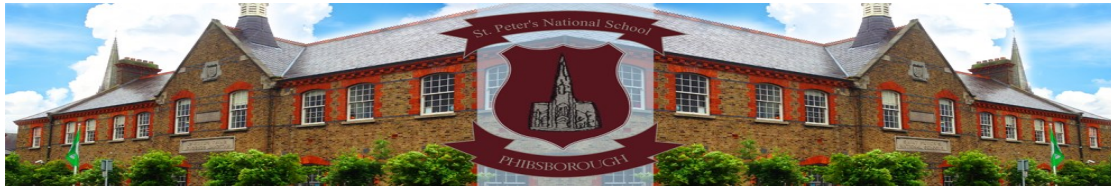


# St. Peter's Newsletter



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## This month at St. Peter's February 2020

A note from the Principal...

Even though February was a short month, we've managed to pack a lot of activities into our days. We celebrated our Well-being/Wellness week from 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> February which was a tremendous success. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Class pupils started their preparation for First Communion with the celebration of Confession on 13<sup>th</sup> February and our 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class pupils made their Confirmation on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February. Congratulations to our Boys' Olympic Handball team on reaching the Dublin Finals (finishing 4<sup>th</sup> overall). Our string orchestras will perform in our annual benefit concert in the Church on Sat. 29<sup>th</sup> of Feb. at 3p.m. while World Book Day takes place on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March. We are also delighted to announce that we are currently preparing for our whole school musical-The Greatest School on Earth (to take place in early May-casting currently taking place).

Our Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment Statements are available to view in the office while our newly updated website is under construction.

### *Senior Infants' News:*

February has been a very busy and enjoyable month in Senior Infants. This month we have been discovering all the signs of the season of spring. We have been learning about Éadaí as Gaeilge. In S.E.S.E we have been learning about different types of clothes and the clothes that are associated with different countries around the world. We celebrated 'Wellness Week' this month. It was a fun filled and positive week. The children took part in discussions and activities to promote the importance of wellness and kindness. For example, children took part in mindfulness activities, engaged in discussions about gratitude and appreciation and created kindness posters. We also had lots of fun celebrating Valentine's Day and made cards for our loved ones. We have started 'Maths for Fun' this month and the children are really enjoying it. Thank you to parents that are helping us out with this each week, we really appreciate it.

### *Junior Infants' News:*

This month, Junior Infants got the chance to be a part of their first wellbeing/wellness week in St. Peter's, and what a joy it was! A big part of wellbeing week was practicing mindfulness and meditating each day which is something we can do throughout the year as the children really benefit from it. We also discussed what we're grateful for in our lives and how we can show kindness to others. Maths has kept us busy as we learned all about the number 4 and completed our February mid-term assessments. We are also flying through our readers and have moved onto new sight words and our third story 'On the Farm' which integrates with the theme of Spring. For arts and crafts we focused on the theme of Valentine's day and our creations included valentine's cards and love bugs.

### **Quote of the Month**

**"Dreams don't work unless you do"**

## First Class News:

### Ms. Beirne

This month first class have been learning lots of interesting things. We have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes in maths. We have used tangrams to make different 2D animals. We have been learning about procedural writing and we followed step by step instructions in order to learn how to plant seeds and grow a plant. We have also written our own recipe giving step by step instructions for making a pancake for Pancake Tuesday.

We learned all about the first moon landing on Apollo 11 in 1969 and we incorporated this with our lesson on the solar system. We even simulated our own moon landing in drama, putting on our 'space suits' and our 'oxygen packs' and exploring the surface of the moon. We made a mnemonic rhyme in order to help us remember the order of the planets from the sun. We had great fun in art making papier mâché models of the planets in the solar system.

### Ms. Mullane

February has been a fast month in First Class! In Maths, we did lots of work in Subtraction and Fractions. We had a great time making fraction pizzas for our pizza parlour. We really enjoyed exploring the topic of China this month too. We made beautiful Chinese lanterns and dragons which have made our classroom very colourful! We learned about the history of Chinese New Year and explored the country itself learning lots of interesting information. We also loved learning about the season of spring. In Gaeilge, we have been busy learning all about 'An Aimsir'. Our Health and Wellbeing week was also a great success! We did lots of meditation and yoga throughout the week and had lots of fun learning our new song 'Fight Song'. We have also started Power Hour this month and so we are super busy engaging in lots of learning and group work! One of our favourite things we did this month was begin our new class novel 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark'!

