

CHRISTMAS IN ST. CORBAN'S B.N.S



Christmas Tidings

Christmas is a special time of year for the young and the young at heart. It is a magical time to spend with those we love and to share our blessings with each other. Everyone here in St. Corbans would like to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year in 2024. **Nollaig Shona daoibh.**

Santa's visit

On December 7th, we had a special visitor arrive at St. Corbans. The boys in Junior Infants to 4th Class were given the opportunity to meet Santa Claus! The boys were extremely excited and were able to make sure Santa knew exactly what was on their lists. Santa did not forget about the boys in 5th and 6th classes, as he gave each class a box of sweets and gave everybody a night off homework!



CHRISTMAS IN ST. CORBAN'S B.N.S



Christmas Carol Service

Pupils from 1st to 6th attended our annual Christmas Carol Service in The Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane on Friday December 15th. Each class had a representative who played a specific role in the service and they did an excellent job. It was a joy to hear all the boys from 1st to 6th sing so well. All in all it was a very uplifting experience for everyone present. Thanks to Ms. Kelly and Fr. Robert for organising the service and well done to all the boys who performed at it.

Christmas Shows & The Pantomime

The boys from Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st and 2nd classes went to the Moat Theatre on the 5th of December to see the Christmas panto 'Elfie Doolittle Saves Christmas'. A great time was had by all the boys, teachers and SNAs.

Well done to Junior Infants, Senior Infants, First Classes, Second Classes, 4th Classes, and 6th Classes for performing their Christmas Shows. The boys worked so hard practicing their lines, singing their songs, and learning their dance moves, before their big performances for parents in the school hall or classroom.



SPORTS NEWS



The U13 Hurling team's quest for county final glory began in September against Caragh NS where a comprehensive victory boded for more to come from this group of boys. Next up was local rivals, Gaelscoil Nás na Ríogh. In a fiercely contested encounter, St. Corban's came out victorious and topped their group, leaving Maynooth BNS waiting as their semi final opponent. Clane GAA was the venue for this game and after a delayed start the St. Corban's boys found their rhythm and again claimed victory to reach the Division 1 County Final.

Gaelscoil Nás na Ríogh would prove to be our opposition again in the County Final. With boys on both teams teammates in Naas GAA, this contest promised to be a tense affair. After a titanic battle, it proved to be a single score separating the sides. The scoreline read 1-3 to 0-3 in favour of St. Corban's. Well done to all the boys on a fantastic win. A deserved result for all their efforts since the beginning of the year. Thank you to coaches Mr. O'Sullivan and Ms. B. Mangan for all of your hard work.

SPORTS NEWS



Basketball

The Basketball team participated in the Cumann na mBunscol Autumn Basketball League 2023. They performed at a very high standard each week at training and at the matches. They really impressed their coaches Ms. C. Mangan and Mr. Ryan. They had two great wins against Sallins NS and Maynooth Boys School, but unfortunately lost to Scoil Bhríde, Naas and Clane BNS by 1 basket, and were defeated by Kill by 7 points. This means that they will not enter the semi-finals, however, we wish them success in the Spring Blitz 2024. They represented the school very well and should be so proud of themselves.

Lunch-time GAA League

6th Class had a Lunch-time GAA League and trained for several weeks during their yard break. The day before the midterm break, they played the semi-finals and the final. All 5th and 6th classes came out to the field to cheer the teams on. Well done to all involved and thank you to Mr. Smyth and Mr. Dineen for facilitating this.



SPORTS NEWS



County Champions visit St. Corban's

On Friday 10th November, the school had a special visit from three successful Naas hurling teams. St. Corban's had the privilege of welcoming the current Senior County Hurling Champions (for the fifth time in a row), Minor Hurling Champions, and the Intermediate Hurling Champions. The boys loved cheering on their local heroes. Thank you for answering all our questions and bringing the cup to St. Corban's!

