



Welcome to the Christmas
Edition of School News
December 2022



As in keeping with the tradition in the school the children of 6thClass did a great job of decorating all our Christmas trees.



Christmas Picture Competition

Junior Infants: 1st Sam Moody 2nd Enna Shearwood/ Dolly Jepson Jones 3rd Logan O'Sullivan

Senior Infants: 1st Lyla Murphy 2nd Logan Keegan 3rd Juliette Clarke

1stClass: 1st Sienna Higgins 2nd Iseult O'Connor 3rd Finn Harley

2ndClass: 1st Paige Murphy 2nd Naomi Saville 3rd Emma Dewhurst

3rdClass: 1st Lily Bennett 2nd Isabelle Lamont 3rd Rory Dunlop

4thClass: 1st Rachael Clarke 2nd Quade Calder 3rd Elena Hoffman

5thClass: 1st Orlaith Amituhu 2nd Allie Harley 3rd Eva Doski/Milka Nicolle

6thClass: 1st Matthew Toner/Senan O'Reilly 2nd Emilie Caird 3rd Nadia Phromma



Christmas Dress Up Day, Pantomime and cake sale!





Christmas Jumper Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated and bought a Christmas Jumper. 6th Class did a great job selling the jumpers and we made €35 for our SVDP appeal.



St Vincent de Paul Hampers

Once again we thank you for your generosity for our SVDP appeal for our eight families that we helped this Christmas. Thank you to our helpers who put the hampers together, went shopping and who will make the deliveries.



Chess

Chess activity continues apace. In the novel Challenge Tournament mentioned in my previous newsletter there have been 2 further winners - Peter Shihoff and his brother Michael. In the Knight Challenge event the leaders now are Peter O'Sullivan on 59; Leon Wang on 53 and Arthur Sheridan on 52. Each player gets 3 attempts with the top score counting. A team tournament has been started. Teams consist of 3 players, spread across the classes. Team Rhys, captained by Dylan Lowther in Rhys' absence are in the lead after 2 rounds. Standings are- Team Rhys- 3.5pts; Team Leon- 2.5pts; Team Arthur - 2.5pts; with Teams Peter O'Sullivan and Mackey both on 1.5pts (both these have a match in hand having both receiving the bye). In addition to stepping in as Captain, Dylan holds a 100% record, having won both of these games. Another player unbeaten so far is Sebastian Staunton-Smith with one win and a draw in his 2 games.

Tom O'Sullivan

December Anti-Bullying Topic & Assembly

This month the classes talked about how to handle bullying. Steps like stop, walk away & tell were helpful reminders for everyone if they experience bullying behaviour.

Church Assemblies

The St. Andrew's Day Assembly was led by 5th Class and Mrs. Halpin.

We were delighted to have so many visitors at our Christmas Carol Service. We hope they enjoyed it.

SAPA



Christmas is upon us! SAPA were delighted to run the toy stall at the St. Andrew's Church Christmas Market on Saturday 3rd December in the parish hall. We were very grateful for all the toy donations, and it was lovely to see all the preloved toys off to new homes in time for Christmas. Special thanks to Erika Deeter for organising and running the hugely successful Christmas Cup Game on the day - the kids loved it! We had the last school cake sale of the year on Friday 16th December. It was hosted by Junior Infants and 3rd Class.

Thanks to the families of these classes for all the treats and goodies! Our final SAPA event of 2022 will see the return of the Christmas Coffee Morning. Please feel free to drop into the GP room on the last day of term for a festive cuppa and mince pie between 10.30am and 12.40pm. We will be collecting donations on the day and all money raised will be going directly to Dublin Community for their Christmas appeal.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas break.

SAPA



Gardening Club



We have come to the end of a wonderful gardening term. The children were enthusiastic, ready to learn and happy to get their hands dirty. We kept the front flower beds tidy and fresh. We planted bulbs in our new window boxes. We learned about splitting house plants and took our baby plants home. Our last session was spent making these lovely Christmas decorations for our Christmas dinner table. Thank you so much to Ms. Duffy for volunteering and helping to make Gardening Club a success. Merry Christmas to you all.

