

Blue Star Programme Report

2019/2020



Blue Star Programme



Let's get creative about Europe!



School Details

School Name **Scoil Mhuire agus Eoin**_____

School Address **Boherboy Road**_____

Mayfield_____

Cork_____

Teacher Name **Geraldine O’Leary, Maria McDonagh & Jillian O’Leary**__

All Blue Star Programme Reports are to be submitted by **5pm, Monday 18 May 2020**. You may submit your report anytime before then, once you have completed the 4 elements and have held some sort of Europe Day celebration. If you intend to do any part of the Programme after 18 May 2020, please contact us to let us know and we will be happy to accommodate you. These dates are set so we can get to you your Certificates of Achievement before the school term is over.

Any questions, please contact us bluestar@europeanmovement.ie or (0)1 662 5815. Thank you.

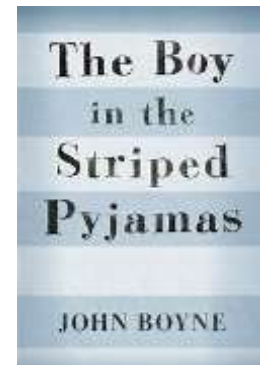


Historical

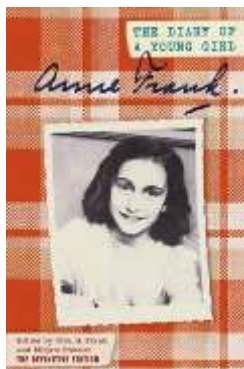
4th, 5th & 6th classes were involved in the Blue Star Programme this year. Each of the classes read and learned about the foundation of the EU and about when Ireland joined the EU. The children used their European Union passports, our computer room and our class set of iPads to research and find out more about the history of the EU.



6th class did lots of research on World War 2 and they completed projects to show all that they had learned.



They also read and enjoyed *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne.



Our EAL teacher read *The Diary of Anne Frank* with the children in her group from 4th, 5th & 6th classes.



Blue Star Programme

Geographical



4th, 5th & 6th classes all did research on the geography of the EU. Pupils chose lots of different countries, learned facts about them and completed fantastic projects.





Geographical

5th class learned about all the countries of the Euro Zone by collecting as many of the Euro coins as they could find. They examined the coins from the countries that they found, learning a little bit about each country through the emblem that was chosen to represent them on the reverse of their coins.

They invited other classes to come see their coin collection.



Global Greening

On the run up to Saint Patrick's Day the children also focussed on EU landmarks that turn green to celebrate our national day.





Cultural & Creative



We also invited VIPs (Very Important Parents) from different EU countries represented in our classes. A parent from Poland and a parent from Germany came in and spoke all about their countries and the children asked lots of interesting questions and compared and contrasted these countries with each other and with Ireland.

2 other parents from The Philippines and India also came to visit so the children could compare EU countries with non EU countries. The children were very lucky to get a taste of pretzels from Germany and homemade samosas from India! A fantastic learning experience!





Cultural & Creative



On Friday February 28th 2020 we held an EU Art Exhibition. In the run up to this event each class, from Early Start to 6th class, was invited to choose an artist from an EU country or with an EU connection. The children learned a little about the artist they chose, the country they were from and then they 'were inspired' by their artist to create their own works of art. The hall was then decorated with these masterpieces and all classes got to visit the exhibition.





Cultural & Creative

6th class focussed their artistic talents on creating hot air balloons flying over EU landmarks.



Some of the artists featured that day were Van Gogh, Picasso, Arcimboldo, Banksy, Louis le Brocquy and Monet.



4th class used Banksy as inspiration for their art, and also to learn all about Brexit.



Institutional

On February 28th we were delighted to have a VIP visit our school. Our school invited our MEP Billy Kelleher to visit us and our EU Art Exhibition and we were delighted when he let us know that he could come. The day was very exciting and children whose families are from the different countries represented in our school welcomed Mr Kelleher in their own native languages.

Then pupils from 4th, 5th & 6th class held a question and answer session with Mr Kelleher where he spoke about the EU and the children asked him all about his role as an MEP.





Europe Day Celebrations

We had a huge celebration the day our MEP Billy Kelleher came to our school and we turned it into our day to celebrate Europe. Children from all classes were involved in preparing for this event by 'being inspired' by an artist from the EU or with EU connections. On the day of the celebration all the children coloured headbands and flags of the countries of the EU and they wore them proudly that day.





Feedback

25% of our children's parents are not Irish and so other cultures are evident within our school community. Most of these are other European cultures. The programme supports us in celebrating this great variety and celebrating and embracing difference.

Our senior classes really enjoyed doing the project this year and the other classes were eager to get involved when they could.

I found the teacher workshop in UCC in January excellent for ideas.



Thank you!

Please submit your Blue Star Programme Report, preferably by email to bluestar@europeanmovement.ie (if the file is too large with attachments, use thebluestarprogramme@gmail.com) or post it to us at:

8 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2, Ireland