

The Bridge

Apr 2019

ST. BRIDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to the latest issue of The Bridge Newsletter, packed with photos and stories!

A Message from Mrs Quinn

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Bridge magazine which is, as always, filled with articles and photographs of our busy children. Our Year 3 children celebrated making their First Penance on Sunday 24th March and were complimented by visiting priests, who said they were a wonderful group of children who showed reverence, respect and joyfulness. The Year 7 children were confirmed by the most reverend Bishop Noel Treanor the following day and were equally impressive in their engagement during the sacrament. Both sets of children, Years 3 and 7 were a credit to their parents and to our staff, who prepared them so well for these sacraments.

There are exciting times ahead for the school with the announcement of funding being approved for building work to commence through the School Enhancement Programme. An Initial site visit has taken place and it is hoped the Project Board and design team will be in place by early September to begin the planning and design process. In addition to this enhancement work, the refurbishment of the Ashleigh Hall is due to commence shortly. It is hoped the work will be completed by the end of September 2019 and will improve greatly the facilities for PE, Drama and general curriculum based activities. Long overdue, it will be exciting to see this refurbishment completed.

Happy Easter and have an enjoyable break.

Mary Rose Quinn

Belfast City Council Cross Country Championships

On Tuesday the 2nd of April, a cold bitter morning, the St. Brides Cross-country team travelled to Orangefield playing fields to take part in a race against multiple teams across South Belfast. After weeks of training with Mr Irvine, Mr Cunningham and Mrs Mc Mahon we were finally ready for the event.

Whenever we arrived we registered and warmed-up with Mr Irvine. Unfortunately, the girls didn't get much of a warm-up as their race was starting soon.

They fought hard against many successful teams including the Northern Ireland champions: Stranmillis girls. As their race unfolded it was clear they were going to do well. As a group they finished second, but individually Lila came fifth with a time of 4 minutes and 22 seconds, Evan came in sixth 1 second behind Lila, and Anna came ninth with 4 minutes and 28 seconds.

The boys fought equally hard and came first over all, as a team. Individually Jude came first with a time of 3 minutes and 53 seconds. Hugh came second; only two seconds behind him and then Oliver came close behind in ninth with 4 minutes 13 seconds.

All the boys were given medals and a silver plate for coming first as a team. The top ten places were given medals and Jude and Hugh got trophies for champion and runner up.

There was a light and cheery mood on the way back to school on the 'Banter Bus'. Our treat on the way back to school was donuts and listening to music such as Shotgun, Baby Shark and Despacito. We are very proud of our accomplishments on that cold and bitter morning.

Oliver and Jude

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Polar Regions

We are learning about Polar regions. We know what animals you can find in the Antarctic, we made some penguins, isn't our display lovely! We are very artistic! Yr 1 O'D-G



Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

Yr1 Shankelton made boats with recycled materials. We used different materials to create lots of different styles of boats. Most of our boats were clear in colour, so we decorated them with other materials. It was great excitement when investigating if our boats floated.



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Yr.1 W Explore the Outdoor Playground in the Spring Sunshine!

In Yr.1 W we are loving the signs of Spring that we have seen. We have seen buds on the trees, daffodils in our gardens and we even noticed the days being brighter for longer. We have also noticed the weather getting milder and sometimes sunnier days!! We got to go to the Outdoor Playground in the sunshine. Look at the wonderful things we got to explore.



Yr.1 M Dance Lesson



The Year 1's have been learning all about dance from Aimee. We have been learning how to do parallel feet and first position. In the photos we have our feet in parallel. Aimee has taught us about how important it is to warm our bodies before we exercise and how to cool down after. We have been balancing, jumping and spinning.

Mrs Merron has been so impressed with the Year 1's coordination and grace when dancing.



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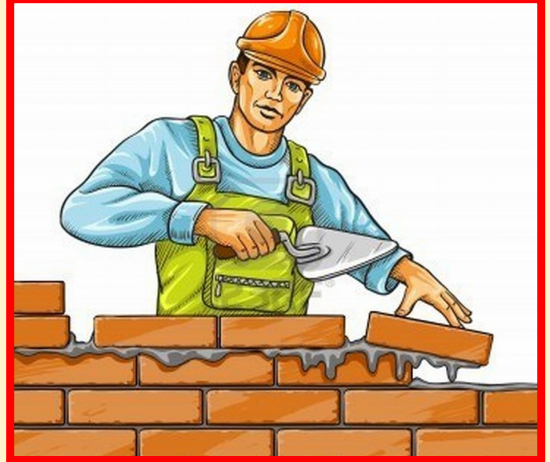
Building Site



Yr.2 have been enjoying a range of indoor play activities. Rory R and Oran got ready to work at the building site. They put on their high-vis vests and hard hats and got to work.

