

# January 2022 Newsletter

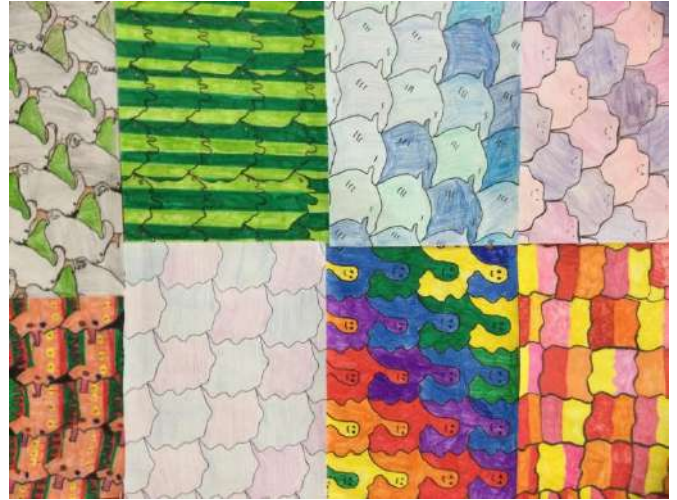
## 6th Class

### *Tessellation Art*

6th class are working on tessellation art and are having a great time doing so.

To start off this artistic unique shape we got a sticky note and drew a random squiggly line from the top left corner of the note to the bottom left corner. We then went from the bottom left corner to the bottom right corner. 6th class cut out along the line going from the top left to the bottom left corner and we taped it to the right of the sticky note. We did the same to the other line but taped it to the top of the sticky note. The class then got an A3 piece of paper then used the tape to tessellate on the paper. Some students thought the shape looked like

an item or animal so made the shape into what it looked like then coloured it. The pictures look amazing and they are all unique. They had a great time.



*By Emeline Hood*



### *Road Safety Slogans*

In our school some students made road safety slogans to try to make the road a safer place for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. We had a few participants and each one did a brilliant job. Two people even managed to win a prize, and they were Laura who is in 6th class, and Eoin who is in 2nd class. They both won hats with lights on the front as

their prize. Eoin Waters got 1st place in his age group. Well done to everyone who participated.

Here are some pictures of our two winning students



*By Eoin Doherty*

# Food Dudes

This week, our school started food dudes again. It usually takes place every 2 years, it is a healthy eating programme designed to help us try new fruit and vegetables and to encourage us to eat more of them. During food dudes we eat a variety of fruit and veg. We usually get prizes at the end of the programme, some of these include: lunchboxes, drink bottles, stickers, rubbers and pencils. Some food that we try would be: peppers, apples, carrots, oranges and cucumber. We watch videos which help us understand why we need to have our 5-7 fruit and veg a day. They also help us understand why we need nutritional food in our diet. So far this week we have eaten apples, carrots, peppers, bananas, cucumber and blueberries. There are also some videos where Kellie Harrington and Philly McMahon explain why it is important to eat your fruits and vegetables. We were also given Healthy Eating Passports in this booklet one of the pages includes a fruit and veg intake tracker.

<https://www.fooddudes.ie/>



Here is a link to the food dudes website where you can find different videos and activities.



*By Anna Reilly*

## Confirmation

Our 6th class started confirmation work on the 29th of November 2021 and only finished it around the 20th of January 2022 for confirmation to be on the 15th of February 2022. I personally I was not in on Tuesday and I don't think anybody that made their Confirmation was in on that day either. Our class was Confirmed by Bishop Thomas and our parish priest Father Garland. The Confirmation was at 11 oclock but we were all there by 20 to 11. It was a very momentous day for all of our class and everybody could not work on Monday as we were all too excited. On Tuesday we took various pictures of the whole class and just with groups of friends it turns out that on Tuesday nobody from our class was in, to be honest I'm n not surprised. On Wednesday only half of the class was in so we just finished our paverpol project that has been going on for months now.

Here are some pictures that our teacher Ms.Darby and Ms. Lynch took on the day of Confirmation.

