

Enrolment ceremony for First Holy Communion

Second Class

All the second class boys who are going to make their First Holy Communion next May, changed into their uniforms before the enrolment ceremony. We were: Joshua Malik, Tom Beecher, Oisín Brosnan, Carlo McDonald, Colton Tran Butler, Cormac Walsh, Cormac O'Neill, Andrew Keavey, Harry O'Donoghue, Aidan Barta and I.

We met Father John O'Gara, Ms Sheelan and Ms Eileen in the oratory with our parents. Once everyone was present, the boys left together and re-entered the room in a procession two by two. I was with Andrew.

We bowed at the altar and then we stood by our seats. We said some prayers and Father John O'Gara told us a story about a woman demanding justice from her local lord that we all liked very much and I thought was funny.

We then all renewed our Baptismal promises: Father O'Gara asked us questions about our faith and our future pledge to continue having a Christian life and we all promised by saying "we do".

Oisín, Andrew, Tom, Aidan, Carlo and Joshua recited some 'Prayers of the faithful'.

Each boy was then given a lighted candle and went up with their parents to the altar. We all bowed, put the candle on the altar, and the parents signed the enrolment form for the First Holy Communion and then everyone went back to their seats.

Finally, we all sang "Christ be beside me" and all the boys performed all the actions we were taught for the song. The ceremony then finished, and Father John O'Gara stood in the centre of a semi-circle made up of us boys, so that our parents could take nice pictures of today's event.

We blew out the candles and everyone then went home.

Matthew O'Farrell, 2nd Class



Inside the Classroom

3rd Class filled us in on their progress so far this term. We will hear from another class next term!

3rd Class Update

This term, 3rd class have had a wonderful period of learning together. As a group, we have focused on The World Around Us. With this, we have been learning about the different types of homes in Geography, as well as the ways in which we can improve and sustain our communities. In History, we have found out more about our family history and the history of Georgian buildings found on Leeson Street. In Science, we focused on recycling. This was brilliantly highlighted by our Halloween costume and birdfeeders, which we designed and made by reusing recycled materials! In Music, we noticed the beauty in the seasons by creating art pieces inspired by Vivaldi's Autumn. From this, we began studying the life of Mohandas Gandhi, as a historical figure who himself made very worthy contributions to the world we live in. Our class novel saw us work together to find new meanings and views on themes such as friendship. With this, we have been working hard on the writing process. We focused on recount writing and letter writing, drafting and editing our work to then publish it in class. In Maths, we have been exploring number, addition, subtraction and multiplication by applying the concepts to real life situations! We also learned about data and how to make bar charts using it. Tá dul chun cinn mór tagtha ar ár chuid Gaeilge freisin. We have been learning new words and phrases and improving our ability to hold conversations through the medium of Irish. Is Gaelgóiri muid! We are very excited about Halloween, and have just learned about the history of Samhain! Our spooky Leeson Street sets will be finished just in time for the break.

We hope to rest and have lots of fun over the mid-term.



Coding

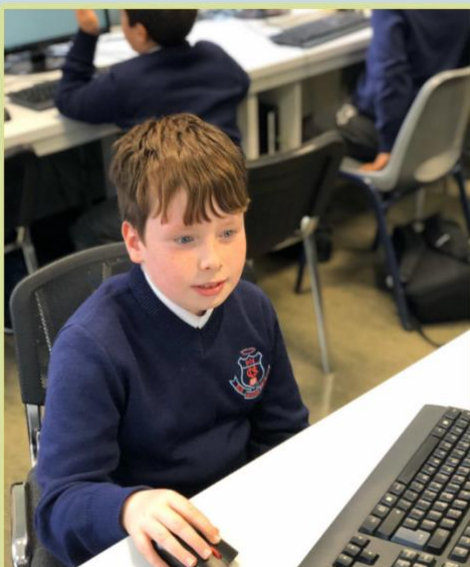
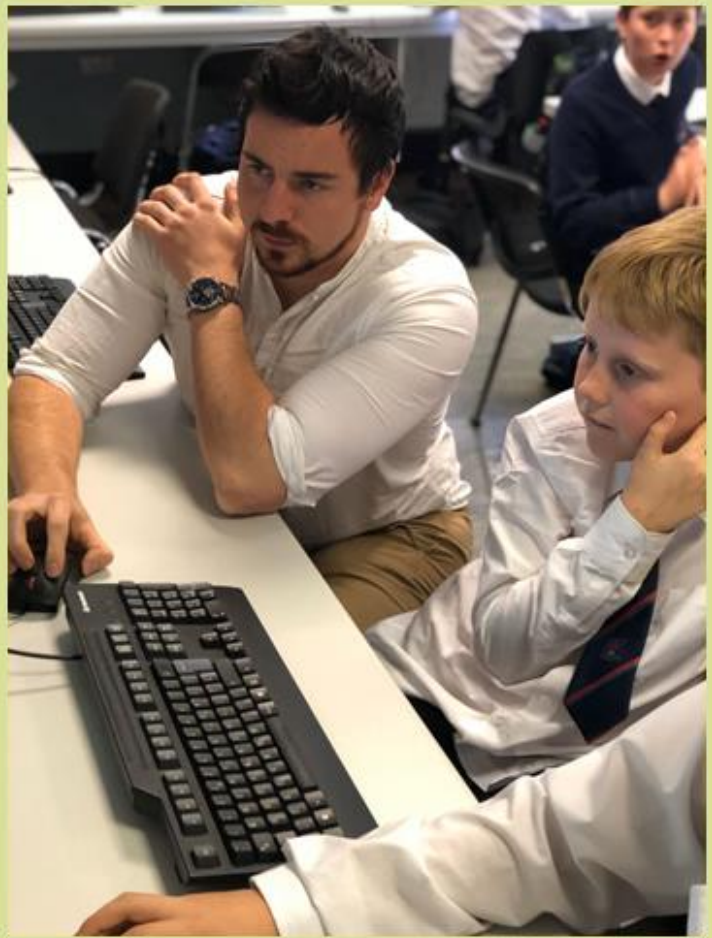
This is our first time in Coding Club. We are learning a lot and we are having so much fun!

