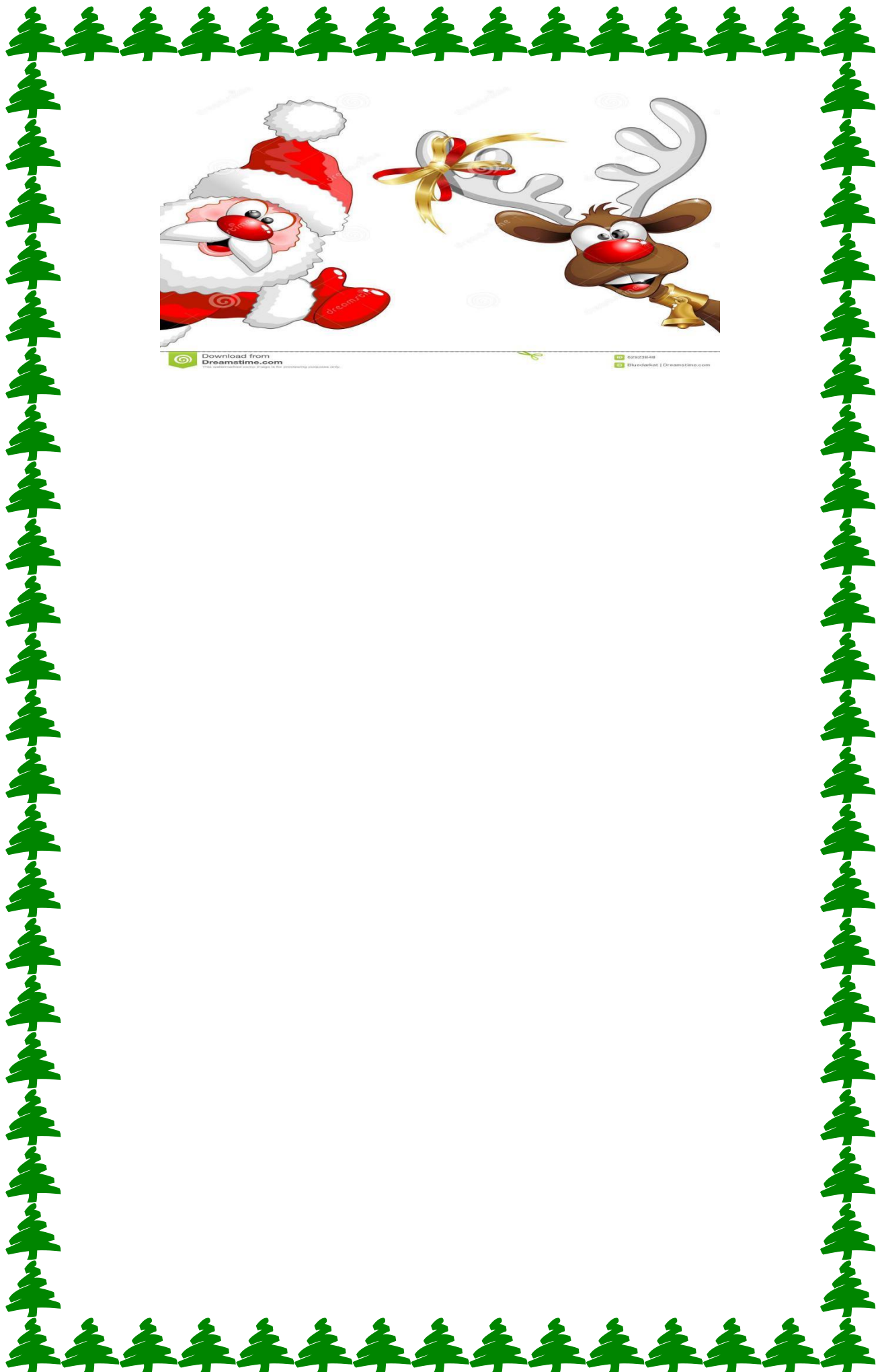


Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain
faoi mhaisc daoibh go léir
From all the staff and pupils at
St George's

Holidays begin on Friday 20th December
at 12.00

Friday is a Christmas/Winter non
uniform day. Children may bring in a
Euro for the Simon Community.