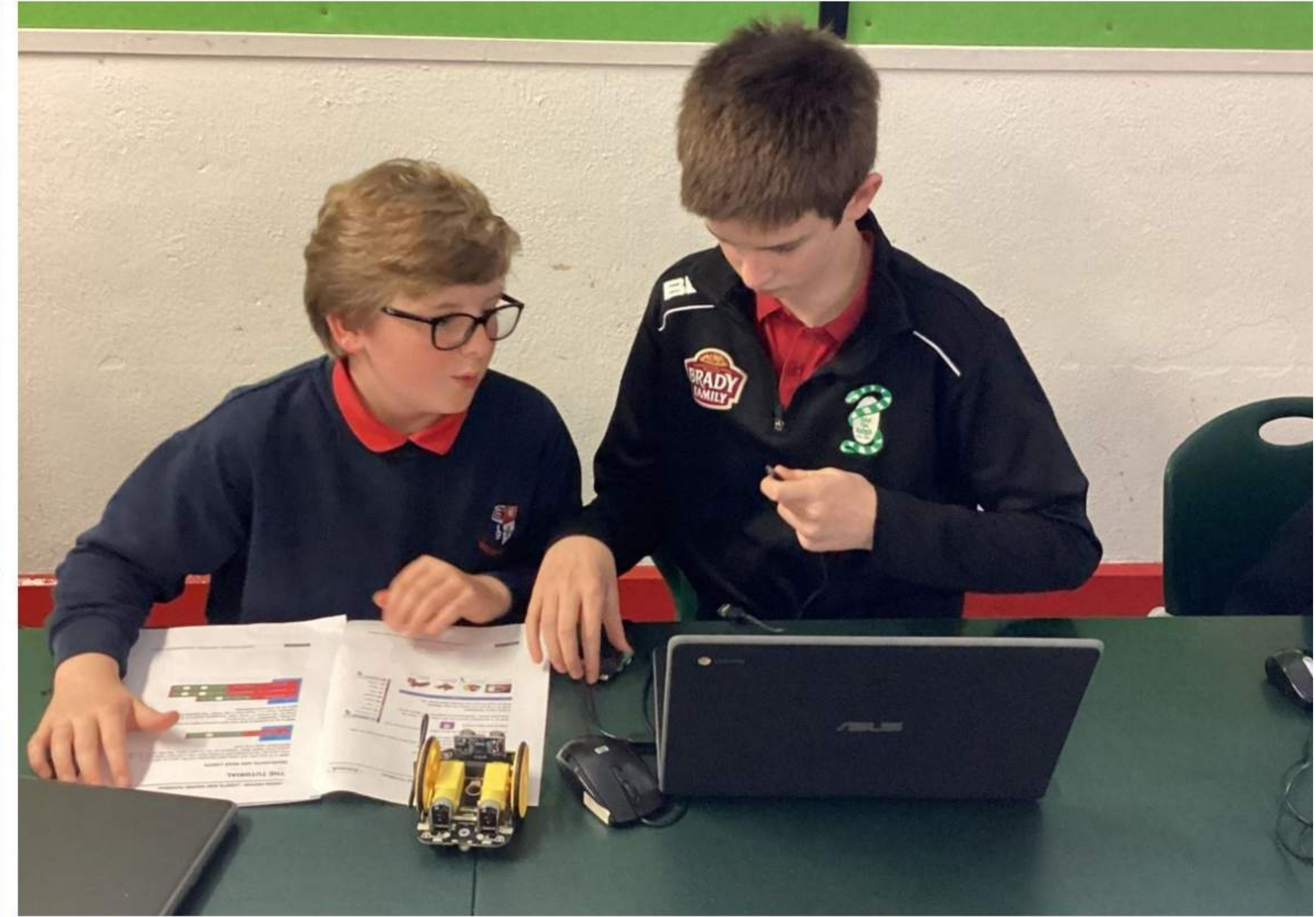


A Farewell to Mick Cahill - Rugby Coach

The day was made even more special as the boys in St. Corban's were given the opportunity to thank Naas RFC coach, Mick Cahill, for all of his work in the school over the last 10 years. Mick played an enormous role in promoting and teaching the boys about playing rugby. The boys always spoke fondly of him and loved participating in rugby sessions each week. From all of the boys and staff in St. Corban's, we would like to thank Mick and wish him all the best in the future.



CLUB NEWS



Coding Club

This year brought the beginning of an exciting new initiative for our school, Corban's Coding Club! Fifth and Sixth class pupils had the opportunity to participate and learn the basics of computer programming. Using Micro:bits, they worked together to showcase their problem-solving skills, computational thinking, creativity, and digital literacy skills. They even had the chance to programme robot cars. In January, another group of 5th class pupils will take on the coding challenge! We know our coders will use the skills developed, in the future. Thank you to Ms. Donnelly and Mr. Smyth for facilitating this club.

