

## **Mrs Monaghan wins bursary to Reggio Pre schools International Study Week in Italy**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2008, Reggio Emilia.

Mrs Mary Monaghan has been successful in her application to participate in the 2008 Reggio Study Week. This visit will be largely funded by the James McCord Bursary which was awarded to Mrs Monaghan in April of this year. Mrs Monaghan was chosen from a very strong list of candidates across N. Ireland



The visit will be a unique opportunity to learn first hand about the world renowned Reggio Approach to early childhood education.

The schools of this area in Northern Italy have become an international focus of interest for educationalists working with young children.

The Reggio approach is rooted in well known sources-among them the educationalists Piaget and Vygotsky, in particular their insights into children's construction of knowledge and principles about adult and group engagement in children's learning.

The educators of Reggio, through their ongoing research and observation of children, have focused on listening to children's theories, observing how children represent their understanding of the world, and discovering how to support their explorations.

The visit is expected to be an intense week of learning about the philosophy and exemplary practices of the schools and having the opportunity to communicate with educationalists, teachers and parents.

The key principles of Reggio are similar to the principles already in practice in our Nursery Unit. Providing high quality education encompasses continual reflection and research of the best practice. This visit will serve to provide an opportunity to reflect on these sound and successful principles and practice and to continue to develop them with new insights.



This is a very exciting opportunity for Mrs Monaghan as she will bring the experiences gained back to her own Nursery setting in Holy Family Nursery unit.