

Let's Look ...

STORY

'Friends Forever'

Begin by showing the children the picture of Muireann, Eli and Salma from the story, 'Ms Nolan's Last Day' (Theme 8). Remind them what

Ms Nolan said about them, 'Whenever you see Salma, you can be sure Muireann and Eli are close by!' Then read the story, 'Friends Forever'.

'Friends Forever'



Salma, Eli and Muireann were best friends. They were all in First class in St Nicholas' National School, and Mrs Jones was their teacher.

They lived close to each other too, and they got the same bus to and from school. When in school, they liked to run races and to play chasing with the other boys and girls in their class. They would also sit, talk and play games together. 'Friends forever?' Eli would ask. 'Forever friends!' the girls would reply.



Salma was almost eight years old. She was the oldest and the tallest of the three. She lived with her mum, her dad, her brother Abdullah

and her grandma. Her grandma had come to live with them when Salma's grandad died. She didn't speak very much English, but Salma understood her grandma when she spoke in Arabic. All of Salma's family spoke Arabic, and she and Abdullah took Arabic classes every Saturday. They liked being able to talk to their grandma, and to learn from her.

Eli was the next oldest. He was seven and a half. He lived with his mum and his dad. Eli had no brothers or sisters but he was very good



friends with his cousins, David and Dina. They lived in Galway. Every month or so, he and his parents would go to Galway to spend

time with their family there.

Muireann was the youngest of the three. She lived with her mum and her sisters Méabh and Tess. They lived next door to her Auntie Carol, Uncle Mark and their four children. Every year, her family and Auntie Carol and Uncle Mark's family went on holidays to Cork. They always had great fun together.



It was Muireann's birthday, and Salma and Eli had been invited to her party. It was their first time visiting Muireann's apartment. They

arrived straight from school with Muireann and they noticed how she dipped her fingers into a holy water font at the door and blessed herself before saying hello to her mam. Mam had some food ready for them because she knew they'd be hungry. While they were eating, Salma and Eli looked around the room. They could see a picture of Maedbh, Muireann's sister, on her First Communion day. They also saw a beautiful cross like the one in school over the door.