

# School News

## May 2024



### Our Shoes Campaign

Thank you to everyone who donated shoes to the 'Our Shoes' campaign. Five large boxes of shoes were collected by the 'Our Shoes' charity for distribution among children in the townships of South Africa.



### Chess

Chess activities have concluded with the presentations of awards. It has been a challenging season with the School entering 2 teams in a Primary Schools' competition- St Andrew's Eagles and St Andrew's Falcons.

The Eagles consisted of Robert Duggan (Captain), Mark Carroll, Kuzma Sydorenko, Leo Martin and Luke Quinn. Mark and Kuzma received awards as the team's top scorers, scoring 4 out of a possible 6 pts.

The Falcons were captained by Rhys Duggan (who also received an award as the team's top scorer), Evan Finucane, Arthur Sheridan, Tim O'Sullivan and Isla O'Halloran.

For performances during the season awards were presented on the final day of the season as follows:

#### **Knight Challenge Competition**

Gold medals to joint winners- Kuzma Sydorenko and Isla O'Halloran;

Silver medals for 2<sup>nd</sup> highest score to Ruadhán O'Connor, Méabh Finucane and Mark Carroll;

Bronze medals for 3<sup>rd</sup> highest score to Tim O'Sullivan, Freddy McAuliffe, Hannah McQuade, Oscar Ironmonger, Ethan Turner and Josh Brewer.

## Class Championships

6<sup>th</sup> Class- Gold- Evan Finucane; Silver- Rhys Duggan

5<sup>th</sup> Class- Gold- Mark Carroll; Silver- John Doherty (St. Oliver Plunkett School)

4<sup>th</sup> Class- Gold- Robert Duggan; Silver-Kuzma Sydorenko

Joint 3rd Bronze- Tim O'Sullivan, Sebbie Staunton-Smith, Leo Martin

3<sup>rd</sup> Class- Gold- Ruadhán O'Connor; Silver- Luke Quinn; Bronze- Isla O'Connor

2<sup>nd</sup> Class- Gold- Finn O'Halloran

Awards were also presented to the following:

- Rhys Duggan (School Chess Captain)
- Arthur Sheridan (Assistant School Chess Captain)
- Robert Duggan (School Chess Champion)

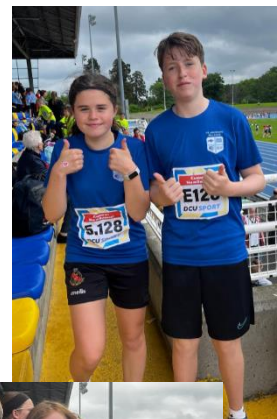
## Music

Congratulations to Yvanna in 3<sup>rd</sup> class who was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Navan Choral & Instrumental Festival of the Year 2024 in "Under 12 Solo Instrumental Competition" on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.



## Athletics

A great day out was had at Cuman na mBunscoil Athletics in Morton Stadium. We had athletes running in 80m sprint, 600m and relays. It was tight competition on the day but everyone represented our school well and enjoyed the event.





## SAPA

Last Saturday, our school grounds were buzzing with excitement as we celebrated our Annual May Fair. The sun might not have shone all day, but it didn't take away from the atmosphere we are used to. Our games as usual were popular, with lines of eager kids who wanted to test their skills and win prizes. This year we had the bonus of the "Spin the Wheel", which was a great hit.



The food stall had something for everyone, and a special thank you to our volunteer bakers for all their delicious creations.

The students showcased their many talents at our indoor Craft Fair and it was a really great addition. We hope to see many more at next year's event.



Congratulations to all the winners from the raffle who took home fantastic prizes, including gift hampers, restaurant vouchers

and many more. Thanks to all those who donated prizes.

A big shout out goes to Piper from 1<sup>st</sup> Class who raised over €800 for the Little Princess Trust.



The event was a huge success, and we want to thank everyone who participated and made this day unforgettable. We extend our deepest gratitude to all the volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to make this event possible. From setting up tables and managing activities to cleaning up afterward, your hard work did not go unnoticed.



We have decided to push the "Fun Run" to the end of September so watch this space for more information. If anyone would like to join the committee to help kick off the new school year, please get in touch with Jacqui or Heather through the school office.

