

Mr. Delaney & Ms. Quinn's 5th Class

The boys in 5th class have an excellent term. In science we created a wormery and did scary experiments with bubble eyed stew. We also had Science week at school and did loads of amazing projects with Miss Jessup. As part of our Amber Flag initiative we went on two mindfulness walks and did meditation and mindfulness in the classroom. We also picked up litter on a number of occasions around the school and on the way to The Mall.

During our iPad time we did projects in groups. The students really enjoyed researching their chosen materials and created amazing projects which they

presented to the class. We visited the library and chose books and really focused on our reading for a number of weeks.

In December we were visited by local priests and attended confession in the school. We also started hurling and were delighted to welcome Ciaran back as our coach. Our class attended swimming for 6 weeks which was great fun. Finally, we prepared for our Christmas concert which takes place this Friday in Temperance Hall. We had an excellent term and would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and an enjoyable break from school.

6th Class News

Throughout the month of September both classes undertook swimming lessons for 6 weeks in the Mall complex. At the end of September both classes were involved in wellness week and took part in a wellness walk around the mall in which both classes very much enjoyed. On the 19th of October both classes enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of African culture in the old Providers building in which the classes got the opportunity to sample African art, music, literature and cuisine. Since September both classes have been participating in Gaelic football, hurling and basketball training and also learning how to play the ukulele with music generation. Throughout November and December both classes have been very busy working and practising for their Christmas concert which will take place on Friday 16th December.

Christmas Carol Service

This year we are delighted to host our Christmas show once again. After years of restrictions, we have been able to provide music education. We have discovered the wonderful musical talents of our pupils. We have put together a show where each class gives their own performance of a song or a poem, followed by some communal singing. We will even have some of our own musicians! We are looking forward to a fun filled afternoon in the Temperance hall on Friday 16th December to get us into the Christmas spirit! A big thank you to all the pupils and teachers who have worked to make this happen.

St. Michael's
B.N.S.

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"Ní neart go cur le
chéile"

(Unity is strength)

HSCL Coordinator

Hi, My name is Emma Keaveney and I am the new Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Coordinator in St. Michael's B.N.S.

Part of my job includes:

- Visiting parents to offer advice and support if they have a problem relating to their child's education. I am here to offer a friendly ear and support if it's needed.
 - Organising courses and activities for parents.
 - Sharing information between the school and home that could be helpful to you, the parents.
 - Creating positive relationships between St. Michael's and the families of our students. As HSCL, my role is to support parents in their dealings with school.
- I look forward to working together to help your children reach their potential here in St. Michael's**

You can contact me on **0830458867 (09:20-15:00)** or on **emmakeaveneyhscl@gmail.com**



St. Michael's B.N.S. Newsletter Christmas 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians and members of St. Michael's BNS community, I hope this Christmas Newsletter finds you all safe and healthy. On behalf of the staff in this school I would like to express our gratitude to all of you for your support, co-operation and kindness during this first term for 2022/2023. The School Staff have worked very hard over the past number of months to ensure that your son is safe in school. The safety and overall wellbeing of our pupils is and will continue to be the main priority of management and staff of St. Michael's BNS. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff in St. Michael's BNS for their hard work and dedication.

I wish you all a very a happy and peaceful Christmas and I wish you all the best for 2023.

Nora Horan, Principal.

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2nd Class News

Since September, 2nd class have had a busy and fun packed term.

The boys have settled so well in to St Michael's. It has been a fun few months getting to know each other!

The boys were busy learning all about the senses, autumn, hibernation, winter and Oisín in Tír na Nóg and lots more fun topics! As part of Science Week, the boys were busy learning about different experiment.

The boys have recently joined the library and we will go on more trips in the new year. The 2nd class boys are enjoying learning the ukulele with Greg every Thursday. We had our Enrolment Ceremony recently and some of the boys are now busy learning prayers for their First Holy Confession and First Holy Communion.

Sports wise, the boys were active with football skills over the last few months

with Enda. We are also doing lots of Mindful Moments and Busy Breaks which the boys really enjoy! The boys have worked really hard this term with their Class Dojo. Well done boys!

At the moment we are really enjoying practicing for our up coming concert! We have worked so hard to learn our poem, songs and actions! We hope you enjoy it!

We have also done lots of winter and Christmas art. It has been great fun.

The boys have made Christmas posters for the residents of Laurel Lodge as part of the Amber Flag goal. This is a very kind activity to do and we hope it puts a smile on the residents faces.

The 2nd class teachers and students would like to wish everyone in St Michael's BNS and their families a safe and enjoyable Christmas !

Christmas Closure

**The school will close
on Wednesday 21st
December at 12pm
for the Christmas
Holidays and will
re-open on Thursday
5th January 2021.**

**We would like to
wish you all a Merry
Christmas and Happy
New Year!**

Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Carberry 3rd Class News

It has been a really busy first term in both 3rd classes. As soon as we got back to school in September, we got down to work. We learned about the Stone Age and the Ancient Egyptians. It was really interesting. We learned more about our bodies and we are always trying to keep fit and active which is very important as we get older.

