

# The Glasnevin GET Together

ISSUE 5, SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2021



6th class went to Courtlough Adventure Centre on their school tour

## 6th class finish their last year on a high

BY OISIN, NAOMI'S 3RD CLASS

On Tuesday, 6th class had their graduation ceremony from primary school. It was a very big day for them and as their teacher Colm said: "It went really well and was such a great way to mark an amazing 8 years of primary school."

The day before, on Monday, they unleashed their Lucky Bag business venture on the students of GETNS. Lucky Bags were bags that you could get with six items for a fiver. In every tenth bag there was a token and if you had it you could win a prize.

They sold plenty of Lucky Bags to students around the school and made well over €600 in profit. They used this to fund extra fencing at the school to help

stop footballs escaping over the fence.

Colm said the class business project was a great success. "The class learned so much along the way. They set up their very own business, starting with an original idea on paper and then making this a reality."

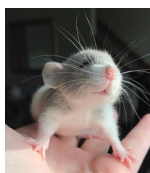
He said they all finished the year, and their time at GETNS, on a great high.

"It's been an absolute pleasure teaching such a great bunch of kids in 6th class and getting to finish off their GETNS journey with them. We've had some great fun and made some brilliant memories along the way."

*What will it be like for them in secondary school?  
Find out on page 4*

## Mouse Limerick

By Henry,  
Naomi's 3rd class



In the wall  
So tight and small  
A little mouse is sleeping.  
If you listen very hard  
You just might hear him squeaking  
The little mouse is in his house  
With a shiny door. He has no bed  
He rests his head simply on the floor.

## STAR JOKE

by Sam,  
Rebecca's 2nd  
class

**Where do fruits  
go on holiday?  
To Pear-is!**

Henry wrote this poem for the Phibsboro Library poetry competition and won a football from Bohemian's Football Club. His poem was displayed on the railings outside the library. Well done, Henry!



## RTE films students celebrating Gay Pride

BY OISIN, NAOMI'S 3RD CLASS

On Wednesday, June 23rd the school held a parade in celebration of Pride month. Pride is a march held every year around the world in celebration of gay, transgender, lesbian and bisexual people (LGBT).

The children's news channel RTE News2day filmed the school's coordinated dance and song *Born this Way* by Lady Gaga. Each class wore a different colour so they could form a huge rainbow, the symbol of Pride.

The link for the show was put up on the RTE player after it aired.

"We chose this song because it tells us that we are born the way we are and we should not try and change that for anyone else," said 2nd class teacher Padraig, who taught us the dance.

"By celebrating Pride, we hope that our school community realizes that being themselves is OK no matter what and that we should be very proud of our differences.

"We hope that it will allow our students to feel that they are accepted if they think they are different and it will also teach everyone else to accept people for who they are even if they are different to ourselves!"

On the day David from 6th class made a moving speech for the school about how it is important to remember and respect how members of the LGBT community used to be arrested for being themselves, and still are in some countries!

We in the Glasnevin GET Together are proud about how the day turned out. And we hope that you are too.



## In this case too many socks sweeten Art Day

BY OISIN, NAOMI'S 3RD CLASS

Everybody in the school knew that art day this year would be different, but no one could imagine what the special day would turn out to be.

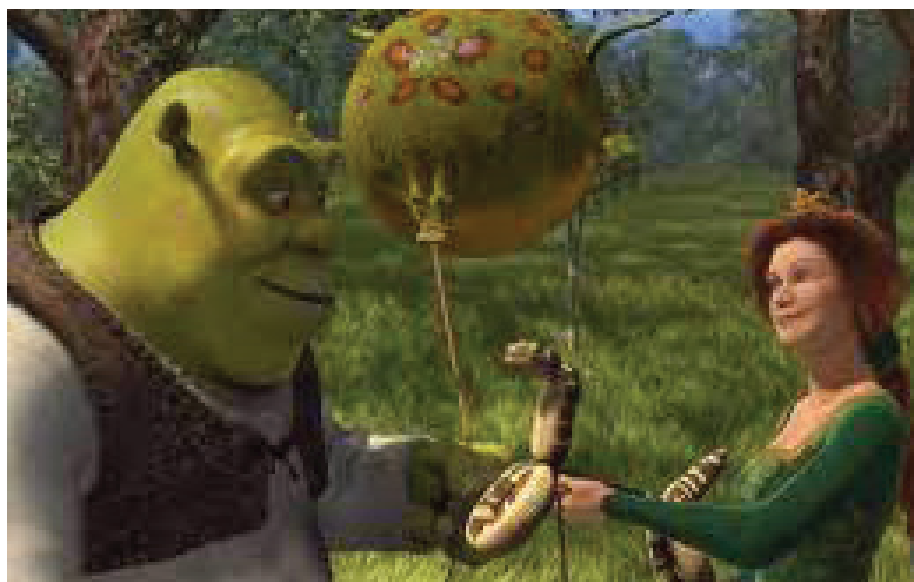
Plenty of classes had interesting activities. The most popular things were: T-shirt designing, which was done by 6 classes, clay modeling, done by 5 classes, Goop, done by 4 classes, and sock puppets, done by 6 classes.

