

Easter Newsletter 2018

Dear Parents: Here is a flavour of some of the activities going on in the school at the moment.

Aine's Pre-school Class

- We went on an Easter egg hunt in the school grounds
- We love going on nature walks around our school grounds.

Louise's class

- We are getting very good at going to the playground
- We loved planting in the school grounds

Junior Infants: Rachel's class

- Rachel's class have been busy learning about the farm this term. We learned about milking the cow and we made our own butter! We made our own barn for the cows, pigs and sheep, we even made our own chicken coop
- Keep up the good work everybody!

Junior Infants: Bernie's Class

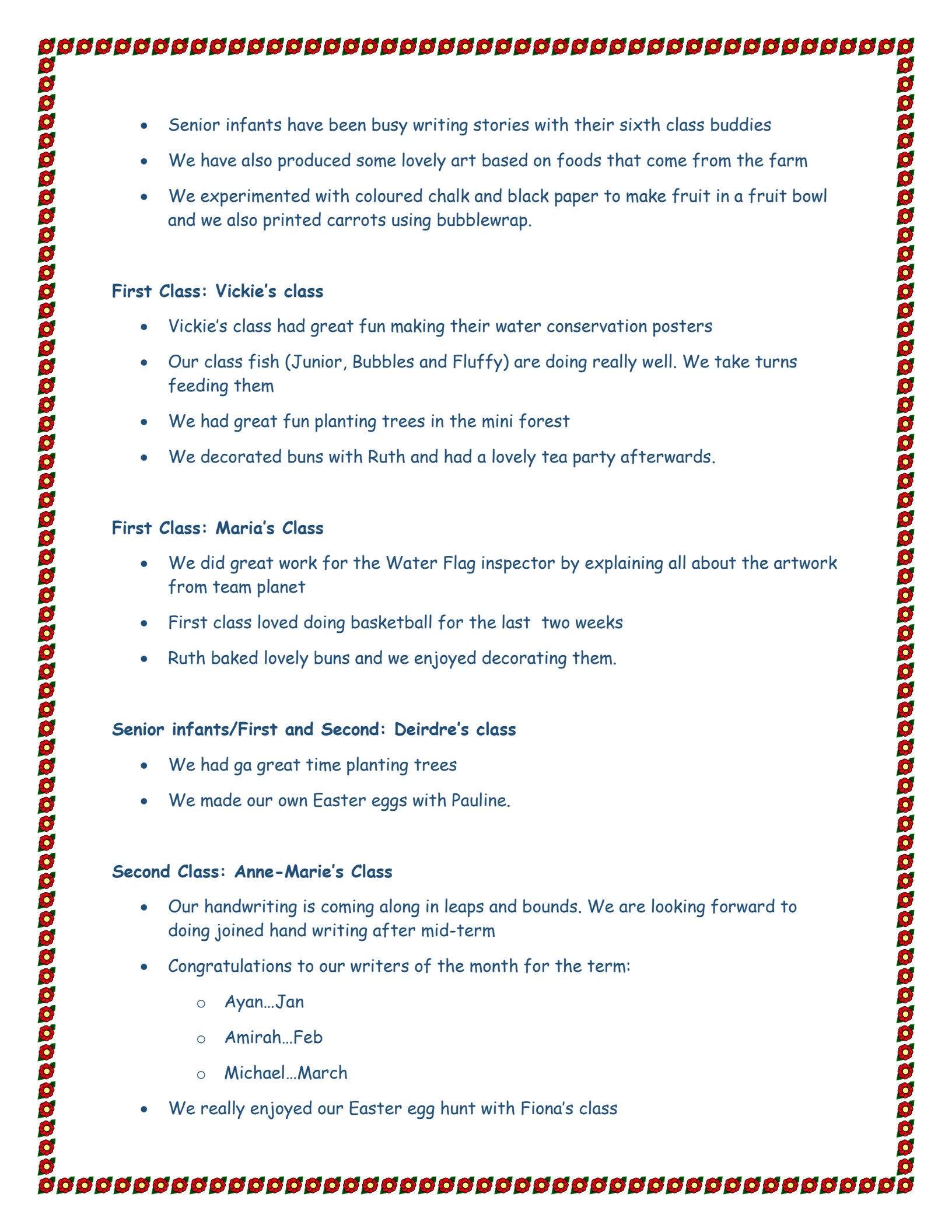
- We are making our own garden centre in our class. We are going to plant some lettuce, flowers and herbs after the holidays
- We loved writing our stories for sixth class
- Juniors have continued to work very hard, they should be very proud of themselves!

Senior Infant's: Ellen's Class

- We really enjoyed our Seó Seachtain na Gaeilge
- We sang songs, performed our drama and celebrated Lá Le Pádraig
- Thank you to all our parents for coming.

Senior Infants: Lisa's Class

- We have busy learning about life on the farm. We have planted some peas which we will watch grow over the coming weeks

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- Senior infants have been busy writing stories with their sixth class buddies
 - We have also produced some lovely art based on foods that come from the farm
 - We experimented with coloured chalk and black paper to make fruit in a fruit bowl and we also printed carrots using bubblewrap.

First Class: Vickie's class

- Vickie's class had great fun making their water conservation posters
- Our class fish (Junior, Bubbles and Fluffy) are doing really well. We take turns feeding them
- We had great fun planting trees in the mini forest
- We decorated buns with Ruth and had a lovely tea party afterwards.

First Class: Maria's Class

- We did great work for the Water Flag inspector by explaining all about the artwork from team planet
- First class loved doing basketball for the last two weeks
- Ruth baked lovely buns and we enjoyed decorating them.

Senior infants/First and Second: Deirdre's class

- We had a great time planting trees
- We made our own Easter eggs with Pauline.

