

# School News

February 2025



## 5-a-Side Soccer

Well done to our girls' soccer team who took part in the FAI Regional 5-a-side tournament on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February. The girls played great with some super scores and amazing team spirit winning two out of their four group games, which unfortunately though was just short of qualifying for the next round.



## Yoga Mats

We are collecting donations of yoga mats that are in good condition as we would like to have a class set to use as part of our PE curriculum. If you have a mat to donate it can be dropped into the school office...thanks in advance!

## Tesco Community Fund

Our school has been selected to take part in the Tesco Malahide Community Fund for the next 12 weeks, please support us by voting for us with your blue token if you are in their store!



## SAPA

Thank you so much to everyone who baked something for the Valentine's Day cake sale. We raised €334 which will go towards worthy causes at our school.

Tonight we have our Quizco at Malahide Cricket Club where we look forward to seeing many parents for what should be a fun evening of entertainment. If you aren't already on a team and want to join us later just come along and we'll squeeze you in somewhere. Adults only for this event of course!



Finally, a date for your diary. It's quite a way off yet to our May Fair but planning has already started for this year's event which will take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May. More news on this to follow over the coming months.

## Message from St. Andrew's Parish



# St. Valentine's Day Cake Sale





# Crazy Hair Day



## Around the Classes

**Junior Infants** have had a fun-filled February. The first theme they explored in play and learn was dinosaurs. They played with dinosaurs in small world and did role-play in the dinosaur museum. They explored fossils in the dino dig site and made their own fossils out of clay. They made their own dinosaurs in art out of junk art, learned lots of dinosaur rhymes and completed lots of dinosaur related puzzles. They all helped to make a volcano and there was great excitement as they took it out to the garden to make it erupt! They then moved on to the theme of *Gardaí*. In the role-play zone they explored lots of garda equipment, solved some crimes and took on the roles of *Gardaí* and criminals to act out different scenarios. They played out these scenarios further in small world and they put their detective skills to work while they explored their senses in the investigation zone. They finished this theme with a visit from *Garda Cian* and *Garda Vicky* who taught them about the role of the garda, showed them their equipment and let them sit in the *Garda* car. They had a lovely time celebrating Valentine's Day in class with lots of crafts, games and delicious cakes from the cake sale. Crazy hair day was such a fun end to a great month and the children looked amazing!



**Senior Infants** have had a lovely February! The class have learned lots this month about the season of spring and minibeasts. The children made their own habitats for different minibeasts in small world and learned about conditions each of them need to survive. The children have been finishing off their 'under the sea' dioramas and can't wait to show them off! They learned about the life cycle of the butterfly and the children helped make butterflies for our class display. The children did some beautiful writing about their midterm and have been learning about the 'bossy R' in phonics. They have been learning about the number 9 and how to make and show nine in different ways. In science, the class completed a STEM challenge, making a structure to balance baby bear out of spaghetti and marshmallows. It was lots of fun! They had a lovely Valentine's Day, the class made cards for people they love and everyone was excited to help to bake for the *Cake Sale*. They are looking forward to another great month ahead!



**1<sup>st</sup> Class** started the month continuing their work on 'I love you Blue Kangaroo' where the children came up with their own toys and wrote their own versions of the story. They have put these together to make another class book for their book corner. Through the topic on toys, the children created some lovely hot air balloon art using coloured card and paints, and then they became inventors, making up their own brand new toys. They drew diagrams, labelled them, and wrote about what was special about their toy and they will be sending these off to toy companies to see what they think of their ideas! Ms. Dodds worked with the children in small groups to research toys around the world, where the children picked a country and studied the toys and games they play there. They put all the information together onto big pieces of paper, and they look amazing displayed on the classroom walls! In maths, the class were learning about money, looking at the coins we have and how they can make different amounts using those coins. They then moved on to look again at place value - with numbers all the way up to 100! As Gaeilge they looked at the topic 'Éadaí', where the children enjoyed pulling clothes out of a bag, putting clothes onto a line as well as singing their song 'Bróga ar mo Chosa! Well done 1<sup>st</sup> class!

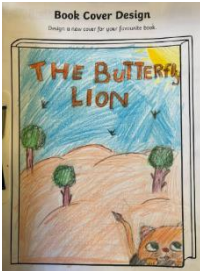


February, a short but by no means quiet month for **2<sup>nd</sup> Class**. They started the month off with a bang learning all about the different celebrations around the world at this time of year. They had lots of fun learning all about Mardi Gras making beautiful masks and created a colourful display packed with interesting information about Carnival in New Orleans. They focused on Gaeilge topics 'An tEarrach' agus 'Éadaí' this month. The children completed their research projects on

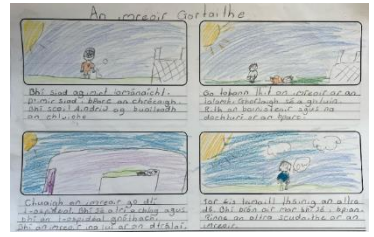


Germany. The class learnt all about how to stay connected to one another in SPHE. In maths class they have been working hard on reading the digital and analogue clocks and the class are getting quicker and quicker at reading the time every day. Swimming and GAA have kept 2<sup>nd</sup> class all fit and healthy not to forget the amazing Afro-beat dance moves the class have learnt in music class to help find the pulse of a song. All entries for the green school slogan were outstanding. Well done to all who put themselves forward. Spring is here and we cannot wait!