## Second Class News:

### Ms. Gilmartin

We had a brilliant month here in second class. This month we were learning all about space. We discovered lots of interesting information about the solar system and we learned lots of interesting facts about the different planets. We really enjoyed designing and creating our own planets. We also learned all about the life of astronaut Neil Armstrong and the famous moon landing. We were fascinated to learn about how astronauts live when they are in space. In Maths this month we have been learning all about money and how to calculate change. In Gaeilge we've been learning all about Eadaí and have enjoyed learning different songs as Gaeilge. This month was also a very special month as the Communion class made their First Confession in St Peter's Church. It was a lovely ceremony and all the boys and girls worked so hard. We would like to thank parents, the choir and everyone involved in helping out with the ceremony. This month we were also learning about Lent. We learned about Pancake Tuesday and Ash Wednesday and we were even lucky enough to eat some delicious pancakes! We are very refreshed after the midterm break and we are looking forward to what the rest of the term brings.

### Ms. Oliver

February has been a fun month in 2<sup>nd</sup> class. They boys and girls have been learning all about Space (the Earth, sun, moon, the planets, famous astronauts, animals in space and they even created their own planets.) The class has also been learning all about the different counties and provinces of Ireland. We learned a poem to help us remember them! We have also been writing debates in class and trying to persuade others that our opinion is right. In Maths we have been learning all about money and subtracting 2 digit numbers. In Gaeilge we have been learning all about éadaí (clothes) and have even started some Irish spellings. On our Ipads we have started learning how to code which has been loads of fun! GAA with Mark has been great too. On Pancake Tuesday we ate some yummy pancakes and we have also been discussing what we will be giving up for Lent. Some of the boys and girls also made their First Confession. They were brilliant and I'd like to thank everyone who helped out. It won't be long until their First Communion on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May!

## H.S.C.L. News

Our baking classes have resumed after a winter break. Thanks to all those who have already signed up, the delicious aromas of your fabulous baking are welcome every Monday. Baking takes place every Monday from 10:00am. – 12:00pm. Call Marie Claire on 085 4259216 to register. I am visiting Junior Infant and 6<sup>th</sup> class parents at the moment, keep an eye out for a text or contact me on the number above or

[mvaughan@stpetersns.net](mailto:mvaughan@stpetersns.net)

## Third Class News:

### Mr. McConigley

This month we closely examined the cause and effect of The Great Irish Famine in History. The children also took part in their own research of the Famine and produced fantastic projects. We compared the Famine in Ireland to that of Ethiopia in Geography and a deep sense of empathy has been fostered after reviewing such comparisons.

In Maths, we looked at the topics of weight and capacity, and 2D shapes this month. We had a lot of fun estimating the weight/capacity of various containers using appropriate measuring equipment.

In English, we have been very lucky to receive a copy of the book 'Boot', written by Shane Hegarty to read at home and in school. The book created a real sense of enjoyment as we followed 'Boot' (robot) on his big adventure to find Beth. After reading the book, we got the opportunity to meet and greet Shane Hegarty at the Phibsboro library. He engaged us in a discussion about the book and answered all our questions we had about 'Boot'. Shane was a fun character and all children had a wonderful time.

We also started 'Coding' in ICT with Eoin for the next 6 weeks using the application 'Scratch Junior'. We aim to create some simple coding using animated characters and adding text to produce our very own animated story.

### Ms. Kelly

3<sup>rd</sup> class have been busy this month. We have had great fun in maths, learning all about weight, capacity and 2D shapes. We have used the Geoboards to create 2D shapes and designed our own tessellation masterpieces. In English, we completed our persuasive writing element for First Steps. We had some very interesting walking debates about online gaming and video games, from which we took inspiration for our pieces. We have also started our class novel "The Butterfly Lion". During Gaeilge, we explored the theme of 'Sa Bhaile' and created our very own house using everything we have learned. We are learning 'Old Town Road' as Gaeilge, we love it!