Did you know that over 2,000 socks, yes 2,000 socks, were donated by parents around the school for the sock puppets? Rosie Bean, PTA secretary, counted them!

So as you can see, there were plenty of interesting activities thought up by the Art Day subcommittee. And perhaps the most exciting was by 5th class: one that our reporter Amélie captures perfectly, making a film....



Thousands of socks were donated to make sock puppets on Art Day



## Behind the scenes of 5th class film

BY AMÉLIE, 5TH CLASS

Art day is very different this year than usual. For example, this year fifth class are recreating a movie. We had a vote and most people chose *Shrek I*.

So how it works is the teacher splits the movie into seven parts because there are seven tables – or pods, as we like to call it in our class – so each pod has all week to design props and backdrops for their particular scene.

There are so many ways you could film it too: acting, Claymation, puppets and so on.

Art Day is at the end of that week, and then all our hard work is put to good

use. Each pod films their own scene using the props and backdrops they've made during the week.

At the end, the teacher then puts them all together and we watch the movie together as a class.

The filming took longer than we thought, so some of it happened this week too.

Personally, I really enjoyed the week and it was so cool to see the whole class working together and all the ideas we brought to the table.

I can't wait to see the final product, which will hopefully be ready to watch on Friday just before the holidays.

## 3rd class student wins €50 voucher for robot art

BY OISIN, NAOMI'S 3RD CLASS

Aaron in Naomi's 3rd class won a €50 voucher for his entry to the Robot Art Challenge. Winners were announced at the end of May.

The competition was run by GMIT, a technical college in Galway and Mayo. In it, people combine art and coding together. You tell a virtual robot how to draw the picture you want.

When asked why he thought he'd won he said: "They probably just liked my picture. I was only in 3rd class and I've never coded before."

It's not only a win for Aaron, but a huge occasion for the school as the competition was all-Ireland!

The contest had been an optional

homework task. When his name was announced the class went into a wild frenzy of shouting and clapping.

Later on that day things went mad with some reports of children working as his bodyguards! Though sadly things calmed down the next day.

Why coding? "You can do whatever you want in it," said Aaron. "You can make anything you have in mind. And it's just like free space, so you can draw whatever you want and delete it. You can do it again and again. And it's also a competition, so it's really fun."

Dr Sean Duignan, head of the GMIT Department of Computer Science said: "It is an excellent opportunity for young people to explore their creative side and to learn coding skills. Draw



Aaron won in the Robot Art Challenge

whatever you like: your favourite character, create a fancy pattern, design a house. There is no limit to what you can create."

Aaron said he was really excited and happy about his win.

In my opinion...

## Puppy farms aren't cute and cuddly

BY ELIZA, 4TH CLASS

Sometimes when you get a new dog or puppy you don't stop and think where it came from.

If you don't get your dog from a rescue centre like DSPCA or DOGS TRUST or from someone you know well, there's a possibility of it being from a puppy farm.

Puppy farms are illegal in Ireland but people still sometimes get dogs there. In my opinion the law for no puppy farms is not enforced enough, which means the government isn't doing as much as they can to stop illegal puppy farms.

In a puppy farm they will breed expensive dogs and force female dogs to keep having more and more puppies until they die! When the puppies are born, they treat them really badly.

