

St. Fintan's NS

Summer 2025

A Word From Our Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to thank you all for your continued support to our wonderful school. Your children are a credit to you. They have all worked to the best of their individual ability and I hope they enjoyed the past year in St Fintan's.

I would like to wish the very best of luck to the outgoing 6th class children Class of 2025. We look forward to their Graduation Day. I wish them every happiness in their new schools. An amazing group of children. Their new schools will be lucky to have them.

I would like to thank you, the parents/guardians for your ongoing support and commitment to our school. Parental guidance is so vital to our children as it helps them to develop respect, self regulation, self confidence and empathy.

I want to wish you all a wonderful summer holiday. I look forward to meeting you all at the school gates as the children return to school on Thursday 28th August. Enjoy the well deserved break and keep safe.

Kind regards,
Ms C Farrell



Girls Soccer Final

Our girls' soccer team recently took part in the league final at the AUL Complex, where they faced Donabate Portrane Educate Together. With a fantastic early goal, they secured a 1-0 victory and brought home the win—well done to the team!



Student Council News

Last week Ms Burke and the members of the Student Council participated in a Zoom call with UNICEF Education Officer Aibhlín O'Leary.

Aibhlín reviewed our Evidence and Impact pack for the Silver Award for Child Rights. She was incredibly impressed with the work the school has done during the year to promote Child Rights. Aibhlín asked the children many questions to gauge their knowledge about the rights and they did us proud with their replies. They spoke articulately, confidently and knowledgeably about everything that was asked of them. An amazing group of children- well done! We are confident our silver award is winging its way to Sutton very soon.



Children's rights in our school by Orla Mc Avoy

This year our school have been displaying children's rights all around the school in hope of earning the Unicef silver award for promoting rights in the school. For us, it wasn't about the award it was about the children of St Fintan's National School feeling safe when they come into the classroom. Each day, we have been doing activities to display children's rights among the school. In each classroom we have a big poster that displays our rights some of which include:

- Play, rest, culture and arts.
- Health, water, food, environment.
- No discrimination.
- Access to education.
- Respect for children's views.
- Access to information.

We have done lots of things to display these rights. We had no discrimination week, where classes performed plays based on the message of no discrimination. For the right 'health, water, food and environment' we did two things. We had hot meals provided to us by Lunch Bag and on the 12th of June we had our Junk Couture fashion show. This is where all of the children of St Fintan's made an outfit out of recyclable materials. Lastly, both 4th classes had swimming lessons this year which reinforced our right of rest, play and culture.

Lost Property

Lost Property is located in the lobby of the school. There are many lost jumpers and lot's of very nice coats left behind by the children. If you are missing an item please check lost property!

Junior Infants

Junior Infants have had a busy and fun filled term, enjoying lots of exciting adventures and hands-on learning experiences both in and out of the classroom.

We had a brilliant time visiting Malahide Playground, where we had lots of fun playing with our friends and enjoying the sunshine.

Back at school, our Reading Buddy sessions with the older classes have been a real treat. The children love looking at pictures and reading together with their buddies.

We've also been busy exploring the world around us through SESE activities. One of our favourite Science experiments this term was making our very own butter! With just a jar of cream and a lot

of shaking, the children were amazed to see it turn into real butter – and even more excited to taste it afterwards on bread and crackers!

To finish off a fantastic few weeks, we took a trip to the beach with our buddies where we collected shells and even spotted some crabs!!

We are very excited to finish off the year with our very first Sports Day and school tour to Newgrange Farm.



Senior Infants

Senior infants have had a busy term. We took full advantage of the sunshine, spending lots of time outside. Our nature walk was a great success, and we created amazing flower bracelets. We learnt about the growth of plants, how food keeps us healthy, and we made some delicious smoothies. Our buddies up in 6th class have been helping us with our reading and we love having them down. As we look back on our fabulous year, we are so proud of how far everyone has come, and we can't wait for our last few fun-filled weeks in Senior Infants!



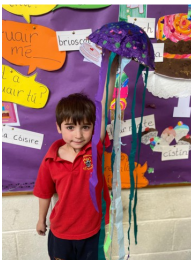


First Class

First class had a wonderful trip to Causey farm for our school tour. We also really enjoyed our sports day!

Miss Flynn's class made boats and tested them on a paddling pool, after learning about the Titanic. We started learning about sea life and following a few discussions on jellyfish, we made them from papier mâché.

Continuing on the theme of water, we tested the capacity of different vessels and managed not to flood the classroom as an added bonus.





Second Class

May was a very special and exciting month for both Second Classes as the children prepared for one of the most important milestones in their young lives — their First Holy Communion. After weeks of thoughtful preparation, the big day finally arrived on Saturday, 24th May. The ceremony, celebrated by Fr. Paul in St. Fintan's Church, was a beautiful and meaningful occasion. Every child participated with such reverence and enthusiasm, truly embracing the significance of the sacrament. Their teachers, Ms. Treleaven, Ms. McGinn, and Ms. Morgan, along with their families, were incredibly proud of them all. It's a day we know they will remember for years to come. Despite the Communion preparations, both classes still found time to dive into a variety of exciting learning activities. In Science, the children explored the wonders of space, working hard on projects about our Solar System. Their creativity and research skills really shone through, and it was fantastic to welcome so many parents into the classrooms to see the impressive displays. Some classes have even begun designing and building their very own solar systems — we can't wait to see where their imaginations take them!

May also saw the children supporting the 5th Class Bake Sale for charity. Not only did they help raise money for a great cause, but they also got to enjoy some delicious treats — a sweet reward for their generosity and community spirit.

