



St. Fintan's NS

February

A word from our principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thankfully the cold weather is coming to an end and brighter days are in sight. We have lots coming up in the month of March. The spelling bee and book fair will be taking place next week. Our 6th class children will be celebrating the Ceremony of Light in preparation for their Confirmation at 7pm on Wednesday 13th March. The Communion children will have their first Confessions at 11am on 20th March.

School will be closed for all children on Monday 11th March to facilitate a Maths Inservice Day for our staff.

I would like to welcome our new caretaker Rob Hale to St. Fintan's. Rob lives locally and his three children are past pupils of St. Fintan's.

If any family have age appropriate board games that they would like to donate to the school, we would be hugely appreciative. We are also looking to source lightweight goals for our yard. A huge thank you to all our wonderful staff who work tirelessly to ensure our children have a wonderful positive experience at school. Please read on to find out what has been happening in St. Fintan's in the month of February.

Kind Regards,

Ms. Farrell

Chinese New Year

Every year we have many opportunities to celebrate Irish culture in our school so, this month, it was lovely to have the opportunity to celebrate one of the biggest occasions in Chinese culture. On Friday, 9th February, we celebrated Chinese New Year with all the Chinese children in our school. This event took place in one of the



2nd class classrooms where three parents went to great effort to share some of their Chinese New Year traditions with us. The parents brought in delicious home-made dumplings and glazed fruit, food traditionally eaten during New Year celebrations. They also brought in Chinese lanterns and shared stories with us about the origins of Chinese New Year celebrations. We wish all our Chinese friends a very happy Chinese New Year and may the year of the dragon be good to all.



Outdoor Classroom

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our new caretaker Rob! 6th class welcomed him by helping him to install our beautiful new reading chair. We hope to get lots of enjoyment from this fabulous outdoor classroom as the weather improves.



Friendship February

During the month of February, we celebrated love and friendship in St. Fintan's. The children took part in lessons, stories and dramas relating to friendship and being kind. The theme was clearly evident when walking up the corridors of the school; the children created some beautiful art work to celebrate friendship. The highlight of the month was definitely our Valentine's disco in the school hall. The children had an amazing day showing off their dance moves with M.s Breen on the decks as resident DJ. Thanks also to the Student Council for their help with decorating the hall and distributing 'glosticks' on the day! To top it all off, we raised €2295 for Unicef. Thank you all so much for your very generous donations.







Student Council News

At the beginning of the month we were delighted to unveil our brand new Buddy Bench as part of our Friendship February celebrations. Earlier in the year, one of our student council members had the idea of putting a friendship bench in the yard. The idea of the bench is that the children will have somewhere to sit if they are feeling sad or lonely at yard time and hopefully a friend will come along to cheer them up. The children are thrilled with their new bench. Thank you to the Student Council for helping to unveil it and for all their wonderful ideas. Keep them coming!



Junior Infants

Junior Infants have been very busy playing in the Garda Station this month! They have stamped passports, took fingerprints, sent some people to jail and they even created some 'wanted' posters! They have also been learning about 2D shapes and love spotting them all around us. They are all really enjoying GAA on Thursdays with Brian.



Senior Infants

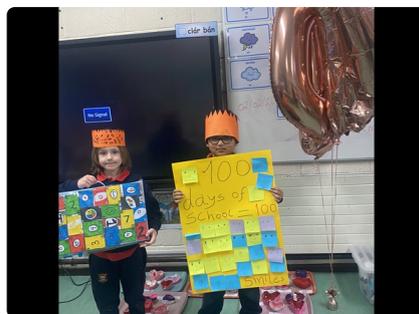
This month, senior infants had great fun with friendship February activities. We had a lovely time at the Valentine's disco. We were so good and managed to fill our behaviour beads jar, we chose our reward as a pancake party! We also learned lots about 'The Doctor's Surgery' and even had two special guests visit us, a nurse and a doctor!



First Class

1st Class had the best day for their 100th Day of School! The projects the children brought in were spectacular and everyone had a wonderful day showcasing the hard work to the other children in the school. In particular, we loved showing our 5th class buddies our 100 themed projects!

We also had a great time during the Valentine's Disco, singing and dancing with all our friends.



Second Class

February was a very busy month for 2nd class. Ms Treleven's class took themselves outside to develop their measuring skills and to figure out how to use trundle wheels. Turns out they're pretty easy to use so we just kept measuring!! Ms Dolan's class have been working hard at procedural writing making delicious cupcakes and pancake recipes which they are now experts at!

Friendship February was in full swing, we spread lots of kindness to our classmates and all those around the school. The children also loved buddying up with the senior classes and of course the extra yard time on Friday's!