Rory pushed the wheelbarrow and Oran built a brick wall. They made a swimming pool. Let's hope we get the weather to use it in the summer.

Yr.2 O'P



St Patrick's Day

Yr.2 Mc D made some lovely St. Patrick's Day cards. First we got a pattern of a shamrock. Next we got two shades of green tissue paper. We crushed this into tiny pieces and stuck them onto the shamrock. Finally our cards were ready and we wrote



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Yr. 2 Meehan in W5



On Wednesday the 10th of April 2019 our class went to W5 with Yr.2 T to learn all about materials. Learning and discovering things is so much fun. After playing in the Discovery Centre and climbing in 'Climbit', we took part in a science experiment to see what material would be best to make a bridge for the three little pigs to cross. We tested paper, card, wood and metal. Before we tested each material we all guessed how many pigs could stand on the bridge. In our groups we then designed a raft or boat for the pigs to travel in. We had a range of materials such as paper, straws, sticks and play dough. Sean the inventor then helped us test our creations in a bowl of water. We just about had enough time to squeeze in break and lunch time before returning to school for 2.00. The next day we made a class 'Get Well' card for Habeeb who is in



hospital. We miss you Habeeb and we can't wait to have you back in Yr.2 M.



Prayer Service



On Friday 12th of April Yr2 Toal had a prayer service in the classroom. Lots of mums, dads and grandparents came to see us. The prayer service was about the miracles of Jesus. We sang some lovely songs and said some poems. Everyone had a special reading to do. Our favourite story was "Jesus feeds the people". For the last song we played percussion instruments including chime bars. Everyone clapped their hands for us. They really enjoyed it. It was great fun. We loved doing the prayer service. Mrs Toal said she was proud of us which made us feel special.

Yr.2 T

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Studying the Weather in Yr. 3



This term Yr.3GH have been studying the Weather, as part of our World Around Us Topic. We learned all about the Water Cycle, extreme weather and tested various materials to see if they were waterproof.



We then applied our knowledge of waterproof materials to design waterproof coats for our teddy bears. We had found out in our experiment that rubber and foil were waterproof so some students decided to use these materials and other pupils experimented with different materials.



As you can see, our coats were both waterproof and warm and our teddies looked very stylish. We really enjoyed our experiment and designing our waterproof coats and are now looking forward to learning about Famous People next term.



Gaelic Training in Year 3 Young



We are having super fun learning Gaelic skills in Yr.3 Y. We are taking 4 steps and then bouncing and catching the ball. We know to scoop the ball into our hands and hold on tight too. We can run in different directions and not touch all the other

boys and girls in our class. We had to pretend to be a bubble when running around and not let the bubble burst by touching someone else. Some of us can even bounce the ball, spin around and still catch



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Poetry in Yr. 3 O'H

Little Line

Once upon a time I drew a little line,
I gave it to the cat but it jumped onto the mat.
I had a little chat but he jumped into the hat.
It jumped out the door then I fell on the floor.
Then it got a kite and flew far out of sight.

Niamh Yr. 3 O'H

The Cloud

I really don't like being up so high,
I want to be further below the sky.
If I was on earth I could do what I want,
Like be a ghost and learn to haunt.
I could go through walls and travel underground,
I could do that without making a sound.
I want to go there with a cloud team,
Because going to earth is my biggest dream.

Diarmuid Yr.3 O'H

Activity Based Learning in Yr.3 Mc N

Every week we have two Activity Based Learning sessions. We are in 4 different groups which are all named after a Roald Dahl book.

We have 'The BFG', 'Danny Champion of the World', 'The Twits' and 'George's Marvellous Medicine'.