Club Chorbáin

The boys in fifth class were very busy this term in Club Chorbáin. They learned lots of Irish, played games, and learned popular songs as Gaeilge. We look forward to welcoming the 6th class to Club Chorbáin after Christmas. Is fearr Gaeilge Bhriste ná Béarla Cliste! Thank you to Ms. Byrnes, Ms. Mulreid, Ms. McCormack, and Mr. Dineen for facilitating this club.



CLUB NEWS



Quiz Team

All the boys from 4th to 6th class took part in two rounds of quizzes to help establish our two quiz teams for this year. The competition was fierce and it was wonderful to see the fantastic general knowledge that the boys displayed. Congratulations to: Eoghan Fahy, Harry Brereton, Freddie Donoghue, Milo Cagney, Johnny Bargry, Louie O'Reilly, Ethan Mahon, and Finn Dudley who made the team. Thank you to Ms. Ryan and Ms. McCarville for facilitating this club.



Chess Club

Chess Club has commenced for 6th Class pupils. The boys are dedicated to practicing their problem-solving skills on Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch breaks. Well done to all the boys for their participation and thank you to Mr. Smyth and Ms. C. Mangan for supervising this club during lunch time.

School Choir

The school choir will be performing at the 2024 Peace Proms in Dublin in early February. The choir recently travelled to Blanchardstown for their rehearsal with the Peace Prom's conductor Greg and other school choirs from Leinster.

WELLBEING AND THE SHOE BOX APPEAL



Wellbeing Wednesdays

This year again, our school has been prioritising our wellbeing every Wednesday. We have been learning about topics like gratitude, friendship, respect, growth mindset and ways for us to look after our wellbeing through activities like mindfulness, art, exercise and meditation.

We will continue our Wellbeing Wednesdays in the new year and will look forward to Wellbeing Week again later on in 2024.



Shoe Box Appeal

St. Corban's Annual Shoe Box Appeal was a huge success again this year. There was a staggering total of 279 Christmas Shoeboxes collected along with generous money donations, which will benefit those in need greatly this Christmas. St. Corban's appreciates all of the boys' generosity for such a worthy cause and Team Hope are very thankful for the boy's munificence.



JUNIOR CLASS NEWS



Junior Infants

Junior Infants have learned about Christmas and Winter. They have been learning all about 2D shapes and did the number 2. Ms. Hogan and Ms. McDermott's classes have been working so hard learning all of their tricky words and have done an amazing job! Both classes have had plenty of enjoyment from the elves that have been visiting them throughout December.

Senior Infants

Ms. Byrne's class learned about owls and their favourite is a Barn Owl. They created their own Advent Calendar in preparation for Christmas. Ms. Ryan's class learned about the Artist Paul Klee and created winter drawings.

