



The Shountrade Scéal

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal' in 2023. We hope everyone has enjoyed an incredible start to 2023 just like we have here in Shountrade N.S!

What an exciting month it has been for the boys and girls. Some highlights this month include the Peace Prom and the Credit Union Quiz win. We are so proud of how our Shountrade N.S pupils represented the school at both these events. Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Tadhg McCarthy, Annabelle Fitzgerald, Filip Tobianski and Nóra Ní Laoi who were victorious in the under eleven category of Credit Union quiz! They will now forward to represent the school and West Limrick in the next stage round.

Peace Proms

The Shountrade N.S choir had a truly memorable night at the Peace Proms in UL this month. The conductor on the night led us on a musical journey from Ireland to Newfoundland and other parts. We were treated to a tremendous evening of entertainment. When the night concluded everyone was adamant that Shountrade N.S had been part of a wonderful experience! Special thanks to Mrs. Spillane and Lynda Kennedy for their fantastic work preparing the children for this wonderful event.



Senior Infants

Senior infants have had a great start to 2023. 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 have been 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 all really enjoying Literacy Lift Off and the class are making wonderful progress with reading. 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 the reflection in the water. We have been learning about different types of houses and homes in Ireland and around the world. The children have learned some new songs such as 'When I Build My House' and 'Great Big House'. The children also love the Irish songs such as 'Cúigear Fear' and stories such as 'An Fear Sinséar'.



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. In English we have been learning lots of new sounds and are very excited to be reading lots of books and writing our first words in cursive. We have also been learning how to write information reports and have written reports about Africa, Ireland and penguins.

In Gaeilge we have also been learning about the weather. In Science we learned about the life cycle of the penguin and investigated how ice is formed and how best to melt it. In History we loved learning all about Tom Crean, the famous Irish explorer. We had a wonderful day celebrating Grandparents Day. We interviewed our grandparents about school life when they were small. We shared stories and photographs of our grandparents with each other.

1st Class

The girls and boys in First class have started 2023 off with lots of enthusiasm and eagerness! They have been very busy learning all about The Arctic, where it is located on the map, how animals have adapted to survive there and what kind of people live there. They have done an incredible job at 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 imaginations run wild. They are consistently gaining confidence creating interesting characters, a variety of settings and thrilling plots for their stories. The children are experiencing a great sense of success as they get to read aloud their narratives to their peers.

Math has been very hands on this month! Lots of fun was had during the topic of number. The children have loved playing our number loop games and learning strategies to complete inverse addition and subtraction operations. 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. In P.E we have started the gymnastics strand, the children are putting in a lot of effort into our routines and completing our tumblers and movements safely. If January is anything to go by, First class are in for an awesome 2023!

2nd Class

Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh from everybody in second class. The theme for January was water.

We did lots of experiments in order to find out how to make objects sink and float. We had to design and make a boat made from plasticine which would float. We also learned about water conservation and identified ways how water usage can be reduced.

We learned about tsunamis in Science and having looked at artwork of the famous artist Katsushika Hokusai we created our own tsunamis. In English Ms. Walsh says we have made great progress with our report writing. Having learned about the woodlouse, we all made our constructed our own woodlouse and then we wrote a report about this insect. In PE we learned the Siege Of Ennis. We really enjoyed Irish dancing. Ms. Walsh is very proud of us!



GAA News

Everyone in Shountrade N.S is delighted that David O'Dea from Limerick GAA will be returning to our school this February and March! We are all looking forward to fun games that focus on developing our hurling/camogie skills. Please remember to bring your hurley and helmet in every **Thursday** this February.



3rd & 4th Class

January was another wonderful month in third and fourth class! We dived straight into Report Writing when we returned to school, working individually and cooperatively to complete several informative reports. One aspect we have loved is using the Chromebooks to aid us with the information gathering stage in our report writing! In Art we have been setting our sights on 2023 identifying our ambitions and the things that are important to us in our 2023 portraits.

Other highlights for us this month include Athletics in PE classes. We have spent time exploring the standing start and our running technique. We have even completed some athletics circuits in the hálld! Finally, another highlight in our class this month was the drama/history lessons we completed on the topic of houses. We loved trying to convince our classmates that our designated house was best and we particularly enjoyed highlighting the flaws of the modern house.



5th & 6th Class

Hello everybody! We have started a new class novel, Wonder. After reading The boy in the striped pyjamas we will be watching the movie for comparative work. This week we finished Friends for Life. Thank you Mrs. Olive!! We have started preparing for our confirmation learning about the Gifts and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Olympic handball is one of the PE games we played this month. We also played Station Competition Games as well. In Maths we have started exploring decimals. We have done lots of decimal Team Games. For Grandparents Day our class interviewed our grandparents about their childhood school memories. We hope you had a great month.