We all rotate around the activities set out in class. In these photos you can see some of us playing our 'Homophones Games' with clothes pegs and counters, our Easter Art and Design activity where we were looking at colours of the same tones and



contrasting colours. We were also adding and grouping numbers with cards and our whiteboards. There is even a television studio in our school where we have been presenting the forecast!

Our activities change every week and we love hearing about all our new activities!



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Assembly to Thank God for our Mothers

On 8th March it was 'International Women's Day' so Yr.4 McI held an assembly to celebrate the most influential women in our lives, our mums. During the assembly we sang some beautiful songs such as, 'Where is love?' From Oliver, John Rutter's 'Mary's Lullaby' and 'All I am' by Jess Glynn. Throughout the assembly we spoke about our Mums and thanked God for their love. We also remembered our Mother in heaven, Mary and acted out a story from the bible which showed the love and respect that Jesus had for Mary, 'The Wedding Feast of Cana.' Also to honour our heavenly mother, Anna recited the 'Hail Mary' in Irish. Thomas, Ruby Rose and Joseph also wrote their own poems/prayers for mothers everywhere so as to wish them a happy 'Mother's Day' at the end of March.



Yr.4McI

Yr. 4 M Celebrate Saint Patrick



Yr.4 brilliantly re-told the story of Saint Patrick and King Laoire for our concert in March. Everyone had a part and performed confidently on the day. There were soldiers, Patrick's people, flames, narrators and singers. We also showcased our impressive talents in Gaelic football, Hurling and Irish Dancing. It was a fantastic concert and we really enjoyed it. Our teachers were very proud of us and the parents loved it too!

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Valentine's Day Poem's

What Love?

Love is in February
But why not January?
Love is in our heart
So we'll make an apple tart.

We eat chocolate kisses
That go in our tummy
And the chocolate kisses
Are so yummy!

We're so very glad
For our lovely Dad
I want to give my Mum kisses
But she is busy doing the dishes.

Meabh and Karol Yr.4 G



Love

Your eyes are crystal blue
I love you
There's love above
With me and you!

With my crush
I'm putting on blush
I want to marry
So I'll give you a ring and sing!

Let's have marriage
In a carriage
Let's have cake
On our date!

Let's marry soon
With a honeymoon
I love you
To the moon and back!

Sarah and Nathan Yr.4 G

Love

When you give me a kiss
I'm like a newly made dish
You are so pretty
And lucky to have a kitty.

We go on lots of dates
Because she is my mate
My heart beats like a dove
Because I am in love.

I love the sweetness of your heart
It's as sweet as the jam of a newly
baked tart
Love is the weapon of Ghandi
Which is the opposite of
The Dandy!

Gabe and Amelie Yr. 4 G

Yr. 4 Mc K Assembly

On Friday 29th March we did our first ever assembly for our parents. We had already done one for the other Yr.4 classes and all the Yr.5 classes but this one was special! We began with a prayer we have learned for our First Holy Communion and then we took turns to tell the story of Jesus being tempted by the devil in the desert. We based the rest of our assembly on Lent and Trocaire. We told our audience all about Maria and her family. They live in Guatemala and we showed this on our map of the world. Five of us told her story. We gave examples of how our lives are different to Maria's. We had good fun planning, 'How to be a good friend' and 'How to show random acts of kindness'. Some of us acted out the role of a good friend like opening the door and letting a friend go first in the line. Four of us talked about what we were off for Lent and some of us showed bars of chocolate that we miss most of all. We told a joke about Brexit towards the end and finished off with our favourite song, Circle of Friends. We all really enjoyed it and we are already looking forward to our Yr.5 assembly! There are photos on our school website, why don't you have a look?

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Yr. 5 Basketball Blitz

On the 21st of March Yr.5 Mc Closkey's class went to the PEC to play basketball. In the boys group there was St. Anne's, and St. Joseph's. The boys won their first game 3-0 and drew their second game 2-2. The girls were in a group with St. Anne's, St. Joseph's and St. Teresa's. In their first game they won 5-0, they lost their second one 2-0. They made up for it in their third game winning 4-3.

The boys made it to the final but lost 1-0. They still got a trophy and now it is in the display cabinet. On the way home we got 80p each from Mr Mc Closkey to spend in the shop and everyone was happy! Thank you Mr Mc Closkey. We went back to the class and had lunch. That was a good day.

Marcus
Yr.5McC



Lego Challenge!