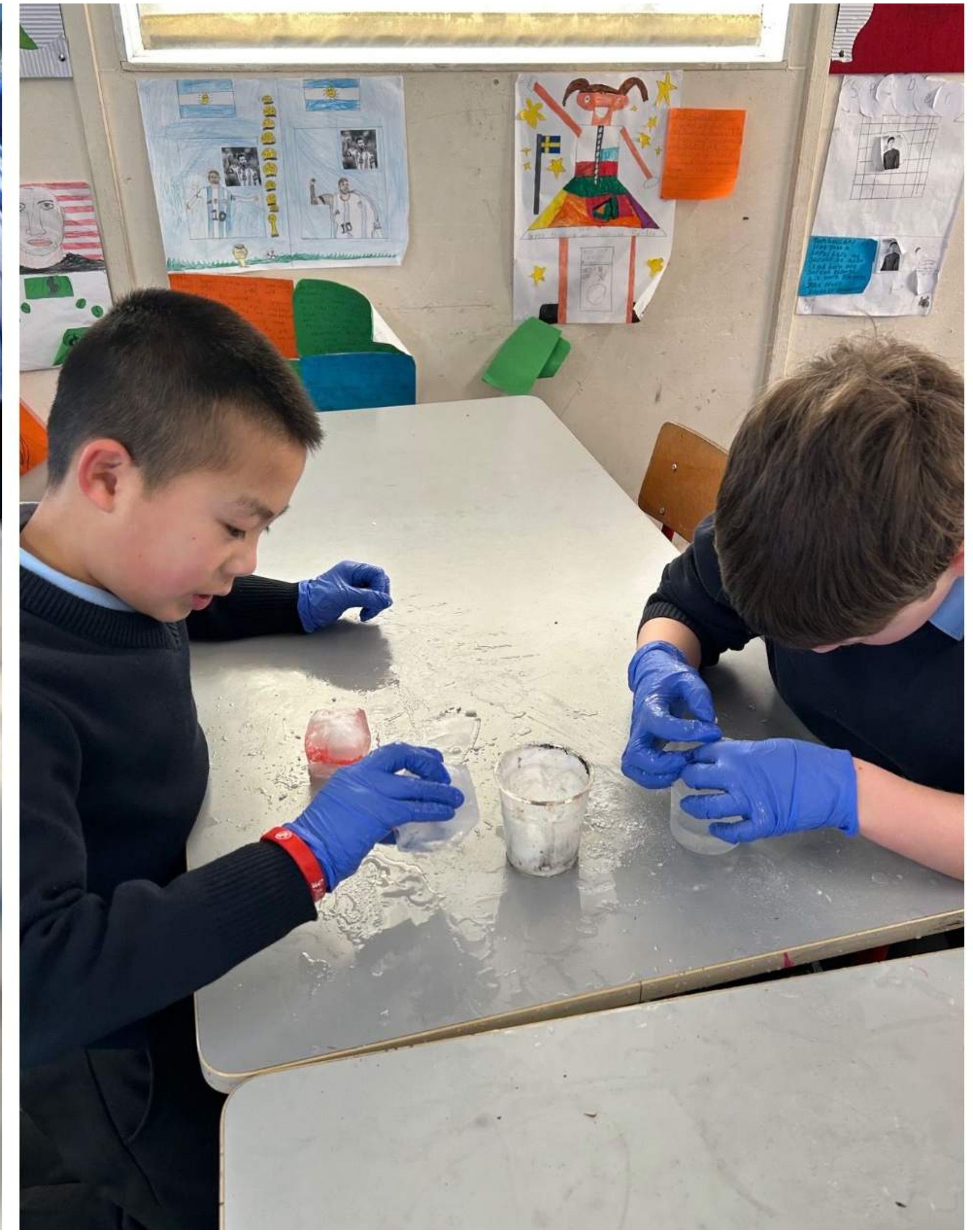
1st Class

Ms. McCormack's class have had great fun learning 'Away in a Manger' as Gaeilge. They have also created many pieces of art for Christmas. Ms. McCarville's class learned all about owls and winter penguins. D'fhoghlaim siad an téama Bia freisin. Ms. Cullagh's class learned about Christmas in other countries and raised awareness about homelessness across Ireland.

2nd Class

Ms. Mulreid's class interviewed their grandparents as part of history and their term has been packed with punctuation, they have learned about possessive adjectives and exclamation marks. They welcomed their Elf this December. Ms. Duffy's class has been going swimming in K-Leisure. They are also learning new prayers for their Holy Communion.

SENIOR CLASS NEWS



3rd Class

Ms. B. Mangan's class have enjoyed developing their STEM skills this festive season as they investigated how to defrost their frozen toys and construct an igloo using marshmallows. They have also developed their artistic skills by creating Christmas ornaments from clay.

Ms. Kelly's 3rd Class have been painting Christmas Trees with forks and have started an 'Ireland's Fittest Family' Wall Challenge.



Mr. Ryan's 3rd class have had a busy few months. They've learnt all about the Aztec people in Mexico, sang songs by the Sherman Brothers and painted pictures in the style of Renoir. They enjoyed weekly trips to the swimming pool until November and have had a football coach every Friday since. They've learned to use Google Classroom and made slide shows to present their work. They've written Acrostic poems, made menus in Irish, learned to multiply and divide, written biographies of famous people, learned about kindness and wellness and healthy eating and much, much more. They want to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Wonderful New Year.

SENIOR CLASS NEWS



4th Class

In Mr. O' Connor's 4th Class, the boys have been learning about Education in Ireland and the role of the Christian Brothers in the education system. They learned about floating and sinking and built boats to test buoyancy.

Ms. Ahern's 4th Class have also been busy working on their play 'The Magical Christmas Tree'. They had an exciting visit from an engineer from Bowline Engineering and thank him for sharing all his knowledge with them.



