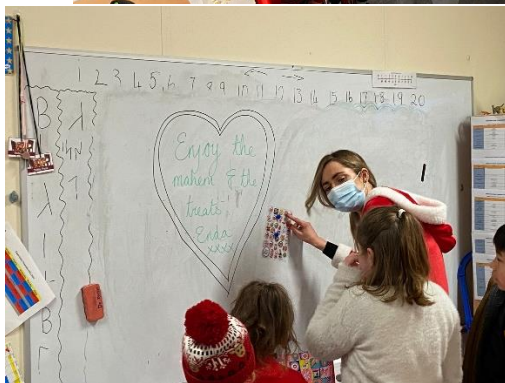


Dear Parents,

The end of our first term! We had a very magical month of December in Senior and First Class, aided by the sudden appearance of 'Enda the Elf'. He was a very mischievous elf who caused a lot of mahem in the class but we had so much fun. The children especially enjoyed when he put snow all over their desks and organised a hot chocolate and popcorn treat for everyone!



Below is a brief overview of the work we have done over the month of December:

Literacy/Phonics

This month our book choices were based on our Aistear theme, 'Winter Wonderland'. In our cosy area many winter themed books were supplied including, 'The Snow Queen' by Hans Christian Andersen, 'Charlie Crow in the Snow' by Paula Metcalf, 'Betty and the Yeti' by Ella Burfoot 'One Bear Lost' by Karen Hayles and Jenny Jones and 'Sam The Snowman' by Susan Winget etc.

For both Senior Infants and first class we did a general revision of sounds and Sight words from last year. News writing has continued to be a big emphasis, I have been encouraging First Class as much as possible to write their own independent sentences which has been going very well.



Gaeilge

For the month of December, we worked on the theme 'An Nollaig' (Christmas). We learned many Winter songs and listened to many Nollaig-themed stories which the children found extremely enjoyable.

Some of the key phrases we have been working on which you could implement at home:

- Cé tusa? (Who are you?) Is mise ____ (name). I am ____
- Seo duit ____ (Here you go)
- Go raibh maith agat (Thank you)
- Slán (Bye)
- Nollaig shona daoibh (Happy Christmas)



Numeracy

In numeracy, we did a lot of number work. Senior Infants worked on the composition of the number seven using counters, whiteboards and various classroom materials. Meanwhile, First Class spent time on measures, focusing specifically on using the vocabulary of time to sequence events.

We did loads of fun Winter artwork this month also. The children greatly enjoyed taking inspiration from the books we have read and of course, from nature itself.



Aistear

Our theme for November was 'Winter Wonderland'. The children had fun in all our different stations including our 'Cosy Area' which consisted of a cosy duvet, cushions, a pretend fireplace and many winter themed books.

The station which really stood out, as usual, was our Experiment Station. We spent a good portion of this month learning about weather and clouds, therefore, to add to this, we did a cloud making experiment using very fun materials including hairspray, food dye, ice and water. A lot of important learning was done and as per usual, much fun was had!





Lastly, we took a trip down to the Community Centre to thank them for the many ways they helped us throughout the year. Each of the students made them a beautiful card which were presented in a huge decorated envelope alongside a box of chocolates.



That's all for now.

I hope you have a lovely Winter break and enjoy yourselves just as much as the boys below



Gráinne

