



# School News

March 2026



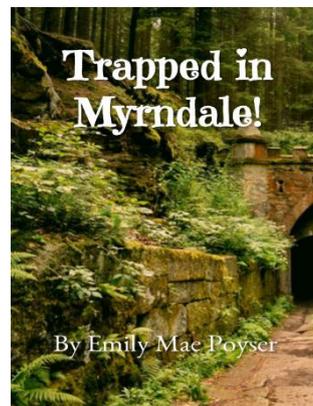
## Writing Competition

4th Class Shines in the Fudge & Gandol Story Cup!



Our 4<sup>th</sup> Class recently took part in the exciting Fudge & Gandol Story Cup Competition, a fantastic initiative that encourages young writers to develop their storytelling skills. The competition helps pupils grow by crafting imaginative plots, building creativity, and strengthening their literacy in a fun and engaging way. The Story

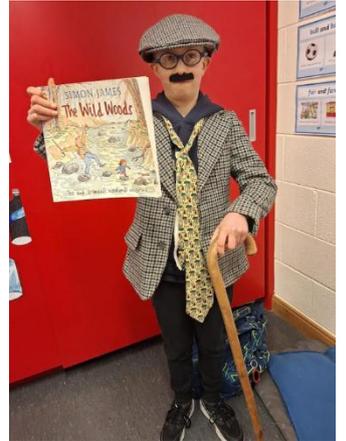
Cup is delivered in partnership with Learnovate, the learning innovation centre based at Trinity College Dublin, who also play an important role on the judging panel. Alongside them, Folens and Hibernia College bring valuable experience in literacy, primary education, and teacher training, ensuring that entries are judged with great care and expertise. We are incredibly proud to say that our class submitted a collection of amazing stories filled with imagination, creativity, and originality. Their hard work truly paid off as 4<sup>th</sup> Class was awarded "Most Creative Class"—a fantastic achievement for everyone involved! A special congratulations goes to Emily Poyser, who received a certificate for being shortlisted in the overall competition. This is a wonderful recognition of her outstanding story and writing talent. Well done to all the students for their enthusiasm and effort. This experience has shown just how powerful storytelling can be, and we look forward to even more creative successes in the future!



## World Book Day

Along with dressing up for World Book Day, we ran a "My Favourite Place to Read" activity to celebrate World Book Day. We were delighted with the fantastic response and thoroughly enjoyed hearing about all the wonderful places you love to read. A big thank you to everyone who took part and congratulations to our winners. Happy reading everyone!







## Soccer

Well done to the boys' soccer team who kick started their league in March. While the result didn't go their way everyone played really well displaying the skills they have been practising at training. Everyone is looking forward to more matches after the Easter break.



## Athletics

Well done to all our young athletes who took part in the Fingal Athletics League in Newbridge on 26<sup>th</sup> March; the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the league will take place in April with finals day in May to look forward too also.



## SAPA

March has been a busy month for the Sapa team!

First up was our annual quiz night with congratulations to the winning team made up of Gintare, Claire and Nadine who raced home in 1<sup>st</sup> place. A fun night was had by all and we managed to raise around €700.

A week later we had approximately 140 kids join us for Movie Night. Zootropolis 2 was watched in all 4 rooms with everyone treated to a small goodie bag to watch the film with. Around €850 was made, again to go towards worthy needs at our school.

Thanks so much to everyone who joined or helped out at both events and made them such a success!



We were also delighted to join the new "No Screens" initiative this week with some SAPA members now forming a sub-group to drive this important initiative on. (Aims were shared in an Aladdin message yesterday, just in case you missed it.)

Finally, please keep Saturday 23rd May free as this is the date of our May Fair, aka our Family Fun Day. The SAPA team met this week to plan out numerous activities and events. Messages via class WhatsApp groups will be shared over the coming months, starting today with a couple of flyers to look out for. As usual, we'll be looking for plenty of volunteers to make the day a success. More news on this to come.

Happy Easter!

