

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2017:

From the Principal:

Congratulations to everyone on a busy, successful start to our school year. Many thanks to teachers, parents and school staff who worked so hard at the end of August to have the School Buildings, particularly St. Joseph's Centre, ready for the start of the new school year. We welcome the 50 new Junior Infants, and their families. We also welcome Brooklyn, Aaron, Acceline, Tyler, Ashlyn, Timothy, Albert who have joined us from other schools. We were delighted to have Spanish Students with us in 5th & 6th classes this term. Congratulations to Ms. Russell on the birth of her Baby Boy, Alfie and to Mr. O'Brien on the birth of Sena. Mrs. Mullen will be Substitute Teacher in 6th class after Christmas with Ms. Hegarty in Ms. Russell's class. We welcome Ms. Leahy, Ms. O.Egan, Ms. McConn, Ms. Meldon, Ms. Wellwood & Ms. Maguire to our staff. We send Happy Retirement Wishes to Mrs. Murphy and Get Well Soon Wishes to Jo Power. Thank you for observing good standards of health and hygiene in the light of the ever present threat of Infections such as Impetigo, Scabies, Head Lice etc. Reminders that Hand Washing, Sneezing & Coughing procedures must be continued to minimise the risk of infection in our school population. Please be vigilant for symptoms of illness in children.

THANK YOU for your co-operation re Car Parking especially on the Back Road where there can be serious obstruction to householders. A reminder that St. Joseph's Centre is Off

Limits for CAR PARKING at ALL TIMES. STAFF CARS ONLY at SENIOR SCHOOL and JUNIOR SCHOOL. Please be patient when entering and exiting the Community Centre Car Park and watch out for children.

I sincerely hope that we will all enjoy a healthy, safe, holy, Christmas and a well deserved rest after a hectic and stressful term.

A CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY will be held in St. Joseph's Church on FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd at 11.15am.

Our young pupil BARRA who died last FEBRUARY is very much in our thoughts this Christmas. We remember Barra and all relations and friends who have died since this time last year.

Teachers have requested that children DO NOT exchange Christmas Cards with one another. Also you are reminded that Teachers do not expect gifts from children at Christmas. A simple, sincere Christmas wish is as effective and appreciated much more than any gift or card.

FUNDRAISING CHRISTMAS 2017:

Some very successful fundraising projects were completed during the first term of this school year.

- Thank you to the Friday night BINGO players for supporting our Christmas Hamper Raffle which raised €780 for the school. Many Thanks to all the parents who donated hamper items, helped with making hampers, Ms. Nolan & Anne Marie who sold tickets on the night.
- Many Thanks to the McShane Family who donated €1.000 from the Seán McShane Golf Classic.

- We appreciate all the assistance with the FESTINA LENTE Horse -Riding Programme including significant sponsorship from one family. Church. Thanks to all parents who helped. We were delighted to be associated with this initiative.
- Thanks to Chairperson, Sarah Ryan and the Parents' Association for the successful Cake Sale which raised €750 for the Remedial Works to St. Joseph's Centre.
- Our Sponsored Walk in OCTOBER this year was a great success with over €7,000 raised.
- Thanks to the many parents who gave of their time as well as contributing financially to the regeneration of the School Garden.
- Thanks to Class Teachers, Ruth and Fiona for organising the Christmas Card Scheme. €1,150 was raised for School Funds.
- Many Thanks to AnnMarie Elliott who continues to run COPPER FRIDAY on the last Friday of every month.
- Thanks to the O'Brien Trust, Archdiocese of Dublin for funding for IT Resources, Playground and OT Room in St. Joseph's Centre.
- Thanks to Carambola for funding the purchase of more iPads for student use.

Sixth class News

Active Flag Committee

Every Friday, the Active Flag Committee meets at 2:00pm for a meeting. We talk about and discuss different ways about how we can become a more active school. We are working hard to try and achieve our flag by the end of the year. We created an Active Advent Calendar. Each day, we do an exercise in our classrooms for a couple of minutes. It's great fun. We also have set up an activities basket of equipment that gets put out on yard each lunchtime. Each day, a different class gets to play with the equipment. There's lots of fun equipment in the basket including skipping ropes, hoola hoops and balls. So far it has been lots of fun and really enjoyable to be on the committee.

Two weeks ago, we held a competition to create our new school logo for the Active Flag. The winning slogan was "GET UP, GET POUT AND MOVE ABOUT". We also held a poster competition to create bright, colourful and informative posters. There were many winning posters. Some of the teachers that are involved are Ms. Hegarty, Ms. Egan, Ms. Maguire and Ms. McConn. Hopefully we achieve our goal and get our flag.

