



Danu CSS News

Your monthly newsletter about our school

Message From Principal

I am so delighted to share with you the wonderful news confirmed with DDLETB that the Department of Education will deliver a new 20 classroom stand-alone school building for Danu CSS on the Rathdara site. As more information regarding the process comes to light, you will be kept informed of the plans, timelines and more importantly, the wonderful purpose built school our children and school community will be moving into.

I am especially delighted that our current students will remain on our current site, without the upheaval of transitioning to a different school location. This also ensures that the relationships and support we have built and developed with Rathdara Community College and the local community will continue to develop, grow and blossom.

Looking forward, the future for Danu CSS is bright. This new purpose built special school will be designed with specialists from the Department of Education's Special Education Design Team in consultation with DDLETB and the school. The fact that we remain on the Rathdara site means that the structures and relationships they have developed with members of the Rathdara school community will continue to grow and strengthen. It is worth noting that the school has built positive relationships within our local school community using many of the amenities weekly. Going forward we plan to strengthen and expand on accessing the wider community, its' facilities and the local schools as we settle into this community that have welcomed us so warmly.

The staff and I are delighted with this recent announcement, and we look forward to working with DDLETB and the Department of Education in what is a significant development for Danu CSS, its current students, parents and the future students and parents to come.

We extend our thanks to you as parents, your families and friends who have continuously sought an appropriate school facility for our students. It is wonderful and exciting news that is most welcome. As we move forward, I will update you on the progress of this exciting development.

Kind regards
Pat





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Willow Class

The students in Willow came back from the Easter break ready to learn and have new experiences. Our Core words this Month Were Yes, No and pour. The students were introduced to the words with songs and fun games such as spin the wheel and sensory play. As always, they communicated the core words in many different ways. They learned the Lámh signs, pointed to the core board and some verbally communicated the words.

The students have been exploring the Spring theme. They have looked at and touched trees on our daily walks. As they explored the tree, we named each part for them, which they further practiced by labelling the parts of the tree in the class. They have explored the baby animals of spring through songs, art and crafts and playing with the farm toys. They have loved listening to and exploring the sensory element of the story "The Very Hungry Caterpillar".

Math has been fun this Month as the students explored numbers using Numicon. The students love exploring numbers using these multi-sensory materials.





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Juniper Class

In Juniper Class we were busy looking for signs of Spring. We made a flower with all the parts. We enjoyed messy play. We love to go for walks and look for signs of Spring. We love being in the playground.





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Apple Class

Apple Class have been very busy in April. We were very excited last week when the weather was sunny and we were able to play with the water trays outside. In the classroom, we have been developing our hobbies. We have enjoyed completing puzzles independently and with our teachers and our friends too. We have also been very busy learning Lámh signs for common animals.





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Ash Class

This month students of class Ash participated in Circle Time listening to songs related to the theme: Baby animals, drama: Imitating actions and stories; Art activity related to Easter and Springtime. Students enjoyed PE activity: Yoga, walking over the hurdles, Parachute Dance etc. They participated in spring art work, watched videos on the life cycle of a frog, butterfly, and learned about baby animals and farm animals. Students had the opportunity to see and learn Lámh signs related to the theme for the month. They also enjoyed walks around the school premise.





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Hawthorn Class

In the first picture, we can see the full class together watching a story about the emotion monster while having their snacks.

The second picture is our friend Cruz playing with Lego after our session in Lego therapy.

Our third picture is Billy dancing to some Spanish Sevillanas which was played by one of our members of stafflooks like he loves the Spanish music flamenco!!

In the last picture Sidaarth, is signing independently the days of the week.

This is the news this months from Hawthorn Class.





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Oak Class

Although we have had a very short month in April we have been very busy. As well as all our usual learning, we took a trip out and visited the Phoenix Park. There we had fun in the playground, explored all the trees, maze and walled gardens. After, we went for lunch in the visitor centre and we had a yummy ice-cream on our way home.

We also have been working hard on developing and improving our DIY skills, we have been painting, hanging pictures, planting and much more. We have had great fun getting our hands dirty and decorating around our classroom and school.





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Birch Class

Hello friends,

I am going to tell you what I have learned this month of April: This month I have been so happy to come back to school and see my friends Linda, Fiona and Sam after a long time. I spent some time in Oak class doing some water play as you can see.

I also learned how to ask for a break when I need it and my room is quite different now because I like to sit on my sofa and relax before doing another fun activity.

I've been discovering some new games that help me to look after myself, that's why I spend some time now brushing my hair, watching myself in the mirror or putting some cream on my hands. I also had my birthday in school on 21st April and it was a great time for me. I was had some cake which I shared with the other classrooms and they gave me lots of presents. I was so happy to go to different classrooms and receive my presents. Everybody sang songs for me and I felt safe and comfortable enjoying the party.

This April I have been able to discover lots of new things, so I only hope that May will be even more rewarding for me!





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Parents Association (PA)

Firstly and most importantly I would like to thank everyone who is involved in our amazing Special School Danu for all of their hard work and dedication to caring for our Children. Great news as the DDLETB have announced the Department of Education will deliver a new 20 Classroom stand alone school building for Danu Community Special School on the Rathdara site. Hopefully this is the news we have all been waiting for.

Also we have raised €680 when entering the blue button scheme with Tesco in Roselawn, we will apply again in the new term and hopefully raise some more funds for material for Danu. We are thinking about organising a family funday in the Millenium Park where we can raise funds for equipment for Danu, we were first considering about doing the Women's mini marathon but it is e30 to apply where if we organised our own fun day it could work out only e20 for a t-shirt and bottle of water. Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, nieces and nephews and friends can come and join in too, every cent would be then given to Danu.

We would like to set up a Fundraising Committee, if anyone is interested in joining they can message Nicola Cunningham, thank you.

If anyone has any ideas for fundraising please don't hesitate to contact the Danu Parents Association, every little helps.

Up Coming Events, May

1st & 2nd, School Closed
5th, PA coffee morning in Danu CSS at 10am
15th, School closed for PLC training day.
16th Parent/Teacher IEP Review meetings
17th, Jungle Jim visit to school
24th, BOM meeting
The PA will be fundraising throughout the month of May





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Our April Art