Even though you may think buying a dog from a puppy farm is rescuing it

from the terrible conditions it's living in, you're actually supporting an illegal business by giving it money to continue its terrible trade.

The only reason people have puppy farms is to make money.

You might buy a dog from a breeder because it is easier than rescuing one but before your parents say that you're going to get a dog from a breeder or something like that, tell them about all of the amazing rescue centres for dogs and other animals and how you can adopt your pet from there.

Sometimes people who buy dogs from puppy farms don't keep them. The puppy farmers probably don't care about the dogs so they just sell them to any random person but rescue centres will only give them, to people who can look after them. Because we all need to be looked after, right?

So after reading this I hope that when you look at a dog you will stop and think: where did this dog come from,

what was its life like before it got this new home and what can I do to make sure the cruelty of puppy farms will never happen to another dog again?

*Do you agree or disagree? Or do you have a strong opinion about something else you'd like to share? Contact us! [editorgettogether@gmail.com](mailto:editorgettogether@gmail.com)*



Unlike in Snoopy, real puppy farms aren't sweet and cuddly, but cruel to dogs

## Halfway to London on a wild mission

BY ALEX, 5TH CLASS

While in lockdown, I gained a few pounds and started feeling not very good about myself. I started to think about how I could start feeling better and do something about not exercising as much as I had been.

That's when I came up with the idea of doing a run for charity with my friends Harry and Peter. We came up with the idea of running from our school to Big Ben in London – which is a whopping 535km.

I chose to run for a charity in South Africa which supports endangered wildlife. The charity is called EWT (Endangered Wildlife Trust). It does great work to help the people, the environ-



Peter, Alex and Harry, who are running the distance from GETNS to Big Ben

ment and the animals. I chose this charity as South Africa is a big part of my life as my grandparents live there and have been involved with this charity.

Please take a look at the EWT website and you can see some of the amazing things they do to help animals. It's at [www.ewt.org.za](http://www.ewt.org.za). The charity has featured us in their June newsletter – we are famous!

Harry, Peter and I have already run 274km, which is over halfway to Big Ben, and have raised over €1,000 in

kind donations so far.

We run together after school some days and then on our own on others. We add all our distances run together.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported us so far as it's helped us on our way.

If you would like to follow our progress, we have a website link which is tracking our journey.

<https://www.givengain.com/ap/jessica-hardy-raising-funds-for-endangered-wildlife-trust/>

# High school survival guide

Have you ever wondered what it's going to be like when you go to secondary school? Cara, from last year's 6th class shares her insights...

## What was the first year in your new school like?

When I went into first year in Mount Temple last September, things were a bit strange to begin as the school adjusted to Covid.

For social distancing, the first month and a half my form class and three others were in the sports hall. It wasn't ideal, but luckily the classes were moved into their own classrooms soon enough and school felt more normal.

Sadly, we missed out on a few big events in first year. But overall it wasn't that bad. Of course, people in other schools will have had a different experience.

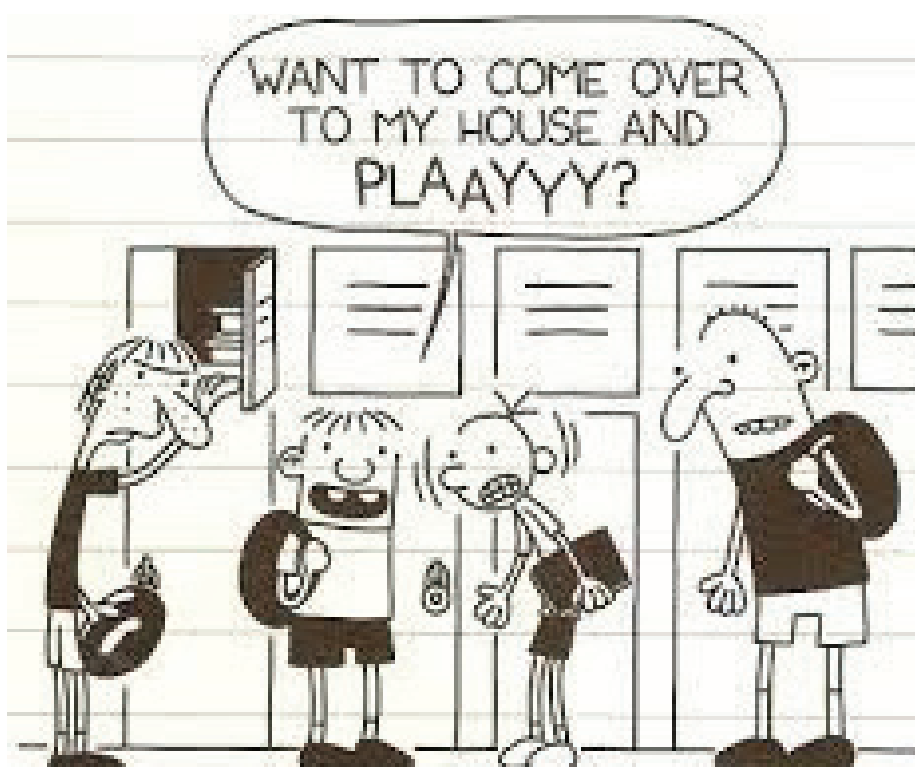
## What are the differences?