By Shauna Tighe Kelly and Grace Murphy

Science Week

This year our school celebrated science week by doing different science related activities such as an eco art workshop and different

experiments. When we did the Eco Art Workshop a woman named Emily Archer Robins came in and talked to us about how climate change can affect different water species. I really enjoyed talking about this because Emily told us how easy it is to stop it. After our talk we made litter bugs out of cardboard paper and many other different recyclable materials. Before we started I was very nervous because I thought it would be hard but in fact it was very easy to do. I really enjoyed our day with Emily. During the rest of the week we did science experiments with the younger classes. I really enjoyed showing the younger classes because I learned a lot as well. One of my favourite experiments was mixing baking soda and vinegar and watching the chemical reaction and I think the other classes liked it too. Some other science experiments we did included friction, light, magnetic force and a pulley system. A lot of the children really enjoyed playing with the pulley system and seeing how it worked. I really enjoyed science week in our school and I can't wait to do science in secondary school.

By Kellie Magee

Our Day in CCA

Next year in 2018 I am going in to CCA. And to be prepared we went on a tour of the school. All different schools from the locality came. A teacher named Mr Farrell sorted us into groups and gave us a tour guide called Ms. McCluskey. First, we went upstairs to the Business and we each sat at a computer. By the teacher's desk there was an interactive white board and there were pop up questions at the computers we were sitting at. We had to answer them as fast as we could.

Then we went into the Science room and we had to identify the slide in the microscope. I wasn't able to identify what it was but we were told it was onion skin. After that in the Metal Work room, all the students showed us their work and I learned that heat does not travel through plastic.

Next, we went back to the hall and we were given a Capri sun and a Rice Crispy bar. Also, all the students entertained us with singing and somebody played the flute for us too.

When we were finished our snack, we went to the French room and learned a French song and the teacher gave us a few questions.

Then we went down to Art and made snowmen with lollypop sticks it was really cool that you can make snowmen with lollipop sticks. And next to art was Home-Economics room. Some of the students showed us some of the videos about what they cooked in class. Following that they gave us Rice Krispy buns and the buns were delicious. Then we left. The last thing we did was P.E. We had to work together in a team of eight and use a bench, hoola hoop and a mat to get across the room. When that was over we all went back to the hall and Mr Farrell thanked us and hoped we had a nice time then we all went back to school. My favourite thing that I did today was Home-Economics. I really like baking and when the students showed us their videos about what they make it looked really nice. I can't wait to go into CCA.

By Caitlin Carroll

Book Review of 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio

During the month of September, 6th class were presented with a book titled "Wonder" written by R.J Palacio. It is part of the One Book, One Community project. Our class were told to read this book, and following the class's completion of the book we would travel to the Mermaid theatre to watch the movie re-enactment. So that's how and why we were presented with Wonder. The plot of Wonder follows the main character, August who carries the burden of having facial deformities. He is aware of his problem, but is not bothered by how others see him. This perspective changes when August is informed he will be attending school, but, as he is aware of how mean children can be when it comes to subjects regarding looks. August is, obviously reluctant but as he learns more about the school, he begins to become intrigued and agrees to attend. Wonder follows August as he struggles to withstand the school year. Overall, wonder is a great book and is incredibly enjoyable and emotional. I would highly recommend this book for children of my age but I think adults would enjoy it too. Although if you're not interested or don't like sad stories, then it may not be for you.

(If you want a comparison to another book that is similar is "The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night Time")

By Sam Eager

Gaelic Football

After school Gaelic football practice began again in September. 4th,5th and 6th classes trained every Tuesday after school with Ms. Nolan, Ms. Egan and Ms. McConn. We practiced ball handling skills, passing, soloing and kicking.

5th and 6th played together in a Cummann na mBunscoil blitz. It was loads of fun. We won all the matches that were played. The blitz was organised in Bray Emmets Club.

Then 4th class played a blitz as well and won all their matches too. We are looking forward to training again in the new year.

By Alicia Farrell

Afterschool Art

I love doing after school art, it's so much fun. Me and my friends get to sit together and do art. We get to do different art styles. My favourite is free style, where we get to choose any style of art ourselves. We can choose what we want to do. There are three different styles of art paint, pencil and pastels. I love using pencils because you don't have to wait for it to dry and they're not messy. My best drawing was with Sam. We did a collaboration drawing about Pokémon, (our favourite game) fighting each other. We put it in a school Art showcase. I absolutely love Art. Thanks to Joan and Gay for putting up with us every Wednesday

By Josh Keating

Local Education Committee

This year Stacey and Pádraig are the 6th class representatives for the Local Ed Committee. We are the two youngest people on the committee. Other people on the committee include Ms. Lenon, Mrs. Dempsey, Linda White, AnnMarie Eliot and Carol from Pine Trees Playschool. The committee meets up once a month in the Parents' Room in the Junior school to discuss what's going on in the town. One of our tasks on the committee has been to send out surveys to all the local clubs to find out do they include children with autism in their clubs and we are awaiting information back from the clubs. We are both really enjoying being part of the Local Ed Committee.

By Stacey Kenny and Pádraig Gammell

My experience in Ireland

I arrived on the 11th of October but I started school in NewtownMountKennedy the 12th of October.

