



The Shoutrade Scéal

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first edition of 'The Shoutrade Scéal' in 2024. We hope everyone has enjoyed an incredible start to 2024 just like we have here in Shoutrade N.S! What an exciting month it has been for the boys and girls. Some highlights this month include first class Literacy Lift Off Grandparents Day, Vex Robotics and the Credit Union Quiz. We are so proud of how our Shoutrade N.S pupils represented the school at both these events. Special congratulations to the 6th class group who finished in third place overall on the day. Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Fiona Walsh, Ava-Leigh Shine, Filip Tobianski and Nóra Ní Laoi who were victorious in the under eleven category of Credit Union quiz! They will now forward to represent the school and West Limerick in the next stage round.

Junior & Senior Infants

There has been incredible learning this month in junior and senior infants. The theme across all subjects has been Houses and Homes. We have been learning all about the types of homes that people live in here in Ireland, and around the world. The children were learning about moving home and the role of the estate agent in buying and selling houses. The children have been pretending to be estate agents and customers in our role play area. In construction the children have been busy building all sorts of houses. In English the juniors have been working very hard at learning their lowercase cursive letters and now they are able to write lots of words. Meanwhile the seniors are perfecting their uppercase cursive letters. In History we enjoyed learning about homes long ago and we compared and contrasted homes that the children live in now with those long ago in Ireland. In Science we discussed all the types of electrical appliances we have in our homes now that people did not have long ago. We also discussed how to stay safe in our homes around dangerous appliances and substances. In Art the children learned to draw houses of all shapes and sizes. It was very exciting for the children to use paint sticks for the first time. The children have been working on their Gymnastics skills in PE. Their balance and poses have been improving immensely over the month.



Announcements

As we come to the end of January 2024 we have a couple of announcements to make in Shoutrade N.S. Firstly, the whole school community would like to give our best wishes to Mrs. Ryan when she starts her maternity leave. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Gilbourne who will be joining our teaching team on February 19th with third class. Additionally, we are very happy to announce that Ms. Stokes will be continuing as part of our teaching team until Mrs. Spillane re-joins us in September 2024.

1st Class

In first class we have had a very enjoyable and busy first month of the year! We are so excited that we have started literacy lift off. The class have been working really hard and making great progress already. In Maths we have been learning addition and subtraction in a fun and engaging way through a lot of games. The pupils loved playing the warmup game of 'I'm thinking of a number' and completing a funny word problem each day. The pupils have also been focusing on place value and have been using various concrete materials to represent tens and units.

First class have been learning all about the Arctic. The pupils worked together to make fantastic posters displaying all their knowledge on the different animals living there. We had a brilliant time celebrating Grandparent's Day where we made certificates and wonderful art pieces for our loved ones. In P.E we have started gymnastics. The pupils are putting in great effort completing tumblers and routines in a fun and safe manner.

2nd Class

The students kicked off the year by immersing themselves in historical research surrounding the Blizzard of 1947. The dedication and effort they've put into writing and typing reports, have set a fantastic tone for the year ahead. Our scientific explorations continue with a focus on buoyancy, as the students engage in hands-on experiments to discover the secrets of objects sinking and floating. Designing and testing plasticine boats have turned our classroom into a mini maritime laboratory. In Maths, our young mathematicians are exploring shape and place value. Using concrete materials, they are deepening their understanding of hundreds, tens, and units, laying a solid foundation for more complex mathematical concepts. Artistic expressions have flourished this month with stunning firework prints and captivating scenes of the Northern Lights using chalk pastels and printing techniques.

Our Irish theme for January is 'Sa Bhaile,' complemented by readings of 'An Iomáint Abú!' and the delightful adventures of 'Micí Meabhach (Baby Brains).' Our movement breaks have been infused with inspiration from Irish Olympians, motivating the children to run more effectively. Athletic games especially the 'Fruit Salad' game adding a fun twist to our physical activities. We are busily preparing for our First Confession and looking forward to going to the church to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As January draws to a close, our incredible class is gearing up for a year filled with exploration, learning, and growth. Here's to a fantastic 2024!



3rd Class

The girls and boys in Third class have started 2023 off with lots of enthusiasm and eagerness! They have been very busy learning all about Ireland, provinces, counties, rivers and mountains. Writers workshop has been creating huge excitement amongst third class this month. We have started a brand new writing genre, Report Writing! The children are gaining great enjoyment engaging in research and learning about a variety of topics. The children created beautiful Environmental posters in Gaeilge while getting to practice their report writing skills.

Maths has been hands on this month! Lots of fun was had during the topic of data and time. The children have loved playing our games and learning strategies to tell 5 minute intervals on the clock. The children have deepened their understanding of the topic of multiplication and division, they have been using lots of concrete materials to represent their times tables. In P.E we have started the gymnastics strand, the children are putting in a lot of effort into our routines and completing our tumblers and movements safely. If January is anything to go by, Third class are in for an awesome 2024!

4th & 5th Class

January was another wonderful month in fourth and fifth class! We dived straight into persuasive writing when we returned to school, discussing some intriguing topics such as the amount of time spent playing video games and whether technology makes children's lives better. We had some fantastic fun as we focused primarily on gymnastics during PE lessons this month. We explored a wide variety of movement patterns and participated in some fantastic teamwork challenges in the process.

Another highlight this month was the beginning of 'Friends for Life' in our class. We are thoroughly looking forward to the lessons that are to come as we work to understand and develop our social skills and resilience. Through 'Into Music' this month we learnt all about David Bowie and his influences before performing 'Starman' as a whole class. Finally, this month the boys and girls in 4th/5th class have been working collaboratively with a partner to create a project on a historic landmark in Ireland. We have spent time researching our chosen landmarks and cannot wait to present our work to the class next week!



6th Class

6th class were particularly busy preparing for the Vex Robotics challenge in the Dell Complex this month. This involved the production of a video incorporating song, music and poetry with the assistance of new technologies. We had to deal with numerous challenges along the way. This involved design, build, rebuild and reprogramming of the robot at various times.

We prepared for the interview, the driving challenges and the autonomous challenges with great diligence and determination. The sixth class pupils had an amazing day at the Dell event and achieved an incredible third place in the overall results. Massive congratulations to the boys and girls who represented the school with enormous pride. Furthermore, everyone in sixth class would like to wish a huge thank you to Bryan Jones for his help and assistance throughout this initiative. It will undoubtedly go down as one of highlights when we reflect on our time in Shountrade N.S!

