



Christmas 2020

Christmas News

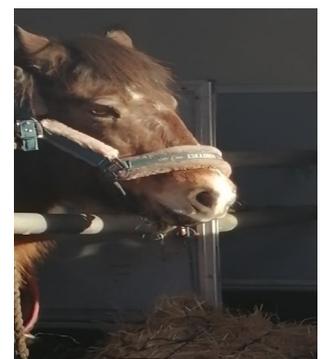


Season's Greetings from Mrs. O'vington...

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our friends and families.

Nollaig shona agus athbhliain faoi shéan is faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

We hope you enjoy reading our Christmas news. Christmas is a special time in our calendar and is celebrated with enthusiasm in our school. This year we had a wonderful live crib experience where the children got to meet different people from the nativity. Thank you very much to everyone involved in this.



The children had great fun watching our virtual pantomine
'Robin Hood and His Socially Distanced Men!'

The Staff of Delgany NS wish everyone a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas Season.





Many thanks to Tiny Ark our Christmas recording team!

Irish Book Awards



Some pupils from our school took part in filming "The Irish Book Awards 2020". They reviewed a number of children's books and were interviewed by the production team. This was broadcast on 10th December on RTE 1.

The Hour of Code

4th, 5th and 6th Classes took part in the Hour of Code with Kieran O'Riordan. Kieran works in Microsoft and kindly offered to teach us an "unplugged" Hour of Code. We learned all about the different problem-solving steps and how these steps can be used to code. The theme of the lesson was "Global Goals". We were asked to identify a global goal (e.g., litter and pollution) and then break this issue down into smaller and more manageable problems. We then had to think of ways to solve these problems using technology. It was so much fun and we all enjoyed the tasks. Thanks again to Kieran for teaching us these interesting lessons!
Hour of Code by Lizzie (6th Class)

Virtual Visit from Minister Simon Harris

6th Class recently had a virtual visit from Minister Simon Harris. This was a great chance for us to hear about how important decisions are made and what it is like to be a politician. Minister Harris thanked us for helping to stop the spread of COVID-19 by following all of the different health guidelines. We also got a chance to ask him some questions. Some of the questions included what his favourite sport was and about his own time in school as well as questions about his job as a Minister. We all enjoyed listening to Minister Harris and we would like to thank him for taking the time to meet us.

First Class Spreading Christmas Cheer

First class are taking part in Wicklow Libraries 'Project Postcard' this month. We have been sent 30 beautiful, colourful postcards from the library, and we have been linked up with a local Nursing Home. Each child will write, illustrate and decorate their postcard and send it to one of the Residents in the Home in time for Christmas. We are sure this will bring some Christmas Cheer to them all.



Charity Collections

November: Laura Lynn Foundation: €409

December: Giving Tree Collection: St Vincent de Paul

I have been in contact with Móna O'Rourke to tell her the wonderful news that the families and staff of Delgany National School have raised a staggering €1,300 for deserving families in the locality. It was heart-warming to see everyone's generosity and a few families even wrote a little card or message to go with their donation, wishing everyone well. This effort has been made by you all for so many years now and Móna wishes me to pass on her sincere gratitude. Your support really does make a difference. Thank you all so much for being part of the real Christmas message: kindness, generosity, consideration of others and empathy. Merry Christmas to you all.
Mark Howard. SET.





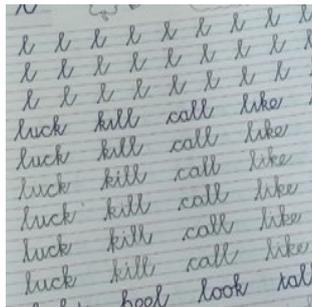
Third Class Handwriting



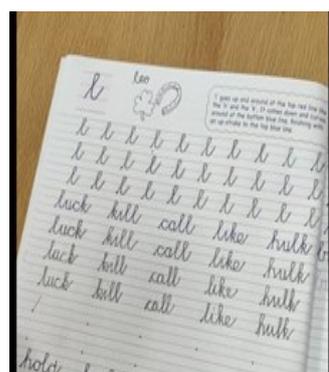
This term 3rd class have been doing lots of hard work on developing our handwriting skills. We are working on our fine and gross motor skills to promote good posture and pencil grip. We do one lesson per week with Ms. Harrington and Ms. Nairn and do lots of different warm ups and hand movements before we begin our writing which the children are really enjoying. One important element of our handwriting is the tripod pinch. Have a look at some of our hand movements and excellent cursive writing below.



