



NEWS @ St. Comgall's

ISSUE 2: 2014 -2015



WORLD BOOK DAY



To celebrate World Book Day, children and staff dressed up as a character from a book. We had a wide range of characters and a fabulous day of fun and celebration for everyone at St. Comgall's. We also raised £442.00 for much needed school funds. A BIG thank you to everyone!

St. Comgall's Fundraising Group

The fundraising group organised a night for the mums to view Dirty Dancing at the Antrim Cineplex. It was a tremendous night, enjoyed by all who attended (I hear there was dancing in the aisles!!) and raised an enormous amount of money for the school. All funds raised will go towards much needed book resources. We would like to thank the members of the fundraising group for all their hard work and all who attended. We hope to see all you mums and dads at our next fundraising event, "A Night at the Races" in Massereene Golf Club on Sat 30th May 2015



Book the date!!
30 May
It will be a great night!!

Money raised from the Cinema Night was
£1,000.00

Thank you so much !





JR & P.1 Children's Christmas Show



Detectives at work

“Whodunnit?”



As part of their topic learning for ‘Prove It’, primary 4A took part in a crime scene investigation. They arrived at school to find a crime had been committed in their classroom - a piece of equipment was missing, and it was their responsibility to find the culprit!

The class collected evidence - taking prints, measuring footprints and noting anything unusual before compiling a suspect list and interview questions. With designated roles ranging from ‘chief inspector’ to ‘prints team’, each group interviewed a chosen member of staff and then collated their findings to discover WHODUNNIT. The culprit was discovered and issued with 100 hours community service, while the equipment was safely recovered.

A fun filled day for all that allowed them to hone interpersonal skills and develop practical skills in areas of mathematics and biology.

The Crime Scene...



The Investigation...





Catholic Schools Week

25th Jan – 1st Feb

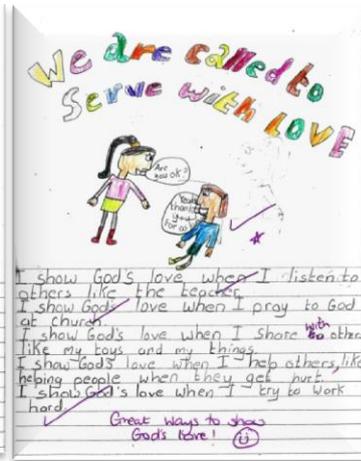
“Called to Serve”



By Charlotte Craig P.4B



By Michael Wilson P.4B



By Christel Kho P.4B



By Niamh O'Shea P.4B



By Patrick Cafferty P.4B



By Rory Sweeney P.4B

Síúil I Solas Dé

Síúil I Solas Dé

Our theme was “Called to serve”. It was Catholic School's Week and we did an assembly. We sang Walk in the Light in Irish. It was really fun. We did a poem about called to serve. Everyone poem was very good. We did our assembly twice. Mrs McIntyre loved our assembly and everyone else loved it as well. We had the best time EVER!!

In P.4C assembly on Catholic School's Week we had to all make poems about “Called to Serve” because the theme of Catholic School's Week is “Called to Serve”. We all had loads of practice. Then the time came and we did everything right. We sang walk in the light in Irish and everybody said it was brilliant! We had to do the assembly twice and got everything perfect. We had a great time and we loved singing in Irish!

By Anna McSorley P.4C

By Luke O'Loan P.4C





The mass was so full that my granny and granda had to stand at the back. They liked the singing. By Oliver

My granda loved the mass and said my classroom was really cool. By Molly

Grandparents' Day



My Granny Margaret came to our mass, then she had tea and a bun. After she came to my classroom. I showed her our spellings and the monkey I made. By Cillian

My granda and aunty said what brilliant work we are doing! By Aoibheann

My granny really liked the buns Elaine made. My mummy and granny had four classrooms to visit. By Aoife



My mummy and nanny came to visit my class. I showed them the story I wrote about my nanny. By Evie

P.7B Visit to Tesco



As part of our topic work "Farm to Fork" P.7 visited Tesco. I'm going to tell you about our visit to Tesco. I will also be interviewing some classmates. I interviewed Camille and this is what she said, "When we arrived at Tesco we were greeted by Lesley. First she showed us the fruit and vegetables. And we were put into groups of three. Lesley gave us clip boards and we had to write down where fruits and vegetables came from.

After we called out the foods and where they came from we went to the fish counter and we met Darren. He showed us different types of fish. He said that the marlin is one of the biggest fish in the world. He also showed us inside a fishes head."

We interviewed Tom and this is what he said, "As soon as we finished looking at the fish we went to the bakery. We got to smell the yeast and feel the dough. We also got to see tiger bread. Mr McLaughlin ate all of the bread. 🙄

We got to go in the freezer and it was very cold. Kacper got to wear a special coat that all the workers had to wear. We saw where all the products were stored. After that we visited Tesco.com, the place where Antrim Tesco gets its orders.

When we were finished there we went to the staff cafeteria to have break we were offered biscuits and orange juice but we also brought our own food.

We then went downstairs to have a go learn about the tills but only 5 people were allowed on them. It was almost time to go but before we did we got a gift bag and a picture taken. All of us had a great time at Tesco. Thank you for reading our report.

By Bailey Moore and Camille Hirst P.7B



Peace Proms 2015

After weeks of practising and rehearsals, our school choir participated in the highly acclaimed 'Peace Proms' concert in the Odyssey Arena, on Sunday 8th February.

