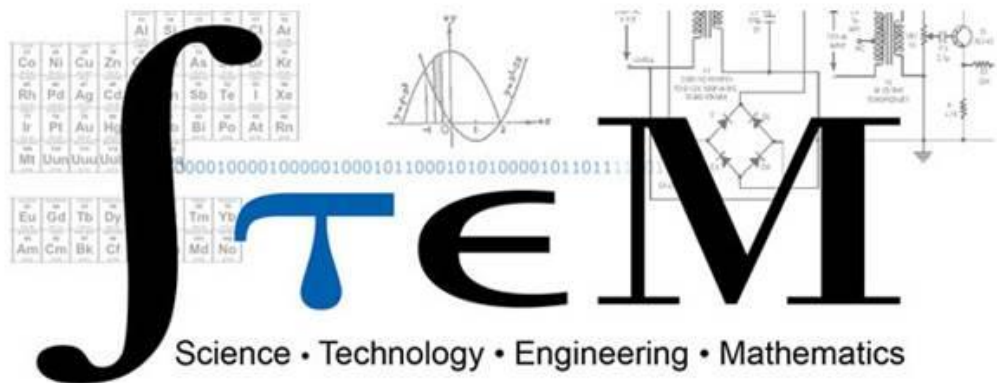
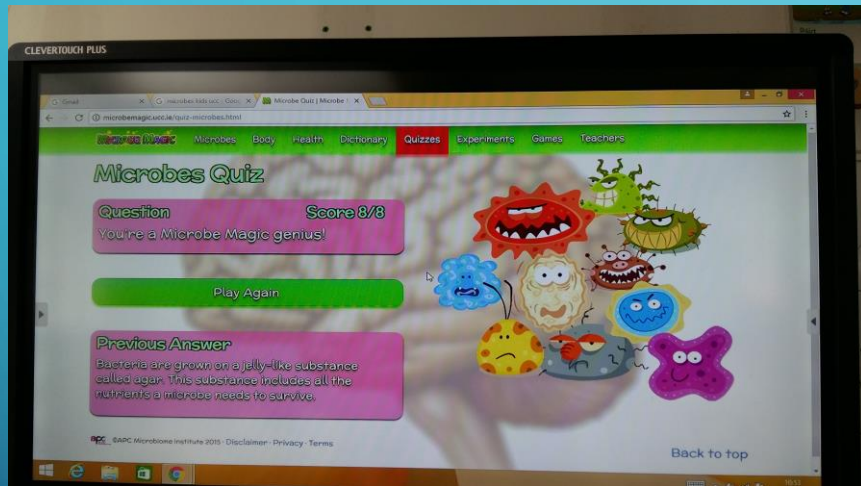
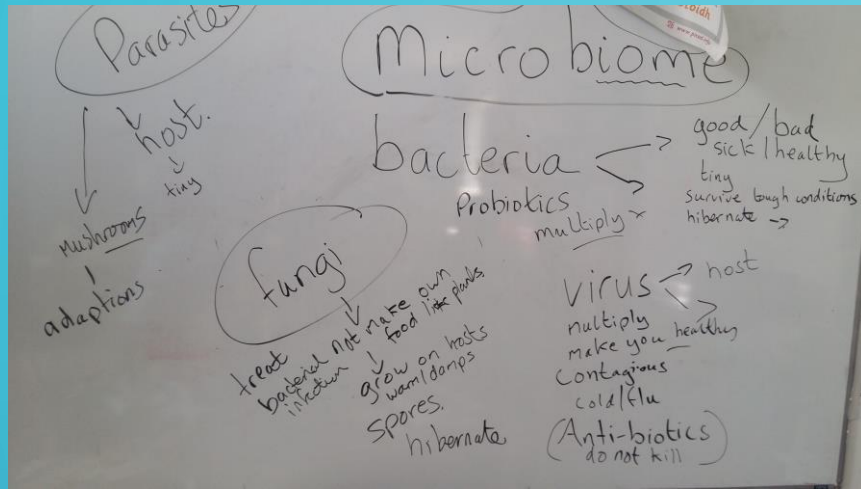


# St. Michael's Church of Ireland National School 2019/DSW/436



S.T.E.M.  
Section.1. – Science  
2018/2019

# Living Things - Microbiology

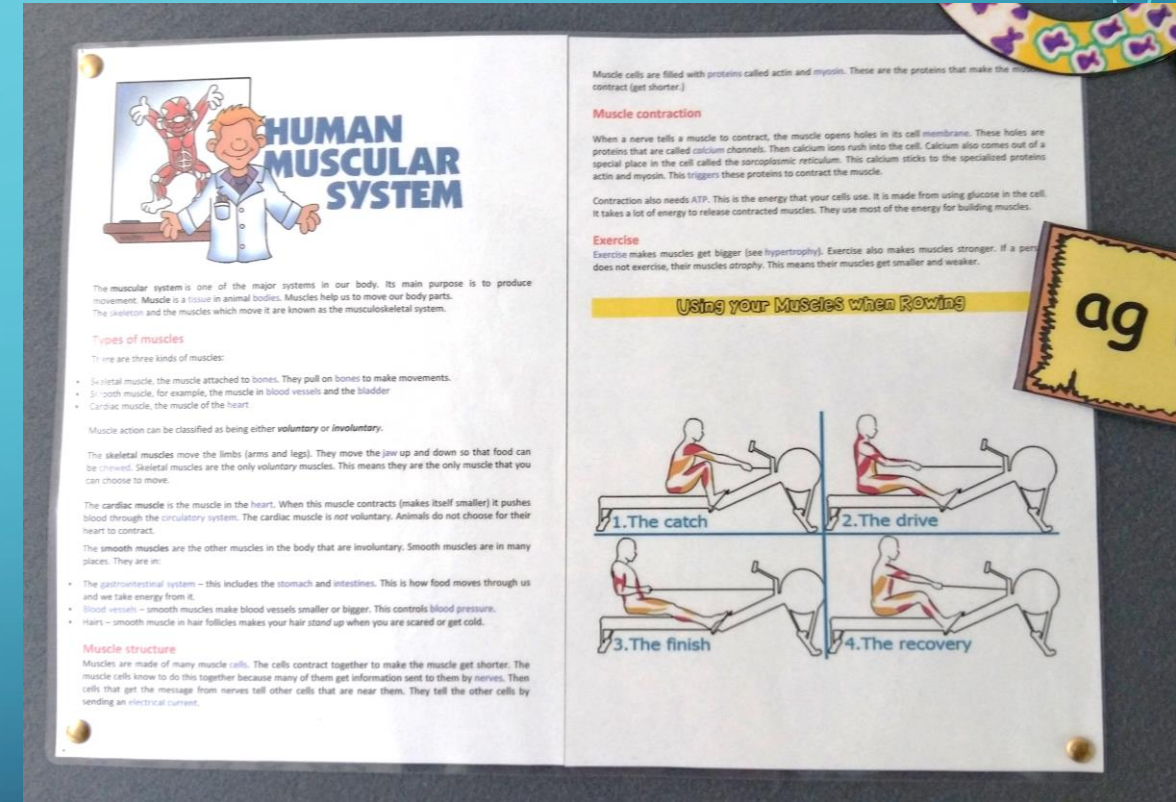


The Senior Room has been learning all about microbiology. We were amazed how important microbes are to ensure that we all stay healthy. We also conducted an experiment to see how bacteria/germs travel from person to person.





During training for the rowing blitz, we learned all about how muscles worked and what muscles were used during each phase of the rowing motion.

