



# St Dominic's ELC, March 2021

Rights, Respect, Me, Relationships, Responsive.



We are so excited to have all our learning friends back in the setting. We have enjoyed listening to all the stories about the fantastic experiences that you have had during your remote learning. The weather is picking up and it is wonderful to be outdoors and feeling the sun and observing the signs of growth in our garden and around the school.



Spring is here!

We are looking for the buds on the trees and the daffodils that we planted last year have come through and each day we look for the "heads" on the flowers to "open". We are learning about the language of flowers and plants, "stalks", "roots", "seeds", "bulbs", "stems" and we are discussing what a plant needs to grow. The children are continually enhancing their rich vocabulary skills as they listen to and participate in extended conversations about Spring. We are using books, songs and I.T. to enhance our identification skills regarding flowers and plants.

## Physical play.

Theorists explain that for children to have a healthy heart and mind they need experiences that promote and challenge their skills in taking manageable risks in play, resources that encourage and promote participation in physical play including balancing, riding a bike and even climbing a tree.

Many of the group are displaying an interest in den building and "camping", and to ensure we are inclusive of the children's ideas for learning through play we are visiting the school field each Tuesday to explore lighting fires, using real tools and building dens and setting up tents.

We are also looking at simple forces and using the tarps and kites to find out about how the wind can make materials fly; this is a way of giving the children first hand experiences to experiment and evaluate what works and how they can change what they are doing/using to make something as simple as a plastic bag and wool "fly" and "catch the wind".



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## Our special "Recipe Books"

During this term we are exploring the world of work through a range of learning experiences, including taking on the role of Bakers, Builders, Doctors and Gardeners. Each week we will decide on a simple recipe that includes Fair Trade ingredients. We will cook and taste and then decide if we feel this is a recipe that we would like to include in our fund-raising Recipe Book. The children are designing their own book, learning about authors, illustrators, publishers and the world of supporting others through our actions. We are hoping to charge £3.00 for our books to raise money for SCIAF.

We are learning about Fair Trade and the importance of being paid for your hard work.

The children are becoming familiar with the symbol that is displayed on packaging that is Fair Trade.



We call this the "waving person".

## Conversation and expression Skills

We are using a range of strategies to scaffold and enhance our language skills. We are using our drawings and written marks to encourage our expression and recording of our ideas. Reggio Emilio, a centre in Italy holds children's drawings and creations in high regard and we are finding that this is a powerful tool in unlocking children's innate desire to communicate their thoughts and ideas with those around them. We are creating our own story books and using traditional stories to provoke their imagination in adapting a "different ending" to familiar stories. This is great fun and a good way to explore characters and events in stories.



## Number work

The children are learning to count to beyond ten in Gaelic and are having fun with simple songs in Gaelic to explore colour, the weather and how we are feeling. They are creating their own number lines and using mind maps to explore their own strategies for sorting and organising.



## Resources

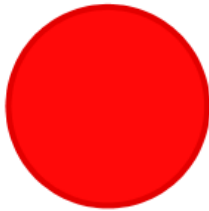
We have been very lucky to purchase some new books that explore the world around us including "My Granny went to Market and bought a flying carpet". The children have designed and made their own "Flying carpets" to explore going on adventures with their families around the world and bringing back a range of wonderful gifts, including "pretend kangaroos", this is great fun and is a wonderful way to promote imaginative pre-writing skills.



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# Shapes



Circle



Oval



Triangle



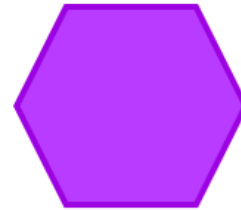
Square



Rectangle



Pentagon



Hexagon



Star



Heart



Cross



Crescent



Arrow



Diamond



Pie



Trapezoid



Parallelogram



Octagon



Semi-Circle



Decagon



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## Parts of a plant song

(wheels on the bus tune)

The roots of a plant grow underground, Underground, underground the roots of a plant grow underground, Roots are part of a plant.

The stem on a plant holds up the leaves, Up the leaves, up the leaves the stem of a plant holds up the leaves, Stems are part of a plant.

The leaves on a plant are making food, making food, making food, the leaves on a plant are making food, the leaves are part of a plant

The buds on a plant grow into flowers, grow into flowers, grow into flowers, the buds on a plant grow into flowers, the buds are parts of a plant.

The flowers on a plant change to fruits, change to fruits, change to fruits, the flowers on a plant change to fruits, Fruits are part of a plant.



## Songs

*Remember the importance of singing to promote our pre-reading skills. Singing and rhyme helps us to develop the skill of decoding sounds and words and helps us to identify sounds that sound similar. This helps to promote the understanding of patterns and sounds alongside the make up of words.*

## Greedy Crocodile

I am a greedy crocodile, sparkling teeth and a charming smile, come to near and in a while, you will be my dinner.

1,2,3,4,5

1,2,3,4,5

1,2,3 snap, snap now I've had my dinner.



## Ginger Breadman

Run run as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the Gingerbreadman.

I'm made of sugar, I taste very sweet, but you can't catch these spееееееedy

Feet!



## A Little Seed

A little seed for me to sow  
A little soil to make it grow  
A little hole, a little pat,  
A little wish, and that is that,  
A little sun, a little shower.  
A little while -  
And then, a flower!