## Seachtain na Gaeilge agus Lá Glas

Ceiliúradh **Seachtain na Gaeilge** anseo i Scoil Naomh Aindriú idir **9<sup>ú</sup>-13<sup>ú</sup>** Márta. Rinne gach páiste an-iarracht an ghaeilge a labhairt go flúirseach le linn an tréimhse sin, sa rang agus i dtimpeallacht na scoile. Bhí gníomhachtaí éagsúla eagraithe ag na múinteoirí le go leor duaiseanna buaite ag na páistí. Bhain gach duine an-sult, tairbhe agus spraoi as Seachtain na Gaeilge. Ar aghaidh linn!!

We celebrated **Seachtain na Gaeilge** in St. Andrew's N.S. between **9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>** March. All the children made great efforts to speak Irish in their classes and around the school. The teachers arranged lots of activities and prizes were awarded to the children. Seachtain na Gaeilge was beneficial and fun for all!!







## Around the Classes



It has been a very busy and fun month in **Junior Infants**. They had great fun celebrating World Book Day at the beginning of the month, dressing up as their favourite book characters. The children really enjoyed when 6<sup>th</sup> class visited to read stories with them. The play and learn themes this month were the farm and Easter. During the farm theme, the children enjoyed role play in the farm shop and explored the farm through small world activities. For Seachtain na Gaeilge, this changed to a 'Siopa Ferime', where they had great fun using their Irish in play. For the Easter theme, the children took part in an Easter factory role play and used the small

world area to create their own Easter scenes. They also spent time building and creating with Play-Doh and created lots of lovely Easter artwork. Seachtain na Gaeilge was a fun and busy week, filled with lots of Irish language activities, songs, rhymes, and stories. The children made a fantastic effort to use their Irish throughout the week. They watched a ceolchoirm called An Seachtapas, which they really enjoyed. They had their first whole school performance, where they sang Lá Fhéile Pádraig and Bhí Leipreachán ina shuí faoin gcrann. They did an amazing job and everyone was very proud of them. Ali and Eoin from Fingal Prosper visited again to teach the children new Lámh signs, which they have really been enjoying and are using more and more each day, particularly the Easter signs they learned. In phonics, the children have been continuing to learn new sounds and are doing great work blending and recognising them in words. In maths, they have been exploring weight and combining numbers in lots of fun and playful ways. In PE, they have been enjoying GAA and hockey. We hope everyone has a very happy and relaxing Easter break!



It has been a very busy month in **Senior Infants** this March! The class started the month off focusing on the topic of weather, where the children became weather reporters, thought about clothes they need to wear in different weather, did some weather art and tried to build houses that would withstand the wind in construction. We had World Book Day which was very well celebrated in Senior Infants, with some absolutely amazing

costumes and the sharing of lots of our favourite books. Alongside this, the children made their own comic books and also made some beautiful art on book pages with their reading buddies. This month also saw the class celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge and I was blown away by how much effort the children put into using their 'cúpla focal' throughout the week to earn their raffle tickets. Well done to the all the children for putting in such a brilliant effort. They then did a lovely performance of two songs at the Ceolchoirm. The class had Mouse back in for another visit, and he continued to teach us all about the things that live in pond water, and even left us with some frogspawn all of our own to watch hatch into tadpoles! They are growing very quickly! The remainder of the month has been spent getting ready for our amazing show 'Hats Off' which the children have been working so hard on, learning lines, songs and actions - I am so so proud of how well they have done! Well done Senior Infants!



**1<sup>st</sup> Class** have been very busy for the month of March. They had a wonderful time celebrating World Book Day together. The children all dressed up as their favourite characters from books and we read stories and played quizzes testing our knowledge of some well-known authors. The children also had the opportunity to show off their costumes and read their favourite stories with 6<sup>th</sup> Class. For St Patrick's Day, the children all wore green and tried to speak as much cúpla focal throughout the day! They listened and danced to Irish music, played Irish boardgames and watched some well know TV programmes as Gaeilge. 1<sup>st</sup> Class have also produced some fantastic works of art this month including Pablo Picasso self-portraits, Mother's Day pictures, Easter wreaths and spring flowers. As part of STEM, the children created bridges using paper cups, straws, lollypop sticks and string. After reading the tale of "Billy Goats Gruff" in English, they felt inspired to design and build their very own bridges. Every bridge passed the test in allowing a toy car travel from one to side to the other without collapsing. Well done 1<sup>st</sup> Class! The class also started the "Picker Pals" programme this month where members of the class have been making a huge difference by helping to pick up litter in the local area. With Easter fast approaching, the children are looking forward to making more memories as a class. Well done 1<sup>st</sup> Class on another fantastic month!