**3<sup>rd</sup> Class** had another very productive month learning about lots of new things! In maths, they continued station teaching focusing on money, weight and length. Some of the activities the children enjoyed were measuring the length of the school corridors, predicting and measuring the weight of a variety of classroom items and planning a Valentine's Day party using supermarket catalogues! This task made the children use their budgeting skills as well as learning to add and subtract using calculators! In English, they have continued with the class novel "The Butterfly Lion" by Michael Murpurgo. They have really enjoyed the story of Bertie, Millie and the white lion and look forward to finishing it very soon! To help with their study of the book they have worked on strengthening our prediction, connecting and summarising skills. They have also been very creative inventing their own personal crests that describe them, creating brand new awards and writing letters to the recipients of them and even redesigned the front cover of the novel! In February, they have also made a fantastic effort to use more Gaeilge i rith an lae. While focusing on the theme of 'Caitheamh Aimsire', they have also learnt the rules for putting verbs into the past tense, the differences and similarities in sentence structure between Irish and English and they even managed to create their very own class story using some of the new phrases, verbs and vocabulary they have learnt this month! Maith sibh rang a trí! With February being the start of the 6 Nations rugby competition, 3<sup>rd</sup> class have really enjoyed using the tournament as a focus for some great art and project work! They created their very own team jerseys, crests and mascots as well as showing shown fantastic team work producing some brilliant group poster projects on each of the participating countries! Finally, in PE they have strengthened their throwing and catching skills through a wide range of team and pair games. They practised different ways to throw and challenged themselves to use both dominant and non-dominant hands. They have really enjoyed this block of PE particularly when playing in our recent 'Hoopball' tournaments where they showed very impressive teamwork, throwing, catching and movement without the ball! Well done 3<sup>rd</sup> Class on a superb month!



**4<sup>th</sup> Class** enjoyed the short month of February with plenty of new activities and topics being explored. In maths, symmetry and money were studied as well as beginning long multiplication in their maths station groups. In English class, free writing and comprehension work were at the forefront with the children creating some lovely imaginative stories. In Gaeilge, the topics of numbers, 'an tEarrach' (spring) and 'éadaí' were explored with the children taking an interest in the changing of the seasons and the new vocabulary they could pick up regarding the improvements in the weather. In SESE, they explored two topics with the first being all about how boats and other things float or sink and the second being all about the importance of the sun. The children created some great sentences on how invaluable the sun is to us here on earth and how influential it is to plant and animal life as well. In music, they investigated the different musical instruments used in creating well known movie soundtracks such as in Harry Potter, Star Wars and Jurassic Park. They also learned a song 'Rattlin Bog' about spring and all the different parts of the tree and the things you might find in a tree. During the month of February they also had 'internet safety day' where they brushed up on their skills of how to be safe online while using the internet. They got a great grasp of how important using the internet properly is and how it's all around us in today's world whether that be for helping with homework or texting/playing with friends online. The class created lovely wallpaper screens on the day as well to hang up in the classroom. To conclude the month, the children created lovely art pieces for St Valentine's Day making cards for family members and drawings of teddy bears as well.





**5<sup>th</sup> Class** did lots of fun things in the two weeks before our midterm break. The children learned about the history of St. Brigid and also about the legend of her cloak. The class celebrated Valentine's Day by creating some lovely heart themed art displays. The children learned about perimeter and area in maths, and learned how to find the area of compound shapes. 5<sup>th</sup> class designed advertisement posters for a circus based on an event from the novel *The Little Bee Charmer* of Henrietta Street. The class began group STEAM projects where they had to choose a famous structure of architectural interest. They are busy at the moment creating 3-D models of their chosen building, as well as completing written projects and PowerPoint presentations about the structure and the countries that they come from.



**6<sup>th</sup> Class** worked on a great variety of activities in February. In Gaelige they've started writing pieces for 'Mo Dhiálann Phéarsanta' which will be a collection of written pieces all about themselves. In history, they continued their work on the topic of 1916 and made propaganda posters calling for support for the rising! They completed a block of maths stations and enjoyed playing dice and domino games as well as revising topics of time, averages and number theory. In PE, they finished up their final block of swimming in PSLC and enjoyed playing 'Bench Ball' with Ms. Hoffman. Getting inspiration from St. Brigid's cross, they worked on beautiful 'Mexican Weaving' crosses in art and made some inspiring word art pieces from collage.



They are beginning to research the idea of 'Carbon Footprint' and researching where our goods come from and the idea of buying Irish/shopping local! Lots packed in to the short month.



## Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February was Safer Internet Day. All classes had a lesson on the topic focusing on how to stay safe online. This included keeping yourself safe online and also how to treat others online.

## Assemblies

Ms. Malone led February's assembly with the theme of knowing the difference between laughing with someone and laughing at someone.

A group of 3<sup>rd</sup> class girls helped Ms. Malone by acting out some scenarios to explain the difference.

## February Anti-Bullying Topic

Our February Anti-Bullying topic focused on discussions around when a joke is not funny, mean comments or behaviour cannot be excused by saying "I was only joking". We should never laugh at people, only with people.

