



School News

October 2025



🌿 Green Schools Committee 🌿

A big congratulations to all the children from 2nd to 6th Class who have been elected to our Green School Committee this year! We are so proud of your enthusiasm and commitment to making our school a cleaner, greener place. The committee will be working hard throughout the year to promote sustainability and encourage everyone to take small steps that make a big difference. As part of our ongoing Green Schools initiative, we've introduced three new bins in every classroom:

♻️ **Green bin** for recyclables

🗑️ **Black bin** for general waste

🍏 **Compost bin** for food and organic waste

We are also encouraging all families to support our efforts to **reduce waste** in the school. One simple way we're doing this is by asking children to **bring home any lunch packaging**. This helps us reduce school waste. Thank you to all our students and parents for supporting this important initiative. Together, we can make a real difference!

Let's keep our school green and clean! 🌱



Message from SAPA

Thank you to all of the children and their parents for baking such incredible cakes for our cake sale this week. We also hope that some of you managed to avail of our uniform sale with our branded water bottles and bags on offer too. A big shout out to the volunteers helping to make all of this possible.

At our Sapa meeting this week we started to plan out activities for the next year. If you have any interesting fundraising ideas that might also provide events for our small community, please do let any of the Sapa team know.

We've started to plan our next big event, a Christmas Disco for the children which will be held on Friday 12th December. News to follow next month.

We also wanted to let you know that money raised from previous fundraising activity has just paid for the new recycling bins in the school, a great sustainability initiative.

Blue/Green Day for St. Sylvesters

All the children were invited to wear the blue and green of St. Sylvesters GAA Club on Friday 03rd October in support of the St. Sylvesters Senior Ladies team who were competing in the Senior Ladies County Final that evening.



Halloween Fun Friday/Cake Sale









Around the Classes



Junior Infants have had a busy and fun-filled October! They began the month with the theme of 'The Doctor's Surgery' in play and learn. The children loved taking on the roles of receptionists, doctors, and patients in the role-play area, and even built their own doctor's surgery using large foam blocks. Next, they explored the theme of autumn and hibernation. Through small-world play, they discovered how animals prepare for hibernation and created cosy homes for them during junk art. They also enjoyed reading *The Leaf Thief* and made their own beautiful autumn trees using leaves they collected in the school garden. The children also took part in Maths Week, where they had great fun exploring numbers and problem-solving through a range of hands-on activities. They really put their 'maths eyes' to work, searching for shapes and numbers all around the school. A highlight of the week was when the pupils from 3rd Class treated them to some exciting maths games that they had designed and organised especially for Junior Infants. As Halloween approached, the class had a spook-tacular time! They created spooky playdough scenes, built Halloween houses from magnet tiles for their small-world figures to go trick-or-treating and took part in lots of Halloween-themed art, songs, and rhymes. In Irish, they have been learning all about school and Halloween, and in maths, they have been exploring 2D shapes and the number 3. To finish off a wonderful month, the children celebrated with a special Teddy Bear Day, which they earned by filling their class reward jar with stars for kindness and hard work. The children and their teddies had a fantastic day celebrating their achievements.



It's been another fun and busy month in **Senior Infants**! The class started off the month thinking all about superheroes. The children not only enjoyed some great activities in their play and learn, making superhero masks and designing their own superheroes, but they also used it as inspiration for some writing. They wrote some words to describe both Superman and Spiderman, as well as using their sounds to

write some words onto comic book sound bubbles. The children were very surprised one morning to find cobwebs around the classroom and a letter from Spiderman attached to the board! He asked the class to make some wanted posters to try and catch Doc Ock, which the children did brilliantly. In maths, the class have been using ordinal numbers, as well as revising their days of the week and ordering events. They then looked at number six, thinking of different ways to make the number. Senior Infants had a great time

during maths week. They played a game where they took it in turns to take counters, and the idea was to try and work out how to always win - I was so impressed with how they did. They loved going on a maths trail around the school looking for 2D shapes, but the highlight of the week was when 4th Class came down with the maths games they had made to play with the class. The games were fantastic and the children had so much fun. As well as superheroes, the class also looked at autumn in play and learn where they made some brilliant junk modelling habitats, before turning their attention to minibeasts, where they had great fun on a minibeast hunt and making some paper chain caterpillars based on the story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Senior Infants are finishing the month with all things Halloween! Well done Senior Infants on another brilliant month.

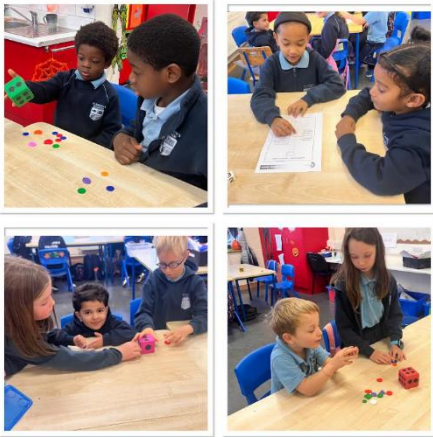


The children have had an exciting month in **1st Class**. They have been learning all about 2D and 3D shapes in maths. They really enjoyed maths week activities especially when 5th Class made maths board games just for 1st Class! They also enjoyed getting outside to do a shape hunt- they found lots of shapes out in the yard. The children have been doing lots of reading and enjoyed listening to a few spooky stories! In English, they have been working hard on sentence writing and they are focusing on using capital letters and full stops. This helped the children to write excellent comic strips. I am very proud of their beautiful handwriting! The children have been chatting about their feelings in October and are working on identifying all of their emotions. The children have made lovely Halloween themed art such as vampire puppets and pumpkin prints using apples. Have a look at the photos to see! 1st Class were very excited to use iPads for the first time this year- they explored maths games and had lots of fun! Well done 1st Class!



2nd Class enjoyed a creative and spooky Halloween season for the month of October with lots of fun activities going on for them to dive into. In maths, 2nd Class really enjoyed maths week and all the problem solving workshops and games that went along with it. They worked amazingly well in solving the fox, chicken and corn crossing the river problem. They also joined up with 6th Class to play maths games. In English, they completed their literacy stations, working very hard on their reading, comprehension and grammar skills. In Gaeilge, the theme of Oíche Shamhna was the main focus, learning all about the Halloween celebrations through Gaeilge. In SESE, the class enjoyed the two themes of 'autumn' and 'Halloween', learning all about where Halloween came from historically, whilst also learning about how it is celebrated internationally. In art and drama, the class presented the whole school assembly on 'respect' at the start of the month, performing 3 amazing short dramas and a song to finish. They also enjoyed collecting leaves for their 'leaf rubbing' art activity and drawing really cool spider webs to celebrate Halloween. In P.E, 2nd Class have thoroughly enjoyed their GAA and tennis lessons, with everyone joining in and improving really well. To cap off the month, they have worked really hard on their SPHE/Wellbeing skills, with a focus on respect in the classroom and yard, building resilience and understanding and embracing their character strengths. 2nd Class hopes everyone has a lovely and safe Halloween break.





This month **3rd Class** have made a wonderful effort to write in cursive in their copies, Ms. Hoffman is delighted with the neat presentation of their work! They said a big thank you and goodbye to Ms. Mc Carthy, our teaching practice student. The children loved all the wonderful learning experiences she provided. They finished their brilliant stories that included a focus on character, setting and resolution. They loved making cave drawings linking in with exploring the stone age in history and Matisse inspired collages and growing cress seeds. Ms. Hoffman is busy teaching Spanish to 5th & 6th class so 3rd class have had fun doing a teacher swap each week, doing PE lessons with Ms. Gillen and learning how to use Canva on ipads with Ms. O'Brien. For Maths Week they had daily problem solving challenges to explore for homework and sent on clever solutions on Seesaw each evening. They modelled responsible behaviour while playing maths games with Junior Infants. They forgot how simple they had to make the games for the Junior infants and realised how much they've learned in maths since they were that age! It was great fun! They've been getting into a seasonal mood with beautiful autumn art. They

What room do ghosts avoid?
The living room!
What time is it when you see a monster?
Time to run!
Why was the skeleton sad?
Because he had nobody to play with!

explored the beat in music with the spooky 'Addams family' theme tune. They learned about scarecrows over the ages and had a 'design and make' challenge making their own scarecrows. They're all looking forward to a fun Halloween & Mid term!



What a busy and exciting month it's been in **4th Class**! The class have been working through zeros in maths and celebrating Maths Week with puzzles and games. In English, they learned all about homophones and tried their hand at persuasive writing by attempting to "sell" their very own haunted houses — spooky but fun! Their history projects on Ancient Egypt took the children back in time to explore pharaohs and pyramids, and they also learned about the history of Halloween — perfect timing for Oíche Shamhna! In Gaeilge, the children chatted about bia and all things festive for Halloween. Art got colourful with colour wheels and shading, and in science the class tuned into a webinar on trees before collecting data around the school to help with the Recycling and Green Schools projects. Big congratulations to **Max, Skylar, Iseult** and **Emily** for being chosen as our Green School representatives! 4th Class have been active too — with tennis, GAA and swimming keeping us moving. They also enjoyed reading buddies time with senior infants, sharing stories and smiles. Finally, a huge well done to everyone who entered for the Student Council! Congratulations to **Emma, Finn O'Halloran**, and **Leah**, our fantastic 4th Class reps.



October has been packed with learning, creativity, and fun — 4th Class can't wait to see what November brings!





October has been a busy and creative month in **5th Class**. In SESE, the children finished their projects on Christopher Columbus and enjoyed learning all about marine life. The class has started making Canva presentations on different sea creatures and are doing a great job so far. In maths, they celebrated Maths Week with problem-solving activities, made board games for our 1st Class buddies and led them on an outdoor maths trail. Everyone enjoyed working together and sharing what they've learned. 5th Class also took on a KAPLA bridge-building challenge where they had to design and build a bridge strong enough to hold a weight over a river. In Gaeilge, they've been learning all about bia and have been using their new

vocabulary in fun oral language games. They completed their road safety cycling course with a final cycle around the village, which was a nice way to wrap up the lessons. To get into the Halloween spirit, they made clay monsters and created Tim Burton-inspired self-portraits. It's been a great month with lots of learning and creativity!



October has been a busy and creative month in **6th Class**. In maths, the children explored lines and angles in a fun, hands-on way. Using tape on their desks, they constructed a variety of quadrilaterals and triangles, then measured and labelled the angles with whiteboard markers and protractors. It was a fantastic way to bring geometry to life! In history, the class produced some excellent projects on life in 1950s Ireland. They explored what schools, homes, and daily routines were like during that time, comparing them to their own lives today. The children also enjoyed researching Roman and Greek gods, discovering fascinating myths and legends from the ancient world. Our art lessons were filled with imagination and Halloween spirit as the children designed and created dragon eyes and spooky monsters. Each piece was unique, and the classroom looked wonderfully eerie by the end of the month! In SPHE, 6th Class continued to focus on empowering beliefs and developing a growth mindset. The children reflected on positive self-talk, resilience, and how effort and persistence help us grow. Finally, in Gaeilge, the class embraced the theme Oíche Shamhna. They used their new Irish vocabulary to create colourful word clouds, showcasing spooky seasonal words in creative designs.

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October Anti-Bullying Topic

Our anti-bullying topic for this month is conflict resolution. The children discussed ways of standing up for themselves and how to deal with difficulties at playtimes.

Assemblies

There were two assemblies held during October. Mr. Blake and 2nd Class led the first assembly and through drama and song highlighted the importance of respect and respecting each other.

Ms. O'Brien and 5th Class led the second assembly and focused on resilience.

