

How 6th Class have been using Maths to develop Practical Life Skills!

This year has been a big step up in advancement with the Maths curriculum and we are really getting a lot of hands on experience in areas such as Time, Money, Measures, etc, building on practical life skills which we'll be able to carry into our futures.

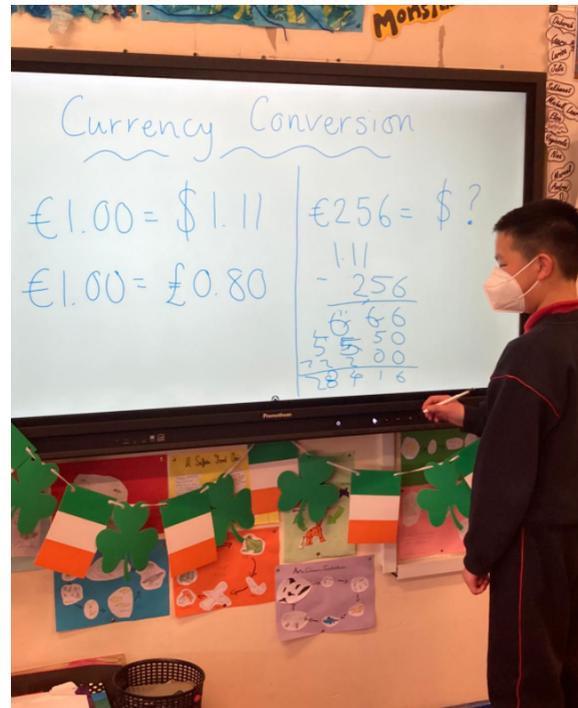
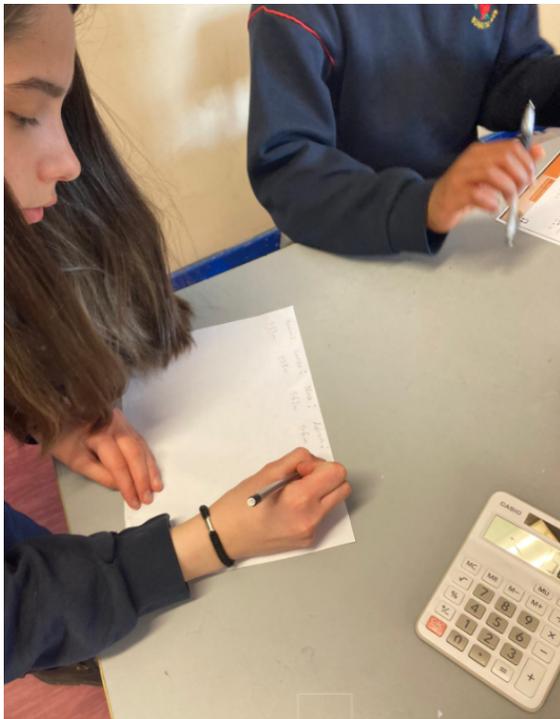
For example during our unit on Time, we have now moved well on from converting 24 hour to 12 hour time, and addition and subtraction of times...we have now learned how to relate time to distance and speed. So if we are for example travelling in a car at 80kph, we now can calculate how far we will have travelled after 3 and a half hours! If we travel 48 km on a very long family cycle, and it takes us about 3 hours, we can then work out how far we travelled on average in 1 hour...and even how many km we cycled in 15 mins...Can YOU?!!



In relation to our unit on Money, yes we know from the past how to add and subtract, multiply and divide money...but 6th Class curriculum has us now well set up for dealing with our purchases in a hardware store, or if we get a trades person to do a job for us in the future...we now know we get stung by VAT, and even better, we know how to calculate it in advance. So for example if we are told VAT is 12%, and our item costs 100 euro, we know to have that extra 12 euro in our pocket, the total being 112!



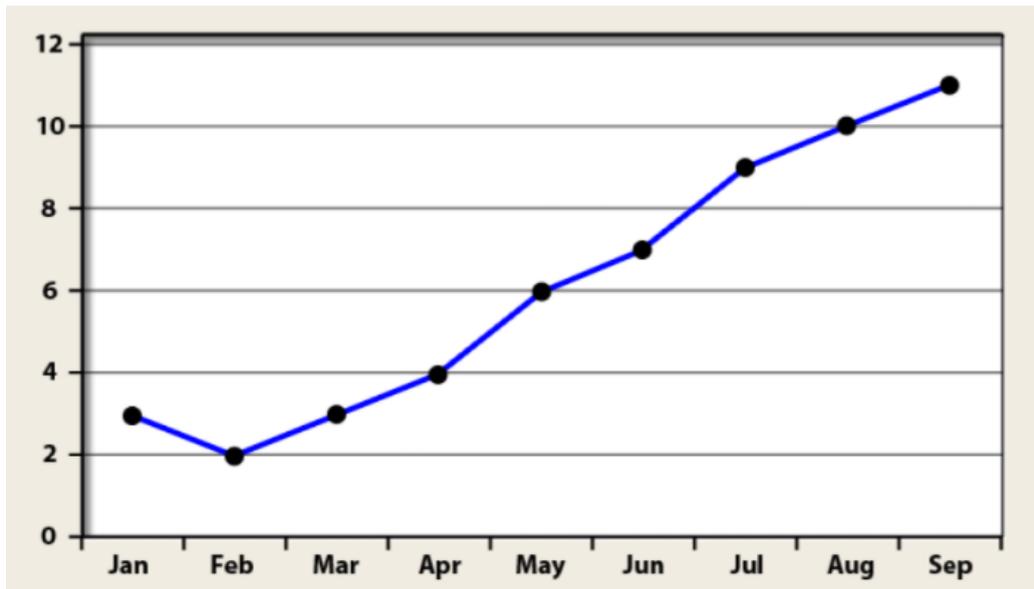
How well equipped we are now too for all those far flung future holidays we will be going on, when Covid exists no longer exists! In our unit on Money we have learned how to convert currencies from euro to dollars, Yen, GBP, etc and back again to euro if we have any change left at the end of our holiday! Here's a picture of some of our classmates working out conversions for us all to see...



Recently we moved on to our unit in Length, and had great experience learning about perimeter of irregular shapes. This would come in very handy if we needed to measure the periphery of a garden for a fence, or skirting boards for a room if we were helping with DIY. We also learned about equating mm to cm, cm to m, m to km...and even mm to km! We had fun taking each others' heights with our metre stick, and hope to use the data to practise our graph skills over the coming days.



One other very useful and practical thing we learned during our unit on Data was how to read a Trend Graph. This sort of graph features so frequently in newspapers or on news reports, and it took a bit of getting used to, actually mapping out the dots and linking them. However it was really interesting to see how the dots relate to each other in the form of a story or trend...whether it's talking about numbers of new cars sold in a garage throughout a year of sales, or else the total amount of ice creams sold by an ice cream shop across the seasons, being able to read and interpret these graphs is really and interesting, and could prove very useful if we own our own business in the future!



We look forward to continuing building on our practical life skills in our Maths work during the final 3 months of 6th Class!