



February 21st is International Mother Language Day; its aim being to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. *The mother language is the language(s) in which first words are spoken, and thoughts expressed.*

Our multilingual classrooms are the ideal environment for discussing the importance of language in a child's life with a view to fostering tolerance and respect. We are aware that the experience of learning and using multiple languages enriches a child's life.

This year we would like to mark this important day by inviting members of our school community who speak a different language or languages to share your mother language with us.

- We would love if you could choose two- five words or phrases with your child that your child could share with the class and teach to the class on International Mother Languages Day.
- We would also ask parents with another language for translations of the following greetings:

'Hello.' 'Welcome.' 'How are you?' 'My name is...' 'Thank you.' 'Goodbye.' Please email them to your child's class teacher or send via Aladdin as well as sharing your child.

You might like to celebrate your culture by reading poetry, telling a story or singing a song in your mother tongue, or sharing or playing a piece of music that celebrates the language. You're welcome to come into our school to do this on February 21st, or alternatively to send a video to us to share with our pupils. Please contact your child's teacher or email scoilgetns@gmail.com to organise.

On this day, children are invited to dress in the national dress of their countries or the colours of their flag to celebrate our different languages and cultures at home and around the world.

We will be celebrating this significant day in school through some fun activities and games and pupils will have the opportunity to explore the diversity of languages used around the world.