



# The Shountrade Scéal



## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



### School Update



#### Happy Christmas from all at Shountrade N.S.

All pupils in Shountrade N.S. would like to wish our wonderful teachers, SNAs, Mary, Kieran, Aga, our Board of Management, Parents Council and our wonderful parents a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Mr. Kilcoyne has told us we are all encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper or some piece of Christmas clothing next Wednesday, if we would like!!

#### A Festive Thanks

A special thank you to Mrs. Walshe who organized and provided the school with a beautiful Christmas Garland and lights for around our school. It has been a real treat to come to school over the last few weeks to such a festive atmosphere. Thank you Mrs. Walshe!



#### Accelerated Reader Update

Third to Sixth class have really enjoyed our new Accelerated Reader Programme this term. We read toward our personal target and are also part of our special reading team.

Next term our reader teams will actually be made up of readers from fourth to sixth class— we cannot wait to see our new teams and begin reading our book of choice at our own level.

We would also like to thank all our pupils who have donated Accelerated Reading books to our school library— Please do not stop!! Our library has become very important to us.



## JUNIOR INFANTS

What an exciting month we have had in junior infants. Our elf, Nollaig, arrived on the first of December. She has been entertaining the children all month with her silly antics and unique fashion sense. The theme across all subjects has been Christmas. Role play area has been set up as Santa's Workshop– the children have been designing, building and wrapping toys. In construction, the children were building their own version of Santa's workshop and his sleigh. After learning all about the Nativity the children designed and built their own crib for baby Jesus. We have been doing lots of Christmas themed art, including cotton wool snowmen, hand drawn reindeer and beautiful clay decorations to hang on the tree at home! The children have been learning Christmas songs and rhymes in English and Gaeilge. The children are looking forward to a very well deserved rest after a busy first term.



## SENIOR INFANTS

Senior Infants are so excited about Christmas. We have been learning about Advent and the birth of Jesus. We are learning lots of hymns. We have been working hard in our workshop making our Christmas and winter art. We have created a Christmas scene, snowy mountains, clay decorations, a woven Christmas tree and a Christmas family tree. We are excited to bring these home at the end of term. In Irish we are learning about our favourite toys and in History we have looked at the difference between toys now and in the past. We are learning about the post office and using this in our Aistear

## FIRST CLASS

There has been lots of festive fun this month in first class. Our classroom elf, Dash, arrived all the way from the North Pole. Not only did he bring plenty of mischief but he also delivered a Christmas tree! The girls and boys got to work straight away assembling the tree and creating colourful decorations for the tree. The children's artistic talents continued through the month as they got to grips with a new printing technique using tinfoil, markers and water. They are incredibly proud of their beautiful winter scenes! S.E.S.E has been all things Christmas. In history we have been learning about toys of the past and we even got to design a traditional toy. In geography we have enjoyed learning about Christmas traditions all over the world. December would not be complete without some festive music and song. The children have enjoyed learning some well known Christmas hymns and songs.

## SECOND AND THIRD CLASS

Christmas Greetings from everybody in Second and Third class. There is a lot of excitement in our class this week. We are busy rehearsing for our Christmas play 'Santa's Hat' which we will be performing on the day of our holidays! Meanwhile our elf, Eddy, has been causing all sorts of chaos every night. He even ate Ms. Walsh's chocolate bar one night! She was not too happy about that! In English, we had great fun writing our letters to Santa. Ms. Walsh told us we have worked very hard this term and she is certain Santa will bring lots of lovely presents!



## FOURTH AND FIFTH CLASS

Fourth and Fifth class have had a tremendous end to 2021. We spent some time at home over the past few weeks preparing projects on people who inspire us and this week have been presenting our work to our classmates. We have loved hearing our classmates speaking about the inspirations in their lives and we have learned so much about incredible people such as Joanne O' Riordan, Donnacha O' Callaghan, Mary Robinson and many more inspirational people. Another highlight in our classroom this December is 'The Winter Pod Olympics 2021'. We have enjoyed activities such as basketball shootout, Pictionary, word search time trial and javelin. The scores are neck and neck at the moment and most importantly we are enjoying the chance to have some fun with our pods before they change after the Christmas holidays.

## SIXTH CLASS

We have been very busy this month in Sixth class. We learned all about the famous Norwegian painter Edvard Munch. His paintings fascinated us, mainly because of their haunting nature. We concentrated on his most famous piece of work– The Scream. We gave our best shot at recreating the scream, focusing on the unique lines and colouring of the piece. We were really busy in both English and Music also. We are in the middle of re-writing the lyrics to the popular Christmas song "Grandma got run over by a Reindeer." We are personalising the song and referencing all the difficult challenges we have overcome as a class in the last year. Sixth class would like to wish all our friends from junior infants to fifth class a very happy and safe Christmas!

