

EXCITING LEARNING IN OUR CLASSROOMS

YEAR 1

We have been learning all about winter since we returned to school in November. We went on a winter walk and looked for signs of winter. We can spot deciduous and evergreen trees and we played in the snow (flour) during Play Based Learning. In January, we are going to learn about Inuit people and their way of life.



YEAR 2

We used acrylic paint to produce snowmen canvases and we also made 3D glitter decorations, a fingerprint Christmas card and a 'window' Christmas card. This was an extra special card because we were learning about the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We recycled old Christmas cards to place in our window, we reused the leftover glitter from our decorations and we reduced the amount of waste that went into our bins. We hope you like them!



YEAR 3

We used our topic as a stimulus for our canvas art project. We used acrylic paint to create an owl portrait based on the story "The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark". We also responded to music through dance as we listened to Bill Oddie narrate about night birds.



YEAR 4

We have been working hard on our topic 'Whatever the Weather'. We have enjoyed learning about different types of weather and weather symbols. We have focused on poetry and used shape and acrostic poems to describe the weather. In Numeracy we recorded the weather for two weeks and then collated the data on different charts.



YEAR 5

We had a very exciting day with our friends in Killowen P.S. investigating floating and sinking. Before we started to make our boat we designed its shape and then we made it using play dough. We put our boats in a basin of water and then we placed 1p coins in it one by one until our boat began to sink.



YEAR 6

We are combining the Christmas season with our Mathematics and Numeracy learning. We have been plotting co-ordinates to create Christmas themed pictures. We have learned a very important rule when plotting co-ordinates, "Across the corridor and up the stairs." As well as this we are able to draw and label our axis accurately.



YEAR 7

We have an important message for all our pupils and families over the winter: BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN! We have been educating our younger children on ways to be safe when out and about over Christmas. Always wear bright colours and wear a high visibility jacket if you have one. Use the footpath if there is one and stay away from the edge of the footpath.



SHARED EDUCATION

Once again we have continued to live and learn alongside Killowen P.S. In Term 1 we have focused on developing our investigative science skills by completing investigations on a range of topics. At each of these sessions we all wore a shared badge designed by a Year 5 child in St. John's. Our shared choir has entertained our local community at a range of Christmas events during December.



Our Shared Education Badge Winner

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

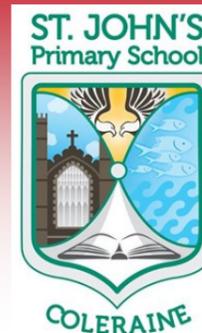
- **2nd Jan. 2019** - Online Enrolments open for September 2019
- **7th Jan.** - School reopens for Term 2
- **28th Jan.** - Catholic Schools Week begins
- **29th Jan.** Enrolment Ceremony for Holy Communicants
- **31st Jan.** Service of Light and Enrolment for Confirmation Candidates
- **31st Jan.** - Online Enrolments closes for September 2019
- **18th Feb.** - Half Term Holidays
- **25th Feb.** - School Reopens



St. John's P.S. would like to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas. See you all in 2019!



Follow us on Twitter @StJohnColeraine for more information on what is happening in our school.



St. John's P.S. Coleraine Community Newsletter

December 2018



PARISH CAROL SERVICE 2018

On Thursday 6th December our school joined with our local parish to prepare for Christmas. Children from Years 4 to 7 led our parish in prayer and reflection at our annual Carol Service in St. John's Parish Church. Our Carol Service began with a candle light procession while our parish choir and instrumentalists created an ambience of calmness and stillness amongst the congregation. The Service contained readings, carols, hymns and prayers to share the Christmas story to a church filled to capacity. To celebrate our diverse and inclusive school and parish community there were readings, reflections and lullabies delivered in Polish with direct translations afterwards. Fr. McGrory offered a Reflection during the Service and it concluded with the hymn: Oh Come All Ye Faithful being sung by St. John's Parish Choir. Afterwards the congregation made their way to our school hall where refreshments were served along with some festive treats. Once back at school, our visitors were able to view our Christmas Art Gallery which contains a piece of art work completed on canvas by every child in our school. The whole evening was one that will live long in the memories of our entire school and parish community as it was such an uplifting and spiritual event led by our wonderful children.





YEAR 1 and 2 CHRISTMAS SHOW



On Tuesday 11th December, Year 1 and 2 performed Whoops - a - Daisy Angel for their parents, grandparents and extended family members. Before Year 1 and 2 took to the stage, the audience were treated to a performance by our instrumentalists and then a sneak preview of The Elf Show by Year 3. Once on the stage, all nerves disappeared and the children performed beautifully. Our appreciative audience clapped enthusiastically after every song which encouraged our children to the very end when they sang Jingle Bells and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Our Year 1 and 2 children were born to perform!



YEAR 3 ELF SHOW



Our Christmas Shows ended with Year 3 performing their infamous Elf Show on Tuesday 18th December to a packed audience in our school hall. It was another fabulous performance as the children acted and sang throughout the wonderful show. We have exceptionally talented children here at St. John's who rise to the challenge each and every single time! Enjoy your well earned rest!



OPEN NIGHT 2018

On Thursday 29th November we opened our doors to showcase school life and learning to new and existing parents of St. John's P.S. There was a brilliant turnout on the night as we welcomed pre-school children and their families. It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces in our school and welcome new families. There was a variety of learning experiences on show including the new and exciting learning initiatives we have recently introduced. **Enrolment for September 2019 can be completed online from Wednesday 2nd January 2019.** If you know of someone who has a child ready to start Year 1 in September, invite them to have a look around our school. They can contact our school office to arrange a viewing on 02870344437. Here at St. John's we have: excellent teaching and learning; an exceptional extra-curricular programme; additional teaching support for Newcomer pupils and those requiring extra support. We have superb outdoor facilities and opportunities for pupils to excel in music, performing arts and sport. As well as this, our pupils gain **AUTOMATIC ENTRY INTO LORETO COLLEGE** to complete their post primary education.



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

We have had another packed schedule of activities in our extra curricular programme since we returned to school in November. This will continue to be the case in Term 2.