At the concert, the children had the opportunity to sing with a 1,000 strong choir, perform with a full symphony orchestra and improve their vocal presentation under the direction of the conductor Gearoid Grant. Our children rose to this challenge beautifully! They sang and performed their songs to a sell-out audience with grace and confidence. We were all so proud of them!

By Mrs McCaughan



Eco Schools 20th Anniversary Celebration



On Thursday 5th of March, Mr Henry and Mrs Hunter took three members of the eco team to the 20th anniversary of Eco schools.

First we went round some of the exhibitions. They were helpful and educational. The exhibitions were about water electricity and recycling. After that we went outside to find 5 ways to play with a rope through an outdoor explorer workshop.

Next we went back inside and saw 'Scientific Sue' which was about exploding gases.

After that there was an award ceremony. Lots of awards were given out as well as green flags.

Eventually we got round the rest of the exhibitions and had our photograph taken with Frank Mitchell from UTV.

Finally we made part of a recycled bottle greenhouse. It made us feel excited about building our own greenhouse.

We were glad to be part of this very special Eco celebration day.

By Niall Kearney and Corey Hughes P6B



Greenhouse

The Eco Team will be focusing on bio-diversity within the school grounds and shall be embarking on creating a very unique structure.

With your help, we aim to create a greenhouse for our existing vegetable garden made entirely from recycled materials. The Eco Team are still collecting plastic 2 litre bottles to provide the windows and we would love to speak to parents who may know where we can source timber for our frame, or even if this timber could be donated. We are aware that as a school we promote healthy eating and drinking but sometimes we all need an extra bit of fizz in our lives and therefore we are asking for a specific shape of 2 litre bottle. Pepsi, Club, Finches, Store Cola etc provide the best shape of bottle for this project and therefore we would ask you to avoid bringing in bottles from the Coca Cola range as the bottle shape will not fit in with our measurements.

We need 1,500 bottles and so far have collected just over 500 so please keep sending them in.

There will be a family cinema pass for the child who brings in the most bottles.

P5's Celebrate St. Patrick's Day



It started at two o'clock when the readers came on stage. I was really nervous. The readers were really good and so were the actors. I thought St. Patrick was good [Con]. When we came off stage the facts came on. The dancers danced a reel and danced really well. I so badly wanted to be a dancer. Then Emily and Erin did a two hand reel. Their costumes were AWESOME. Mrs Duffy was really happy when they did the clapping bit. When Erin and Emily came off it was the orchestra. ME!!!! After that everyone (p5) got on stage. The Children reading the prayers did their bit and then we said the Hail Mary in Irish. After that we sang Irelands call and then the audience clapped and we bowed. It was great.

By Aimee Mc Clelland & Katelynn Mc Cracken P5B

On Thursday 12th of March we performed our St. Patrick's Day play.

We all had a job to do. Some people had a reading. After the readings we all sang Hail Glorious St. Patrick. Some people did Irish dancing.

Emily and Erin were doing the two hand reel and then we had to say the Hail Mary in Irish.

Some people had to say the prayers of the faithful. We finished our Assembly by singing "Ireland's Call."

By Liam Phinn & Conor Dennison P5B

GREEN DAY



To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, children and staff came to school wearing something green. It was a fun day and a great way to remember our Patron Saint.



After School Clubs

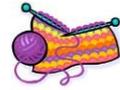
Primary five pupils have been learning to knit afterschool. In just seven weeks we have learned how to finger knit, cast on, cast off and use the knit stitch. Some of us have learned to knit different colour stripes! We have also made pom poms and braiding wheel bracelets. Here is what some primary five pupils have to say about knitting club.

Knitting



"I just liked having fun!!!!!"

"I enjoyed learning how to knit with needles and making braiding wheels."
Eva McKinney



"I loved knitting club because I like learning new things like in the last class we learned how to do braiding wheels to make bracelets."
Ella Dalton

"I liked learning how to make braiding wheels."
Annisha McGarry

"I enjoyed learning how to cast on, cast off and learning how to knit with needles."
Adam McErlain

"I liked learning to knit because I won't ever forget how to do it now. I also loved making braiding wheels. Instead of buying a friendship bracelet you can just make one."
Karolina Cardenas

"I enjoyed learning how to finger knit."
Lauren Molloy



Irish

Is mise Lorcán. Is maith liom haca

Is mise Éama. Is maith liom bia agus ag

The children are playing Charades and trying to guess the action, in Irish, the other person is acting out.



Is mise Shane. Is maith liom ag

Is mise Erina. Is maith liom criospaí.

Is mise Cáitlín. Is maith liom an leabhar "Cluichi

Is mise Maeve. Is maith liom gleacóú

Is mise Lúcas Mácláin. Is maith liom ag imirt

Is mise Maireair. Is maith liom ag

Is mise Eoghan. Is maith liom ag anárnh agus ag irirt

Is mise Aóife. Is maith liom ag snámh.