A big difference for me would be break: we have one 40-minute break and a smaller 15-minute break, when we can go outside to the field, eat lunch and meet friends from any class.

There was also a cafeteria we could get lunch from, but that's closed due to restrictions. And there are vending machines where you can buy snacks.

Another big difference would be the classes and having a timetable. Unlike in primary school, we move classrooms for different subjects and have different people in each class.

We often need to bring in books for the classes we have on that day (some schools use iPads so I don't think they need to do this), and have set times for each class.



Is secondary school like Wimpy Kid or (below) Ferris Bueller's Day Off?

## Is it tough, the way they show it in Wimpy Kid and other books and films?

Well in my year, most people are very nice. There are a few who aren't as nice. But from my experience, if you avoid them, they won't bother you.

The work isn't that much harder than in primary school, but there is quite a bit more of it. There are more tests, mostly to assess how you're doing.

First year exams aren't that important, they're more to show how well you're understanding the subject, so you don't need to stress about them too much. Some tests can be harder than others and you often need to study for them, but if you understand what you're doing in the subject you'll be fine.

## What's better and what's worse than in primary?

I think having an extra month of summer holidays and having a timetable is great. I also like having a longer lunch break and having different people in different classes.

Having more tests and having to study for them is not so good and the school day is longer (until 3.30pm most days), which is not great either.

## Do you have to do homework over the holidays?

We'd sometimes get a small project or piece of homework due by the end of a bank holiday or over the weekend etc, but you aren't given work for Christmas and summer holidays. And usually you have a chance during the week to get the work done before the holiday.

## What's your best advice?

My advice for going into first year is to try to stay in contact with your friends.

Your class in primary school will be split up into different secondary schools, which means you don't see people that often anymore. So it can be difficult to stay in touch with old friends unless you make an extra effort.

Also remember there's no pressure to make a huge bunch of new friends at the start of the year, especially with Covid restrictions.



# The Formidable 5

In our new fantasy series from Noah in 4th class, World War III has a strange effect on some delicious doughnuts. There may be a couple of real life characters you might recognise here . . .

It was nearly Noah's 11th birthday. Normally he would be excited, but World War III had broken out. Most people did the sensible thing and hid in a bunker just in case a missile fired.

After that people were convinced that they could predict the future because that's exactly what happened. This missile was filled with radiation that spread all over Ireland.

About 20 weeks later we thought it was safe to go back outside. How best to celebrate? Get four best friends and a dog together!

We went to our favourite place, Offbeat Doughnuts! We ordered our four favourites. Noah nipped the lemon meringue, licking the soft meringue off the top, obviously, then biting into the lemon curd in the centre.

Tariku took the Boston Crème using a syringe to suck the custard out of the middle, then obliterating the doughnut with his teeth.

Charlie chomped on the Nutella Special sticking his tongue through the hole in the middle of the doughnut, wrapping his teeth around the edge and swallowing it whole.

Robert robbed the Cookies 'n' Cream using his finger to draw a face in the cream and eating it as slow as possible. Bella was barking for one yet she couldn't get any so she licked the crumbs off the floor. Later on that night, none of our stomachs felt good



All down to a dodgy doughnut?

at all. We didn't get a wink of sleep.