School reopens Monday 6th January





Welcome to St George's Christmas Newsletter

Ms Trainors Junior Infants

This month in Junior Infants are learning all about shapes in our environment. We have had lots of fun creating and constructing different designs in Aistear. We used large polydron and magnetic shapes and worked together in our groups. Here are some of our creations.

We are also learning about the season of winter. We know the signs of winter and what we need to wear.

In art we made mittens out of coloured crepe paper, card and cotton wool. We also loved making our winter penguin.





Ms Gill's Junior Infants

Miss Gill's Junior infant class really enjoyed their Aistear theme on 'The Doctor's Surgery'. They used construction materials to work together and build a hospital, they used playdough to make various items that you would find in a Doctor's surgery and in the Role Play Area they took turns to be the Doctor, Nurse, Receptionist or Patient. They also did Art activities based around their theme.





Green Team News

The Green Team have been working hard trying to achieve the school's 4th Green Flag on the theme of Transport. Clean Air Week took place between 18th-22nd of November and the children held a demonstration outside the school gates to raise awareness of the importance of clean air in our local area and around the school. The children made posters in their classes and had lessons and workshops to raise awareness of air pollution and what we can do to make small changes.

The Green Team will be doing more surveys on Transport methods in the next few weeks and in the new year to encourage more environmentally friendly ways of travelling to school such as walking, scooting and cycling where possible.

As the days are much darker during the winter months we would like to remind children about the importance of wearing hi-vis clothing on our journeys to and from school as well as when we are out and about.



Senior Infants-Ms Mullan

This term we have been very busy in Aistear. Our last theme was the Post Office and we learned about what people do in the post office. We role played the postman/woman, the post clerk and the customers. We filled out application forms, postcards and addresses on envelopes. We even put stamps on them and delivered

them! We did lots of fun activities including sand, jigsaws, board games and tangrams with our 2D shapes.

We have also been very busy preparing for our Christmas play 'A Little Nativity' and can't wait for our big day!



Ms Quinn's Senior Infants.

We investigated autumn in our class. We looked at what the weather was like in autumn. It is mostly windy and rainy but we did get some sun. We created welly boots in art because we think they would be useful for autumn. The wellies are splashing in a puddle. They are wet.

We also went on a nature hunt to search for some things that can be spotted in autumn. We saw a snail, a spider, a worm, a seagull, some orange and red leaves, some puddles, some pears on the tree and a secret gate! There were nettles behind the gate.

We enjoyed autumn but we can't wait for winter!



Ms. McMahon's 1st Class

We have had a very exciting first term.

During maths week we took part in lots of interesting maths activities such as the maths trail.

We were so lucky in the sweet jar completion - Myah guessed the closest number of



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We have been experimenting with different materials to make 3D snowflakes.
First, we made them with glue, salt, and paint.

Then glue and glitter - everything always looks better with glitter!



The classroom was sparkling for days!

All term our class have been putting a huge effort into their cursive handwriting.

Ms Kay/Ms White

The children in First Cass have been very busy this term and have completed a very good term's work. In English we are working hard at our reading and have completed written work on the genres recount, narrative and procedure. Teacher read Fantastic Mr Fox, Owl Moon and The Owl who was afraid of the dark to the class and we wrote short reviews on the stories. We did some lovely art work based on the stories too. In Maths we are working very hard on adding up to 20, our mental maths and place value. In Irish we covered the themes weather, the toy show and Christmas this month. We love the interactive Irish games on the IWB and singing Irish songs. In PE we were busy getting "active" in November, our favourite exercises were the Crocodile Dances online. We are busy rehearsing for our Christmas Nativity Play along with Ms Mc Mahon's class. We hope you all enjoy it. Congratulations to Ivy, Ryan and Kayla on receiving certificates in the December Assembly for behaviour, friendship and neat handwriting. Well done First Class. Finally thank you to all the Support Teachers that help us with our learning every day. Happy Christmas from room 6.