On the 2nd April, Mr Cullen, a software engineer, came to our class to see the engineering and programming work that we have been doing as part of our Technology WAU topic, 'Lego Challenge'. We have been designing and constructing model funfair rides with the Lego Wedo kit and then we have been using the computer software to programme the rides to move in many ways using motors, axles, sensors, gears and pulleys. We feel like real engineers making prototypes and then trying to improve on our designs. Mr Cullen helped us to program our models in lots of ways that we had not thought of. He was very impressed with our working, moving funfair rides and he praised us for the way we worked cooperatively in a group. A lot of people in our class thought they would like to be engineers when they grow up. See our models and our groups hard at work on the school website.



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The Big Pedal



The school has just completed this year's Sustrans Big Pedal event which took place over two weeks (25th March - 5th April). The theme this year centred around the human body and in completing the challenge, children were encouraged to walk, cycle and scoot to school in an effort to raise awareness for cycling amenities as well as learn about how pollution from traffic is affecting our bodies. The highlights of the event included an amazing 49% of the school roll either walking, cycling or scooting on Friday 29th March as well as a great turnout for our Super Hero day to end the event. Well done everyone!



Our Talent Assembly

This year, our class performed a talent assembly. We discussed what a talent is and how we use it. We learned that a talent is a special gift that was given to us by God. Everyone has a talent and some people don't like to use them. In our class, there are many talented pupils who had the chance to demonstrate their talents such as; playing basketball, guitar, water polo, football, piano and viola. Other people did: drama, Indian dance and even played an electric guitar! We talked about the importance of talents. At the end of the assembly, we sang, "Use your Skills Use your Talents," to get the message across. We had many drama scenes which involved people acting out Peter Pan and Wendy! Throughout our practise for our assembly we came to realise that our parents have the talent of patience!! We worked very hard and we got a brilliant outcome, all the practice paid off. Everyone enjoyed our assembly and we did too. **Yr.6 D**



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Our Visit to the Tropical Ravine



Shravya and Mae at the Tropical Ravine

On Friday the 25th of January Yr.7G went to the Tropical Ravine in Botanic Gardens for a guided tour to learn about botany. When we arrived we met Bryony and Gemma, they were ready to take us on our tour. Firstly, they talked about the history and making of the ravine. They said the designer's house was in the same place as the Ulster Museum and had to be taken down for the museum to be built. They took us inside and gave us clipboards and a pencil. There were two areas, one tropical and the other was temperate. It was very hot and humid because the plants live in a tropical climate and they would die if it wasn't warm enough. The temperature in the tropical area was 31.4! When we went inside we could see a variety of plants in different shapes and sizes. The first plant they talked about was the banana tree. They said it came from Canada and a boat was used to bring it to the Ravine. We then looked around the plants and filled in our worksheets. It was good fun and we learnt

lots about the tropical climates. We hope to visit again soon.

Grace and Meadoc Yr.7G

Cereal Box Book Reviews

Our Year 7 'World Book Day' task was to decorate a cereal box with illustrations and information related to a book that we had read. On the front of the box we had to invent a name for the cereal that was related to the title of the book (that sounded like a cereal) and include suitable illustrations. For example, for 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone' a suitable title used was 'Wizard Wands', a toasted cereal in the shape of miniature lightning bolts. Using a template, we also had to include the following; title, author, number of pages and how many stars would rate the book, a list of ingredients that includes the story elements, characters and setting, a summary that describes the book, a game that is based on the book and a prize.

Year 7 Mg



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THE BOOK SWAP SHOP Yr.7 MACKLE!

On World Book day 2019 Yr. 7 Mackle ran a Book Swap Shop! Our class brought in books that we had finished with and were in good condition. So we made posters for homework to advertise it and put them around the school to encourage other classes to start bringing in books for the Book Swap Shop. Mrs Mackle said, "Our class is starting to look like Waterstones!" So we started making stalls for different authors such as Roald Dahl, Enid Blyton, Jacqueline Wilson and David Walliams.



The Book Swap Shop started at 9.30 am and we had 12 classes altogether! Some of the children in our class came in early to help Mrs Mackle set up the stalls to get ready, and all the classes were given a time slot to attend. On the day of the Book Swap Shop we got to dress up as our favourite book characters - the standard of costumes was so high! From Oompa Loompas to The Midnight Gang, to Verruca Salt (which won first place in our class) and Where's Wally, the list was endless!

