

CHRIST THE KING BNS NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2022



PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

A message from Ms Vahey

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the longer evenings. I hope the weather will stay fine for the Easter holidays for us all to make the most of it and spend time with our families.

Well done to all our students who have worked hard and have kept the motivation going right throughout this term. We had lots of fun in school along the way.

We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge between March 10th - March 16th. We made seanfhocal posters, listened to traditional Irish music and read Irish books. Each class completed an Irish quiz, senior classes watched an Irish movie and junior classes watched Irish cartoons. The week ended with a céilí mór for all all classes, followed by a parade around the yard to celebrate Lá Glas.

On March 16th, it was a great occasion to mark the lifting of restrictions and have our monthly school assembly in the school hall with all of our school community together once again.

On Thursday March 24th our 2nd class students made their First Confession. It was our first time to celebrate this during the school day and the ceremony was live streamed for parents to watch.

On Saturday April 2nd we celebrated the ceremony of light for our students making their confirmation on April 28th.

Well done to all students involved.

CTK BNS Board of Management, school management and school staff would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Regards

Clodagh Vahey

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please ensure your son wears his school uniform daily. School tracksuit is worn twice a week on PE days. It is important that your son creates good habits wearing his uniform consistently. CTK BNS school uniform consists of the following:

Crested school tracksuit is available to purchase from Happy Events uniform shop in Mr Price in Blanchardstown centre.

Grey v-neck jumper, grey trousers, pale blue shirt. These items are generic and do not have a school crest and may be purchased from any of the high street department stores.

ILLNESSES:

We appreciate the communication to school by parents when your child is not feeling well and cannot attend school. Given that Covid 19 cases are still high in the community please do not send your child to school if they are showing symptoms such as a cough, sore throat, fever, sore tummy. If your child tests positive for Covid 19 current advice is that he will need to isolate for 7 days. Your child needs to be symptom free for 48 hours after he 7 days of isolation before he can return to school.

Please ensure to inform your class teacher by email or by contacting the office if your child is absent due to isolation and your son's class teacher will be in contact with you.

STUDENT ABSENCES - IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS.

If your child is absent, please ensure you send a written note or email to your son's class teacher when your child returns to school. If no explanation is provided to the teacher your son's absence will be logged on 'Aladdin' (school's attendance roll call system) as unexplained. If your child has a record of being absent often and no written notification is provided to the teacher explaining the reason for his absence this will become a problem over time. Once you explain the reason for your son's absence this is logged accordingly on Aladdin.

EASTER RAFFLE

Thank you for supporting our Easter Raffle. We raised €286 for our school. Congratulations to all our prize winners.



CLASS REVIEWS

LE CHÉILE 1

Ms Mc Caughey

The boys in Le Cheile 1 have been learning all about Spring recently and the changes that happen during this season. We've studied the weather, looked at pictures of all the baby animals that are born and also all the beautiful flowers that grow. The boys also studied the life cycle of a flower and all its different parts. They did fantastic art work as usual, we have 6 artists in our class. They cut out chicks hatching from eggs, painted colourful rainbows and also designed their own Easter Eggs. We have 4 boys in Le Cheile also preparing for their Confirmation- Zachary, Philip, Colin and Scott. They have been working so hard this term learning all about Jesus and Holy God and completing pages in their Confirmation scrapbook. Anthony and Leon have been busy practicing their phonics and counting skills. All the boys have worked so hard this term, they deserve a well-earned rest and lots of chocolate this Easter. Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

Ms Mc Caughey!

LE CHEILE 2

Mr Coleman

We've been working hard this term, especially with numeracy and our Maths activities. We have taken some trips locally to Mount Bernard Park and the playground as well as the post office in Fassagh shops to learn about shopping, queuing and money. We also completed lots of lovely artwork this term all of which is on display in our corridor. We made some homemade pancakes in the kitchen in March for pancake Tuesday and practiced some Irish dancing for the school céilí mór. Wishing you all a happy Easter!

Mr. Coleman

JUNIOR INFANTS

Ms Bacon

We have been super busy these past few weeks in Junior Infants. The boys have been working super hard with their sounds and Tricky Words the past few weeks and are now working on reading and writing words and full sentences! We have come so far since starting in September.

We are such an artistic class and our artwork brightens up the corridors and classroom every week.

We finished up with Runner Beans this term. We are sad that it is over, however we are so happy we got the chance to have fun and learnt so much!

The boys are getting ready for the Easter Bunny by making lot of Easter art and drawings. Most importantly we are remembering and learning about the First Easter- when Jesus died for us on the Cross.

We cannot wait to see what the last term brings for Junior Infants as we move into Summer and get ready for Senior Infants very soon!