## Around The Classes

May has been a marvellous month in **Junior Infants** as the children explored some fun and exciting themes in play and learn. They started the month with the theme of the bakery. They made baked foods out of clay and painted them to look sweet and delicious! There was a bakery and café in role play and water play using baking equipment. The

children made their own playdough and they baked delicious butterfly buns. They then moved on to the theme of the vets where they had role play in a veterinary clinic, made pet collages, enclosures for pets with magnetic tiles and explored their senses in the investigation zone. They read the story Rosie's walk, drew a map of her journey and had great fun programming the Bee Bots to follow the directions of the map. They explored the life cycle of a

butterfly and watched three baby caterpillars grow, turn into chrysalises and hatch into beautiful painted lady butterflies. There was great excitement as junior and senior infants released the butterflies in the garden and waved goodbye to them. The children also enjoyed a visit from Gigi's mom, dentist Luciana, who showed them the structure of the tooth and taught them how to brush their teeth correctly. The final theme of the month was 'under the sea'.

In small world they played with toy sea creatures in water and sand and in the art zones they painted beautiful under the sea paintings and made paper plate sea creatures. They have been enjoying exploring iMotion on the iPads and are looking forward to making their own short animations in June.



**Senior Infants** have had a wonderful month! They have been learning about dinosaurs and the vet in play and learn. This led to plenty of fun activities such as role play in the vet and dinosaur museums, digging for

fossils, creating models of our own pets and lovely artwork! The class had their last visit from Mouse from

Owls. Mouse brought the children on a mini-beast hunt where they caught and released some insects to look at under magnifying glasses. They were all awarded a lovely medal from Mouse too. The children learned about the artists Lichtenstein and Kandinsky and did

some artwork inspired by the two! The class have been doing beautiful writing. The children wrote a small piece about their dioramas they made and presented them to the parents at home time. They have started to learn how to tell the time in maths! They had a trip to Malahide library this month, the children really enjoyed it. Congratulations to all the children on their hard work

for the Malahide colouring competition, and particular well done to Cian Mulvany on his winning picture of the Dart station! Senior Infants are looking forward to an exciting last month of school.





**1st Class** have covered a lot during the month of May. They were all very excited to see some sun shining outside! So excited that they hosted an assembly on the sunshine and the good weather! They were an amazing help to the entire school during assembly, when they reminded everyone all about how to keep safe and healthy during the summer months. The class performed 5 small dramas which



demonstrated the summer safety messages. It was great fun and our performances were Oscar worthy. It was fantastic to see how many of our class have grown in confidence since they hosted their first assembly back in September. Well done rang a haon!! They got to enjoy hockey over the past month which they all thoroughly enjoyed. In science, they began looking at the topic of food. They had so much fun tasting foods to experiment with sweet, sour and salty flavours. They looked at foods from all around the world and were surprised with foods that people used to eat in the past! Keeping to the food theme, they discovered which type of food people in 1<sup>st</sup> class liked and displayed the information on a graph for our data topic in maths. They then did a whole school survey which helped them to display even more information on a bar chart. In literacy, they finished up their fantastic work on the Bog Baby story and began to do work around the story "Deep Dark Wood" which has been great fun and they are looking forward to completing it as we near the end of the school year.



This month **2nd Class** have been working extremely hard. In maths they have been practising patterns, fractions and place value and making huge strides. In English the children were learning about imperative verbs (bossy words) and had a lot of fun pretending to be Little Miss/Mr Bossy. Second Class are working so hard on their cursive handwriting this month. In Irish class they have been reading and listening to the stories; Cois na Trá, Rí na n-Éan agus An Fathach Santach. They have had lots of fun in science learning all about the solar system. They discussed all of the different parts of the eye and had great fun experimenting with how our own eyes react to light and dark. They did some work on our RSE topic this month which was so much fun! They collected lots of baby photos of the class and had loads of laughs playing Guess the Baby. They also got to give two little baby dolls a bath while they discussed all the formal names for our different body parts. Second class were delighted to have a full month of hockey, which was brilliant. They also had fun in P.E playing dodgeball and hurdles. The children took part in The Malahide art competition and all of the second class



entries were incredible. Well done to Emma who won a prize! They have been learning about Irish Folklore this month. At Lullymore Heritage Park where the class be will visiting on their school tour they will see an enchanted park where a Lone Bush (Hawthorn) grew. It is said that these Lone Bushes are meeting places of the Fairies. The fairies are believed to be the Tuatha de Danann, one of the first tribes to arrive in Ireland. While learning all about the Tuatha de Danann the class created the most beautiful fairy doors made from clay and paint. Each one is different and unique. Well done Second Class on another jam-packed month!





