

Borris NS News

Merry Christmas 2021 !



For the last three terms, school life has had to adapt to new circumstances. Previous newsletters were full of trips taken, interesting visitors to the school, and individual sporting and social achievements with various clubs and organisations.

While our usual content hasn't been possible since the pandemic began, we hope you will enjoy this glimpse into life in school.



Some elements of school life have remained constant, not least the annual visit of Santa Claus, accompanied by Mrs Claus. While not able to meet all classes together as in previous years, Santa and Mrs Claus very kindly stayed long enough to meet each class separately, at the correct social distance. Our photo above shows Second Class having their chance to talk about toys and to sing a carol for the visitors. Then, thanks to our wonderful Parents' Association, some pre-Christmas gifts were given to each child.



Fourth class are sound

Those of you who read these publications carefully will remember the work this class did on the topic of sound when they were merely a second class. By coincidence they had Mr Donegan as their teacher then, too. Now they revisit the topic and explore how sound works, as Mr Donegan continues his obsession with, ahem, interest in the subject. What better way than to make your own musical instrument? Here they are with their home-made (actually school-made) harmonicas.



Pantomime time!

Can it be Christmas without pantomime?

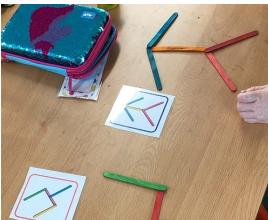
Although we couldn't have the West Midlands Theatre Company into the school as we have done in previous years (apparently there's some sort of virus in circulation?) we did the next best thing. The troupe recorded their pantomime in their studio and made the recording available to every school who signed up. Our classes watched it in their classroom. This way the actors get to keep working and we can enjoy their show.



Competition—Design a Theatre Poster

The theatre company would like the children to design a poster for next year's pantomime, which is to be... drum roll please.... **"Sleeping Beauty"**. The winning pupil will receive €25 worth of book tokens and €50 off the school's booking for their next performance.
All entries to be drawn on a A4 piece of paper and then a photo/scan sent to them via email (stagedoor@westmidlandstheatre.com). They will require the winning entry to be posted so please keep them safe, but do not need them posted until they have chosen a winner.

Junior Infants got to grips with some tricky Shape and Space activities recently. When they weren't trying to find their naughty elf, Dearg, that is!



Bring on the bubbly...

It's amazing how soapy water and a sock can help you understand physics. These pictures of organised chaos are fourth class in action, making bubbles using socks and a bottle!

The Parents' Association would like to thank all families for their continued support this year, from the Hallowe'en dress-up and the Jingle Day (where children were greeted by a very special visitor.) All children can be very proud of their fantastic designs on their Christmas cards and any merchandise bought. The success of these fundraisers is very much appreciated by the school. We would like to wish every family an enjoyable and safe Christmas and all the best for 2022.

—Liz Kelly, Chairperson, P.A.



Hallowe'en!



The school held its Hallowe'en Fancy Dress costume event recently. At Hallowe'en, in fact. It was a fine day, so our outdoor Monster March went well and gave all the children a chance to see each others' costumes. Then it was time to have our outdoor disco, thanks to Mr O'Brien and his sound equipment. You can find the complete collection of costumes on the first page of www.borrisns.com

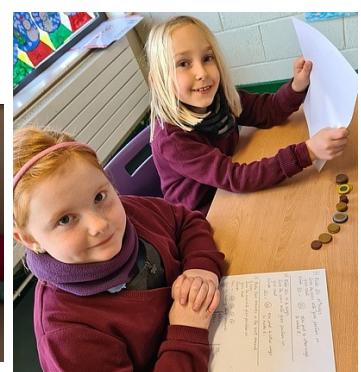
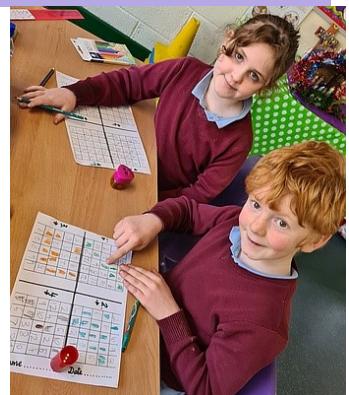


Someone Like Me

2nd class entered an art competition called " Someone Like Me". We submitted a group entry after class lessons on the theme which develops awareness and understanding around disabilities. We all have things in common and yet are different but we wanted to reach out and be open to making friends with everyone so our pictures reflect that with our slogan

"You are someone special just like me". We added in hearts with what we might say, to show people with disabilities that we care.

