



# Scoil Iognáid de Rís

## October 2019

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## Fáilte

Dear Parents,

Firstly, we welcome all our new pupils. Hopefully you will enjoy your years with us. We would also like to welcome Ms. Edel Delaney to our staff. Ms. Delaney will be Mrs. Malone's SNA job share partner.

Apart from all the academic work done inside the classrooms, our teachers and pupils have been very busy with a broad range of extra-curricular activities: Arts & Crafts, Basketball, Guitar, Grúpa Cheoil, Homework Club, Lego Construction Club, Piano lessons, Tennis, Tin Whistle & Concertina.

Not forgetting co-curricular activities like Choir, Debating, Gaelic Football, Hurling, Athletics, Soccer, Swimming, Tag Rugby and class outings. It is also worth mentioning all the wonderful projects, science experiments and Art & Crafts on display in the school.

We are blessed with an exceptionally good staff, Parents' Council and Board of Management who are all working extremely hard for the most important people in our school, the pupils.

Just a reminder that the school will be closed from Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> November for the Mid-Term break. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy & Safe Halloween.

*Niall Bergin, Principal.*

## School Improvements



We were delighted that work was carried out to the upstairs area of our school over the Summer Holidays. Major repair works to the flat roof over the corridor and internally, to the walls and ceilings were completed.



## Board of Management

The term of the current Board of Management ends on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The process of electing a new board has begun. The school would like to express their sincere gratitude to all outgoing members of the board for their dedication and expertise in the governance of our school over the past four years.

## Christmas Shoebox Appeal - Team Hope

This is our first year taking part in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. We had our launch day a few weeks ago. One of the key elements of an Edmund Rice school is to 'create a caring school community'.

We encourage as many families as possible to take part to support this wonderful initiative. Shoeboxes can be dropped into the school before November 7<sup>th</sup>. All of the shoeboxes this year will be going to Africa to help those less fortunate than us. **Please include €4 (inside shoebox) to cover the cost of delivery.** Thank you in advance for your support.



## School Self Evaluation

School Self Evaluation (SSE) is a process of evaluating current practice and planning for improvements for the benefit of all. Last year we looked at assessment practices in our school. We will now begin year 2 of our SSE process where we will continue with the area of assessment but also look at Physical Education in our school. More on this topic to follow over the coming weeks.



## Parents' Council

We are indebted to our Parents' Council for the contribution they made to school life last year. Through their support we were able to install wifi and purchase iPads. They were delighted to welcome new members on board this year. A Parents' Council training night was already held this school year.

Upcoming events organised by the Parents' Council include:

- Lantern Walk (a note with further details will be distributed to the boys when we return to school) on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Bag Pack in Dunnes Stores (Kieran Street) on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Many more events are planned for 2020! All support welcome and appreciated!

## Silver Circle

Silver Circle cards were distributed recently. We encourage boys to do their best in selling the cards as all funds raised will be put back into improving our school.



The first draw will take place on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> November. We have received a very positive response to date and your support is greatly appreciated.

## Amber Flag

Our first ever Amber Flag committee was founded last year. An enthusiastic, hard-working bunch of boys achieved so much for the school over the year.



The boys organized fundraisers raising funds for both Teac Tom and Pieta House including an 'Odd Socks and Orange Tops' day where we had a guest speaker from Teac Tom. They ran competitions promoting Positive Mental Health and Growth Mindset initiatives in the school.



All the team's hard work culminated in them achieving our first Amber Flag in June.

Huge congratulations to the boys. We can't wait to see what they have planned to promote positive mental health in our school this coming year.



## Student Council

We recently elected a Student Council for the school year 2019/2020.

Our new Council members will provide a pupil voice on school matters. Suggestion boxes will be left in classrooms and feedback brought to monthly meetings. We look forward to working with our Student Council throughout the year.



## Parent-Teacher meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will be held on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. You will receive an invitation after the mid-term break to attend these meetings. It is vitally important to your son's progress in school that you avail of the opportunity to meet his class teacher.

