



# The Shoustrade Scéal



## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the September edition of 'The Shoustrade Scéal'. We are so pleased that everyone is back in Shoustrade N.S safe and healthy after what we hope was a fantastic Summer holidays. As always September has been a very busy month for all the boys and girls in Shoustrade. Some highlights this month include a visit from Jeff Hunt, literacy lift-off in second class, music classes with James Anglim and the commencement of swimming lessons for 3rd and 4th class.

We would like to extend a special welcome to our new junior infants class in Shoustrade N.S Emily, Freddie, Hugh, Ciara, Clodagh, Leah, Sarah, Isla, Liam and Máirin. We would also like to welcome new pupils Grace in 2nd class, Charlotte in 4th class and Ella in 6th class. A big welcome to our two new members of staff Miss Stokes and Miss MacSweeney.

### Junior & Senior Infants

We have had a wonderful start to the year in Junior and Senior Infants. The senior infants have been settling back in to school life. They have been very welcoming to our new junior infants who have been getting to know each other. They are making lots of new friends. We were very fortunate to have a visit from a nature teacher, Geoff Hunt, in our first weeks in school. Mr Hunt taught the children all about the wildflowers growing around the school, including daisies, clover, buttercups, dandelions, hawkbit and self-heal. The children loved exploring the grounds and discovering the various flowers for themselves. They had great fun learning a new song all about pollination.

Our theme for September was the School Office. The role play area was set up as the School Office and the children were busy getting into role as the secretary, principal, teachers, pupils and parents. The hot wheels cars are a firm favourite during child led play and the children were very excited when new hot wheels were introduced this month. Maths time is a very busy time of the day in the classroom. We are very lucky to have Ms Walsh in class every day to support the children with maths and literacy learning. The children have been sorting and matching a vast array of items. The senior infants have been learning the + and = symbols and have had lots of fun making number stories.

Our new Gaeilge programme 'Cosán na Gealaí' now overlaps with our English theme and it is wonderful to see the children transfer their learning of our theme of the school to their Gaeilge lessons. In music the children have been singing 'When I was One' and 'Slap the Sillies Out'. In Art we have been learning all about the importance of line. The children drew wonderful line monsters and painted them in beautiful watercolour. Well done Junior and Senior infants on a fantastic September!



### 1st Class

The girls and boys in first class have had a fantastic month back of fun and learning. We have extended our mathematical skills to addition and subtraction up to 10. We covered new numbers of 11, 12 and 13 in various different ways. In literacy, we focused on revising digraphs of 'ch' 'sh' 'th' and 'ng'. We worked wonderfully in pairs playing phonic games and making sentences with our play dough. We started Writer's Workshop and began the genre of report writing.

In art we covered many strands such as construction, paint and drawing. We made colourful Autumn leaves which was an extension activity after an excellent SESE lesson with Geoff Hunt. During this lesson, we learnt about various hedgerows and collected leaves to make lovely posters.

In music our main focus was on the strand of Performing and we learnt the song 'Ireland's Call' which the children really enjoyed especially in light of the Rugby World Cup. We are looking forward to a busy month of October in the lead up to Halloween.

## 2nd Class

The boys and girls have had a wonderful start to Second class! There has been lots of fun and learning happening, and you would be so proud of them all. There was great excitement in the classroom as we tried to 'Save Harry' during our science lesson. Working collaboratively, they meticulously planned, designed, and constructed a perching spot for Harry. We had a very interesting visit from Geoff Hunt and there was great excitement as we explored the school grounds on an insect hunt. We even drew and labelled a drone fly in our copies.

We are enjoying our new gaeilge programme and learning to read Irish books such as Robó Ró and playing computer games in Irish. They even drew robots and made their robotic drawings come to life ag caint as gaeilge. In maths we are working on place value and playing games to deepen our understanding of number. We are delighted to have started literacy lift-off and watch this space! WE ARE AMAZING READERS! Stay tuned for more exciting updates on our academic journey as we continue to learn, grow, and thrive together!



## 4th & 5th Class

4th and 5th class have made a tremendous start to the new school year. There was great excitement in the classroom as we hatched our Class Dojo monsters when we came back to school. With the ongoing rugby world cup we have enjoyed an introduction to tag rugby over the past few weeks in PE. We have had some fantastic fun exploring dynamics during music lessons and Geraldine even got involved in our games of hide and seek.

Another highlight this month was when we used the school yard as our canvas for our artwork. Working together we created live pieces of art as each scene incorporated our bodies as part of the masterpiece. We had great fun thinking of creative scenes! We can't wait for an amazing October in fourth and fifth class.

## 6th Class

Sixth class are delighted to be back at school and we are looking forward to the year ahead. We have been practising our 'Beanachtaí' and we learned about being 'Gafa' and 'Siorc' ag an trá. We have been revising the number operations and now we are progressing to dealing with larger numbers. We learned about many outstanding animals and how their bravery, insight and efforts have made the world a better place. We have also been enjoying our poetry and we now have a variety of conditions to 'suffer from' if we feel sick (of school).

We have been learning all our counties and mountains in Ireland and we learned about the Celts too. We enjoyed crafts and we are really looking forward to the upcoming football games.

## 3rd Class

The children have had a very busy start to Third Class! They have been working very well on their collaboration and teamwork skills. They particularly enjoyed the STEAM challenges. The boys and girls have had ample opportunity to display their wonderful artistic skills when completing their "All about me hoodie", their self-portraits and their umbrella colour wheels. We have begun 'writing to socialise' in writer's workshop in both English and Gaeilge. We are getting great enjoyment presenting our letters and postcards to our peers. In music we focused on the traditional tune the Rattlin Bog and 'An bhfaca tú mo Sheamisin?'. In maths we are focusing on number, we are exploring with a variety of concrete materials on how to regroup large numbers in addition. In SESE we have enjoyed the story of Fionn and the Salmon of Knowledge, as well as deepening our knowledge on a variety of habitats. We are very excited to have started Accelerated Reader, we are really enjoying getting to read and complete the quiz on our new books.



## GAA

Reminder after school training for 3rd —6th continues every Wednesday 2:40 - 3:45. Please bring a gumshield.

## Shountrade N.S Annual Walk

A special thank you to all who raised money and/or sponsored our annual walk last June! It was a resounding success and a fantastic occasion as we raised an amazing €4104.10. We are already looking forward to next years walk in June 2024!