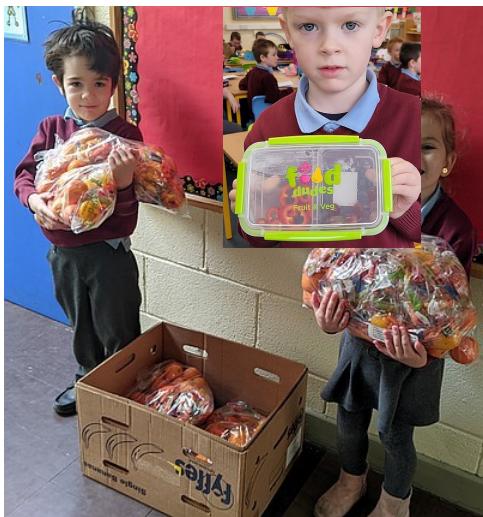
Second class enjoy playing Maths games in class. Maths Bingo and the Odd/Even game are done as pair work when possible. We added in our photos of money games.



M.S. Readathon

Fourth class raised rather a lot of money for this good cause. €577 to be exact. They did this by reading books and getting sponsored for doing so. A win for everyone!

Books read for the Readathon:
HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS
HARRY POTTER AND THE PRINCE'S INVESTIGATION
HARRY POTTER AND THE INVENTION OF HUGO CABRE
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE
MADELINE
A WRINKLE IN TIME
THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT
CHARLOTTE'S WEB
SHARKS AND THE BLUE DOLPHINS
THE PLATES STICKED



Food Dudes

Our wonderful Food Dudes programme, organised by Ms Bambrick, went ahead again this year. Boxes of freshly-chopped fruit and veg were delivered to school daily for the children to sample. They were individually-sealed and were a great hit. Remind your child(ren) that it takes at least three tastes to decide if you like something so persistence pays. To date, over 3,300 primary schools and almost ONE MILLION pupils have successfully participated in the Food Dudes Healthy Eating Programme. The Food Dudes Healthy Eating Programme is managed by Bord Bia in Ireland and is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with support from the European Union under the School Fruit and Vegetables Scheme.

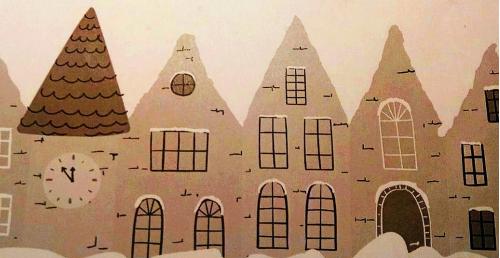
Christmas Short Story Competition

Could you write a short story using the word Christmas only once? That was the challenge posed to our budding writers this month and the entries flooded in. (A Christmas colouring competition was the equivalent for Infants). We print some samples below. Read them at the link just below this page.

Cormac Kennedy 2nd Class, Borris N.S.

The Sled Fire

On Christmas Eve Santa was delivering his presents, as he came out, he noticed big flames coming from the controller of the sled. He starts to jump around; the reindeer were really scared. Then suddenly he saw blue lights coming into the yard, it was his friend Garda Alan. He told Santa to stand back that the fire brigade is on the way. Then the sirens could be heard coming from Baggenstown. Santa whispered to Garda Alan to tell them to turn off the sirens as not to wake all the boys & girls. The firemen stop the sirens and come and put out the fire in seconds. The chief said he would fix the wiring in minutes and Santa was on his way.



What happened on Christmas Day [When Jesus was born] Therese 5th

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth. One night an angel came to Mary and told her she was expecting a new baby and that he would be the new king. Mary and Joseph rode their donkey to Bethlehem. They knocked on several doors, but all the inns were full. The last inn was full but it had a vacant stable so they allowed them to stay for the night. On the 25 of December, Jesus Christ was born in the stable. Mary washed him and wrapped him in the clothes she had brought with her.....

More on the link just below this page

A Christmas Adventure

One night, the 24th of December, there was a girl named Holly. She was 9 years old and she had two twin brothers. They were 5 years old. Holly tried to go to sleep but she couldn't. She was thinking about opening her presents in the morning. She was so excited and she just couldn't wait.

Then she remembered she had forgotten to leave out milk, cookies and carrots. She hopped up really quickly out of bed and ran downstairs. She left out the food for Santa and his reindeers. Just when she was about to go back to bed she heard a loud bang. She was curious and went to check it out.

She hid behind the sitting room door. She saw a big red coat and got such a fright. She ran straight upstairs because she thought if Santa saw her she would get no presents. She fell asleep and when she woke up it was Christmas Day. Her brothers were so loud that she knew Santa must have left presents. She jumped out of bed to join them and had a lovely family day. Zoe 4th

The Lazy Elves

Two hours before Santa had to deliver the presents, he walked into the workshop and saw that the elves were asleep. He said "Wake up! Christmas will be ruined if you don't hurry up! Now make those presents - there are still six hundred presents to be made! I'm off to get the reindeer ready". Ten minutes later the reindeer were ready, the presents were ready and they set off to deliver gifts and make children happy all over the world!

Ruairí O 3rd



These stories and all the others are continued in the ***Christmas Story*** pages of our website. See the link just below this page