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The next morning, Noah went down stairs to say good morning to his adorable dog Bella, when she suddenly replied to him in English!!! He freaked out and fell on top of the sofa shouting "WHY CAN MY DOG SPEAK ALL OF A SUDDEN?!!"

Bella said: "I could always talk like this but only now you can understand me".

Tariku woke up and looked in the mirror to find that his hair had been cut while he was asleep. Panicked he ran down stairs to tell his mam, but then he realized that he had reached the bottom in one millisecond.

"What is happening to me?" he thought. "Are you okay" his mam said? "I'm fine!" he lied.

Robert fell out of bed but this time it hurt way more than usual.

Then all he could see was a grass

jungle surrounding him. Was he in Jumanji? Or a dream?

He saw shelves as big as the empire state building and he realized he was in his bedroom but either everything was massive, or he was tiny. The grass jungle was just his carpet. He was convinced it was a dream but it wasn't a dream at all. He grew to normal size and he was outright confused.

Charlie thought that he wanted to read this morning. He wanted to read Alex Rider Stormbreaker. Then a book floated slowly toward him. Not only that, but it was the book he wanted. It couldn't be a prank by his sister because how could she know what book he wanted? He asked his mam to arrange something at the park with the others.

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Noah, Tariku and Charlie met up in the local park to try figure out what the heck was going on! Noah told them he could understand animals, Charlie explained that he could make things move with his mind. Tariku said he could run so fast that he had already burnt out his shoes. Robert wasn't there yet but they did hear a large thudding sound as they saw a giant Robert in the distance.

"Do you think scientists came to our house and gave us powers?"

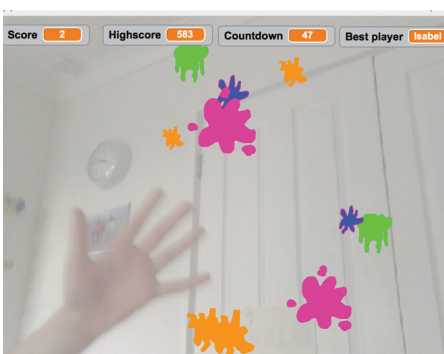
Charlie guessed.

They heard Robert roar: "I'm the Colossal Titan!!! And I was teeny tiny this morning!!" Noah was thinking and realised that the only thing they did together yesterday was eat Offbeat Doughnuts! Then they all realised that the doughnuts must have had some radiation in them leftover from the War!

So do we all get to keep our super-powers? Does Bella has superpowers as well?? Find out in September in the next issue of The Formidable 5!

On the button...

## Coding from Scratch



BY ISABEL, REBECCA'S 2ND CLASS

Scratch is a website you can use to make coding projects using coding blocks.

I love that it is easy, fun and enjoyable. My favourite thing to make in Scratch is games.

I love making games because you can really use your imagination and they are so much fun to play

once you have made them. You can also make cartoons, works of art and music.

If you sign in, you can share your projects to the website. Coding is a very good way to use your imagination and it's really fun.

One of my favourite projects that I made is Window Cleaner, a game where you clean virtual splats off the computer screen by waving your hands at the screen. You have to clean as many splats as you can in one minute!

# BLAKO THE CAT

by Eliza, 4th class



## ANIMAL FACTS FROM THE EXPERTS

By Ellen, Padraig's 2nd class

One of my favourite things to do since some of the restrictions were lifted is go to Dublin zoo. I have been twice: with family and then with my friend. I love the animals so I found these animal facts good fun:

The only animal with 4 knees is the elephant  
 A snail can sleep for 3 years  
 A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes  
 A butterfly can taste with its feet  
 Starfish haven't got brains  
 Goldfish have a memory span of 3 seconds  
 A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue, but I can!



There's one thing we can lick a shark at...

## CULTURE CORNER

By Gridt and Luke,  
 3rd class & senior infants

AS A FAREWELL, HERE'S HOW  
 TO WRITE 'WELCOME SUMMER'  
 IN THAI (AND BELOW IT IS HOW  
 TO SAY IT OUT LOUD)...

**HAPPY SUMMER  
 HOLIDAYS  
 EVERYONE!!!**