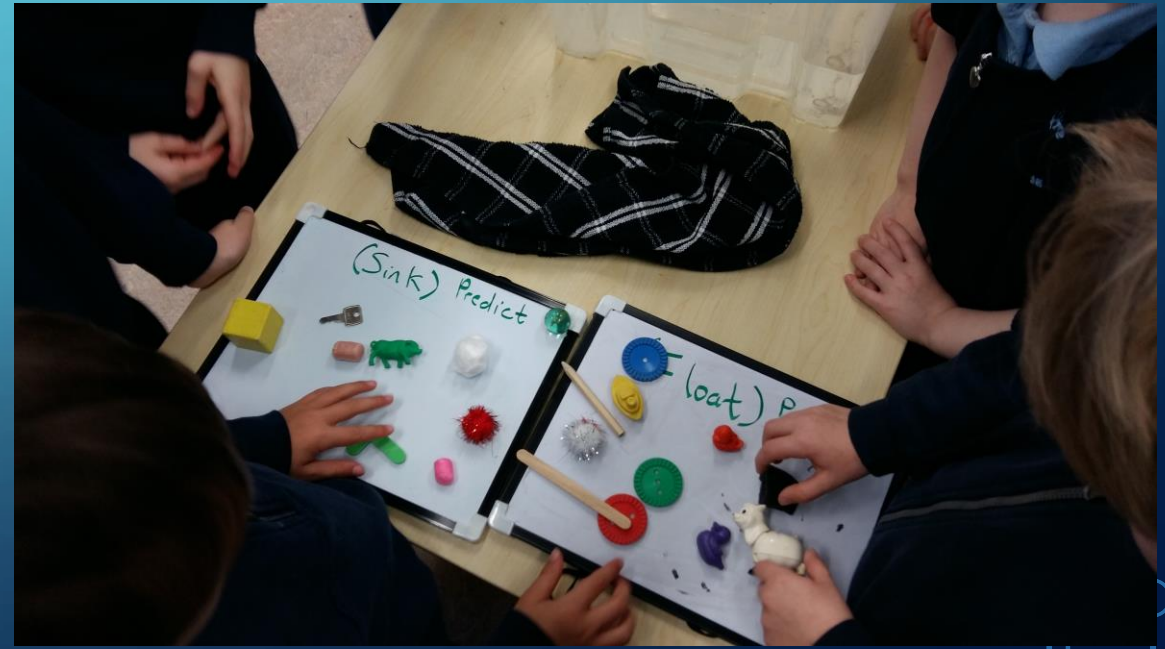
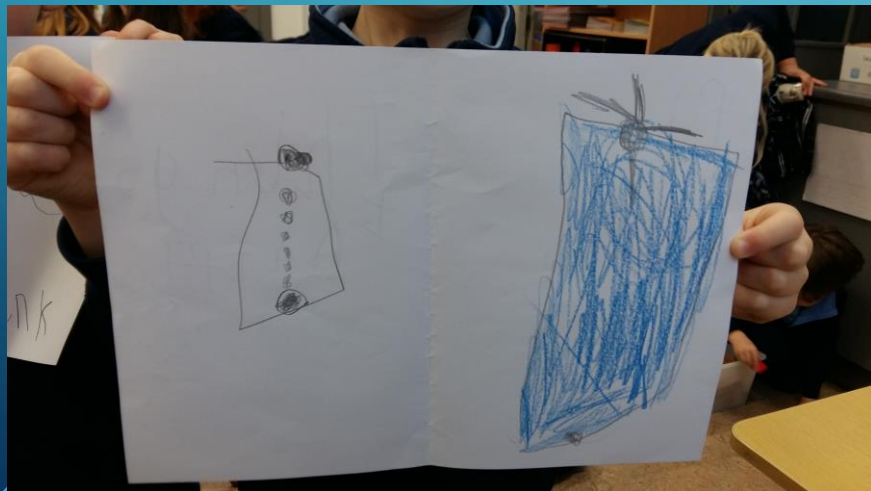




# Materials – Float and Sink



The Junior Room learned all about what materials float and sink. It was great fun!





# Materials – Creeping Colours

The Junior Room learned all about creeping colours. We experimented with flowers and different types of materials.



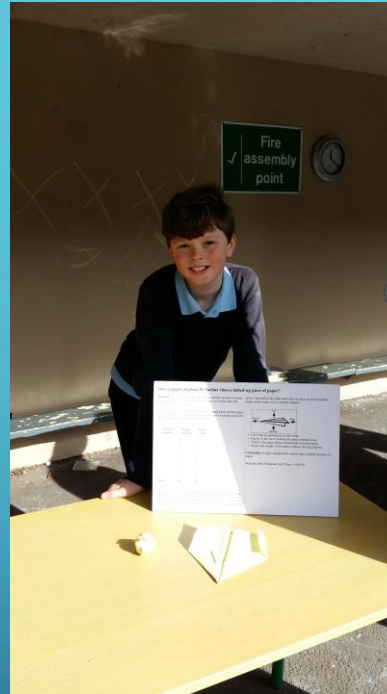
# Materials – change of State

During our Science Fair pupils from the Senior Room showcased different experiments to the rest of the school. One of the most exciting experiments were the erupting volcanoes!

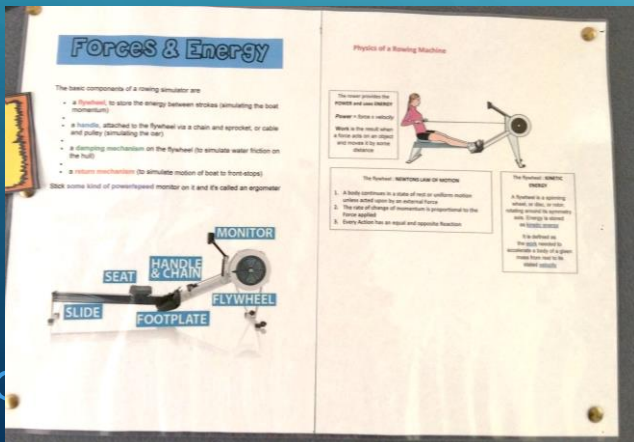




While training for the Rowing Blitz, the Senior Room learned all about friction, opposing forces and resistance. They learned that the more friction and resistance there was, the harder it was to use the rowing machine.



We also learned how planes fly during our science fair.



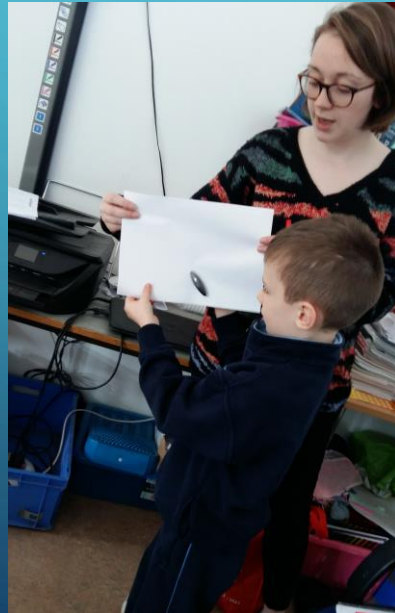
The Junior Room learned all about slopes during workshop at Blackrock Castle.





