

GREEN SCHOOLS

The Green Schools committee had an exciting start to the year. The committee's hard work paid off as they were awarded the Travel Flag which is now hanging proudly at the front of the school. In addition to this, there is now a brand new bike shelter in the school that can fit up to 30 bikes! The next topic the Green Schools committee will be looking at is Biodiversity. Biodiversity looks at steps which can be taken in schools to increase awareness of the importance of native plants, animals and habitats, and to increase species-richness in a locality.

Green School Members: 2nd Class: Arthur Blair & Indi-Rae Byrne. 3rd Class: Richard Halnon & Jessica Copeland. 4th Class: Ruby Cousins & Henry Trankner. 5th Class: Dylan Copeland & Anna Schulmeistrat. 6th Class: Benjamin Blair & Isabelle Poole.



1ST CLASS

During November, First class participated in Science Week. Their first big investigation looked at how different activities affected their heart rate. The children read, walked, jogged and even did a minute of burpees to see what effect it would have on their heart rate. Next up was an experiment to see how far the children could make a large marble travel after being hit by a smaller marble, students adjusted many things, including the angle at which the marble was hit and the height at which it was released from. The longest investigation of the week lasted 4 days as the children saw what would happen to a gummy bear after 96 hours submerged in water. If you want to know the answer, ask a first class student!

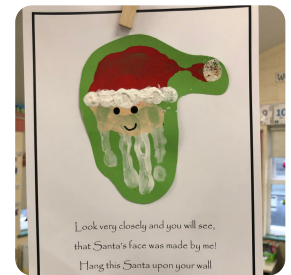
December has brought a very definite Christmas vibe to the 1st class classroom. We have two advent calendars, one containing jellies and the other an active challenge. We have been doing lots of Christmas themed art, creating baubles, hungry reindeer and giant snowmen using a variety of different artistic mediums including, card, crepe paper and cotton wool.



MORE NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

Senior Infants

Senior Infants have had a very busy and fun-filled time in school so far. We have been working so hard here in class, learning lots about ourselves, our families, harvest time, and right now, we are loving our Christmas themed Aistear. In Literacy, we have been very busy working on our sentence structures, all the while making sure our letters are lovely and neat! In Numeracy, we have been working hard with writing our number sentences and then writing in the answers- using our cubes and links to help us! We have really enjoyed the Maths games we have played too. We have loved having Seamus in for GAA and we really loved our Drum Workshop with Cathy too- we hope to see her again soon. Our highlight so far has been all the lovely Christmas Art we have been doing. We can't wait to get back to school in January!



2nd class have settled back to school very well over the past few months and have been fantastic adapting to having 2 class teachers every week. We have been very busy with our learning and the children are progressing so well in all subject areas. The children have particularly enjoyed the genre writing that they have been engaging in. They have been working very hard on improving their punctuation and grammar and their handwriting is coming along very nicely. 2nd class recently published their narrative stories for our 4th class judges who were very impressed with all stories. They awarded 1st place to Indi-Rae Byrne & Sophie O'Connor, 2nd place to Jack Horan and 3rd place to Andrew Busteed. We look forward to publishing 2nd class' Christmas stories soon and announcing further achievements for their fantastic genre writing. 2nd class have also enjoyed a block of GAA sessions, a Rhythm & Shakes Music workshop and Science week activities over the past few months. We look forward to many more exciting activities in the New Year! We are extremely proud of the work that 2nd class have achieved since September, keep up the great work Rang a Dó!

Wishing you all very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ms. Jordan

&

Ms. O'Connor



JUNIOR INFANTS



In room 5 the Junior Infants have had a great first term. They have been busy settling into school, getting to know each other and are a great team!

This month in Aistear they are enjoying all things Christmas. We have designed new toys and built them. The children are busy decorating our Christmas tree and creating lovely Junk Art pictures.

So far this year our highlights have been, the Hallowe'en Tuff Tray, Funky Fingers, Giant Polydrons, Jack Hartman's YouTube videos, recording our Harvest song in Christ Church and opening our daily Advent calendar.

