

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful November we've had in our lovely Senior Infants and First Class classroom. We have been very lucky to acquire the expertise of two wonderful teachers. Firstly, our fantastic Teaching Practice student, Orlaith and our new drama teacher, Caolfionn. The students have greatly enjoyed their influence and energy in our classroom.



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

#### Literacy/Phonics

We spent the month of November becoming familiar with the author, Oliver Jeffers. We read many of his stories such as, 'Lost and Found', 'Stuck', 'The Day the Crayons Quit' and 'How to Catch a Star'. The children greatly enjoyed predicting how each of the stories would end and especially liked all the drama activities they did alongside the stories.

Senior Infants have been revising Group 5 and 6 of their Jolly Phonics along with the List 3-6 in their tricky words. Again, they are encouraged to read their reader **and** practice their Sight Words every night.

First class have continued their focus on their final sounds and we began working on creative writing. We are starting with simple silly sentences and as the year progresses the students are hoping to write their own mini stories. It is a work in progress 😊 Again, **nightly reading** of their readers is extremely important and will support further learning.





## Gaeilge

For the month of November, we worked on the theme ‘Éadaí’ (clothes). We also did some very fun Irish games with Orlaith – ‘Ceithre Chúinne’ ‘Deir Ó Grádaigh’ and ‘Fíor nó Bréagach’. ‘Éadaí Bingo’ was especially popular!

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

- Cuir ort do chóta/hata/lámhainní/bhríste/gheansaí (put on your coat/hat/gloves/trousers/jumper)
- Cad é sin? (What is that?)
- Sin \_\_ cóta/ hata/ lámhainní etc) (That’s a coat, hat, gloves)
- Tóg \_\_ amach as an gcófra éadaí (Take \_\_ out of the wardrobe)





## Numeracy

In numeracy, we covered the topics 'length' and 'capacity' and had a lot of hands-on, active maths lessons.

Estimation was a huge focus this month. Initially, it was a little tricky for some of the class to get their head around making inaccurate estimations, but the children soon learned that estimates were just considered guesses which help us learn and grow.

The children estimated, compared, measured and recorded the capacity of various objects around the school. The children worked together to measure the capacity of 'Alien H2O' to make fun alien potions.



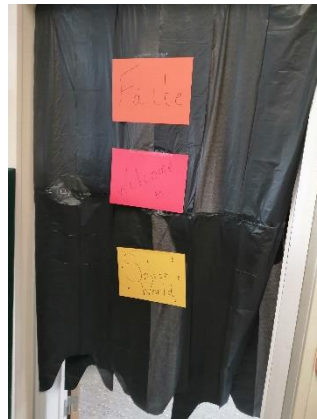
Additionally, the students spent a lot of time working on length. For this, they learned about a metre and how it contains 100cm. They also did many practical tasks for example, they estimated the length of our playground and measured it with a metre trundle wheel. A lot of fun was had!



## Aistear

Our theme for November was 'Space'. The children had a fantastic time learning all about the different planets and our little place in the world. They really got their creative juices flowing in our 'Junk Art' station, making various space-themed mechanisms such as space rockets and space suits.

In roleplay, the transformed into Space Travel Agents which was a sight to behold, while in Small World they took a trip to the moon. Many of the class were also particularly proud of their space rockets they made in construction.



That's all from the month of November. December's review will be full of our Winter Wonderland theme for the month. Make sure to ask your child what they've been getting up to in school!

Kind regards,  
Gráinne