In Ms. Lyon's 4th Class, they are busy rehearsing for our play 'Ralph the Reindeer' which had its debut on Tuesday, 19th December. The boys worked very hard and learned their lines exceptionally well! When they were learning about the history of St Corban's they invited Mr Drewett into the class to chat about his time as a student, a teacher and principal in St. Corban's and the boys were fascinated by the stories about life in St Corban's (especially when boys could run home for their lunch!). Before Halloween, they went on a lake walk with Sorcha, from Kildare Bio Box Team. They learned about native and non-native trees in Ireland and she also brought in some freshwater invertebrates for them to observe, discuss and explore.

SENIOR CLASS NEWS



5th Class

The three fifth classes have had an action packed term. They have completed numerous topics in Maths such as 2D shapes, fractions and money. They have developed a strong passion for poetry as they created their own odes.

In Art, Mr. Hartnett's class created some fantastic clay decorations for their Christmas tree. While all three classrooms raised the level of creativity in the school, with their eye-catching Christmas doors. All of the classes have gained a great insight into the happenings of WW1 and have created WW1 projects on Google Classroom.



Ms. Delaney's class were learning all about chess via a webinar and did a lot of Christmas art such as glitter art and card making. They really enjoyed participating in Science Week in November. They were delighted to see themselves make the SFI Ireland show. The boys completed science week booklets learning about famous scientists and a fact a day! While Mr. Dineen's class have produced their own hilarious mini drama about Christmas.

