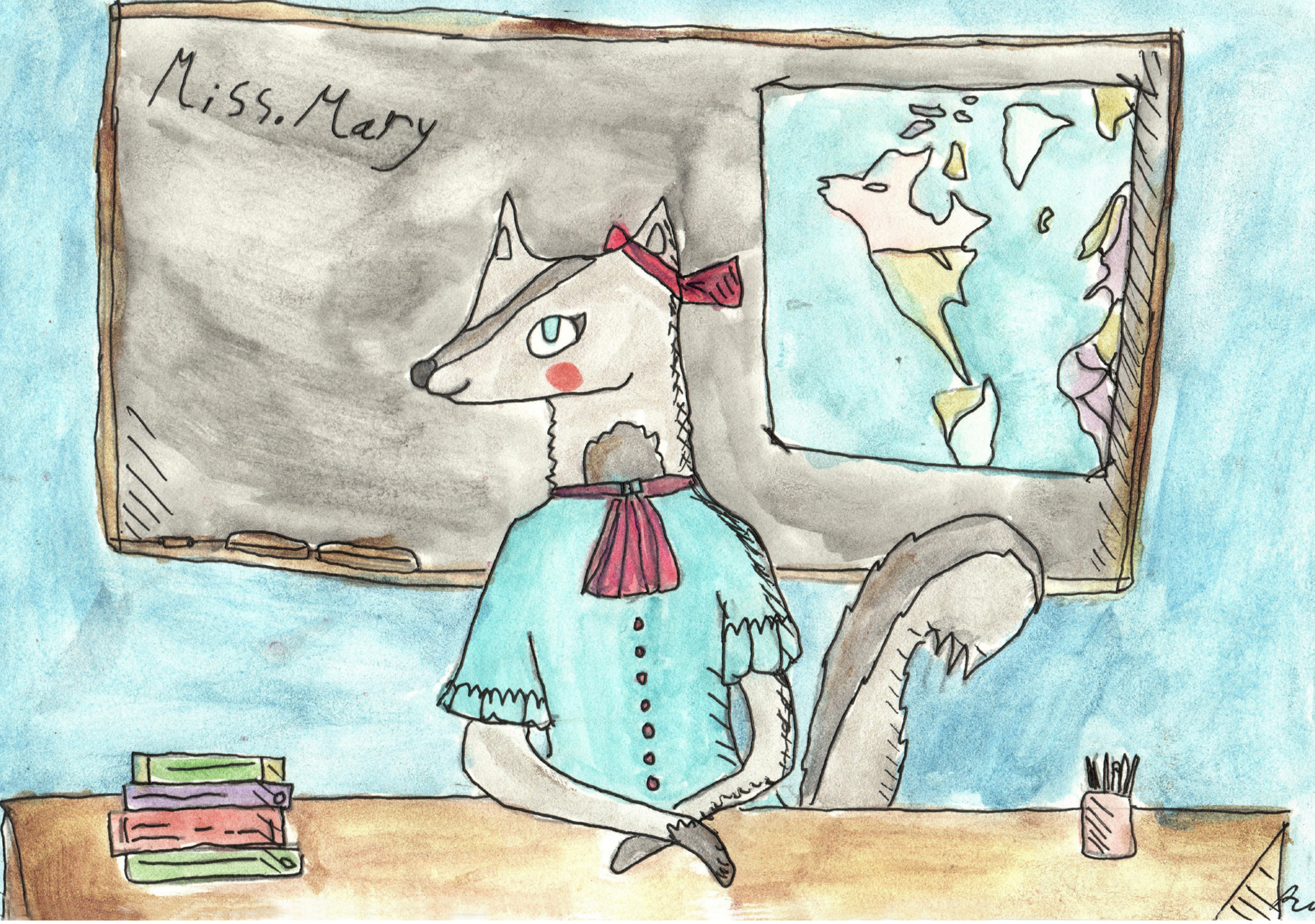
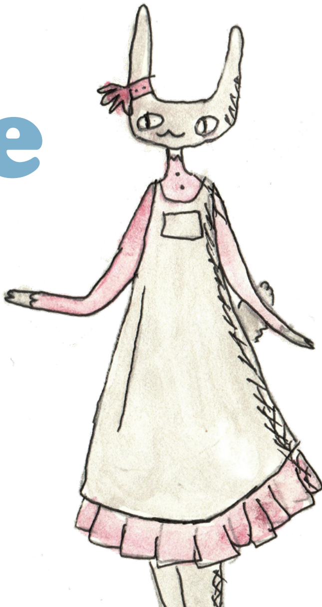


