

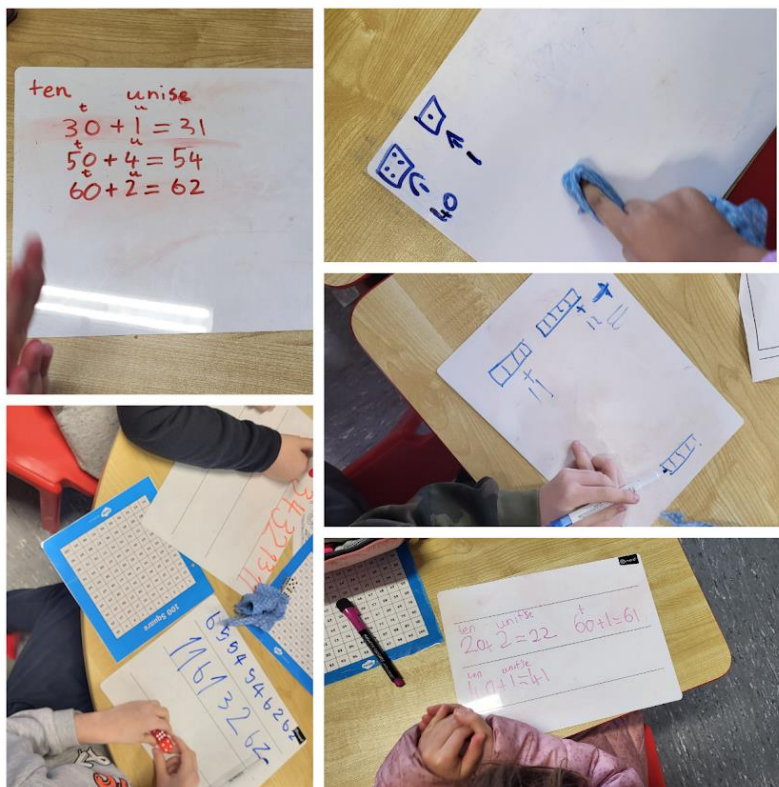
We have settled into January and it has been busy and fun all rolled into one. First class have worked very well this month. Here is a snippet of what we have been up to.

Our primary focus for January has been developing our handwriting skills. This includes using good pencil grip, good sitting and good page position along with revising our correct letter formations.

[illegible]

This month we have been busy counting in 2s and learning about even and odd numbers. We are getting very confident counting from 1 to 100 and from 100 to 1 (forwards and backwards).

We have learned about tens and units and are very confident using tens and units for bigger numbers. We enjoyed the dice game of making different numbers using tens and units.



Gaeilge:

January has been all about our hobbies (caitheamh aimsire) and the weather (an aimsir).

Our new phrases this month include:

An raibh na páistí ag _____? Were the children _____?

- ag iomáint - hurling
- ag tiomáint - driving
- ag imirt peile – playing football
- ag rothaíocht – cycling
- ag péinteáil – painting
- ag snámh san uisce – swimming in the water
- ag damhsa – dancing
- ag canadh – singing

We answered the question by saying bhí na páistí (the children were) or ní raibh na páistí (the children were not).

We also learned about the weather and are able to answer the question cén saghas lae é? (what kind of day is it?)

Tá sé _____

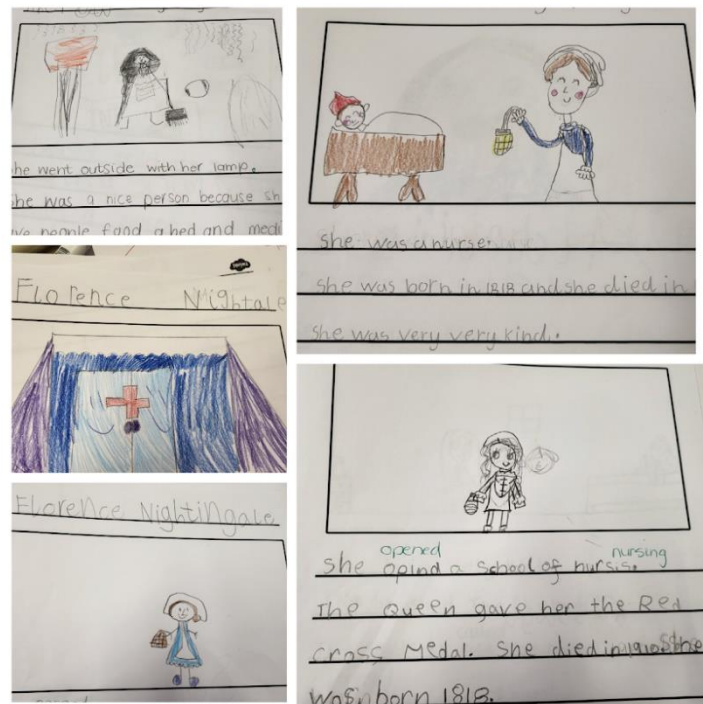
- gaofar – windy
- scamallach - cloudy

- te - hot
- fuar - cold
- fliuch – wet
- tirim – dry
- geal - bright
- dorch - dark
- ag cur báistí - raining
- ag cur sneachta – snowing

History:

We really enjoyed learning about the important work of Florence Nightingale. We know that she helped lots of soldiers by feeding them, changing their bedsheets and helping them write letters to their families. Florence Nightingale opened her own school of nursing and was known as “the Lady of the lamp”.

We completed some excellent writing and drawings to show our learning.



Geography:

We showed some excellent writing skills in our “Planet Earth” writing activity. We learned all about the earth and how it has 3 layers (the crust, the mantle and the core). We know that earth is the only planet in the solar system that we can live on. We loved learning about the atmosphere and like the idea of a big blanket of gas keeping us safe from meteors while still keeping us warm.



Science:

We linked our science to Maths and capacity. Alison added some food colouring to the water (only because she thought it made it look more fun). We used different containers and we estimated how many of one container it would take to fill another container. We were a long time using the pipette to fill the glass so we had to change to a bigger container so that we weren't there all day. This was an important lesson in itself, as science is all about experimenting and learning that things don't always go to plan the first time. Sometimes we have to change the plan to make it work.



Art, Music and Drama:

We had great fun mixing paints over the past few weeks. We started out mixing the primary colours, red, blue and yellow, and experimenting with what colours they made. Then we added some white and black to see what happened. Our final experiment was mixing the colours that we made from the primary colours together and we discovered that most colours can be made through mixing different blends of different colours.



In Drama, we listened to the story of “The Selfish Giant”. We drew pictures of his lovely garden and we enjoyed role-playing being the giant and the tiny boy. We changed the volume and tone of our voice to get into the different characters.

Ethical Education:

We listened to three of Trace Moroney’s Feelings stories. We listened to the different characters feeling sad, lonely and angry. We made connections with how the characters were feeling and we discussed different times we felt each way. We know that it is ok to feel these feelings. We talked about the best way to react and discussed reactions that we should try and avoid when experiencing each feeling.

That’s it for January. I’ll update you all again in February.

Kind Regards,

Alison.