

The buzzy BEE



Interview with Ms. Neville

by Marissa Ryan & Lana May Whelan

Ms Neville is unfortunately retiring so we decided to give her an interview...

How long have you been teaching in St Attracta's?

I have been teaching in St Attracta's since December the 1st 1982, so that's 39, almost 40 Years.

What hobbies do you have outside of school?

I like listening to music. I am in a choir called Songs in the Key of D. It is a fun choir because we sing songs about Dublin and songs written by Dublin artists. That is why it is called Songs in the Key of D. The choir appeared on the Late Late Show on RTÉ and also took part in the Centenary celebrations in 2016 on RTÉ. I like to knit and crochet. I have a dog and I enjoy walks with her.

What do you think your greatest achievements are in St Attracta's?

My greatest achievements. In preparing for this interview, I remembered this - a children's choir from St Attracta's sang in the 3 Arena, which was called The Point Depot at the time, for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. The star on the stage was Philip Schofield. Mr O'Shea a former colleague offered to help me enter the children in St Attracta's into a competition on RTÉ and they won it.

After auditions with the Andrew Lloyd Weber Theatre Company, we were the only primary school to appear on the stage with Philip Schofield and sing for the full summer show. That was a huge achievement, great fun and the children got paid! I had forgotten all about it, until I had to do this interview. National Children's Choir, is another achievement I have been involved with that since the very beginning in 1988, a long, long time ago. I also achieved the first green flag for the school with the help of students and staff.

Did you work at anything else before teaching at St Attracta's?

No. I always wanted to be a teacher but I did work in a sweet shop for five years while I was in college. It was a sweet shop down beside Centra in Ballinteer and it was remarkably busy and it was called Meenan's. I worked there before I became a teacher.

What are your favourite subjects to teach?

I love teaching Irish because it is our own national language. Music is a favourite of mine because it is nice just stop and sing a song when we have been working hard in class. I love teaching history also.

What school did you go to? What college did you go to?

I went to primary school in Our Lady's Girls National School in Columbanus Road. There were no schools in Ballinteer when I was young so I had to go on the bus to Farrenboley. When you are on the Luas on the way into town the school is still there at Windy Arbour stop. I went to St Anne's Secondary School in Milltown, and from there I went on to Carysfort Teacher Training College in Blackrock.

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Aiyana Mahony - Mr. Fitzgerald's 5th Class

St Attracta's through the Years

by Cara Fortune

St Attracta's was built in 1980. In 1984 we shared our first ever computer - a Commodore 64 - with the Junior School. When we got out BBC Master Compact, we were the first school in Ireland to get one of those computers.

In 1991 we had our first ever Book Week and we've met many famous authors since. In 1998 big changes were made to the school, including new tables and chairs and many more.

Nowadays, we've got a great Green Schools, a great Active Schools and a fantastic Student Council. We also have great sports teams. Not to mention our fantastic teachers and wonderful principal. This school will be a fantastic school for years to come and don't forget,

"Ar Aghaidh le Chéile!"



Noah 59%, Cronan 20%, Jack 20%, Lochlann 1% - Mr. Walsh's 4th Class



By Peter Horan
Mr. Fitzgerald's 5th Class

Interview with Ms. Neville *continued from page 1*

What are your favourite memories from teaching in St Attracta's?

I've lots of memories Confirmation is a special one because in St Attracta's it was the highlight of the school year. Confirmation was a special day for the parish and for all the school because everyone was busy preparing for Confirmation. Teachers helped with music and singing. The caretaker spruced up the grounds, flags were flying outside. All the pupils were excited. Everybody took part, either in a liturgical dance, or choir. Christmas concerts were lots of fun when we had them. I have fond memories of Christmas Eve liturgies where the children participated on the most exciting night of the year for them. I have good memories of lots of laughter in the staff room and children who made me laugh many times.

How long have you been Deputy Principal and what do you like about it?