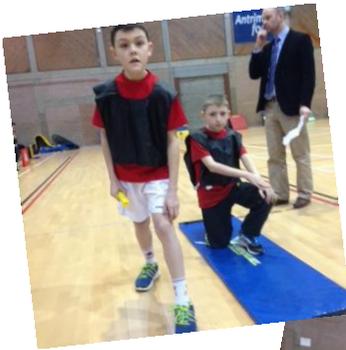
Is mise Iarfhlaith. Is maith liom eggsnou ag



Athletics Tournament

On Thursday 15th January a group of 20 P.7 pupils enjoyed a fun packed morning at Antrim Forum, taking part in Sports Hall Athletics as part of the Active Antrim Primary School's Challenges. The children participated in track and field events like relay races, obstacle courses, speed bounce, chest throw, standing long jump, vertical jump and 5 strides jumps. The children thoroughly enjoyed the competition and one of our pupils, Sophie Shields, was chosen to take part in some elite coaching sessions.

Well done everyone.



Athletic Report

It was a Thursday morning when it started, I was so excited the day had come, Athlete day. I got dressed and went to school. I had butterflies in my tummy. We lined up outside, with Mr. Jones and Mrs O'Neill and got onto the bus which took us to the Antrim Forum. We had to put on T-shirts with different colours, ours was black.

The first sport was the hurdles. Me, Aoife Mc Larnon, Cara Brennan and Kayleigh Giffen were up first and we came first. We each competed in 4-5 events. I did 5, they were the hurdles relay race, 3 length relay, jumping, 1 length relay and the fun sprint relay. We all shouted and cheered on our teams. The hall was very noisy and everyone was having lots of fun.

The two most fun parts of the day for me were the hurdles relay race because when I started running we were 5th but when the race ended I had got our team up to 1st place. I ran as fast as I could and I could hear everyone cheering my name. The 2nd best bit was the 3 length relay because I got to run it with Kayleigh and it got my muscles moving, We had to run really fast and even though we didn't win we gave it all we had.

In the end our school came 5th out of 9. We weren't disappointed because we had a really good day.

After the awards were given out to the winning schools the council gave out letters to some of the athletes that participated in the day. I was one of the lucky 14 that got a letter and that was a big accomplishment. Now I am going to attend 5 weeks of training in the Antrim Forum with a professional coach and then have the honour of representing St.Comgall's at the Northern Ireland Primary School Athletics Championships on the 20th March 2015 in Lisburn. Wish me luck!!!

Sophie Shields

P7A Mr.Jones

From the moment you walked into the room you could feel the excitement in the atmosphere. There were a lot of schools going to be competing but we all knew it was just friendly competition, however, we all still wanted to win. Everyone was so excited and just couldn't wait till it started but we had to wait as different schools were shown at different times what to do. Once the people who were doing the first race were told where to go and they were positioned the whistle blew.

All the main races and all of the events were split into girls and boys. In between races and the breaks we got to talk to pupils from other schools. While the main races were on most of us were kept busy as we had other events to do such as, strides, vertical jump, chest push and many more. Those from our school that were sitting watching the races going on were all shouting and supporting the pupils from St.Comgall's. We were all having so much fun that we didn't even notice the time.

After all the races and events were over the points from each race and event was counted and verified. While this was happening all the schools were assembled in one part of the hall. We were all being told that 7 boys and 7 girls would be chosen to represent their school at an event in Lisburn, which children from all over Northern Ireland would be competing in. A girl from our school was chosen and we were all delighted for her. After all the places were called out every school had their photograph taken. By that time we were ready to go. We all had a great day that we will definitely remember.

By Cara Brennan P.7A



www.antrimforum.com



P.7 Retreat – The Holy Spirit



In primary 7 we are preparing for confirmation. Lots of people are helping us, our teachers, our families and the priests. Father McGrath organised a retreat for all the primary 7 children from the parish. On Thursday 15th January St. Comgall's, St. Josephs, Tannaghmore, Roundtower and some other pupils met at St. Joseph's Parish Hall.

We were there to learn about becoming more mature and in control of our faith. It was a really fun and active way to learn about Christian faith. We played lots of interactive games which had meanings behind them. They showed us how it was important to share experiences, to be respectful of feelings and how to work with others. We developed our understanding of famous Catholics and how our faith developed. We discussed confirmation names.

Roslyn Turley from P.7B chose Mary because she was a good person who dedicated her life to God and bringing up Jesus. Luana Carey also from P.7B decided upon the name of Rose. She respects Saint Rose of Lima's efforts to care for the needy and sick. As a class we have made commitment to try and live like Jesus leading up to confirmation.

Roslyn says she is really excited and looking forward to making her confirmation. She expects it to be a glorious day.

By Luana Carey and Roslyn Turley. P.7B

This story you are about to read will highlight the experiences I had during my retreat day in St Joseph's Parish Centre. Once our homework was marked we got our coats on and walked back down the stairs to go outside to get on the bus. I was sitting at the back of the bus with Aaron, Peter, Akash and Kian.

On the journey to St. Josephs Parish hall I saw a lot of cool cars beside the school bus. Once we got off our school bus we went into the St. Josephs Parish centre. We were given Confirmation booklets and there was a maze and word search. So then we had to pick a seat to sit on during it. A man called Joe told us what to do on the first page of the booklet and then we played a game. You had to say 1, 2 or 3 but you were not allowed to say the same number twice in a row with your friend. He then turned the number 1 into a clap so you weren't allowed to say 1 and clap at the same time and he turned number 2 into a jump.

The next thing we done was do a game where a group of 20 had to join hands. There was a hula-hoop on top of your hands and you had to get it over yourself without it dropping onto the floor. After that we went out for break and once we all came in we done another page in our booklets. It was about 2 people in our lives that are special to us and we had to write why they were special in our lives and who they were. After that we had an auction using Father Connor's dollars. Each group only had 500 dollars to spend on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. I learnt that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are: Wisdom, Reverence, Understanding, Courage, Piety, Self-control, Right-judgement and Knowledge.