Mr. Higgins, 2nd Class

We have been very busy this last few weeks in 2nd Class! We have been learning all about 'Money' in our Maths lessons. We now know how to add up different amounts of coins and notes and also how to work out how much change we should get when we visit the shops! We were very interested to discover that people in different countries use different types of money or 'currencies'. We have also been doing our December assessments in 2nd Class. It was especially hard to focus on these assessments as we have all been so excited about Christmas but we all did our best!

We have also had fun in the last couple of weeks preparing for our Christmas performance - we have learned a new poem, practiced some of our old favourite songs and designed our own piece of Art for our performance. Overall, we have had a good mix of hard work and good fun in 2nd Class.



Ms Storey 2nd class

This term we have been very busy in our classroom! We were looking at floating and sinking in Science. We watched a video about Fred the Frog. Poor Fred can't swim and needed help getting across the pond to play with his friends! We knew that we could help him! Firstly we split up into groups and made plans for our boats together. We looked at different materials and discussed which ones we thought might work the best to help our boats float for the longest and to keep out water. We then gathered our materials and made our boats. This was tricky and we really had to work together as a team! Finally, when our boats were all ready we filled up basins of water and got started on our experiment, our goal was for our boats to float for five minutes! All of our groups worked very hard and produced brilliant work!



We also had our Assembly in December. We decided to look at how Light is such an important part of cultures all around the world, especially at this time of year! Firstly, we learnt the words to two songs '*Silent Night*' and '*This Little Light of Mine*'. Then we learned a prayer and were given different parts to read out about different cultures and religions from around the world. We were very proud of all of our hard work!



Ms Conefrey's 3rd Class

Tag Rugby

We were very lucky to have Ariel, from Balbriggan RFC, come and teach us how to play rugby this term. First, we learned how to hold the rugby ball - you need to hold the ball with two hands when you run with it. We learned that to score a try you have to get past your opponents line and place the ball down on the ground using your two hands. We really enjoyed a game Ariel played with us where you had to squat down and try to score like that. The whole class thought that the best part of the coaching was when we finally got to play tag rugby against each other.

On Friday the 6th of December children from the 3rd and 4th classes from St George's school and some other schools in Balbriggan went to a rugby blitz. First we were split into teams. Then a coach reminded us of the rules of tag rugby and explained how to use the tags. We got to play against teams from other schools - we won some and we lost some! ☺ It was a wet day but a really good day!





English and Art

This year we were learning about Procedural Writing. Procedural writing is a plan where you tell instructions in steps. First we all brought in different sizes of cardboard boxes. Second we planned our procedural writing piece in our groups. We had to make a plan of what we could make using the boxes we had brought in. The next day we wrote down our procedural writing piece and drew a picture of what our creation would look like. During art we followed our procedural writing and began to construct our piece. Finally we painted and put the finishing touches to it. Here are our finished products! 😊



Merry Christmas everyone. See you in the New Year!

Ms Conefrey's 3rd Class!

Ms Dunne's 3rd Class

We have had a busy and fun term in the lead up to Christmas. We took part in a rugby blitz with other schools in Balbriggan, athletics tournaments, rugby training with Ariel, have been learning to knit and practising our Christmas play. Our classroom is looking great and we are all very excited for the holidays. We made paper chains in art and paper bag stars to decorate the ceiling. We used pipe cleaners and pom poms to make candy canes and Christmas trees. We put up our Christmas tree and put decorations on it and a star on the top! We made lots of decorations too. Our teacher put tinsel and lights on the tree and then we added the baubles. We turned on the lights and it was very beautiful. We had lots of fun! Lots of Christmas stuff Hooray!! Happy Christmas everyone!!

By Azaan and Ivesa



Ms Kelly's 4th Class

Welcome to our 4th class newsletter. This month in Ms. Kelly's class we have been learning all about our locality. We found out that Balbriggan today is a lot different than what it was like in the past. During History class everyone researched old pictures of Balbriggan on the Ipads. Balbriggan has changed so much even, in the last twenty years. Today there are a lot more houses built here, and we have the youngest population in Ireland. The population in Balbriggan has grown considerably and the last census that was done in Balbriggan, in 2016, estimated that our population is 21,722.

