

# St. Peter's Newsletter



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

A note from the Principal...

January kicked off to a brilliant start with a visit from the Moon and Sixpence Puppet Theatre and our annual Book Fair. The pupils bought over €4,000 worth of books so happy reading everybody!!!

We'll have an action-packed February also with our Ceremony of Light (end of January), Confirmation for 5th and 6th Class and First Penance in 2<sup>nd</sup> Class. Also our anti-bullying/wellness week from 10th-14th of February. Our Junior boys' Olympic Handball team are waiting to see if they have done enough to earn a place in the Dublin finals at the end of February. Our school orchestra will perform in St. Peter's Church on Saturday, 29th February.

**Please note that we are currently having issues with our school website and it should be rectified** within the next few weeks (hopefully!), Our reviewed child protection safeguarding statement and risk assessment are available to view in the office while the website is down.

It's not long now until the mid-term break so we'll keep the spring in our step! Thanks to everyone as always for all the co-operation..

### Senior Infants' News:



### Junior Infants' News:

This month the Senior Infants have been learning all about food. We have been exploring healthy and unhealthy food, where food comes from and food from various cultures. We've been learning about having a healthy lifestyle, exercising and taking care of our teeth. In Aistear, we've been talking about the dentist and the supermarket. The book we've enjoyed this month is Handa's surprise. We made prints with all the fruit Handa was bringing to her friend Akeyo. We used real fruit to do this. The children will receive their new toothbrushes soon which they can use at home!



We have all settled back in after the holidays. It was lovely to see our friends again after the long break. This month a lot of our work has revolved around the theme of 'Food'. We have had great fun talking about the supermarket, playing in a restaurant and listening to different stories including 'Handa's Surprise' and 'The Enormous Turnip'. We have also started reading books all by ourselves in school and at home! We feel very proud of the fact we can now read so many words and even sound out some words we haven't seen before. Thank you for helping us practise these words and stories at home also.

**Quote of the Month**  
**Mistakes are proof**  
**that you are trying.**



## *First Class News:*

### **Ms. Mullane**

The boys and girls in First Class have been very busy during the month of January! In Maths, we learned all about Place Value and Length. We had lots of fun working in teams measuring different things in our classroom! We have really enjoyed exploring our topic of food this month. We learned about the different types of teeth we have and how people in the past collected and grew their own food! We are currently learning about food chains and how all animals depend on each other to survive. In Gaeilge, we have been busy learning all about 'Bia'. We love to share in Irish what we have to eat in our lunch-boxes. We took part in trials for Cross Country this month too. We all went to Shandon Park where we participated in running races, it was lots of fun. For Art, we made lovely hot chocolate mugs which we decorated with lots of patterns. They look delicious! We also made doughnuts out of clay. One of our favourite things we did this month was begin the story 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl.

### **Ms. Beirne**

This month first class have been working hard after returning from our Christmas break. We have been learning about length in maths. We have measured the length and width of the classroom using metre strips, we have measured our desks using blocks and lollipop sticks and we have even measured the length of the corridor outside our classroom using a trundle wheel. We have been learning about narrative writing with both real and imaginary stories. We have had lots of fun in our new music lessons and we have been learning all about the different notes in music as well as learning new songs. We have made bookmarks to use for reading and we made delicious looking doughnuts from clay, which we decorated in lots of different ways.

## *Second Class News:*

### **Ms. Oliver**

This has been a fun month in 2<sup>nd</sup> class. Our class has made some lovely New Year Resolutions for 2020 and we have been learning about the Chinese New Year (Year of the Rat). We made some colourful firework art to celebrate it. We have been learning about Caitheamh Aimsire (past times) in Gaeilge. We have been reading poems and writing our own poems (Limericks) in English. We also have been learning about spatial awareness and 3D shapes in Maths. Our adding skills have really improved and we are adding 2 digit and even 3 digit numbers! 2<sup>nd</sup> class have also been learning about solids, liquids and gases. We also looked at the effect of heat on different object. It was fun doing experiments to see if objects were transparent, translucent or opaque. In History we have been learning about Tom Crean and his exploration to the South Pole. We also went for our running trials in Shandon Park which was a lot of fun. A puppet show came to our school and did a very funny story of "Little Red Riding Hood." The Book Fair has been in the school and we have all been enjoying reading all our new books. The Communion class has been busy preparing for their First Confession which will be taking place in February. Everyone is really looking forward to Grandparents Day next week.