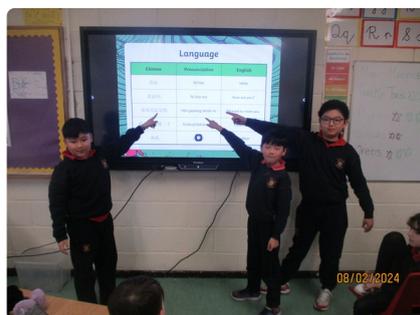
This month also gave us the opportunity to celebrate Chinese New Year with our friends. It was a very special day for all of us and we are so lucky they shared it with us. We also made Chinese Lanterns and Dragons. But the fun did not stop there.... We had to get busy making our Valentine art creations, cooking and eating pancakes and of course dancing at our amazing St. Fintar's Valentine's Disco! We definitely needed a midterm break after all that hard work!!





In Ms. Byrne's class this month, we started off the month by making St. Brigid's day crosses in Art. We began 'Reading Buddies' with Ms. Breen's 1st class, and the children in Room 10 are loving it each week!! We celebrated pancake Tuesday by learning a Pancake Recipe as Gaeilge and then got the treat of eating some delicious pancakes in our classroom!!! The Valentines Disco was very popular in Room 10, all of the children loved the dancing, sparkles and balloons.

Ms. Smiths 3rd class started reading buddies with Ms. Tuohey's 1st class this month, they're doing a super job helping their partner with their reading. They really enjoyed Friendship February the two highlights were the Valentine's ball and being buddied up for yard every Friday with a Junior Infant from Ms. Burke's and Ms. Moran's class. As part of Chinese New Year some of the children told the class all about how they celebrate the new year with their family and they even taught the class some simple chinese phrases. A big well done to the three boys!



Fourth Class

We've had a very busy month in Rang a 4! The Peace Proms was a huge success. Well done to all the amazing singers from 4th Class. They represented St Fintan's brilliantly. We had a Peace Proms party and disco to celebrate.

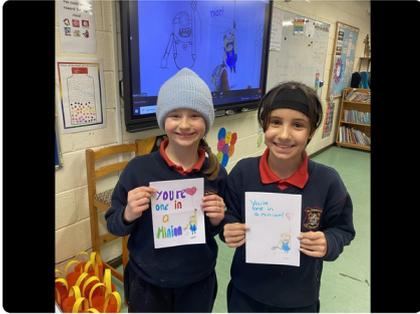
We've been working very hard on our Texaco Art Competition entries. Fingers crossed for some winning masterpieces!

We also created some beautiful artwork for St. Valentine's Day. The Valentine's Day Ball was a day to remember. There were some serious shapes thrown on the dancefloor!

Friendship February has been fantastic. We worked in groups and composed some beautiful acrostic poems on friendship. We definitely have some budding poets in our midst! We've also really enjoyed getting to know our new little pals in Senior Infants on Friendship Fridays.

We're starting swimming next month. We're really looking forward to it. All in all, it's been a very busy but absolutely super month!





Fifth Class

This month, both 5th classes held a bake sale in aid of Epilepsy Ireland. The children worked really hard in preparation for the bake sale, designing posters, transforming Room 13 into a makeshift bakery and organising a timetable for the day. Thanks to the amazing kindness and generosity of both the children and parents of St Fintan's the bake sale raised a fantastic €2300 for Epilepsy Ireland.

The children have been enjoying Friendship February and focusing on how they can be there for each other and they designed their very own friendship wall as a class. They also thoroughly enjoyed their valentines disco together.

The children in Ms. Morgan's class have now become published authors! Their 'When We Grow Up' Novels arrived last week and they turned out amazing!





Sixth Class

6th class boys and girls has their cross country trials on Tuesday 20th of February. A huge well done to everyone who took part and congratulations

to those who qualified for the team!

We were also delighted to receive our 6th class hoodies this month. I think we can all agree that the 6th class look super in their new gear!

Another congratulations to the 6th class boys and girls who were chosen for the school football teams. Matches will begin very soon and we know that you will do St. Fintan's proud!

We have finished our Climate Action lessons of our STEAM Science series and have progressed to biology this week. 6th class were busy investigating 'what it means to be alive' which led to some interesting debates!! We looked at evolution, changes in cells and began an experiment to track the growth of dried beans over a few weeks.

For our final Friendship February 6th class have been making friendship bracelets using a weaving technique. We do this to remind us of the importance of friendship and always looking out for our friends especially as we begin to look forward to secondary school





Linda Maher

Linda is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters