



The Shountrade Scéal

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2024

Welcome to the February edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal'. We hope everyone enjoyed their midterm holidays and we are already looking forward to Spring time in Shountrade N.S. Firstly, all the boys and girls would like to wish our under eleven quiz team the best of luck as they compete in the regional finals on Friday 1st of March. We are immensely proud of them! We are also very proud of our 3rd/4th class boys hurling team and 5th class girls camogie team who represented the school superbly at their respective indoor competitions this month. Finally, the whole school community would like to congratulate our Shountrade N.S pupils who made their first confession this month. An amazing day was had by all involved and they are already looking forward to their upcoming first holy communion.

Junior & Senior Infants

February has been a busy month in junior and senior infants. We started a new learning theme of the Sports Shop. The children did a wonderful job setting up the shop and were busy making shopping lists, buying equipment and issuing receipts to customers. The children learned all about how to keep their bodies healthy and how important it is to do plenty of exercise every day. They learned about healthy eating and that treats are something to eat occasionally. In Irish the children learned how to talk about their pastimes and some of the sports they play.

For Valentines Day the children made beautiful oil pastel hearts inspired by the famous Brazilian artist Romero Britto. In maths the junior infants have been learning about the number five, while the senior infants learned all about the number nine. Both groups have been really good at making five or nine in different ways using cubes, bears and numicon shapes. We also learned all about weight and had a great time comparing the weights of different classroom weights. Every Friday morning we are very lucky to have literacy stations in the classroom. The children experience five different stations with a different literacy focus at each station – oral language, phonics, phonics games, free writing and ICT literacy games. The children particularly love the ICT games!



School Choir

We are delighted to announce the return of the Shountrade N.S school choir. The choir add so much to special school occasions such as the first holy communion and the end of year mass. We can't wait to hear what's in store this year!



First Confession 2024

1st Class

February has been super short but super fun in 1st class! In Maths this month we have been learning all about data. We explored different charts/ graphs and asked each other some questions in which we displayed on posters and presented to the class at the end of the week.

In Gaeilge this month we focused on the theme of 'Bia'. We learnt lovely songs and poems to do with various different foods. In literacy this month we have been continuing literacy lift off and making great progress. We also began narrative writing. The children became very proud of their writing pieces and loved showing them off to their peers. In PE gymnastics came to an end. We really enjoyed using the benches to create our own routines.

The children loved learning about Shrove Tuesday and where the tradition came from. The class found it extra interesting when they got to make their own pancakes with Second class. In SESE the pupils also concentrated on learning about China and all about the Chinese New Year. Focusing in on the culture of China we made lanterns in Art.

2nd Class

February proved to be an enriching and delightful month in second class, filled with enjoyable activities. In literacy, we delved into the thematic exploration of Spring feasts, engaging in the captivating stories and traditions surrounding figures such as St. Valentine, St. Patrick, and St. Brigid. Through this exploration, students worked on their report writing skills by crafting insightful reports, demonstrating both their comprehension and creativity. Artistry flourished in our classroom during February. The children enjoyed paper weaving and making patterns and heart collages. Inspired by the renowned artist Jim Dine, our art sessions took on new dimensions as we infused our heart paintings with his unique style. Laughter filled the air as students experimented with back lighting, adding a touch of magic to their masterpieces.

Mathematics took on a hands-on approach this month, with a focus on fractions and time. Through interactive games and activities, students engaged in practical learning experiences, fostering a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts in a fun and dynamic way. PE saw us exploring the world of gymnastics, where students embraced the challenges of mastering new skills and techniques. Their dedication and perseverance were evident as they navigated through various gymnastic exercises, highlighting their physical abilities and determination.

Undoubtedly, one of the highlights of February was the solemn occasion of receiving the sacrament of reconciliation on Wednesday, the 28th of February, under the guidance of Monseigneur Neenan at the Holy Trinity Abbey Church. It was a moment of reflection and spiritual growth, cherished by both students and teacher alike. To commemorate this special occasion, we gathered for a joyful celebration at the Dovecot restaurant, celebrating our spiritual journey together.

3rd Class

Rang a Trí have had a busy February. Between learning about types of feelings-safe & unsafe in our Stay Safe Programme, partaking in the Indoor Hurling Competition, painting like a real artist-we've enjoyed a lán spraoi sa rang. In Mata we challenged ourselves with fractions and introduced several games to consolidate our learning. Who would have thought halves and eighths could be so much fun!

Sa Ghaeilge we were ag rince Ceilí. We integrated our Art on Michelangelo and wrote about it. Art was interesting and a new endeavour as we laid on our backs and painted upside down to get a sense of how Michelangelo completed his masterpiece. Fun Fact: It took Michelangelo four years to complete the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel!

We have learned a new poem in English by Christina Rossetti called 'Colour'. Much fun has been had orally saying it. In Drama we played several games amuigh sa chlós. It was fun miming and being creative. Well done to all the boys that partook in the Indoor Hurling Competition. You all did us super proud.



6th Class

Sixth class have settled back into work after our January highs. We explored the life of St. Brigid and created crosses from rushes. We have been reviewing the ten commandments and we have examined topics on Social Justice. We have completed our second lesson on personal safety on the Stay Safe Programme. We studied the Aborigines and the invasion of their homeland by European settlers. We explored Daniel O'Connell and linked events at that time to parallel or relevant events from today. We are now studying historical places, events and people from our own locality.

We have studied the use of the apostrophe and the conversion of verbs to nouns. Táimid ag déanamh staidéar ar reamhfhocail chomhshuíte le deanaí, chomh maith leis 'An Giotár Dear'. Táimid ag tnúth go mór le Seantain na Gaeilge. We have hugely enjoyed learning new movements and formations in gymnastics. It's been a very busy month indeed!

4th & 5th Class

February was another fantastic month in fourth and fifth class. Some highlights this month included presenting our historic site projects which we completed with a partner in the class, the wonderful artwork we completed for Valentines Day and creating breaking news reports for volcanic eruptions during our Gaeilge topic of 'Bolcáin'.

We thoroughly enjoyed our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) challenge this month as we were tasked to build a bridge using lollipop sticks, glue and masking tape. We spent time exploring the structure of bridges before working collaboratively to design and make our own bridges. We are really looking forward to presenting them to the rest of the school at our upcoming STEM fair early next month. Finally, everyone in fourth and fifth class would like to welcome Ms. McSweeney to our classroom and we are so excited to see what she has planned with us over the next few weeks.

