



The Shountrade Scéal



JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2026

Welcome to the first edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal' in 2026. We hope everyone has enjoyed an incredible start to 2026 just like we have here in Shountrade N.S! What an exciting month it has been for the boys and girls. Firstly, we would like to wish a warm welcome to Olive who joined the staff here in Shountrade before the Christmas holidays. We wish our credit union quiz teams members Fiona Walsh, Oisín Scott, Filip Tobianski, Nóra Ní Laoi, Evan Carney, Sarah Fitzgerald, Jack Gubbins and Millie Moloney the very best of luck as they represent our school on Saturday 7th February at the Credit Union Quiz. Thank you to Mr Costelloe for preparing the children for the quiz. The choir are currently working very hard in preparation for taking part in the Limerick Choral Festival. We are delighted that Mr Morrissey will be our piano accompanist on the day and he is a wonderful addition to our rehearsals.

Mrs Fitzgerald's Class

January has been a busy and exciting month in Junior and Senior Infants! Our theme has been **Houses and Homes**, and the children have loved learning about the different types of homes in Ireland and around the world. They learned all about moving house and the important role of estate agents in buying and selling homes. This led to some brilliant imaginative play while in construction they built all kinds of imaginative homes. In **English**, Junior Infants have been working hard on their lowercase cursive letters, while Senior Infants have been perfecting their uppercase cursive writing. In addition the Junior Infants have been excited to commence reading decodable books. In **History and Science**, the children explored homes long ago, modern appliances, and how to stay safe in the home. In **Art**, the children created colourful house pictures while in **PE** the children's gymnastics skills have been improving each week, with great progress in balance and poses. Well done to everyone for a fantastic start to the new year!



Ms Olive's Class

January has brought a wonderful burst of enthusiasm and eager minds to First and Second Class. We've started the year with historical research on the Blizzard of 1947 and New Year Surprises. The students have worked diligently on their report writing, showcasing their growing skills as young historians. In Maths we explored Fractions using hands-on materials.

Through interactive games they are deepening their understanding while having fun along the way. Creativity has flourished in Art, where the children have used printing techniques to create stunning firework prints. Inspired by Olympians, our movement breaks have been filled with energy and motivation, helping us improve our running techniques. We are also developing our gymnastics skills, focusing on strength, balance, and coordination. The children are looking forward to visiting the church and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Here's to an exciting and memorable journey ahead!

Mr Costelloe's Class

January was a terrific month in our class. Firstly, we are delighted to welcome Olive to our team as an SNA. After a wonderful Christmas break, the boys and girls did an amazing job settling back into the classroom and re-establishing their daily routines. When the weather has allowed we have had tremendous fun getting outside on

the new scooters and hoppers during our movement breaks, which have been a real highlight for everyone. Finally, it has been amazing to see the boys and girls integrating with their classes this January. Over the course of the month the pupils have joined their classmates for activities like story time, SPHE and Music. They have shown fantastic confidence and enthusiasm as they take part in these activities. A brilliant start to the new year by all!



Mr O'Connell's Class

Athbhliain faoi mhaise díbh go léir. Bhíomar an ghnóthach ag foghlaim faoi laethanta geimhrídh agus titim sneachta an mhí seo. Rinneamar staidéar ar 'Lá an Dreoilín' chomh maith leis na briathra caill, rith agus bain.

We have been learning all about decimals and place value. We have adopted strategies for approaching challenging problems on decimals while revising our tables and long division. We enjoyed studying "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" and "Where the Mountain Meets the Moon". We also enjoyed learning the poems "Our Christmas Tree" and "Don't Quit". We investigated electricity and circuits. We wove crosses and drew dogs. We learned lots about traditional music. We studied differences and diversity in the world around us. We have thoroughly enjoyed our gymnastics strand. We discussed God's calling for us. "Beeswing" is our class favourite song and we are learning lots about "Friends For Life" with Mr. Hannon.



Mrs Spillane's Class

2026 is off to a great start in sixth class. In English we read about the International Space Station and we are enjoying reading our class novel 'Wildflower Girl'. For our STEAM project, we decided to make a marble run. We are developing our team-work skills, planning skills and our understanding of gravity and forces. In art we worked on weaving skills and created a one point perspective drawing. For P.E. we have been doing gymnastics. The class have enjoyed creating and performing sequences with balances and rolls. In Maths, we learned about coordinates. We have also been exploring 3D shapes and enjoyed the challenge of making 3D shapes using shape nets. In history we learned about Aboriginal People. Music classes with James Anglim are great fun with songs such as Killeagh and Lonely Island. We have also been working on our Stay Safe Programme and enjoyed reading the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

