

Principal's Report December 2017

There are **429** pupils in the school, 241 boys and 188 girls. As per our revised policy we are accepting applications from children who have no school place and we not accepting transfers from another schools after September 30th.

ECAS

Carmen – Spanish Club

Carmen – flamenco dance club

Niamh/Rob OB – Scratch Club (3rd-4th)

Rob W – Football

Heidi – Gaelic Football (1st-3rd)

Deirdre Walsh-Drama club

Music Generation (part funded by the PTA) is going ahead in 3rd class on Friday morning. High quality singing lessons and music teaching for 30 mins. in two 3rd classes.

New Language Curriculum

The new language curriculum in all primary schools up and running since September. The new Primary Language Curriculum/Curaclam Teanga na Bunscoile for English and Irish has been developed by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). This curriculum is for teachers of pupils of all abilities in the junior primary years, i.e. from in the junior infants to second class inclusive. Teaching of English and Irish. The oral strand is to be introduced in Junior to second this year. Each individual child has to be plotted on a continuum of fluency and the teachers are doing that at the moment.

School will be closed on 12th March 2018 for a second days training on language curriculum

Fire drill: Our second fire drill of the year is due to be carried out on Monday 18th December

PTA won a major award from South Dublin County Council for their school garden at the "South Dublin County Council Endeavour Awards 2017". Esker ETNS Gardening Club, were crowned "Winners of the Community/School Garden or Allotment award 2017" at the Red Cow Moran Hotel on Saturday, 25th November 2017. This group, represented by Ivana, Farzana, Maureen and Milena have been instrumental in changing what was a bland piece of grass outside 1st and 2nd classes to the beautiful, colourful, interesting and enticing space that it is now. This transformation was helped along the way by a team of very helpful parent volunteers, as well as Barry, Gemma and Tomislav.

Comment that "Esker ETNS could lead the way in demonstrating having a passion and love for the work that you are doing":.

The prize was a beautiful plaque as well as €1,000, which will be used by the team to continue improving our surroundings.

Parent teacher meetings for 3rd to 6th held last week

Junior infants to 2nd to be held next February