



September 2022

Newsletter

Welcome back to school! We have had a great first month in 5th & 6th Class as we have all settled back into our school routine. We really hit the ground running with lots of activities, including buddying up with Junior & Senior Infants, leading a whole-school Assembly and starting swimming lessons, all within the first fortnight of returning to school!

We are very lucky to be joined by a new student in 6th Class this year. Zeph has been a lovely addition to the class and we have been enjoying getting to know him!

You can read all about what we have been up to this month below.

Miss Cooke

Our Quote of the Month

'The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.'

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Reminders

- Shoeboxes for Team Hope Shoebox Appeal are due in by 26/10/22.
- Halloween dress-up day: 28/10/22.
- School will close at 2pm on 28/10/22 for mid-term.
- School will re-open at 8:20am on 07/11/2022.

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Some September Activities



Crannógs

We worked in pairs to create model crannógs, which we learned about in History. We used cardboard, matchsticks, paper, tape and paint to construct our models.

Buddy Art

We worked with our Junior & Senior Infant buddies to create paper people, based on ourselves. Mrs. Drake displayed half in her room and Miss Cooke displayed the other half outside our classroom.



Some September Activities

Me Montages

This year's school focus is Wellbeing. For our first wellbeing activity, we created montages based on things which make us unique. We drew pictures and symbols of things which are important to us, our favourite food, drink, TV shows, movies, sports, animals - and more. We also presented these to the school at our monthly Fabulous Friday Assembly!



Student Highlights of the Month

CLASS SHOP & BANK ACCOUNTS

CONNIE: 'Miss Cooke made us little bank cards and we have a class shop where you can buy toys or sweets if you want. You get €50 every week for doing your class job and at the end of the month your Dojo points get changed into 'money' in your bank account, to spend in the class shop. There are three bank managers, and for September they were Meghan, Sophie and me. I really like this system and I think it's a good way to achieve stuff for being good!'

ANNA: 'The bank accounts are not real money but you can get class money from your Dojo monsters at the end of every month, and €50 every week for doing your class job. It's really fun!'

TOM: 'One of my highlights is the class shop. We get to spend class money on stuff like stress balls or Rubik's cubes. We get the money from doing our class jobs and winning Pod Points for being good.'

SWIMMING

SEÁN: 'On 14th September we started swimming at Castle Park every Wednesday. It's really tiring but still really fun!'

LORCAN: 'Castle Park has a really nice pool and the instructors are friendly. Since we started swimming this year I feel my technique has already got a lot better.'

THEO: 'Swimming in Castle Park is really fun - at the end they let us play with lots of footballs in the water!'

ANNABELLA: 'We got split up into three levels for swimming. My teacher is called Nadia - she is really nice and has helped me improve a lot! We worked on our backstroke, breaststroke and front crawl. We also did dives and tumble turns which were super fun!'

MATHS

SEÁN: 'For Maths we worked on 2-D Shapes which was really fun. We also did co-ordinates. They're really easy and enjoyable.'

AMELIA: 'In Maths we learned how to measure angles using a protractor which was hard at first but it got easier. Next we learned how to draw angles which was fun!'

Student Highlights of the Month

5TH & 6TH CLASS ASSEMBLY

EDIE: 'Our 5th and 6th Class Assembly was so much fun. Miss Cooke picked the story of Noah's Ark and then we made it into a play and presented it to the school. I was Narrator One so I got to open the play - that was a big thing for me, especially since it was the first time I talked in front of the whole school!'

GENEVIEVE: 'We did a play of Noah's Ark for the school and everyone played a part. My part was God and I had a lot of fun with it! The people who did not want to speak got to play the animals. I think everybody enjoyed the play!'

ITALY PROJECTS

GUS: 'In September we started our Italy projects. I'm doing mine with Connie - she is very smart and neat in presentation so I have faith that we will get a good grade!'

CONNIE: 'The topics we are doing are Sports, Food, Landmarks, Culture, History, Inventions and Famous People. I really like doing the project and learning about Italy because I was there in the summer and had a great time!'

CRANNÓGS

TOM: 'We made model crannógs! Crannógs are places the Celts built for protection. Crannógs had houses and fire pits.'