**2<sup>nd</sup> Class** had a busy month of March with lots of fun activities happening for Seachtain na Gaeilge, World Book Day and Easter. Firstly, in maths, they worked on their skills of telling the time looking at both digital and analogue clocks. They also learnt more about the calendar, focusing on the seasons and months of the year. In literacy, World Book Day was of great interest to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class with lots of children dressing up in really creative and imaginative costumes. They also got the chance to visit the library where they listened to a couple of stories from the librarian. The class wrote all about their favourite books and characters and really enjoyed seeing all the other class's costumes. In Gaeilge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class were amazing at speaking as Gaeilge throughout Seachtain na Gaeilge, showcasing all their amazing vocabulary and phrases around the school. They learnt all about Naomh Pádraig and how Lá fhéile Pádraig is celebrated in Ireland. They also sang 2 songs as Gaeilge in the church and enjoyed the 'lá glas' day as well wearing their green clothes. This theme continued into their SESE studies learning all about St. Patrick and his historic connection to Ireland. In art, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class drew amazing pictures of St. Patrick whilst also leaning into the celebrations of Easter time, drawing the Easter bunny and painting Easter eggs. In SPHE, drama and music, they created and performed an excellent assembly for the school where they discussed the anti-bullying topic for this month - the differences between teasing and bullying. 2<sup>nd</sup> Class would like to wish everyone a happy Easter!





It has been a wonderfully busy and exciting month in **3<sup>rd</sup> Class**! To celebrate World Book Day, the children took part in a fantastic *Book Tasting* where they inspired each other by sharing their favourite reads. They also created beautiful portraits of themselves enjoying their books - the artwork was impressive! In PE, the class kept active and energised with boot camp exercises on mats, "Flip the Bucket," and playground favourites such as 3 in a line, Polio, and Weasel. There was plenty of teamwork, fun, and laughter! The children worked hard on dictionary skills in both Gaeilge and English while exploring the theme of *An Cháisc*. For St. Patrick's Day, they wrote imaginative and entertaining stories inspired by rainbows, pots of gold, and mischievous leprechauns - creativity was in full swing! In maths, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class focused on fractions and division, showing great determination and progress. Seachtain na Gaeilge was a huge highlight! The class proudly led an assembly celebrating Gaeilge and St. Patrick's Day. They gave fantastic performances of "Beidh Aonach Amárach" and "Wellerman - as Gaeilge" for the Seachtain na Gaeilge ceolchoirm. They also enjoyed learning a military two-step dance with Ms. Hoffman and a lively reel with some of the girls from 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class. Bhí siad ar fheabhas! In geography, the pupils explored atlases, learning about countries and capital cities of Europe. They also investigated different types of transport and planned journeys from school to destinations around Ireland using the TFI route planner. Art time was full of creativity, with cool scratch volcanoes, Easter-themed Bonnie bunnies, and stunning spring garden charcoal drawings. The children also designed wonderful Mother's Day newspapers to surprise their mums! To top it all off, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class attended a Nutty Scientists workshop in Malahide Library. They learned fascinating facts about the solar system and discovered how air makes things move, taking part in exciting experiments and demonstrations. It was a fun and hands-on learning experience for everyone! Well done to all the boys and girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class for their enthusiasm, hard work, and fantastic participation this month!