I have been Deputy Principal for six years. I was working with Iníon Uí Mháirtín first. I enjoyed planning with her preparing activities and introducing initiatives to improve the school. Mr Maguire took over when Iníon uí Mháirtín retired. Covid changed how Mr Maguire and I worked together because we had to plan and work from home. We were dealing with online teaching. We had to plan and organise the safe collection of books for students so that they could work from home. Being Deputy was quite different during Covid as I worked closely with Mr Maguire and Mr Kirwan who is an assistant principal. I didn't have yard duty when everyone was at home. My job as deputy was a lot easier during Covid than it was before Covid because we did not have any major bullying issues. Children appeared happy and we had little or no discipline problems because children were in their bubbles and in their pods.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Ballinteer. I lived in Ludford Drive. My mother and sister still live there. I played in all the greens around here. I cycled around all the places that you all play in. I fished in the River Slang, with my jam jar and my nets. I had great fun here. When I lived here in Ballinteer it was a quiet spot. Our shopping was done in Dundrum village and we went to mass in Dundrum.

What do you plan to do after retirement?

Well, I am going to take it easy in the next few months. I have worked with children's choirs and hope to continue work with the Dublin Diocese in the future helping with children's liturgies. My mother is elderly and I want to spend more quality time with her. I have always lived in Ballinteer so I will be passing the school regularly. I am a grandmother; I have two grandchildren and I want to be able to enjoy them as well. I plan to travel with my daughter and my sister. I have not travelled much since Covid began. My best friend lives in San Francisco and I hope to travel over to see her in September.

Is Aoibhinn Liam Gaeilge

le Sinéad Ní Thuathaláin

Tá Gaeilge leadránach is fuath liom é,
Dúit mo mhúinteoir, "Is aoibhinn leat é",
Tá Gaeilge leadránach is fuath liom é,
"Is aoibhinn leat Gaeilge" arsa sé,
"Ach is fuath liom Gaeilge" arsa mé,
Ach bhí sé ag caint, níor chuala sé mé,
Dúirt mé, "Tá Gaeilge leadránach is fuath liom é",
Ach bhí sé sa chúinne, níor chuala sé mé,
"Is aoibhinn liom Gaeilge" agus dúirt sé "Hurrá!"
Agus anois ta mé ag caint as Gaeilge gach lál!

Friends

By Claudia Neary

Forever friends is what you need.
Reliable ones of yes indeed.
I'd like a friend that cares for me.
Even when I'm down on my knees.
Need I remind you to do the same for them.
Do it again and again and again.

Comparison

by Ciara Merriman

You might try to look like the women in the photo, but your shoulders are just too wide.

Try as you might to be like the man in the video, but you're not that good at soccer.

You can try to be as skilled as the woman in the movie, but you just can't seem to do a perfect cartwheel.

You might want to wear expensive clothes like the man in the picture, but you could never afford it.

If you compare yourself, you'll always be different, but what if being different isn't that bad?

Just imagine a world where we're all the same. It would be like looking at yourself all day.



Robyn Murphy - Mr. Kirwan 5th Class

Save The World

Growing Our Green School

by Ella Wall and Sinéad Toland

The Green-Schools Committee has been doing a lot and working hard so far this year.

THINK GREEN



Turn Off Lights

Lights Off, Ideas On!

The Green-Schools Committee has been focusing on trying to remember to turn off a light after we leave our classes or the halla. This is a good way to save energy and protect the environment. Our school has also had solar panels installed to help us with our energy needs.



Walk on Wednesday WOW!

Every Wednesday in St. Patrick's SNS we have a tradition called "Walk on Wednesday" which is organised by the Green-Schools Committee. It is where everyone tries to walk, cycle, scoot or park and stride to school. This is part of our attempt to reduce our carbon footprint.

