

St. Fintan's NS

January

A word from our principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have got through probably the most difficult month of the year- January! Hopefully the dark mornings are coming to an end and the sun will begin to shine.

As you may have noticed, the light sequence has changed at Sutton Park and the Baldoyle Road, causing huge delays and tailbacks in the mornings. Fingal County Council have been contacted about this and hopefully it will be rectified in the coming days.

From February 1st, all doors will be closed when the lines go in at 8.50 except for the infant door, which will remain open for all children who arrive at the school from 8.50 to 9am. After 9am, the infant door will be closed and children who are late, can come in the front door.

If your child is late and you normally accompany them to school, please accompany them to the door where a staff member will receive them.

I would ask that children be in school on time as late arrivals can cause disruptions to the class. Lots of activities happening in the month of January. Our senior infants had a trip to a local coffee shop where they ordered their own drinks. They were so well behaved! Our fourth class children are busy preparing for the Peace Proms on 4th February. Our sixth class children are participating in the Cycle Safety Programme. Lots happening in all the year groups throughout the school.

We have Friendship February starting this Thursday. Lots of fun activities happening during the month.

We have received a Cineáltas Flag from the Minister of Education to acknowledge the good work that our school is doing to prevent and address bullying and to promote kindness, respect,



inclusion, diversity and wellbeing. I also want to thank you all for completing the wellbeing surveys. Your feedback is hugely beneficial to us and help us to put strategies in place which endeavor to create a kind and happy environment for our children.

Please read on to see all the fun activities that the children have been taking part in over the month of January.

Kind regards,

Ms. Farrell.

Friendship February

Plans for **Friendship February** are in full swing. The children will be focusing on the theme of friendship in their classes throughout the month.



We will be holding a **Valentine's Disco** on Wednesday 14th February- Children may wear their own clothes/disco fancy dress and will be asked to make a donation for **Unicef**.

Cake Sale

The wonderful children in 5th class will be having a cake sale on the 13th of February. All proceeds will go to Epilepsy Ireland. Please remember that all cakes must be nut free.



Walking Bus

Fingal County Council Community Sport and Development Officer Mr Stephen Mc Ginn is endeavouring to set up a St. Fintan's N.S. walking bus. This is a fantastic initiative which will promote healthy exercise, develop pedestrian and social skills and will hopefully reduce traffic congestion around our school.



Please complete and submit the questionnaire prepared by Stephen and submit it as soon as possible. Launch day will hopefully be this coming Friday 2nd February. You can find the questionnaire on Aladdin.

Junior Infants

Just before the Christmas holidays, the three Junior Infant classes came together to retell the story of the very first Christmas. The boys and girls were absolutely fantastic, singing their songs and saying their lines like true professionals. They were delighted to receive a rapturous applause from their parents and their teachers. Ms Burke, Ms Reid and Ms Moran were very proud of them. Well done to all involved!



Senior Infants

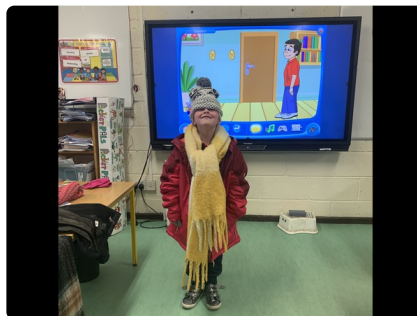
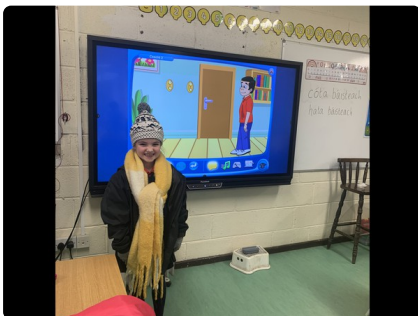
We have been very busy this January in Senior Infants. We learned about 'The Coffee Shop' and even made a special trip to our local Insomnia. We had been learning about money in maths and this really helped us when we went to order our drinks all by ourselves. We had a great day! We also learned lots about the Arctic, the Antarctic, and the animals that live in those places such as polar bears and penguins.

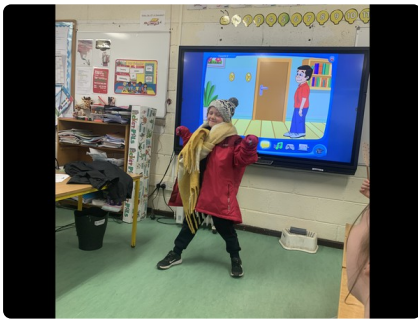




First Class

1st class have been working so hard for the month of January, studying Éadaí during our Gaeilge lessons, 3-D shapes in Maths, and our theme for this month has been Under the Sea! We have had lots of fun learning about Hans Christian Andersen and singing the song the Ugly Duckling and Under the Sea from the Little Mermaid.





