

January 2023 news from the classes

Junior Infants: Ms Ryan-Junior Infants have been talking all about Winter and the clothes we wear for different occasions. They really enjoyed reading the story of The Emperor's New Clothes and how the emperor got tricked by the clever tailors! They thought it was very funny. The melted snowmen they made in art are evidence that the weather is getting warmer and the cold days of winter are behind us!

Senior Infants: Ms Moran & Ms Ryder-Senior Infants have been working on the story The Very Hungry Caterpillar. They learnt to sequence the story, make the lifecycle of a butterfly using different pasta shapes and painted lots of caterpillars.

First & Second Class: Ms. Kenny's class had a very busy Science week. They made ice-cream in a bag, they grew salt crystals, tested does fat keep you warm and predicted and tested how high different balls would bounce. In Art, the boys made colourful birds, weaved lanterns with 5th Class to mark the Chinese New Year. The boys also made St Brigid's crosses out of pipe cleaners.

First & Second Class: Ms. Collins class learned about toys from the past and from different countries. They really enjoyed Science week, especially the ice-cream they made-Yum! They also made St Brigids crosses and wrote about Spring.

First & Second Class: Ms. Teehan's class have been busy learning about Spain. They also enjoyed Science week, they had great fun doing different experiments. They designed some bookmarks.

Cairdeas 1: Ms N Hogan The boys in Cairdeas 1 had great fun during Science week figuring out what was transparent and making ice-cream. In art we experimented with droppers and painted to safe and unsafe music as part of our Stay Safe programme. We had great fun in the snow and enjoyed hot chocolate with our friends from Cairdeas 2. We are practicing listening and asking questions during Show & Tell. We celebrated St Brigid's Day by making crosses and attending Mass with our friends.

Cairdeas 2: Ms Hynes class really enjoyed learning all about Winter. They learned about penguins and created their own penguin pictures. They also enjoyed learning about seals and how flubber keeps seals warm in the winter. They completed a number of experiments for Science week 'Does Fat Keep You Warm'. The boys tested iced water by covering their finger in fat and dipping it into the water. They had great fun doing this! They also tested 'why popcorn goes pop'. This was a yummy experiment!

St. Brendan's Boys P.S.

January/ February - 2023



VEX Robotics—Offaly winners 2023

Wow! What a day was had by 6th class in the VEX robotics @offalycoco . St Brendan's PS winning the coding award and the overall award with 27 schools taking part ;so we are going to the Nationals!! The younger boys in the school gathered at 3pm to give them a great welcome back to the school as they now go to the national finals representing Offaly !!!!Finals will be in cork @MTU_ie.

Congrats to the boys and teacher Mr Cunningham @DamienCunning17 with Ms Makim and MsGrace @laoisoffalyetb @VEXRoboticsIE and huge thanks to Offaly County Council for their support.

Junior infants - September 2023

We are now accepting applications for enrolment September 2023 for junior infants - please contact the school 0579121033 or secretary@stbrendansps.ie for enrol forms. Forms and admission statement 2023 regarding the number of places available can be viewed on school website also.

For any new families we can arrange a look around the school upon request as always. Looking forward to having another amazing group of boys starting their primary school journey at the school.

Parent contact

Please make sure to update the school about any changes to mobile numbers / address or email. The school maintain contact with parents through texts / emails / social media and termly newsletters.

Dates for your diary

Mid term break—School closed Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February 2023.

Dance programme with Lisa Hogan—Tuesdays for 5 weeks

St Patricks weekend—school closed Friday 17th and Monday 20th March 2023

PLC staff in-service day—school closed for all pupils on Monday 27th March.

1st Confessions for 2nd class boys—Wednesday 8th March @ 7.30pm

- Boys to wear full school uniforms

1st communion for 2nd class boys—Saturday 6th May @ 11am

Peace Proms choir 2023

Fantastic day Saturday as our school choir took part in the peace proms concert at UL ! Boys loved the experience with orchestra and special guests and sang their hearts out under the guidance of the amazing Greg Beardsell - Massive thanks to Ms Pilkington / Ms Makim and Ms Guilfoyle for preparing the group and for travelling all day Saturday with the boys.



School Spelling bee 2023

We held our annual school spelling bee today and there was a great buzz in the hall - Both 5th and 6th classes took part with all boys getting past Rd 1 - Massive well done to boys who find spelling difficult / speak English as 2nd language or who manage Dyslexia. 6th class champion was Hugh Plunkett with 5th class champion conall smith - Then the final where both boys battled each other to be the overall school champion - the two boys went word for word until a silent e in Morale caught Hugh and then appropriately conalls final word was " majestic " !! ★?★? Well done to both boys and conall now goes on to represent the school at the Offaly county spelling bee later this month



3rd Class: Ms. Wyer During January 3rd Class learned all about the history of chocolate and designed their very own chocolate bar wrapper. They enjoyed Science week where they became CSI investigators. In English Stations, they liked taking part in activities related to the book Voices In The Park and completed lovely winter art lessons. Hope everyone has a lovely and safe mid-term.

4th Class: Mr. Kennedy Fourth class have settled in well after Christmas and are progressing well with the curriculum. They have also enjoyed extra curriculum activities such as Science, History visits and St Brigids celebration in the church (Catholic Week).

5th Class: Ms Pilkington 5th Class have worked very hard in January. They started the Stay Safe Programme which helps them to become better friends to others and identify safe and unsafe situations. They looked at poetry and they wrote their own poems and typed them up on the computer. They also started a new novel called 'The Boy at the Back of The Class' and they are really enjoying it!

6th Class: Ms Grace- 6th class have had a great start to the new year after winning first place in the VEX Offaly Robotics. The boys were absolutely thrilled and are getting ready for the All-Ireland Robotics finals in Cork next week. Wish us luck!

Mr. Cunningham's class were very busy learning to tell the time, the boys enjoyed drawing their own clocks and learning to read clocks and digital time. We continued with our life skills cooking, enjoying a variety of small meals that they can learn to prepare themselves. We enjoyed a nice Winter Walk around the park in Birr and look forward to nice Spring walk in the coming weeks!