Thanks to Mrs Poole and Mrs. Redmond for all their input.

5TH CLASS



We are really looking forward to Christmas this year! We've had a lot of fun so far and learnt about many new exciting topics.

Let's see what the class had to say about the year so far...

"This year I have really enjoyed art because it lets my creative side out and I like the colours and style we do" Caoimhe Scully

5th Class 2021

"This year I have really enjoyed maths because I like working out fractions, long division and long multiplication. My favourite part of maths this year was the Math Olympics because we got to have a mini Olympics in the yard and to make a graph about who won". Emily Kearon 5th Class 2021

"I enjoyed learning history the most because we are talking about WW1 and what life was like back then" Ryan McDonald

5th Class 2021

"This year I have really enjoyed science because we made balloon cars and I found it challenging but I still enjoyed learning about force". Henry Blair 5th class 2021

"This year I have really enjoyed P.E because I got to learn how to be able to use certain techniques for basketball. I also learned how to play rugby and improved my pass". Anna Schulmeistrat

5th Class 2021

"This year I have really enjoyed PE because I enjoy football, soccer, tag rugby and basketball. I just like being really active! What makes me like soccer even more is doing all the drills in school". Kai Warren 5th Class 2021

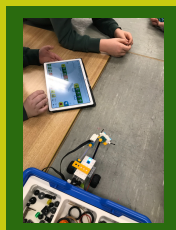
3RD CLASS

3rd Class have had a great start to the year with activities such as baking, Lego we Do, History workshops, Izak 9 maths activities, making kites and rockets and a wonderful and vibrant Teaching Practice student who came with lots of ideas and activities.

The children so far this year have made chocolate chip cookies, rice Krispie buns and Digestive biscuit characters whilst learning about procedural texts. We have had IZAK 9 resources and Lego We Do Kits borrowed from the local education centre. The IZAK 9 kit allows for team co-operation tasks to be completed in the area of Maths. The Lego We Do kit allowed for an introduction into the world of coding and was a great experience.

We also had a visitor from the local Heritage in Schools scheme who taught us all about the Monks, monasteries and Viking invasions. She was very enthusiastic and spoke to us all about the famous Book of Kells as well!

The children in 3rd Class are also very creative and love doing Art and Drama. We have had some fantastic Drama displays in particular when we were doing our class Novel about George's Marvellous Medicine and themed Dramas around Halloween and Christmas! We can't wait to see what's in store in 2022!



6TH CLASS

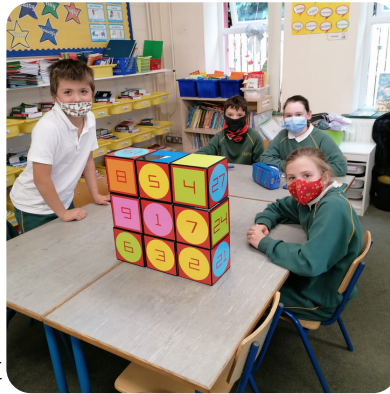
6th Class have been doing so many things since coming back to school. We have been able to enjoy tag rugby and Gaelic football training. We have taken part in virtual workshops with Michéal Martin, David Walliams, for Science week and JEP. Most recently we have started work on our Junior Entrepreneur Programme, where we will be creating a mini-business. So far, we have learned about being an entrepreneur, devised our group ideas. We pitched our ideas to our Dragons who chose to combine two of the ideas into one Big Idea. We are working behind the scenes on this at the moment and we hopefully are looking forward to your support when we launch our products in February!



4TH CLASS

4th Class had a great time doing problem-solving activities using the Izak9 cubes this week. They worked as part of a team to complete the tasks given to them by Abacus and Helix. Some of the tasks involved finding the sum and product of different numbers.

They also had to put the numbers in alphabetical order and find different shape patterns on the cubes. This all proved to be a tricky and interesting task, especially when it got competitive between the different groups!



Merry Christmas from Gorey Central