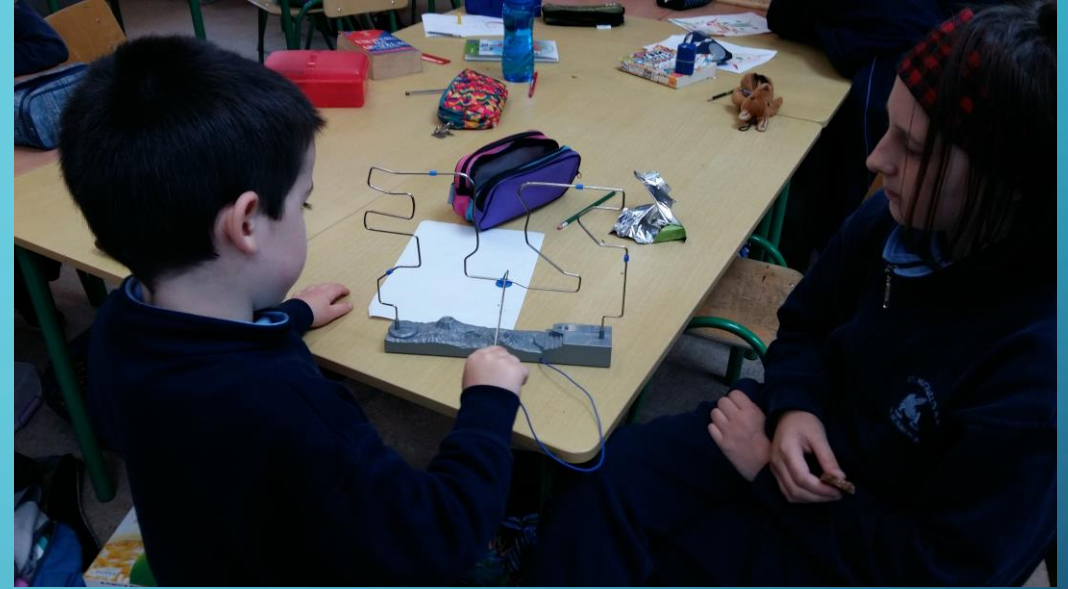
# Energy & Forces - Magnetics

The Junior Room went to Blackrock Castle Discovery Centre to attend a workshop and they experimented with magnets and then took the knowledge they learnt to try different activities in the classroom.



# Energy & Forces - Electricity

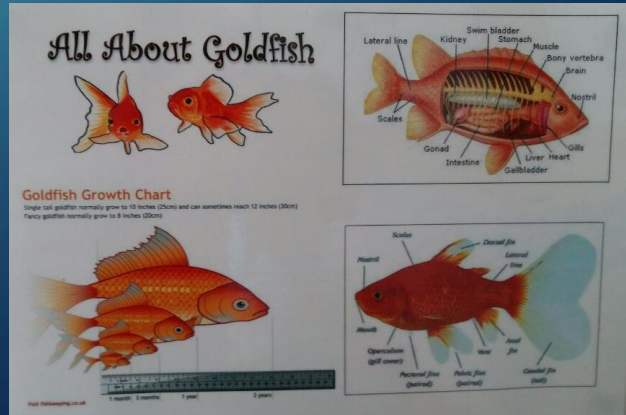
All the classes enjoyed making different circuits



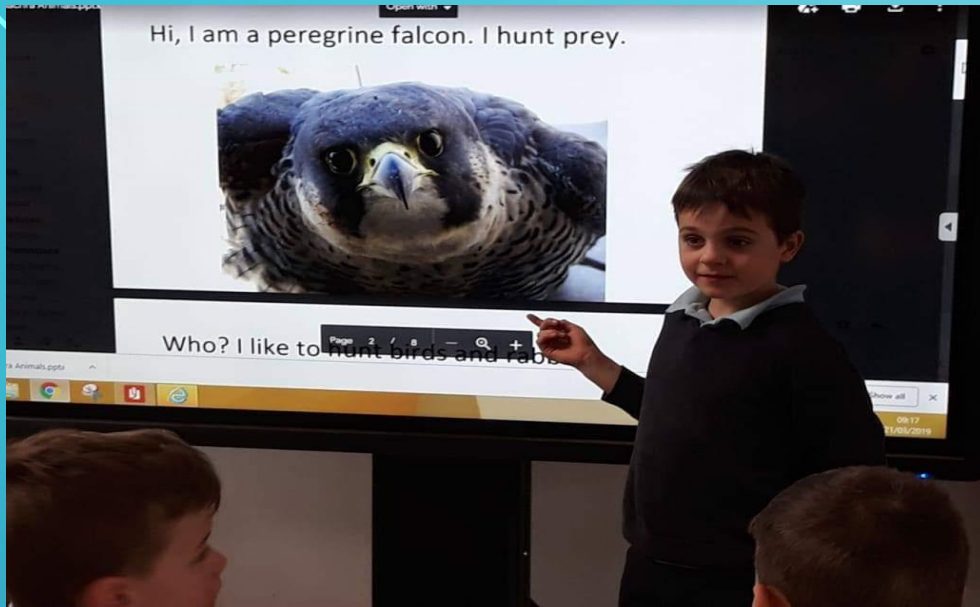




The Junior Room learned all about caring for the school goldfish 'Fish and Chips'. They learned how to clean out the tank and feed the fish. They also learned all about different fish that you can find in the oceans and made some of our own sea creatures from recycled plastic with the help of the Middle Room.

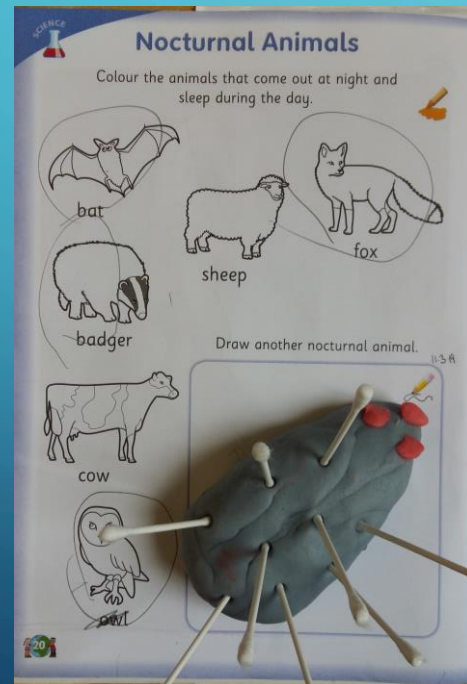






Students from 2<sup>nd</sup> class presented projects on their favourite animals.

If you would like to see the full presentation on Peregrine Falcons then click on <https://www.stmichaelscoi.com/s-t-e-m>



The Junior Room learnt all about nature.

They did a nature walk along the Blackrock Railway Line, bug hunting in the school grounds and learned all about nocturnal animals and then made their own nocturnal animals in playdough.



The Junior Room had a fun filled week of Space activities including the ISS watch where we had a laptop which showed activity in and out of the space action for the entire week!

We watched videos on how astronauts eat, sleep and brush their teeth in space – we all decided that it is very tricky to do those things in zero gravity!

We also incorporated Space into our Aistear freeplay.







We had Eimear Ferguson from APC in UCC come and talk to us all about microbes.

**SCIENCE IS BEAUTIFUL**  
**SCIENCE IS FUN**  
**SCIENCE IS USEFUL**  
**SCIENCE IS FOR EVERYONE!**

We held a Science Fair during Science Week where the Middle and Senior Room planned and worked with each other and the Junior Room on some really exciting and fun experiments and activities.

We have lots of pictures to show you in the STEP 5 – STEM Showcase section.





The Junior Room visited Blackrock Castle where they took part in a workshop and also had a tour of the castle.

