



JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Hello everyone!

Happy New Year to all! The new term has gotten off to a great start at St. David's National School. The children are working hard and doing their best every day. We have been enjoying our hot lunches this month. It's hard to believe we're already at the end of January.



Dates for your diary in February:

- 4th February – School closed for teacher training
- 18th – 20th February (inclusive) – Midterm Break

Junior and Senior Infants:

We have had a super return to school after the Christmas break. The children have worked hard, especially with their maths and english. We have been learning about days of the week and months of the year. We have played role play in the supermarket and learned all about different foods. We even created our favourite fruit out of a paper plate. We completed module 3 of Zippy's Friends programme. It was all about being good friends and resolving conflicts with our friends. The children learned about old toys also and we made a ball and cup game. We hope everyone had a lovely long weekend.



We really enjoyed dance this term. We learned the "Skip to my Lou", "Come to me" and "Hokey Pokey" dances. We get delicious hot lunches everyday too. We are so excited for the the fun things ahead this term!

1st and 2nd class:

First and Second Class have been working extremely hard since the beginning of Term 2. In PE, the children have been practising gymnastics and are currently learning the Shoemaker's Dance, which they are really enjoying. In Art, the children created fantastic disco balls, showing great creativity and effort. In English, we have been learning about nouns, verbs, and adjectives. The children also learned how to make hot chocolate as part of our procedural writing and have been reading *The Smartest Giant in Town*, completing a variety of engaging activities based on the story. In Maths, we are learning all about money and practising counting change. Well done to everyone for their hard work so far, and we look forward to lots more learning and fun during February!



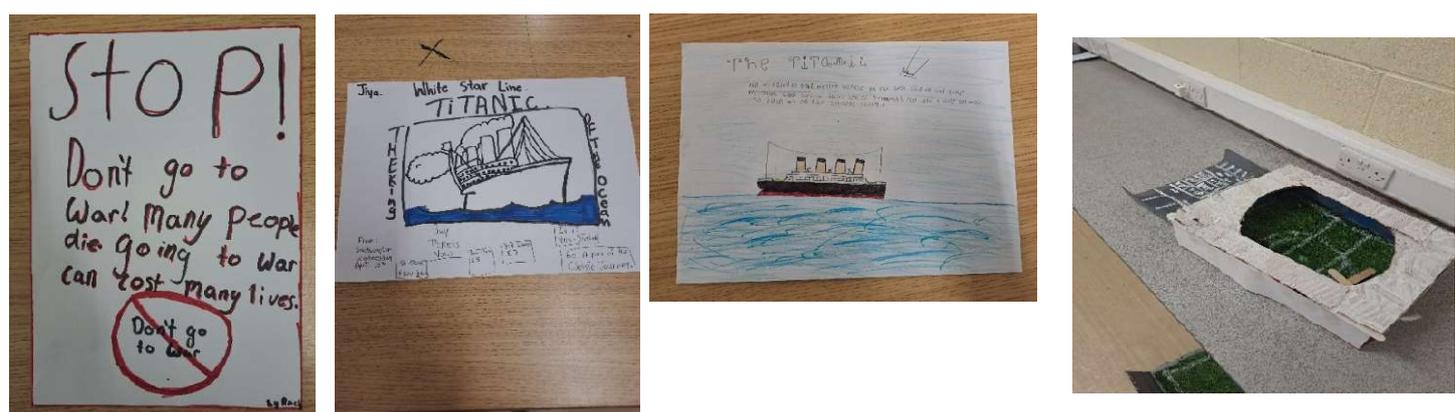
3rd and 4th class

In January, we were learning about electricity in Science. We did an experiment where we were able to light up light bulbs up all by ourselves. We also created static electricity and made a pen hold pieces of paper all by itself. We were also learning about sound in Science and we did an experiment to test how sound travels. We read *The Owl who is Afraid of the Dark* in English. We really enjoyed the story. In PE, we have been learning a dance, which we can't wait to show the rest of the school. Hot lunches have been a big hit in 3rd and 4th class. We love to see the food boxes coming into our classroom each day. For Maths, we were learning division and time. Time is a really tricky topic but we are going to keep practicing it! We made owls in art and we are also doing our own art pieces of the Texaco Art Competition. In Gaeilge we have been learning about the weather and we made our own weather charts. It has been a busy month in 3rd and 4th!!



5th and 6th class:

This month 5th and 6th class have been busy learning about the length using fractions and decimals to indicate different lengths and to aid in their comprehension of the correlation between fractions, decimals and percentages. They also learned how to calculate a percentage of a number using fraction and changing bigger fractions to their simplest form. The students also learned about working with time and how to add and subtract time. It was also an exciting month for the school as the children received their much-anticipated hot lunches. In history the students learned about the Titanic and World War 1 this month. They heard stories from the Titanic and the perspectives of different individuals or groups who may have been responsible for the sinking of the Titanic and then themselves were given the task of defending each individual or group and finding someone to blame. They enjoyed this as a group and had some very interesting thoughts themselves on the matter. Lastly, in art this month the students have been designing 6 Nations stadiums in groups. Each group has been given a country to design and to make the stadiums aesthetically pleasing to the viewers. They have been working with different materials such as cardboard, wood, paper, astroturf and paint to make their stadiums stand out more.



Ms McGuckin's class:

We have had a great start to the new year! We painted some beautiful rainbows in our classroom. We loved the spinning chair. It was kindly donated by a parent and the children have used it so much this month. It has been wonderful to see the children trying out new foods. Well done to all the children on trying their best this month. We look forward to the next month.

As always, our door is always open and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My admin day is on a Thursday and I am available to meet or call parents during this day or before or after school on other days. My direct contact is louise.m.gillespie@gmail.com

Please note that policies and minutes from Board of Management meetings can be found on our school website.

Kind regards,
Louise Gillespie

Acting Principal