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# Pelletstown ETNS Newsletter

April 2025

## Term 2

Welcome to our Term 2 newsletter. We've had a really busy term and hope you enjoy some highlights from each class below! You will also see some of the activities being undertaken by our student committees; including the Student Council, our Gaelbhratach committee, our Amber Flag committee as well as other school events.

Please also read this term's PTA Newsletter which highlights some of the fantastic work the PTA have undertaken so far this year!

As we head into Term 3, I would like to remind everyone to please be mindful when parking at drop-off and collection times. Please do not stop in the middle of the road, on corners or outside residents' houses. Some careless parking has caused some very near misses in relation to children being injured. Please be respectful of our school community. The community Gardaí will continue monitoring this in Term 3.

Please save the date of **16th May at 9:30am** for a meeting regarding the Dublin 7 and Dublin 15 Keeping Childhood Smartphone Free initiative. We would love to see as many of you as possible there. See Aladdin notification and below for further information.

We hope the sun will stay with us for Term 3, so please ensure you apply sun cream to your child before school.

Many thanks for all your support and engagement with the school this term.  
Wishing you all a lovely break over the next 2 weeks!

Kind regards,  
Caitríona



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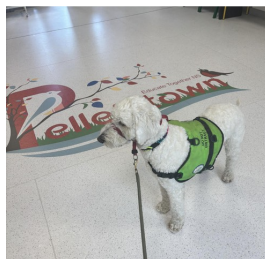
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## Our class highlights



### **Cruideín - Junior Class**

Cruideín has had such a fun-filled 2nd Term. This term we took swimming lessons at the National Aquatic Centre and as part of our learning about Spring we went out lots and explored our local community. We really enjoyed the Lego coding classes we had, the Lá Glas parade and the Army Band that came in and played all our favourite songs back in January. Cruideín's favourite thing this term was our Neurodiversity week celebrations, the children got to join in everyday with Sensory Play, we had Samba dancing in the hall, Bubbles on the Green, a Firetruck visited and we all got ice-cream! It was such a fun celebration for all!



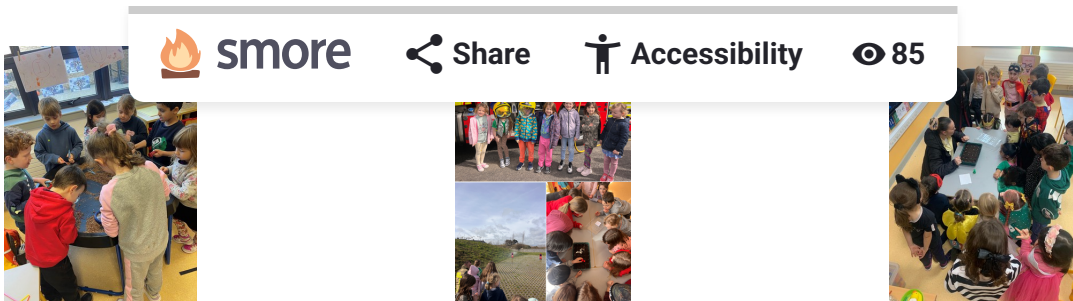
### **Kingfisher - Senior Class**

Bill's class have had a lovely Term 2 of this school year. Some of the highlights included swimming in the National Aquatic Centre, a recent visit from the Garda Band who played lots of our favourite songs, and, of course, the school's Neurodiversity week celebration. We enjoyed sensory play, the Samba performer, the firetruck and a special visit from Iona the dog.



### **Junior Infants - Wren**

Stephanie's class have had a super second term in Junior Infants! We have started to learn how to write in cursive style and we are now reading books everyday! Our class has been learning a lot about Spring and we've been looking for signs of Spring. We've also been out and about, planting potatoes in the garden, celebrating Lá Glas and making a trip to the local playground.



