



The Shountrade Scéal



MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the MAY edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal'. We all had a busy first month of the Summer. We are looking forward to the month of June as we have school tours and Active Week.

SENIOR INFANTS

Senior infants have had a wonderful month of May. Our mornings start with literacy lift-off and we are very lucky to have Mrs. Walshe and Mr. O'Connell helping us. We enjoy reading a new book each day, doing our word work and playing literacy games on the iPads. Everyone is making great progress with their reading. The children have been getting lots of points on class dojo for doing their best work, listening and for showing kindness to their classmates. Our Aistear theme has been the zoo and we have had great fun working as zookeepers, ticket attendants and visitors to the zoo. Thanks to the children for bringing in some soft-toy animals from home for our zoo. We have been doing dance in PE and the children have learned the Grasshoppers dance and Come To Me. In Music, we listened to Carnival of the Animals and sang the Minibeast Song. We loved how the music helped us to visualise the Lion marching, the elephant plodding and the swan gliding. We had fun moving to the music. In Art, we painted animal fur patterns of safari animals. Well done senior infants for all your great work.

SECOND AND THIRD CLASS

What a fabulous month 2nd and 3rd class have had! The highlight certainly for 2nd class was their First Holy Communion Day when they made everybody proud. It was a very special day and will provide some lovely memories for many years. This month we have really enjoyed reading our novel 'The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips' and have had great fun dramatizing our favourite scenes from the book. In Art we have explored the strand of printmaking and have created some beautiful artwork using various printing techniques. In Maths we really enjoyed a Maths Trail around our school. It was wonderful to get the opportunity to use our Maths skills outside. Finally, in PE we learned how to dance the Siege of Ennis. Ms Walsh hopes that we will perform this Irish dance at future celebrations!

SIXTH CLASS

May was a very busy month for 6th Class. In Maths we explored Equations and Directed Numbers— even inventing a new Planet to discuss our Positive and Negative Numbers! In Gaeilge we continued to work our way through the last of our Briathar Neamhrialta- 6th class have worked very hard on these so far! This month we have explored our class novel- The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, in both English and Art. We look forward to watching the Movie very soon, so we can begin our comparative writing pieces. 6th Class are very much looking forward to a busy June, with school tour, active week and Graduation mass all to look forward to- busy times ahead!

JUNIOR INFANTS

Once again it has been a very busy month in Junior Infants. Our theme at the beginning of the month was the Emergency Services. We had a giant cardboard house in the classroom and the children were busy rescuing each other from the burning building. There were very brave firefighters in Shountrade this month! We then moved on to a theme of birthdays. Lots of wonderful birthdays were planned by the children. Great fun was had playing party games including musical chairs, and each party was finished off with a daily disco. Ed Sheeran was a very popular choice for the disco! Our Gaeilge theme of Lá Breithe linked very well and the children were able to sing Happy Birthday in both English and Irish for the parties. It is very exciting to report that the children have formally started cursive writing. They are working very hard to master their letters in the cursive style. What a great start they will have for senior infants. In maths the children spent lots of time learning about the number 5 and mastering the story of 5 and combining numbers. In History the children learned about the history of firefighting and compared and contrast the uniform, tools and fire engine used long ago with those available now. The children are looking forward to a fun filled month of June including their first school tour and Active Week.

FIRST CLASS

The girls and boys in first class have had a fantastic month of fun and learning. We have extended our mathematical skills having learnt how to do addition with regrouping, learning to read the clock, calendars and explore the characteristics of 3D Shapes. We especially gained great enjoyment developing our skills when it comes to counting money and figuring out the correct change. In Art we covered many strands such as construction, paint and drawing. We created crepe paper rainbows that bring colour and vibrancy to our classroom. We have deepened our understanding about various modes of transport in SESE, we enjoyed learning all about the invention of The Hot Air Balloon. The old Irish tale of Fionn and The Salmon of knowledge really grabbed our attention and we had great fun sequencing the story and putting our chronological skills to the test. We look forward to listening to and reading our novel 'The Owl That was Afraid of The Dark', we have had lots of practice making predictions, visualising and inferring throughout. We had the absolute pleasure of having Ms. Doherty teaching us as part of her Teaching Practice. We had an Ice Cream party to celebrate our final day with her which we all thoroughly enjoyed!

FOURTH AND FIFTH CLASS

What a busy month May has been in 4th and 5th class. The school garden we planted has really taken off in the last number of weeks and we have loved monitoring its progress so far. We can't wait to harvest some of our produce before the end of the school term! Some of our favourite topics we have covered this month include 'The Great Famine' in History, 'An Teilfís' in Gaeilge and learning all about France in Geography. Everyone in 4th and 5th class would like to congratulate Sonia Holmes and Áine Walsh in our class who created amazing pieces of art for the Community Games Art Competition with Áine finishing runner up to Sonia. We are so excited about our final few weeks before the holidays and we are all looking forward to about such as our school tour and active week!

Whole School Evaluation Update

On Thursday May 12th 2022 our school had an *Incidental Whole School Evaluation*. It was a Teaching, Learning and Anti- Bullying inspection. Shountrade NS *excelled* in each area. This was a very positive experience, with our teachers and pupils receiving affirmation of the wonderful work they are doing. The teachers, SNA's, pupils, staff parents/ guardians and the Board of Management of Shountrade NS should be very proud of themselves.

STEM

A huge **CONGRATULATIONS** to all our pupils, teachers and SNA's for achieving our SFI Discover Science and Maths Award- Our Plaque for STEM will be arriving to school soon!