We found three different reasons from where Balbriggan got its name.

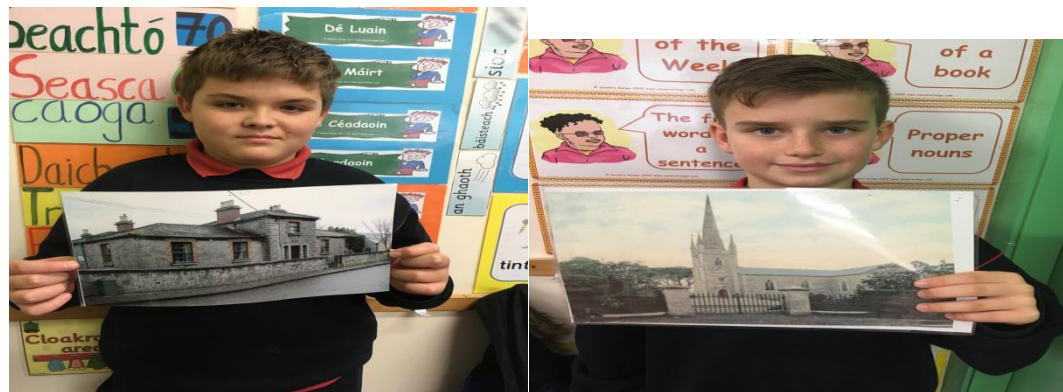


The **name** of the town in Irish is either Baile Bricín, meaning Town of the Small Trout, or Baile Brigín, meaning Town of the Small Hills.

Also another very interesting explanation we found was that Balbriggans were actually stockings (Long-Johns) that were made here in milling factories. They were sold to people abroad including Queen Victoria until the factories shut down.

We had a lot of fun discovering the history of Balbriggan and hope you found these facts a bit interesting too.

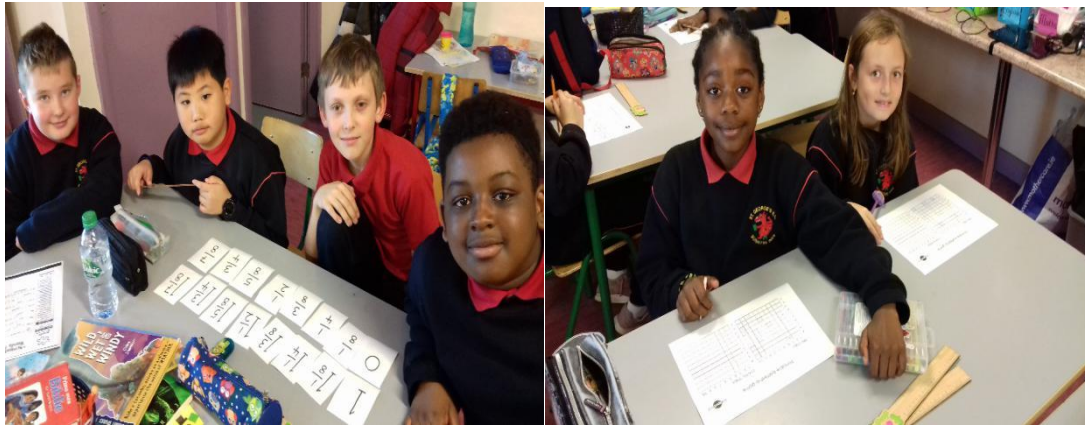
By **Laura-Ionela Bodrug**



Ms Anderson's 4th Class

We have had a very productive first term, and in recent weeks have been focusing on our Gaeilge, being able to talk about the town we live in, the types of homes we have and rooms in the house in the Irish language. We are building on our confidence every day speaking in the language. We have also been enjoying reading the 'The Butterfly Lion', our class novel. We have been exploring the theme of the Celts and Early Christian Ireland in our history lessons, learning all about the early missionaries, Celtic Christian art work and artefacts from the Monastic era. Maths

has focused on the wide range of 3D shapes and their features as well as our all important multiplication and division table. We love playing games during our Math's stations. Our Christmas Concert is currently being worked on. We can't wait for the big night performing in St. George's Church!