SENIOR INFANTS

Ms Smiley

Senior Infants have had a very busy second term! The boys continue to work really hard on improving their reading by continuing to practice their sounds and blending. They loved choosing their favourite toppings when it came to Pancake Tuesday. The boys learned Ballaí Luimní Irish dance for the school céilí that was held to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We all made an extra special effort to speak Irish during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Senior Infants had six weeks of athletics with Janette which they thoroughly enjoyed. They were very lucky to have student teacher, Mr. Neville for the past three weeks. They took part in countless exciting activities! The boys sowed basil and lettuce seeds in order to investigate the conditions seeds need to grow. They measured each other's height using lollipop sticks and they counted how many paces long the junior corridor is. They also got to do lots of fun activities around weight and capacity! The boys are very excited for their Easter Holidays! I hope that everyone enjoys a happy and healthy Easter break.

1ST and 2ND CLASS**Mr O'Keeffe**

1st and 2nd class have had a very busy term. The boys have worked hard on their writing, making Mr Bean stories and their own, original comic strips. We have done lots of music too. We've used the school tablets to explore making different types of music and we even had a go at writing our own songs using the rhythms that we've learned! We made lots of decorations for Seachtain na Gaeilge, learned some Irish dancing and watched Spongebob as Gaeilge.

In January, we started hockey, which was a new sport for the boys and we had great fun doing that, as well as Athletics with Janette. We also did yoga for PE on rainy days! 2nd class did a lot of work preparing for their 1st confession and we'll be doing the same after the break for our Holy Communion. The boys have put lots of work in this term and have definitely earned a well deserved break.

3RD CLASS**Ms O'Brien**

3rd class have been putting in a great effort this term with their work and all of our extra activities. The class really enjoyed their time with Jeanette and her Runner Beans classes that have been going on for Term 2. The improvement in their athletic skills has really shown over the past two weeks.

The boys have got their green fingers out and planted cress seeds that grew exceptionally well. The boys then turned their skills to sculpting by making clay aliens that were both artistic and wacky.

Last week the boys got the opportunity to present their hard work on their space projects to the 4th, 5th and 6th classes. They did themselves proud as all the class were very impressive in their ability to find and present their projects. It was a great feeling to be able to visit other classes again and show them the hard work being done by 3rd class boys.

4TH CLASS**Mr O'Rourke**

Fourth Class has had an eventful term. While learning about the history of art, the boys created colourful prints in the style of Andy Warhol, and we've been focusing heavily on art each week. Among the topics we have covered since Christmas are Chinese calligraphy, rhythm notation, the Antarctic, geopolitics, kindness and global warming. There was plenty of activity in the run-up to St. Patrick's Day for Seachtain na Gaeilge, as we learned seanfhocail (proverbs), Amhrán na bhFiann (our national anthem) and the traditional Irish dance Ionsaí na hInse (The Siege of Ennis). Recently, we have learned about Trees of Ireland, even making and playing a card game to show off our knowledge.

We have been enjoying our athletics programme with Jeanette on Mondays. We also recently completed a Life Skills programme with Sylwia and the FUSE Anti-Bullying programme.

The boys have researched and produced three large-scale projects, about The Celts, Famous People and the Normans. For the first two topics, we created colourful displays for the walls, featuring lots of interesting facts, timelines and images to bring the topics to life. For the most recent one, each pupil constructed a Norman castle using recycled materials, We then added flags in our family colours and title cards using medieval Blackletter typeface. The finished castles look fabulous.

5TH & 6TH CLASS**Mr Bodkin**

It has been a very busy time in the senior end of the school with our Confirmation coming ever closer. The boys have been hard at work with their preparation for the sacrament. We have been doing many mini lessons on the Holy Spirit and other topics specific to the Confirmation. Fr. Joe brought us on a tour of the church and we had the opportunity to ask him any questions that we had.

In English, the boys became authors, writing their own novels complete with front covers and blurbs. We reviewed each other's work and wrote positive reviews for our peers.

In both English and Irish, we explored scripts and drama. In Irish, we have been practicing a short play on 'An Bhiálann,' where two customers come to a restaurant and are served disgusting food by their waiter. Some of our actors went to other classes to perform the play.

In the creative arts, the boys have been learning music notation and used their newfound knowledge to compose short pieces to play on percussive instruments. In art class, the boys created cards themed for Valentine's Day and Mother's Day, as well as constructing an Industrial City, linked to History class. For Seachtain na Gaeilge, the boys also created beautiful silhouette art portraying the influence of Irish culture and language on their lives.

This month in PE, the boys have been exploring gymnastics. We learned how to travel and jump symmetrically. In a very impressive showing, the boys learned how to do a handstand and were all incredibly successful. The boys were sceptical at first but were all very proud of themselves afterwards for how well they did.

In SESE, the boys have exploring the topic of animals in detail for science class. We have been paying close attention to Irish animals in particular. For geography, we have been looking at places in Ireland that are different to our local area and comparing the two. For our study, we chose Wicklow as it is close by so it is somewhere that we could visit if we would like to.



SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

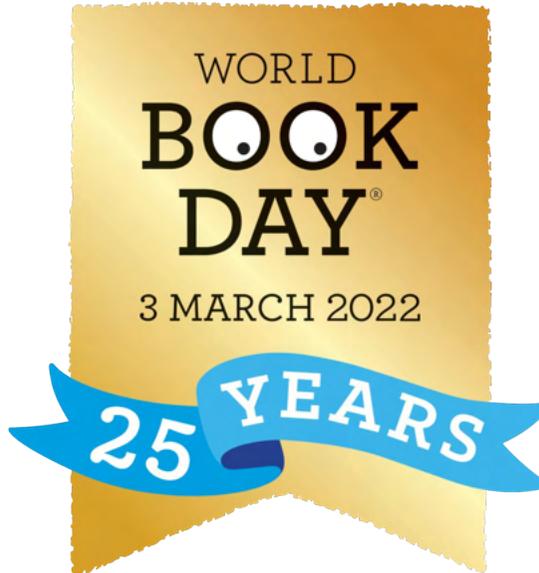
We celebrated Irish culture with a range of activities throughout Seachtain na Gaeilge, finishing up with Lá Glas on Wednesday 16th March. We made a special effort to speak more Gaeilge this week too!





WORLD BOOK DAY

On World Book Day, the boys in our Infants classes were treated to a story telling session by the boys in 5h and 6th class.





4TH CLASS "FAMOUS PEOPLE PROJECT"

"I love doing projects, I love how we get to be creative doing them. I love piecing it together and displaying it. I feel proud that I created it."
Shaun

"I loved doing a project on Neymar and getting to know more about him. I loved colouring in the pictures and sticking all the pieces together."
Christopher



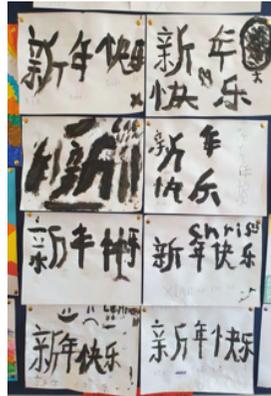
"I really enjoyed looking up pictures of Lewendoski playing football, colouring the club crest and Polish flag and seeing it all come together. I learned about his first clubs and when he made his debut internationally with Poland and with Bayern Munich."
Mason

"I learned when Ronaldo was born, about the clubs he has played for and that he won his first FA Cup in 2014."
Mikey



WOW WORK

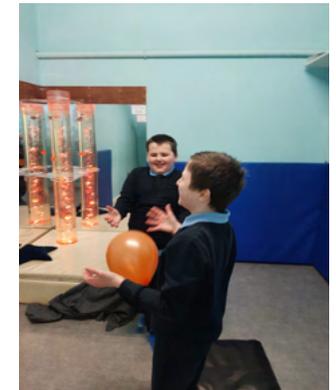
Here is some of our fabulous work on display on the corridors.





PLAYFUL LEARNING THIS TERM

Learning takes place in many different forms and that's what we have been doing!





SCHOOL NEWS

Student Council

The student Council welcomed it's new class representatives. We are all excited to start the school incentive of taking pride in our school by ensuring we keep our classrooms clean and tidy. The class inspectors will be inspecting and rewarding classes who take pride in their appearance and classroom cleanliness.

Assembly

School assembly is a very important occasion every month where we celebrate merit awards for each class and listen to performances from a junior and senior class. Our school assemblies are crucial for developing our school spirit and our student's sense of belonging to the whole school community.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the boys in 2nd class and Le Cheile 2 who have made their First Confessions and best wishes to the boys, their teacher, SNA and their families as they continue to prepare to make their First Holy Communion in May.

Confirmation

Confirmation will take place on Friday 28th April. Best wishes to the pupils in 5th and 6th class and Le Cheile 1 and their teachers, SNAs and families who have been preparing over the last few months.



HSCL NEWS

It has been a lovely term here at Christ the King bringing us from Winter into Spring!

This term, I ran a Toy Library with Senior Infants. Every week, the boys chose an educational toy or game to bring home to play with. This was to help the boys to develop skills they had been learning in school, like matching, developing memory, spelling, counting and taking turns. It was a big success and the boys took really good care of all of my toys and games!

Also, I was able to work with 3rd and 4th Classes to run the Maths Eyes programme. The idea behind Maths Eyes is to encourage children and adults to see Maths all around them in the community and the wider world.

I sent home a worksheet once a week for 4 weeks. All children who returned the completed worksheets were entered into a raffle to win some lovely prizes. Thank you to everybody who took part in this, and congratulations to all of our winners!

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break!

Ms. Harford

Home-School Community Liaison Teacher