We celebrated both Valentine's Day and Pancake Tuesday this month, and we thoroughly enjoyed both. We created some lovely Valentines Art and tasted some yummy pancakes with maple syrup. We started coding using the Scratch programme on the iPads and so far we are really getting on well. During SESE, we discussed the Famine and created our own mini projects about the General Election at the beginning of the month.

## Fourth Class News:

### Ms. H. Horan.

Spring is finally here and we've been keeping our eyes peeled for signs of Spring each day. We've learned the names of many spring flowers and have composed spring poems too! We've also been incredibly creative here in Room 25 this month, weaving St. Brigid's crosses, making origami swans, kindness posters and patchwork hearts. Many members of our class sang beautifully at the confirmation ceremony too! What a busy month it's been.

### Ms. Hand

We hope everyone had a wonderful mid term break and are well rested coming back to school this week! Firstly, we would like to say a huge congratulations and all the happiness to Mr Ryan, who got married over the break. February has flown and we can't believe March is only round the corner. We had a fantastic well-being week and thoroughly enjoyed creating our posters for the week that was in it. As we focused on 'Kindness' for our theme, we spent time discussing ways in which we can show kindness to loved ones and those in our community. There was a great sense of positivity around the school, one which we hope to maintain in the weeks to come.

## Fifth Class News:

**Ms. Holohan—written by Ciarán Delaney**

This month flew by as we have been very busy. In Maths we've been learning about length and time. In English we have been learning all about persuasive writing. We read a variety of persuasive articles and letters and then wrote our own persuasive blurbs for our own favourite books in an effort to try and persuade others to read them. It was an exciting month for us in terms of Religious Education as some of us had our Confirmation. Our classmates and special friends came along to support us. In S.E.S.E. we presented our projects on Australia. We are all very excited for our trip to Kilmainham Gaol next week!

**Ms Hughes**

by Hari Janakiraman

The month of February has been a great to Spring for us. In Art we made wonderful St Brigid's crosses and learned all about the Celtic Festival of Imbolg. In Maths we looked at the unitary method and in SESE we learned about The Reformation and Henry VIII and life in 17th Century Ireland. Our midterm break (which also happened in February) was great! And after our break we were ready to get back to school. That's when we started our class novel which is called *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. It's great so far! February was a great month and we look forward to the things that will happen in March!

## Sixth Class News:

**Ms. Carroll**

In English and Art, we are currently designing t-shirts in groups. We carried out some research to explore trends and to see what influences people to choose different types of clothing. We had to choose a target market and a brand name and we are currently focusing on the design of the t-shirt and deciding on a Unique Selling Point for our t-shirts. When we have designed our t-shirts, we will then start working on an advertising campaign where we will be creating a promotional poster, a jingle and a television advert. We will then present our finished t-shirts to Ms. Carroll.

We have started our class novel 'Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michelle Magorian. It is set in World War II and it is the story of a young boy named William Beech who was evacuated from his home in London to a village called Little Weirwold in the English countryside. He is living with a man called Tom and his dog Sammy. We are looking forward to seeing what happens to William as the story unfolds.

In music, we learned some folk songs. We learned a folk song from Ghana called 'Che Che Koolay'. We also learned an American folk song called 'Who Fed the Chickens?' and we also learned a Caribbean folk song called 'Tingalayo' which we are also learning to play on the violin.

**Ms. A. Horan**

Sixth class really enjoyed well being week. We had lots of opportunities for mindful moments/meditation. We also did some mindful colouring and listened to relaxing music. We even got to wear our own clothes on feel good Friday. We had our first of a series of workshops in the church. It was a very enjoyable experience for all who took part. We brought in all our old odd socks to make glove puppets in art. We used scrap materials from home to create funny, lively and interesting characters.

Our 'Transition to Secondary School' programme with Ms Donegan is going really well. Instead of taking down our homework from the board we have started listening to the teacher calling it out. This is similar to what will happen next year. We have also started clearing our desks each day and using the cubby holes in our classrooms as lockers. We are learning to plan ahead and be more organised. We hope these small changes will make things easier for us in September.

## Dates to Remember:

**Tuesday 17th March 2020**

**St. Patrick's Day**

**Friday 3rd April 2020**

**School closes at 12 noon for Easter Holidays**

**Monday 20th April 2020**

**School re-opens at 8.50am SHARP**