Ms King's 5th Class

This term Ms. King's 5th class were learning about sea life and types of water. We learnt about the different zones in the ocean (sunlight, twilight, midnight, abyss and trench) We also learned about the different types of water - salt or fresh. We conducted an experiment to prove that there is salt water found in Balbriggan beach. Tommy was very helpful and went to the beach to collect some water for the experiment. We poured the water on a plate and placed it beside the window. We also put a control of bottle water to prove that not all water has salt. After a week all the water had evaporated and there was salt left on the plate. All the students were excited and very pleased to be able to prove their experiment correct.



Mr Joyce's 5th Class

This year, for Maths Week, the children in 5th class went outside and arranged coins into patterns such as squares, circles, hexagons and much more. The children had fun making the patterns and the money was donated to charity. They played different maths games each day which the children devised themselves and then asked the other children in the class to solve them. On Friday of Maths week they completed an active maths challenge where they had to run to the correct number. Well done to all who competed. The children enjoyed Maths Week and are looking



forward to the New Year.



6th Class - Ms Needham

October, 6th class went to Ardgillan to go orienteering. It took us about 10mins to get there. When we got there the people hosting the orienteering gave us a map and a fob for the checkpoints we had to find. As we were finding our checkpoints we ran into some of the helpers. If you were lost you could ask them for help and they would tell you where to go. so we kept finding the checkpoints until we finished our course. After we finished we had to walk up a hill, up to a small tent. It would take ages because by the time we finished one course it was so tiring. When we finished our FIRST course we had to do a SECOND course which probably took us an hour just like the first one. After we finished we went back to school, it was probably about 1 in the evening.



6th Class made a beautiful Jesse Tree display for Christmas. The Jesse Tree is a way of retelling the story of God's relationship with the world up to the birth of Jesus.



Student Council

The student council recently hosted a Christmas Bake Sale. Many children purchased goods and we raised a whopping €400 euro! The money will be used towards the funding equipment for the school. Thank you to the parents who brought in cakes, much appreciated - St George's Student Council.



Active Schools

Our Active Agents have had a busy first term at St George's! They helped organise our school's participation in European Day of Sport, our Active Halloween Walk and a really fun 4-week Active Break Every Day Challenge. Well done Active Agents!



Mr Falvey's 6th Class

After running laps upon laps for over eight weeks in the lead up to our trip to Santry, it was time to do the final kilometre of a marathon!

On November the 13th, the two sixth classes took a bus to Santry to complete our marathon. We left at about 10 o'clock on a double decker bus. Our class was sitting downstairs, while Ms. Needham's were upstairs. Whilst on the bus, I noticed the beautiful autumnal trees along the road, and we had interesting chats along the way.

When we arrived, we hopped off the bus and bid farewell to the driver. We then walked over to the intimidating stadium with its large bright orange track. A couple of other schools were already speeding along the track when we arrived. Every school had a specific coloured shirt. Our school received a neon orange one.

Before we ran on the main track, we had to go through a muddy, humongous track. We found it tough going at the beginning, but we struggled through. When we finished the sodden track, we thought it might be over, but little did we know, it was not.



We still had to run one lap of the orange track. We were exhausted but we weren't allowed to stop. There was a man with a microphone encouraging anyone who was slowing down. When we finished, our legs were like jelly, but we were proud of ourselves. Everybody finished the track. We were all given medals. Before we left, the host announced that teachers should give everyone no homework that night! We were overjoyed.

After a few minutes, our bus arrived, so we hopped on and headed back to school. It was a really satisfying and fun day.

Art Club



In art club we made snow globes with pictures of ourselves inside and we also made snowmen from a bird's eye view. They kind of looked like they were rolled over by a car and melted!