*By Ciaran Mulvaney*



## GAA PE with Tommy

In 6th class last week hurling was started along with Ms Craughans 5th We all started by warming up and stretching then we got into a hand passing drill BUT! Everytime we dropped it we had to do a wall sit for 30 seconds. But after that Tommy put our strength to the test with a 5 minute wall sit Some people dropped out early including a few unlucky slips but in the end the winners were Anna, Jamie, Laura, Cian and Daisy. Then after a 30 second break we got into a match a good game all round but the bibs wearing team just snatching it in the end.

*By – Bríain Smith*



## *Food dudes*

This year on the 14<sup>th</sup> February we started food dudes. They help schools with healthy eating. We had apples and carrot sticks and on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February we had peppers and bananas the following day, and lots of different fruits and veg every other day that week. We watched a video on fruit and vegetables. We all enjoyed trying different foods every day.

*By Eimear Casserly*

## Hurling

For the past few weeks we have been doing hurling with our coach Tommy. We have learned how to hand pass and pick up the ball. We also take part in matches at the end of the lesson against each other. We also learned how to do long passes and how to hit the ball off the ground with our hurls. We do warm ups and drills in pairs to prepare for the matches.

*By Killian Moore*

## *Safer Internet Day 2022 14/2/22*

Safer Internet Day was created in 2004 and is now practised worldwide. It is a program for all ages, though mainly aimed for younger children.

### This Year's Theme

Safer Internet Day 2022 is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> of February, and this year's theme is 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. This theme discussed the importance of staying safe while talking to others online.

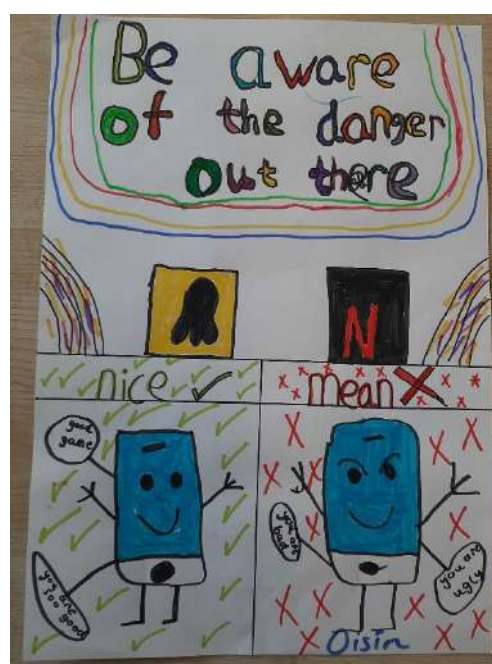
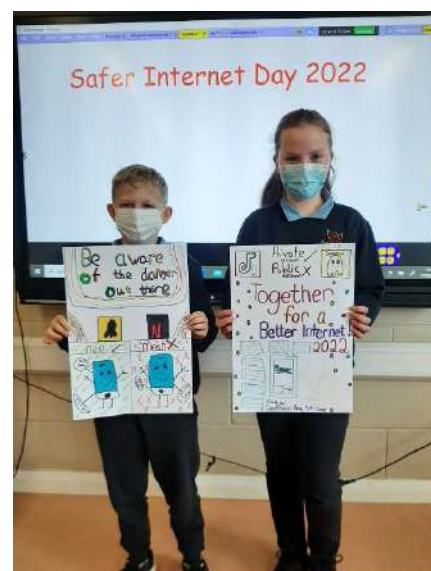
Do's	Don't's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do ask an adult before opening doubtful files</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don't share personal information online</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do be careful about what you download</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don't trust everything you find</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do be safe with passwords</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don't click on a link unless you're sure it's safe</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do only accept invitations from people you know</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don't make purchases on suspicious sites</li></ul>



## The Poster Competition

This year our class is participating in an Internet Safety poster competition. The posters are made to encourage internet safety, and are usually made with a catchy slogan or phrase and a drawing to represent the slogan. Some slogans include: Be aware of the danger out there, Don't be bratty, be chatty! and Don't be mean behind the screen!