### Junior Infants - Dreoilín

Aoife's class have had a very busy and exciting Term 2. We celebrated Lá Glas during Seachtain na Gaeilge and took part in our first Tráth na gCeist. During Neurodiversity week we had the chance to see some Samba Dancing, have sensory Play and even had a visit from Dublin Fire Brigade! We have also been working really hard in class and have learned all about the Garden Center. We went on a spring hunt and also planted peas and potatoes. We even looked at some insects that might be in the soil!

### Senior Infants - Robin

Kate's class have had a fantastic Term 2! We really enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and sharing our favorite books with each other. We have also been keeping an eye out for signs of Spring and discussing what plants need to grow - we really enjoyed planting our own! During Neurodiversity week we had a visit from Dublin Fire Brigade, we especially enjoyed using the hose! We also had the opportunity to see a Samba dancer perform and enjoy sensory play!

### Senior Infants - Spideog

Ailbhe's class have had an amazing term 2 filled with lots of learning and fun. We loved dressing up for World Book Day and sharing our favourite books with each other. We also have been discussing signs of Spring and what plants need to grow. We even planted our own plants! Spideog also got to see the Fire Brigade and use their hose. This was very cool as we were doing the theme of the Fire Station in March!



### 1st Class - Goldfinch

Lorna's class took a tour to the Lidl distribution Centre for the Farm to Fork Experience. Here we learned about the journey our food goes on from when it is grown or collected from animals right the way through to when it is packaged and distributed to supermarkets all around Ireland. We even got to travel through the distribution center on a special train to see all of the produce before it was sent in trucks to the supermarkets and we got to grow our own beans.

### 1st Class - Lasair Choille

Shane's class had a busy and exciting Term 2, packed with a wide variety of activities. We got creative making volcanoes out of papier-mache, explored the lives of famous Irish figures during Seachtain na Gaeilge, and even enjoyed a trip to the Lidl Farm to Fork experience. One of the standout moments was Neurodiversity Week, where we had a blast with sensory play and lively samba dancing. It was so much fun listening to the vibrant music and dancing along together!

### 2nd Class - Quail

Stacey's 2nd class have been very busy this term. We really enjoyed all the different activities planned from Neurodiversity week such as meeting the firefighters, samba dancing and a visit from the ice-cream van. We have been learning lots about instruments and made our own percussion instruments using recycled materials. We've also learned a lot on farming and where our food comes from. We even got to decorate our own spring sugar cookies.





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## 2nd Class - Gearg

Rory's class enjoyed a lot of different activities this term. We had a great time completing our swimming lessons in January and February. We earned a trip to the playground and a pizza party with our lining up stars. We have learned about the parts of a plant and even done a lot of planting! Our peas, strawberries, onions and potatoes are doing well! We enjoyed celebrating Neurodiversity Week with a variety of activities like Samba dancing, Sensory Play and visits from the Ice Cream Van and Dublin Fire Brigade!

## 3rd Class - Puffin

Amy's class had an exciting Term 2! Starting off with a fun trip to the National Gallery of Ireland where we learned so much about different paintings and sculptures. Back in the classroom we were learning all about Tom Crean and creating projects about his life. To finish off the term, we hosted the whole school assembly where we shared what we have learned about Equality Issues in Ireland and what is being done to create a more accessible environment for everyone!

## 3rd Class - Puifín

In January, Ríanne's class visited the National Gallery of Ireland and had a fantastic time learning about lots of different artists. We even got to see some paintings by Picasso who we had studied earlier in the year. Our class also enjoyed seeing some artwork on display that was done by children in Ireland. Overall, we had a great day out getting the train into the city centre, enjoying our lunch in Merrion Square Park and seeing such beautiful art pieces!



#### 4th Class - Swallow

Grace T's class enjoyed gymnastic lessons with Sam, the gymnastics coach, singing in the National Children's choir, taking a trip to the National Gallery and a zoom call with a visitor from Japan. They really enjoyed being able to use the hose (especially when Rónin got to hose a special guest), when the Fire Brigade came in to visit us last week.