You will receive a written report at the meeting and you will find this useful to discuss the results of the meeting with your son.

## Healthy Eating

Our Healthy School Lunch Policy is a success due to your commitment and support. We ask you to continue to help your son to develop good eating habits, by bringing lunches that are healthy and beneficial to him.

We do not recommend fizzy/ energy drinks, crisps, chocolate or sweets. Friday is a treat day, so pupils may include 1 small treat in their lunch boxes.

In accordance with our Green Schools Policy, we would ask that each child use reusable containers for lunch times i.e. a lunch box and reusable bottle/ flask. This minimises waste going to landfills.



We would like to thank parents for their continued support of our healthy eating policy in the school.

## Green School Programme



We are currently working towards our 5th Green flag for 'biodiversity'. We will keep you all updated throughout the year and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for all your support and co-operation to date.

*Ms. Boyle & the Green School Committee*



Room 7 were the Garden Squad for October and spent some time planting and weeding in the garden.

Every class will have the opportunity to help during the year.



## Christmas Carol Service



We will hold a Christmas Carol Service in St. Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm.

All classes will perform as will our school choir. We look forward to an enjoyable evening.



## Athletics in Castle Park



Our Cross Country Athletics Team from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class took part in the annual Inter Schools event in the Castle Park at the beginning of October.

Boys trained for the event every Thursday with Ms. Minogue. We are very proud of every boy who took part. A special mention to Gerry Delaney who won a bronze medal in the 5<sup>th</sup> class race. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> class boys came second in the overall team event and our 5<sup>th</sup> class boys finished third in the overall team event. Well done.



Many thanks also to their coaches Ms. Minogue & Ms. Curran.

## Gaelic Football

Our school Gaelic Football team competed in the Roinn 'A' Championship this year. The boys put in a great effort throughout our campaign. We would like to thank our boys for their commitment and for representing the school with pride.



*7-a-side Gaelic Football Team*

A word of gratitude to parents who supported the boys and who provided transport to our away games.



*Gaelic Football Team*

## Junior Hurling Leagues

The Junior Hurling Leagues commenced in mid September. We are nearing the knock out stages now and we hope to run off our three finals after our Halloween break. The boys are really enjoying their games and there is plenty of talent on show! A word of thanks to the Transition Year pupils in C.B.S. Secondary for refereeing the games. We will notify parents as to when the finals are on and you are welcome to attend. We hope to commence our Senior Hurling leagues in the coming weeks.



## Non Uniform Day



Our school had a **Non Uniform Day** on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> October for World Homeless Day. We asked pupils to contribute €2 on the day. We raised €350 which went to the Good Shepherd Centre, Kilkenny.



## Maths Week

The boys really enjoyed Maths Week last week. During Maths week the boys completed a maths trail, took part in a Maths quiz and created their own maths games. Well done to the boys for their effort and hard work so far this year.



*Room 7 boys helping the younger classes!*



Our junior classes had a maths quiz on Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday, we had a senior maths quiz in the Hall. The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes were mixed into different teams. Most classes completed Maths Trails throughout the week.

On Friday we had a maths day in the Hall. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class had maths games. Everyone in the class got a go to be the teacher for their classes game and every class got down to the hall to try the games. Maths Week was a fun and enjoyable week.



*Junior Maths Quiz Winners*



*Senior Maths Quiz Winners*

## Road Safety

As you are aware our school is located on a busy street. We urge you to speak to your son(s) about road safety and correctly using the pedestrian crossing that is outside our school.

Boys who cycle to school should still use the pedestrian crossing, stopping at it and checking before proceeding on the bike. Cycle Safety classes will commence for the senior classes next February.

## Housekeeping

A reminder that school hours are from 9.00am until 2.45pm. We ask that boys are punctual in the mornings and that the integrity of the school day is respected. Arriving late for class often results in a boy missing out on valuable learning time and also disturbs other students. With regards to absences, the school is obliged to report pupils who have missed 20 days or more to Tusla.

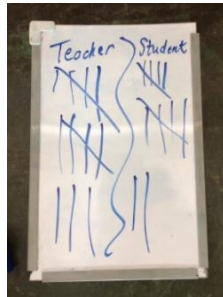


## Active School Committee



Well done to all boys who cycled to school for European Mobility Week. Its great to see boys cycling to school. Keep it up!

Next up we had “Beat the teacher” for European week of sport. Great fun was had doing Basketball and Penalty shoot outs.



Finally there was great movement around the school for Maths Week.



Well done to all the boys and teachers for staying Active. Watch out for more fun Activities coming your way soon.



Have an Active & Safe Halloween.

## CBS Boys Choir

The senior and junior choirs are practicing under the guidance of Mr. Seamus Brennan. Our senior choir will take part in the Lion's Club Christmas Appeal again this year which is on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> in St. Canice's Cathedral. We would like to thank Mr. Brennan for providing his expertise to the school.

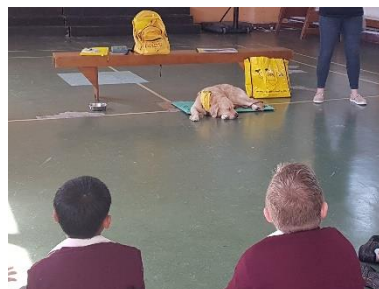


## Visit by the Dogs Trust

The CBS was lucky in September to have 2 days of visits with classes from Maeve and her lovely dog Penny from Dogs Trust Ireland. The boys learned about how to treat their pets and rules to follow to keep their pets happy. They also learned about how rescued dogs are rehomed from the centre in Dublin.

Important information to remember is that stray dogs must first be reported to the Dog Warden or their Local Pound before Dogs trust can get involved.

Maeve also demonstrated with the younger classes the “X Factor”, what to do if they happen to be attacked by a strange dog when they are out and about. Penny seemed to enjoy her time in the CBS and had the odd snooze while Maeve was talking to the classes!





## Room 1

In September, we had an enjoyable visit from Dog's Trust. Maeve, and Penny, her golden retriever, showed us how to stay safe around dogs and how to care for dogs. Here are some ways to stay safe if you are scared of a dog:

- Stand straight.
- Cross your hands on your chest.
- Stay calm and look away .
- Walk away slowly.

Here are some ways to care for your dog:

- Never wake up a dog when it is asleep.
- Remember to leave water for your dog .
- Never tease a dog, even if you think it's only fun.

Remember: be dog smart!

*By Diarmuid Kealy*

In October, we went to a Bookville exhibition. Bookville is a festival that takes place in Kilkenny every year. We walked down to Kilkenny's Art Council Office on Dean Street. When we got there, we got a booklet with pictures to draw and things to read.

Then, Wayne O'Connor, one of the artists, arrived unexpectedly and he showed us how he draws on his iPad. We looked at the pictures and listened to stories that Wayne told us. Wayne likes to draw mostly cartoons of superhero characters. We enjoyed the surprise visit from Wayne!



Then we all went back to our books for about 5 minutes more and walked back to school. We met

Room 5 on the way! Finally, when we got back, teacher let us have a little snack.

Thank you to Ms. Brennan and Ms. Curran for organising this visit for us!

*By JJ Cahill*



## Room 2

We have really enjoyed the first two months of second class! We have been so busy with a trip to Butler Gallery, a tour of Kilkenny Castle, lunch-time hurling leagues and lots of class-work. The boys are looking forward to a well-deserved Halloween break.