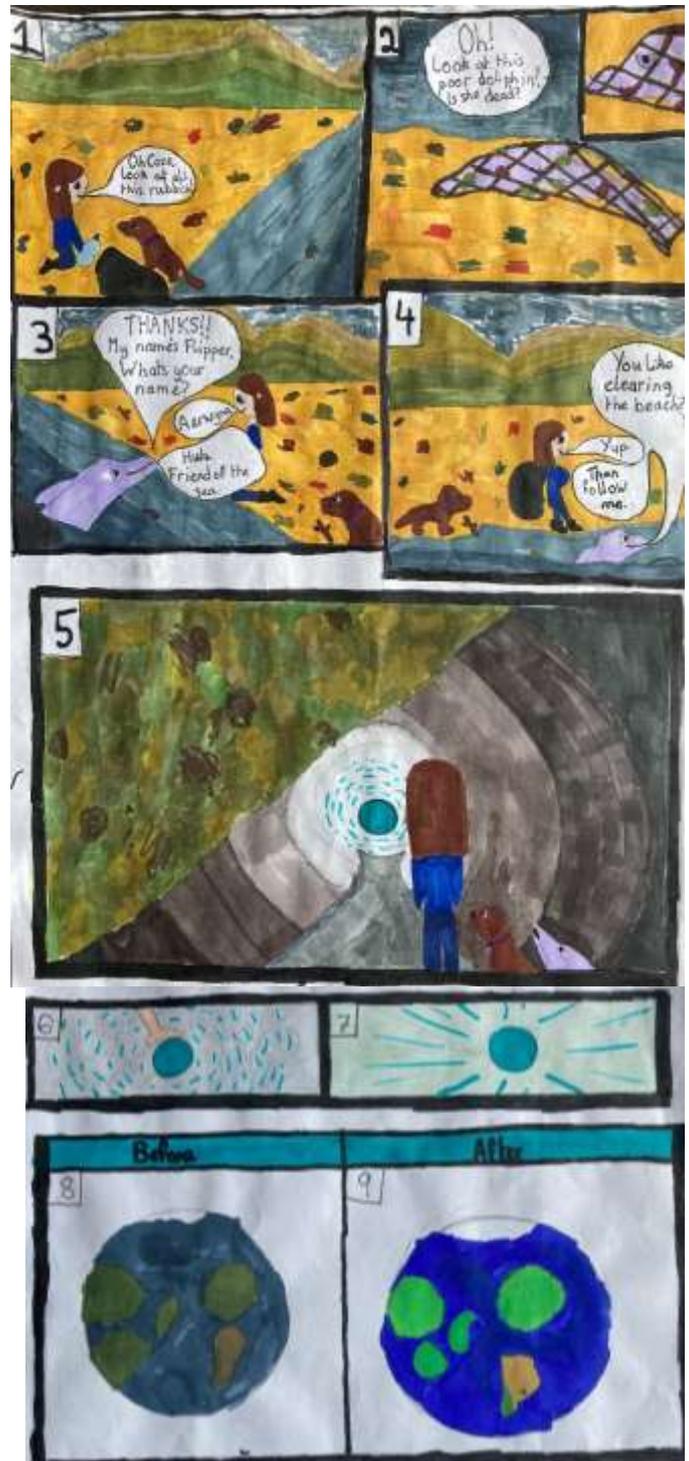
At some point during Wednesday, the Green-Schools representative or substitute for each class takes down the number of people who walked, cycled, scooted or park and strode to school and the number of people who were in on the day. Then the numbers are turned into percentages and that is how we judge the results. The winner is announced over the intercom and the prize is given to the corresponding class. The prize is to keep the Golden Boot for a week and an item pass for homework.

The Peter McVerry Trust Foundation

Before Christmas we fundraised for The Peter McVerry Trust which is a great group that helps homeless people find homes. We collected the small change from each of our homes and brought them in plastic bags to add to our plastic collection buckets. Combined together all the donations came to the amazing sum total of €1,260.00! We'd like to thank everyone who brought in coins to make this amazing amount.

Arweyna: Friend of the Sea

By Cara Fortune and Sinéad Toland



Save the Bizz

By Charlotte Lynam
Mr. Walsh's 4th Class

STOP GLOBAL WARMING

by Amelia Galstyan – Mr. Kirwan's 5th Class

Bushfires, melting ice, drought and animals becoming extinct are all due to global warming. But if we start to change now, we might be able to save the world.

Little acts such as turning off the lights, cycling and walking to school instead of driving can help. Using renewable energy sources, reducing water waste and using less plastic will make huge changes.

The past century we have been using the Earth's natural resources, but it still hasn't been enough for us. We have been guilty of overfishing, cutting down trees, and more. We have been releasing loads of greenhouse gasses and have been making the Earth weaker through deforestation. We have also destroyed many animals' homes and one day that might happen to us. But if we try to live more sustainably every day we might be able to save the world and our future before it's too late.