CHARLIE: 'For the crannógs, I worked with Harry. It was loads of fun! Our crannog had stepping stones which we painted grey, and they lead to the actual crannóg. The crannóg is a circle shape and has a fence around it with a nice little house. I thought building the crannóg was loads of fun! Fun fact: Crannógs were built on/beside water so that the Celts could eat fish and have fresh water.'

RAPHAEL: 'One of the fun things we did this month was make crannógs in Art. They are little houses that the Celts used with little stepping stones leading up to them over the water. They have two or more little huts.'

FINISH THE PICTURE

GENEVIEVE: 'Every Friday we get to do a Finish the Picture - it's a sheet with a random squiggle on it and we have to turn it into anything! I find it really fun.'

Student Highlights of the Month

CHRISTMAS CARDS

AMELIA: 'It was weird doing Christmas stuff in September! My card has penguins decorating a Christmas tree. It was really fun to make them!'

MARION: 'For my Christmas card I designed a reindeer, Santa and a greyhound dressed as a reindeer!'

EDIE: 'I have to say it was really weird to do our Christmas cards in September - we were all listening to Christmas music! My card has a fireplace with a Christmas tree and a Christmas banner. I can't wait to send it to people!'

CHARLIE: 'For my Christmas card I did Rudolph, the Grinch, Santa and a snowman coming out of a wall and I wrote 'Merry Christmas' on it. It was lots of fun!'

ANNA: 'I did an old car with presents on top. We did them while listening to Christmas music. I loved doing the Christmas cards - they are really fun!'

SOPHIE: 'Making the Christmas cards was really fun and listening to Christmas music made it 1000 times better!'

NAOMI: 'For my Christmas card I drew bunnies wrapping a present. The wrapping paper was carrot themed! I gave both my bunnies jumpers and one bunny a hat. I loved drawing them - it was really fun!'

MUSIC

LORCAN: 'I love Bach's pieces because he is an amazing composer and I really like classical music.'

GUS: 'Bach is one of the greatest composers ever. His story is really interesting and we learned a lot of facts about him. Fun fact: A lot of his family members were also musicians or composers!'

HARRY P.: 'In Music we learned about Johann Sebastian Bach. He composed loads of great pieces. We listened to the song 'Air' which was interesting.'

MEGHAN: 'We have learned a lot about Bach. Did you know that he had 20 children? Five were named Johann and two were named Johanna!'

ANNABELLA: 'We listened to a few of Bach's pieces and then we picked out the instruments we could hear. In another Music lesson we drew out a scene that could go with the music.'

Student Highlights of the Month

YARD & PE

MARION: 'For PE we did football. My team won a few times. There were four teams (A, B, C and D). It was very fun!'

BUDDIES

ANNABELLA: 'In September we got matched up with our adorable buddies! I got two buddies - their names are Heather and Nico, and they are the best buddies ever!'

LORCAN: 'My buddy is a boy named Cal. The first day we met our buddies we met in the yard and had a picnic - it was really fun. My buddy is very curious and he also knows how to have fun. The second time we met our buddies we went down to the Junior & Senior Infant classroom and we did some art. It was a really enjoyable thing to do and I can't wait to see Cal again!'

AMELIA: 'My buddy's name is Anú and she is very cute! She didn't say much on the first day we met but I saw her on yard a few days later and I asked her what her favourite colours were and she told me her they were pink and purple.'

EDIE: 'One of the things I loved most in September was our buddies! At first my buddy Lily was quite shy but by the end of our second activity she was talking and I realised just how nice she is! She is so so so cute and I couldn't have asked for a better buddy!'

HARRY P: 'I got a new buddy called Tadhg so now I have two buddies! We made paper copies of ourselves and stuck the hands together. We also had a nice picnic with them in the yard.'

THEO: 'September was my first month having a buddy - in fact, I have two buddies! Their names are Harry and Jasper, and they are the cutest and funniest things ever!'

HARRY M: 'My buddies are Robin and Bobby. They were a bit shy on the first day but for the second activity they were talking so much!'

GENEVIEVE: 'My buddies are Aengus and Evie. They were a little bit shy starting off but they are a lot less shy now. Evie showed me her really cool hat - it's a monster hat and when you squeeze the monster's hands the ears go up! I have given my buddies little gifts - for Aengus a white letter 'A' and for Evie a white letter 'E' which they can paint. I love having buddies, they are so cute!'