Finally, we went over to the church to pray with Father Connor. I thought that this was a wonderful and meaningful retreat day for Primary 7s.

By Fionn McLaverty P.7A





St Valentine's Day



St. Valentine Assembly

P7A did an assembly for St. Valentine's Day which took place on Friday 13th February. Our assembly consisted of music, singing, narration and acting. Such songs we sang were The Fruits of the Holy Spirit and we watched a reflective clip which all children enjoyed.

St. Valentine was a priest that loved to marry young couples. But there was a Roman Emperor called Claudius who didn't like young men falling in love because they cannot go to war or fight for the romans. Claudius asked two roman soldiers to take St. Valentine away .When St. Valentine was free from prison he carried on secret marriages .Then Claudius had St. Valentine taken to prison again for life. That is why we celebrate the 15th of February every year.

By Charlie-Anna Ramsey and Shane Kennedy P.7

P.4B Internet Safety Assembly



Our assembly was great and I wish we could do it again. It was great fun and at the same time we learnt all about the dangers of using the internet. I will always remember to be SMART online.

By Niamh O'Shea

Since it was Internet Safety Week we based our assembly on this topic. Our assembly had good advice to stay safe online. I enjoyed practising our assembly and I was happy with my part as a child who got save by Super Smart

By Charlotte Craig

Today our class did the assembly in the hall. We talked about being smart online. I was a speaker. I think I was the seventh person to speak. I told everyone how using the internet to connect with other people can be dangerous.

By Rory Sweeney

In assembly we told everyone how to stay safe online. I was a Super Smart. I had to make sure everyone was safe online. My letter was M. It stands for Meet. Strangers online are strangers. Meeting them is dangerous

BE SAFE ONLINE.

By Molly Allen



When I did assembly I was a reader. There were 5 Super Smart Heroes. There were people on their laptops. Me, Laoise and Faith were holding posters. The whole school watched us. Mrs McIntyre and Mr Matthews came too. The play was about being smart online. We also sang a song. The words for the song were "Stop! Stop! Super Smarts about"

By Bobbi-Jo Kennedy



P.7 Confirmation Day

Our Confirmation Day

Our Primary 7 Confirmation took place on Friday 27th February in St. Joseph's Church, Antrim

It was a very special day where we received the Holy Spirit. As part of the ceremony we renewed our Baptismal promises. We were not able to do this at baptism because we were too young previously.

Bishop Treanor, Bishop of Down and Connor was the celebrant.

He invited each one of us up and asked us to "receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" we responded by saying Amen! He also wished us peace. Our sponsors were also there and they are special like our Godparents as they will help us to continue and develop our faith.

We had been preparing for a long time. We have had a commitment mass, an assembly, Service of light ceremony, a retreat and many lessons teaching us how to be members of Gods community. We studied Jesus life and have learned how we can use the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit to be mature members of God's Kingdom. Bishop Treanor asked us a lot of questions about what we had learned. Fr. Emerson, Mr Matthews and our P7 teachers Mr McLaughlin and Mr Jones looked very relieved when we answered all the questions correctly.

Our parents were very proud and said the ceremony was lovely. Aidan Turkington's mum was very pleased and she said when she heard the music it brought tears to her eyes. It was noticed that she was not the only parent who was beaming with pride.

At the end of the Mass we all went back to St. Josephs School for a snack and photographs with the Bishop. Maeve Carlin from P7 B was seen taking a selfie with Bishop Treanor. Our whole class agreed it was one of the highlights of P7 but we look forward to many more good days to come at St. Comgall's.

The Boys and Girls of P.7 B





P.6 Visit the Titanic Centre, Belfast



Our Trip to Titanic

On Tuesday 24th of February 2015 we went to the spectacular Titanic building in Belfast by bus. We went there to learn more about our topic 'Setting Sail'. Both P6 classes went on the visit along with our teachers Mr Phillips and Mrs Hannigan.

The first exhibit was called 'Boomtown Belfast'. In this exhibit we learnt facts about Thomas Andrews. We learnt that Thomas Andrews joined Harland and Wolff as an apprentice at the age of 16. Next we went into the second exhibit The Gantry. In this exhibit we learnt that the gantry was 240 feet tall and 8 men died building the Titanic.

After that we went on to the 'Ship Yard Ride' which took you around the process of the Titanic being built. We learned that the ship's riveters only got paid 1p per rivet. Then we went to the 'Launch' exhibit, there we learnt that the Titanic was launched on the 31st May 1912 at 12:15pm and 100,000 people came to watch. Next we saw the 1st, 2nd and 3rd class cabins. There was quite a difference in 1st to 3rd class. 1st class was very luxurious and 2nd and 3rd were tiny with a set of bunk beds and a sink. They used 3 different types of carpet in each room. After that we visited the 'Maiden Voyage' exhibit which told us that the Titanic carried 8,000 cigars, 11 cases of orchids, 194 mail bags, 76 cases of dragon blood, 250 barrels of flour and much, much more!

Next we proceeded into the exhibit about the Titanic's sinking. There were lots of Morse code messages and distress calls to read and hear about the Titanic's final few hours and information about her final resting place 12,400 feet in the depths of the Atlantic Ocean. Then we visited the aftermath of the disaster and learnt about the enquiry that followed. This exhibit ended in the 'Visit and Explore' section which allowed us to see real life footage of the wreckage. This footage was gloomy but interesting to see the wreckage of the Titanic. The final part of our visit was the 'Exploring the Depths' workshops where we got to take part in lots of interactive activities.

This educational trip was enjoyable and factual as it helped us learn lots of interesting facts about the Titanic.



International School Meals Day



The purpose of International School Meals Day is to raise awareness of the importance of food and nutrition in education. The third International School Meals Day was March 5th, 2015. Schools around the world supported the Day by promoting healthy eating and learning, using the theme of **Celebrating culture through food**. Food, like language, is an integral part of culture and many countries history and society rests on their food traditions. Families and communities often help children to make valuable connections between a culture and its food. Food communicates the culture of people and their dreams for a healthier and better future and is often used to celebrate cultural events, festivals, calendar days and social and religious customs. These events are regularly coupled with art and musical activities enjoyed by children, young people and their communities all over the world throughout the year.

Here at St. Comgall's International School Meals Day saw our canteen (and some of our staff) decorated in flags from around the world. The children were given a treat from our cook Elaine and were able to experience a variety of foods from around the world including America, China and Italy. The children and staff had a great day! We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Elaine, Jeannie, Carol, Evie, Jenny and Glynis for all their hard work all year providing the children with healthy, nutritional meals.



P2's Visit St. Comgall's Church, A Very Special Place

As part of the Alive O programme P2 have been learning all about Special Places. One of the most special places to all of us is the Chapel. P2 went to visit our Chapel – St Comgall's and discuss all the special features like the altar, the baptismal font and the stain glass windows. We were so lucky that Brendan was there to show us around and we even got to look at the priest's vestments, the chalice and the special candles! Brendan was so kind and we would like to thank him so much for showing us around and telling us all about the chapel. Thank you Brendan!





Preparing for Lent

In preparation for Lent, P6A organised a Lenten assembly to help them and the rest of the children in St Comgall's learn why we prepare through fasting, praying and alms giving. The children of P6A put on an informative display of reading out loud with confidence, displaying artwork, learning a poem and acting out role plays to help everyone's understanding of Lent.



Our Lenten Assembly

In our Lenten Assembly my role was acting as Jesus.

I had to learn a role play and a line saying "I will turn away from sin and put my faith in God."

The role play was about Satan tempting Jesus in the wilderness.

Jesus is a great example of how to put your faith in God and not to selfish

By Joseph Smith P.6A

Our Lenten Assembly

In our Lenten Assembly, I read a prayer about Lent. We displayed work and some people acted out a small role play. I learnt about how we are meant to prepare for Lent and also how to act during Lent. I enjoyed watching my friend act as Satan the Devil most of all because it was very funny as she had to dress up.

By Caoimhe Rooney P6A

Junior Reception's Visit to the Pet Shop

Our Visit to the Pet Shop

As part of our topic, Junior Reception visited 'Pets at Home,' in Ballymena.

We were very excited to go on the big bus and we sang lots of songs on the way there! When we got there, the lady showed us lots of animals, such as guinea pigs and rabbits.

We even got to pet a lizard and a snake! In the shop, we

also saw a 'doggy hairdressers' where a black poodle was getting a haircut! We learned how to look after pets properly and that they need lots of love and care.





Sacrament of First Penance

My Sacrament of Penance

It was on Thursday 12th March. There were 79 children and it was at St Comgall's Church at 6.30 in the evening. There were four priests, Fr. Emerson, Fr. McGrath and two visiting priests. I went to a visiting priest for my confession. My mum, dad and Matilda were there. We saved a seat for my Granny and Granda but they sat away at the back. We sang three songs, Together, I'm Sorry and We are the Greatest. We did a role-play of the Good Shepherd. Jude was the shepherd. He had 100 sheep and lost one. I was a reader. It was a lovely confession. Thank-you God.

By Clementine Barwick P.3B

Our First Confession

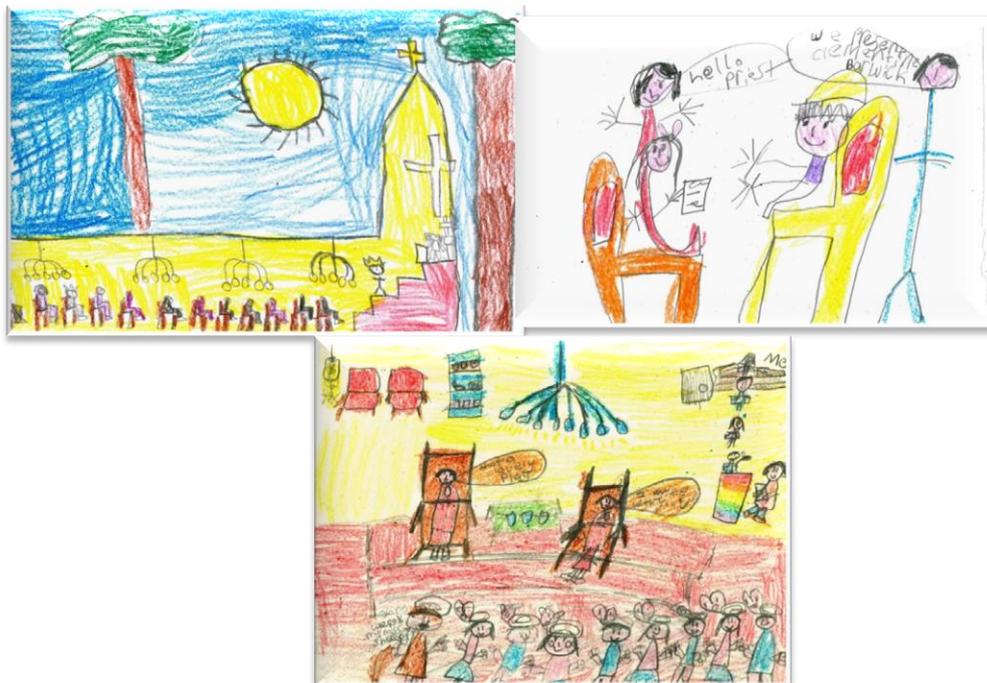
In St. Comgall's Chapel in Antrim, we celebrated our first confession on the 12th of March. We did a role play of the good shepherd. Jude was the shepherd and Sé was one of the singers. Then we went up to the altar and made our first confession.



By Sé Mulvenna and Jude Storrie P.3A

I made my First Penance in St. Comgall's Church on 12th March. We did a play about the Good Shepherd. Then I went to the priest and told him the times I did not show love. After my First Penance I went home and then I went to Burger King to get some ice-cream.

By P.J. Dinsmore P.3C





Home Sweet Home

P1 are really enjoying their topic 'Home Sweet Home'. They have been getting involved in lots of activities about *Buildings*, *Fairytale Homes* and *The Building Site*. They have been making houses out of junk materials,



making characters from the stories using dough, making their own



digital fairytale, having lots of fun in the role play corner, and much, much more.



If you are walking down the P1 corridor they would like to remind you to **BEWARE OF THE BIG BAD WOLF!**



A DAY AT THE ZOO

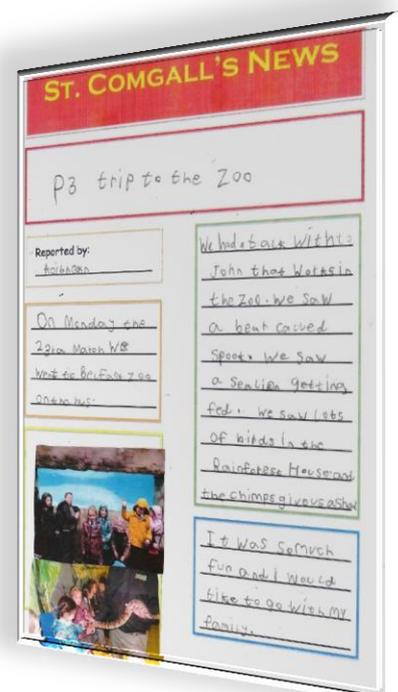
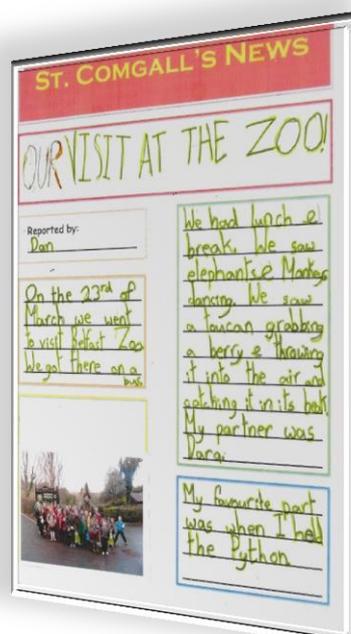


On Monday 23rd March all the P.3's went on a trip to Belfast Zoo. We have been learning about the Jungle and thought we could find out more by visiting the zoo. We went on an Ulster bus and got to choose our own partner. At the zoo each class had a talk in the Educational Room from John who works in the zoo, he showed us lots of different animals that you might find in a Rainforest and talked to us about the Rainforest. He was really impressed when we told *him* things we have learnt about the Jungle, like the names of the rainforest layers and how a snake sheds its skin. We got to hold a snake, a stick insect, a lizard and we looked at a tarantula, a frog and giant slugs.

We got to see the sea-lions getting fed fish and the chimps put on a show by doing cartwheels. Tina the elephant was dancing. The giraffes and zebras were feasting on hay. Spook was the name of the big black bear and we watched a little bird annoy him. Did you know that every tiger has a different pattern of stripes? They are unique just like our fingerprints! The toucan picked some berries from a branch, threw them up in the air and caught them in his beak.

We thought the lion was getting ready for lunch as he prowled his territory and roared at us! We finished off our day with a quick play at the new park. It was great fun. Everyone agreed it was the best day ever!

After our Zoo trip the P3 children wrote a report on their visit to the Zoo.



Guten Tag St. Comgall's



From the 24th to the 29th Mar St. Comgall's hosted a group of 29 German children from our Partner School in Ketzin, outside Berlin. The party took part in different activities over their week stay. When visiting, they travelled to the Giants Causeway, Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, Aunt Sandra's Sweet Shop, Belfast and Stormont. They also visited W5, The Titanic Exhibit in Belfast and "We are Vertigo", an indoor climbing and ski centre. Our P.5 children preformed their St. Patrick's Day assembly which included the story of St Patrick and a display of Irish dancing and singing. We would like to thank the families who brought German children into their homes so they could experience a day with an Irish family. This was a great opportunity for the children to learn about each other's cultures. The visit was a great success, they all had a wonderful time and we look forward to their return visit next year.



Gaelic



On the 5/03/15 we went to a Gaelic tournament in Creggan. We played four teams they were: Ballymacricket, Creggan P.S, St. Oliver Plunkets Toome and St.Comcilles. It was an INTO boys mini 7 a side tournament. There was 5 teams in our section and we came 3rd in our section.

We went to a hall and there were lots of teams and we put our boots on. We went onto a 3G Gaelic pitch and warmed up. We got our positions and waited for our turn to play. When it was our turn got ready to play Creggan on our first game, we won our game. We had a one game rest and then we played Ballymacrickett, we lost that game. We played another game straight away we played St

Oliver Plunkets, Toome we won that game. Our last game was against St Comcilles we won our last game. We only lost one game. After we got our lunch and watched the final.

The winner of the tournament was Mount St Michaels, second place was Ballymacrickett. We had great fun at the tournament and were really pleased how our team played, we think it is a strong team.

By Luke Williamson and Gareth Fitzsimmons. P.7B



Lisburn Indoor School's Championships

Sophie Shields from Mr Jones' class was picked to represent St Comgall's at the Northern Ireland Primary School Athletics Championships which took place in the Lagan Valley Leisureplex in Lisburn on the 20th March. Read Sophie's story below.

"It started off 7 weeks ago at the Athletics Competition, 14 out of 100 people got picked to represent Ireland, in the Athletics Final Competition and would get 6 weeks of training with a professional coach called Dean. I was 1 of the 14 that got picked. I had 6 weeks of training with Dean along with 13 others. It was Friday 20th March, the day of the competition. I had butterflies in my stomach. I was nervous but also really excited. I got to school with my mum and little sister Scarlett. My Mum wished me good luck and I said 'Goodbye,' and got on the bus. I had a snack on the bus travelling to Lisburn. I went straight into the competitions. I got my number, I was number 70. The 1st event I did was the speed bounce, I got 53 jumps in 20 seconds. The 2nd was the long jump, I got 81.43cm. The 3rd was the chest push with a 2kg medicine ball, I got 5.75. The 4th was the 1 lap sprint, I did it in 11.42 seconds. At the end of the day we got certificates. I got my card with the number 70 on it signed by 4 different people." Well done Sophie!



Winners at St Comgalls

Gareth in P.7B was one of many pupils who attended the open night for transferring in St. Benedicts College. When he finished the school asked if he would complete an evaluation on his evening. He did so and it was entered into a prize draw.

Gareth won!! Well done.

Mr McAuley from St. Benedicts presented the voucher for Asda to Gareth here at school.

Happy spending!



Ballymena Festival



After months of practising and rehearsing, our school orchestra and woodwind ensemble took part in the prestigious Ballymena Festival. Both groups performed beautifully, with the adjudicator commenting *"it was good to hear such a good and polished performance."* The orchestra were awarded distinction while the woodwind ensemble was awarded first place, also achieving distinction and were just two marks off outstanding! Both of these groups had worked extremely hard through the year, and their results reflect their dedication. Well done to both, we are very proud of them!

Road Safety Quiz

P.7 children attended a quiz in Greystone Primary School on Road Safety and General Knowledge. The team performed extremely well and finished 3rd with only a point separating the top three places. Well done to all who took part and stay safe on the roads!

Environmental Youth Speak

I, Lorcan Rooney, my friends Arshia Naghavi and Tom Poulter entered an environmental youth speak competition that was occurring on the 25th of February. We started 4 weeks before the event but we had to rewrite it after two and a half weeks because we thought it could be improved. Our teacher Mr McLaughlin helped us with the new and improved speech and we worked really hard due to the misprint of the date on the letter.

On the day we went to the Antrim Civic Centre with one of our school staff, Mrs O'Neill. When we got there, we went in and were told to go to the Round Tower Room, this is where the mayor meets and discusses problems which was exciting. We were given name stickers and we were told when we were going to be saying our speech. I was presenting our speech second and standing in front of the judges was very nerve wrecking, but once I started it just sort of flowed. We listened to the other competitors speeches and then went into another room while the judges discussed the results.

Once they were finished we went back in, dying to hear the results and we found out the mayor would be giving out the awards. So they called out the results and we found out that we won and we were overjoyed. It was a great experience and a great privilege to represent our school and we are very excited to move on to the finals in Lisburn. YYY!!



Information & Reminders

Names on Uniforms

Please remember to clearly label all items of your child's school uniform, especially jumpers, cardigans and coats.

Children coming to School Early:

Children should not be on the school grounds before 8.45am unless they are attending breakfast club. There is no supervision for children before this time.

BREAKFAST CLUB: from 8.10am - 8.45am Cost £1.50 Main School Hall.

Tuck and dinner money

Please ensure your child has the money to pay for tuck and dinners if they use it. It becomes very difficult to manage for our teaching and canteen staff if money becomes "owed." Again, thank you in anticipation for your help with this.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair came to St Comgall's in March this term.

The school raised
£983.52

Hope everyone enjoyed reading the books they bought.

Thank you very much for all your support.

Emails:

Would all parents who completed a form requesting letters and information to be sent to them by email, please remember to check your emails regularly so you will not miss any important news, letters, dates and general information.

Absence Letters

If your child is absent from school, please inform the teacher in writing of the reason for the absence.