#### 4th Class - Fáinleog

This term, Grace F's class were kept busy with gymnastic lessons, singing in the National Children's choir, taking a trip to the National Gallery and a zoom call with a visitor from Japan. Last week Fáinleog took a trip down to the National Botanic Gardens to see the River Tolka as we have been learning about the rivers of Ireland in Geography.

#### 5th Class - Cuckoo

Darragh's class have been exceptionally busy this term. We did a 3-day art and science workshop in Dunsink Observatory and had trips for our National Children's choir performance. We also had amazing gymnastics sessions with Sam, and an adaptive PE session where we played wheelchair volleyball and practised blind football skills.



### 5th Class - Cuach

Sinéad's 5th class have had a very busy few months in Cuach. On March 25th, we performed on stage at the National Basketball Arena for the National Children's Choir. Some students in our class represented the school in the Ficheall chess tournament as well as the Eason's Spelling Bee. We had great fun doing gymnastics with Sam as well as taking part in many fun activities during Neurodiversity Week!



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### 6th Class - Blackbird

Joanna's class had an adventurous term with several educational trips and workshops. In January, we visited Henrietta Street - a museum of social history of Dublin, which deepened our understanding of the city we live in and Irish history that we had been studying in 5th and 6th class. In March, we admired art and learned about various artists' lives in the National Gallery. In April, we visited Irish Aid and participated in a workshop which taught us about Irish development work overseas.



### 6th Class - Lon Dubh

Claire's 6th Class visited the GPO and Kilmainham Gaol as part of their learning about the 1916 Easter Rising. They saw the jail cells of the leaders of the rising including Éamon de Valera, Pádraig Pearse and Countess Markievicz and the chapel where Joseph Plunkett married Grace Gifford. The best part was seeing the bullet holes in the walls of the GPO.

## Student Voice - Our Student Committees



### Student Council

The Student Council have met a number of times this term. For International Mother Tongue Day in February we designed posters saying 'hello' in multiple languages and you can see these displayed on doors around the school! We have also been discussing yard activities for all pupils. We got chalk to draw on the board, new skipping ropes for the roof yard and 5th/6th can use the astro to play football!



### Gaelbhratach

Our school spent lots of time working very hard learning the national anthem in class and in assembly. We all came together on



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ely green clothes  
the children in

Pelletstown who worked hard to help us achieve this Gaelbhratach goal.



### Amber Flag

The Amber Flag Committee helped to organise the schools Wellbeing Week in January. Each morning the Amber Flag member read an affirmation to their class. We had lots of activities during the week such as mindfulness workshops and yoga. The committee also ensured each class had a calm corner basket.

## Pelletstown in Action



### Football Team

We participated in the FAI 5-a-side competition in February. Both the boys and girls team played fantastically in the tournament and we will definitely enter again next year. The boys team are through to the 3rd round of the Pegasus cup with one league game to win before progressing to the next stage.

#pelletstownabú



### Football Team

Our 11-a-side girls played all of their matches this term in both the league and the cup, this year we had even more players than last year! The game vs Castleknock ETNS was their last game of the competition. Thank you to all of the management team and to the players for all your hard work and tactical knowledge!



### Cross Country Team

At the end of March, pupils from 3rd - 6th represented Pelletstown in a Cross Country event in The Bogies. Everyone did their best, representing our school with proud. Several children got medals and trophies and we are so proud of all participants!



### Chess team

Students from 4th to 6th class represented PETNS in the Féile





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submitted 4

done to the

first-ever chess team - we are so proud of you. We look forward to hosting another chess tournament for other school teams in our school in the next term!



### Quiz team

Students from 6th Class represented our school in two different Credit Union Quizzes in February! They were able to answer some really difficult questions and did the school proud! Well done to you all!



