

School News

November 2025



SAPA Update

We were delighted over the past couple of weeks to get the Student Council involved in the decision making for our forthcoming School Disco on Friday 12th December. Thanks to everyone who took time to fill in their survey last week, the results of which we are feeding into our event. We are planning some super games and entertainment on the night as well as listening to a playlist chosen exclusively by the children! We'll be sending out further details on Aladdin next week as well as a link to purchase tickets.

One of our aims this year was to get the Student Council involved in our decision making so that the children get to have a say, not just parents. So well done to the Student Council from us all at Sapa and we look forward to getting your input for future events.

Another date for your diary is the traditional charity coffee morning on the last day before the holidays on Friday 19th December where we welcome all parents and guardians to join us before pick up. Further details on this to follow nearer the time.

Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland

Thank you to everyone who donated towards our Halloween fundraiser in aid of Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland. We raised a total of €253 for the charity - well done to everyone!



Autism
Assistance
Dogs
Ireland

Around the Classes



Junior Infants have had a fantastic month of learning in November. They began the month with the construction site theme in play and learn. The children explored construction vehicles and blocks in kinetic sand, took part in role-play at our class construction site, built houses with Lego, and completed construction challenges using playdough. There was great teamwork and imagination on display! They then moved on to the theme of the Polar Regions. The class learned about the Arctic and the Antarctic and discovered the different animals that live there. They enjoyed small-world play with polar animals, created beautiful bear

paintings and made their own winter snow globes. In Irish, the children learned all about bia. They sang lots of songs, played fun vocabulary games, and learned new words and phrases. A favourite activity was chatting about what everyone had in their bosca lóin each day! In maths, Junior Infants explored 3D shapes. They built ramps and investigated how different shapes moved, and used a variety of 3D shapes to build towers and other structures. They celebrated Science Week with plenty of creating, making, and hands-on discovery. The children learned about wind power and gravity, made their own pinwheel windmills and designed parachutes for their toys. Dropping them from the top of the stairs and watching them float down was the highlight of the week! Arthur also brought in his volcano experiment kit and treated the class to an exciting volcanic eruption demonstration, which they absolutely loved! This month, the children also began learning their Jolly Phonics sounds. They are really enjoying the songs and actions that go with each sound and are off to a great start with their early phonics work. Junior Infants have worked, played, and learned so well again this month. They should be very proud of themselves!



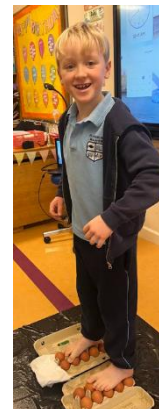
It has been another busy month for **Senior Infants** this November. After the midterm, the class started thinking of the topic 'Toys' where they role played a toy shop, built houses for their toys and designed their own teddy bears. The class read the story of 'I Love You Blue Kangaroo' and did a brilliant job using their phonics to write descriptions of the toys from the story. The next week was Science Week, and senior infants had so much fun exploring floating and sinking, magnets, making car ramps as well as doing a brilliant magic milk experiment with Ms. Ryan! The class then turned their attention to giants. They looked at the stories of The Giant's Causeway, Jack and the Beanstalk and The Smartest Giant in Town. They did some brilliant acting, planted their own magic beans that will hopefully grow up to their castles, and designed their own giant's clothing. In maths they have looked more at combining groups together, as well as exploring 2D shapes. Senior Infants were lucky to have another visit from Mouse this month where they had brilliant fun learning all about hibernation and migration. The class had to try to keep a bottle of warm water as warm as they could using leaves and twigs from the garden, and also played a game looking at how birds find their way when migrating. The class can't wait for Mouse to visit again next month! The children are continuing to make great progress with their phonic sounds, gaining confidence with their reading and writing and it's so lovely to see so many of them trying to read and write any chance they get! Well done Senior Infants.





