



# The Shountrade Scéal

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the September edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal'. We are so pleased that everyone is back in Shountrade N.S safe and healthy after what we hope was a fantastic Summer holidays. As always September has been a very busy month for all the boys and girls in Shountrade. Some highlights this month include a visit from Olive Mooney author of 'The Chronicles of Cadaver College', music classes with James Anglim and school football training returning.

We would like to extend a special welcome to our new junior infants class in Shountrade N.S Lewis, Ellen, Patrick, Enda, Rebecca, Aoibh, Jack, Éile, Harry, Sam, Katie, Zack, Poppy, Elouise, Fionn, Ollie, Harry and Seána. We would also like to welcome new pupils Edith in 3rd class, Tadhg in 2nd class and Annalea in 1st class.

### Junior Infants

What a wonderful start to the year we have had in Junior Infants. The children have been busy getting to know each other and making new friends. The children have been learning all about themselves, their families and their homes. Play is at the centre of everything in the infant classroom and the child led play hour is a firm favourite time of the day. The home corner has been very busy with birthday parties, family dinners and minding the new baby twins. The addition of a new doll house has brought the small world area to life. Water play and washing the babies in sudsy bubble baths has been very popular this week!

The children settle in every morning with some very important fine motor work like threading, beading, lacing and playdough discos which will all help the children to build up strength in their hands and fingers and write successfully later in the year. Lots of new Irish words have been learned and the children can now say hello and introduce themselves, as well as sing lots of favourite Irish songs such as 'Lámh, Lámh Eile' and 'Rólaí Pólaí'. Maths time is a very busy time of the day in the classroom with lots of matching and sorting games and lovely patterns being made. The children have been learning lots of new nursery rhymes and songs and have created some beautiful art work. Our favourite is our Self-Portraits which are now hanging with pride in our classroom 'WOW WORK' display.



### Senior Infants

Senior Infants are off to a great start this year. We had fun with the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?' and created beautiful artwork in response to the story. We had a fun and informative workshop with visiting nature teacher Geoff Hunt where we learned about the trees surrounding our school. We gathered samples of leaves from ash trees, mountain ash, spindle, hawthorn and beech trees. We are so lucky to be surrounded by such beautiful countryside and trees. We enjoyed our story time outside. Our Aistear theme is the school office. Children have been engaging very well in the school office for role play, getting into role as the school secretary, the principal, teachers, children and parents. In construction the children have been designing and building their dream school. We have been singing 'When I Was One' and 'Slap the Silly Out'. In maths we have been learning some number rhymes, 'Five Little Speckled Frogs' and 'Five Little Ducks'. The children did lots of sorting and making sets but especially enjoyed sorting the giant playing cards by number, by colour and by shape. We also learned about the + and = symbols. We are getting very good at reading our sight words. We made beautiful self-portrait drawings using mirrors and were very focused on looking at all the details that make each of us unique.

Well done senior infants on a great September!



## 1st Class

The boys and girls have had a very busy start to First Class! There has been lots of fun and learning happening and they are making the most of their longer day! We have begun report writing in writer's workshop, and we are getting great enjoyment presenting our reports to our peers whilst learning lots of new facts on a variety of topics. We were delighted to have the wonderful Geoff Hunt visit our classroom and learn about the most common garden birds. The children loved going on their bird hunt around the school.

In Gaeilge we are focusing on the topic of Mé Féin, 1st class are loving learning all our new songs and playing 'Deir O Gradaigh'. In maths we are focusing on number. We are exploring with a variety of concrete materials, how to combine and subtract objects to consolidate our understanding of number. We are very excited to have started Literacy Lift Off, we are really enjoying all our stations. We especially enjoy getting to read and discuss our new books.



## 2nd Class

Second class have had a very busy but fun September! We have spent a lot of time outdoors, learning about our school environment. We went on a bug hunt, investigated soil and learned about the properties and characteristics of materials we gathered outside. We really enjoyed making mini beasts out of clay.

In Art we are very proud of our self-portraits which we drew. We have also been learning about the art technique of pointillism which we used in our Aboriginal fish designs.



## 3rd & 4th Class

3rd and 4th class have made a tremendous start to the new school year. There was great excitement in the classroom as we hatched our Class Dojo monsters when we came back to school. The highlights of our month have undoubtedly been our trips to Askeaton Leisure Centre. Every Wednesday we are fortunate to travel to the swimming pool where we have made incredible progress mastering our swimming abilities in the pool.

We have been learning all about the Ancient Greeks in History, discussing whether we would prefer the life of an Athenian or a Spartan. We have enjoyed having Mr. O'Connell joining us for math lesson as we have investigated place value and operations since returning to school.

## 5th & 6th Class

5th and 6th Class have been very busy this Month. We have started our class Novel, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas and we are really enjoying our Character Discussions so far. In Gaelige, we have been creating our Sliocht all around the theme of Mé Féin. In SESE we are in the middle of completing our History Projects on Ruins, Towers and Castles. We have worked really hard gathering information and are now in the final stage of our Projects. In Art we are beginning our Class Collage of a very famous person! We want to wish all the Boys, Girls, Teachers and Staff the very best for the school year!!!

## GAA

Firstly, we are so proud of our boys and girls in 5th & 6th class who had a fantastic outing at the Coláiste Mhuire football blitz. Both teams performed excellently and a fantastic day out was capped off with silverware for both teams!

Reminder after school training for 2nd—6th continues every Wednesday 2:40 - 3:45. Please bring a gumshield.

