

# Askea Community

## Childcare Centre

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February 2018 Newsletter

Edition 6

### FEBRUARY FACTS AND FESTIVALS

#### *St Brigid's Day - February 1<sup>st</sup>*

This marks the first day of spring.

'Earrach' is the Irish word for spring and 'Feabhra' is the Irish word for February.

St Brigid is the female patron saint of Ireland. Making a St Brigid's cross is one of the traditional rituals in Ireland to celebrate the beginning of early spring. They are hung by the door and near the fireplace to protect the house from fire and evil. Fire was a major threat due to most houses in Ireland having thatched and wooden roofs.

#### *February 14<sup>th</sup> - Valentine's day*

Valentine's Day is a day to celebrate friendship, love and romance. It is also a common occasion for anonymous presents from a 'secret admirer'. All rooms will mark this occasion with the children creating their individual masterpieces.

#### *February 16<sup>th</sup> - Chinese New Year*

Chinese New Year, also known as the spring festival in China, or the Lunar New Year, is an important Chinese festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar.

This celebration will be marked on the day by the kitchen staff providing Chinese specialties to all children.



### WELCOME

We would like to welcome our newest member of staff Gabrielle Kelly. We hope she will be very happy here in her new role.

### TUSLA COMPLIANCE VISIT

We had our annual Tusla compliance visit this week. The Inspector commended the service on the excellent quality of the care, education and nutrition that is being provided for your children. Congratulations and well done to all our staff.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ECCE rooms will close for midterm break on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, and reopen on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Afterschool children may attend full or half days on these dates but must book in advance at front desk.

Askea CCC will be partaking in National Pyjama Day on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. All children and staff may wear their pyjama's on this day. Information packs will follow later in the month.