Every boy is working really hard with their English, Maths and Irish and our homework is really improving too. We have started Multiplication and Division just before Christmas - it's all go here!

We really enjoyed science week, and we did a number of experiments. Thanks to Ms Sorohan and Ms Burke for their help. We also watched a number of videos and

experiments over science week and learned lots.

As the term has gone on, we have been practicing ukulele every week. We love making lots of noise. We enjoy it and have improved every week.

We love taking part in sport and we were lucky to have Enda from Longford Slashers GAA club visit us every week. When the new season starts again after Christmas, we hope lots of boys continue to play Gaelic Football with Longford Slashers.

We have lots of great artists in the class, and our artwork has decorated our class and windows since September. Nearly every week we use Ipads to help our learning. We also visit the local library as we love reading.

We have lots of help in our school and we thank Ms Fallon and Mr

Gannon for their help throughout the term.

Finally, we hope all the boys and their families have a great Christmas and we look forward to getting started again in January 2023. We've lots to look forward to in the New Year, including swimming so we hope the boys enjoy their rest!

Mr O'Brien, Mr Carberry

Children's Books Ireland

Our school has been successful in an application to *Children's Books Ireland* for books for the school. We have received a *Free to Be Me* Little Library. This is a collection of beautiful books reflecting the diversity of our community. It includes illustrated books and graphic novels. We are looking forward to giving our pupils access to this new collection in the new year.

Amber Flag

The Amber Flag is an initiative for promoting positive mental wellbeing in schools.

Our committee members are working hard with Ms Barrins and Mr Delaney to achieve our goals to receive an Amber Flag for our school.

As part of the Amber Flag we have celebrated World Mental Health Day in October. During this day, we had a very relaxing day in school with a walk, mindfulness colouring, extra outside time, meditation and a poster competition all about mental health.

Each month, we do wellness

walks around The Mall. The boys are really enjoying these mornings and it is a great opportunity to get some exercise in.

Each class are practicing mindfulness and meditation every week.

We have also created some



Christmas cards and art for the residents of Laurel Lodge nursing home in Longford Town in hope to spread some Christmas cheer!

We have lots of fun activities planned for the new year in regards the Amber Flag! Watch this space!!

Ms Barrins and Mr Delaney would like to thank the committee members from 2nd to 6th and their teachers for all their hard work in helping us to achieve our goals this term.

Merry Christmas!

Ms Sheridan, Ms. Lennon & Ms. Heavey's 4th Class News

In September, Ms Heavey, Ms Lennon and Ms Sheridan welcomed the 4th class boys back to school to begin a very busy term of work. Ms Mollaghan and Mrs Sorohan also worked with the three 4th class groups.

Along with the class work, the boys have been very active in sport. Each week, the classes have a training session with Enda who coaches them in Gaelic Football. Their skills in soloing, hand passing, catching and kicking are all being developed, and, wonderful improvements in these skills have already been achieved.

All classes in St Michael's have six swimming lessons each year. Ms Heavey's and Ms Lennon's classes have recently started theirs. Ms Sheridan's class will start theirs at the end of January. It is a wonderful opportunity for all boys to learn swimming skills - everything from how to get into and out of the pool safely to different swim strokes. Naturally, some boys can be nervous around water, so these lessons are the perfect chance to become used to water and overcome these fears in a safe and supervised way.

The boys in 4th class are especially lucky as they are also getting gymnastics lessons. Ms Lennon very kindly arranged this with Longford Gymnastics Club. So far, Ms Lennon and Ms Heavey have brought their classes to gymnastics. Ms Sheridan's class will have their turn after Christmas. The boys absolutely

loved their lessons and showed great talent at gymnastics too.

The classes are busily preparing for the Christmas Concert which will be held in the Temperance Hall. They are learning ukulele for this and they will also sing some Christmas carols on the day. Each class will also perform their own piece for the school and parents. Science week was in November with all boys becoming scientists for the week! A huge range of experiments were completed. Everything from making eggs become bouncy by putting them into vinegar for a few days, to making musical instruments by putting water into glass bottles, to showing that you can turn a bucket of water upside down and not get wet (so long as you spin the bucket fast enough!). Everyone had great fun and learned lots throughout the week.

We are very lucky to be located in the centre of Longford Town. This allows us to walk to the library on a regular basis. All of the boys have their own library cards and can take out books whenever they want to. They are all fantastic at using the self-service facility in the library - so, they check out their own books, and check them in when the books are brought back. There is a wonderful choice of books in the library which can be used throughout the year by everyone.

Another advantage of being in the centre of Longford Town is the fact that the Mall is so near to

us. So far this year, the entire school has gone on two walks to and around the Mall. Both occasions were great fun and were a chance to relax, enjoy nature and enjoy the chat with whomever we were walking with. They were also a reminder to us to take time to relax and to be away from screens and from work. This relaxation time is just as important as our time working in the classroom. We are all looking forward to other walks after Christmas. Thanks to Ms Barrins and to Mr Delaney for organising the walks.

This has been a very busy term for us. So, we are really looking forward to having a holiday for Christmas. We also want to wish everyone a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a very HAPPY NEW YEAR.