Scoil na nAinmhithe

le **Amelia Penney-Crocker**



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Amelia Penney-Crocker
Author

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Peaceful Schools International

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Saint Mary's University Students' Association

Scoil na nAinmhithe

le

Amelia Penney-Crocker

Arna aistriú ag

Neil Ó Briain M.A.

Maisitheoir

Ruby Jangaard

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Fadó fadó, bhí tíogar ann darbh ainm Jay Jay. Ba aoibhinn leis bheith ag foghlaim. Ar a chéad lá scoile, d'éirigh sé go mór moch agus d'ith sé bricfeasta go han-ghasta. Shuigh sé ag an fhuinneog agus é ag fanacht ar a mháthair a rá leis go raibh sé in am dóibh imeacht. Bhailigh sé leis chuig an scoil le fonn. Bhí sé cinnte go ndéanfadh sé an-chuid cairde nua agus go mbeadh an-spraoi ann.

“Bain taitneamh as an lá!” arsa a mháthair agus phóg sí é idir an dá chluas.

Rith Jay Jay leis chuig clos na scoile. Thosaigh a eireaball ag preabarnach nuair a chonaic sé a chara coinín Camila.

“A Jay Jay!” ar sise os ard, “Tá mé ar mhuin na muice tú a fheiceáil, tá mé iontach neirbhíseach faoi scoil.”

“Tá mise ar bís!” arsa Jay Jay.

“Is tú atá cróga,” arsa Camila, “Murab ionann agus mé féin, tá eagla orm roimh scoil.”

“Is cinnte go bhfuil eagla ortsa,” arsa an mús Bruce, “is coinín tú. Agus níl i gcoinín ach niúdar neádar.”

Bhí an sionnach Renaldo, an faoileán Úna, agus an cat Paula in aice láimhe agus thosaigh siad ag gáire.

“Niúdar neádar! Niúdar neádar!” arsa Paula.

“Nach breá an teideal é,” arsa Renaldo.

“Cur síos foirfe é ar choiníní,” arsa Úna.

Bhí Jay Jay ag gáire fosta ach thug sé faoi deara nach raibh cuma róshásta ar Camila.