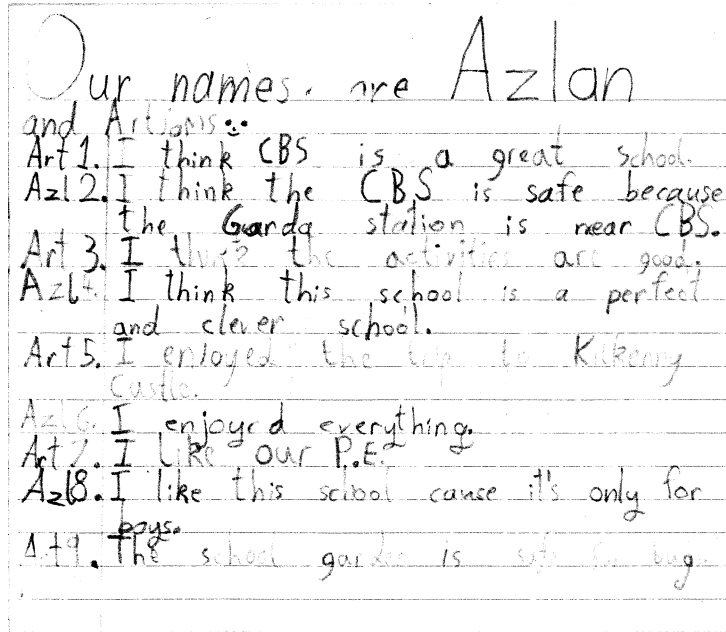


*Room 2 in the Long Gallery of Kilkenny Castle*





## Room 3



The boys in Room 3 have really enjoyed settling into the CBS, all the boys are working hard and have been making new friends. They have even enjoyed some trips out of the school.

In September they visited the Butler Gallery, with Room 2, to explore the Amy Cutter exhibition, the boys were impressed with the amount of effort she put into her drawings. They were also lucky enough to get to speak to an archaeologist, who was working on the dig just in front of Kilkenny Castle, he told them some of the history of the walls and even let them hold one of the lead bullets that was fired by Cromwell's men during his attack.



In art they explored the theme of autumn and worked on leaf printing and even got to create their own "Leaf Man".

Following on from learning about castles in history, along with Room 2, they got to visit the inside of

Kilkenny Castle and ask lots of questions about the paintings in the Long Gallery.



In October the boys also enjoyed Maths Week, particularly the Junior Maths quiz in the hall, the Maths Trail around the school with the help of Room 7 boys and the Maths day in the hall.





## Room 5

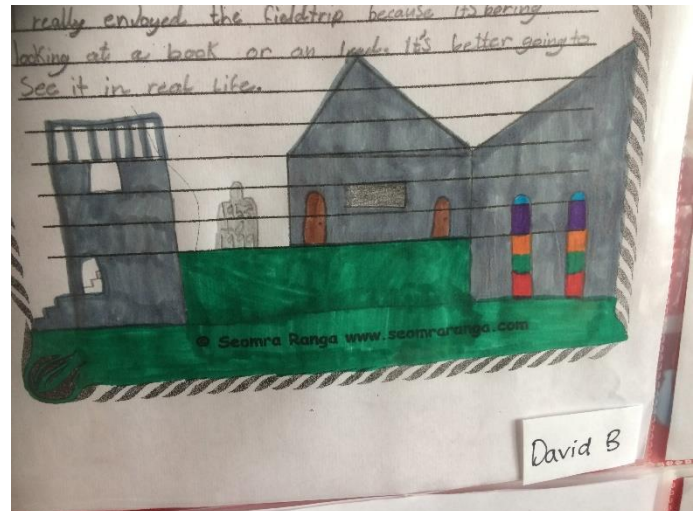


*Bookville 2019*

Room 5 had a wonderful visit to Kilkenny Arts Office to see an exhibition of illustrations from Irish Authors and Illustrators. They got to see illustrations from Eva and the perfect rain, Shooting for the stars, the lonely beast and they even got to meet illustrator Wayne O'Connor!



## Room 9



This morning our class visited St Canice's Cathedral. Shirley was our tour guide and she shared lots of interesting facts with us.

We learned that St Canice's Cathedral is 800 years old. We were informed that the Waterfont is older than St Canice's Cathedral. I found it really interesting that Oliver Cromwell destroyed the stained glass window, but luckily Harry Clarke made them again. I couldn't believe that Oliver Cromwell also burned the roof.

