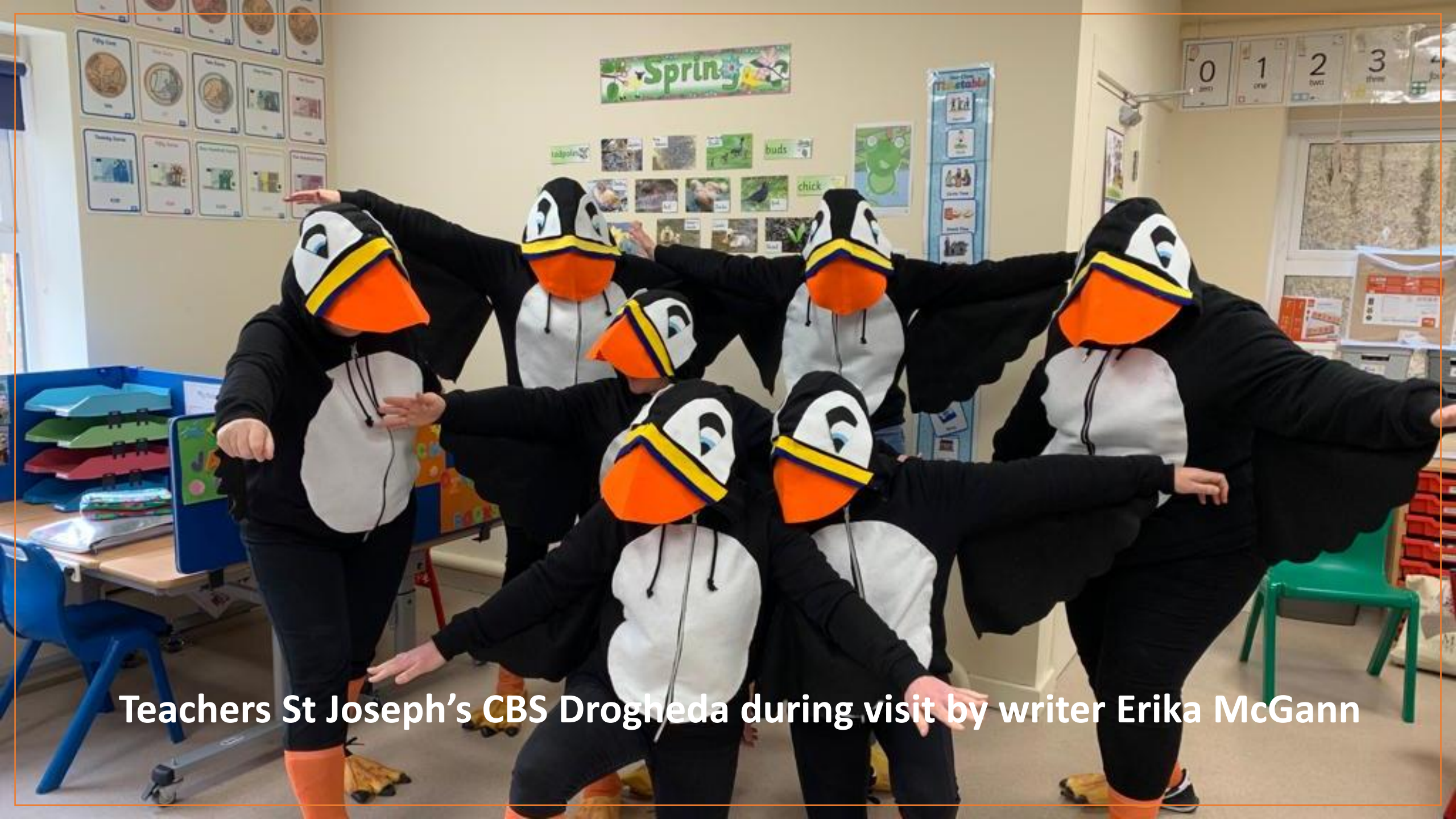




# Poetry Ireland Writers in Schools Scheme

The logo for the Writers in Schools scheme, consisting of a teal rectangular box containing the text 'WRITERS inSCHOOLS' in white. 'WRITERS' is in a bold, sans-serif font, 'in' is in a smaller, lowercase font, and 'SCHOOLS' is in a bold, sans-serif font.