1st Class have had a busy November! They have been working very hard and having lots of fun. In maths, they finished learning about place value and they started learning about fractions and finding halves. The class looked at the topic of éadaí as Gaeilge and have enjoyed playing "fuar agus te". In SESE the children have been learning about all the different types of homes that people live in and have completed some excellent descriptive writing of their

own homes. They also had a look at what homes looked like in the past compared to now. 1st Class really enjoyed Science Week. They were very brave and stood on top of eggs to see how even weight distribution can allow them to put their weight on the shells without cracking them! They also used pepper and washing up liquid to investigate how soap can break down the surface of tension of water. They even made their own rainbows using tissue paper, markers, and water! In SPHE they continued to explore their feelings and how they can control their own energy levels. For art 1st Class created beautiful pointillism landscapes and the children have also loved doing GAA this month!

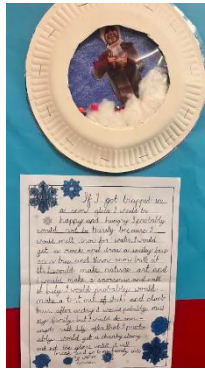


The month of November was a busy one for **2nd Class** with their preparations for the Christmas school play 'A Happy Clappy Nativity' in full-swing. They've worked really hard and have enjoyed taking part with their different characters and singing all the songs. In maths, they've learned all about place value, as well as improving their knowledge in recognising and describing 2D shapes. In English, 2nd Class have worked hard on their punctuation in their writing, adding commas and question

marks where they need to be while also looking at the use of speech marks. They've been working extra hard on their handwriting and spellings focusing on particular sounds each week. In Gaeilge, 'aimsir' and 'ar an bhfeirm' have been the two areas of focus this month learning all about the different of types weather and being able to list and describe elements of life on a farm. In SESE, 'winter' was a central focus in geography, learning about the changes from autumn to winter. The class focused on Irish winters in particular, how our trees change and how animals and birds hibernate and migrate. Science Week was particularly fun for the class this month, designing their own inventions and experimenting with water and colour changes. They also learned about some famous inventors such as the Wright brothers, Alexander Graham Bell and Steve Jobs. In art, the class created reindeers after learning about them in SESE as well as designing old and new phones from their studies of old and modern technology. They've also been singing songs in music for the church assembly for St Andrew's Day. It's great to see the class participate so enthusiastically in music.



For P.E the class finished their tennis lessons by playing some mini-matches down at the tennis club in the village which was amazing. They also thoroughly enjoyed the athletics practice on the yard. They began with shorter, faster runs before advancing to longer runs including relay practice as well.



November was a busy and exciting month for **3rd Class!** In maths, the children began their multiplication journey, practising their tables and building strong foundations for the months ahead. In SESE, they celebrated Science Week by exploring the history of flying machines and how they have changed over time and read the Greek myth of Daedalus & Icarus. The highlight was designing, making, and testing parachutes to keep an egg safe during a drop—great fun and great engineering! PE was equally enjoyable. The class played parachute games and also wrapped up their tennis module with a fantastic session at Malahide Tennis Club. In English, the children learned new spelling rules and explored alternative words for “said” and “went” to make their writing more expressive. They also produced wonderful creative writing and art with their imaginative piece, “If I Got Stuck in a Snow Globe!” To add even more creativity to the month, they made beautiful pastel hot-chocolate art and snowy silhouettes, practising careful cutting and scissor skills. In Gaeilge they're having fun 'ag síopadóireacnt sa siopa éadaí' in the classroom and singing the song 'Beidh Aonach Amárach'. Well done to 3rd Class on a fantastic month of learning!



What a wonderful and busy month it has been in **4th Class!** In English they've been diving deep into the art of storytelling—breaking stories down section by section and really challenging themselves to become stronger, more confident writers. A very exciting milestone this month was beginning to write with pen! The children have also been doing plenty of reading, and many pupils have even needed new reading logs because they're

flying through their books and making great use of the class library. In maths they spent the month working on money, as well as adding and subtracting larger numbers.

