

School News

April 2025



Thank you to everyone who donated, baked and bought cakes for the Great Irish Bake and Easter raffle. We raised a fantastic amount of €826 for Children's Health Ireland.

Congratulations to Barra Brogan who won the main raffle prize, a beautiful cake donated by Gina Dowling which was made by Niamh from Perfectionist Confectionist.



Achievements

Congratulations to

- Yvanna in 4th class who was awarded 1st place in the Malahide Young Musicians of the Year 2025 under "Junior String" session.
- Simeon in 2nd class who was awarded 2nd place in the Malahide Young Musicians of the Year 2025 under "Junior Piano" session. He was also awarded 3rd place in ITA Dublin Open International Taekwon-Do Tournament under "Sparring 8 years-old Yellow Belt 126-135cm" division.



Fingal Athletics League

Well done to all our young athletes from 4th, 5th and 6th class who took part in the 2nd Fingal Athletics League event in April.



SAPA

May is a busy month for the Sapa team!

First up is our next School Movie Night with a 6pm start on Friday, 9th May. As usual we'll be sending out polls for movie choices through class WhatsApp messages shortly. Booking details will be available on Aladdin.

Plenty of work is also happening regarding our May Fair which this year will be held on Saturday 24th May, from 12pm - 4pm. In addition to external craft stalls, kids' craft stalls, games, food & drink and our usual fundraising stalls, this year we are planning an exciting programme of events which we will share nearer the day. If you are available to help out as a volunteer on May 24th, even if it's just for an hour or two, please let any of the Sapa team know. The May Fair is our biggest fundraising event of the year and a great community event. We hope to see you and your family there!

Chess

Our Chess Club activities have come to a close for the 24/25 season with the presentation of prizes for the various competitions. Top prize went to Mark Carroll, who was awarded the title of School Chess Champion. Mark, together with Robert Duggan, was also the Club's co-captain for the season.

Other champions included:

3rd Class - Finn O' Halloran with silver medal won by Cara Cashman

4th Class - Ruadhán O'Connor with silver medal going to Freddy McAuliffe and bronze to Isla O'Halloran

5th Class - Luke Quinn (4th class) with silver medallist Oscar Ironmonger and bronze medallist Robert Duggan.

The **Senior Championship** was won by Mark Carroll with Luke Quinn achieving silver and Robert Duggan the bronze medal.

Freddy McAuliffe won the **Intermediate Championship**, ahead of Oscar Ironmonger (silver) and Isla O' Halloran and Cooper Brennan (joint bronze).

Other prize-winners included Jacob Hardy and Marley Sloyan for their performances in a Simultaneous event.

Tim O'Sullivan won the Senior Knight Challenge event with the Intermediate Knight Challenge event silver medal going to Méabh Finucane and bronze to Jesse Lane.

Rapid tournament was won by Robert Duggan.

Cake Sale





Around the Classes

Junior Infants have had a short but fun and productive April. They started the month by preparing for Easter in play and learn. They had role-play in the Easter factory zone where they prepared Easter eggs and completed Easter tasks, created beautiful Easter art in the creative zone, set up an Easter garden in small world and were programming Beebots in the investigation zone. They enjoyed practising their songs for the Easter service in the church and did a great job singing them on the day. They especially enjoyed the cake sale on the last day of term! After the Easter holidays they moved on to the theme 'The Bakery', where they have been preparing and selling baked goods in the role-play zone, creating delicious baked goods out of playdough and clay and even baking their own cupcakes. In maths they have been exploring money and have put their skills to use in the Easter gift shop and bakery role-play zones. In Irish they have been learning about 'An Teilifís' and in English they have been doing lots of reading and writing with all the new sounds they have learned. They have been learning all about Thailand in geography and had great fun dressing up in traditional Thai clothes.