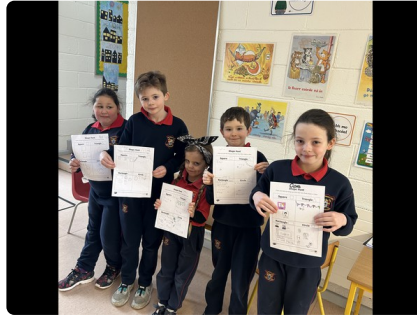
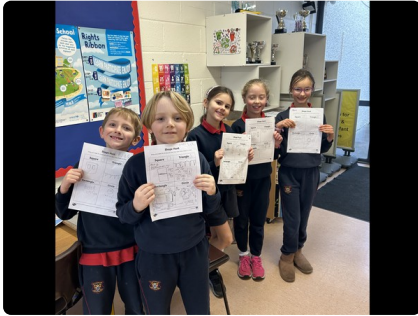
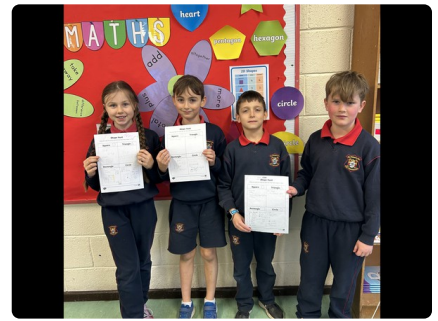
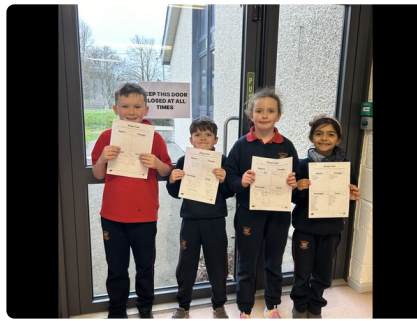
Second Class

It didn't take 2nd class long to get back into the swing of things after the Christmas break. Both 2nd classes enjoyed creating some lovely art work to represent the New Year. Ms Dolan's class created colourful winter villages with fireworks, while Ms Treleaven's class made their own 2024 calendars.

Ms. Dolan's have been busy learning about 2D shapes and so they took their learning outside the classroom, going on a shape hunt around the school grounds which the children really enjoyed. They also used their knowledge of 2D shapes to design their own piece of art and came up with very imaginative pieces. Both second classes have also been busy completing the SPHE Stay Safe programme.

However, it hasn't all been hard work. The two classes went down to St. Fintan's church to meet with Fr. Paul and learn about the history of the church and the furniture within the church. Fr. Paul was so impressed with the two second classes that they were rewarded with treats to enjoy! Not a bad start to 2024 for 2nd class!!





Third Class

Ms. Smiths 3rd class got 2024 off to a creative start with their beautiful silhouette New Year art. The class have been busy presenting their fantastic Viking projects to each other and went on a class trip into town to Dublinia, the Viking and medieval Dublin museum. They had a super day and got to learn even more about the Vikings and Dublin!

In Ms. Byrne's third class this month, we have been learning all about The Vikings. The class have been busy researching and creating Viking projects, by designing a virtual book all about the Vikings. We went on a class trip to Dublinia, where we got to learn so much more about The Vikings and Medieval Dublin and had lots of fun!! We got creative as we explored Bridget Riley's artwork and her focus on optical illusions. The class got to create their own optical illusions in Art. We have also started into our class novel and look forward to reading it together in the coming weeks.





Fourth Class

The two 4th classes have been flat out rehearsing for the Peace Proms. The concert takes place on Sunday, February 4th. They performed two songs from their repertoire at this month's assembly. They raised the roof belting out the hits, "We are One" and "Pompeii"!! They even threw in some of their brilliant dance moves. If this performance is an indication of what's to come, we're in for a treat on Feb 4th!



Fifth Class

This month Ms. Morgans fifth class have been continuing with their buddy system with junior infants. They have said they are enjoying being role models for the younger age groups.

They have also been working on their sewing skills through fabric and fibre by creating their very own monsters. They have worked really hard over the last month or so to finish them and they turned out amazing!

We also have our very own published authors in our class! they have been writing about what they want to be when they grow up and creating illustrations to go along with them. We cannot wait for our published books to arrive!

Mr. Dunlop's 5th class have been n doing coding lessons, on the iPads, every week since the Christmas break. They have been using a website called Blockly Games as an introduction to coding and are moving on to more advanced lessons each week.



Sixth Class

6th class kicked off the new year with our cycle safety course. We braved the freezing cold weather and spent time learning how to brake safely, give space to the cyclist in front of us, learning the rules of the road and identifying different traffic signs.

We are also very excited to start our STEAM Science in a Box classes. Over the next few weeks and months 6th class will be engaging in fascinating lessons on climate change and biology. Each lesson is led by our scientist Kim and we are delighted to be working with her. This week we were learning about the climate crisis, greenhouse gasses and completed an experiment on how CO₂ is created.



Linda Maher

Linda is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