When I started school, my first day, I was really nervous but excited at the same time. At first I met my teacher Ms.Egan. My first impression was really good because she treated me very kindly and she was very nice and friendly to me. I still think she is really nice and she is a great teacher. Next, she introduced me the girls in my class. The first girls that she introduced to me were: Tia, Nicole, Alicia and Shelby. I also have met: Shauna, Kim and Lara. After that the girls and Ms.Egan introduced me the rest of the class. Everyone was really nice and friendly to me and I made lots of good friends over here. It was also strange at the start, that everyone spoke English all the time but now I'm used to it, and Ms.Egan and all my friends were a great help. I totally think I've improve my English because before my stay in Ireland, I don't think I would have been able to write this review about my experience in Ireland. Also with the family I've been with have been really good, they were really niece and kind to me.

Tomorrow it is my last day and I'm really sad about it because in Ireland I had such an amazing time. It has been the greatest time of my life. I can't believe I have been here for nine weeks in Ireland. It has gone really fast. I'm going to miss everyone so much especially my friends. I'm also kind of happy because I will see my family in very short time, but I'm going to miss this.

From Ireland I take with me a huge experience and a lot of amazing friends that I will never forget. I am so glad I could have this experience I have enjoyed it a lot!

By Ani de Vilallonga Junca

Gaelic Football

I do Gaelic Football after school with Mr O' Riordan. We play football with 4th, 5th and the other 6th class. We train most Tuesdays after school and sometimes each month we have a blitz. We only had one blitz so far this year. We won three games and lost one game. I really like going to the blitzes, it's good fun. We have a good team and we represent our school very well. At the blitzes, we would play against different schools from Wicklow for each match. Usually, the blitzes are in Bray Emmets Club and we a bus up and back. We would go with Mr. O'Riordan. We play with a team of nine and have some subs. Thanks to Mr. O'Riordan for all his help during the year.

By Óran Lane

Student Council

We have been busy this year in student council. We started by getting members from the other classes. The 6th class members are Nicole, Rachael, Lara, Sam and Cian. Every second Monday we have a meeting at 12:30, At our first meeting we welcomed everybody and talked about our badges. During our meetings we discussed topics such as projects, the diversity code, Christmas in different countries and different cultures in our school. We have a secretary who writes the agenda and a person who does the minutes of each meeting which changes every month. We have written some letters to different embassies to try and get some information back about the different countries. We are very privileged to be on the Student Council and working with Ms. Hurley.

By Nicole King and Rachael Duffy

Hurling Blitz

In September we played a blitz in Bray Emmetts.

We played four matches, we won three, lost one and drew one.

We played against Kilcoole, St. Pat's and a gaelscoil.

I really liked it and i hope we have more during the year.

By Ryan Clarke

Youth Club

A few weeks ago some of us did baking after school with Linda and Ger. We were in the last group with Nicole, Alicia, Tia, Martin, Caitlin, Stacey, Mohammed and Harry. Every week we baked and played one or two games while were waiting for them to cook.

The first week we made brown bread with no eggs. To make this you will need.

- 1 cup of plain flour
- 1 cup of wholemeal flour
- 1 cup of butter milk (smelly milk 😊)
- 1 tea spoon of salt
- 1 tea spoon of baking soda
- 1 egg (optional)

While we were waiting for them to bake in the oven we played 'Good morning your majesty' and the celebrity guessing game it was lots of fun.

The next week we made pitta pizza. To make this you will need.

- Pitta bread
- Tomato puree or passata
- Grated mozzarella or cheddar cheese
- Any toppings you may like(sprinkle on top)

While we were waiting for them to bake in the oven we played the picnic game and some of us just could not understand it.

We think the last week was our favourite. We made delicious fairy cakes and they were so nice.

For this you will need

- 125g of plain flour
- 125g of caster sugar
- 125g of stork
- 2 eggs
- 1 tea spoon of baking soda (to make them rise)

On the last week we played giant jenga and every one was so cautious trying not to knock it over.

We think every one really enjoyed baking and the games so we hope we can do something like that again😊.

5th Class Christmas News



Christmas Tree – A Short Story

Once there was a tree called Albert and he lived in the woods. But in the one time of year strange things came to the woods and took some of the big trees. He always wondered where they went and why they never took him.

Was it because all the other trees were a lot bigger than him? Or was it because his branches were flimsy and weren't as pretty as the others.

But one day a child came and took him home. When he got there, there was a tree from the woods and she was covered in lights.

But for some reason the adults threw him away because he was the size of a flower. And after that he wanted to be colourful. But no one wanted a small tree so he waited and waited until someone came and he loved Albert. He brought home and decorated him in the finest tinsel and lights and the prettiest lights and the most prettiest star ever. After ten years of waiting Albert finally got his dream.



him

Our Christmas Play

This year 5th class are doing “The Nativity” as their play but wait, there's a twist! Someone doesn't like it and King Herod won't give up. But God has a big big plan and is auditioning to see if he can

find the Xmas factor in people. It looks like there's a lot of talent here. It is narrated by three angels, however they don't act like angels most of the time. With lots of laughs and fun, it looks like all of these characters (excluding King Herod) deserve to be Christmas Stars.

