

School News

April 2026

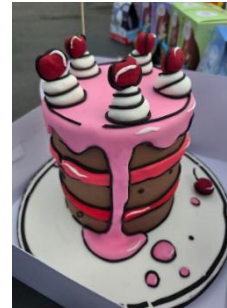


Easter Raffle and Cake Sale



Thank you to everyone who donated, baked and bought cakes for the Great Irish Bake and Easter raffle. We raised a fantastic amount of €820 for Children's Health Ireland.

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



Soccer

The boys' soccer team are continuing to play their league games. Mr. Blake is delighted to see everyone playing really well and displaying the skills they are practising at training.



Achievements

Congratulations to Hannah, Izzy and Sofina from 6th class who were all part of the Malahide Fingal Hockey Club's 6th Class squad who won their league final match on Sunday 26th April.

It was a nail-biting match against northside rivals Portrane, with the game finishing 1-1 at full time and going to penalties and then sudden death.



SAPA

Our Family Fun Day will soon be here, which this year will be held on Saturday 23rd May from 12pm - 4pm. We would love to see all of the St. Andrew's children, their families and friends join us for what we hope will be a great afternoon!

The SAPA team has been busy pulling together our exciting plans, keep a look out for details that will be shared over the coming weeks.

We've also had a great response to our WhatsApp messages about Kids' Craft Stalls, Kids' Variety Show performers and our Preloved Clothes Rails. It's not too late to book any of these, we still have space!

Here are other ways you can help contribute to our biggest fundraiser of the year. (Details to follow in WhatsApp groups)...

- As usual we will be on the lookout for volunteers for a variety of roles
- We'll be having a toys and books stall as well as a uniforms rail, if you having anything to donate
- Any bottles, cans or unwanted gifts will find a good home at our Spin the Wheel stall
- Finally, we'll be sending raffle tickets home in school bags soon in the hope that you might be able to sell some.

We look forward to seeing you all on 23rd May!

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.



Active Week

Active Week was a huge success, made even better by the brilliant weather! The children enjoyed a fantastic variety of activities throughout the week, including yoga, cricket, bootcamp, park games, playball, skipping, Zumba, and hockey. There was a real buzz of energy and excitement as everyone got involved and tried something new.

A big thank you to all the parents who kindly volunteered their time to escort the children to their various activities—it is very much appreciated. We are also extremely grateful to SAPA for generously covering the cost of the outside coaches, helping to make the week such a memorable experience for all.







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Around the Classes

Junior Infants had a very busy and exciting April, with their theme this month being the garden centre. During play and learn, the children enjoyed a garden shop in the role play area. They loved picking flowers, creating beautiful bouquets for customers, and using their imaginations in the shop. They also explored what plants and animals need to survive, learning that living things need air, water, food, and sunlight. The children became little gardeners this month too. They planted cress and rocket seeds in their own mini gardens and were full of excitement as they watched them grow. They especially enjoyed tasting what they had grown themselves. They also planted sunflower seeds and are looking forward to seeing how tall they grow over the coming weeks. They took part in creative activities based on spring and flowers, and created lots of beautiful artwork. They also used playdough to create wonderful gardens filled with flowers, insects, and imaginative designs. As part of their learning about the natural world, the children explored minibeasts through small world play and went on a minibeast hunt in the school garden. There was great excitement when they discovered creatures such as slugs, snails, woodlice and bees in their natural habitats. They also learned about the life cycle of a frog and a butterfly. In maths, the children have been learning about money and have been working with 1c, 2c and 5c coins. They enjoyed putting this learning into practice in the garden shop as they bought and sold plants and gardening equipment. In English, the children have now learned all of their Jolly Phonics sounds and are making great progress with both their reading and writing. We are so proud of all the progress they are making. They also had a fantastic active school week. The children took part in a variety of fun physical activities and showed wonderful enthusiasm, energy, and teamwork throughout the week. It has been a lovely month of learning, exploring, creating, and growing in Junior Infants.



Senior Infants settled back well from the Easter holidays and have continued their hard work across all the subjects. The children started off the term doing some recount writing about their Easter holidays, as well as thinking about all the signs of spring, creating some lovely tulip paintings using forks! They also looked at the topic of houses, using the Three Little Pigs as our story in literacy, retelling the story, writing some character descriptions for the wolf, as well as drawing their own house designs. They then did some junk modelling to create their own houses which were designed to withstand the Big Bad Wolf trying to blow them down! The children really enjoyed building them, and the creativity and craftsmanship on display was amazing. In maths they looked at patterns and sequences and then learnt about money, focusing on the coins we have and how we can make different amounts using those coins. In Gaeilge they have looked at the topic of An Phictiúrlann. 1st Class also had active week which the children really enjoyed. They participated in all of the activities with enthusiasm and they were so polite and welcoming to all of the coaches they had. They did activities such as yoga, cricket, tennis and playball with other coaches, and they did a bootcamp, skipping stations and exercise with 1st class as well. It was a fun but tiring week, and I was very proud of how well they all did! Well done Senior Infants!





What an exciting month in **1st Class**! The children have been very active- playing outside, moving their bodies, and enjoying the fresh spring air. As part of active week, the children took part in a variety of sports including, soccer, tennis, dancing, hockey and cricket. Each sport brought a new challenge but everyone tried their best and had a wonderful time. In art, the children created beautiful pictures showing April showers using

paint and collage. The rainy scenes look amazing on our classroom walls. In science, 1st Class are studying springtime and learning how baby animals are born and grow. The class especially loved talking about ducklings, lambs and chickens. In Gaeilge, they have also been learning about the different seasons and the changing weather. It's been lovely to hear members of the class saying their Irish words and using them in sentences throughout the day. Maith sibh!! 1st Class are looking forward to leading the assembly on peer pressure this month. They have been practising their song "You've Got a Friend in Me" and will be excited to share with the other classes the importance of encouraging our friends to make positive choices. With summer fast approaching, 1st Class are excited for more outdoor activities and school trips. Well done everyone on another fantastic month!



2nd Class have been very busy over the past few weeks, engaging in a wide range of fun and educational activities across all subjects.

In English, the children focused on developing their understanding of adjectives and adverbs. They enjoyed describing people, places and actions in more detail, and worked hard to include these in their own sentences and short pieces of writing. In maths, the class explored topics such as space,

length and addition. The children took part in hands-on activities to measure objects, solve problems and build their confidence in adding numbers. They showed great enthusiasm and made excellent progress. In Gaeilge, they brushed up on their vocabulary of hobbies and sports to celebrate active week. The children also focused on Easter, learning about its significance and traditions. They also explored the sport of golf and its history, which sparked great interest following Rory McIlroy's recent Masters win. The class enjoyed discussing his achievement and learning more about the game. In art, the pupils got creative by drawing detailed pictures of golf carts, linking in with their SESE work. They demonstrated fantastic imagination and effort in their artwork. In SPHE, the class learned about healthy habits as part of active week. They discussed the importance of exercise, healthy eating and looking after their wellbeing. In PE, the children participated in a variety of activities including cricket, football, hockey, playball, athletics and skipping. They had great fun while developing their skills and teamwork. Overall, it has been a very active and productive time in April for 2nd Class.





April has been a wonderfully busy and exciting month for **3rd Class**, filled with creativity, teamwork, and plenty of active fun! In music, the class thoroughly enjoyed learning and performing "Let's Go Fly a Kite." Their enthusiasm shone through not only in their singing but also in their beautiful accompanying artwork, where they created vibrant kite-flying portraits that brightened up the classroom. They also had the opportunity to listen to Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf," which sparked great interest and helped deepen their understanding of how music can tell a story. Literacy time has been equally engaging, as the class has been captivated by the novel *The Butterfly Lion*. This powerful story has inspired thoughtful discussions on important themes such as World War 1, friendship, and family.

The children have read aloud with great expression and confidence, and they have done fantastic work recording their ideas in detailed chapter reviews. A definite highlight of the month was active week! The class threw themselves into every activity with energy and excitement. One standout project was creating a skipping promotion video for the other classes—there were plenty of smiles and laughter as they worked together on this fun initiative. Each day brought new challenges and activities, making it a truly memorable week. The fun isn't over yet, as 3rd Class is delighted to be taking part in additional hockey, cricket, and GAA sessions over the coming weeks.

The children are looking forward to building even more skills and enjoying lots of fresh air and teamwork. Well done to everyone in 3rd Class for such a fantastic month of learning and fun!



After a lovely Easter break, **4th Class** returned to school full of energy and ready to learn.

It has been a very busy and productive month! In maths, the class have been focusing on fractions. The children worked hard on adding and subtracting fractions using both common and different denominators. They have shown great concentration and determination, and it has been fantastic

to see their confidence grow. In Gaeilge, they explored the topics An Scoil and An Teilifís. They also worked on using the aimsir fháistineach (future tense). The children made a great effort to use their Gaeilge in class and showed excellent progress. April was an exciting month as the children took part in active week. The class enjoyed a wide variety of activities including yoga, hockey, GAA, playball, skipping, and bootcamp. The children participated with great enthusiasm and thoroughly enjoyed every moment. Well done to all the pupils who took part in the cross country run. Running 400 metres was a fantastic achievement, and everyone who participated did extremely well. In English, the class have been developing their explanation writing skills and working on reading more challenging texts. The children have shown great effort and engagement in all their work. As part of the anti-bullying programme, the class focused on the topic of peer pressure. The children engaged in thoughtful discussions and took part in role-play activities, helping them to better understand how to deal with different situations. In art, they explored finer techniques using watercolours and fine line drawing. The children produced beautiful, creative pieces of work and should be very proud of their efforts.

Overall, it has been a wonderful month. The children have been focused, hardworking, and a pleasure to teach. We are now ready and excited for all that May will bring!



This month in **5th Class** was full of fun and learning. The class celebrated active school week and everyone really enjoyed taking part in activities like GAA, hockey, tennis, bootcamp and more—it was great to stay active and try new things together. In Irish, the class focused on sentence structure and worked in groups to create some very funny and silly sentences as Gaeilge. In maths, they learned all about percentages and put in a big effort to understand how to use them in different problems. In science, they explored gravity and carried out experiments inspired by Galileo, including designing and making parachutes that could safely carry a small figure to the ground. The class also completed their climate projects, where they investigated plants and animals living in different climates around the world, which was really interesting. To tie in with active week, the children created some cool silhouette art inspired by movement and sport. Overall, it was a busy and exciting month in the 5th Class classroom!



6th Class pupils have been busy, active and full of enthusiasm in recent weeks! During active week, the children embraced every opportunity to get moving and try something new. They took part in energetic Zumba sessions, practised balance and mindfulness through yoga, and developed teamwork and coordination in cricket, hockey, and many other exciting activities. It was wonderful to see everyone participating with such positive attitudes, determination and school spirit. In the classroom, the children have been sharpening their creative skills during their narrative writing sessions. They have been learning how to craft engaging stories with strong characters, exciting plots and descriptive settings. The imagination and effort shown in their writing has been fantastic, with many pupils producing imaginative and entertaining pieces. Music lessons have also been full of fun as we began exploring different genres of music, starting with the lively sounds of disco. The pupils enjoyed learning about the history, rhythm and style of disco music, and there were plenty of smiles as they listened to some classic tunes. In geography, 6th Class have been deepening their knowledge of their country by playing Discovering Ireland. Through this interactive activity, pupils revised counties, cities, rivers, mountains and landmarks while enjoying some friendly competition. Meanwhile, in maths, the class have been bravely tackling the tricky topic of algebra. They have been learning how to solve equations, recognise patterns and use logical thinking to find unknown values. Their perseverance and problem-solving skills have been most impressive. Well done to all of 6th Class for their hard work, enthusiasm and positive energy across so many areas of school life!



Assembly

Ms. McEvoy along with Ms. Halligan and 1st Class led our assembly this month focusing on the theme of peer pressure. Through song and drama, the children did an excellent job of demonstrating positive and negative peer pressure.

April Anti-Bullying Topic

The anti-bullying topic for April was peer pressure. Classes discussed positive peer pressure. Our peers can have a positive influence on us. They can encourage us to try new sports or activities. We can watch classmates following rules and working hard and decide to do that too. Negative peer pressure is when our peers ask or persuade us to do something that we know is not right. Sometimes they tell us that they won't be friends with us or tease us if we don't do as they say. Sometimes we watch our peers behaving in a way that we know is not right. It is important to do what you know is right and not copy others. You can ask for help from friends or adults if you need it.