WRITERS  
*in*SCHOOLS



Teachers St Joseph's CBS Drogheda during visit by writer Erika McGann

# Writers in Schools Scheme

- **Part funds visits by writers and storytellers to primary and post-primary schools across the island**
  - **Run by Poetry Ireland**
  - **Funded by Arts Councils North and South**
  - **20,000 children and young people annually**
  - **150+ artists to choose from**
- 





**Storyteller Nuala Hayes, Hartstown Educate Together Dublin**



# WIS Visits

- **Two hours contact time**
- **Time can be divided into sessions ie 2 x 1 hour/  
3 x 40 mins**
- **School contribution: €100 (half writer fee) paid  
to Poetry Ireland**
- **Poetry Ireland pays €100 + travel expenses in  
full**
- **Poetry Ireland issues payment to the writer**




# What to consider when organising a visit

- Size / ages of group
- No of sessions
- Format of visit ie reading/ Q&A; writing workshop; storytelling session, etc.
- Genre: poet, children's/ fiction writer, storyteller !



## How to apply for a visit

- **Select a writer from the WIS Online Directory:  
[poetryireland.ie/education/writers-directory](http://poetryireland.ie/education/writers-directory)**
  - **Contact writer to agree a provisional date**
  - **Submit online application form**
  - **Advise to submit application as early as possible as demand high and funding limited**
- 






**Our Place Finale Event, Duncairn Arts Centre Belfast**



# WIS Residencies

- **6-12 hours contact time**
  - **Single group**
  - **Max of 30 students**
  - **Three-way funded: PI / schools / third party ie local county arts office**
- 



**Visit to the Botanic Gardens Belfast as part  
of WISNI Residency to Breda Academy**

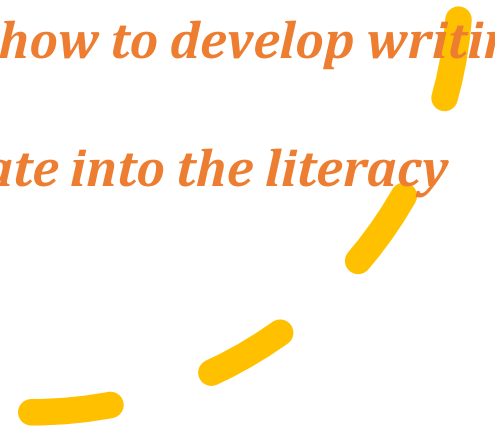


# Quality experience for the child


- **Strict artistic eligibility criteria**
  - **Recruitment of artists to WIS Scheme includes interview and shadowing opportunities**
  - **Provide professional development opportunities**
  - **Select writers based on experience working with children and young people, diversity of panel, location, demand from schools in terms of genres, specialist skills ie Irish language, experience in special schools, etc.**
  - **All artists garda vetted**
- 

# Testimonials Teachers

- *Workshops of this nature bring reading and the joy of writing to life. It inspires children to be innovative and to use the skills they have to potentially become writers themselves.*
- *I think it's great to have funding to help pay for an excellent activity like this. It is both fun and educational. I will be telling people about this great opportunity.*
- *The visit was a huge success. She left ideas on how to develop writing techniques that the teachers plan to incorporate into the literacy lessons.*



# Testimonials Children

- *Best day of my life*
  - *I hope everybody gets to experience what I experienced that day... it made me feel happy and it made me believe in myself.*
  - *I didn't think I could write stories but I love my Titanic story and now it is my favourite thing.*
- 



Nithi Kasa

Luke Morgan

Leanne O'Sullivan