Ms Jeffrey



Around The Classes

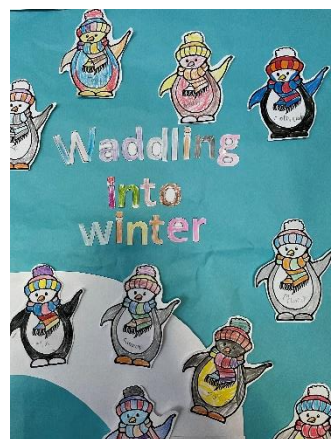


Junior Infants had great variety this month! Through the story of Handa's surprise, they learned about healthy fruits. They set up a fruit shop in the class and made their own colourful playdough to make different fruits with it. They retold the story, practising sequencing and using lots of new vocabulary. They talked about the animals of Africa and made beautiful African sunset paintings. December has also been a month of all things Christmassy! They have made lots of Christmas crafts like lollipop Christmas tree decorations, Christmas wreaths and explored length by making Christmas trees from strips of paper. In Irish they learned all about toys and Christmas through the themes - 'Caitheamh Aimsire' & 'An Nollag'. The boys and girls are so excited for 'Daidí na Nollag' to come! They were talking about kindness and happiness with Mo & Ko and are remembering to be kind to each other and getting lots of house points for spreading happiness. The class enjoyed having some transition year work experience helpers in to visit and loved showing off all their wonderful behaviour and learning. Ms. Hoffman is so impressed with how much progress Junior Infants have made this term and hopes everyone's Christmas wishes come true!



Senior Infants

Senior Infants have had a great December doing lots of lovely things this month. They have been learning lots about winter and Christmas and the class have done some lovely writing about both. In maths, they have been learning the story of the number 8 and solving some number problems. They learned about Antarctica and the animals that live there. The children made bird feeders with Ms. Jeffery and Ms. Sheridan to feed birds in the garden in winter time. The children worked in Santa's workshop in Play and Learn, learning to wrap presents and building Santa's sleigh. They also made some lovely snowmen and penguins to decorate the classroom for Christmas. The boys and girls have been practising lots of singing, learning some Christmas songs in English and as Gaeilge! We hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and everyone gets a great rest after all their hard work so far this year!



1stClass enjoyed some festive fun throughout December with lots of exciting things going on for them. They continued their great work in Irish, English and maths with some lovely Christmas themed lessons. They began to explore shape and space in maths looking at 2D shapes as well as starting to use and understand money and coins. In geography and history, the theme of Christmas was in full flow learning all about how Christmas started and how it's celebrated in different countries and cultures around the world. In art, our central themes of the World Cup and Christmas had us creating and designing our own personalised football jerseys and drawing and colouring Santa's village and his reindeer. The children also enjoyed getting to create their own Christmas art designs in the Christmas



picture competition. In music, 1stClass prepared very hard for the carol service in the church where they performed a song as Gaelige for the school. It's been a great challenge that they have thoroughly enjoyed.

1st Class and Mr. Blake would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a lovely Winter break.



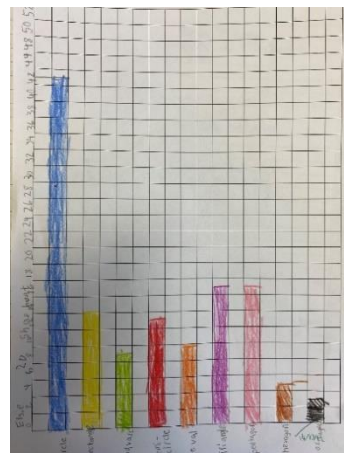
It has been a busy month in **2ndClass!** The children have really enjoyed rehearsing for their first ever Christmas performance "Eddie the Penguin saves the world!" They have practised so hard with lots of lines and songs to be learnt. Music featured a lot this month with lots of carol singing and they were treated to a recital from Yvanna on her violin! What talent! The boys and girls have also had great fun in art, making their own penguins and various other props for the play as well as creating very colourful funky reindeer which brighten up the corridor. In maths, the children did super work on money and had

great fun working out what change they would get on any trip to the toy shop! In English lessons, they studied two different stories, The Christmasaurus and The Night after Christmas. The children really enjoyed getting to make up their own Christmas creatures to help pull Santa's sleigh! December was also a very active month as the children finished off a 6 week block of GAA and enjoyed both Daly exercise and Yoga in PE. They can't wait for you to see the children's play and all the hard work that they've put into it! Have a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year.





