Fledglings City Quay service involvement in Dublin Docklands project:

During the week of 12-16 May children in primary schools and Early Years Care and Education Services in the Dublin Docklands were taking part in an innovative, play-based project designed to support their numeracy development and improve mathematical skills in later life. Our City Quay service was also involved in this exciting project: the children, together with their families and Early Years Educators took part in a range of fun activities as part of the ‘Dublin Docklands Early Numeracy Week’. The project was running from Monday 12th until Friday 16th May and was led by the Early Learning Initiative (ELI) at National College of Ireland, and funded by the National Early Years Access Initiative.

This was the third year of the project, which involves 9 Early Years Care and Education Services in the Dublin Docklands project: Fledglings City Quay service involvement in Dublin Docklands project:

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This was the third year of the project, which involves 9 Early Years Care and Education Services in the Dublin Docklands project: 6 infant schools and 1 afterschool project, along with families and home visitors in ELI’s Parent Child Home Programme. The project also links with the local Public Health Nurses and the local Libraries.

The theme of this year’s Early Numeracy Week was ”Symbols in the Environment”. Children (aged 0-6 years old) got involved in variety of fun, play based numeracy activities relating to the theme: Activities, which are based on Aistear, the Early Years Curriculum Framework (NCCA 2009) and Siolta, the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education, aim to introduce the children to the language, concepts and skills required for success in Mathematics at school. They include:

- Encouraging children to find different shapes and sizes, both inside and outside, while talking to the children about how they are different to each other.
- Helping children to collect, sort and talk about different objects and natural materials like shells, leaves, stones, seeds etc.
- Showing children how to measure things using blocks (height of the doll’s house), lollipop sticks (surface of the table), length of the kitchen (using your feet, shoes or socks), while having a discussion about what you found.
- Taking children on symbol / sign hunts to highlight how important recognising symbols is in the pre-reading process.

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Better Start programme

Six of our Fledglings services have been successful in their bid to engage a Better Start Quality Specialist. Better Start is the new national initiative established by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to support the development of quality services. It is an on-site mentoring service that will work in collaboration with the Early Years Educators and Managers to identify and attain quality development goals.

“I would like to welcome the Better Start Quality Specialists, Yvonne and Jean, to our services and I look forward to hearing about the journey they now begin with us.”

- Aishling Kelly

For more information on the Better Start programme please visit www.betterstart.ie

Kiltipper

On Thursday the 21st of May Mini -Mini Marathon fundraiser / a sponsored walk took place across the Fledglings Services. Weather was really nice and everyone involved had a great day. We are all delighted with involvement and support from our parents and families. Money raised will help us to buy some more toys and equipment – We would like to thank everyone for supporting Fledglings Mini-Mini Marathon!

ITT

Some pictures of Colaiste eanna’s outdoor area-recently transformed by a very generous Dad. All in Calaiste eanna delighted and we can’t wait to explore this fabulous space!

FLEDGLINGS ENROLLING NOW FOR SEPTEMBER 2015