### **Ms. Gilmartin**

We've had a fantastic start to the New Year in second class. At the beginning of the month, we were lucky enough to be visited by the Puppet Show, where they provided us with an excellent performance of Little Red Riding Hood- with a twist! We all had a great time. We have really enjoyed this month learning all about the Arctic. We have discovered what the climate is like and where it is located in the world. We also learned lots of interesting facts about Arctic animals. In History we were fascinated, learning all about the Irish explorer Tom Crean and his ventures to Antarctica. We were also learning all about spatial awareness in Maths. We are now learning about 3D shapes and where they are in our school and in our environment. In Gaeilge we've really enjoyed learning about our Caitheamh Aimsire and learning different songs as Gaeilge. This month we also had our cross- country trials in Shandon Park. All the boys and girls were excellent and really tried their best. Well done to everyone involved. We also had our book fair this month. All the boys and girls really enjoyed looking at and purchasing all the different types of interesting books on offer. We've been very busy and enjoyed ourselves this month and we are very excited to see what the rest of the year brings.

## **H.S.C.L. News**

**A note from H.S.C.L Coordinator Marie Claire Vaughan- 089-4259216**

**Happy New Year to all our parents. Our computer and cookery classes for parents will continue throughout the year. We will also be starting art classes in the Spring so keep an eye out for notes containing all the details. Maths for fun will hopefully be going ahead in February with Senior Infants. We are still looking for parents to take part so if you can find the time, please let the class teacher know or contact me. Thanks to those parents who have volunteered.**

## Third Class News:

### Ms. Kelly

Our class have had a busy return to school after the Christmas break. Our theme for this month has been 'food'- which we have explored during History class, Geography class and English class. We explored foods from around the world and also looked at food and farming in Ireland in the past. During Art class, we took inspiration from the Moon and Sixpence Puppet Theatre and the wonderful puppet show that we were so lucky to watch in the hall! We created our very own puppets using recyclable materials and in groups we wrote, directed and performed puppet shows. It was great fun! Our cross country trials took place this month, and everyone put in a super effort. We have also began our Mobile Music classes every Wednesday, where we have been learning about tempo, pitch and lots of fun songs. We have also learned all about Chinese New Year and celebrating the Year of the Rat.

### Mr. McConigley

We kicked the New Year off by reflecting on the past year and recorded some simple 'resolutions' for ourselves as we start the year afresh. We looked at the topic of 'Food' and used our senses to identify such foods during a simple experiment. We examined the work of Andy Warhol in Art and painted some food piece using his idea of 'Pop-Art'. In Maths, we explored the topics of 'Money' and 'Data/Chance', which was great fun as we surveyed other classes and drew up pictograms/bar charts with the results we found. In Irish, we gained some useful vocabulary for shopping 'Ag Siopadóireacht'. In SESE, we have looked at the country of China in terms of cities, landmarks, population, food, traditions etc and compared them to Ireland. We completed individual projects on China, which are beautifully displayed in our classroom. We looked at the tradition of Chinese New Year in English Comprehension. Lily and Isabella (from Ms. Oliver's 2<sup>nd</sup> Class) brought in some Chinese artefacts, which were presented to our class. In History, we carried out some 'Grandparent Interviews' to see what changes have occurred since they were young.

## Fourth Class News:



### Ms. H. Horan.

We've welcomed 2020 with scratch art fireworks and lots of resolutions! We're learning lots of new hymns as we prepare to take part in the Confirmation Ceremony choir next month. We've had cross country trials and are looking forward to visiting St. Peter's Church Garden.

### Ms. Hand

All of us here in fourth class would like to wish everyone a happy new year. We're certain there will be many great times ahead of us in 2020!

Sadly, due to the catastrophic events in Australia recently, this country has been mentioned a lot in the news as of late. As a result, we've decided to focus on Australia in SESE this month. Australia is such a beautiful island, with many tourist attractions associated with it. We have been looking at the wonderful landmarks it possesses and its gorgeous scenery. Did you know that Australia is the sixth largest country in the world with a population of about 25 million people?! We have been in awe of the adorable animals roaming the Australian lands. These include the incredibly cute koala bears and kangaroos. In art last week, we drew pictures of koala bears. They can be seen swinging from branches outside our classroom!