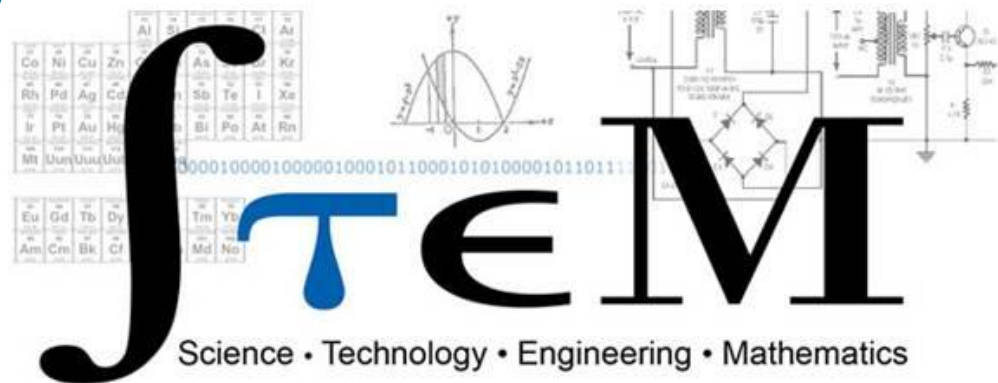


The Middle Room visited the Lifetime Lab where they took part in the Explorers Education Programme.





# St. Michael's Church of Ireland National School 2019/DSM/436



S.T.E.M.  
Section.2. – Technology  
2018/2019

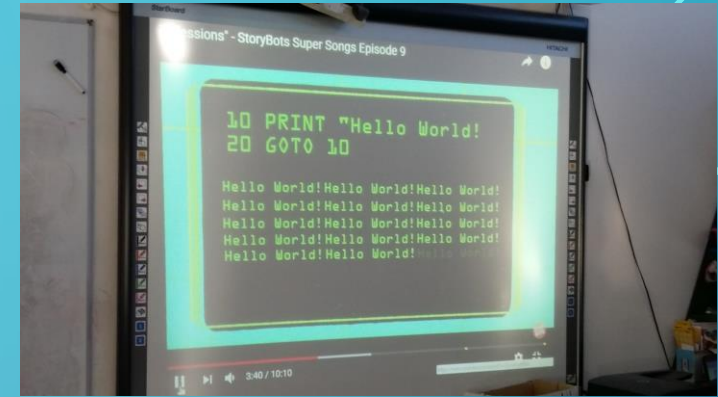
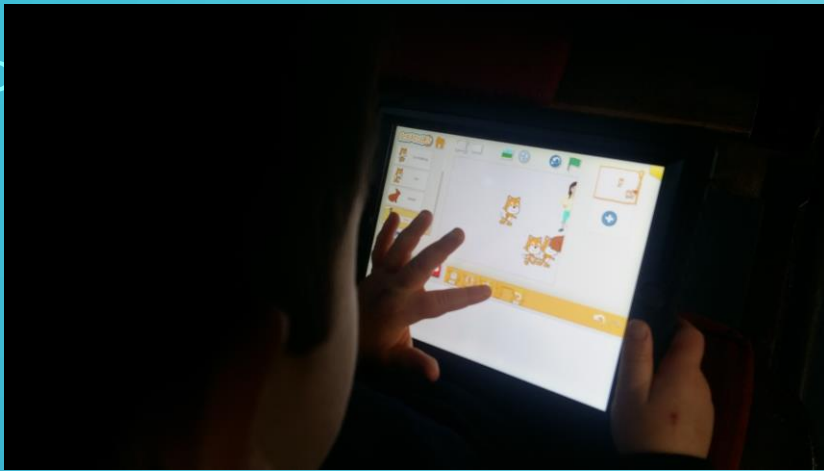




The Senior Room spent the morning with the Wriggle Roadcaster where we learned all about coding and video production.





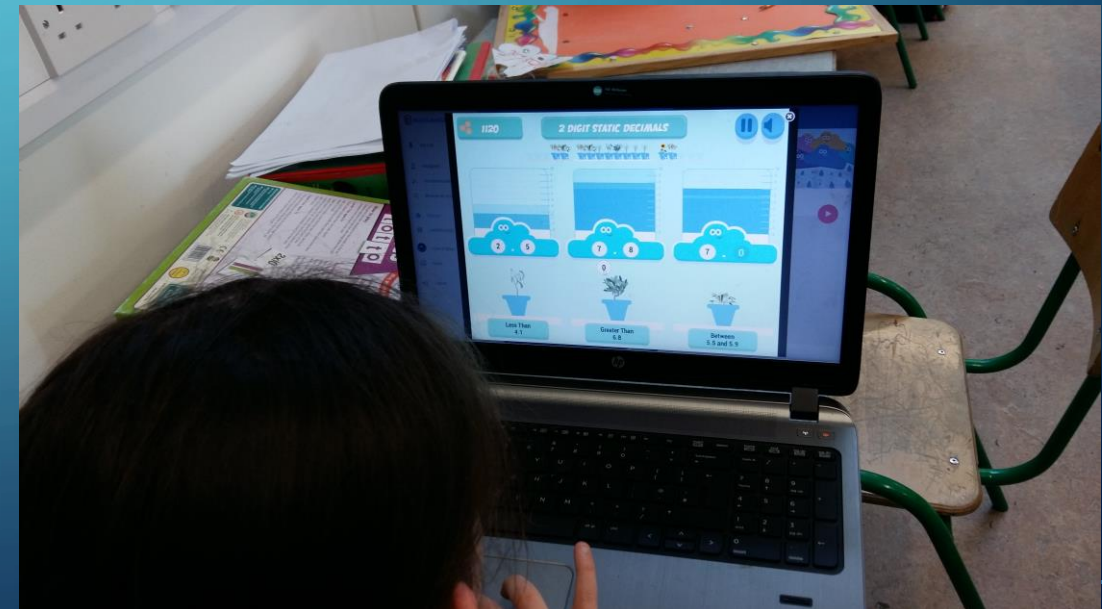
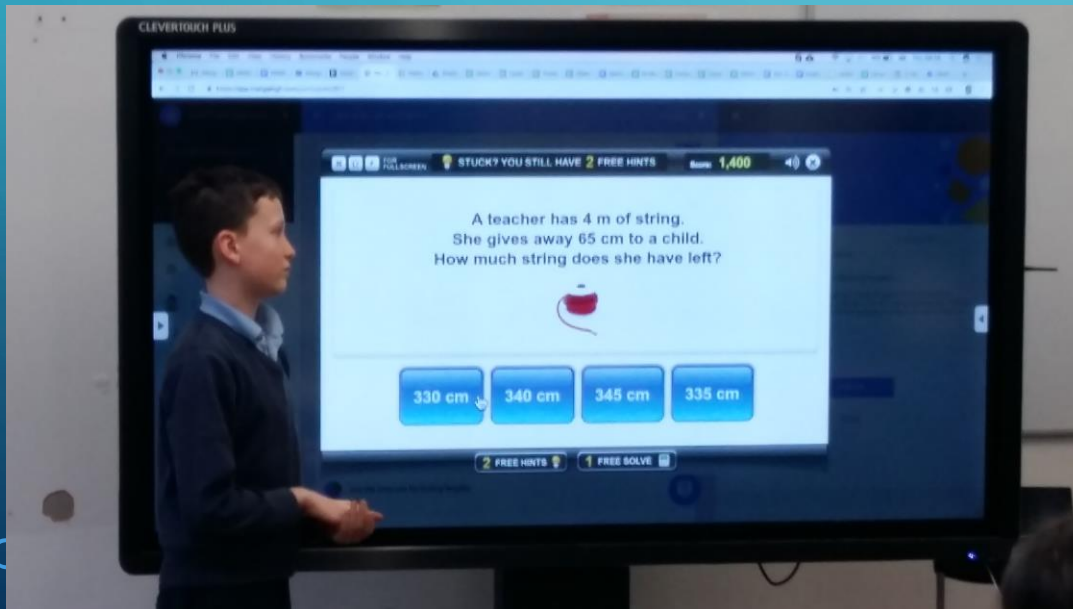


Scratch/Coding is taught starting in Junior Infants with Scratch Junior and Beebots.



