



ST. MARY'S NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025

Pre School and School Age Class

September: All about me

Welcome back! We've had a wonderful start to the school year in the ASD Classroom 4, 5, and 18. September was all about getting to know each other! Through our "All About Me" theme, students shared their favourite colours, foods, knowing body parts, etc. We learned how everyone is special in their own unique way. It was a fantastic opportunity to build connections and create a sense of belonging in the classroom. We practiced important social skills like introducing ourselves, listening to others, and taking turns.

October: Autumn and Halloween

October has been full of excitement as we join into the changing seasons and spooky fun! Our Autumn theme included sensory play with leaves, acorns, and pumpkins. We talked about how trees change, animals prepare for winter, and the weather cools down.

As Halloween approaches, we've been embracing fun! stories, crafts, and games. We've decorated our rooms with friendly ghosts and bats, and we are making fantastic Halloween Art. Costumes will be welcome for our Halloween celebration/parade!

We continue to focus on communication, independence, and fine motor skills through engaging, hands-on activities each day.

Thank from ASD Classrooms 4,5 and 18

Junior Infants

We are having lots of fun settling into Junior Infants. We started learning the letters of the alphabet. We learned all about Autumn this month. For Art, Room 17 decorated squirrels and Room 16 decorated hedgehogs with crepe paper. In Irish, we have been learning about Bia and Oíche Shamhna. For Halloween we made scary spiders and ghosts.

Junior Infants have been working hard on their pencil grip, cutting and tracing activities. Last week, in Maths, we learned our 2D shapes.

Autumn

Senior Infants

It's been a busy and exciting term in Senior Infants as we've been learning, creating, and getting ready for Halloween!

Maths

In Maths, we've been exploring longer and shorter, wider and narrower, and practising our counting up to six. The children have really enjoyed using hands-on materials to compare and measure objects, and they're becoming confident little mathematicians!

English

In English, we've been revising our phonics, practising reading CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words, and working on our report writing skills. The children are doing a fantastic job blending sounds and building their confidence as readers and writers.

Geography & SESE

Our SESE topics this term have been all about homes, autumn, hibernation, myself, and our senses. The children have loved talking about the changes we see in nature and learning how animals prepare for the colder months.

Arts & Activities

We've been getting creative with lots of Halloween art and singing some spooky Halloween songs! Each week, we've also been enjoying dance with Niamh and music with Gary, which have been huge highlights for the class.

Overall

It's been a wonderful term full of learning, laughter, and creativity. The children have worked so hard and had lots of fun along the way. We're looking forward to more exciting adventures after the midterm break!

Wishing everyone a happy and safe Halloween! 🎃 🍁 🦇

1st Class

First class have had a wonderful start to the school year. We have had great fun at our weekly dance lessons with Niamh. Gary from Music Generation has been teaching us lots of catchy tunes and we have created beautiful pieces of art! We were very excited to take home our fantastic clay pumpkins to proudly display at home.

We combined our maths and SESE lessons with our nature walk to the church grounds where we took a tally of the types of leaves we found and all the shapes that we saw.

In maths we have been learning about fractions and have been dividing objects and numbers into halves and quarters. We can skip count in 2s, 5s and 10s and are learning our doubles.

We had a super 1st term and are looking forward to lots more fun after Halloween!



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2nd Class

Both of the second classes in Room 2 and Room 11 have been very busy since starting back in school this academic year. We have been having weekly dance lessons which the children have really enjoyed and they have been learning some spooky Halloween-themed dance routines! We have been learning how to write a recount, using time adverbials to help us. We have also been focussing on our handwriting. The children have begun to learn cursive or joined writing in class which is a huge milestone for them. As we have started to learn about Autumn, we have listened to stories about the origins of the Halloween festival. In addition to this, the children all went on a lovely autumnal nature walk to explore the local area and collected a great selection of leaves and fruits for some autumnal art.

3rd Class

What a fantastic first term it's been for 3rd Class in Room 1 and Room 3! Over the past few months, we've been busy learning, creating, and having lots of fun along the way.

We completed seven great weeks of swimming, where everyone showed brilliant progress and growing confidence in the water. In October, we also began our ukulele lessons with Justin – we've already learned three chords and started strumming along to some songs!

