

Woodstock ETNS January Newsletter

Message from the Principal

It has been a really enjoyable start to the year in the school. For the first time ever the school has been able to offer swimming lessons to students in 2nd, 3rd and 4th class. It is great seeing the children having fun doing the swimming lessons with their classmates. This month we also celebrated Chinese New Year. We were extremely grateful to have parents Mei Mei Li, Wenxichen and Dong come to the school and share the cultural significance of this celebration with the students and staff in the school. We also celebrated Chinese New Year at our school assembly by wearing red, singing songs and reciting poetry related to the celebrations.

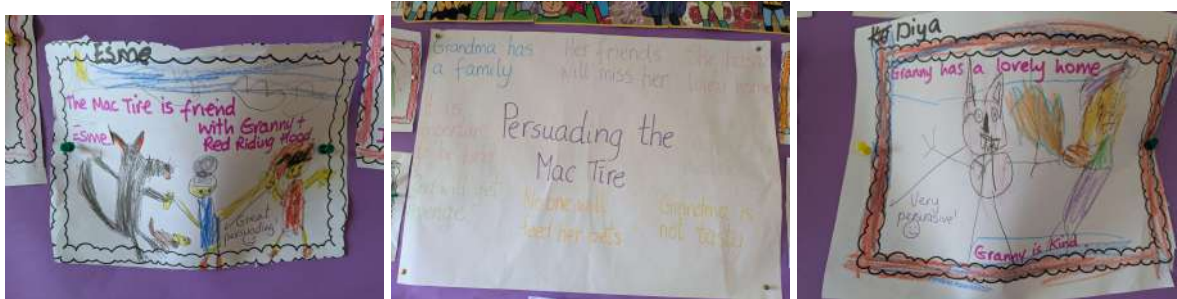
This month also saw the beginning of the awarding of a Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine. The award is given to a student in each class every week who shows their determination to learn and use the language. Work has begun on the set up of our school library and sensory space. The sensory equipment has been delivered and we are very grateful for all the donations of books to the school also. Our library will be able to offer the children a diverse range of texts to support the development of their reading skills. We hope to be able to share these new editions with you all soon.

Beir bua,

Philip

Junior Infants

Junior Infants have been so busy In January. The writing genre they focused on was 'Persuasive Writing'. They had to convince the 'Mac Tíre' (the big bad wolf) not to eat Granny and came up with many creative responses!



In preparation for Chinese New Year, they also learned a Chinese song, poem and did artwork. They were also very fortunate to have a visitor who explained Chinese writing and described all the fun things her family do during Chinese New Year. The girls and boys thoroughly enjoyed it.



Senior Infants

January has been an exciting month. Learning and celebrating Chinese New Year was a huge highlight of the month and all the learners enjoyed all the activities.



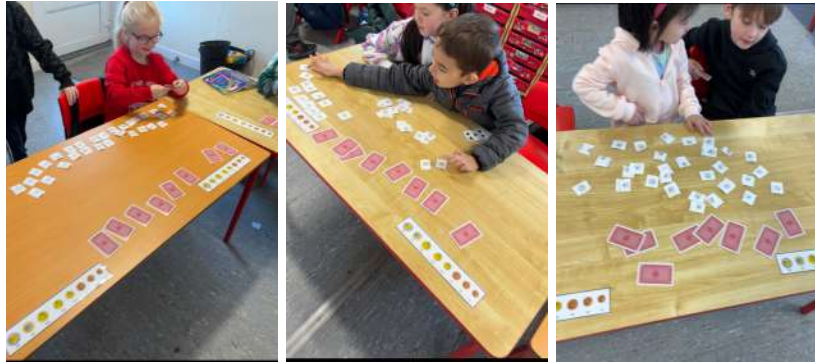
In science we learned about shadows and experimented drawing shadows of dinosaurs outside.

The senior infants have been working really hard on their writing skills. Here are a few pictures of them persuading their friends on what their favourite snack is.



1st class

During January, first class explored money and began to recognise the value of money. They also began to calculate the change in a transaction.



First class students also read the story 'Flat Stanley' this month. This story is about a boy who became flat when a bulletin board fell on him. He then travelled the world in an envelope. The boys and girls made their own Flat Stanleys and they are going to see how many places in the world our Flat Stanleys can reach through family and friends.



First class celebrated the Chinese New Year this month. It was wonderful to have some parents come in to speak to us about their Chinese New Year celebrations and traditions. Thank you again Mary and Herbert!



2nd class



The start of the school year has seen 2nd class begin swimming lessons in Wicklow leisure. The class have really enjoyed these lessons and it has been great to see them engaging in learning really important aquatic skills. This month we have also completed maths station teaching with Jacqui in class based on fractions, visual art lessons related to Chinese New Year and begun using our laptops each week to work on 3D printing projects which are due to entered into a European competition in May. In Gaeilge we have learnt vocabulary based on our past times (caitheamh aimsire) and we have also been taking part in the Fyffes fittest school competition.

3rd/4th class

3rd and 4th Class have had a great start to 2025. The children have been thoroughly enjoying their swimming lessons at Coral Leisure in Wicklow Town. It's been fantastic to see their confidence and abilities growing each week.

In Maths, we learned about Time. We started off by revising "o'clock" and "half past" times. Then, we moved onto 15-minute intervals, 5-minute intervals, and finally we even had a go at 1-minute intervals. The children practised writing times in words and digital formats. We also used analog clocks to show a variety of times.



The 3rd and 4th class children learned about the Ancient Greeks in History. Many of the children already knew a huge amount about Greek Gods and they did a super job of sharing their knowledge with the rest of the class. We were able to link our Art lesson with the Ancient Greeks as the children created Ancient Greek mosaics. They spent some time cutting paper into small squares to create the tiles before applying them to their mosaic.