For the first time ever introducing:

- * King Herod
- * Wise Woman/Man
- * Eli, Reub and Ish
also
- * God
- * Gabriel
- * Mary & Joseph
- * Shepherds
- * Angels
- * Christmas Stars
- * Innkeepers
- * Carpenters



A Day in the Life of a 5th Class Pupil

We are pupils in Ms Cheevers' 5th class and here is a sample of our timetable and some of the things we are doing in the different subjects.

School starts at 9a.m.

9-9.25 – Independent Work

9.25-10.05 – Irish

10/05-10.50– English

10.50-11.10 – Snack/Yard Time

11.15-12.05 – Maths

12.05-12.30 – Religion



12.30-1.00 – Lunch/Yard Time
1.05-2.00 – History or Geography
2.00 – 2.40 – P.E./Story (Fudge)

We do Irish first in the mornings. We are currently doing a Christmas chapter in *Bun go Barr*. For our Irish homework, we have an Irish sheet and we also work on Fuaimeanna agus Focail. For English we read from our *Upside Down World* reader or *Exercise Your English* every morning. We also do My Spelling Workbook, we are just finished Unit 6.

In Maths we do *Mathemagic 5*, we were learning fractions, now we are doing Money. For homework we do *Tables Champion* and *Mental Maths*.

For History we are currently learning about Women's Rights. Our teacher often reads us a book called *Fudge-a-Mania*, it is a brilliant book about a mischievous little boy called Fudge.

We are singing at the Peace Proms on the 4th of February, we are learning loads of songs for it.

We are doing a Christmas play this week called Christmas Stars! We try to practise every day!

Some rules in our class and school are:

1. Be in at 9.00a.m.
2. Keep your hands to yourself.
3. Don't pass the red line in the yard.
4. Don't climb the bank or the steps.
5. Don't leave your seat when no teacher is in the room.

Always be honest, because *Honesty is the best policy*.

By Aisling Van Der Does, Farrah Doyle,
Lynda Lucy Elliott and Tyra Ann Doyle

CCA Transition Day

In November 5th and 6th Class went to CCA. When we arrived the principal, Mr Eivers, welcomed us to CCA. After he welcomed us, we went to check out the classes. The first subject was business and it was fun. Then it was metal work, we got to see some marvellous inventions. Then we went to art class, we made snowmen. To make the snowmen we used lollipop sticks, sticky gems, glue, scissors, foam and a black marker. After we went to science class, it was so fun, we looked in a microscope, drew what we tried to see and guessed. Then it was P.E., in P.E. we had two P.E. teachers. For the first P.E. lesson we went in groups of two and did exercises and saw who could pick up the cane first. The next P.E. lesson was trying to get to the other side without touching the floor. We used benches, yoga mats and hula hoops. After P.E. we went to French and Spanish class. We learnt a song and did a quiz. After that we went back to the bus and came back to school.



that

By Cillian Coffey and Kate O'Brien



GAA in 5th Class

Young Whistlers

Every year a girl and a boy are asked to represent the school in the Young Whistlers project.

This year Keira Farrelly and I were lucky to be chosen.

We went to Bray Emmets' Clubhouse. Mr O'Riordan came with us.

We met other boys and girls from other schools. There were two instructors and they explained all the rules to us and also what to do when the rules are broken, e.g. if a jersey is pulled you award a

free to the other team. We were given a referee jacket and a whistle to use when we are refereeing. We really enjoyed the afternoon and are looking forward to refereeing our first match.

By Cillian Coffey

When I went to the Young Whistlers we started with a game where you say the number or do an action like stomp your foot. The next thing was we put our hand in a referee's gear bag, we would say something and then take it out of the bag. We did an activity where they would call you up and you would do something you're not allowed to do in a game and something you are allowed to do. Then we learned the symbols a referee would use if the ball was out or if someone was pulling your jersey. After that we were put in groups and you had to do the best way to count the score in a game and then they showed an example. Finally we got our gear, activity pages, a whistle and a certificate.

By Keira Farrelly



Fun and Run

Fun and Run is a game for everyone, even for people in wheelchairs. It's like rounders but just better because it's for all ages. It's called Fun and Run and it has batters and fielders. The fielders have squares that are based on the ground. Once the batting people hit the tennis ball or slider all the fielders have to touch the ball before they get it in the net/bag. The batter runs around everyone in a circular shape. These people are not

standing still, they are doing exercises. There are exercises for the people in wheelchairs too!

The Rules for Batters

So I'll start with the batters. So, you set up the net/bag beside a counter or something that counts the score and place a spike so it's easier to hit with a bat or a hurl. After the batter hits the ball they run around all the bases. While they are running around the track, the people at the bases are all doing exercises. When the runner gets back home they get a point, and if everyone is doing their exercises you get extra points.

The Rules for Fielders

Now you probably think this is the most confusing game ever but fielders are the easiest bit in the game. The fielders are in different squares when the batter is hitting the ball. You must stay in these squares which are placed on the ground. Get this though, there is another twist, you have to pass it to all your teammates who are fielders with you at the time.