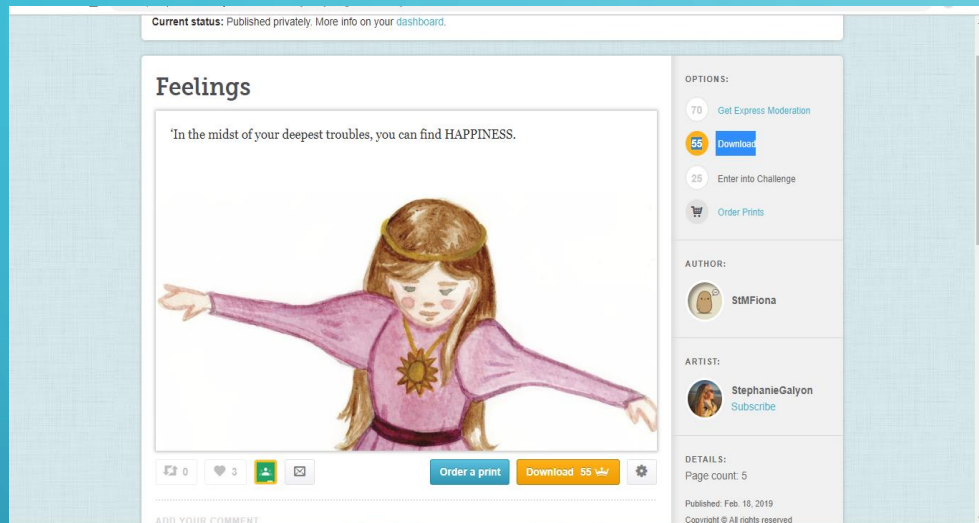


The Middle and Senior Room use Manga High and Storybird on a daily basis to enhance their learning. We also had a guest speaker from Manga High who came and conducted a workshop with the Senior Room.

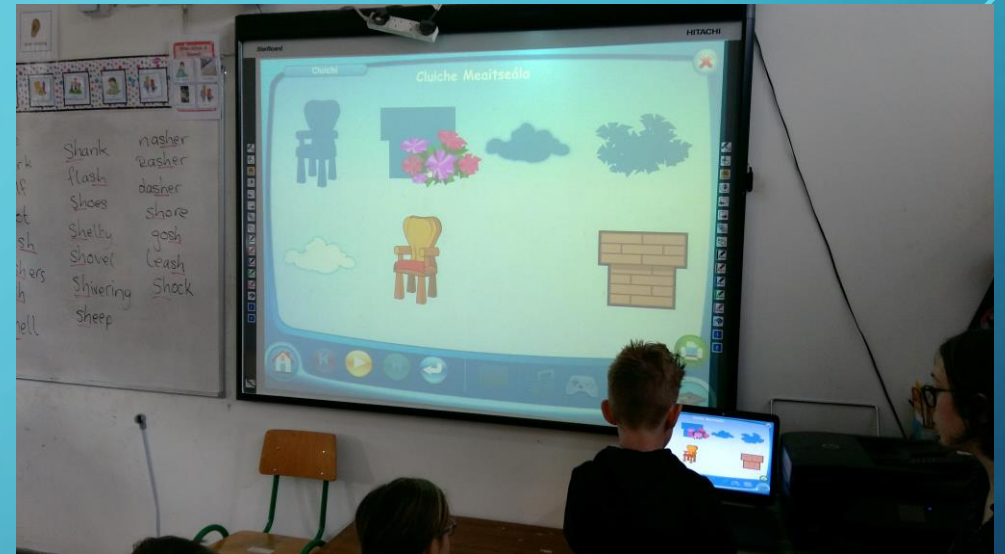




# storybird



The Junior Room use maths based and Gaelige games to make learning fun!






All classes in the school contribute to the blog under supervision.

Learners are encouraged to use ICT for projects and presentations

### Philosophy for Senior Pupils

April 11, 2019 | Ms. O'Donovan (Senior Room)




The study of philosophy equips a person with skills which are highly valued, universally applicable, and can complement any educational pursuit. The benefits of philosophy are widely recognised by academics and educators. There is a growing movement that aims to intro...

[Read More](#)

### Alice in Wonderland

April 9, 2019 | Meg Harte-Barry (3rd Class)




The middle room and senior room went on a school trip to Alice in Wonderland produced by the 4th year students in Ashton School. It was a lot of fun. Some of our past pupils were actually part of the show. We walked to Ashton and then everyone went to their seats and...

[Read More](#)

### Storybird

March 26, 2019 | Fiona O'Neill (4th Class)











'Storybird' is a creative writing app that children in the senior room use to share their writing to their classmates. You can make poems, picture books and long-form books. I wrote a book called 'The farm' - it is a long form chapter book. You can select from lots of...

Our blog is all about our life at St Michael's with news and interesting stories written by the pupils and staff.

- Senior Room (28)
- Middle Room (11)
- Junior Room (10)
- School (5)
- Parents (2)

#### Recent Posts

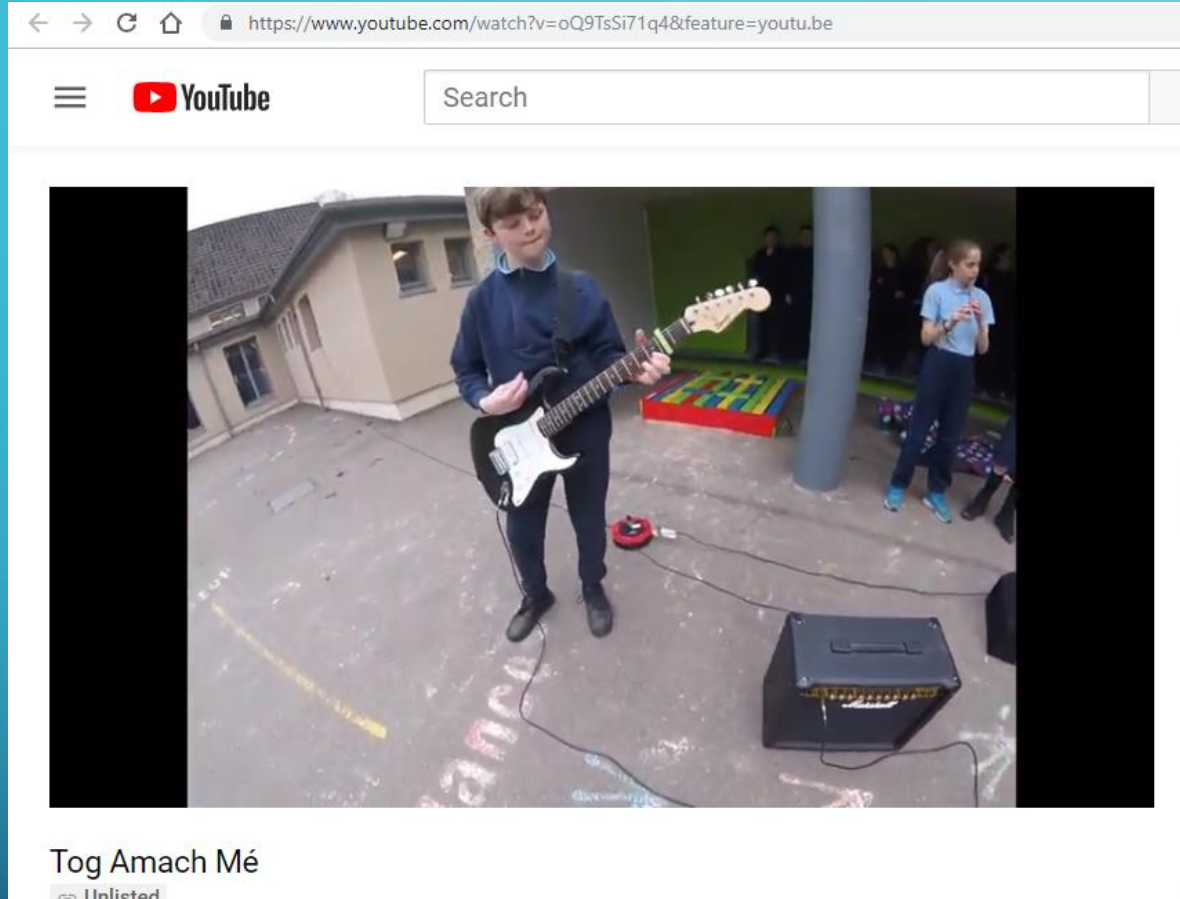
-  Philosophy for Senior Pupils  
April 11, 2019
-  Alice in Wonderland  
April 9, 2019
-  Storybird  
March 26, 2019
-  Seachtain na Gaeilge  
March 26, 2019
-  GAA at the Rockies  
March 26, 2019
-  Book Week  
March 26, 2019
-  Senior Room Science Fair  
March 20, 2019
-  Junior Room Trip