FUN & GAMES



Riddle Me This!

by Grace McDowell

1. How many months have 28 days?
2. It belongs to you but your friends use it more. What is it?
3. If you don't keep me I'll break. What am I?
4. I go all around the world but never leave the corner. What am I?
5. I can fill a room but I take up no space. What am I?
6. What goes away as soon as you talk about it?
7. Where would you take a sick boat?
8. What fruit can you never cheer up?
9. What kind of room has no windows?
10. Imagining you are in a room with no windows or doors. How do you get out?

Answers:

1. All of them 2. Your name 3. A promise 4. A stamp 5. Light 6. Silence 7. The clock 8. A blueberry 9. A mushroom 10. Stop Imagining

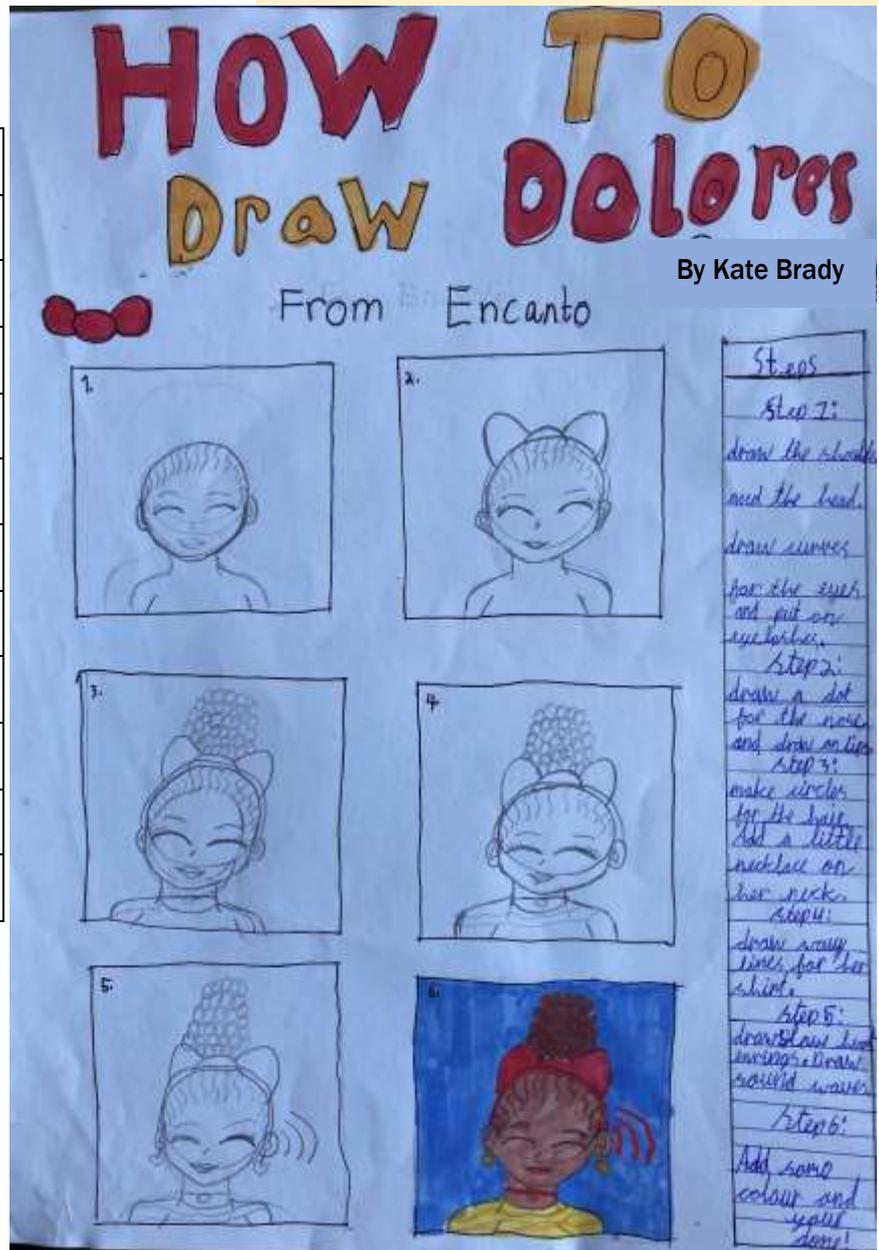
Cuadach Focal

le Siobhán O'Regan

B	P	F	J	I	L	E	M
U	R	G	R	P	I	M	O
Á	Í	Í	Ó	H	N	A	N
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Á	F	T	G	L	F	S	R
M	N	C	R	R	Í	T	Á