**3rd Class** have done some wonderful work in May. In English, they

have started a new genre called "persuasive writing". They have been brainstorming some of the potential concerns and benefits that zoos have in our societies. It has been an interesting topic for discussion in our classroom. They are also creating our own travel brochures on a chosen destination. I am excited to see the finished products in a few weeks! Keeping with our theme of "travel", they also organised a party to celebrate France. They had quizzes, wrote French postcards, ate croissants and created our own "Henri Matisse" inspired murals. They constructed the Eiffel Tower together using only newspaper and sellotape.



Everyone did such a wonderful job - there was such a variety of different ideas. Third class also had the opportunity to lead this month's assembly. The class spoke about the power of negative peer pressure and the ways we can stand up to it if we feel uncomfortable. The children read some lovely poems and sang beautifully together - well done! Third class also resumed their swimming lessons in the PSLC. This has been something that the class have been really looking forward to every week. And finally, the class would just like to thank Rosie's mum for her lovely contribution of flowerpots and seeds. They have been watering them every day and they are looking forward to sampling some green peas soon. With the summer break almost upon us, the class are excited for their school tour, outdoor games and more fun in the sunshine.



**4th Class** had a lovely month of May enjoying the sunshine and all the different outdoor activities. In English, they started their reading of the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar which the children have really shown a great interest in and embraced the daily mystery of the different sections of the classic novel. In maths, they covered more 2D and 3D shapes, patterns and measurements studying



weight in particular. In Gaeilge, they studied 'éadaí', 'scoil' and 'an teach' making great progress overall in their passion for Gaeilge as we look towards the final months of the school year. In SESE, they undertook projects studying the Aztecs of Central America while also investigating eagles and their symbolic connection to Mexico and the United States. In P.E, a range of sports were on the monthly agenda such as GAA in the castle, athletics with a trip to Santry stadium and the completion of our swimming module in the PSLC. It's great to see how active the students are, getting out to enjoy the warmer, brighter weather. For visual arts, the children worked really hard completing their art competition entries which turned out beautifully, portraying their favourite places in Malahide. They also drew eagles, inspired by the Mexican flag based on their studies of the Aztecs. In SPHE then finally, 4th class completed projects in small groups outlining their studies of how we keep our bodies both clean and healthy.







**5th Class** took part in lots of different activities this month. They wrote instructions for how to play board games in English and then taught others how to play the game that they brought in. It was lovely to see some games that we'd never heard of before. 5<sup>th</sup> class made splatter, one-pint perspective art with 3-D shapes. This got a bit messy but they all enjoyed it! The class



experimented with magnets in science, and wrote and acted out their own réamháisnéis na haimsire in Gaeilge. The highlight of the month was the class trip to the Let's Go! camp in UCD.



May has been a packed month for **6th Class**. The highlight was without a doubt their trip to the Delphi Adventure Centre in Mayo. Ms. Hoffman & Ms. McElhinney accompanied the class on the four-day residential tour and took part in a wealth of activities. There was orienteering, canoeing, abseiling, rock climbing, bog trek, campfire, zip lining and more. Reports were that the food was top class and the pupils' behaviour was exemplary. The class have been focussing on transitioning to secondary school. The classroom seating has been changed into 2 seater rows to emulate the secondary school setup. The boys and girls have looked at how to read timetables, how to organise books/ lockers, time management, and learned about different learning styles. May has been a month of reflections over their time in St. Andrew's and everyone is making unique contributions to the yearbook that Ms. Hoffman will present to them at their graduation ceremony next month. It will be an emotional celebration of memories and stories & song from over the years.

The class made beautiful pieces for the Malahide chamber of Commerce art competition entitled 'My favourite place in Malahide' with Orlaith & Lauren winning prizes for their wonderful drawings.

Well done to our athletes who competed in Cuman na mBunscoil athletics events in Morton stadium, it was a great event and experience for all.



## Assemblies

We had two assemblies in May. Ms. Halligan and 3<sup>rd</sup> class led an assembly with peer pressure as the theme and discussed how to stand up to negative peer pressure if it makes you feel uncomfortable. Our second assembly was led by Ms. Ryan and 1<sup>st</sup> class and focussed on staying safe during the summer holidays. The key summer safety messages they shared were:

- Always wear sun cream and a sun hat
- Drink lots of water
- Tell an adult if you are going swimming and ensure there is a lifeguard on duty
- Always wear a life vest when going out on water.

## May Anti-Bullying Topic

Our May anti-bullying topic was all about the effects of bullying.

