

Sonas

Special Junior Primary School

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Roll No. 201620



February 27th 2024

Board of Management Meeting

The most recent Board of Management meeting took place on the 25th of January and the next Board of Management meeting will take place on March 6th

News from the Classes

Purple Class

Purple Class are having a great February so far. Our theme for the month is 'Dinosaurs' and we love playing with our dinosaur toys in class. We celebrated

Pancake Tuesday with tasty treats and made lovely cards for Valentines Day. We have had a few trips out on the school bus this month so feel very lucky We went to an indoor play area that had lots of fun stuff. We had a great time on their giant slide. We also visited a playground this week. Our school had some amazing new resources arrive over the last few weeks. We now have a lighted tunnel in our Rainbow Rooms and new light up resources in our Sensory Room.

Orange Class

Orange class have been learning all about food this month. We are listening to food theme songs such as Do you Like Broccoli Ice-cream? Our story is The Very Hungry Caterpillar and we have been creating lovely Butterfly themed art and crafts. We have also been learning how to butter our toast and pour milk into our cereal during Breakfast club. This month we enjoyed trip to Little Rascals in Mallow and Bishopstown playground.

Gold Class

Gold class had a lovely month. We made pancakes with chocolate on pancake Tuesday, we made valentines day art for our families for Valentine's day. We took a trip on the bus to mallow little rascals and had loads of fun in the soft play area. Our theme for this month is transport, we loved listening to "have you ever seen a red car" during circle time.

Yellow Class

February has been a busy month, this month we were learning about transport. We enjoyed a birthday party. We have been busy practising our writing and drawing. We were drawing Matman and singing our Matman song

Silver Class

Silver class have been having lots of fun learning and exploring the theme of 'Me and My Family'. We made family trees and sang the "Knock Knock Song" with pictures of our families behind the door.

On Friday we celebrated Arabella's 6th Birthday! We made a pizza at school and sprinkled cheese and pepperoni on before singing Happy Birthday to Arabella and eating a caterpillar cake. Happy Birthday Arabella!

Pink Class

Pink class enjoyed their trip to Mogeely playground. We had so much fun there playing on all the equipment. We had great time making Valentines Day art and crafts, we will be finishing up our week with baking rice crispy cupcakes.

Blue Class

Anna turned 4 this month so happy birthday to her. We had a party to celebrate. Our monthly theme was shapes and colours. We made caterpillars, shape monsters and mice using various shapes. We had fun making freshly squeezed orange juice and rice crispie buns. We also tasted pancakes and had lots of fun making valentines day cards for all the mums and dads.

Green Class

The theme in Green Class this month is food. We've made paper plate pizzas. We enjoyed Pancake Tuesday. We enjoyed a trip to the school shop. We also made heart trees for Valentines day.

New Sensory Room Resources for the School

We have spent €10,378 on a huge range of sensory resources for the 7 rainbow rooms and main sensory room including 8 mirror infinity panels, a sensory light

panel with colored rods, installing UV LED Strip Light Systems in all of the rainbow rooms, UV kits for each class and a Illuminated Board and Pens so that the children can engage in pre writing and pre maths learning activities in a UV environment.

This investment has ensured that the rainbow rooms will give dual learning experiences to the children – transforming an interactive soft room to a magical UV effect sensory learning space.

New Resources for the Playroom

We have been spending a lot of time and resources preparing to provide a wonderful new playroom for the children.

Anne Collins, Teacher in Purple Class, has a very informative piece on our school website www.sonascork.ie on the importance of play for the children in our school.

This piece references that the Autistic child who is trying to understand the rhymes and rhythms of the world around them can often feel governed by chaos and this can result in the child experiencing extended periods in a fight or flight response. Not only is this exhausting for the child but they are simply in no position to acquire or consolidate learning. Connection on the other hand, relaxes the brain and generates feelings of safety and wellbeing for the child. The parts of the brain responsible for reasoning, impulse control and memory lights up. When the brain is feeling safe and connected, a child can be curious about their learning, can remember what they have learned and develop new skills.

Recognizing the huge importance of play, the entire Sonas team is dedicated to create this special learning space in the school this year and we hope that everything will be finished and in place for after Easter.

The room is fully stocked now with toys, dress up outfits, sensory play objects and some fabulous construction toys. This month our big purchases were a giant caterpillar tunnel and a very special egg pod swivel chair that blocks out noise – this will enable a child who does not want to partake in activities at a point/needs time and space to process sensory overload to observe and enjoy and learn without upset or anxiety.

Art Workshop

On March the 4th we are excited to welcome a group of artists who will be conducting an art workshop in the school over the course of two weeks on two separate days. We are really looking forward to this.

School Garden

Now that Spring has sprung Eimear, Teacher in Silver Class, is getting ready to galvanise us all into gardening mode and has plans for all classes to be sowing edible plants that can be harvested and eaten as the year progresses. We have a lot of preparation to do beforehand to prepare the ground but it will be all worth the hard work!

Staff News

Congratulations to Declan, SNA in Blue Class, and his wife Trish on the arrival of their beautiful baby girl Réaltín!

Congratulations also to Pauline on the birth of her first grandchild Síolas who was born on February 1st in Vancouver!

New Children/Early Closure

We will welcome the new children and their parents to visit the school on March 13th, to facilitate this school will close at 1.30pm on this day.

Kind regards, Bairbre



