April 2024

St. Oliver's Times

















April is Autism Awareness Month. We celebrated difference by having a Mad Hair Day in school on the 12th of April. We wanted to create an effective visual to celebrate uniqueness and creativity. It's ok to be different!! Awareness of what it means to be unique encourages us to continue to be kind, respectful and accepting of everyone. Kevin Leahy from the Killarney Autism Association and Deirdre Horgan from My Canine Companion spoke to our senior classes about Autism and their work in the area. Patrick from 5th class also made a wonderful speech about his experience living with Autism. The day created a fun atmosphere on the corridors while spreading a powerful message to our school community.



LIBRARY VISIT

Ms Sinéad O'Connor's class visited the Killarney Library recently. They thoroughly enjoyed their time in this peaceful place. Children adore visiting the library where they have ample choice of beautiful new books to choose from and a quiet, safe environment to enjoy them. The library staff created an incredible sensory room as part of April's Autism Awareness Month. Ms Griffin's class made a trip to check it out. They were thrilled to spend some time relaxing in this special space.



GAELGEOIRÍ NA SEACHTAINE





Comhgairdeas Gaelgeoirí na Seachtaine

PE IN KILLARNEY ATHLETIC

Ms. Susan O'Neill's class had great fun recently when they went to Killarney Athletic Pitch for a PE session with Mr. Kealy. They practiced their kicking, catching and mobility when they played soccer and rounders.



LEGO WEDO

Some of our senior classes were coding using Lego WeDo this month. We borrowed these exciting sets from Tralee Education Centre. The children followed instructions to build their vehicles out of lego and made them move by coding a programme on the ipads. Some of our 6th class students created racing cars and raced each other, with 'Bob' being the winner. We have recently purchased similar Lego sets of our own so the children can continue their exploration of coding lego





BEEBOTS

These little robots brought great fun to our school hall in April. Every class had the chance to explore coding using the BeeBot. The children programmed the device to perform certain tasks making him move along the mats. The colourful, easy to operate, and friendly little robot allowed for teaching counting, sequencing, directionality and problem solving in a playful and engaging manner.





ACTIVE SCHOOL WEEK

Active Week took place from April 29th - May 3rd. The week was jam packed with fun activities to keep us all active in school. From dancing our way in to school every morning to Tug Of War competitions, yoga, rowing, volleyball, skipping, keepie uppies- the list goes on and on.... One of the highlights was the teachers vs students dodgeball where a few classroom scores were settled!! We were glad to have the bank holiday weekend for some rest and recovery























RACECOURSE VISIT

Our 6th classes were invited down to the racecourse on April 25th. Along with students from Presentation Monastery they took part in a special Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) Juniors education day. They met trainer Tom Cooper who explained what his job entails as well as a typical day to day routine for his racehorses. They also visited the weighroom to see the kit jockeys wear and use on race days and took a walk around the track to hear how it is prepared before a race meeting.



LIAM BRADY VISIT

We had a very special guest come to visit us during the month of April. Soccer star Liam Brady kindly popped in to say hello. He spoke to the children in our senior classes about his career and how to overcome challenges with a positive spirit. Liam was also a guest speaker at the annual concert which took place in The Chapel in St. Brendan's College featuring St. Brendan's own music department and the Liam O'Connor Band.



MATHS TRAIL

Ms Sinéad O'Connor's 3rd class carried out a maths trail around Killarney House during the month of April. They measured, counted, estimated and observed the environment around them having great fun along the way.