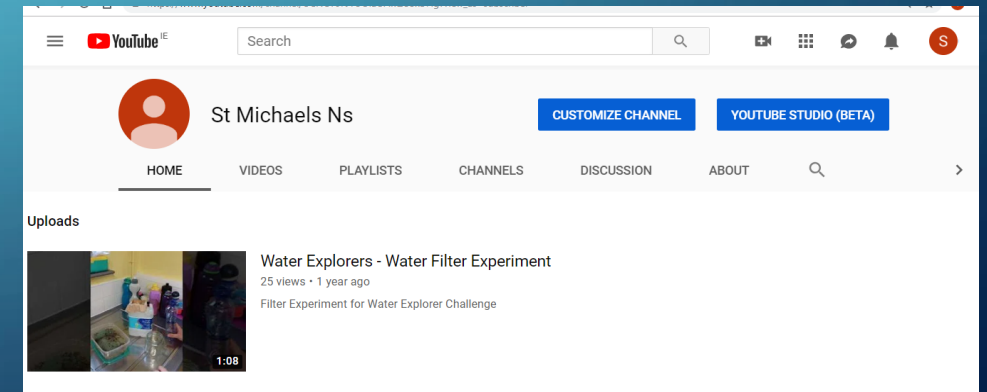
Visit  
<https://www.stmichaelscoi.com/blackrock-a-history-of-the-village>.



We also have some budding movie directors and filmographers in school and our own school You Tube Channel.

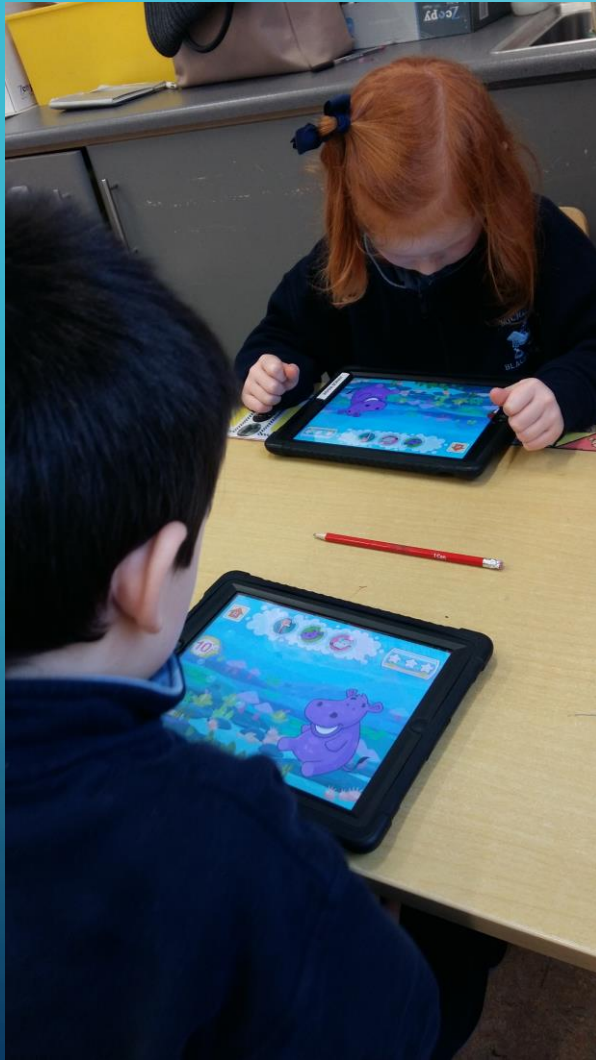


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQ9TsSi71q4&feature=youtu.be>



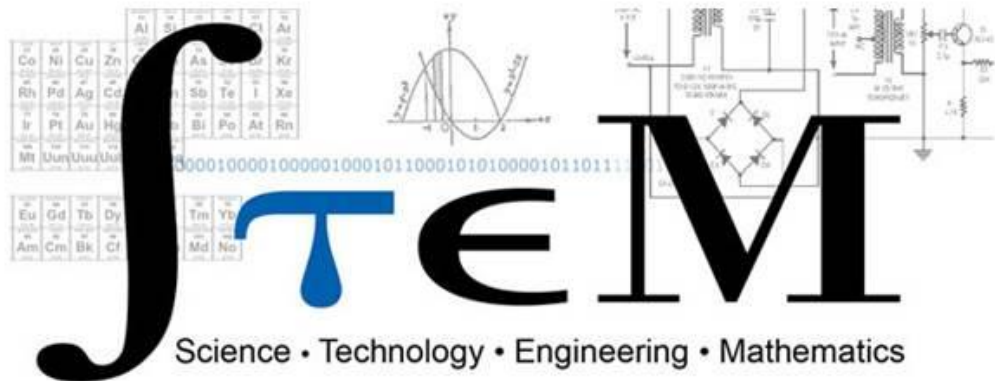


We incorporate ICT in everyday school life. Pupils are encouraged to use printers and photocopiers. There are iPads and laptops where they are able to research information for projects, play educational games and learn how to type and to use programmes such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.





# St. Michael's Church of Ireland National School 2019/DSM/436



S.T.E.M.  
Section.3. – Engineering  
2018/2019



# Make & Do – Building Forts

Second and Third Class learned all about hill forts and had a chance to build their own in our garden.



First Class designed their own fairy forts and castles.