I really enjoyed the field trip because its boring looking at a book or an iPad. It's better going to see it in real life.

*Our Field Trip to St Canice's Cathedral  
by David Beale*





## Room 10

This term in Room 10 we welcomed two new boys to our class – Lewis Blas and Jimmy Cam and we have all become great friends. We enjoyed our superb tag rugby sessions with Noel Devlin, with a few boys joining Kilkenny Rugby Club as a result. We look forward to our regular visits to the astroturf to play soccer.

Our class was well represented at the Cross Country competition in the Castle Park and Gerry Delaney brought home a bronze medal.

Maeve Flynn from Dogs Trust and her beautiful dog Penny showed us how to be Dog Smart.

We researched famous people on the school ipads for our biographies.

We also had a very informative visit from Cumann Erst in the CBS Secondary who told us all about the work of Focus Ireland on World Homeless Day. They also spoke about advocacy. We are all working on our shoeboxes for the Hope Foundation.

Zaclan is our new class representative on the Student Council. Between Maths Trails, Maths Quizzes, Tin Whistle and painting Wacky Witch legs we have been very industrious!



*Watercolour Chameleons*



*Foreshortening*



*Wacky Witch legs*

## Art / Projects / Extra Curricular



*Halloween Art*



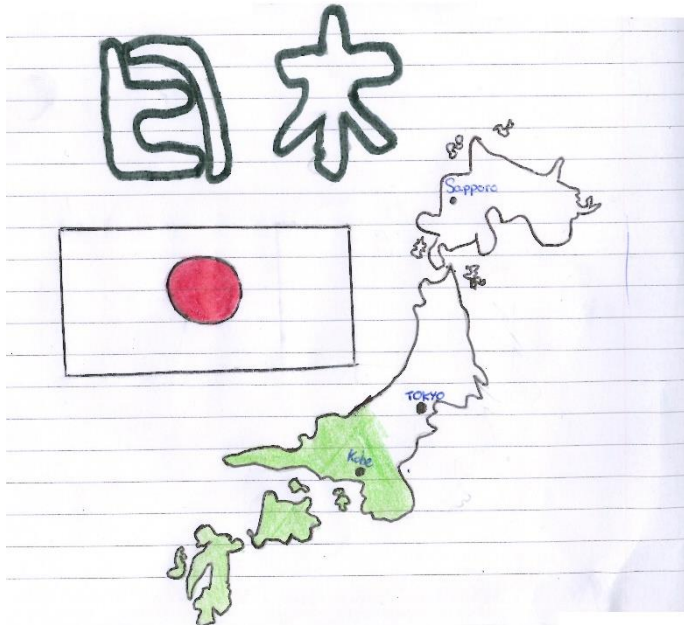
*Land of the Rising Sun 昇る太陽の国*



*Senior Art Class*



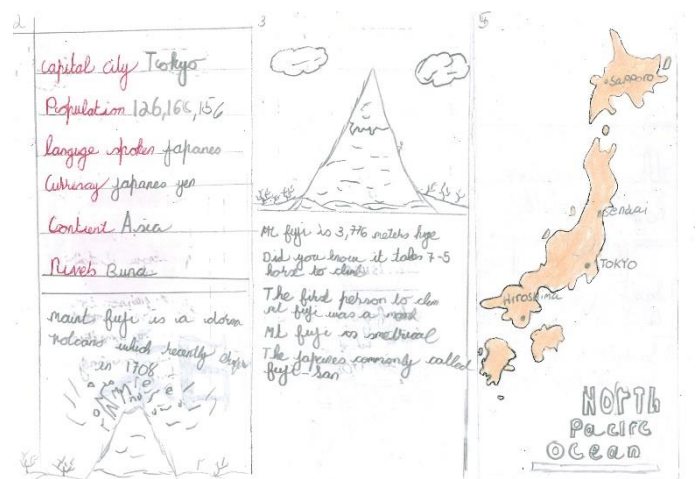
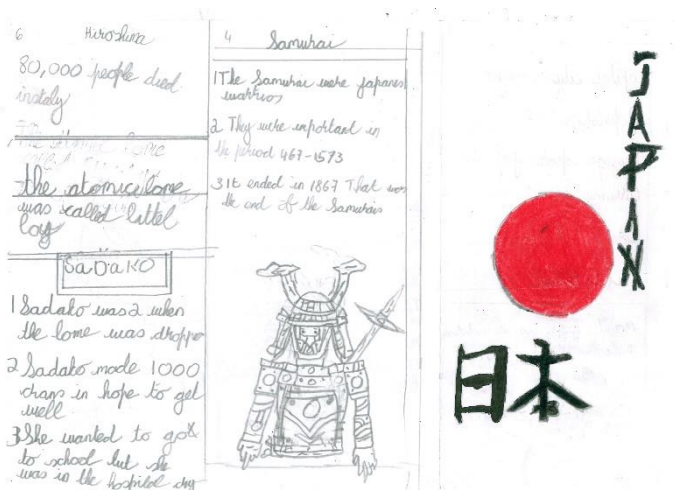
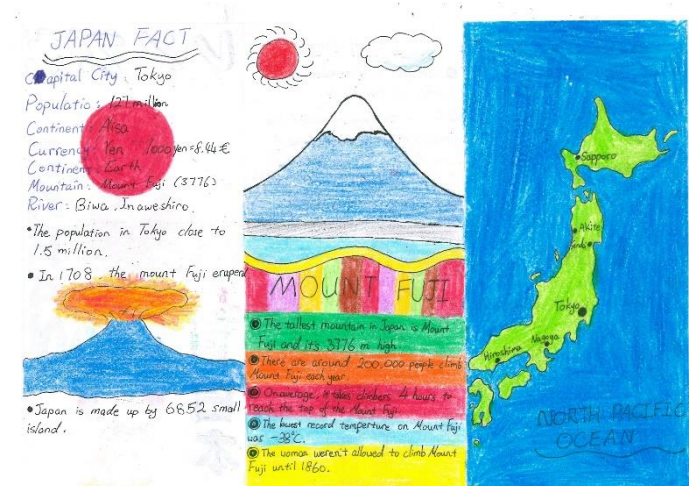
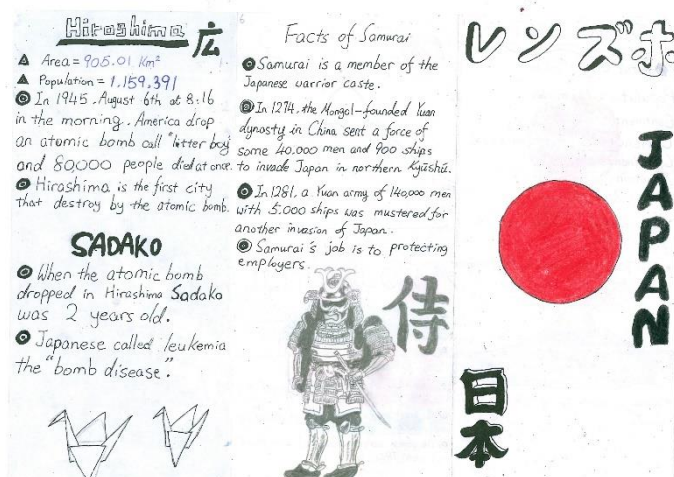
## Room 6



This month Room 6 learned about Japan. We learned all interesting and fascinating facts about Japan. We did a lot of cool art like Nippon Art (by the way Nippon is Japan in Japanese). We also did Mount Fuji and the sun-rise painting art and Sadako origami. Lastly we did a Japanese brochure about Mount Fuji then we also had samurai facts and a drawing of the Japanese country. To get all the facts we used the ipads. Over the past four weeks Room 6 learned a lot. At the start Room 6 didn't know anything about Japan and now we know a lot.