As we move into June, the focus has shifted from Communion and projects to enjoying the last few weeks of the school year together. The month began with a visit to Leinster House, where the children were treated to a guided tour of the Oireachtas — a wonderful experience that brought Irish civics to life. Later in the month, both classes will head off on a much-anticipated school tour to Causey Farm, where the highlight is sure to be bog-jumping. Parents, be warned — muddy clothes are guaranteed!

It's been a busy, fun-filled term and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved. Their hard work, enthusiasm, and positivity have made this year in Second Class truly special. Well done to all, and here's to a joyful and well-deserved end to the school year!



Third Class

Over the past few weeks, the children in Mr Dunlop's 3rd Class have been very busy! As part of their Irish project, the children created fantastic model houses using recyclable materials and labelled them with the appropriate Irish words and phrases. The class had great fun making bird feeders as part of their OWLS project. They also enjoyed exploring the world of coding with the Scratch Junior app, where they learned how to create simple animations. In English, the class has been really enjoying their new novel, *The Iron Man*. Meanwhile, in Geography and Art, they have been working on a project about Sutton/Howth, designing colourful and creative posters to encourage tourists to visit the area. In maths the children have been learning about weight and have been having fun with balancing scales.

We have had a very busy and fun few weeks in Ms. Byrne's class. The children got to build their very own bird feeders as part of the nature project with OWLS that we have been working on. Our soccer sessions have continued to be a big hit. A special moment this term was getting to see the League of Ireland trophy close up! In class, we embraced our creativity and environmental awareness by building houses using recyclable materials. The children labelled their creations using new Irish vocabulary, integrating language learning with imaginative construction. We have enjoyed reading our new novel Mr. Stink in class also. We have been very active recently between our inter-class relays and sports day. All children gave their best efforts in all events and showed great sportsmanship and school spirit! We took advantage of the sunny weather and went for a walk along the coast where the children had a chance to take in the view and practice their observational skills by creating their own drawings of the landscape.





Fourth Class

It's been an action-packed term in Fourth Class! Our Peace Proms choir returned to perform at both the Communion and Confirmation ceremonies, where both classes sang beautifully - we were incredibly proud of them. We also had a fantastic time cheering on our boys football team in their GAA final in Abbotstown. It was a memorable day supporting St Fintan's!

This term, we were lucky to have Ms Curran, Ms Slattery and Mr Cunningham teaching our classes. We took part in lots of hands-on learning, including measuring area in maths, exploring one-point perspective in art, engaging with our class novel, making rice Krispie buns and much more! We're really looking forward to our upcoming school tour to Flynn Park, sports day, and all the exciting activities planned for June!



Fifth Class

We've had a very busy few weeks in 5th Class. We can't believe the year has almost come to a close. Here's a round up of some of our recent activities!

The Cake Sale:

The two 5th classes hosted a Cake Sale in aid of the Howth Sutton Autism Friendly Community. It was a wonderful success. The event was run entirely by the children themselves. They played a blinder.

Room 13 was transformed into a busy marketplace where wheeler dealers were showcasing their very impressive negotiation skills. It was wonderful to see such fantastic teamwork at play. We definitely have some budding CEOs in our midst!

We have to give a massive thank you to all the pupils and parents for their scrumptious cakes and very generous donations. We raised a whopping €1656.90 which will be put to very good use. We're beaming with pride!

One of the unexpected highlights for the kids was counting the money we raised. The focus and shared sense of responsibility were remarkable! Some up and coming bankers and accountants perhaps!

Interclass Relays:



The interclass relays took place last Friday. After a number of nail biting races, Ms. Tuohey's class pipped Ms. Tarbett's to the post. It was heartwarming to see such fantastic sportsmanship and support on display from both classes. Maith sibh, a pháistí!

Our Trip to Howth:

After filling our hard earned marble jars, we went on a little adventure to Howth. Our aim was to retrace Gráinne Mhaol's steps from Howth Castle to the harbour & buy an ice cream. We got as far as the green as ice cream was calling and the legs were beginning to ache! However, all was not lost as we had a few photo opps at the gates of Howth Castle and at the statue in the playground. The scramble for ice cream and playing in the playground were a great hit. The two classes represented St. Fintan's superbly. It certainly was another day to remember.

We have lots more exciting activities planned over the coming fortnight.....our school tour to Emerald Park and a trip to the beach, to name but a few!

Sixth Class

The 6th classes have just returned from an amazing overnight trip to Carlingford Adventure Centre! Their days were packed with activities like laser tag, kayaking, pier jumping, campfires and high aerial adventures and ziplines—definitely not for the faint-hearted! A lot of wonderful memories were made on this special end-of-year trip.

JUNIOR ENTREPRENEUR PROJECT

It was a busy final term for Ms. Breen's 6th class. The children took part in the Junior Entrepreneur Project.

The children worked so hard developing their ideas. They gathered in groups to come up with lots of different ideas such as Dream Catchers, Squishy Balls, Slime Kindness Key Chains, Scented Candles and of course Lucky Ducky's. The children put their innovative, business and technical skills together to build a product and put a huge amount of work into the advertising of their ideas. The children then had the daunting task of facing 'The Dragon's' to sell their idea too. It was amazing to watch their confidence when talking to 'The Dragon's' and they displayed excellent teamwork skills. However, it was the 'Lucky Ducky's that stole the heart of The Dragons and won. The whole class have now come together to complete the development of 'Lucky Ducky Keychains. The idea is children buy these little duckies and build up a collection of them, trading and swapping. They will sell their Lucky Ducky's this week and hopefully get a good return on their investment!

Well Done 6th Class