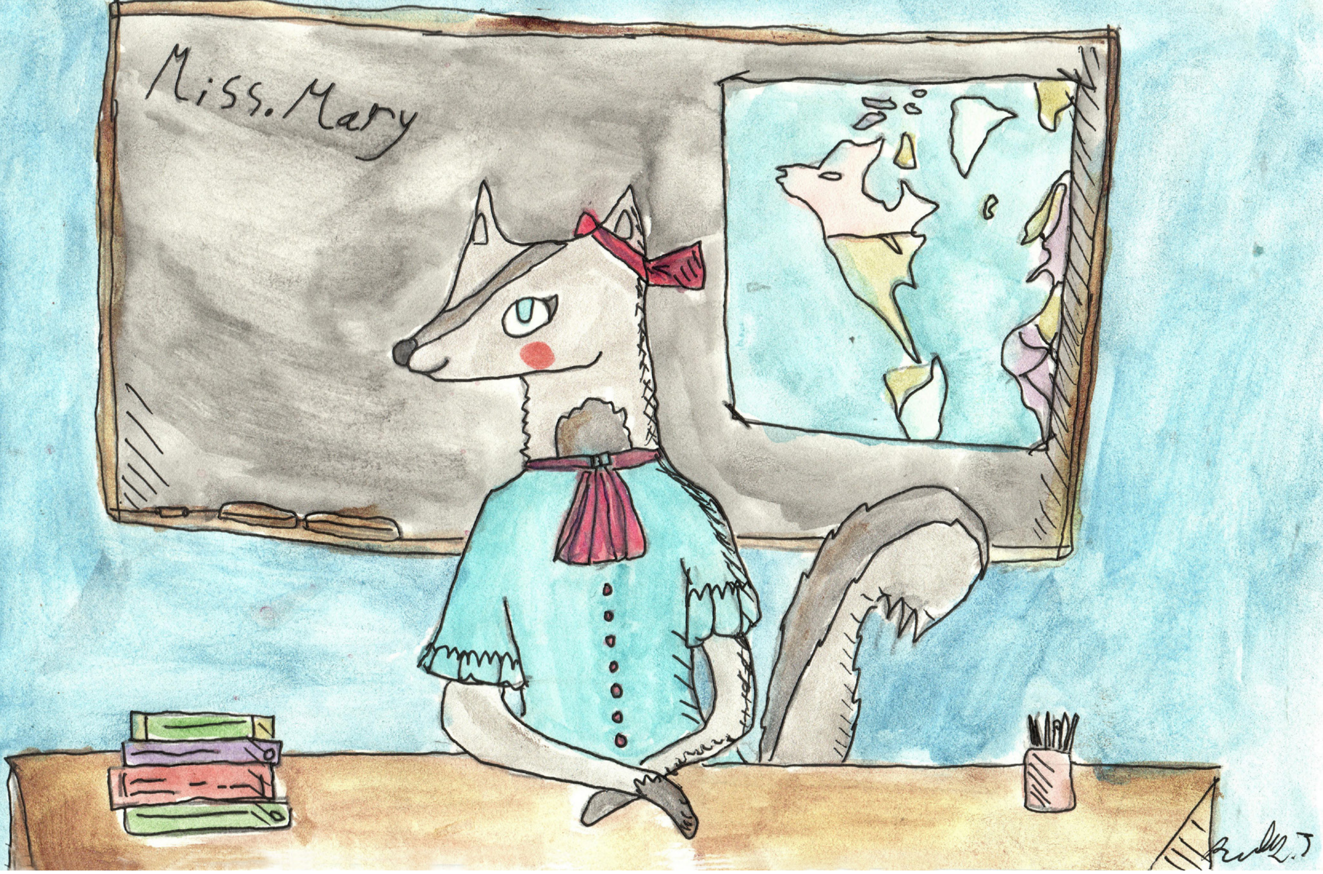
“Níl eagla orm,” ar sise agus iad go léir ag siúl chuig an seomra ranga, “níl eagla orm!”

“Ar chuir an rud a dúirt siad as duit?” a d’fhiafraigh Jay Jay di.

“Níor chuir,” arsa Camila, “ar chor ar bith... Bhuel, déanta na fírinne, chuir.” Ach tá a fhios agam nach raibh Bruce ach ag iarraidh bheith greannmhar, agus is dócha go raibh sé giota beag greannmhar.”

“Ní raibh sé greannmhar murar thaitin an jóc leat,” arsa Jay Jay. Ansin, chuaigh siad isteach ina seomra ranga nua. Bhí sceitimíní ar Jay Jay, bhí na ballaí gorm agus bhí na táblaí glas. Bhí léarscáil ollmhór de Thír na nAinmhithe taobh thiar dá múinteoir nua.

Bhí an tUasal Máire ina suí os comhair an chláir dhuibh agus í ag croitheadh a heireabaill le sceitimíní roimh a daltaí nua. Huscaí a bhí inti, le cluasa péacacha chun éisteacht le haghaidh mí-iompair ó pháistí agus bhí lapaí boga aici chun cabhrú leo ar a gcéad bhliain ar scoil.



“Sin é réiteach na faidhbe!,” arsa Jay Jay, “cuirfimid ceist ar ár múinteoir nua caidé ba cheart dúinn a dhéanamh!”

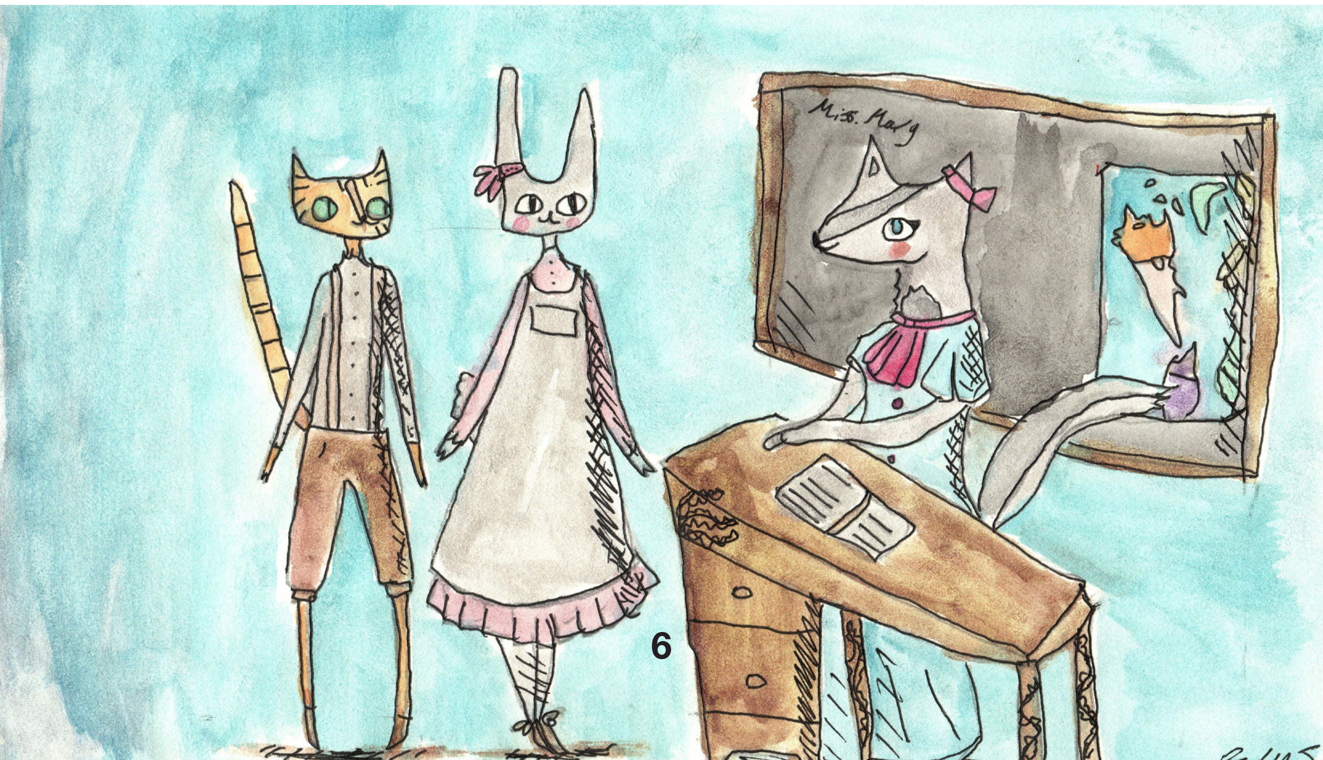
Ag an sos, labhair siad leis an Uasal Máire agus thug sí cluas dóibh go dtí go raibh siad críochnaithe. “Ná bíodh aon náire ort gur ghoill sé ort a Chamila”, arsa an tUasal Máire ansin.

“Bhí Bruce ag iarraidh bheith greannmhar,” arsa Camila de ghuth bog, “ach ghoill sé go mór orm.”

“Bhuel,” arsa an tUasal Máire, “caithfidh tú cur in iúl dó go bhfuil tú maslaithe ach gan é a rá leis go míbhéasach.”

Chlaon Camila a cloigeann, “an dtig leat cuidiú liom?”

“Thiocfadh leat an rud céanna a rá leis is a dúirt tú liom féin,” arsa an tUasal Máire, “abair ‘tá tú iontach greannmhar a Bhruce ach nuair a dúirt tú é sin, ghoill sé orm’. Ansin, abair leis go dtuigeann tú nach raibh sé ag iarraidh a bheith maslach’. Ar mhaith leat go ndéarfá é leis anois nó an mb’fhearr leat fanacht go dtí go bhfuil níos mó muiníne agat?”



“Ba chuidiú mhór é labhairt leat féin agus le Jay Jay,” arsa Camila, agus meangadh mór gáire uirthi anois. “Sílim go ndéarfaidh mé leis é anois.”

Phreab sí trasna an tseomra chuig Bruce.

“A Bhruce,” ar sise, “an dtig liom labhairt leat?”

“Tig,” arsa Bruce, “Caidé tá ort?”

“Tá tú iontach greannmhar a Bhruce,” arsa Camila, “ach ghoill sé go mór orm nuair a bhí tú ag magadh faoi choiníní.”

“Ní raibh sé sin i gceist agam,” a bhéic Bruce.

“Tá a fhios agam sin,” arsa Camila go lách.

Chonaic Bruce nach raibh a dhath aici ina éadan agus dúirt sé léi, “Tá brón orm a Chamila, an dtig linn a bheith inár gcairde?”

“Cinnte,” arsa Camila, “Tar ag súgradh liom féin agus le Jay Jay.”

Agus iad ag imirt cluiche pocko (cluiche a chum Jay Jay agus Camila), tháinig an tUasal Máire chucu.

“Feicim go bhfuil sibh go léir sásta anois,” ar sise, “an dtig libh a rá liom cad tá foghlamtha agaibh anois?”

“D’fhoghlaim mise go mba cheart dom smaoineamh sula ndeirim rudaí,” arsa Bruce.

“D’fhoghlaim mise go bhfuil sé ceart go leor a rá le daoine má tá tú maslaithe,” arsa Camila.

“D’fhoghlaim mise nach mbíonn sé i gceist ag daoine, uaireanta, cur as duit,” arsa Jay Jay, “agus go dtig leat é a chúiteamh le duine agus a bheith mar chairde.”

“Sílim go bhfuil an-luach ag baint leis na ceachtanna sin,” arsa an tUasal Máire, “agus b’fhiú go mór cuimhniú orthu amach anseo. Tá mé cinnte go mbeidh scoilbhliain bhreá againn le chéile.”

Ghabh siad go léir buíochas léi as ucht an cheachta agus rith siad ar ais chuig a gcluiche pocko.

Críoch

About the Author

Amelia Penney-Crocker was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is in Grade 8 and attends Oxford school. She has been writing stories since she was very young, and making them up long before she could write them down. She won the 2016 Woozles writing contest when she was 10, and she co-wrote an article about Syrian refugees for Our Children magazine. She also traveled to Northern Ireland with the Saint Mary's Peaceful Schools International team last year and visited the schools there. She loves writing, reading, doing theatre, and taekwondo.

About the Illustrator

Ruby Jangaard has been best friends with Amelia Penney-Crocker since elementary school. She was delighted that Amelia asked her to illustrate *Animal School* and *The Enchantress from Canada*. They are the first books she has ever illustrated. She lives in Halifax Nova Scotia, with her cat Miss Spew, and plans to continue drawing comics and illustrations. Ruby loves reading, animals and being in nature.

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