Our STEM challenges kept our creativity buzzing – we built spaghetti and marshmallow towers and made amazing art from everyday objects. In Maths, we explored 2D shapes using lollipop sticks and sang some catchy tunes to help us learn our times tables.

As Halloween approaches, the classrooms are filled with excitement (and maybe a few spooky decorations too!). Well done to everyone for a super start to the school year – we can't wait to see what the next term brings! 🎵🎶🎸

Our School Website

Don't forget to visit our school website to keep up-to-date with all the activities and events in St. Mary's Primary School and to see photos of examples of pupils' work!

Visit us at

www.stmarysmullingar.ie



4th Class

So far this term room 15 have put focus on our four operations in maths. In English we have created recount and report pieces. In SESE we have been studying about wildlife in our local community along with what life was like for people in the past.

Sna ranganna a bhí againn le déanaí don Ghaeilge, chuireamar an-iarracht isteach leis na briathra a fhoghlaim tríd dán a chruthú le chéile.

This term room twelve have been very busy. We have done lots of work on recounts, report writing as well as refreshing our memory of multiplication and division. This month in art we have done lots of interesting things such as paper weaving not to mention our line houses. We also had our first swimming session of six this month!

5th Class Ms McManus

Room 10 have had a great first term. We have been super busy this term! We started the Weaving Wellbeing programme, which is helping us to learn about positive relationships. We took part in a great STEM project about bridges (including different types of bridges & the history of bridge building).

We then worked in different teams to design and build a bridge. We had so much fun and we created some structurally sound and beautiful bridges! In Art we learned about Keith Haring and we created our own Keith Haring inspired art! We were delighted to welcome a new pupil, Adona, to our class in mid-September. Mr. O Mairtín brought us on a brilliant historical tour of Mullingar town on the 23rd of September. We learned so many fascinating facts about the town and had great fun with Mr. O' Mairtín! We started our auditions and rehearsals in the Arts Centre and we are all looking forward to you seeing our performance of Aladdin at the end of January, 2026. We have started report writing this month, and we are working on a report about Mexico. We are learning about it in Geography and learning about the Aztecs from Ancient Mexico in History. We have already made some agamographs and some portraits of Frida Kahlo, the famous Mexican artist. We're learning about the Solar System and we made some of the constellations using spaghetti and marshmallows!

We enjoyed our first visit to the library this month and are reading for enjoyment and pleasure whenever we can this year! We took part in Maths Week and used our "Maths Eyes" to see Maths in the world around us. We took part in the Maths Week art competition too! We were delighted to learn that we have an extra day off this term because of the presidential election – but we took the opportunity to learn about how we vote for a president in Ireland and a little about each of our previous presidents (all 9 of them!). We are starting to get excited about Halloween and we decorated our classroom today. We're looking forward to learning about the history of Halloween; Oíche Shamhna; Halloween poetry; and Halloween safety. We can't wait to do some Halloween art, get dressed up, eat some sweets and enjoy our mid-term break!!!



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5th Class Ms Kelly

5th class have been very busy already preparing for Aladdin in the Arts Centre. We have been learning lines and lyrics and practising dance routines. It's an exciting time!

We have also spent some time marking a few special days. We celebrated Roald Dahl Day in September with lots of puzzles, board games and even some guest readers who shared their favourite Roald Dahl story. Maths Week was full of puzzles and challenges. We created fun projects based on 2D shapes. There were stories, games, songs and dances all created by the class.

Our Reading Wall is growing brick by brick as we spend time every day reading and enjoying different books. The children have been recommending books to each other and even buddy reading some murder mystery stories!

6th Class

Sixth Class are really enjoying their time as the seniors of our school. We love wearing our grey hoodies – they're warm, comfortable, and make us easily recognisable as role models within our school community. We're working hard in class as we prepare for secondary school. Applications have been submitted, and we're eagerly awaiting to find out where we'll be going next year. Recently, we celebrated our first Confirmation preparation Mass, and we're now choosing our Confirmation names and sponsors. This term, we've also been learning about Claude Monet, the Normans, and Empowering Beliefs.

HSCL

A reminder that Seán Ó Máirtín is our Home School Community Liaison. The number to contact Seán is 0876380897, his email is seanomairtin@stmarysmullingar.ie and he is contactable during school hours.

