



The Shountrade Scéal



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2025

Welcome to the November edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal'. Some of the highlights this month include starting work on our Christmas show. Excitement is building and the sound of beautiful singing can be heard throughout the school. We welcome Naoise to Mr. Costelloe's class and we are all enjoying getting to know you. The choir are very excited about our upcoming carol singing in the crescent shopping centre from 10:00am to 12 noon on 16th December.

Mrs. Fitzgerald's Class

What a bright and busy month we've had in Junior and Senior infants! We were so lucky to have had final-year student teacher Ms. Kate O' Donnell with us, and the children absolutely loved all the fun activities she introduced.

Our theme this month was Food, and the classroom was bursting with imagination. The children enjoyed lively role play in our café, pizzeria, and bakery, and even built their own restaurants. In English, they learned about procedural writing and had great fun becoming "bossy verb detectives" as they searched for bossy verbs in their fruit salad and sandwich instructions.

In Maths, we explored 2D shapes through lots of hands-on investigation, and in Geography we took a trip around the world to discover delicious foods found in cafés everywhere.

Excitement is building as we get ready for our Christmas Show, "It's a Baby!". The children have been singing, acting, and practising their lines with huge enthusiasm.

Ms. Olive's Class

November has been full of fun and learning in Second Class! Our Literacy Lift-Off programme has helped the children make fantastic progress in reading, comprehension, and phonics. In PE, we've been throwing, catching and kicking, building great teamwork along the way. In SPHE, we've become strength-spotters, learning to notice the good in ourselves and others. Our art lessons were a big hit this month! We explored Kandinsky circles and created fantastical winter forests. In Gaeilge, the children proudly recited Oró, Sé do Bheatha Bhaile. We are now busy rehearsing for our Christmas Play and can't wait to share the magic with you all. It promises to be a festive treat full of music, fun and sparkle!



Mr. Costelloe's Class

November was a tremendous month in our class!

The highlights of our month was undoubtedly welcoming Naoise, our new classmate, to Shountrade N.S. Again we have enjoyed developing our social skills in the local area as we also enjoyed an exciting trip to the Woodlands House Hotel, to explore the pet farm, followed by a lovely walk in the park in Adare. Another wonderful part of our month has been welcoming peers from various classes to our classroom.

Some come to play games, build, create, and share stories with us, while others lend a helping hand. Their visits bring great energy to our room, and we have really enjoyed learning and playing together.



Mrs. Ryan's Class

Third and Fourth Class have had a jam-packed November! In Maths, we have been exploring division, symmetry, transformations, and fractions. It has been wonderful to see the children making connections between these topics—especially how division, symmetry, and fractions relate to one another. Our work on transformation from the new Primary Maths Curriculum has sparked fantastic discussions, lively debates, and exciting new learning challenges. We also took time this month to remember loved ones who have passed away.

During Art, the children painted beautiful robins to remind us that “when a robin appears, a loved one is near.”

We also explored the Austrian artist Gustav Klimt and created our own ‘Tree of light’. In Gaeilge, we have been focusing on developing our reading skills. The classes have thoroughly enjoyed diving into the fiction books *An Pláinéad Zog* and *An Cás*. Their knowledge of Irish verbs and their confidence in forming sentences as Gaeilge are growing steadily. In English, our grammar work this month centred on homophones. We had great fun identifying, exploring, and understanding the many homophones that appear in our reading and writing.



Mr. O'Connell's Class

November has been a busy and exciting month in fifth class. Everyone is happy about their parts in Cinderella and Rockerfella. We are having fun rehearsing on the stage and working on our voice projection and dance moves.

In P.E. we have been playing basketball, practicing drills and playing a few matches.

In history, we have been learning about the Normans and about life in Medieval times.

We have been writing reviews on stories we read in class. We learned about the structure of a letter. In art we created beautiful winter landscapes drawing with mountainous ski slopes and pine trees. We have been working very hard on our maths, learning long division and adding and subtracting fractions.



Mrs. Spillane's Class

Rehearsals are in full swing for Cinderella and Rockerfella. All the children are enjoying getting into character and learning our dances. We finished our novel ‘Under the Hawthorn Tree’ which the children described as being ‘heartwarming’. We look forward to completing the Children of the Famine Trilogy. The ‘Friends for Life’ programme is very beneficial and teaches very useful coping skills. The children learned how to make a coping step-plan for how to accomplish challenging tasks.

We have been working on a collaborative art piece. We decided to paint a backdrop for our school Christmas show so be on the look out for this at our performance in December.