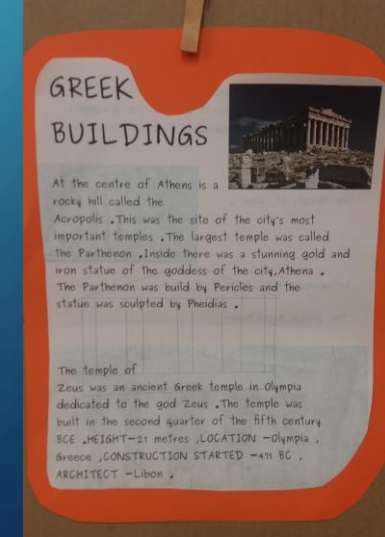
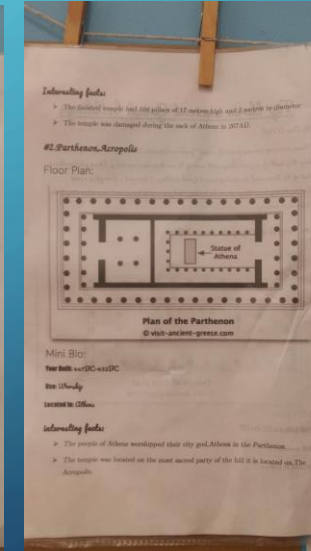
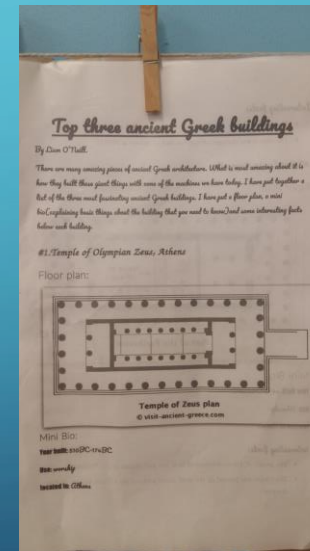
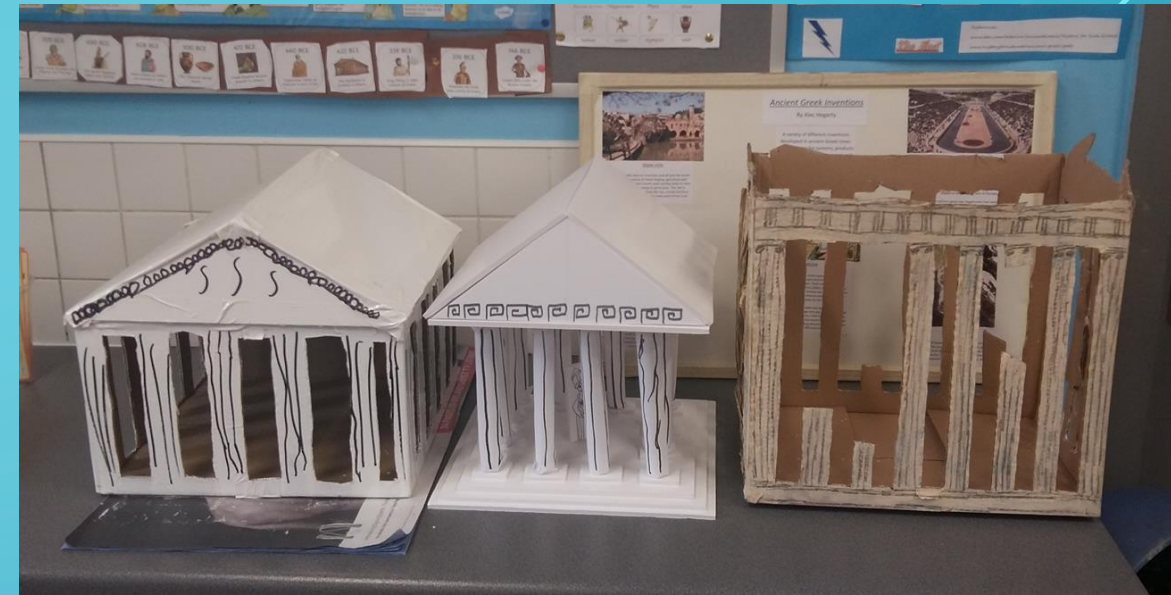
The engineers of the future will be poets.

— Terence McKenna —





The Middle Room learned all about lighthouses in Ireland and then constructed their own.



The Senior Room studied Ancient Greece and in particular Greek Buildings. They did an extensive project on Greek Temples and recreated some of their favourites.



# Investigating Local Engineering Blackrock / Passage West Railway

The Senior Room explored Blackrock and one of the many wonderful attractions was the Blackrock/Passage West Railway Line. We studied different types of railways but in particular the narrow-gauge railway.



6th Class - Blackrock Project

Unlited

**[Click on the link to watch the video presentation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YB-n2UsGyE8)**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YB-n2UsGyE8>**

# Investigating Local Engineering Our New Classroom

We have been watching the building of our new classroom with great interest. We learned all about the history of our school which was built in 1852 and designed by George Pain who designed Blackrock Castle. The original building was one classroom with an apartment above for the teacher. The Senior Room also learned how to read architectural drawings.





The Junior Room has been learning all about Urban Planning, Designing and Building during their Aistear sessions. We have built hospitals, vets, ferries, post offices, coffee shops and ships and lots of other interesting buildings.



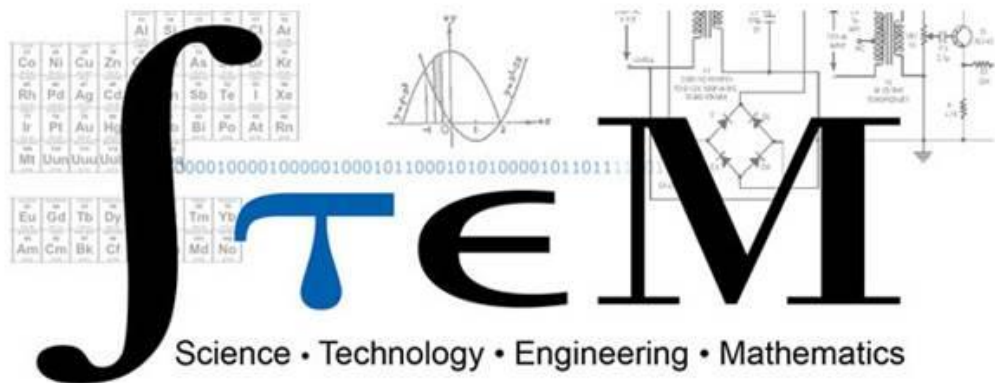


Some of the engineering projects the Senior and Middle Rooms have done this year are air propelled vehicles, castles, circuits and robots. A fun project was to investigate how Michelangelo had to use scaffolding to paint the Sistine Chapel and try to experience painting lying down!





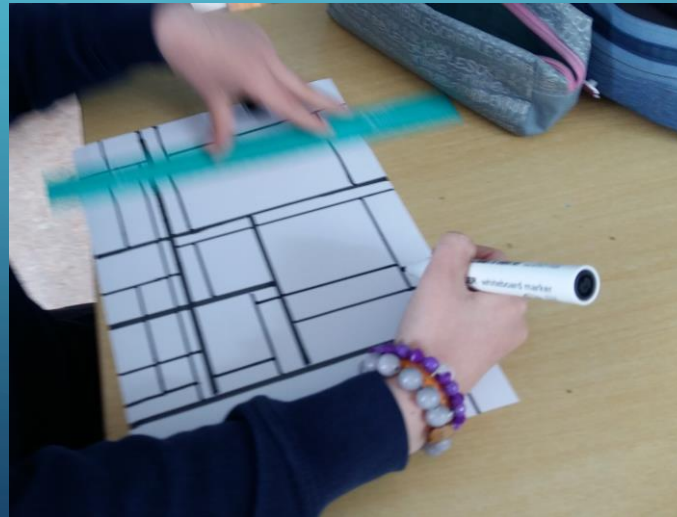
# St. Michael's Church of Ireland National School 2019/DSM/436



S.T.E.M.  
Section.4. – Maths  
2018/2019



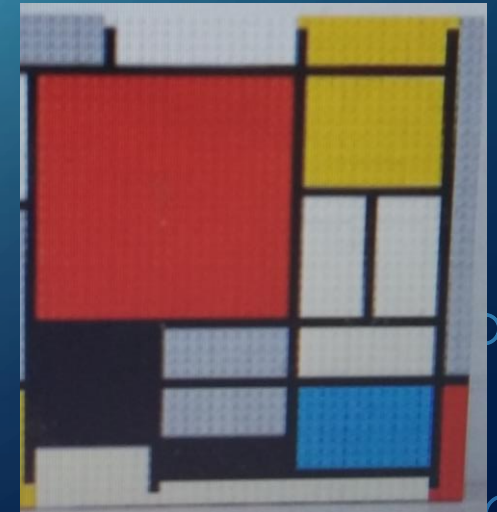
We use Maths everyday and not just in our Maths lessons! We use it when we play games, P.E., baking and in art.



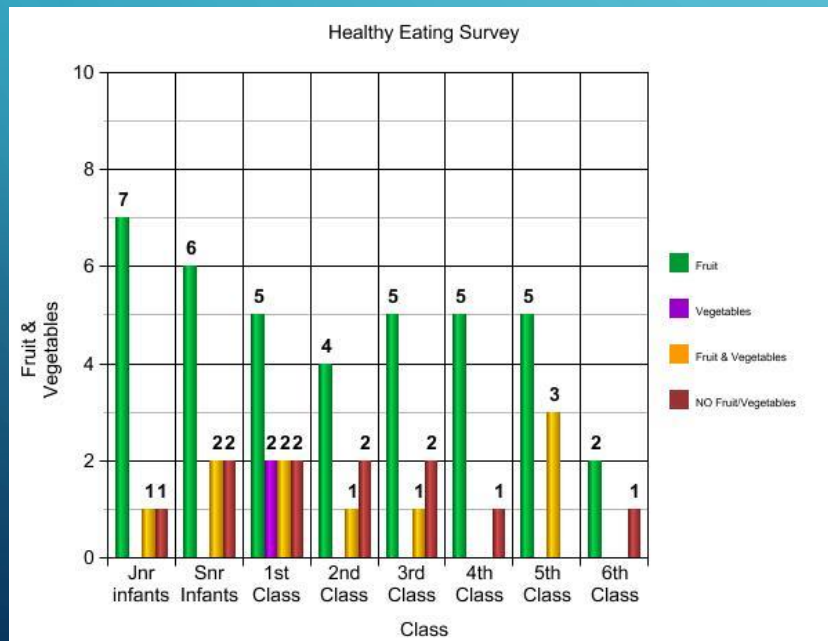
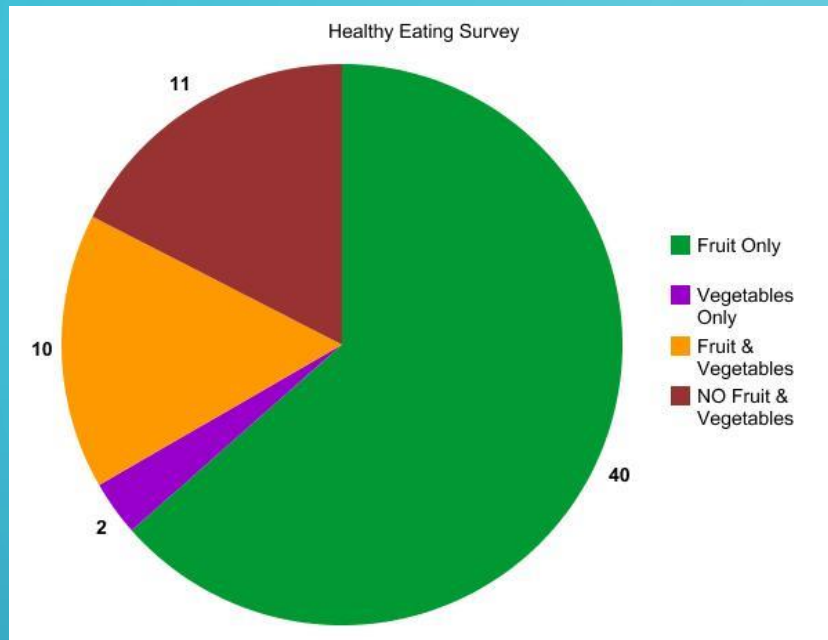
We had a UCC Philosophy lecturer who came and visited us. Did you know that we use Maths to work out logic!



Tessellation, area and perimeter, shapes, lines and angles based on Mondrian.







As part of our Healthy Food Eating Policy Fourth Class did a survey of all the classroom lunch boxes and then presented their findings in graphs.



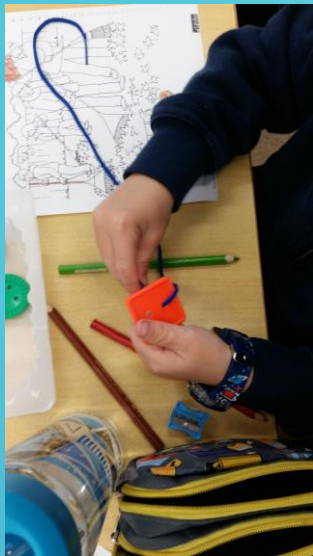
*Fiona & Daireann* HEALTHY EATING SURVEY

	Fruit	Vegetables	Fruit & Vegetables	NO Fruit & Vegetables
Junior Infants	⑦		①	①
Senior Infants	⑥		②	②
First Class	⑤	②	②	②
Second Class	④		①	②
Third Class	⑤		①	②
Fourth Class	⑤			①
Fifth Class	⑤		③	
Sixth Class	②			①
Total Fruit	63			63%
Total Vegetables		2		3%
Total Fruit and Vegetables	10			16%
Total NO Fruit and Vegetables			11	18%
	63			100%





We had great fun learning all about the different shapes.



We did adding and grouping of numbers during P.E.



Learning all about maths terms.



We had lots of fun doing an autumn maths trail





# Visit to Blackrock Castle Maths Week : 13 – 21 Oct 2018

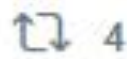


**Blackrock Castle** @blackrockcastle · Oct 18

More #MathsWeek fun at Blackrock Castle Observatory earlier this week! Here, students from St. Michael's Church of Ireland National School are participating in a workshop from the Maths Museum of Catalonia. #IUseMaths

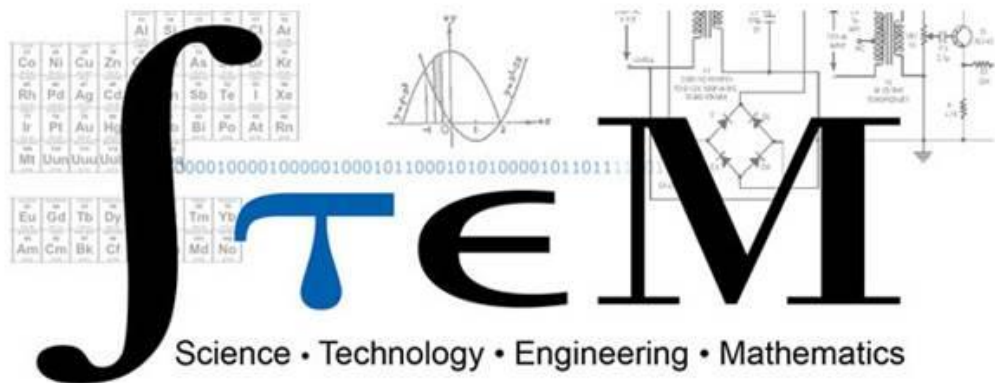


Maths Week Ireland, SFI, CIT and Dr. Niamh Shaw





# St. Michael's Church of Ireland National School 2019/DSM/436



S.T.E.M.  
Section.5. – Showcase  
2018/2019



During the year the Middle and Senior Room present their Science to the other classes. We also have a School Science Fair which the Senior and Middle Rooms plan and present themselves. Their creativity and enthusiasm as well as their 'Sound Science' makes for a very exciting learning experience.