Key stage 1 also had their own swap shop hosted by Mrs Shankleton in the Derryvolgie hall. A

few of our class went over to help run the shop and encourage the children to read. As for the teachers - Mr McAuley and Mrs Simpson won the best teacher awards in KS1 and KS2!

The Book Swap Shop was a big success; loads of people are saying that the book swap is a great idea. We think it was a great idea too as you got to bring in books you had already read, swap them in for tokens and get nearly new books that other people brought in.

We had a brilliant day organising this event and think St Bride's should hold a Book Swap Shop every year!

Elizabeth, Lara, Olivia Yr.7 Mackle



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The Day the Chairs Quit



Year Six have recently been looking at persuasive texts within their Literacy work. Today, Mr McAuley's class got quite a shock when they saw that their



chairs had quit and refused to let the children sit on them. Their chairs wrote them letters explaining that they had had



enough of being dragged about, being left untucked and some of the heinous smelling crimes that the children commit on the chairs. The children had to write a persuasive letter convincing their chairs to come back to

them. The children worked hard writing their letters and I can say that the chairs were thoroughly convinced to let the children use them again. Yr 6 Mc A

Brexit

Unless you've been living under a rock lately you've probably heard of **BREXIT**!

Yr.6 Mc Kenna have started to learn about BREXIT as our new topic. This is what we have learned...

In a completely unparalleled event, the United Kingdom broke up with the European union (EU). In a referendum known as Brexit (Britain+ Exit), the UK has decided to part ways with the EU.

With a vote of 52% in favour of leaving, it was evident that Brexit was certain or so it seemed! The last few years of negotiations has turned what was thought of as normal politics on its head. Literally anything can happen and even the experts can't predict what is coming next.

The concept of the EU came about after World War II as a means for European nations to forge economic ties with each other. This led to the creation of the European Economic Community (EEC) in the late 1950s. It later came to be known as the European Union (EU) in 1993.

There are many more things to learn about Brexit but if reading is not your thing then here are some pictures to satisfy you as well.

Jacob Yr.7 Mc K



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Nursery



We Learned all about the Pongal festival in Nursery this year. Pongal is a harvest festival celebrated in India in January and part of the celebration involves the boiling of rice with milk in the Pongal pot. The Pongal pot, which you can see in our picture, has decorations called Kolam all over it. We made our own Kolam patterns too and a parent made us Pongal rice to have for snack. It was delicious and everyone ate it all up!

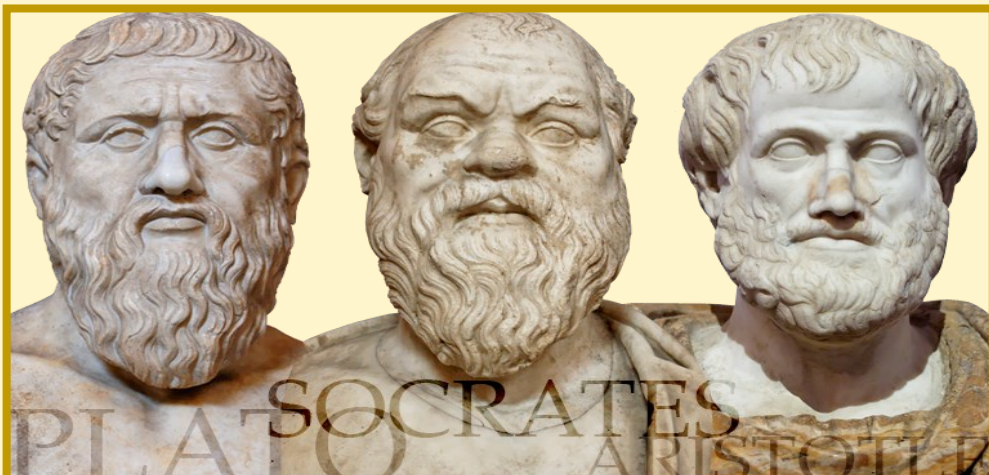
Time to Think

Over the past few weeks, Yr.6 Mrs McMahon have been studying Philosophy. Philosophy is a topic that helps you to use your brain. Now you must be thinking how boring this might be for Yr.6 children! Two students came and not only taught us philosophy but taught us some fun in an educational way. With Philosophy, we built up our knowledge with their exciting games. Philosophy taught us many activities such as choice games where you had to decide your choice e.g. like or dislike. In one game you had to discuss with your friends in a group the story the students had chosen and the most popular set of questions would be chosen in a vote and then would be discussed. We were laughing and giggling throughout the whole course. On the last week, as a kind gesture, the whole class received a small bar of chocolate.