SENIOR CLASS NEWS

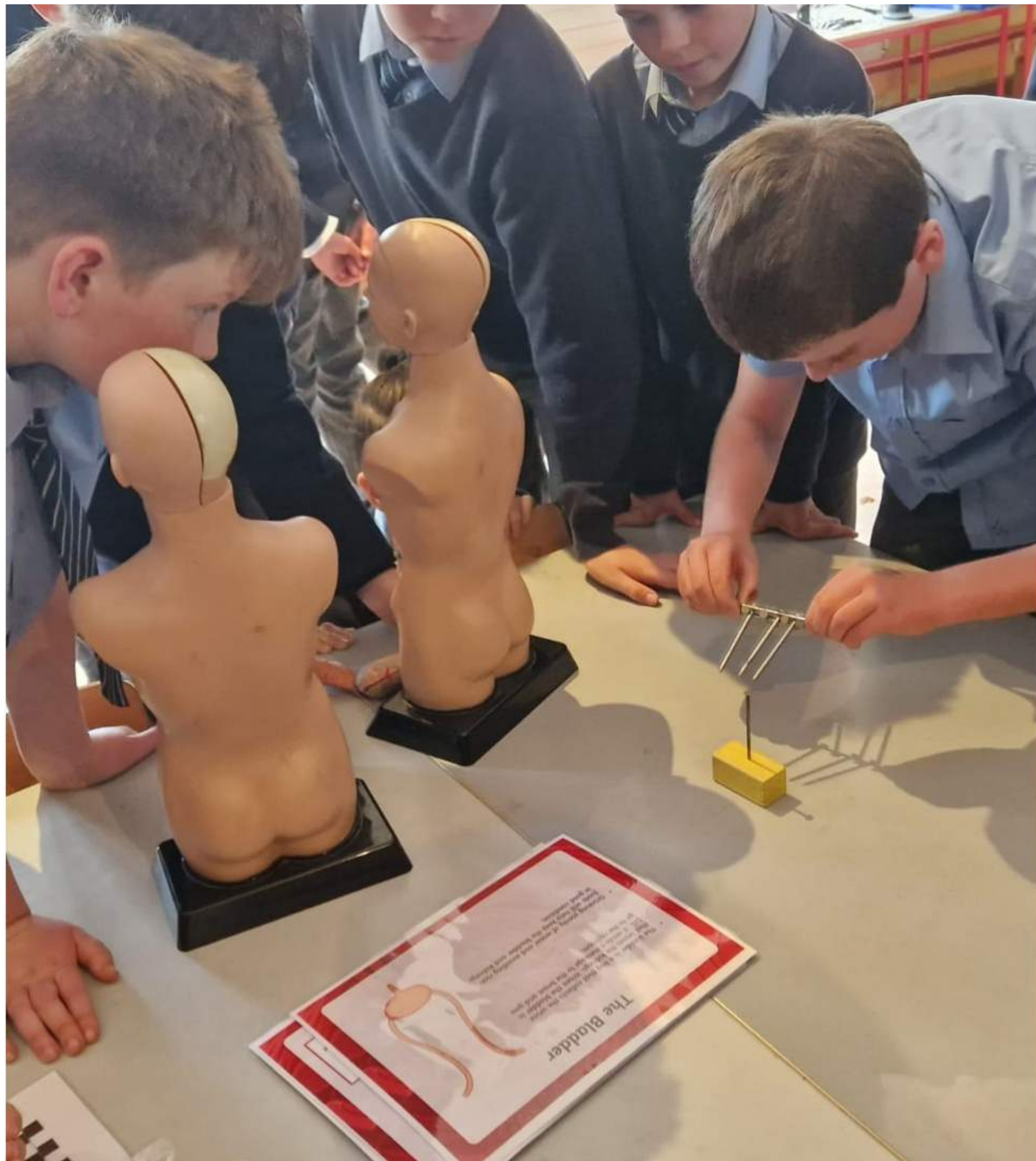


6th Class

All three 6th classes have been writing poems and publishing narratives in English. They thoroughly enjoyed reading *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and learning about Germany and World War II. Rinne siad biachláir sa Gaeilge and d'fhoghlaim siad faoi na téamaí Mé Féin, Bia, Sa Bhaile agus An Nollag. They have completed the Number strand in Maths and wouldn't give it another 'fraction' of their attention! They have explored their creativity as they made snowmen and gnomes for Christmas, confidently played tunes on the tin whistle, and performed in their Christmas Plays. They got active as they participated in swimming, athletics and tag rugby lessons this term. The Confirmation Candidates attended a retreat in Solas Bríd in Kildare Town in November where they learned about the symbols of the Holy Spirit, the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the fruits of the Holy Spirit.



SCIENCE WEEK



Children from 3rd - 6th classes participated in STEM workshops during Science Week. The workstations included Newton's Laws of Motion, electrical circuits, magnetism, The body parts, experiments on the centre of gravity and the hugely popular dry ice and water rocket. Great fun and learning was had by all. The children should be very proud of how they conducted themselves throughout the week. They showed a huge interest and participated really well in all activities. The facilitators of the workshops: Ms. Ahern, Ms. C. Mangan, Ms. B. Mangan, Mr. Smyth, Mr. O' Sullivan, Mr. Hartnett, Mr. Dineen, Ms. Kelly and Mr. Ryan are very proud of them all. We thank the teachers for organising and facilitating each workshop.



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION



Class Calendars 2024

There was great excitement on Tuesday, November 14th when the boys teamed up for the 2024 Class Calendar photos which were distributed earlier this month. Thanks to Maria Mahmood for taking the photos for the calendars. Thanks also to Clara McDermott and her employer Tynan Dillon who sponsored the printing of the calendars. This fundraiser by the PTA raised over €2830 for the school.

Selection Boxes

The Parent Association sponsored 5 selection boxes for each classroom which were raffled among the boys on Thursday the 21st of December.

Christmas Jumper Day

We held a sponsored Christmas Jumper Day on Tuesday the 12th of December to celebrate Christmas and raise funds for worthy charities. The boys wore their Christmas jumpers and brought in a donation. Thanks to the generosity of parents and pupils, we raised €1041.25. We had originally expected to donate half of this money to charity and use the other half in the school. However, in the Spirit of Christmas the Board of Management and the Parents Association decided to donate all of the funds raised to two worthy charities - Doctors Without Borders and a local charity Naas Point. We appreciate the generosity of all our families and we hope that our donations will bring care, relief and some joy to others in less fortunate circumstances than our own.



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION



HAPPY
EASTER



Easter Raffle

There is no Christmas raffle this year but we are planning on holding an Easter raffle. If any parents would like to donate prizes in advance please contact stcorbansptateam@gmail.com.

Fundraising Collections

We are also organising Supermarket Collection and Punchestown Races fundraising collections for 2024, so if anyone wants to get involved in helping out with the PTA please drop us a line at the same email address. Thank you!

Fill the Van

Parents should also note that **Fill the Van** will take place in the new year, so please hold onto your unwanted items over the Christmas period for the event! The association is organising a van to take clean re-wearable men's, women's and children's clothes, plus paired shoes, boots, belts and handbags etc.

Drop off will be on the evening of Thursday, January 18 for collection the following day. An Aladdin notice will be sent out before and after the Christmas break as a reminder.

Nollaig Shona daoibh.