

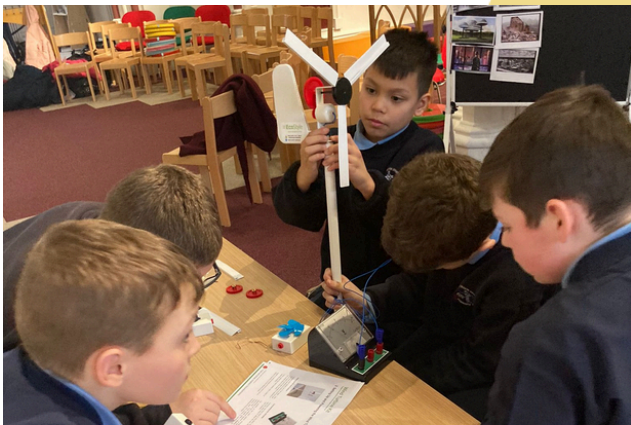
2023/2024 NEWSLETTER

EDNIP

Embracing Diversity,
Nurturing Integration Project

Welcome to the EDNIP September 2024 newsletter.

We hope you enjoy this review of the 2023/2024 school year. It was a busy and happy year that celebrated the diversity in EDNIP schools.



In School Activities

Drama Performance

Fifth class in Our Lady of Lourdes had a series of drama workshops and performed Jub's Story in the Belltable Theatre.

Bualadh Bos Children's Festival

355 children from across the 5 EDNIP schools attended performances as part of the Bualadh Bos Children's Festival curated by Liam McCarthy, Artist in Residence at the Lime Tree Theatre.

Diwali lesson

Children in first class in Our Lady of Lourdes decorated rangolis using rice to celebrate Diwali.

STEM Showcase

CBS students gave a showcase in STEM to visiting teachers on Erasmus from Greece and Portugal.

Wreath Making in St Michael's Infant School

EDNIP supported a festive event for children and their families.



Mid term activity

During the mid term break, EDNIP ran two family trips for 68 children and parents. We visited Curragh Chase Forest Park where we played games and went to Fota Wildlife Park to see the animals.

EDNIP Parent Toddler Group

EDNIP ran a weekly Parent Toddler Group on Wednesday mornings in Presentation primary school. The group enjoyed messy play, story time, mini discos and rhymes. The group went on an excursion to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park in Co. Clare.





School Activities

Limerick City Gallery of Art

Eight classes from four EDNIP schools visited the Limerick City Gallery of Art. Tours of the gallery were facilitated by Aoife Shinnors, Learning and Engagement Coordinator, LCGA. The students engaged with the exhibition “*Nothing Strange or Startling*” by George Shaw, a Turner nominated artist. The exhibition focused on the theme of home, roots and journeys.

Craftmaker Space

Senior Infant classes from St Michaels Infant School visited the Craftmaker Space in MIC for a workshop on Beebots.

Narrative 4

Classes in St. John Girls and Infant Boys school and CBS Primary school took part in a story exchange workshop.

Belltable Visit

Infant classes from St. Michael’s Infant School went to the theatre to see *There was an Old Woman who lived in a Shoe*.

Ramadan Showcase

Students in St. Johns Girls and Infant Boys School gave a Ramadan Showcase. The students made posters and hosted every class in the school while they explained the customs and traditions of Ramadan. They showed prayer mats, prayer beads, traditional dress and how they typically break their fast with milk and dates.

English Language Conversation Club

EDNIP ran a weekly English Language Conversation club in CBS Primary School for parents who wish to practise speaking English. The club is a friendly, relaxed environment where people come each week to drink coffee together and chat with the EDNIP team and our wonderful volunteers. The group marked the end of term with a workshop from Limerick Printmakers.

In 2024, EDNIP won an AONTAS STAR Award in the social inclusion category for the Parent English Conversation Club This competition run by Aontas, celebrates adult and community learning.





Partnerships within MIC

STEAM After School Club

24 children attended a weekly STEAM after school club on campus in MIC over two terms. This was delivered in partnership with the Department of Enterprise and Community Engagement in the Craftmaker Space with Dr. Eleanor Walsh with the support of PAUL Partnership. The children worked on coding, designed a city of the future and learned about careers in STEM.

School Placements

3rd year MIC students on the Bachelor of Education programme studying a Children's Literature elective with Sara Fitzgerald visited schools on placement to deliver storytelling workshops.

