



Easter Newsletter

Dear parents and guardians.

Welcome to our end of term newsletter! We hope that you, the pupils and your extended families are all well at this time. It is hard to believe that we are at the end of term 2 and even harder to believe that we are in the midst of a pandemic and teaching and learning in ways that we would never have imagined one month ago!

As usual our end of term newsletter celebrates the high points and exquisite work of your children in our classes and wow! look at what they did-aren't they just fantastic?!

While the term was interrupted by the onset of covid 19, myself and the staff want to assure you that we are very much here for you to help and support you and the pupils in any way we can. Please make contact with your child's class teacher and support teacher by email- even to say hello, tell us how your child is and how we can further help you to help him/her to learn. **Pupils will be having their usual Easter break from the curriculum and all teachers will post classwork for the week commencing 20th April.** As it is not yet certain when school life can resume to the norm, we have set work and learning experiences through the website, on learning pages and via email. Into term three we may be obliged by the government to continue in this way. Depending on your child's class group, teachers may use applications such as See-saw, google classroom, Edmodo (or alternatives) to support the learning. Please let me and the class



teacher know if you do **not** consent to this. If a parent has not withdrawn consent, we will understand this as us having your consent. We also understand that there may be lots of demands being made on one laptop by several children in one household so again if there is **anything further** we can do to alleviate this pressure, please let me/teacher/support teacher know via email. Teachers and parents together will find a solution.

As soon as we are allowed to return we will post the opening date on the website and this will be in line with National protocol. We really **miss** seeing all the pupils and look so forward to **seeing you all** again and getting back to school!

We wish you and all your families all the best and a very happy and safe Easter.

Beannachtaí na Cásca daoibh go léir

Le gach deá-ghuí

Elaine



Junior Infants Ms Gill

We celebrated World Book Day on Friday the 6th of March. Children enjoyed dressing up as their favourite characters from story books. We took part in lots of fun activities during the week such as a bookmark designing competition and a competition to design the best door. We decorated our classroom door on the theme of Elmer. Elmer is a patchwork elephant and we had read the story in class. The children went to visit the Book Fair which came to the school and we listened to lots of stories throughout the week.





Junior Infants Ms Trainor

Junior Infants have been learning all about the season of spring.

We have learnt about animals that are born around springtime and how to look after plants.

When we walked around the school grounds we hung up fat balls for the birds. We also looked at different kinds

of flowers, such as daffodils, snowdrops and crocuses and spotted buds beginning to blossom.

In Aistear we set up an area in the classroom where we could plant cress seeds in biodegradable pots and used

the watering can to give them water to grow. This was lots of fun! Here is an example of the Art work we created recently.

We used real seeds, cupcake liners and string to create sunflowers.



Senior Infants Ms Mullan

This term we have enjoyed learning about the vet's surgery during Aistear. We took on the roles of the vet, the vet's assistant, the receptionist and the customers. We



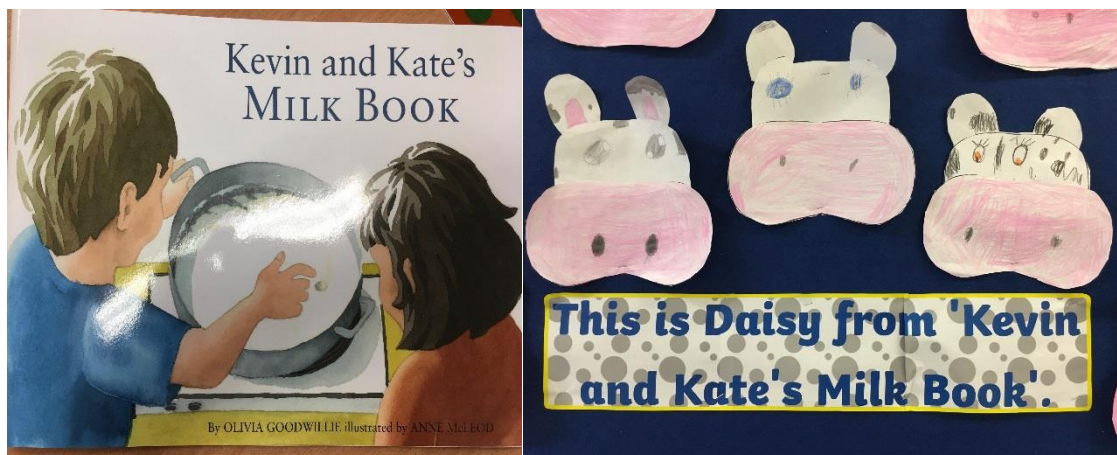
learned how to examine and look after sick animal teddies and enjoyed helping them get better! We also built our own vet's surgery with lego, blocks and playdoh.

