



## Weekly Update 25th March 2022

### **This Week in RETNS**

#### **National Tree Week 2022**

In November 4th class started the ground preparation works for our Pocket Forest project. The site we chose is in Loreto Park, just a short walk from the school. We started by foraging for old sticks and twigs to add fungi to our chosen site. We dug the ground and added compost from our wormery. We watered the site with water from the local river and covered the grass with a layer of cardboard to stop any unwanted growth. We covered the cardboard with a thick layer of mulch that we collected locally.

In March, we returned to the site and planted 15 native species of tree and shrub. We staked the saplings with branches from our wildlife garden on the school grounds. 4th class will continue to manage and care for the pocket forest until we graduate from Primary school.

Written and typed by Éamonn, Tadhg and Anthony.

4th Class

### **Stay Safe Programme**

Teachers will be delivering the personal safety education programme, Stay Safe, over the next few weeks. The aim of the Stay Safe programme is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. It deals initially with common situations which many children will experience at some stage or other, e.g. getting lost or being bullied. The programme also teaches children the safety skills necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse and emphasises the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems they have.

The Stay Safe programme is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement. Co-operation between parents and teachers is essential to the success of this programme. It is important that parents are aware of the content of the Stay Safe lessons and are able to discuss the lessons with their children. Your child may bring home worksheets which will inform you on the topics being covered in class and how you can reinforce the messages at home.

You can familiarise yourself with the content of the Stay Safe lessons at [www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.htm](http://www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.htm). Please contact your child's teacher if you wish to discuss the programme further.

## Results of Green Code competition

The winning codes and image were:

'No pollution is the solution' Maeve S., Ella, Elle, Rose Rang V

'Care for the sea and think of me' Evie, Rang III

The winning image was a beautiful watercolour of a sea turtle by Amber in Rang V

## Next Week in RETNS!

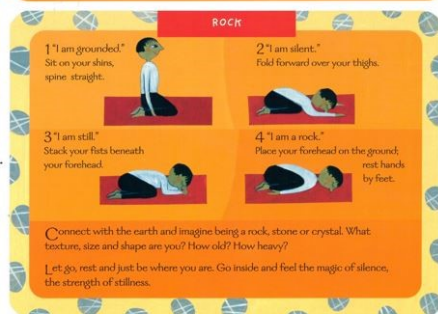
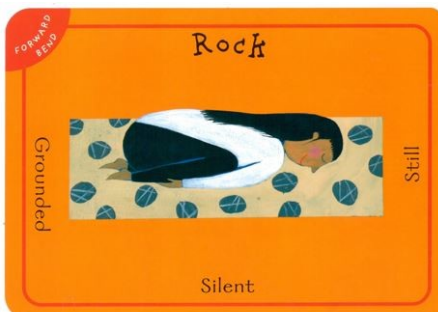
### Parents/ Guardians welcome back to RETNS

We are gradually returning to pre-COVID protocols so from **next Friday, 1st April**, parents/guardians are welcome to visit their children's classroom between 8.50 a.m. and 9.10 a.m. each Friday to familiarise themselves with their child's working space.

A bell at 9.10 a.m. each day indicates the start of lessons and that it is time for parents/guardians to leave the classroom.

This may be subject to change depending on COVID numbers but if you are visiting a classroom, please wear a mask. The P.A. will organise two coffee mornings in the Nurture Room to welcome back parents/ guardians over the next fortnight – details to follow

**Yoga Pose – Rock** see school website <https://retns.ie/yoga-pose-of-the-week/>



## Restorative Practice – Parents' / Guardians' Course – Part Six

How do we Grow Empathy? - Punishment versus accountability

<https://ubuntulearning.connectrp.ie/courses/1062046/lectures/22578969>

## **Dodder Action Group**

*Our regular MILLTOWN and RATHFARNHAM cleans ups are on MARCH 26th. There will be plenty to clear up!*

*Milltown: 10 am opposite Wilde and Green*

*Rathfarnham: 10 am, footbridge to Bushy Park nearest Tesco.*

## **Congratulations to Darren and Lizzie**

On Wednesday, Darren, our 6<sup>th</sup> class teacher got a great send-off from the RETNS community as he left school on the day before his wedding. Yesterday, he and Lizzie were married. We all wish them a life together filled with happiness and fun.

Le dea-ghuí

Maeve