Fun and Run

The mother of a child with special needs made this game so that her daughter can finally play some sport on a level with her classmates.

5th Class wish this family the best of luck with this new game.



By Rose Kelly Tynan

Gaelic Football in 5th Class

This year we did a Gaelic blitz in Bray Emmets GAA Club. We played four matches, we won three and lost one. The first game was against Kilmacanogue School, our second game was against St Laurence's School and our third game was against St Patrick's School from Wicklow Town. Mr O'Riordan and Elaine came with us to the blitz.

There were three students from CCA Secondary School refereeing the games. Before we played the matches, we warmed up by taking 45s, passing and shooting. We went to the Blitz on David Murray's Bus.

There were twenty five schools at the Blitz. Our school team played on the grass pitches but some teams played on the astro turf. We got back to school just before home time.

By Bailey Collingwood, P.J. Duffy and Aaron
Hackett



Indoor Hurling Blitz

Recently, some of the girls in our school went to an Indoor Hurling Blitz in Greystones. Before we left we went to get our jerseys. Then we went on the bus to Shoreline Sports Hall. We got our place and played some warm up games. We played against Kilcoole and we lost 2-1. We played a different Kilcoole team and we won 3-2. Lastly we played St Laurence's and we drew 2-2. After the blitz we got back on the bus and went back to school. We put our jerseys away and went back to our classroom and had our lunch.

By Hollie Breen Jackson and Keira Farrelly



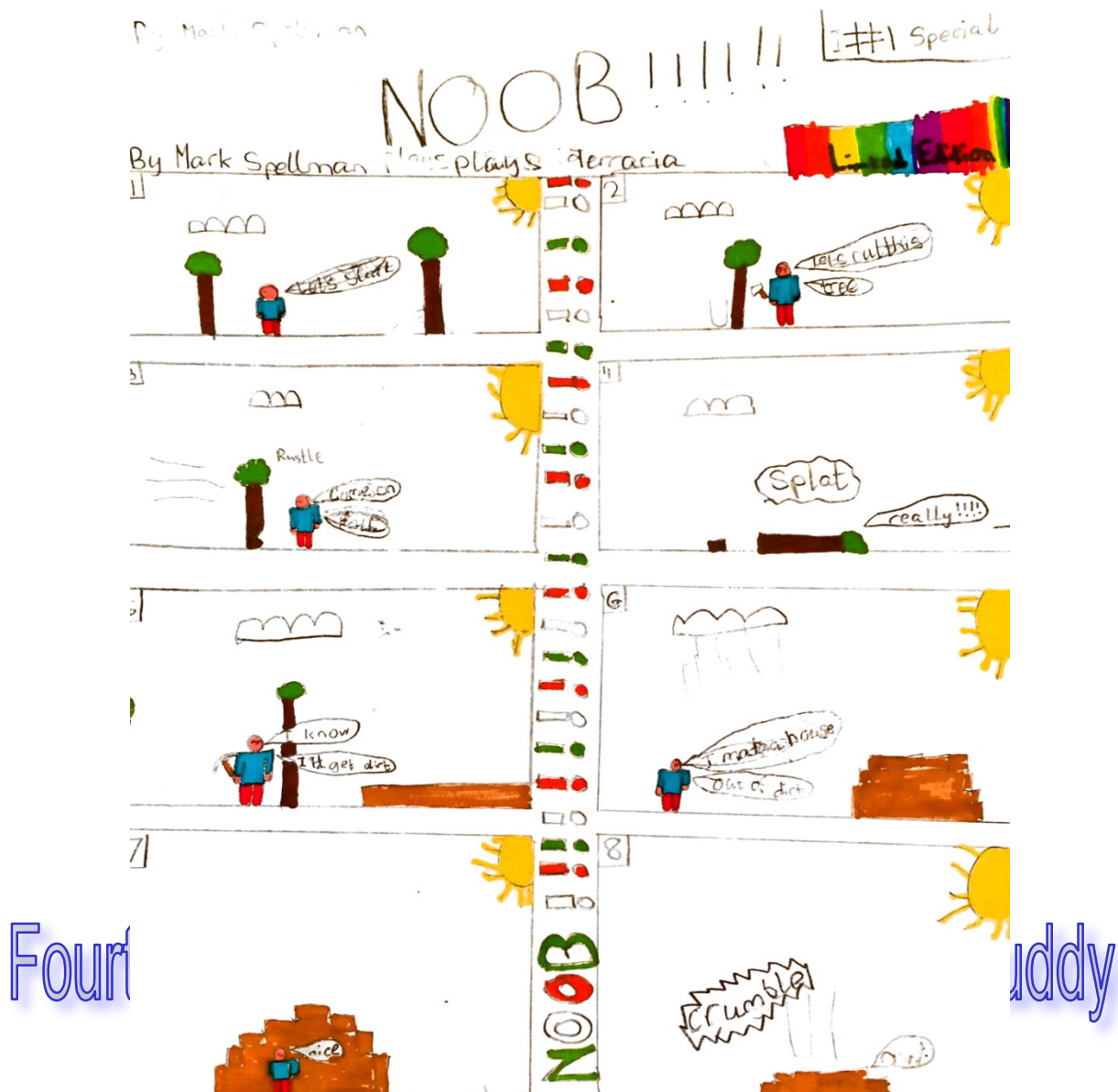
After School Gaelic

On Tuesdays after school we would have Gaelic training with Ms Egan, Ms Nolan and Ms McConn. We would normally do warm-ups first, play a few games and sometimes we would play a match. Some of fourth, fifth and sixth did Gaelic training every week. We had a Blitz in Bray on a Wednesday a few weeks ago and we won all of our matches. We played lots of different schools and Ms McConn was our coach.