Ms Quinn Senior Infants

Although this term didn't quite turn out as expected we still managed to do lots in senior infants during term two and we're delighted that we have the opportunity to share it with you.

We celebrated World Book Week this term. This week gave us the opportunity to explore a variety of books, to practise reading, to learn through reading apps on the iPads, to dress up as characters from some of our favourite books and to create book marks. It also gave us the chance to do something we had never done before, we made butter!

We learned about Kevin and Kate and their adventures with Daisy the cow, Oscar the horse and Charlie the dog through 'Kevin and Kate's Milk Book'. We investigated how the milk was transformed into a variety of things we use every day like yoghurt, cream, ice-cream, cheese and of course butter! We had a lot of fun shaking our jars and watching what was happening on the inside!





All this reading even helped some of the class earn our 'Super Reader Certificates' which are displayed in the classroom for everyone to see. This means lots of us have managed to read all 72 Tricky Words! We're very proud of our achievements.

We also earned lots of Maith Thú cards for speaking Irish throughout the day, we can tell you our name, our age, how we feel and all about the weather. We learned some Irish dances for Seachtain na Gaeilge too. We learned An Dreoilín and Preab an Asal. We even went to the PE hall and had a céilí.

We'll get the opportunity to get back into school soon and to continue to have fun, grow our friendships, explore our creativity, build on our knowledge and to develop as members of society.

1st Class Ms McMahon

This term was very busy with activities in 1st Class. We had book week, and the whole



class
worked
so hard
to
design
our
door



decoration. It turned out brilliantly. Can you find Wally?



Then during Engineer's week, we had a challenge to see what team could build the tallest tower. It was much harder than we thought, but we learned all about the polar opposites of magnets, and the strong attraction of such opposites. It was a lot of fun to experiment together.



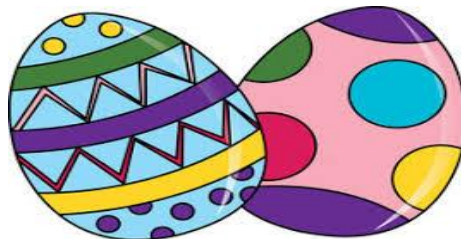


We also had a lesson in patience and determination. The children of showed great understanding and empathy, and we saw a fantastic domino run



1st Class Mr Moynihan

First Class really enjoyed Gaelic Football over the past few weeks. They learned loads of skills, had some great games and looked forward to meeting Anthony every week. A big thank you to Anthony and hopefully we will see you again next year. First Class practicing sitting quietly for Assembly! The class also enjoyed 'Seachtaine na Gaeilge' for the couple of weeks before the school had to close. They particularly enjoyed the Ceili with Ms. McMahons class and did brilliantly to learn 'The Siege of Ennis', 'The Walls of Limerick' and 'An Haka Gaelach' (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QWJMZrhiGw>) in a very short time. Tá súil againn go bhfuil sibh go léir ag coinneáil slán sábháilte agus tá súil againn sibh go léir a fheiceáil go luath.



2nd Class Mr Higgins

It has been a very challenging few weeks for us all, for obvious reasons. The things we're being asked to do go against everything we know and love - getting out to meet friends, spending time with family and even coming to school (in some cases!). With all the bad news of late, it is always a good idea to remind ourselves of the positives. The last few weeks have seen some amazing acts of kindness in the face of adversity and sadness, let's hope this spirit lives on long after this difficult time has passed. On that note, I would just like to share a good memory we have from this term. At the end of February, we were treated to a visit from Dublin Senior GAA player James Doran who brought the Sam Maguire Cup in to show us. With our own coach, Anthony, acting as compere, the atmosphere was amazing! The children were really interested in listening to James explaining what it takes to be an All Ireland winner and the questions they were asking were really thoughtful and clever - it was a major highlight of the term. To



be a top sportsperson requires dedication and sacrifice. We all need to show both of these qualities to get through this difficult time but we must never lose sight of the many positives we see around us.