Guest Speaking

The EDNIP team were invited to deliver a session about EDNIP to students on the B.Ed programme on the Evidence-based and Innovative Programmes in DEIS Context with Dr Sandra Ryan and Helen Lowe and Children's Literature elective with Sara Fitzgerald.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & Interculturalism Project Awards

EDNIP was awarded funding from the MIC EDII Awards to run an Intercultural World Café and Learning Exchange event in partnership with Dr Brigid Golden, Dr Sandra Ryan and Helen Lowe. EDNIP hosted 28 parents and children on campus in MIC to lead a world café event for B.Ed students. Parents and children acted as hosts as groups of students rotated from table to table to engage in discussions about food, language, religion, customs and traditions. The families returned for a second day where they had a tour of the campus and had the opportunity to join in Dr Brigid Golden's lesson with MIC students.

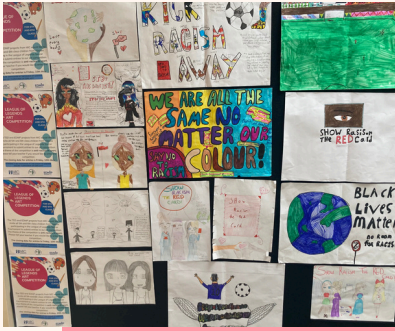
Drama Workshop – Our Lady of Lourdes School

Building from the summer Professional Development EPV course on Integrated Arts Approach to Storytelling, the EDNIP team delivered five workshops in Our Lady of Lourdes National School during September. The workshops built to a performance in the Belltable theatre. This programme was delivered in collaboration with Liam McCarthy, artist in residence at the Lime Tree Theatre, Dr Dorothy Morrissey, Dr Ailbhe Kenny and Fiona McDonagh. The children prepared alternative endings to fairy tales, recorded forest soundscapes and decorated the set using charcoal.



Easter Family Trips

EDNIP ran two Easter trips for families from EDNIP schools over the Easter holidays. We travelled by coach to visit Fota Wildlife Park in Cork, and Bunratty Castle and Folk Park in Co. Clare. 92 people came on the trips. The families enjoyed the opportunity to see the animals, spend time together and explore the playgrounds and activities.



In School Activities

League of Legends Art Competition

An art competition was held for schools competing in the TED League of Legends Football Tournament. Students were invited to submit entries based on the theme of anti-racism in sport. The winners received art sets and vouchers.

Anti-racism workshops

To accompany the art competition, workshops based on the theme of anti-racism were delivered in Our Lady of Lourdes, Presentation Primary School and St Johns Girls and Infant Boys School.

Community of Practice

Representatives from the EDNIP schools including teachers, principals, parents, HSCLs and members of TED and community partners gathered for a productive community of practice in MIC to reflect on the project and to make plans for the next academic year.

Whole School Activities

School of Sanctuary

Congratulations to Our Lady of Lourdes National School who were accepted as a School of Sanctuary. A wonderful day of celebration showcasing the school's welcoming and inclusive ethos was held to mark the occasion.

Mobile Farm

Children at Presentation Primary School held and fed the visiting animals at the mobile farm.

Intercultural days

St Johns Girls and Infant Boys school and CBS Primary School held a day of celebration where students and their family could celebrate and share aspects of their culture.



Intercultural Day in CBS

End of Term Excursions

Parent Toddler Group

The Parent Toddler Group took part in a morning of play with PAUL Partnership.

EAL Conversation Group

The parents went on an excursion to Killaloe and went on a boat cruise on the River Shannon.

STEAM After School Club

The group had a tour of the Jaguar Landrover site in Shannon and learned about careers in STEM.

School Language club excursion

20 children who take part in a weekly club in St. Johns Girls and Infant Boys school where they play and speak in their native languages went on an excursion to King Johns Castle. The group consisted of Ukrainian and Portuguese speakers.





Family Trips

This summer EDNIP ran four family summer trips. There was great demand for the days out. 72 families from EDNIP schools registered for an EDNIP trip. We organised coach trips to visit the beach in Kilkee and visited Moher Hill Farm in Liscannor, Co. Clare. We also went to Doneraile Wildlife Park in Co. Cork where we saw deer. It was lovely to have the opportunity to spend time outside of the city.

Publications and Conferences

EDNIP had a Showcase Stand at the Teaching Council FÉILTE in Portlaoise in 2023. The year's theme was Creativity in Action. EDNIP had the opportunity to share learnings and examples of best practice and resources. The EDNIP Project Leader presented a Gasta at FÉILTE. The title of the talk was *EDNIP – resources that support integration and inclusion*.