Thank you Ms Egan, Ms Nolan and Ms McConn for training us this year. It was so much fun.

By Anna-Faye Hanley and Shona Odlum

A Cartoon by Mark Spellman (5th Class)



Our choir and Bazaar

This year fourth class had an opportunity to sing in St. Matthews Church Newtownmountkennedy with Joan Dempsey for the Christmas Bazaar.

We had a lot of fun with the brass band. Many of our parents came along too.

After the Bazaar we went down to watch the Christmas lights being turned on.

By Lucy Duffy and Rachael Bayle.

Chocolate Apples.

For Halloween we made chocolate apples. Mc McGillycuddy was melting the chocolate. Each person in the class took an apple and put a stick in the bottom and then put the apple in the melted chocolate.

After the chocolate dried we put sprinkles on them.

At the end of the day we got to eat them.

We had a great day.

By Lily Esposito Meehan

Recap of Gailge with CCA

We are practising for CCA to do an Irish play of 'Lathraigh Loinseoigh'

They come in every Thursday to practice with us. They bring in different students from transition year.

One girl highlights the booklets and the other students help us practice our lines outside in the hall.

the play is on in March and the CCA students are going to be there.

By James Devlin and Luca Flannery.

Tin Whistle

We are learning the Tin Whistle with Mrs Broughan. we are learning the song Jingle Bells.

We are learning new notes and songs in our class. It is difficult but fun. We might do a concert in the future.

Mrs. Broughan plays her tin whistle to keep us on track while we are playing.

By Hannah, Isabelle and Ella.

Our Camogie Blitz

On the day of the Camogie Blitz we had to put on the Newtownmountkenndy jerseys. After we put on the jerseys we got on the bus.

when we got to Shoreline in Greystones, we had to get ready for the matches.

We played 4 matches. Each match was 15 minutes long. Our team won all the matches.

When the blitz was over we got on the bus and went back to school.

We had a great day.

By Faye and Abigail

Mr. O'Brien - Fourth Class

Hurling

Hurling is for boys and girls. Mr O'Brien runs it.
With start off with drills like passing, tackling and pick ups.
For the last ten minutes we play matches.
We do air hurling and ground hurling.
It is fun.
By Aaron Roy.

St. Matthews Bazaar

In the Bazaar we thanked our music teacher for teaching us the songs. The bazaar was amazing we sang do you hear what I hear, Santa Claus is coming to town, White Christmas and Jingle Bells. People said we were great. There was stalls with decorations and hot drinks. Also we thanked our teachers Mr. O'Brien, Mrs Mullen, Mrs Broughan and Mrs McGillicuddy for supporting us at our singing and the brass band for taking time to play at the bazaar.
Santa Claus was there giving out presents to some of the children (it was also fun!) and we thank Johnny for taking the blame for everything
By Heather Kavanagh

Class Project

This year our class have been making amazing Roman Projects. we have had an amazing time learning about the Romans. We have lots of facts. We made a few Roman famous sites.

Faye, Heather and Michael have worked hard on the Roman villa, Ellie, Zoe, Elisha and Katie have done an amazing job on circus maximus. Cathal, Dayle and Brooklyn have a fantastic finish on the arch. Óisin, Aaron, Kian and Emmanuela did an amazing job on the coliseum.

Thanks to Mr. O'Brien for teaching us about the Romans.

By Faye O'Neill

Boy's GAA

Last week we had fun and we had a match. Mr O'Riordan trained us and Mr. O'Riordan brings us to the matches.

Stephen came with us when we went to our first blitz.

We drew 1 and won 3 at our first blitz. Mr. O'Riordan was happy.

At our second blitz we won 2 and drew 2. Ryan Collins, Dylan Dunleavy, Brooklyn Doyle, Mikey Daly, Aaron Roy, Kian O'Reilly, Mason Melia, Matthew Doyle, Scott Elliott and Luke Turley went to the Blitz.

By Dylan

Girl's GAA

Girl's Gaelic is so fun, our team worked really hard and so did our coaches. If you did not attend practice you had 75% chance of not getting picked for the blitz.

The other fourth class did GAA too.

When we went to the blitz you would play a few matches against another team. At the last blitz we won all the matches, our coaches trained us very well.

