theme helped develop their creativity, language skills, and confidence as they acted out little adventures together.

Aistear Links: Communicating (language and storytelling), Identity and Belonging (confidence in role play), Exploring and Thinking (imagination and creativity).

Fine Motor Skills 🖐️

We have been focusing on developing fine motor skills through a variety of fun activities such as threading, stacking, drawing, and playing with playdough. These activities help strengthen little hands and fingers, supporting early writing and everyday tasks.

Aistear Links: Well-being (physical development), Exploring and Thinking (problem-solving), Communicating (early mark-making).

Outdoor Photography Play 📷

The children had great fun outside using pretend cameras to “take photographs” of their surroundings. This imaginative activity encouraged creativity, observation skills, and communication as they talked about what they could see and capture. It also supported their social play as they shared ideas and explored together.



Aistear Links: Exploring and Thinking (observation and curiosity), Communicating (sharing ideas), Well-being (outdoor play and cooperation).

World Book Day 📖

For World Book Day, the children enjoyed sharing their favourite stories and dressing up as characters. We spent extra time reading together, exploring colourful books, and encouraging a love of stories and language. It was wonderful to see their excitement and engagement with books.

Aistear Links: Communicating (language development and storytelling), Identity and Belonging (expressing interests), Well-being (enjoyment and engagement).



Sophia's Birthday 🎂

We also had a lovely time celebrating Sophia's



3rd birthday! The children enjoyed singing "Happy Birthday," sharing in the celebration, and making the day feel extra special. It was a joyful occasion, and we were so happy to celebrate with her.

Aistear Links: Identity and Belonging (sense of community), Well-being (positive emotions), Communicating (participation in songs and social interaction).

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. It is a joy to watch the children grow, learn, and build friendships each day in the Green Room. We look forward to many more fun experiences and learning opportunities together in the coming weeks!

Sarah Louise, Rebecca, Ciara, Aelwen, and Iluta

Orange Room

March has been a wonderfully busy and exciting month in the Orange Room, filled with seasonal learning, celebrations, and lots of creative fun! We began the month by introducing our new theme of Spring. The children explored what happens during this season, discussing how flowers and plants grow and what they need to thrive. We learned new songs such as “Twinkle Twinkle Little Flower” and “The Farmer Plants the Seed,” which the children really enjoyed. To bring our learning to life, we explored real daffodils and used them for observational drawing. The children showed great interest in the details of the flowers and created beautiful artwork inspired by what they saw 🌻.

We also celebrated World Book Day, where the children dressed up and shared their favourite stories. Our Goldilocks and the Three Bears tuff tray encouraged imaginative play and storytelling, as the children re-enacted the story using sensory materials 🐻.



We then moved into our St. Patrick's Day celebrations, which brought lots of colour and



excitement to the room. The children learned about Irish traditions, parades, and all things green! Creative activities included shamrock stamping using peppers dipped in green paint and making Irish flags using collaged crepe paper. We also introduced the song “I’m a Little Leprechaun,” which quickly became a favourite. Our sensory play included green sparkly playdough and a rainbow spray tuff tray, where the children explored how colours mix and flow when sprayed with water, an engaging hands-on

science experience. We were also lucky to enjoy a live Irish dancing performance, which the children loved. To finish off the celebrations, we had Green Day, where we made delicious green buns and enjoyed festive activities together 🍀. We also spent time preparing thoughtful Mother's Day gifts, including planting flower pots, creating personalised cards filled with love and care, and learning the song "I Love My Mammy" ❤️.



As we moved towards Easter, the children's excitement continued to grow. We explored Easter through a variety of creative and sensory activities, including decorating foam Easter eggs with stickers, glitter, markers, and pompoms. The children also enjoyed Easter Bunny stamping using cardboard rolls and engaging in themed tuff trays filled with colourful and textured materials. One of the highlights was our Easter chicks project, completed over two days. The children used forks to paint and create a fluffy texture, then added eyes, beaks, and feathers to bring their chicks to life 🐣. We also painted paper plates and transformed them into Easter baskets, which were later used during our Easter egg hunt. The month ended with lots of excitement as the children took part in a fun Easter egg hunt and even had a special visit from the Easter Bunny 🐰! We also had a very special celebration this month as Amelia turned 4 - Happy Birthday again, Amelia!

Throughout all of these activities, the children were developing skills across all areas of Aistear. They built strong relationships and confidence through group discussions and celebrations (Well-being & Identity and Belonging), explored creativity and self-expression through art, music, and imaginative play (Communicating), and developed important thinking and problem-solving skills through hands-on sensory and science-based activities (Exploring and Thinking). This month has provided rich, meaningful learning experiences through play, helping each child to grow, explore, and learn in a fun and supportive environment. Lots of love, Aoife and Leonne ❤️

Yellow Room

Hello to all the parents from the Yellow Room!

Here is a quick update on all the wonderful learning adventures we enjoyed this March.

World Book Day – Aistear: Communicating & Wellbeing

We celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite book characters and exploring the story "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." The children experimented with creating the perfect porridge, engaging in sensory play, early maths vocabulary, and storytelling. We also read "How to Catch a Leprechaun," which inspired imaginative



thinking and problem-solving. The children drew



pictures of their ideal leprechaun trap, then designed and built a trap together. To our surprise, the cheeky Leprechaun left behind a treasure chest and chocolate coins! Our excitement continued outdoors with a treasure hunt in the Well-being Garden, where we found pictures of the

Leprechaun, his hat, and even more chocolate coins.

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations – Aistear: Identity & Belonging / Wellbeing

We had a fantastic time celebrating St. Patrick's Day in our classroom.

We held a Green Day, where everyone came in wearing green to mark the occasion. The children enjoyed a little party with yummy treats, listened to Irish music, and watched a short video of a St. Patrick's Day parade, helping them learn more about Irish culture and traditions. For our art projects, the children created their own Irish flags and made beautiful pictures of a rainbow with a pot of gold at the end. These activities supported

creativity, cultural awareness, and fine motor development, key learning goals in Aistear's themes.

Mother's Day Creations – Aistear: Exploring & Thinking / Identity & Belonging

The children worked very hard on making Mother's Day cards and pasta necklaces to celebrate our wonderful mums. These creative activities supported fine motor skills, self-expression, and helped children show appreciation for the special people in their lives. Thank you to our lovely mammy's for your ongoing support, care, and partnership!



Spring Planting – Aistear: Exploring & Thinking

As the weather brightened, we noticed the flower bulbs we planted in autumn have sprouted and are getting ready to bloom. This discovery led to great excitement and new interest in gardening. We planted flower seeds, cucumbers, and tomatoes in pots on our classroom windowsill. We will keep you updated as we observe and care for our growing plants.

Circus Interest – Aistear: Identity & Belonging / Communicating



Some of our children enjoyed a visit to the circus in town, which sparked a new emergent interest. Outdoors, the children created their own circus area through imaginative play. To support this, we set up a Circus Play Area indoors with a ticket booth and popcorn stand. We also watched a circus show, which added to their role play and storytelling. This type of play helps children develop social skills, confidence, language, and creativity, all key aspects of Aistear's Wellbeing and Communicating themes.

Easter Activities – Aistear: Wellbeing & Communicating

The children enjoyed making Easter artwork, including chicks, bunnies, and colourful eggs. The highlight of the month was a special visit from the Easter Bunny, who greeted the children with hugs and chocolate eggs. It was a magical moment full of joy and excitement.

Thank You & Happy Easter

Thank you all for your continuous support throughout the term. We wish every family a Happy Easter and a wonderful, relaxing break.

With love,

Iluta and Amanda