BLÁTHANNA
RÍ
LÍNE
ÉIST
TRÁ
CRÉ

LUAS
MONCAÍ
ZÚ
CHARA
BÁD
RÓN





Is the popular online app Tik Tok a super sensation or a ticking time bomb ready to blow? *Read these arguments and decide for yourself...*

More Harm than Good by Marissa Ryan

I think that Tik Tok has done more harm than good for young people's confidence. First of all most social media platforms have a negative impact on young people. A lot of people feel self-conscious about how they look due to Tik Tok. One of the main reasons is because there are so many mean comments about people's appearance.

People do not realise how their comments can affect people! There are so many things people say that can have a negative impact on people. Some people might see a video and say "Oh they look so nice, I have to change the way I look just to look like them", or "They made that Tik Tok dance, now I have to do it". So many people think they need to change everything about themselves just for some video. It really does make people's confidence go down. That is the negative side of Tik Tok.

How to make Delicious Cookies by Sophie Davis Finn

Ingredients

227g cold butter cut into small cubes
200g of brown sugar 100g sugar 2 eggs
375g flour 1 teaspoon cornstarch
 $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon baking soda $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon of salt
2 packets of chocolate chips 1 teaspoon vanilla essence

1. First preheat your oven to 210 degrees.
2. Next in a large mixing bowl, mix cream together with the cold cubes of butter, brown sugar and sugar for 4 minutes using a whisk.
3. Now add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each one. Add in your vanilla essence and mix.
4. After that add in flour, cornstarch, baking soda and salt into your mixture and mix until the flour is gone. Stir in the chocolate chips or you can add whatever you want.
5. Then separate you cookie dough into balls and place them on your tray. This recipe will make 8 cookies.
6. Now put your tray of cookies into the oven for 9-12 minutes. Let them sit for 10 minutes.
7. Lastly enjoy!

Oats on-the-Go Cookies by Callie O'Riordan

Ingredients - makes 10:

1 Banana 1 cup (90g) Porridge Oats
2 tbsp. Maple Syrup or Honey 2 tbsp. Peanut Butter
1 handful of Chocolate Chips

Optional – a few extra chocolate chips when they come out of the oven.

1. Mash the banana
2. Mix the rest of the ingredients in.
3. Scoop mixture onto baking tray lined with parchment paper.
4. Bake at 180C for 15 mins.
5. Wait until cool. Sprinkle extra chocolate chips and enjoy!

No Real Harm

by Alannah Buckley

I have chosen to argue against the topic of "Tik Tok has done more harm than good for young people's self-confidence". Now as many people know, Tik Tok is a very popular app that started becoming very popular around the first lockdown in March 2020. Many parents are beginning to think Tik Tok is inappropriate and an unsafe platform for young children. Let me start by saying that Tik Tok is NOT for young children! In Europe, the legal age for Tik Tok is 16 and in America the legal age is 13.

Secondly, many adults believe that seeing millions of "perfect" people who spend HOURS on makeup all the time can make us feel unhappy in our own bodies but I personally find this entirely untrue. There are many people on Tik Tok and not each and every one is obsessed with "being perfect". People also forget that Tik Tok isn't entirely made up of people spreading nasty messages and pretending to be perfect. On Tik Tok you can find recipes, animals, facts, poems and nature among many other things.

Furthermore, if you are seeing an account that is making you feel Unsafe, Tik Tok have made it very easy to block and report the creator. By blocking the creator you will no longer be able to view their content and by reporting the account you are telling Tik Tok that it is inappropriate and should be banned.

Finally, people might worry that strangers will comment hurtful messages on young people's videos, shattering their confidence, but Tik Tok is one step ahead. They have a very clear choice that you can enable called "private" which means that only people you allow can view/comment on your videos. In conclusion, I am not saying that Tik Tok is perfect but it's not nearly as bad as people make it out to be.

The Buzzy Bee Editors

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