3rdClass have been working really hard for the month of December. They have been doing lots of Christmas art activities to decorate their classroom. Their "snowflake art" turned out beautifully. With just a few cuts and folds of paper, the children created some fantastic and unique snowflakes. In science, the children began to put their engineering ideas into practice and built their designs using an array of different materials. All of the groups did so well and put a lot of work into the planning, designing and building of their projects. Their classroom elf "Gregory" seemed to be very impressed with all of the final products! With Christmas just around the corner, they have been immersed in all sorts of Christmas themed projects. In English, the children created "shape poems" based on some well-known Christmas items. In SPHE, they created "compliment wreaths" to mark Advent and also to take the time to say thanks and give a compliment to a friend. They have worked so hard this term and I really hope everyone in 3rdClass has a wonderful break. See you all in the New Year! Ms. Halligan.



4thClass have been extremely busy throughout the month of December. In maths, the children have continued to partake in maths stations. Within these lessons, the class has had the opportunity to practice many important maths skills such as multiplication tables and problem-solving. The class once again used their 'maths eyes' to collect data relating to 2-D shapes in the school environment. The children collected their data in the form of a tally and represented their data using superb bar charts! In history, the children were learning about the Aztecs. Through their reading and discussions, the class discovered many fascinating facts relating to the Aztec people such as the importance they placed on the sun and how the Aztec Empire eventually fell. Following their learning, the class decorated some lovely masks inspired by Aztec artwork. In drama, the class made a tremendous effort rehearsing the final elements of their Christmas play. The children had great fun adding songs to the play and displayed their amazing creative talents through coming up with various actions that could be incorporated in each song. There is no doubt that all of their hard work will shine through on 20th December. Lastly, I would like to say well done to 4th class for all of their hard work so far this year and I hope everyone has a fantastic Christmas break! Happy Christmas everybody!





December has flown by in **5th Class!** It's been a busy, chilly and festive month! The month began with their St. Andrew's Day assembly in the church. The class did a super job and Mrs. Halpin was so proud! They have also enjoyed lots of P.E. this month, including athletics, rugby, Daly exercise and yoga. They finished off English stations for the moment this month, having really enjoyed doing grammar with Ms. Ormsby and continuing to read *Wonder* with Mrs. Halpin. In maths the topics of division, 2D shapes and number theory have all been completed. The class made Christmas pictures out of 2D shapes! The children are also becoming long division experts!



In Gaeilge they finished off a unit on Bia, as well as An Geimhreadh (which was very appropriate with the weather!) and An Nollaig to finish off the month in festive style!

This month's theme in S.E.S.E was two-fold. The first theme was 'Italy'. They learned all about the country Italy in geography and the historical period of the Renaissance. They also had a look at the theme 'revolutions' and learned all about the American and French revolutions and the Irish rebellion. Across the arts they've completed lots of lovely work this month. They've been practising their carols for the Christmas carol concert at the end of the month. In art they created 'Elfies' and lovely Santa paintings. They also made salt dough and created Christmas decorations.



Although December has been quite a short month, **6th Class** have been very busy putting in a great effort in many different activities. In English the class have continued stations. Some of the activities included researching, planning and writing a set of instructions of how to get to the World Cup Final in Qatar as well as writing reports on the life cycle of Arctic animals. They also continued their work on Macbeth and the class novel "Benny & Omar" which they are enjoying a lot! In Irish they have been doing lots of revision of verbs. They have also been participating in listening tasks and having some great discussions as Gaeilge about Christmas and winter to improve their understanding and fluency of the language! Mr. Jones has been very impressed seeing the great effort the class have put in to speak more as Gaeilge! They have recently begun looking at the concept of sustainability and the class have been tasked with creating presentation outlining a new sustainable St. Andrew's using the Canva website. They will

be focusing on criteria such as energy, waste, biodiversity and transport to try and make their "new school" as sustainable and environmentally friendly as possible. The class also continued their study of Fair Trade and even participated in a Fair Trade chocolate tasting! The class really enjoyed (most) of the chocolate and couldn't believe how affordable it was. They are determined to try and make better decisions when buying treats so that they can help Fair Trade farmers around the world.



Finally, to spread the Christmas spirit around the school 6th Class helped decorate the school Christmas Trees! They were also invited to perform a short Christmas concert for the residents of Talbot Lodge Nursing Home which was a fantastic experience for us all! The residents were very grateful and thoroughly enjoyed our performance!

Mr Jones wishes all the 6th Class pupils and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



GIVING
SHARING
WISHING
HOPING
DREAMING



From all the staff at St. Andrew's

School will reopen on Thursday 5th January 2023