Parents are reminded:

Pick up collection point of your child at home time:

Parents collecting P1 + P2 please collect your child from the teacher in the classroom – access through back gate or pedestrian gate at top of playground.

P3 + P4 children will meet their parents in the junior playground.

Senior children P5 – P7 will meet parents in senior playground.

This is to cut down on traffic through the main school building and promote safety within the school.



Eco Schools

This term the Eco Schools Committee will be focusing again on the Cash For Clobber Competition which we previously won two years ago. The team distributed Cash For Clobber recycling bags to all the children in the hope they would fill them with unwanted clothes, towels, curtains and bed linen. If you require another bag please contact Mr Henry. To recycle the bags bring them to the green clothes banks located at each entrance to the school. The winning school could receive a cash prize of £3000 and all the clothes are sent to Africa so it is a great help to charities.

Save The Date

St. Comgall's Fundraising Group

Present

Night At The Races

Massereene Golf Club

Sat 30th May 2015



Can you:

- Sell tickets - £5 each
- Buy a horse - £20
- Sponsor a race - £150
- Place an advert - (various sizes) £25-100?

If so contact

Kiera Maguire: kiera@kiemacaccounting.co.uk

07833209084

JOIN US FOR A

moes grill

80'S NIGHT

IN AID OF ST. COMGALLS PLAY GROUP

8PM - LATE FRIDAY

24TH APRIL

FANCY DRESS
RAFFLE PRIZES
80'S DISCO
LATE BAR
BBQ

Tickets available at Moes Grill Antrim

£8 /TICKET

Passports

Any Passport Forms requiring signature from a member of staff will now cost a nominal fee of £5.00, which will go towards school funds.

ATTENTION CHILDREN, PLEASE REMEMBER WHEN CROSSING THE ROAD ON FOOT, ON A BICYCLE OR A SCOOTER.....



Find the safest place to cross then stop.
Stand on the pavement near the kerb or the edge if there is no kerb.



Give yourself lots of time to have a good look all around.
Make sure you can see if anything is coming and drivers can see you.



Listen carefully because you can sometimes hear traffic before you can see it.
Never cross the road whilst chatting to people, listening to your iPod or talking on your mobile phone.

BE AWARE EVEN WHEN YOU ARE IN SCHOOL GROUNDS OR CAR PARKS



Please Note:

Could parents and children please note, the blue bins beside the kitchen at the back gate are recycling bins and not for general rubbish. The bin collection people will not empty the recycling bins if there are any items in them that are not for recycling. If it is absolutely necessary to dispose of rubbish please use the red bins. Thank you for your co-operation.

Sacramental Information

Please find below the date of the final Sacrament our children will be receiving this year in St Comgall's.

	Date	Information	Location
P4	Sat 6 June	SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION – 11am	St Comgall's Church

Dates for your diary...

- Easter Holidays Friday 3rd April – Friday 10th April (inclusive), School finishes on Thursday 2nd April at 12 noon. Re-opening on Monday 13th April
- May Day Break Monday 4th May, Tuesday 5th May & Wednesday 6th May
- Sports Days Thursday 21st May - P.1, P.2, P.3 & P.4 & Friday 22nd May - P.5, P.6 & P.7 (Weather permitting)
- P.7 Carlingford Trip Monday 11th May – Tuesday 12th May
- May Bank Holiday Monday 25th May & Tuesday 26th May
- P.7 Show Wednesday 10th June & Thursday 11 June
- P.7 Leavers Mass Friday 19th June
- School Finishes Friday 26th June at 12 Noon

SCHOOL WEBSITE!

Please take some time to visit our school website! There you will find all the information you need about school. You can meet the classes and learn about the interesting events happening in school. We now has a translate engine, so the website can be viewed in other languages. Please select a language of your choice from the drop down list on our homepage. In addition we have added a 'scrolling announcements sections' on the top of the homepage – this will draw your attention to any current activity in the school.



stcomgalls.co.uk



Book Mountain

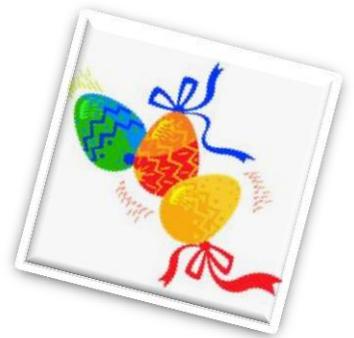
We are attempting a book mountain in our foyer for the month of April

As we asked in our March Parent Information Sheet, we were hoping to supplement our school collection using **DONATED** books from home.

We will be collecting any children's books that are in good condition, books that you don't want anymore. We will level these and add them to independent collections in relevant year groups. So just send them in to the class teacher.

All children's books are welcome!

Easter Holiday Dates and Arrangements



The school will close for the Easter Break on Thursday 2nd April at 12noon for all pupils. This is a **NON** uniform day and a voluntary coin donation for Trócaire, our 2nd term charity, would be gratefully appreciated. There will be **NO** breakfast club and **NO** tuck or lunches on Thursday 2nd. **THERE WILL BE NO BUSES** in the morning or at 12 O'clock. As normal, additional parking for collection on this day will be provided in the front playground of the school. *Please follow the direction of the staff. School will re-open on Monday 13th April 2015.

**The Board of Governors, Principal & Staff
Wish you all a Happy & Peaceful Easter**