Doing our hand exercises



Our cursive handwriting



More exercises

Fourth Class

This year we have invested in some new resources to further our digital learning and computational thinking/coding within the school. We have bought eight WeDo Lego kits. See picture below.



The children use the kits to explore different scientific ideas such as motion sensors, friction, speed, push/pulling but to name a few. The children use coding elements on the WeDo app. Fourth class were the first to try out our new resources.



Isabelle Edge explains what they did in their first lesson:

First of all we followed the steps on the ipad to build Milo. When we had finished building Milo the Rover, we turned him on and got the ipad to connect to him on the Lego app. Firstly, we experimented with the different buttons making Milo go forwards and backwards at different speeds. Then Ms. Staunton put some patterns on the board for us to make him do. We changed the colour of his button, made him change direction and made him go and then stop and then go again. After we put the sensor on Milo and built a small platform that had flowers on it (which was made of Lego). Next we made Milo walk up to the flowers and because he had a sensor on him, he stopped in front of it! This was definitely my favourite part of Lego coding! We also put our hands, pencils and a water bottle in front of him which he sensed too! This was really fun and exciting. After we looked at slides on the smartboard which told us what lots of the coding buttons meant.



Milo



5th Class

5th Class meet Grindlewood author Jackie Burke

Written by Isaac Devlin, illustrated by Roseanna Reid
(both delighted to be included in the December Newsletter!)

It's not everyday you meet a famous author but on the afternoon of November the 18th Fifth class were delighted to receive a zoom call from the author of the best selling series Grindlewood, Jackie Burke. Grindlewood is fifth's current class story book and they are loving it so far.

Jackie kindly read 5th an extract from the 2nd book in the Grindlewood series and I might add it had them hooked! 5th were also read a chapter from her recently published book Harp Maiden, which had them equally hooked.

After reading Jackie took questions from selected pupils who got to meet her personally (on screen). We learned that Jackie's favourite childhood book was 'The Magic Faraway Tree' by Enid Blyton, she had based her Grindlewood characters on friend's pets and we also got some writing tips which I am using right now!

After saying goodbye to Jackie 5th got signed bookmarks from her through the post! Thank you for reading we wish Jackie well for her new book.



Reminder!!!

School finishes on **Tuesday December 22nd 2020**. Early closing applies. Please see Aladdin Notice outlining our staggered dismissal times. School re-opens on **Wednesday January 6th, 2021 at 8:30am**. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, peaceful and healthy Christmas. We are grateful to the Kelly Family, who have provided us with a beautiful Christmas tree. We would also like to thank Frank who always does a great job of decorating the tree. Its looks great and the children are loving it.

Congratulations!!

Ms Sweeney is on maternity leave and we are delighted to hear that baby Rowan has arrived safely.

Rowan's mummy and daddy are delighted with their early Christmas present.



Christmas Services in Christ Church, Delgany

Sunday 20th December:

Morning Service 10:30am

If you cannot be with us you might wish to join us online at

Online: www.churchservices.tv/delgany

Christmas Eve:

10:00 pm Holy Communion **Online**

Church open from 7-8pm when it will be candle lit.

Christmas Day:

Morning Service **Online**

Church open 10am to 12 noon.

Sunday December 27th:

Parish Carol Service **Online**

Christmas arrangements: Due to COVID restrictions the above services will be available on the parish Facebook page @delganyparish. We look forward to having you worship with us at some of these services.