Senior Infants had a very quick but enjoyable April! The class have been learning about the 'Dinosaur Museum' in play and learn. They enjoyed some sand play digging for fossils and dinosaur eggs, they made their own dinosaur habitats in small world and enjoyed making some model dinosaurs out of playdough! The children made some beautiful Easter art for our classroom and church, using beautiful splatter painting and sketching! The highlight of the month was all of the amazing practice and effort that went into the class's performance of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children did a dress rehearsal for some classes and an amazing performance for parents too. The children should all be so proud of all the effort they put into the show. Lots more fun to come in the last term of school!





A big welcome back and I hope everyone had a lovely Easter holiday. **1st Class** finished off the term with lots of creative pieces of work! They really enjoyed bringing their bog baby characters to life, by making their habitats in shoe boxes. They used things they found in the school garden, such as sticks and leaves, as well as using their own imaginations to create some amazing accessories such as washing lines and even slides! As well as creating these brilliant habitats, they also made their bog babies out of clay, painting them in an array of different colours. The children used this learning to help them write their information texts about their own bog baby creatures. I am so proud of how much detail the children are starting to add to their writing! In maths they looked at place value and partitioning numbers out, and then revisited money, looking at coin values and making different amounts. As part of our topic on places they studied the life of Christopher Columbus and looked at not only what he did, but also thought about it from the different perspectives of those involved. The children then loved learning all about Easter traditions, looking at the Easter Story, as well as creating some beautiful Easter artwork. Well done 1st class!

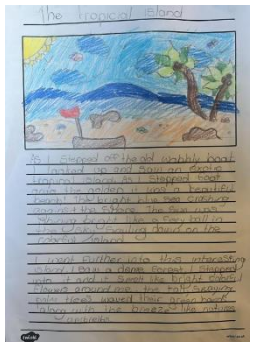


April was a short but exciting month for **2nd Class**. They started the Skip Around Europe challenge which is a fantastic whole school incentive organised by The Active School to promote fitness, wellbeing and team work amongst primary schools all around the country. In maths they have been focusing on shape and space mainly the area and perimeter of a shape or a space. They had a lot of fun estimating and comparing different objects around the classroom and different shaped rooms around the school. They also put a lot of focus on their place value in maths, adding with regrouping and ensuring they have mastered their tower sums into their copybooks using their very best presentation. English lessons focused mostly on grammar this month. Learning how to stretch a sentence using adverbs and adjectives to make them more interesting. All fantastic tools to have in preparation for our short story competition coming up over the next few weeks. They had fun with clay making Easter bunnies and they explored the Easter Story in religion and also different Easter traditions celebrated all over the world. The class had fun learning some new vocabulary in Gaeilge lessons all based around 'An Teilifís'. They explored different animals and their habitats and learnt all about the eye in science, partaking in a very fun experiment. Just before the Easter break the children were so excited to have a visit from the archbishop. They enjoyed singing for him in the church service and then celebrated by enjoying some delicious cakes at the bake sale. Over-all a very busy and very fun April for all.





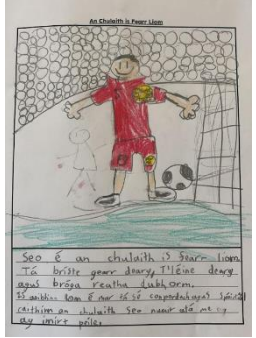
April has been another great month for learning in **3rd Class!** The class continued focusing on the theme of transport and used this to help create some amazing pieces of work! This included writing some fantastic descriptive pieces that revolved around a journey to a tropical island. They learnt about and used expanded noun phrases, figurative language and interesting adjectives to make their writing as descriptive as possible! The



class were very proud of their work! They also used great teamwork and digital literacy skills to create ebooks on the iPads. Their topic was famous explorers from the past such as Christopher Columbus, Neil Armstrong and Amelia Earhart! The children put in a great effort to add details like voiceovers, interesting images and funky fonts to make their ebooks really stand out! In science the class learnt about how planes fly. This included learning about the forces of air resistance, up thrust, drag and gravity. To help with their understanding we undertook an investigation to