2nd Class Ms Storey

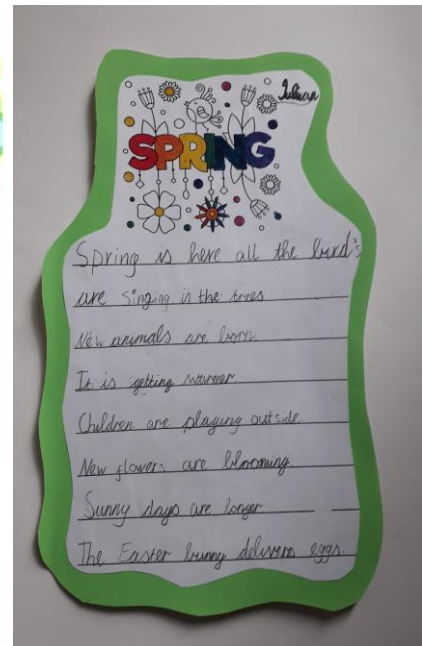
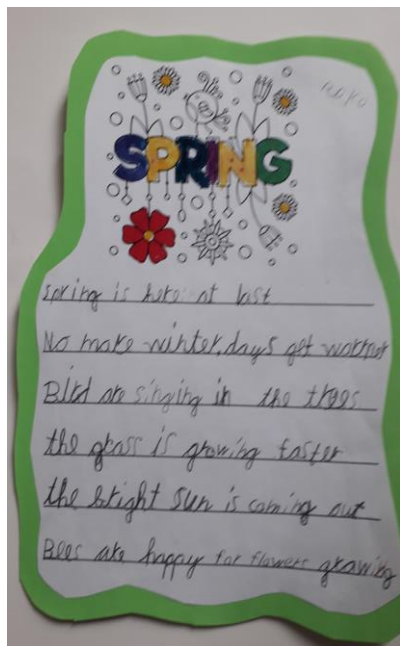
This term we have been very busy in 2nd class. We have been learning lots about keeping healthy, minding our bodies and about the people who help to keep us safe. Firstly, we looked at different types of food, what is healthy food and what makes it so healthy. We then looked at the food pyramid and in pairs made our own pyramids.

Next, we talked about how we clean our hands. We then split into pairs and had to try to get glitter germs off our hands using different supplies, we found out the best way to clean our hands is with soapy water! Then we completed an experiment where we all touched a piece of bread without washing our hands. We sealed it up in a Ziploc bag. We did the same thing with one group washing their hands with just water, one group using hand sanitiser and one group using soap and water. We then rubbed a piece of bread on a desk, on the door handle and on the floor. As the days went past, we couldn't believe it when we saw all the bacteria mould growing on the unwashed hands bread! The bacteria from the floor was really bad also! We also made sure to practice good hand washing throughout the day in our classroom!

Then we started to talk about people who mind us and help us in the community, especially hospitals and nurses. We even learnt about 'The Lady with the Lamp', Florence Nightingale and the hospitals from the past. We were so lucky that Sanju's mummy is a nurse and she agreed to come in and teach us all about her important job and answer our questions. We had such a fun time and really enjoyed her visit!



Finally, we celebrated World Book Day in our school. All week we did activities about books from designing book covers, to D.E.A.R time to making bookmarks. We also had to decorate our classroom door to represent a book. Ms Storey read us 'Stuck' by the Irish author Oliver Jeffers. We then all decorated our door together to look like the tree in the story! We couldn't believe it when we found out that we had won on Friday! We were so proud and got an Active Homework Pass to celebrate all of our hard work!



3rd Class Ms Conefrey

Even though we didn't get to finish out the end of this term in school we still had a very busy second term in 3rd class this year. We were really lucky to have a visit again from the Garda Band when we returned in January. We loved getting to join in with their music and songs.





This term we also learned how to do weaving in art. It took us a long time but eventually we all finished our own wall hangings which we got to take home.



Third and Fourth Class were lucky enough to get to the Rugby blitz again this term where we played Tag Rugby against teams from other schools in Balbriggan.





In History we learned all about the Ancient Egyptians, about the river Nile, what their homes were like, what they wore and ate and also all about some of the most well know Pharoah's like Cleopatra and Tutankhamun. In Art we then turned ourselves Pharoahs!



In Maths we covered the topics Multiplication, Division, Fractions, Length, Decimals, 3D objects, Addition, Subtraction and Area. We worked together in teams to make our



own fraction walls. It was hard work getting all the measurements correct but it was great to be able to use our own fraction walls to help us answer the questions in our books!



In PE we were focusing on the skill of balancing during Gymnastics. We had lots of practice balancing on different body parts and then completed a sequenced routine with our partners.



3rd Class Ms Dunne

We have been really enjoying this term so far. Two highlights of the term have been Book Week and Seachtain na Gaeilge. As part of Book week we turned our classroom doors in to book covers. We all designed a door and then voted on which one to use for our classroom door. We voted on David Ps Dogman book cover to use. We all worked together to paint the door which was lots of fun. We think it turned out really well and are going to leave it up on the door a while longer. Here are the top seven book covers and our finished door.