To put their learning into practise, 4th Class opened a classroom shop! They even held a “Black Friday Sale,” adjusting prices and calculating the new amounts—great fun and great learning all in one. In Gaeilge they explored the topics *Éadaí*, *Bia*, and *An Geimhreadh*. The children have been gaining confidence reading aloud, and it has been wonderful to

hear their pronunciation and expression improve each week. In science they celebrated Science Week with huge enthusiasm! They carried out a different experiment every day—the classroom was full of excitement (and a little bit of chaos!) with bicarbonate of soda, eggs, balloons, seeds, and much more. It was a fantastic week of discovery. In PE they continued their swimming lessons this month, and the class has made great progress. A very special well done to Panna, who was invited by the coach to try out for the PSLC Swimming Club—what an amazing achievement! 4th Class also had the chance to play tennis on the big courts in Malahide, which was a brilliant experience for everyone. In art they were busy creating

beautiful winter-themed pieces using cool tones and experimenting with mixing their own colours. In drama they've been hard at work preparing for their Christmas Show. The children have been learning lines, songs, and movements with great enthusiasm. 4th Class are so excited to share their performance with you all in December—it's shaping up to be something truly special. Well done to 4th Class on an action-packed month full of learning, creativity, and fun!





November was a really fun and busy month in **5th Class**. For Science Week they got stuck into the marshmallow tower challenge, built their own boats to see if they would float, and tried the pencils-in-a-bag water experiment. In writing, they learned all about advertising and what makes an ad work, then created their own posters before writing Christmas cards for residents in a nursing home in Dublin. In maths they focused on data and averages, and 5th Class also kept up their Spanish lessons with Ms. Hoffman. They also researched minerals and the technology that uses them—

especially mobile phones—and made canva projects to show how mobile phones have changed over the years. One of their favourite days this month was their trip to 14 Henrietta Street, which really helped bring their class novel *The Bee Charmer of Henrietta Street* to life. They've also been getting ready to lead the St. Andrew's Day church assembly and starting to feel festive by making felt Christmas decorations, mixed-media tree art, and Northern Lights artwork. It's been a great month, and 5th Class are all looking forward to a lovely December!



November has been an exciting and busy month in **6th Class**, with plenty of hands-on learning and creative activities across the curriculum! As part of Science Week, the class explored Isaac Newton's Laws of Motion. They worked in teams to design and test balloon-powered cars, applying their knowledge of force, motion and friction. The classroom was filled with energy (and balloons!) as they raced their creations and reflected on how the cars' movement demonstrated Newton's principles. Continuing our STEM focus, the children investigated different types of bridges and their structures. Using everyday classroom materials, they collaborated in groups to design and build their own bridges. This involved planning, testing and modifying designs. There was fantastic cooperation and innovation on display! In English, 6th class have been learning about persuasive techniques and how to construct strong arguments. They are now preparing to debate in pairs next week, and we are excited to see their research and reasoning in action. In maths, the children revisited properties of the circle. Working in small groups, they carried out hands-on investigations using wool to measure the circumference of various circular objects. Through this activity, they discovered the relationship between the diameter and circumference, leading to their understanding of the mathematical constant π (Pi). This week, the classroom has been filled with seasonal cheer as the children painted festive scenes on the classroom windows. Their creativity and teamwork have helped transform our room into a warm and welcoming winter wonderland!



November Anti-Bullying Topic

Our anti-bullying topic for this month is "What is Bullying" and understanding the different types of bullying that can happen. Bullying is defined as repeated negative behaviour often involving an imbalance of power.

Assemblies

There were two assemblies held during November. The first assembly was led by Ms. Anderson and was all about "YOU". Through the sharing of stories and songs and with help of children from 1st, 2nd and 4th Class, Ms. Anderson reminded everyone how incredible each one of us truly is.

5th Class led the second assembly celebrating St. Andrew's Day in St. Andrew's Church.