We were introduced to Hour of Code, which was fun and got us started at coding. We got to see inside of games and how to create code for a game.

We are entering the national scratch competition. We must create games or animations from "scratch". This is a competition that other boys and girls from all over Ireland enter to try and win! We are very, very excited to be making a game. Our game is called Underwater chases.

We have really enjoyed our first months at coding and can't wait to keep learning!

Liam Kirwan, Killian Flynn and Harry Rath, 3rd Class



Service of Commitment

For our service of commitment each boy in both Mr. Bodkin and Mr. O'Brien's class brought in a shoe box or a cereal box. Then we got an A4 sheet of paper and put one gift of the Holy Spirit that stood out to them the most and wrote it down on the piece of paper, decorated it and then stuck it onto the shoe/cereal box. We then brought them down to the oratory and displayed them in front of the altar along with our confirmation books.

The mass was started with a lovely hymn. Readings and prayers were read by the boys. Half way through the ceremony both students from Mr. Bodkin and Mr. O'Brien each walked up to the altar with their promises in an envelope attached by a string and placed them on the tree beside the altar

Overall the boys and their parents enjoyed the evening, and this is the first stage of preparation for our confirmation.

Robert Mulligan, 6th Class



Cyber Talk



On Friday October 11, Paula came to the school to talk to us about cyber security.

Paula had a slogan that said “Don’t be mean behind your screen”.

She told us about apps such as ticktok and snapchat. She also discussed predators and groomers with us. She told us it was very important to never tell someone your name, where you live or details about yourself.

Paula talked to us about the game ladder where you start playing games like Minecraft and Roblox and then slowly move onto more advanced games like FIFA, Fortnite and Apex Legends.

She gave us good advice how to unfriend, block and report strangers. Also if an inappropriate ad comes on she told us how to report it to the viewing site.

I found it interesting when Paula told us about video gaming addictions and that it can be medical condition. Most importantly, Paula told us it was important to have balance between video gaming and playing outside or doing an activity.

Liam Barta, 5th Class

Club Gaeilge



Is mise Liam Kirwan. Tá mé a hocht mbliana d’aois. Tá mé sa chlub Gaeilge le Mr. Conlon agus Mr. Corcoran. Gach seachtain, bíonn an ghrúpa ag foghlaim focail agus frásaí nua.

Bíonn an-chraic again. Imríonn an ghrúpa cluichí Gaelacha cosúil le feicim le mo shúilín chun cleachtadh a dhéanamh ar ár chuid Ghaeilge. Ar an Luan, scríobh muid scéal scanrúil faoi Oíche Shamhna. Bhí eagla orainn! Is maith liom an chlub Gaeilge, tá sé ag cabhrú le mo chuid Ghaeilge.

Liam Kirwan, Rang a Trí.

The Irish Club have been working very hard on their Irish over the last 6 weeks. As a group, we have been learning plenty of words and phrases through fun and interactive games. We have focused on themes that we need to speak the language on a daily basis, such as *My Family*, *My School* and *My Hobbies*. Using our improved oral language skills, we have been improving our skills of reading and writing through Irish also! It has been a fun and positive environment to learn and use Irish in and we are looking forward to continuing it!

2nd Class and 6th Class with their Faith Friends from the Senior School who will accompany them on their journey to First Communion and Confirmation.



Visit from Fr. Justin Taylor

The Junior School were delighted to welcome Fr. Justin Taylor, a Marist Father from New Zealand. Fr Justin taught in École Biblique in Jerusalem from 1988 to 2011 and became the Emeritus Professor of the New Testament. In 2006 he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity of the University of Cambridge and in 2011 he received the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology from the Pontifical University of Rome. He is the author of several books and has just written a biography of our Marist founder, Fr. Jean Claude Colin.

We welcomed Fr. Justin Taylor, Mr Diarmaid O' Murchú and Ms Mary Forde (head of the MEA) to the oratory where Fr O' Gara and all the boys were waiting.

We sang hymns and read reflections on the life of Mary and how important Mary is in our Marist tradition.

As a symbol of Mary we presented our visitors with Rosary beads as a memento of CUS Junior School.

Our esteemed past pupil Ronnie Delany couldn't be there on the day but he sent a beautiful message which was read to Fr Justin.

Fr Justin read the final prayer and we finished with a lovely hymn.

This was a lovely visit from our Marist delegation.



A Sustainable Halloween in CUS

We challenged each class to create an upcycled Halloween costume using only old materials and rubbish. They showcased their costumes and we judged them on their creativity and use of different materials.

We were really impressed with 2nd Class, they created a swan and highlighted the impacts of pollution on wildlife in Ireland. Mr. O'Brien's, 6th Class created a vending machine to represent all the litter and waste that is generated from crisps and sweets packaging.

Overall we were very impressed with the imagination and inventiveness shown by all classes. This effort will bring us one step closer to achieving our first Green Schools Flag for Litter and Waste.

- Green School's Committee



Fun in Preschool



Afterschool Halloween Camp



As we finish this first term we are excited to begin our exploration of "STEAM" subjects in the Junior School. We will explore SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS and MATHS in lots of fun ways!



STEM/STEAM Research for CUS