



# The Shountrade Scéal

## MAY NEWSLETTER 2026

Welcome to the May edition of 'The Shountrade Scéal'. May has been a busy, exciting, and memorable month in our school, with many wonderful events and achievements to celebrate. One of the highlights of the month was the celebration of First Holy Communion. Congratulations to our 2nd Class pupils, who were outstanding on this very special day. A sincere thank you to Ms. Olive for preparing the children so thoughtfully and beautifully. We would also like to commend our wonderful choir members, whose singing added so much to the celebration and helped make it a truly meaningful occasion. We are delighted to celebrate another major success as our school has been awarded the **STEM Curious Minds Gold Award**, a wonderful recognition of the enthusiasm and commitment shown towards STEM learning throughout the school community. The start of the Summer League, Active Fridays and morning Fun Puc has brought great energy and excitement around the school, creating a fantastic buzz among pupils. 4th, 5th and 6th class boys and girls played very well at Cumann na mBunscol. Well done to Lucy McNamara who represented our school so well in the Camogie Primary Game in the Gaelic Grounds. Congratulations also to our Community Games Art Competition winners. It has been wonderful to see our school community thriving throughout this busy month, and we look forward to more exciting moments and achievements as we move towards the summer holidays.

### Mrs Fitzgerald's Class

What a busy month it has been in Junior Infants. Most exciting this month was the completion of Literacy Lift-off. The children have had a wonderful time reading familiar and new books with their teacher every day, working on their handwriting and sentence building with Mr Kilcoyne, building on their phonics and spelling knowledge with Ms Walsh and developing their oral language and storytelling with Geraldine. But the favourite station most days was the chance to play literacy games on the chrome books! The literacy power hour in the mornings has undoubtedly boosted the children's reading and writing.

Our theme this month was The Campsite. The children have been practising their camping, foraging and mapping skills at the Teddy Bear Campsite in our role play area. The children also made wonderful campsites in the small world play area. We took our learning outside when we learned about mini beasts and explored their habitats in the school grounds.

Our writing genre of writing to socialise tied in perfectly with the Campsite theme. The children have been writing camping lists, beach lists and postcards. In maths the children have been putting all of their learning about number into operation by combining numbers. While the juniors are combining numbers up to 5, the seniors have been combining up to 10 and beyond.



### Mr Costelloe's Class

May has flown by in our classroom! It has been a busy, fun-filled and exciting month for everyone. We have especially loved the arrival of our new kitchen and supermarket play spaces in the outdoor area. It has been wonderful to watch the children using their imaginations to set up shops, create shopping lists, organise products and fulfil customer orders through creative play and teamwork.

We have also thoroughly enjoyed our weekly morning outings throughout May, making great use of the amazing Manor Fields Playground. Whole-class games of hide and seek have been a huge hit this month, alongside children encouraging and supporting one another while using the zip line. Inside the classroom, it has been fantastic to see the children continuing to excel in phonics, numeracy and project work. Their confidence, independence and enthusiasm for learning continue to grow each week and we are very proud of all their hard work and achievements this month.



## Ms Olive's Class

May has been a very special month in Second Class! The highlight of the month was, without a doubt, our beautiful First Holy Communion Day. The boys and girls shone with pride and joy throughout the ceremony, and we were all so proud of them. A heartfelt thank you to Monsignor Neenan for his support and guidance throughout the preparation. Thank you also to the parents in First Class who kindly supported us on the day and provided teas, coffees and treats afterwards. It was greatly appreciated. In the classroom, we have been busy developing our mathematical skills. The children have been learning subtraction with and without regrouping and exploring the topics of capacity and area. Creativity flourished in Art this month too. The children enjoyed making clay fish, recreating Vincent van Gogh's *Starry Night*, creating First Holy Communion artwork and designing colourful Community Games posters. Well done to all the boys and girls for their enthusiasm, kindness and hard work throughout the month.



## Mr Morrissey's Class

It was a busy May in 3rd and 4th class. We continued to revise our Maths topics and read as much as we can for our Standardised tests coming up soon. We had the pleasure of having Miss Toomey teaching us for the last 6 weeks. We had so much fun learning about length, 3D shapes and chance in Maths. In English we focused on writing reports and learning about synonyms. For Gaeilge, we learned more about "Éadaí" and "Bia". We had so much fun with amazing art lessons and science experiments also. Thank you Miss Toomey for teaching us in 3rd and 4th class the past 6 weeks.

## Mr O'Connell's Class

Bhíomar ag obair go dian dícheallach i rang a cúig i rith na míosa seo. D'fhoghlamaíomar a lán faoi Turas Scoile agus Amchlár Teilifíse.

We focused on procedural writing while also working on Jumanji, The Exchange Visit, Days Out and Every Good Turn Deserves Another. We have been working really hard on Length, Weight, The Circle, Data and other areas. We discovered that blight ruined the potato crop which in turn led to the Famine. We investigated the nasty side of Victorian living. We discovered how photosynthesis works. We have been working on the Stay Safe program, and we had presentations on relationships and sexuality. We listened to stories about people meeting Jesus after the Resurrection and how Pentecost changed them. We have been enjoying improving our hurling and camogie



## Mrs Spillane's Class

May has been a very busy month in 6th Class. We have been working hard to finish our Maths curriculum, revising all areas and focusing particularly on money, area, and perimeter. One activity we especially enjoyed was measuring the perimeter of our school site. We also enjoyed reading and learning about Japan and Africa. Inspired by the Japanese artist Hokusai, we created paintings of The Great Wave, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Another highlight this month was completing the Moving On Up programme with Lisa from Limerick Youth Service. The children engaged very well with the role-play activities, particularly those focused on building confidence and standing up to peer pressure.

It has been a productive and enjoyable month with lots of learning and great engagement from everyone in 6th

