

What a busy start to the new term we've had this year! First off just to say how welcome Múinteoir Rebecca and myself have been made feel in St. Brigid's since the start of the year. It really has proven to be such a supportive community, and we're both very grateful to have been so warmly received!

This was never more evident than at the end of August, when we invited all parents and children to a drop-in session to meet the new staff. There was a huge turnout, with some people even taking time off work to make it in. This was hugely beneficial for staff, parents and children and set a very positive tone for how we would be proceeding throughout the year.

The Junior Room have been getting their teeth into the new phonics program, UFLI, which has been very well received. Some of the Junior Infants are already picking up their initial sounds and appreciating that text has a decodable meaning, while the 2nd Class are starting to write simple sentences and segment words effectively.

The Senior Room hit the ground running with the development of the new Maths Curriculum, we have transitioned to having a focus on the pattern spotting and problem solving elements of the curriculum which the children have engaged with really well. We also participated in an online quiz last week, a great interactive learning experience.

One of the highlights of the year so far has undoubtedly been our visit from Colin and his birds of prey. We enjoyed hearing about the eagle's excellent eyesight, and some of us were surprised at the screeches of the tawny owl!

Music Generation has continued to visit the Senior Room, the children have been listening to Let It Be and working out how to play the chords on ukulele. Unfortunately Music Generation have been unable to continue to provide an instructor for the Junior Room, we'll be looking into alternative arrangements to support the music development with the younger children.

And of course on our last day of the half term, the children were delighted to come in dressed up as dinosuars/zombies/witches/minions and everything in between!

On behalf of all the staff in St. Brigid's, have a lovely half term and we'll see you for the beginning of the festive half term on November 4th!

Múinteoir Sean