### School Choir

Pupils from 4th and 5th class represented the school in the National Children's Choir, performing in the National Basketball Arena on 24th March with hundreds of children from other schools. They sang an impressive 15 songs and it was a fantastic night. 8 of those children will now go on to represent the school in the National Concert Hall on 11th May and we look forward to hearing them sing alongside children from schools across the country for this National concert.

## Other School News



### Bí Cineálta

As per previous correspondence, the school is working on developing a new Bí Cineálta (Anti-Bullying) policy, along with all other schools in the country. Staff professional learning on this took place on 13th March. In Term 3, all students, staff, parents/ carers and members of the school community will receive a survey relating to ant-bullying procedures. We would really appreciate your insight and engagement with this, to support our implementation of the guidelines and development of the Bí Cinealta policy.



### Sensory Garden and Outdoor Classroom

Members of the PTA, along with the Plunkett's Men's Shed (who have given so generously of their time) have been working so hard on the development of our school's sensory garden and outdoor





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and we look  
ren to use! We

are so grateful to everyone who has been involved in this project over the last number of months, and we can't wait for you to see the finish products!



### Garda Band and Defence Forces Army Band

We were treated to 2 special music occasions in recent months with visits from the Defence Forces Army Band, as well as the Garda Band. They both played familiar tunes and taught everyone about the instruments of the orchestra. They even invited up some guest conductors from the school!

## Dublin 7 and Dublin 15 Keeping Childhood Smartphone Free

Following the surveys with parents regarding Keeping Childhood Smartphone Free and the overwhelming response in favour of this, please see attached poster (and Aladdin notice for further information) for details of an upcoming community meeting. We would love to see as many of you as possible there!

D7 & D15

KEEPING  
CHILDHOOD  
SMARTPHONE  
FREE

INFORMATION SESSION FOR  
PARENTS & CARERS ACROSS  
ALL 13 SCHOOLS

FRIDAY 16TH MAY 9:30-10:30AM

AT DUBLIN 7 EDUCATE  
TOGETHER NS

SPEAKERS

DR. COLMAN NOCTOR

Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytical Psychotherapist

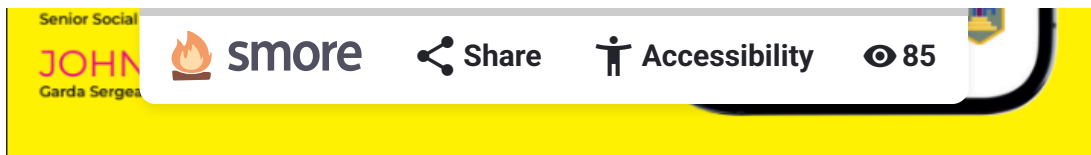
DR. ELEANOR GRIFFITH

Senior Clinical Psychologist CAMHS

JENNIFER GOODWILL

This is a voluntary initiative  
with the wellbeing of our  
children at the centre.  
We hope to see you there.





## Dates for your Diary:

**Please note the below dates carefully:**

**April 28th:** School re-opens

**May 5th:** School closed - Bank Holiday

**May 16th:** 9:30am - Dublin 7 and Dublin 15 Keeping Childhood Smartphone Free Meeting in D7 ETNS

**June 2nd:** School closed - Bank Holiday

**June 5th:** Family Marathon Fun Run (PTA Fundraiser)

**June 6th:** Annual Art Exhibition - All classes (Eric Young Sports Hall)

**June 12th: Senior Sports Day (3rd - 6th Class)**

**June 19th:** Junior Sports Day (Cruideín, Kingfisher, Junior Infants - 2nd Class)

**June 24th:** Ice-cream truck for all to celebrate end of year

**June 24th:** 7:00pm 6th Class Graduation (Eric Young Sports Hall)

**June 26th:** Last day of school

**School Tours:** Aladdin notifications will be sent to parents regarding individual class school tours.

### Pelletstown ETNS


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