Second Class: Anne-Marie's Class

- Our handwriting is coming along in leaps and bounds. We are looking forward to doing joined hand writing after mid-term
- Congratulations to our writers of the month for the term:
 - Ayan...Jan
 - Amirah...Feb
 - Michael...March
- We really enjoyed our Easter egg hunt with Fiona's class

Second/Third Class: Fiona's Class

- We really enjoyed our Seó Seachtain na Gaeilge: Ó Ró, Sé do Bheatha Bhaile
- We planted seeds with Aine from Seedsavers
- Our basketball skills have really improved this term.

Third Class: Claire's Class

- For our own Seó Seachtain na Gaeilge we performed MO Ghile Mear and Beidh Aonach Amárach
- We really enjoyed the Céile Mór with James
- We said goodbye to Celine and Daniel our two teaching practice students and wish them well in the rest of their studies.

Fourth Class: Siobhan's Class

- We performed Can't Stop the Feeling as gaeilge for Seó Seachtain na Gaeilge, we also played Fáiinne Geal an Lae on the tin whistle
- We planted potatoes, buckwheat, summer vegetables and phacelia in the raised beds.

Fifth Class: Brian's class

- Alan was on teaching placement with us for four weeks, we wish him well on the rest of his course
- Stryker Orthopaedics will be eworking with fifth class after Easter. Engineers from the company will be coming to the school once a week for a month to teach exciting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) lessons
- Fifth class will also be taking part in a research project to examine children's experience of PE. This is in collaboration with the PE Department in Mary Immaculate College. You will receive letters after Easter with more information
- For the Seó Seachtain na Gaeilge we performed the Haka as gaeilge.

Sixth Class: Pamela's class

- Sixth class are busy working on their Junior Entrepreneur mini company called The "Slime Factory". We will be having our sale on Friday April 20th
- The sixth class Seó Seachtain na Gaeilge was a huge success. The children sang, played the tin whistle and performed dramas that they had written themselves
- We are busy working on a "write a book project" every child in the school will write a piece or do an illustration for our own book that will be published. We are looking forward to the launch next term.

Policy Development

- We recently completed training on child protection. Our Child Safeguarding Statement is now available for viewing on the website. Thanks to staff, Board of Management and parents who helped with this
- Our updated Anti-Bullying policy is now available on the website
- We will be reviewing our Assessment and Relationships and Sexuality policies soon.

Attendance

- Our attendance across the school is excellent. Please remember to inform us if your child is absent and the reason for this absence, we have to record this and keep on file as per department guidelines.
- Please note once a child has missed 20 days in a school year that this information is passed onto the Educational Welfare Officer in TUSLA as per Department guidelines.

Curriculum

- We have updated all our whole school plans for each curriculum area, we hope to make these plans available for viewing by parents soon.

Green School

- Well done to our hard working Green School Committee for all the work they have done on coordinating our water theme this year
- Our Green School Committee is made up of the following children: Sean and Ola (sixth), Leo and Rhian (fifth), Oisín and Helen (Fourth), Zuzanna and Dominic (Third) Daithí and Hannah (Second), Osman and Aoife (First)

- We had an inspection visit from an educational officer from An Taisce and we hope to hear news that we will be awarded our Green Flag for water soon.

General extracurricular activities

- Well done to all who took part in basketball training after school and for the boys and girls teams who represented our school so well in the inter schools competition
- First to third class children took part in 6 basketball coaching sessions with former Irish International player Michelle Aspel
- Infants to second class took part in nature workshops on birds and ducks with horticulturist Geoff Hunt
- A representative from Irish Seedsavers has spent a day in the school and has taken some classes to plant our herb beds. We will have five return visits and will focus on planting in different areas of our beautiful grounds
- This past week each child in school has planted a tree on our grounds as part of the mini forest initiative. Two members of the An Taisce team spent two days in the school and as a result we have a living teaching and learning resource that will serve us well into the future.
- We had a visit from Erica McGann who is a children's author. Erica gave workshops to all classes from first to third
- Second to Sixth classes attended the performance of the musical "Hoodz" in the Lime Tree Theatre in Mary I
- The school choir travelled to the Redemptorist Church on Friday the 8th of March to perform at the Limerick Choral Festival. 32 children from 2nd to 5th class performed at the festival singing two songs "Dona Nobis Pacem" and "Sing Together". The children sang beautifully and were awarded with a Certificate of Merit. Well done to all the children and their parents for their participation and efforts. All children from 2nd to 6th class are welcome to come and sing with us for the final term. Choir practice is held every Thursday from 2.20 until 3.15.

Parents Association

- Please support the PA and their work, we are looking to have meetings in the morning as well as in the evening time

Drop Off Area

- Thanks to everybody for making this work so well
- Please remember
 - No entry to staff car park

- Only parents of children in the special classes should go beyond the pedestrian crossing
- Drive slowly in and around the school grounds
- If you cannot find a space to drop off just continue around
- Parking available in the Mungret GAA grounds/ Outside Gaelscoil and Old School carpark.

Health and Safety

- Reminder to all that there is no smoking or use of vapourisers permitted inside the school grounds

Building/School Grounds

- We are continuing to liaise with the Department and Building contractor on building snags

Official Opening

- The date for our official opening has been set. It will be held on Thursday 29th May between 10 and 12. We hope as many of you as possible can join us and that it will be an opportunity to sample some of the wonderful work that the children are doing each day
- We hope to invite all past parents/students and staff
- We are looking for parents with an interest in photography to take photos on the day.

Thank you for all your assistance this past term. We look forward to a busy Summer term and many opportunities to get out and enjoy our school grounds

Please log onto the website to see some of our photos www.limerickeducateetogether.com

School will re-open on Monday 9th May

Enjoy the break

Mike and Staff

