



Newsletter

New Year's Resolutions

A new year brings new beginnings. In ELI, 'new beginnings' has many different meanings. It often means adding new elements to what already exists. Our community action research approach means we are constantly evaluating and evolving our programmes with new inputs and perspectives from local communities. It can also mean new people implementing existing programmes, bringing programmes to communities across Ireland, or building programmes to meet new emerging needs.

This year, we hope to create new beginnings for even more families in both Dublin's Inner City and across Ireland through ELI's National Centre for Parent Child Home Visiting and Family Engagement. New members to the ELI team will allow us to sustain and grow our ABC 0-2 Home Visiting Programme, Doodle Den, and Early Numeracy in Dublin's Inner City. New communities in Ireland will be reached through My Place to Play and English as an Additional Language supports. New partnerships will be established to bring the successful learnings in research and innovation from Dublin's Inner City to communities across Ireland.

While we are excited to begin our programmes and supports in 2023, we would like to start this new year with gratitude. A huge thank you to all of you who make ELI's work with children, young people and parents possible. The sustained support of our corporate partners, philanthropic donors, Tusla, and government agencies means that ELI can continue to create new beginnings locally and nationally. A huge thank you from all of us in ELI. Wishing for bright futures for all families nationwide in 2023.



To keep in touch with us and see suggested activities, videos and tips for all ages, and access to online groups please Follow, Like & Share us on.

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Twitter: @ELI_Docklands

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ABC 0-2 HOME VISITING PROGRAMME

New babies bring so much joy to your family, but we are aware that looking after this little one can create many challenges. It is important to take even a little time to look after yourself. Here are some ideas that you can fit this into your busy day:

- stop for a cup of tea or coffee and drink it while it is still hot.
- Five-minute meditation.
- Get outside for walk.
- Talking can help to lighten your load.

These are some of the messages our home visiting team pass on to parents they work with. If you would like to know more about our ABC 0-2 Home Visiting Programme please contact: grace.flynn@ncirl.ie



DUBLINS INNER CITY PC+

Everyone in ELI is delighted to welcome Lyudamyla Denchuk, the newest member of our Home Visiting team on the ParentChild+ Programme. Lyudamyla is starting her new journey in Ireland with ELI. This will be instrumental in ELI's efforts to reach out and support Ukrainian refugee families fleeing the trauma of war.



HOME FROM HOME PROGRAMME

New year, new beginning as our Home from Home Programme looks forward to recruiting new families from the strong links forged with several homeless accommodations in Dublin's Inner City. All are very excited at the prospect of new families coming on board in 2023!



STRETCH GRADUATE PROGRAMME

New approach for the Stretch Graduate Home Visiting Programme in its first official year. Thanks to the ESB Community Funding, the families of children aged 3- to 6-years can now enjoy adequate learning materials and resources while also seeing the full benefits of home education under the guidance of our amazing and experienced team of home visitors. Thank you to all for your support and dedication.



GROUPS 3-5 YEARS

Take a look at our amazing Chinese group facilitators offering a Chinese storytelling session every week in the Central Library, Ilac Centre, on Wednesdays at 2.30pm- 3.30pm. Come see us in 2023 for lots of laughter & fun :)



EARLY NUMERACY

When the local Gardaí heard Numeracy Week was taking place in Carr's Child and Family Services and the theme was Symbols in the Environment, they called in to show the children all the important Symbols connected to An Garda Síochána. They showed the children all the Symbols that someday might help to keep them safe, Carr's manager Sinead said 'This was a very special and lovely experience for the children in our service as they may quite often have had a very negative experience with Gardaí in the past. It also provided for great learning opportunities to be extended as these symbols have now been added to the home corner and the children are using them in their everyday play'.



DOODLE DEN

Children in Doodle Den learning new ways to create and tell stories. Children read the book "Farmer Duck" with the facilitators and worked really

hard together to create this beautiful story quilt, which portrays different scenes in the story. Doodle Den is an after-school literacy programme targeted at children aged 5 to 6 years of age in Senior Infants.





RP PARENTING

A wonderful new programme Chill, Play and Learn ran for the first time this term to support social and emotional development. Parents and children aged 4-8 years are invited to join the sessions together to explore calming and regulating strategies in a safe space. This is an inclusive programme for the neurotypical and neurodiverse. The feedback has been really positive "really enjoyed the yoga activity with humming, really good way to introduce them to yoga and connect with kids and parents."

ZAWB-VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

Exciting new books this year for our virtual book club with children delighted to receive a new book every month and excited to complete all the activities and drawings that come with it. Looking forward to seeing all the achievements and an exhibition at the end of the academic year. Good luck to you all!



NCI CHALLENGES

The return of the NCI challenges has been a great success with 11 schools taking part in the in-class practice sessions. Our Rummikub event took place in the NCI in January. Well done to all involved!



A DAY IN THE LIFE

Students and volunteers sharing information during our recent "A Day in the Life" event at the National College of Ireland



RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Restorative Practice (RP) is an approach to building and maintaining healthy relationships, and resolving conflict and repairing harm within damaged relationships. Why not start the new year by gaining knowledge of restorative practices, while developing practical restorative skills to support you, your family and community. Participant in 2022 comments, "very informative training, I will be using this in my personal and professional practice. Thank you!"



PG+ NATIONAL

ParentChild+ National is now running in 12 sites around Ireland. Our newest site run by Galway Rural Development just opened in November in Tuam Co. Galway. Managed by Shauna Somers, originally a parent and Home Visitor on the programme in their sister site in Ballinasloe. Shauna and her team of two Home Visitors are out meeting families and professionals, promoting the programme in the local community of Tuam. Best of luck building up the programme in 2023!

"IT'S AN EXCITING TIME FOR TUAM. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH PARENTS IN MY COMMUNITY AND BUILDING ON THEIR CAPACITY TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN"

SUSAN - HOME VISITOR, TUAM.



MY PLACE TO PLAY NATIONAL

This year sees the start of our My Place to Play Toddler Pack. The programme is aimed at children aged between 1 and 3 years old. This is the age when children begin to form words and sentences. The pack includes many toys and books to support parents to build their child's language skills.



NEIC PARENT PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

NEIC Parent Forum - Ensuring the voices and experiences of parents in the NEIC are heard. If you require any additional information please contact NEIC Programme Coordinator Imelda.O'Keeffe@ncirl.ie or call 0864666456

We want you here, because you have been there!

Have your Say!



THANK YOU

Partnerships with Corporates, Government Bodies, Trusts, Foundations and committed individual support is fundamental to lasting change ELI is making in the Dublin Docklands Community. We wish to thank all of our socially minded supporters who are journeying with children, families and young people towards success. For more information on how you, your company or your network can support the Early Learning Initiative please contact Dublin Inner City Assistant Director, Catriona.Flood@ncirl.ie or National Assistant Director, Lana.Cummins@ncirl.ie

The Area Based Childhood Programme