*By Romy Finucane, Isobel Dixon and Muireann Smith*

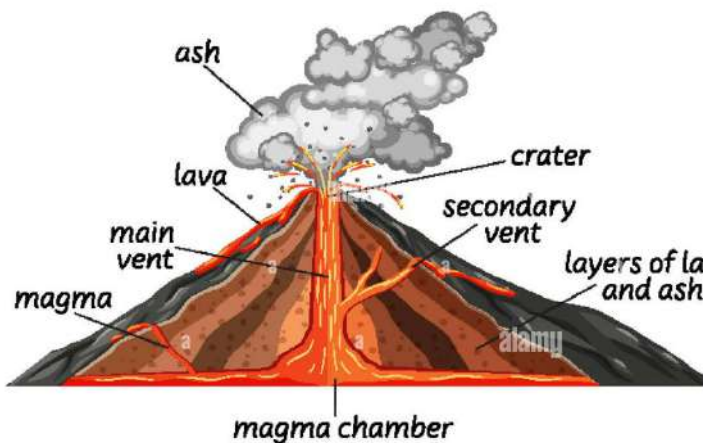


## GAA Training

Over the last few months Tommy Gallagher from Westmeath Gaa coaching and games. He has been coming out and doing Gaelic football and hurling training every Friday morning with the students in our school. We do lots of drills and warmups and then at the end we play a match. Everyone enjoys learning new skills and taking part. Last week we all did the back against the wall challenge. Everyone did really well and some people even stayed up for 5-6 minutes.

*By Melissa Clarke*

### Parts of a Volcano



how and why something works. To start us off, our teacher let us learn about how and why **volcanoes erupt!** When we had all of this information about volcanoes in our heads, we were even allowed to **record videos**, explaining how and why they do so. We split into our pods and went outside to the back of the school and read from the posters that we made, while 1 person recorded for us. We all had so much fun doing so, and these may be appearing on the school website soon!

*—Jamie Davis*

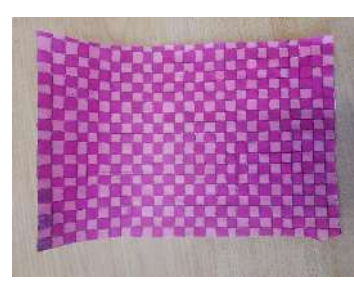
In our class, we are learning about explanation texts! An explanation text is a piece of writing that explains

## TESSELLATION

For the past few weeks the children of 5th room 8 have been doing tessellation art. They have been using the style of M.C Escher, the famous artist that used tessellation in all of his drawings. They have also been learning about the man.

The children used rulers and protractors on optional dotted paper to form tessellations. They then coloured in the artwork in patterns. All in all it was a fascinating topic for the students. Here are some examples of our work

*—Emmet Staunton*





## *The Normans*

In school we were learning about the Normans! We built Norman castles using cereal boxes, paint and lollipop sticks for gates. When we came back to school somebody had made their own castle with our new whiteboard box! We still haven't found out who did it, it still remains a mystery. Here are photos of the Norman castles we made

*-Daisy Mulvaney*



4th Class

## *Projects*

For our project, we studied Christianity in Ireland. It took a long time to do but we enjoyed listening to each other. We included a timeline of Christianity, the coming of Saint Patrick, Monastic settlements and Monasteries. It was kind of fun to do!.

*- By Kim Beggan*

## *Safer-Internet day*

On Safer-Internet day, we were talking about how the internet can be safe and not safe. The internet can be good when you call your friends and all, but there can be hackers and viruses too. We did Kahoot after we learnt all about it and we also did a colouring sheet.

*-By Kim Beggan*



## *Food Dudes*

Food dudes is an amazing programme which helps children eat more healthily in school and at home. Food dudes even helps your child discover new fruits and vegetables that they may like! Your child gets rewards from this programme like rubbers, pencils and new lunch boxes for vegetables and fruit! Food dudes also encourage your child/children to get more outside and exercise. There is also a food dude passport that shows your child the food pyramid and how much fruit/vegetables you can have a day. It also shows you different ways on how to exercise during the day. In conclusion food dudes helps your child's health and keep their exercise up.