I love GAA

By Ellie McCabe

Football Blitz

At our first blitz we had 4 matches and we won 3 out of 4 and Brooklyn scored 4 goals, Ryan scored 5 goals, Dylan scored 6 goals.

we played against lots of schools and got into the final and we won 4 - 2 The first match we lost 3-4 the second match we won 5-3, the third match we won 7-5, the fourth match we won 4-2, the fifth match we won 15-0.

By Brooklyn Doyle.

Third Class News

Tin Whistle

We started learning the tin whistle this year with Mr Keddy. We like playing it. We learned different notes; B, A, G, F, E, D. We have learned how to play Mary Had a Little Lamb. We will be playing Jingle Bells and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star for the Christmas Show.

Sophie O'Brien Fitzsimons & John Turley

After-School Activities

Mr Keddy and Mr O Riordan organised an After School Football Club with 3rd class. It is on Thursdays for 6 weeks. We do it in the Community Centre. We warm up at the start and we play with the footballs. We practice our hand-pass in groups. We learned how to block, tackle and other skills. We finish training with a game. The boys and girls enjoy playing Gaelic.

Lily Murphy & Lauren Coffey

Soccer

Some people in our class went to a Soccer tournament in Shoreline Greystones with Hughie Nolan and John Dunleavy. The boys and girls brought won their tournament. It was loads of fun. Hughie and John sometimes come up and train the whole class. It's great! *Aidan Heffernan & Kacey Kelly*

Art with Ms Lee

For Christmas, we did art with Ms Lee. We made stained glass images using black sugar paper and coloured tissue paper. We used glue spreaders to stick the coloured tissue. We folded the sugar paper and cut out shapes to make a picture. There as lots of colour tissue paper to choose. It was loads of fun and we want to do it again!

Micaela Healy & Aaron Garrett

Christmas Performance

For the Christmas Show, we will be singing songs. The songs are "Half the World Away" and "Somewhere Only We Know". We have a rap called, "The Reindeer Rap". We will playing tin whistle as well. Finally, we will sing Christmas songs like Santa Claus is coming to Town, We Wish you a Merry Christmas and Jingle Bells in Irish.

Katie McCormick & Mollie Ellis

Stone Age

This year, we learned about Newgrange. Newgrange is a place to celebrate important people who died years ago. It is made from stone. There are many markings on the stones. They used flint to make the markings in the stone. The Stone Age people made Newgrange. They hunted animals and farmed. They used animal fur for clothes.

Quillan Byrne & Lilian Kavanagh

Feasts & Festivals

This year, we learned about feasts and festivals from around the world. We learned that Halloween was an ancient Pagan festival. We had "Man Dhalas" to colour in. They are round lanterns that they have in Vietnam. We learned about Ramadan and Hannukah as well. We liked learning about the different festivals. The first Christmas card was made in England in 1840!

Mai-Ly Turner & Aneta Thampi

Christmas Stories

Did you know that Santa is my dad. Last Christmas I went to deliver the presents with him and the two elves, Messi and Ronaldo. Rudolf and Leon came as well.

We left the North pole and arrived in Ireland at 5.00 p.m.. we stopped on the roof of a house. Santa asked Ronaldo to hand him the two lists. But we could not find them . We looked everywhere. We had to pour the toys out of the bag.

We found the good list in Santa's pocket. I stood up in the sleigh. I saw the bad list, I had been sitting on it.

We were able to deliver the presents to all the boys and girls on the earth.

By Oisín



Christmas

Did you know that Santa is my dad? every Christmas I help deliver the toys to the children in the world. Last Christmas there was a big problem with the Grinch because he is a bad guy. He came into Santa's workshop and took the naughty list because his child was on the naughty list. Will I tell you why? his child stole a pencil case in school.

Santa was about to leave. He realised the list was gone. Suddenly Santa saw the Grinch on a bike and she had the list.

Luckily Santa stopped the bike and then Santa picked up the Grinch and threw the Grinch into space.

Then Santa took the list and the bike. Santa fixed the bike. The list wasn't damaged. Then Santa delivered all the toys and said 'ho,ho,ho'

Merry Christmas everybody.

By Leon O'Connor.

My Christmas Story

It was the 5th of December. Emma was very excited because family from Slovakia were coming to visit. They were going to celebrate a Slovakian tradition and Emma had the day off school.

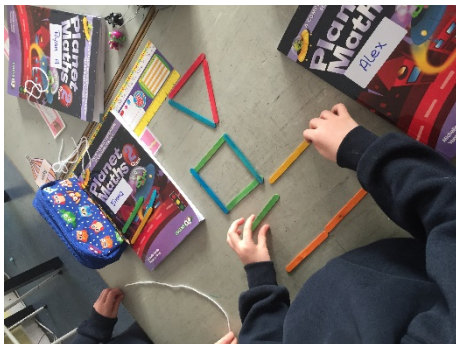
Emma started washing the shoes and putting them at the window. Now all Emma had to do was wait for St Nicholas to deliver some sweets and presents. In the North Pole St. Nicholas was getting ready to deliver presents. Before St. Nicholas left two naughty elves were supposed to be going with St. Nicholas went into ST Nicholas's room and started painting pictures. St Nicholas found them. He was shocked at what he found. He found pictures and lots of paint all over the floor.