In other news, we are starting the year as we mean to go on-by getting fit. We participated in the running trials earlier this week in Mount Bernard Park. Despite a murky start to the day weather-wise, all pupils invested a great effort in running around the park. Well done to those who have successfully secured themselves a place on the cross-country school team.

Finally, we are super excited about our upcoming musical! We cannot wait for the school to put on an amazing show. We would like to wish the very best of luck to those auditioning next week!

## *Fifth Class News:*

### **Ms. Holohan**

This month we were so busy that we had no time for the January blues. We had a jam-packed month from preparing for the Ceremony of Light to creating our very own firework display for the New Year in art. In English we greatly enjoyed voicing our opinions through means of walking debates and by putting into use our persuasive writing in classroom debates. We were very lucky to have a visit from the bookfair this month and each child wrote a persuasive blurb for a book of their choice. Congratulations again to our class for reaching twenty yellow cards for their calm and orderly line up routine in the yard. We had an enjoyable time playing board games that are integrated with Literacy, maths and drama, which indeed was an extremely fun way to exercise our cognitive skills.

### **Ms Hughes - by Kevin Rapa**

We are excited for not only a brand new year but also a brand new decade. We were very happy to come back to school after the Christmas break, seeing our friends and having a good time in school.

We have been doing lots of léitheoireacht agus gramadach sna ranganna Gaeilge. In Maths we have been learning the 24 hour clock and now we have started Percentages. In Art, we did some scratch art and we watched a short video of Tibetan Monks creating sand mandalas and we then we made our own!

We also had our Cross Country trials and our Book Fair.

## *Sixth Class News:*

### **Ms. Carroll**

In January, Ms. Carroll's class discussed New Year's Resolutions and we each picked four that we could focus on. We created a piece of artwork with our resolutions. We realise that it was very easy to choose our resolutions and that it will be much more difficult to keep them.

In geography, we presented our USA projects. We prepared for the presentations by picking out the most important and interesting pieces of information and we practised our presentations in pairs. We wrote some notes on cue cards to help us. We focused on delivering our presentations in a confident manner, maintaining eye contact with our audience and pausing where necessary. The presentations were a big success. There are definitely some budding public speakers in sixth class.

We celebrated the Chinese New Year on 27th January in our class. Lisa performed a Chinese dance which was absolutely brilliant and her costume was spectacular. We made some red Fu decorations which are supposed to bring good luck. We enjoyed sampling some Chinese candy and we tucked into some Chinese fortune cookies.

### **Ms. A. Horan**

6<sup>th</sup> class have settled back into school very well since returning after the holidays. We had a visit from Anthony Garvey. He is one of the top public speakers in the country. He gave us lots of tips and tricks on how to become confident speaking in front of large groups. The most important piece of advice he gave us was that people become better at speaking in public by practising lots. He gave us a chance to do a debate at the end of the workshop and we really enjoyed it. The judges gave extra points to those who stood up, made eye contact with the audience and varied their tone of voice.

We also had a visit from a puppet theatre. This was a very enjoyable experience. The characters used a lot of humour to entertain the audience. Perhaps we will make our own puppets in art and perform puppet shows before we leave 6<sup>th</sup> class. In English we have been looking at how modern technology is evolving. We looked at what a future house or city might look like. It is both scary and exciting at the same time. Most of the changes are positive but we are also worried that we may become too sedentary and spend too much time in front of screens. One thing's for sure, Ireland in 2050 will be a very different place!

## **Dates to Remember:**

<b>17th—21st Feb, 2020</b>	-	<b>Spring Mid-Term Break</b>
<b>24th Feb. 2020</b>	-	<b>School re-opens @ 8.50a.m. SHARP</b>
<b>Tuesday 17th March 2020</b>		<b>St. Patrick's Day</b>
<b>Friday 3rd April 2020</b>		<b>School closes at 12 noon for Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Monday 20th April 2020</b>		<b>School re-opens at 8.50am SHARP</b>