*-By Alexa Fay*



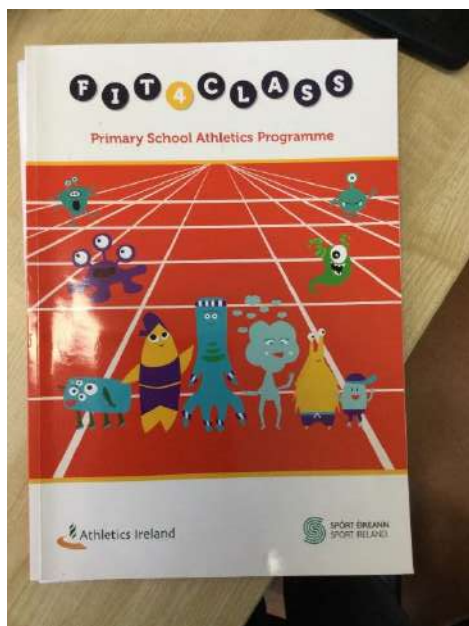


## 3rd Class

### The Vikings

In school we are learning about the Vikings and we did a project on them. I am going to tell you some facts about them. Vikings do not wear horned helmets, the Monks drew them like that so they look like Devils. Wednesday is named after Oden, Thursday is named after Thor – these were the Viking gods. Along with the Viking project we made Viking longships. We enjoyed our Viking art and Viking projects. – *By Nevaeh Walsh*

### Fit 4 Class



On Thursdays we do P.E. It's usually basketball but 2 weeks ago we started Fit 4 Class where we play dodgems. You need one cone and use it as a steering wheel. There are other games we played: Under and Over relay, Fish and Net and Caterpillar Tag. In the Under and Over relay we used a basketball and one person put the ball under and then over. In Fish and Net there are two pairs and everyone runs around and the pairs catch everyone but when you have four people you split in half. And last but not least Caterpillar tag two people are on and one person holds on to the other person's shoulders and keeps catching people.

*By: Neeah Mulvey*



This week we started Food Dudes. It will last for the whole week. On Monday we ate apples and carrots, for the rest of the week we had fruit and vegetables such as peppers, blueberries, bananas, oranges, tomatoes and cucumbers. It is very fun to try new fruits and vegetables.

*By: Sarah Reilly*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

### Wormery

On the 15<sup>th</sup> Me and Ben gave teacher an idea to make a worm farm in class. We learned about worms and how to make a wormery. I got a job to collect leaves and worms. I love doing worm farms and stuff. We used to do a worm farm outside on break but we are not allowed anymore sadly. I don't know why but we play other things now and I don't really mind.

Fun Fact: Worms don't have any bones at all but they do have a lot of muscles

-By Bríon Mulligan



### Food Dudes

Food dudes was a challenge this year but I like a challenge. Some foods I like but I didn't like every food. On the first day we had apples and carrot sticks. On the second day we had peppers and bananas and then on the third day we had cucumbers and blueberries. I didn't really like the cucumbers or the peppers but I pretended they were yummy brownies and then they tasted like brownies. We don't just do Food Dudes in school but we also try to be healthy at home too.

You had to eat 5-7 pieces of fruit and veg a day so we can stay healthy. You should always eat a rainbow of fruit and veg. – *By Gráinne O'Neill*

### Laps

We have been running laps since the start of the year. At the moment we are doing a timed lap. Timed laps are laps that our teacher times on her phone. You have to try a little better each time. My best time recorded was 41. My best time I actually got was 51 but our teacher forgot to reset the timer! – *By Ruaidhrí O'Neill*

2<sup>nd</sup> class Cond:

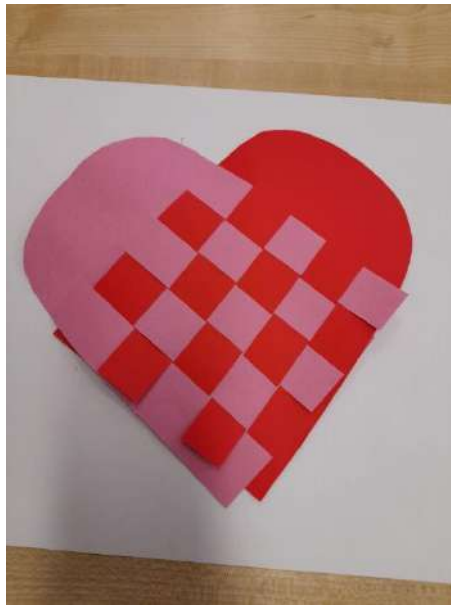
### **Valentines Art**

It was amazing. I was one of the first people finished. This is how it happened!

First we got 10 pink strips (we were making a 3D heart). It was hard.

We put the strips together then stapled them. After the 3D hearts we made woven hearts. They were even harder! We just had to weave and weave and weave..... At last I was finished!

I put a lot of effort into it. Hannah and Bronagh struggled a lot with them. – *By Jane Malone*



### **Communion Preparation**

We are learning prayers for our Communion. We learned the Act of Sorrow, The Our Father and Prayer before Communion. My favourite prayer is the Prayer before Communion.

–*By Micheál O'Keefe*





## 1st Class

### ***Picker Pals***

As part of Westmeath County Council's ongoing environmental awareness and anti-litter work, First Class have been taking part in the Picker Pals programme. The children have been taking turns to bring home the lovely, vibrant, picker pals kit each Friday and pick up litter in their local areas. It has been a really eye-opening experience in terms of the quantity of litter that is scattered around our environment. The children are really enjoying the programme and loving the responsibility of looking after their local areas.

Here is Picker Pal Tadhg's take on his experience:

'I picked up lots of coffee cups around my house. We found lots of soil and plastic bags.

I was so surprised when I saw all of the rubbish. We picked up lots of Fanta too! I am really enjoying being a picker pal.'

*Tadhg Rennicks, 1st Class.*



### ***Magnificent Magnets***

In Science, First Class learned all about how magnets and magnetism works. They used real magnets to investigate what materials were magnetic and what ones were not. The children even brought in objects from home to test out along with magnetic toys and train sets. Later that week they conducted their own experiment to find out if they could transform a needle into a magnet. Spoiler Alert: They could!! Here is Professor Connor's take on the experiment: 'We learned about magnets in science. I learned that there is a north pole and a south pole (I thought the North Pole was just for Santa!!) We worked in pairs to do an experiment where we changed a needle into a magnet.' *Connor Casserly, 1st Class.*



## Internet Safety Day

On 8th February, we learned all about Internet Safety Day. First Class came up with lots of tips to stay safe when using the internet. They chatted all about how to play video games safely and how we can ensure we are having fun online. They made posters and came up with lots of slogans. Here are some examples:

*'Play offline, not online' Connor Casserly*

*'Be friends, not enemies online' Vayda Skey*

*'Never ever trust someone who wants to play online with you' Ella Erestain*

*'Be smart, stay safe' David Dalton*

Here is what *Liam Beggan* has to say about it:

*'We learned all about Internet Safety Day. I learned that we should all try to be cyber buddies not cyber bullies. I learned that we should never talk to someone online that we do not know and to always ask an adult before we go online. We made posters and wrote slogans. Be smart, be safe!'* *Liam Beggan, 1st Class.*

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## Senior Infants Class

Despite the arrival of Storm Dudley the Senior Infants have had some great fun in the garden. They have been planting bulbs, creating their own seeds packets and seed bombs, building fountains and water features for their ideal gardens.



They also have been sowing their own grass seed heads.





They have also enjoyed feeding the birds and doing some bird watching.



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## Junior Infants Class

- We painted African animals after discussing them and reading about them.
- In Aister in the small world area the children pretended to be on a safari adventure on the African plains. Great fun was had with the binoculars!
- The children re-enacted the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' that we read when being introduced to the number 3 in Maths. The goats played the part so well along with the troll guarding the bridge.
- We were busy bees working on number formation using mixed materials including playdough and sticks.
- Here we have some children developing their fine motor skills focusing on cutting.