*By Sam Navratil and Jack Deegan*

Below are more great examples of Artwork by the pupils in Room 6 about Japan.





# Nuachtlitir Scoil Iognáid de Rís

## Room 7

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class have been extremely busy and having so much fun since returning this September! We have been working really hard, especially on our writing in English and Gaeilge.



We have been developing team work and science skills in our STEM challenges.



We have done lots of art this term and learned about colour theory.



We really enjoyed Zumba for World Mental Health day and swimming lessons each week are going great!



We have been learning about freeze frames and thought tracking in drama! We also created mini-projects on Brazil and practiced our presentation skills!



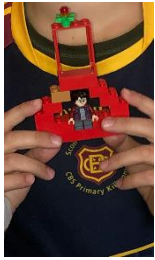
Our favourite thing so far this term was using our new ipads for research, quizzes and games!





## Lego Construction Club

Members of CBS Lego Construction Club have successfully completed term 1. Challenges vary term to term, but some of the group design briefs completed in this term were;



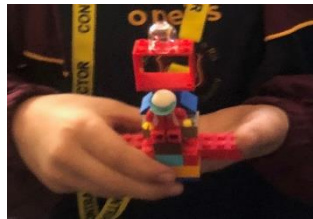
A Zip Line Challenge – will your mini fig survive??

We discovered how zip lines work, how they are designed and what science connections are necessary for engineers to safely build zip lines.

### DID YOU KNOW?????

The children on Los Pinos, Colombia use a zip line half a mile long to cross a canyon to attend their school!!!!

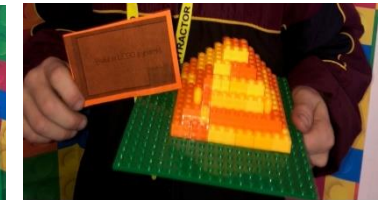
We also designed and discussed the challenge of building a castle. We had some very interesting and creative defence features on our finished castles.



A very popular part of Lego Club is Challenge Week. This is where our members pick a card and complete many timed and varied tasks e.g. build something in 60 seconds that flies, build an igloo, an animal, something you eat and even a musical instrument, to name a few.



As usual, the boys rose to the challenge and created some amazing masterpieces.



While some club sessions are based on group work which incorporate team work, communication and social skills. Other weeks are individual based. Throughout all sessions, members will strengthen mathematical thinking, spatial intelligence, hand eye co-ordination, fine motor skills, turn taking and problem solving.

The members design, create and build amazing models to an extremely high standard. But while developing these important life skills, ultimately they are having fun, building their confidence and self esteem.



One thing is for sure the future of engineering, science and creativity is extremely bright and in safe hands with the CBS boys leading the way!!!!





## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2019 – 2020

**Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> November:** Mid-term break (1 week).

**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November:** Re-opening after Mid-term break.

**Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> November:** Lantern Walk at 7.00pm in CBS Primary.

**Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November:** Parent/Teacher meetings.

**Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December:** Lions Club Schools Christmas Concert in St. Canice's Cathedral at 7.30pm

**Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Carol Service in St. Mary's Cathedral at 7.00pm.

**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Closing at 12.30pm for Christmas holidays.

**Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January:** Re-opening after Christmas holidays.

**Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February:** Mid-term break.

**Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> February:** Confirmation in St. Mary's Cathedral at 11a.m.

**Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March:** School closed.

**Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Bank holiday.

**Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April:** Closing at 12.30pm for Easter holidays.

**Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April:** Re-opening after Easter holidays.

**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May:** Bank holiday.

**Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May:** School closed.

**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May:** First Communion in St. Mary's Cathedral.

**Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May:** School closed

**Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> June:** Bank holiday.

**Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June:** School closed.

**Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June:** Closing at 12.30pm for Summer holidays.

\*\* School holidays have been agreed between CBS Primary and Presentation Primary.

\*\* The calendar is not complete and may have to be amended from time to time but due notice will be given of any changes.

\*\* PLEASE KEEP THIS CALENDAR FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.