Áine Lyne presented at the 2023 Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South (SCoTENS) in Fermanagh, the title of the talk was *Mary Immaculate College's (MIC) Embracing Diversity, Nurturing Integration Project (EDNIP) a Community Response*.

Lyne, Á., and Martin, L. (2024) 'EDNIP - A School-Based Partnership Approach to Inclusion, Integration and Anti-Racism Across Communities' at Racism, Anti-Racism, Forced Migration Conference, DCU Dublin, March 8th.

Martin, L., Lyne, A. and Bourke, R. (2024) 'The Embracing Diversity Nurturing Integration Project: An innovative and collaborative response to inclusion and integration in DEIS schools, at ESAI Conference, Maynooth University, Kildare,

Publications

An article was published in Ireland's Education Yearbook 2023:

Bourke, R., Lyne, A., Martin, L. and Lowe, H. (2024) 'Embracing Diversity, Nurturing Integration Project: A school based response to Ireland's increasingly diverse classrooms' Ireland's Education Yearbook 2023



About EDNIP

EDNIP (Embracing Diversity, Nurturing Integration Project) works with 5 DEIS Band 1 primary schools in Limerick City to deliver a strategic and systemic programme to foster inclusion. The five schools have a combined enrolment of approx. 1020 children from 64 countries, speaking 53 languages and practicing 16 religions.

The schools involved are:

- Our Lady of Lourdes National School, Rosbrien
- Presentation Primary, Sexton Street
- Scoil Iosagáin CBS, Sexton Street
- St. John's Girls' and Infant Boys' School, Cathedral Place
- St. Michael's Infant School, Sexton Street



EDNIP is nested within the work of the Transforming Education through Dialogue (TED) Project in the Curriculum Development Unit (CDU) of MIC. EDNIP works within TEDs mission to 'to improve and enhance educational outcomes for children by working in partnership with families, schools and communities'. Our work is a practical application of the mission of MIC, which '*strives to promote equity in society and to provide an environment where all have freedom and opportunity to achieve their full potential*' (MIC Mission Statement).

If you have any ideas or suggestions for EDNIP activities or events or would like more information about the project please email:



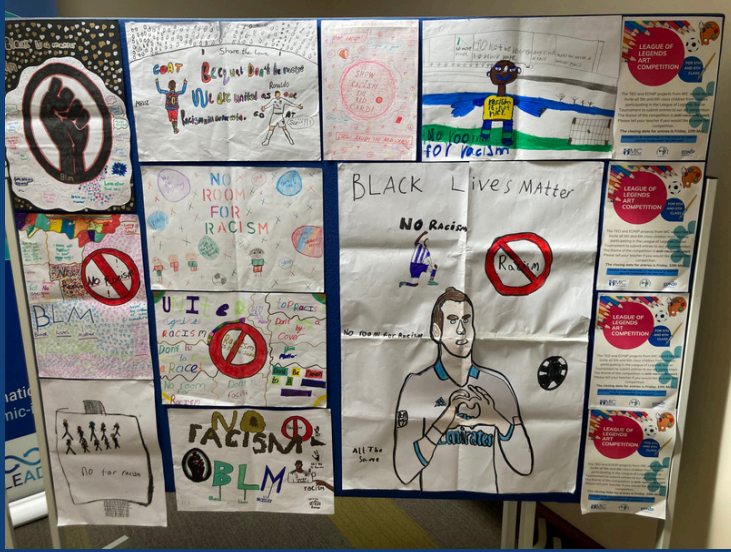
Lisa Martin, EDNIP Project Leader
Email: lisa.martin@mic.ul.ie

Follow EDNIP on X @EDNIP1

Scan QR code to watch a video about EDNIP



Below are entries to the anti-racism in sport art competition held as part of the TED League of Legends soccer tournament in MIC



The TED and EDNIP projects from MIC would like to invite all 5th and 6th class children from classes participating in the League of Legends Soccer Tournament to submit entries to our art competition. The theme of the competition is **anti-racism in sport**. Please tell your teacher if you would like to enter the competition.



Plans for 2024 - 2026

The Embracing Diversity & Nurturing Integration Project (EDNIP) initiative in Mary Immaculate College (MIC) was delighted to be awarded €300,000 as part of the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund 2021-2027 to sustain the work we are doing with our partner schools.

Arna chomhchistiú ag an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the European Union