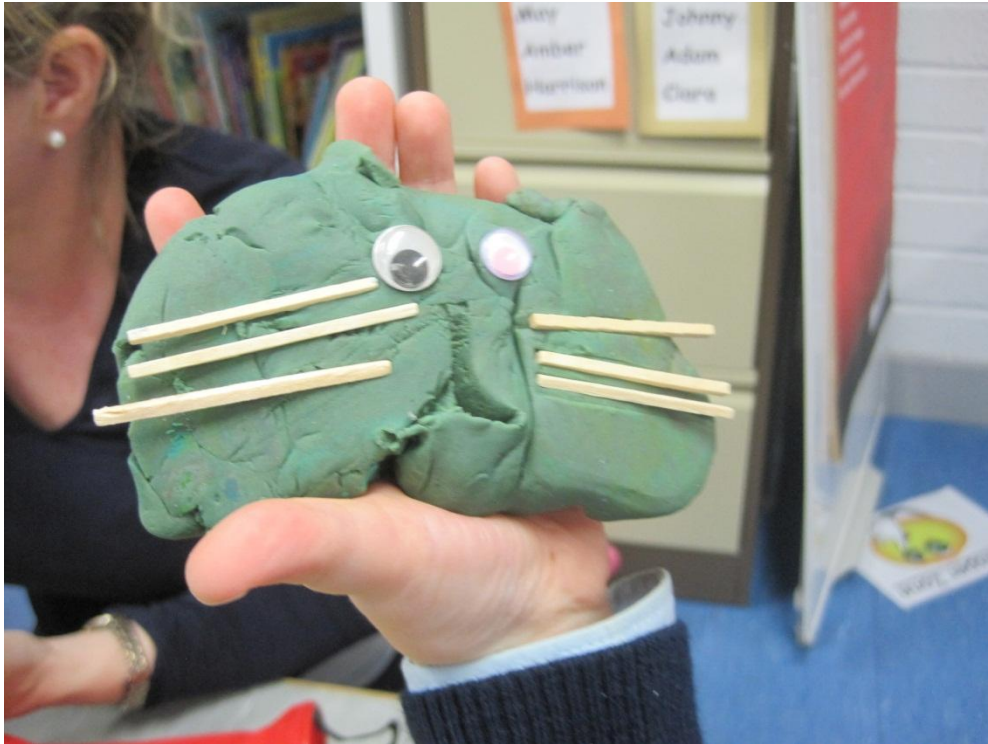


## Aistear – *Learning through play*

During the month of November Ms Lawlor's class were learning all about pets. In the role-play area we had a veterinary surgery where the children took on the roles of receptionist, vet and customers with sick pets. The surgery had a reception area, waiting area and treatment area. Most of the pets made good recoveries, however any very sick pets were kept in cages overnight! We were delighted to have a visit from a huge St Bernard dog. Thanks to Keith Sheehan for sharing his knowledge about these dogs with the children. Nothing beats having a real live pet in the classroom. The children learned a lot! They were a little disappointed that we couldn't keep him!









December's theme is Arctic animals and Santa's Workshop. We are so lucky to have a fantastic Santa's Workshop in our classroom. Thanks to Monica for building it for us! The children are busy working as elves. There is a toy design area, assembly area, wrapping area and dispatch area where the presents are

sorted and loaded on to the correct part of the sleigh. The head elf makes sure all the other elves are doing a good job and all the toys have to pass quality control before being wrapped! It is so much fun and while the children are playing they are developing their fine motor skills, handwriting, reading, maths skills and lots more. When the children are not in Santa's workshop they are busy building Christmassy things in the Construction area or being very creative in the Play dough area.







Also this week we were delighted to have another classroom visitor. This time the children were given an early Christmas present of five fish and a lovely fish tank! Thanks to Dave Cummins from Pet Master who very kindly donated them to our class. It was very exciting to learn all about how to care for the fish and we will look forward to feeding them and watching them grow over the next few months!