Seachtain na Gaeilge has been lots of fun too. We have been trying hard to speak Irish outside of the classroom and earning some Maith Thu cards. We did a fun Tráth na gCeist in class which was tricky but fun and we have been getting ready for the whole school Gaeilge concert. We chose "Party Rock Anthem" as our song to learn as Gaeilge and it has been really fun to learn. Not only do we get to sing and rap but we get to do some crazy dancing. Here is a picture of us practising our moves in the hall.



We have also been working on an art project over the past two weeks. We learned how to make stained glass windows. On the first week we make random patterns of paint and cut them in to shapes to stick onto our classroom window. We mixed PVA paint with paint and food colouring to make window cling paint. Although we liked the first try we



wanted to make even better ones so practised a stained glass method where you draw on a black outline first and let it dry. You then fill in each "window" with coloured window paint and let it dry. When its dry you can peel it off and stick it to the window. We made these butterflies and they look great on our window. Check it out next time you are passing the school!



4th Class Ms Anderson

We had a busy few weeks in the run up to school ending. During the National Book Week, we read and studied the novel 'Esio Trot' written by Roald Dahl. We designed our classroom door based on this story and also wrote a book review. Seachtain na Gaeilge saw us learning the modern song 'Praghas Tag', engaging in a class table quiz through Irish, playing a dice conversation game in Irish, and having fun céilí dancing, as well as trying to win 'Maith Thú' cards for all of our great Irish speaking. We also learned about traditional Irish music and instruments, with Ms Nairn playing her tin whistle and Ms Anderson playing her violin for us. Then we each had a turn attempting the violin! We also participated in building and construction stations one of the days for Engineering week, using a wide range of materials from lego, blocks, junk art, cup and card stacking, etc. It was definitely a fun filled term in our class!





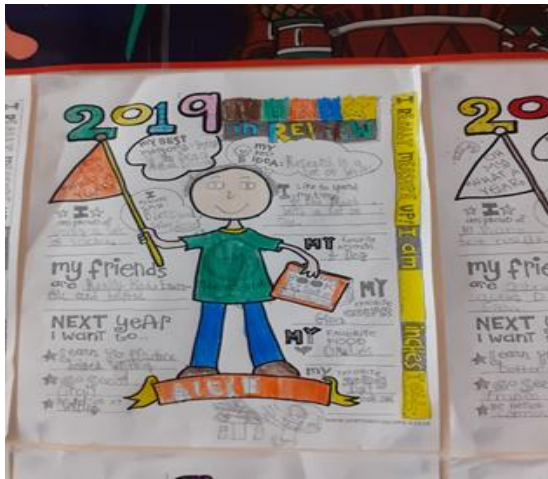
4th Class Ms Kelly

Term 2 got off to a busy start in Ms. Kelly's 4th Class. We all arrived back to school after our long Christmas break feeling energised and ready for new beginnings. We had plenty of discussions about New Year's Resolutions and some of us even made a few ourselves! We spoke about our highlights and favourite memories of 2019 while also discussing what we wanted to achieve in the year ahead.

Then in February we celebrated the Chinese New Year- The Year of the Rat. We read the Chinese legend about a race that decided which animals made it into the Zodiac. We decorated the classroom by making our own Chinese lanterns and David from Ms. Andersons class came in to teach us some Chinese calligraphy writing.

This year our European country of study was Italy. The children worked in pairs to do projects over a three week period. They worked hard researching fact , drawing pictures and collecting information both at home and during ICT time in school. They did a fantastic job and really enjoyed this activity. Check out their amazing projects outside room 13 along with their Italian pasta artwork.





5th Class Mr Joyce

We completed a challenge in science in Fifth Class. The children had to construct various 3-D shapes using just marshmallows and cocktail sticks. They had lots of fun constructing the shapes and the final challenge was to create the highest structure possible using the marshmallows and cocktail sticks. Some of the structures were a bit unsteady but the children really enjoyed the challenge and worked well in groups. They also shared out the marshmallows as a bonus for the completing the task. Well done to all and hope to complete similar projects before the end of the year...





5th Class Ms King

This has been a very busy and exciting term in our class. We have been very inquisitive and eager to learn. During this term, we read our class novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar. Everyone enjoyed reading about Stanley Yelnats and his bad luck. We learnt about electricity and how it travels from the power stations to our classroom. In Maths we learnt about the different ways to represent data. We conducted a survey, to help achieve our Active Flag, about different sport activities and clubs that are available around Balbriggan. We all enjoyed learning about the different activities and some of us hope to join some new clubs soon.

