



Dear Parents,

Loads of fun things happened in the very short time we were in school in February. We began our Active initiative 'Road to Beijing' which encourages the children to keep fit and healthy. Through this initiative, we were given the wonderful opportunity to watch a live zoom interview with two Winter Olympic athletes Séamus O'Connor and Bubba Newby. We were very impressed at their passion and dedication. At this stage, 80% of the class now want to be Olympic athletes 😊



Below is a little peek into more of the fun things we got up to in February.

Literacy/Phonics

This month our book choices were based on our Aistear theme, 'Transportation'. The children had great fun learning about submarine, hot air balloons and trains through varied reading on the topics.

We also started our new class reader, 'Danny, The Champion of the World'. We are greatly enjoying the story so far and

We also continued our daily group reading which has hugely improved the children's fluency and confidence.



Gaeilge

For the month of January, we have been focusing on the theme, 'Caitheamh Aimsire' (Hobbies). We spent a lot of time ag damhsa (dancing) ag rith (running), ag canadh (singing) and ag súgradh (playing).

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

- Cad atá ag ___ (Niamh) - What does Niamh have?
- Tá ___ ag Niamh (ríomhaire, bábóg, bád, rothar, leabhar, carr, liathróid) - Niamh has a (computer, doll, boat, bike, book, car, ball)
- An bhfuil ___ ag Niamh (ríomhaire, bábóg, bád, rothar, leabhar, carr, liathróid) - Does Niamh have a ____ (computer, doll, boat, bike, book, car, ball)





Numeracy

Number was a huge focus for both Senior Infants and First Class this month. Senior Infants did a lot of work exploring the components of the number 8 by combining and partitioning. They combined sets of objects by 'counting on' on the number strip and also compared non-equivalent sets 0-8 by matching and ordering numbers 1-8. They are all working very well and I am extremely proud of them.

First class have also been very busy. Through the month of February, they have been reading, writing and ordering numerals 0 to 99, they have been exploring, identifying and recording place value 0 to 60 and have been expressing numbers as tens and units. Although it was a short month, it was a very busy one!

If you would like to do more work at home, please try this website -

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/place-value/place-value-charts>



Aistear

Our theme for February was, 'Transport. Each week, we focused on a subtheme – trains, submarines and hot air balloons. The children had fun in all our different stations. They showed creativity when making their hot air balloons and submarines in the art station.



They also displayed great problem-solving skills when constructing hot air balloons and submarines using materials around the classroom.

Our science station gave the students the opportunity to discuss floating and sinking while making floating devices out of recycled materials. They also partook in a fun hot air balloon themed experiment. Using a balloon, a straw, a toy car and cellatape, students tested what happens when they blow (wind) into the straw. Their astonished reactions were very funny!





Below is a picture of the class after they stuck their very special wishes onto our Chinese New Year Wishing Tree! 😊



Many thanks for your continued support.

Gráinne