



The Shountrade Scéal

JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year & Welcome

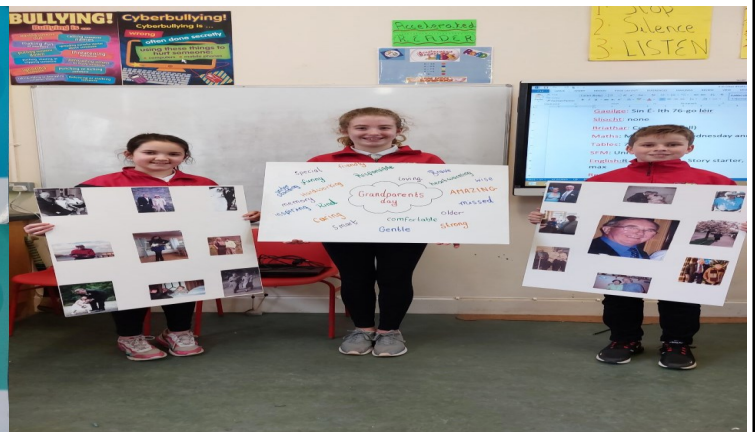
Everyone at school would like to wish our parents, pupils, staff and school community a happy and healthy 2022! We would like to welcome back Mrs. Spillane to Shountrade, also we would like to welcome Ms. Cussen to our school.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion Dates

Confirmation is on the 8th of April at 10am. First Holy Communion is on the 14th of May at 11am.

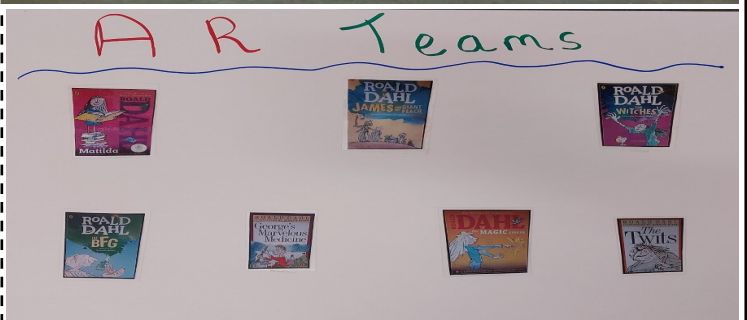
Stay Safe

All our classes in Shountrade from Juniors to Sixth Class are really enjoying the Stay Safe programme at the moment.



Accelerated Reader Update

We have started accelerated reader for the second term from Third - Sixth Class. We have completed our Star Reader Tests and have received our personal targets! This term we are going to be part of accelerated reader teams and we can't wait for them to be announced!



JUNIOR INFANTS

It has been a very busy month in Junior Infants! The theme across all subjects has been the Weather. We have been learning all about the polar regions of Antarctica and The Arctic, comparing and contrasting the weather and animal life in both. We were amazed to learn that penguins are only found in Antarctica and not in The Arctic. We have had great fun pretending to be Arctic and Antarctic explorers in our role play area, and building igloos, research stations and ice hotels in our construction area. We have also learned a lot about Africa, and contrasting life in Africa with life in the polar regions and here in Ireland. In English we have been learning lots of new sounds and are very excited to have started reading our first books. We have also been learning to write information reports and have written reports on lions and penguins. In History, we loved learning all about Tom Crean, the famous Irish explorer. In Science, we learned all about the life cycle of the penguin and investigated how ice is made and how best to melt it.

SENIOR INFANTS

Senior Infants have had a great start to 2022. The children are working hard and are full of enthusiasm. They are showing very good listening skills. Our aistear theme this month is the estate agent and the children are busy working as estate agents and customers in our role play area. The children also enjoy working as architects and builders during aistear time. The children love designing and building houses for junk art. We are learning more cursive letters and all the children are making a huge effort with their writing. The class enjoyed making their waterfront homes art and painting their reflections in the water. We have been learning about different types of houses and homes in Ireland and around the world. The children have learned lots of new songs such as 'O how peaceful living in the country', 'Great Big House' and 'Gotta build a house'. The children also love the Irish songs such as 'Cúigear Fear' and stories such as 'An Fear Sinséar'.



FIRST CLASS

The girls and boys in First Class have started 2022 off with lots of enthusiasm and eagerness. They have been very busy learning about The Arctic, where it is located on the map, how animals have adapted to survive and how igloos are built. They have done an incredible job showcasing all their learning through projects while also getting the opportunity to display their artistic skills by drawing aspects of the Arctic.

Writers workshop has been creating huge excitement amongst first class this month. We have started a brand new writing genre, Narrative Writing! The children are gaining great enjoyment letting their imagination run wild. They are consistently gaining confidence creating interesting characters, a variety of settings and thrilling stories. The children are experiencing a great sense of success as they get to read aloud their narratives to their peers.

Maths has been very hands on this month! Lots of fun was had during the topic of the pattern, the children went on pattern hunts around the classroom and school. They worked collaboratively in their pods inventing complex patterns with a variety of classroom materials. The children became pattern detectives when examining the 100 square and identified all the number patterns they could find. The children have deepened their understanding in the topic of place value, they have been using lots of concrete materials to represent numbers using tens and units.

If January is anything to go by, First class are in for an awesome 2022!

SECOND AND THIRD CLASS

Second and Third Class have started 2022 on a very positive and colourful note. We have been working on the strand of Fabric and Fibre in Art. We have really enjoyed designing and styling our own Fabric and Fibre creations. We have also created beautiful jungle scene collages. Ms. Walsh thinks there could well be a future fashion designer in our class. In other areas, we have published our procedures and we have been writing lots of reports. We even wrote some procedures 'as Gaeilge'. We have been learning all about plants and animals in Science. We have also started to learn how to play basketball, which we are enjoying immensely!

FOURTH AND FIFTH CLASS

Fourth and Fifth class have made a fantastic start to 2022! Some interesting things we have been learning in our class this month include life in Ireland in the 16th and 17th century, the history of Irish music and the amazing human body. We have really enjoyed learning all about 'An Aimsir' in Irish class and have even started creating our own weather forecast drama to present in the class. Since returning from Christmas break our P.E lessons have been focusing on athletics. We have made fantastic progress on our sprinting technique and standing start so far. One of the highlights in our class this month was definitely 'Grandparents Day'. We celebrated the day by helping our classmates get to know our grandparents and why they are so important to us.



SIXTH CLASS

In sixth class we feel that Grandparent's Day is a very special part of Catholic Schools Week. To mark this special day, we all brought in pictures of our grandparents. We made copies of our pictures and created our Grandparent's Collage. We expressed a summary of our chosen grandparent, through a recount writing lesson. We presented an account of our grandparent to the class in three stages, early life, school life and later life. We loved having the opportunity to hear about our grandparents and listening to all our friends accounts as well.