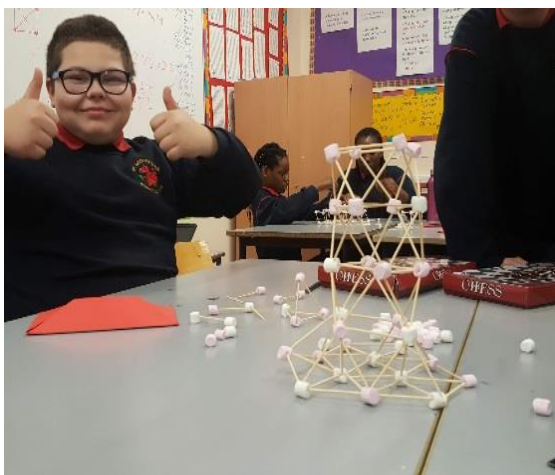
We presented assembly for the month of March. Our assembly kick started 'Mí na Gaeilge' which celebrates all things Irish. During our assembly half of us spoke Irish and the other half translated what we had said. We were very proud of ourselves.

As you know we have missed the last three weeks of this term due to Coronavirus. This is an usual time for all of us but remember by keeping our distance we can hopefully get through this time and get back into the classroom for more fun and learning as soon as possible.



6th Class Mr Falvey

For Engineer's week, Mr. Falvey's sixth class were constructing towers made entirely from matchsticks and mini marshmallows. They were learning how to make sturdy towers using truces(making triangles within the construction to make the towers sturdier). The children were put into groups of 5 and they were competing to make both the tallest and most importantly, the sturdiest Tower. When they were completed, the group did a stress test by banging the tables as hard as they could, to see if their towers could survive an earthquake! The groups did really well with some great engineering and creativity on show.



6th Class Ms Needham

6th Class and 2nd Class Teach Each Other to Céilí Dance!

Every year at St George's we have a Céilí for Seachtain na Gaeilge. Céilí dances are a popular form of folk dancing in Ireland. At St George's we teach these dances every year when completing our Dance Strand in PE.

This year Ms Needham's 6th Class and Ms Storey's 2nd Class joined forces to teach each other a céilí dance. Ms Needham's 6th Class perfected *Ballaí Luimnigh* (The Walls of Limerick) and taught it to 2nd class. Ms Storey's 2nd Class were amazing at *The Siege of Ennis* and showed 6th Class what to do. Both classes learned lots and had great fun in the process!





Ms Chisholm - SET

Hello to all

I hope you are all making time to do a little work, get some exercise and have some fun too! Here is a photo from earlier in the year when we were in school - one of my 3rd class guided reading groups, Ms Dunne's class.



It is always great to try and read every day, either by yourself or with someone in your household, there are even lots of books and stories online to listen too -

<https://www.vooks.com/>



First class- SEN (Ms. Corrie)

In first class we are lucky to be able to take part in maths and English learning stations. During this time, we are asked to move and sit with new children in different groups. Some extra teachers also come into our classroom to help us and show us what to do.

Maths stations in Ms. Mc Mahon's class

In Ms. McMahon's learning stations we have been busy learning and playing lots of fun maths games. We have lots of fun and love playing these games. Not only do we get to practise our maths skills, but we also learn how to take it in turns and play together nicely. We also take it in turns to use our classroom iPads to complete some maths activities.



Literacy stations in Mr. Moynihan's class

In Mr. Moynihan's class we have been busy working on our reading skills. We work in small groups and take it in turns to read. After this, we chat about the story and share our opinions and answers. Then we usually complete some activities based on the work that we have just read. We enjoy reading and working in small groups because we all get a turn to read and chat together about the story. We've been working hard at our reading this year and we're definitely getting better.

Ms. Nairn's Classroom (Room 22)

During the last term some children from the two fourth classes have been working on different maths projects in my classroom. Mark, Laura, Elsie, Allen and Lauren have all



been rattling their brains trying to solve some of the difficult maths problems I have given them based on Fractions, Decimals and Time. At the beginning of each project they must come up with their own detective name and badge and describe their skills that make them a good detective. In their project on Time for example, they had to work out

different time zones and flight durations and use different maths thinking skills to eliminate different suspects. We have lots of fun each week discussing our theories and answers.



Athletics

We are nearly at the end of Athletics season and what a year it has been. We attended two race day events in Newbridge House where the whole group did really well and all tried their best. I would like to commend the children for all their hard work and training during the year and giving up their breaks to train twice a day. It's great to see all the hard work paying off when the children cross the line in their best time. We are looking forward to the final at Morton Stadium in June and hopefully the children have all kept up their training over the last few weeks and into term 3. Lastly, thank you to all the parents and Mrs. Gallagher who gave up their time to help us at the different races.

Ms. Nairn and Ms. Mullan