And just to make you laugh, I want to tell about a girl in our class who is obsessed with her imaginary friend named Big Shaq. Soo much so, that on one of the weeks she made our Philosophy lesson extra inspiring by making it a discussion all about her friend.

I have really been enjoying Fridays in school because I knew that that day was PHILOSOPHY day.

Rayaan, Yr.6 Mc M



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It's Time to Tell a Few Tales

World Book Day 2019

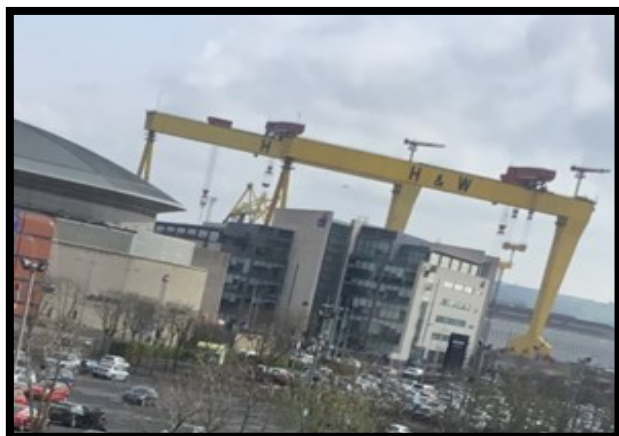
St Bride's had a fabulous day on Thursday 7th March celebrating all things book related! The children really got into the spirit of the day and dressed up as characters from their favourite books. From Harry Potter to Where's Wally, and everyone in between - the entire school was awash with colour and excitement as the day got under way! In addition to class activities based on novels, BBC Live Lessons and World Book Day homework, all classes had the opportunity to visit the 'Book Swap Shop' to exchange tokens for a 'nearly new' book. The day was a great success and there was a definite buzz around the school. Here are a few photos of the fancy dress winners from some classes. As you can see, the standard was very high!!



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P5K Belfast Bus Tour

On the 4th April our class and Mrs McAllister's class, went on a Belfast City Sight Seeing Tour. It was an introduction to our next WAU topic, Being and Belonging. The bus took us around all of Belfast. We had a lovely guide called Gavin, who told us lots of interesting facts about Belfast. He was funny! We found out that Belfast was built on a swamp. He also told us that Belfast means the sandbank, at the mouth of the river. We saw lots of wonderful



landmarks such as the Harland and Wolf Cranes, which are also known as Samson and Goliath. Our favourite landmarks were Nula with the Hula and Titanic HQ. We are really looking forward to our new topic!



Raffo Cup Final Report

Group Stages

The group stages were held in Musgrave Park on the 19th March. We were in a group of three and played Holy Cross Boys. Afterwards we had a break and watched the other teams play. We won our second match against St Joseph's of Lisburn. Now we could look forward to the semi-final.

Semi-final

The semi-final was also held in Musgrave Park on the 2nd of April. We played St Anne's PS we were behind by a few points. Thankfully Joseph Logan scored a wonderful goal which gave us the confidence to push on and win the game. St Anne's gave us a good game but we came out on top and our Raffo campaign went on!

Final

On the day of the final we could hear the shouts and chants of our supporters. We all were pumped up but still quite nervous. Our opponents on the day were Holy Child. They got an early goal but we responded with a few points. At half-time we were three points up. In the second half we had to play into the wind. Unfortunately, it was much stronger and Holy Child took full advantage winning by eight points. We were disappointed but that's sport we were beaten by the better team on the day. On a brighter note Mr Cunningham and the Holy Child Coach both agreed that Peter deserved the Man of the Match award. Well done everyone that played and especially Peter. At least we got to the final! Good luck to next year's squad J

Leo and Conn Yr7 C