find out which paper airplane design was the best! In groups, the children created 3 prototypes to use. They showed great predicting, recording and analysing skills to find out which airplane flew the furthest! In maths, they learnt how to read, interpret and use timetables to plan journeys. They took part in lots of problem-solving activities that helped build their real-life maths skills! In Gaeilge, they have been learning all about 'Éadaí'. They have made a great effort to learn new words, phrases and use more Gaeilge i rith an lae! The class



have made great progress and produced some brilliant written pieces about their favourite outfits! In art, 3rd class continued to have Ms. Hoffman teach them some beautiful art techniques that helped them create some amazing Easter and spring art! They have really enjoyed having her in with us! Finally, 3rd class completed their Stay Safe program in April. The class had some great discussions on topics such as bullying, secrets and touches and even acted out some very impressive role-plays! Well done on a brilliant month 3rd Class!



4th Class had a lovely month of April, enjoying all the Easter celebrations. There were lots of activities before the Easter break. They finished up their maths station focus on fractions as well as doing a great week of revision work of some of the chapters covered since Christmas. In English, they started their new novel, 'Holes' which the class have really enjoyed so far, reading all about the unlucky life of Stanley Yelnats. In Gaeilge, 'An Teach' was the main topic for April as well as looking at 'An Cháisc' (Easter). In music, the class sang beautiful songs in the church for the visit of the archbishop. In P.E, 4th class continued their swimming lessons in the PSLC whilst also taking part in the cross country races in Donabate. It was amazing to see so many take part and enjoy the competitive standard. In SESE, they studied the story of Easter throughout history whilst also exploring how Easter is celebrated globally. The children took a great interest in seeing how different countries and cultures have different customs for the same holiday. In art, 4th class drew beautiful Easter egg baskets to be displayed in the church for the archbishop. Everyone designed their own basket and the colours used were really lovely.



In April, **5th Class** learned about the Easter Story and the events of Holy Week. They also learned about Easter traditions in different parts of the world. The class presented the Easter assembly on the Friday before the holidays and the service was attended by Archbishop Jackson. 5th class did a brilliant job! The class created and displayed some beautiful spring art this month. In maths, the class learned how to draw circles using compasses and also learned how to label the different parts of the circle. 5th class worked on the theme of 'An Aimsir' in Gaeilge and they practised lots of phrases to describe the different types of weather that we experience through the different seasons.



6th Class took part in the An Post initiative 'Letter to My Future Self' and wrote letters to themselves which will be posted back to them in May 2026! The class were working on their public speaking and made speeches in front of the class on their ideal job. Ms. Hoffman was delighted to see everybody in the class take part and speak confidently in front of their peers. In P.E they are practising relays and sprints in athletics to prepare for the upcoming Cuman na mBunscoile event in Santry next month. They have been really enjoying the Skip Around Europe challenge! In geography they explored the idea of developing and developed countries and compared them in relation to industry, employment & education. They reflected on the Christian Easter celebration and the events of Easter Week and really enjoyed our school assembly marking Easter week and welcoming the archbishop to St. Andrew's. They've had a lovely time enjoying the new outdoor classroom with their reading buddies from 1st class. In art they looked at cubism and the work of Picasso and made creative Picasso inspired pieces from recycled card. They also made keepsake boxes from lollipop sticks. A short but busy month for 6th class!



Assembly

As part of our 200th anniversary celebrations, we had a special Easter service on Friday 11th April with Archbishop Michael Jackson attending. The service was led by 5th class and Ms. Gillen. Well done to all the children who sang beautifully and represented our school fantastically. Following the service, Archbishop Jackson visited the school and blessed our new outdoor classroom. A special thanks to all the parents involved in transforming this outdoor space into a bright and engaging outdoor classroom.



April Anti-Bullying Topic

April's anti-bullying topic was 'How bullying affects people'. Classes explored the range of feelings, thoughts and experiences of those who are witnessing (bystanders) bullying, experiencing bullying and those who are engaging in bullying behaviour.