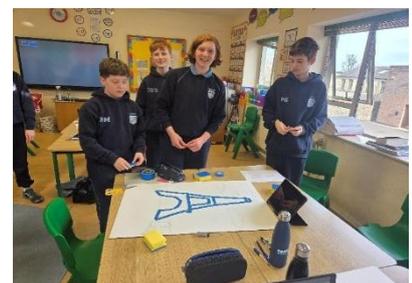
March has been a very busy and exciting month for **4<sup>th</sup> Class**! The class began the month celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge. They had a fantastic week, and the children made a wonderful effort to speak Irish throughout the whole school. They took part in lots of fun Gaeilge activities and games, and they especially enjoyed a wonderful ceolchoirm. 4<sup>th</sup> Class performed *Báidín Fheidhlimí* and *Óró Mo Bháidín* beautifully. During the same week, they celebrated World Book Day. The children made a fantastic effort to dress up as their favourite book characters. They enjoyed lots of reading activities and had great discussions about their favourite places to read. Well done to Jeanie, who won a prize for her lovely description of her favourite reading spot. 4<sup>th</sup> Class were also thrilled to be awarded Most Creative Class in the Story Cup competition. A special congratulations to Emily Poyser, who received a certificate in recognition of her outstanding entry, which was shortlisted for the overall competition. In maths, the children have been working very hard on fractions, decimals, and long multiplication. They also took part in a fun and engaging workshop on length and distance, where the children designed their own bus routes and measured the distances between each stop. In geography, the children have begun working on an exciting project all about France, and they are really enjoying learning about its culture, landmarks, and traditions. In science, they have been exploring textiles and clothing, investigating which materials are best for keeping us warm or cool. 4<sup>th</sup> Class also celebrated St. Patrick's Day, learning about the history of St. Patrick and how the day is celebrated not only in Ireland but all around the world. In addition, they learned about Easter traditions from different countries, which was very interesting to compare. To mark Daffodil Day, they created beautiful daffodils using a variety of materials. In P.E., the class have been really enjoying their swimming lessons and making great progress in the water. They are very proud of all the hard work and enthusiasm shown by 4<sup>th</sup> Class this month—and we are really looking forward to all the exciting activities coming up next!



March has been a really busy and fun month for **5<sup>th</sup> Class!** In maths, the children have been working on long division and time, and it's great to see everyone growing in confidence. In English, they focused on recognising and using nouns, adjectives, and verbs, and the class have continued reading *Wonder*, which everyone is really enjoying. 5<sup>th</sup> Class enjoyed their "snowball writing," where one person starts a story, crumples it up, and someone else finishes it—this led to lots of laughs and some very creative stories! In *Gaeilge*, everyone made a huge effort for *Seachtain na Gaeilge*, and 5<sup>th</sup> Class worked so hard on their performance of *Riptide* and the cup song as *Gaeilge* for our St. Patrick's Day ceolchoirm—it was brilliant. For World Book Day, the children teamed up with Senior Infants for reading buddies, and they also created some lovely book-themed art together. The class also got creative designing newspaper articles on Canva, coming up with fun headlines based on a favourite childhood book character with a twist. In art, they've been busy making beautiful Easter pieces, exploring positive and negative art, trying twine painting on eggs, and creating detailed portraits. In SESE, the class have been learning all about climate and climate change, with the children working on projects about plants and animals from different climates around the world, as well as learning about the water cycle and drawing detailed diagrams. All in all, it's been a great month full of hard work and fun, and we hope everyone enjoys a well-earned Easter break!



It has been another busy and exciting time in **6<sup>th</sup> Class!** In maths, the children explored the coordinate plane and learned how to read and plot points with confidence. They put their skills to the test by using the coordinate plane as a map and worked out the bearings needed to travel from one location to another — a challenge they really enjoyed. In English, the class showed their creative side by writing wonderful spring Haikus full of colour and imagination. They also continued reading the novel *The Guns of Easter* and took part in great discussions about the characters and events in the story. In history, the children learned about the important events leading up to the 1916 Easter Rising. They researched the timeline of Easter Week 1916 and discovered the stories of the key figures involved. The class wrote excellent profiles showing their understanding of the people who played such an important role in Irish history. In art, the classroom was full of colour and creativity. The pupils worked in groups to design and make masking tape resist paintings, which turned out brilliantly. They also used oil pastels and paint to create bright and cheerful daffodil pictures to celebrate the arrival of spring. Well done to everyone in 6<sup>th</sup> Class for all their hard work and enthusiasm!



## Assemblies

There were two assemblies held in March. The first assembly led by Ms. Hoffman and 3<sup>rd</sup> Class celebrated An Gaeilge and St. Patrick.

Led by Mr. Blake and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class our second assembly focused on understanding the difference between teasing and bullying. Through song and activities 2<sup>nd</sup> Class explored the importance of recognising when something is not a joke and how our words and actions can affect others.

## Anti-Bullying Topic

Our anti-bullying topic this month was the difference between a joke and mean behaviour. Classes had 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.