The two elves said that they would like to be artists. St Nicholas said that they could both be artists. He said I will find two other elves to help me deliver the presents tonight. Then he found two other elves to help him. He went straight to Emma's house to deliver the presents. When Emma seen the presents she was delighted.

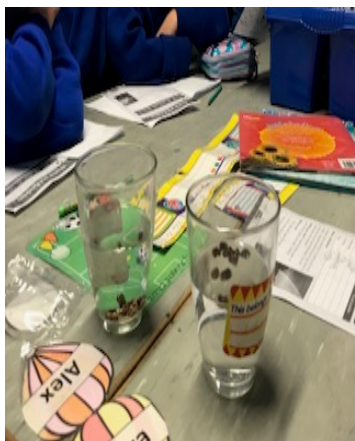
By Emma Surmova

Second Class newsletter!!

Second Class have been busy bees since September. We were learning all about 2d shapes. Even made some in the class, then after a practise run of a shape hunt in our classroom, we ventured out a shape hunt around the school. Quiet using our shape 'eyes' both inside and outside, fun was had!



We were lucky enough to have two new students in our class this year Antonina and Jagoda, but we did have to say, 'See you later' to Aidan. We had a great send off party and loved our last week in second class with him. But, we were able to skype Aidan and his family just before mid-term break ☺.



Science week was great fun with Grace and 6th class with the experiments. We also had some of our own experiments in class like 'dancing raisins'. Budding scientists!!

GAA has started on Thursdays and the children are loving it.

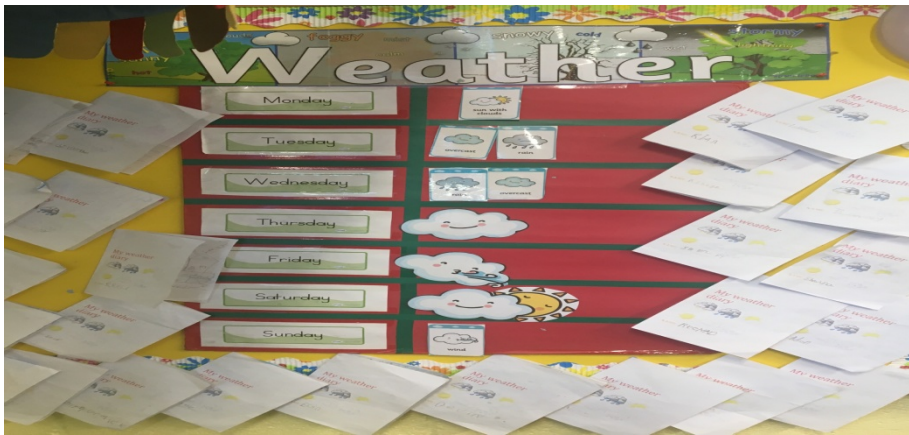
We had our enrolment mass for our First Holy Communion. Fr. Seán has been in with us and is thrilled to see the children excited and preparing for the sacrament of First Holy Communion.

December saw the arrival of our class Elf 'Dasher' who has been up to great mischief but also providing great entertainment for everyone! Watch out for our performance of 'The Grinch who stole Christmas'. Nollaig Shona Daoibh

Senior Infants - Ms McConn

Ms. McConn's senior infants learnt all about different types of weather and made weather diary's.

We had great fun discussing weather types both in English and as Gaeilge!



We had a very busy December trying to keep up with the adventures of our elf on the shelf 'Buddy'. We made winter snowmen and also made Christmas tree decorations. We have also had great fun getting ready for our Christmas play.



Junior Infants- Ms Leahy

Ms. Leahy's Junior Infants have had a fun and busy first term! We have enjoyed learning all about owls and even had a visit from our owl friend 'Whiz!' a few weeks ago. We are now enjoying making Christmas decorations, learning about Winter and preparing for our Christmas play. We wish you all a very Happy Christmas!





MS. HEALY'S CLASS

A big hello from Jamie, Freddy, Alfie, Joseph, Liam and Kayla.

We had a busy term in St. Joseph's building. In September we all settled into our new classroom and were very excited to see our new OT room and sensory room.

We recently got a new playground which we also love.

We have a busy schedule everyday and enjoy activities such as art, P.E. and bikes. We also enjoyed a few weeks of dance classes with Zoe during the month of December.

We have been practicing our Christmas play with some of our friends from Ms. Donlon's class

Happy Christmas from all the boys and girls in Ms Healy's class.



Merry Christmas from Ms. Egan's Class

We have had a very busy start to the year. We have been working hard in our classrooms. We have enjoyed dance with Zoe, horse riding in Festine Lente and swimming in Greystones. We were also very pleased to see ourselves on the GAA Fun and Run video.



*We would like to wish all the teachers, SNAs,
our friends and especially our families a very
HAPPY CHRISTMAS!*



