

St Joseph's BNS

Terenure Rd East, D06 ED86

www.stjosephsterenure.ie Tel: 01 4906905, 089 251 0954

We celebrated 'Catholic Schools' Week' as January came to an end. Normally we would have welcomed our Grandparents to our classrooms to reminisce, share stories and wisdom with our boys. But this year, things are a little different so St Joseph's boys celebrated our wonderful grandparents in ways that were safe and still full of love. The boys made cards, and cakes and somehow got them delivered either by post or by calling to the door or window for a wave, smile and virtual hug! Here is one of our families delivering homemade brownies in hand-decorated packaging to their grandparents.



Dates for your calendar:

February 18th and 19th

Mid-term break No school

Early March

Phased return to school

March 17th

St Patrick's Day No school

March 29th – April 9th inclusive

Easter holidays

Information on the return to school

We look forward to the phased reopening of our school in March and will be in contact with you when the Department of Education and Skills officially states which classes will be returning and when they are to return. We cannot wait and are excited thinking about their return. School is a lonely place without our boys.

We have the school set up and ready for action. We are at present ensuring we have up to date precautions and routines in place to ensure the safety of all.

Parents/guardians of children returning at each phase will be asked to complete the declaration form at the attached link [here](#).

Short videos for parents from public health doctors will be circulated to reaffirm the importance of keeping COVID-19 out of schools by keeping symptomatic children at home. Parents should err on the side of caution in this respect and keep children who are unwell at home.

Parents/guardians are asked to read and practice all measures listed [here](#) to prevent the introduction and spread of Covid 19 in schools. These measures are also set out in Section 5 of the School's revised Covid Response Plan found on our website www.stjosephsterenure.ie

Class News : All of our boys are leading the way demonstrating how to make the best of a 'not so great situation'. We all want to be back at school but until then – the boys are putting in their best efforts and making sure to laugh and have fun at every turn. Here are the highlights for each of the class levels since our return to remote teaching and learning.

6th Class

Since Christmas, the boys in 6th have been engaging enthusiastically with remote learning. They have been participating in live online classes as well as a host of online and offline learning activities. Apart from their everyday work, they have also enjoyed Art lessons and fun Kahoot quizzes. The boys have also taken their learning to the kitchen where they have whipped up numerous culinary delights. Away from the screen, the boys have been busy with running and fitness challenges, as well as the '30 Day Positivity Challenge' which focusses on their well-being. We look forward to welcoming them back to the classroom soon with healthy bodies and healthy minds. Below delicious pancakes and chocolate muffins are just some of the tasty delights the boys have made.



5th Class

The boys in our 5th classes completed some great projects/presentations on The Famine, Joe Biden, The Inauguration Day, Nepal, Kiribati and the explosion of the oil rig Piper Alpha to name but a few. One class looked at the poetry of Seamus Heaney and Patrick Kavanagh, and the other class read The Old Man and The Sea by Ernest Hemmingway. The boys are not to be outshone by the older classes, as their recipes and bakes such as lemon drizzle cake, chocolate cupcakes, and special cookies/cakes for Valentine's day made our mouths water. They also created some lovely pieces of art.



4th Class

The boys in our 4th classes loved making their videos on Flipgrid. The variety and level of creativity is mind boggling.



They have created aliens, made baking and cooking demos, designed houses of the future, made underwater dioramas and recreated the famous Mona Lisa.



Class News

Infant Classes

The infants have been exploring nature while out on their daily walk. They have been uploading photos and art pieces in response to what they experienced.

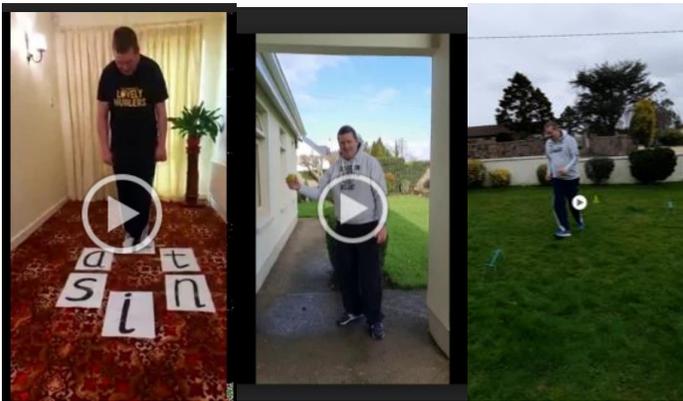


The boys also enjoyed learning about the Chinese New Year which is the Year of the Ox. They followed a tutorial on how to draw an Ox which turned out very well as you can see below.



Digital art was also a new medium that the boys explored when they designed valentines cards and pictures.

Another favourite for our infants is the Friday Challenge and activities with Mr Reale. Mr Reale's tally of 20 videos so far include keeping active sessions, phonics games, word recognition games, and memory games as gaeilge like 'Deir Ó'Gradaigh' etc.



All in one bite size recording to get the little ones motivated. Tops marks to all the boys for their efforts.

School garden news

We love our small school garden - thanks to the 3rd class boys for their work from Sept-Dec last year in keeping it going. February garden work involves lots of heavy pruning of bushes/plants and a tidy up of our sensory garden, making it ready for planting. Normally our 3rd and 4th class boys would do this but with the restrictions at present, Ms Maher did some of the essential work in preparation for our return in March.



The school building nearest the garden, has many windows that provide greenhouse like warmth for our seed potatoes which are now "chitting" and our tomato seeds which are now propagating.



We are optimistic that we will be back at school to get the first early potatoes in the ground before the St. Patrick's Day deadline!

Meanwhile, the bed of garlic that the 3rd class boys planted in November is progressing nicely.

Signs of spring are popping their heads up in garden to bring a smile to our faces.

