



# The Shountrade Scéal



## MAY NEWSLETTER 2025

Welcome to the May edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal'. We are delighted to announce that our school achieved the SFI Curious Minds Gold Award for our children's engagement with STEM this year. What an amazing achievement for the school! May has been a very busy month for GAA in Shountrade N.S. It has been great to see so many children honing their skills every Friday with our coach Conor. Well done to both teams who competed in the Cumann na mBunscoil competitions and a special congratulations to the Camogie team who achieved the status of West Limerick Division 1 champions! A special mention to Bláithín who proudly represented our school and county when selected to play on the primary game team at half time of the Munster Championship clash against Clare in the Gaelic Grounds.

Another highlight this month has undoubtedly been the return of 'Fun Friday Circuits' every Friday morning from 8:45—9:00. It is amazing to see all the boys and girls enjoying exercising together every week! A special thank you to all those who helped out in the Adare Garden Fete. Finally, congratulations to the boys and girls who celebrated their Communion Day this month. It truly was a wonderful service with the incredible Shountrade choir adding to a very special day.



### Junior & Senior Infants

What a busy month it has been in junior and senior Infants. The children completed their programme of Literacy Lift-off. The literacy power hour in the mornings has undoubtedly boosted the children's phonics, reading and handwriting.

The children completed their learning about Emergency Service Providers. We then moved on to a theme of Holidays. The children were very busy planning and booking holidays at the Travel Agents, before packing their bags for the Airport. At the airport they checked in, went through security and the departure lounge, before boarding the plane and enjoying the onboard hospitality!

In maths the children have been putting all of their learning about number into operation and practised combining numbers. They used hands on learning to practise combining with their combination monsters. We also learned about money and had lots of fun buying and selling items in the class shop with real money. In science the children learned all about the honey bee and it's life cycle. The children then drew beautiful honey bees for art. The children are looking forward to a fun filled month of June including the first school tour and Active Week for the junior infants.

### School Fun Walk

Reminder our annual school fun walk will take place on Friday June 20th. Last years walk was a tremendous outing for Shountrade N.S and was enjoyed by all! If possible please return sponsorship cards by 13th June.

### 1st Class

First Class had many winners in the Community Games art competition – well done to everyone, and congratulations to all our talented winners! We are very proud of you all.

We've been working hard revising our maths, with a special focus on regrouping tens and units. The children are becoming confident in using money, and we've played lots of fun games to practise adding money and calculating change. In science, we learned all about insects and we even went on an insect hunt around the school grounds. It was a great way to explore nature up close!

We really enjoyed reading *Ella the Writer* and discovering all the different things Ella wrote—checklists, to-do lists, a birthday card, an email, and a postcard. Inspired by the story, the children created beautiful, summery beach scenes using a fun printing technique. We also look forward to our hurling training every Friday with Conor. In P.E., we had an exciting orienteering lesson that included a shape hunt, which everyone enjoyed.



## 2nd Class

What a fantastic month it has been in Second Class! The highlight of May was, without a doubt, our beautiful First Holy Communion Day. The boys and girls shone with pride and joy. A heartfelt thank you to Monsignor Neenan for his support and guidance—we will treasure the memories of this special occasion for years to come.

In the classroom, we've been very busy expanding our mathematical skills. The children have been learning subtraction with regrouping, exploring the topic of money, and investigating symmetry through hands-on activities and games.

In Art, creativity has flourished. We explored construction, painting, and drawing through a variety of engaging projects. We also created beautiful First Holy Communion artwork, capturing the joy and meaning of the occasion. In addition, the children designed colourful Community Games posters, and every child did a fantastic job showcasing their artistic talents.

Our SESE theme this month is Africa. We've had great discussions and activities based on the fascinating wildebeest, explored a traditional African folktale, and learned interesting facts about the country Ethiopia. Well done to all the boys and girls for their continued enthusiasm and hard work. They should be very proud of all they've achieved this month!

## 3rd Class

As we wrap up the month of May, we're reflecting on what an exciting and eventful few weeks it has been! We've taken part in a very special letter-writing initiative with *An Post*. Each student has written a letter to their future self, which will be delivered in May 2026. It's been a wonderful way to reflect on our dreams, goals, and hopes for the coming year. There was something magical about putting pen to paper and imagining the people we'll become. In geography, we've been studying the weather, exploring different types of clouds, and learning why thunder and lightning occur. This tied in nicely with our science observations of the changing season, particularly in our school garden. We've continued to nurture our grá for gardening, and the results are blooming all around us! With the warmer weather, our plants have truly come to life, and the children have taken great pride in seeing the fruits of their labour flourish. This month, we've added a new song to our repertoire—*Michael Finnegan*!

This funny old tune has brought plenty of giggles to the classroom and given us a great chance to explore rhythm and rhyme in a fun way. We're so proud of how far the class has come this year, and with just one more month left in Third Class, we're looking forward to making June the best one yet!



### **Shountrade N.S Camogie**

West Limerick Division 1  
Champions

## 4th Class

May has flown by in Fourth Class, and we've had an action-packed month full of creativity and fun! One of the highlights has been reading our class novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. We've really enjoyed diving into the story and brought it to life during drama lessons by creating freeze frames, conducting interviews with characters, and writing thoughtful diary entries from their perspectives.

In PE, we've taken on a new and exciting challenge—designing our own adventure trails! Working in teams, we planned trails for our classmates that include physical challenges, teamwork tasks, and two special locations. It's been fantastic to see everyone's creativity shine through, from the obstacle ideas to the detailed maps we've created. We're all looking forward to completing the trails in the weeks ahead. With June just around the corner, we're buzzing with excitement for all the special days and activities ahead of us!



## 5th & 6th Class

Bhí rang a cúig agus rang a sé an ghnóthach ar feadh na míosa seo. Rinneamar sár iarracht ár foclóir a leathanú agus bhíomar ag déanamh dian staidéar ar na briathra neamh rialta chomh maith.

We have been working very hard in Maths and we have enjoyed relating strands to real life issues and problems. We have enjoyed learning about the story of the Titanic and we have investigated World War 1 with interest. We have been having lots of fun investigating and identifying our local flora and the varieties of samples discovered have been amazing.

Our girls have achieved an amazing feat by winning the West Cumann Na mBunscoil Camogie competition. Our boys have proudly represented Shountrade N.S. on the hurling field too. We are looking forward to Active week, our School Tour in Kerry and our end of term graduation mass.

