



Watergrasshill N.S. Newsletter

September-October 2022

New School Student Council 2022-2023

As part of establishing our Amber Flag initiative this year we have also decided to establish a Student Council to give the children in our school a voice! The children that were selected put themselves forward very bravely, wrote excellent election manifestos, designed fabulous posters & campaigned creatively over the last 2 weeks. They were voted in by their fellow pupils on Wednesday 21st September and results of the ballot were announced on Friday 23rd of September. Each council member represents both their own class and a younger class. From speaking to the new members of our Student Council we have no doubt that they are going to do an amazing job and we wish them all the best in their new role!

Our student council members for 2022/2023 are:

Brooke O'Brien
Crowley
John O'Regan
Naiose Bowe
Charlotte Costello
Andrew Welch
Katie Cronin
Donncha O'Riordan
Caoimhe McCourt
Donagh McHugh

Joey Cotter
Rory O'Connor

- The Role of the Student Council in Watergrasshill N.S. provide an opportunity for pupils to voice their opinions and offer suggestions in relation to many aspects of school life

- offer an opportunity for all pupils to voice their opinions on proposed changes and thereby play a very significant role in improving our school

- act as a channel of communication within the school organisation, between pupils and between home and school

encourage pupils to organise events in our school and to represent the school in a positive way during these events.

Student Council Meetings:

Members will meet at least once a month at lunchtime. Council Meetings are facilitated by Ms Cussen. Prior to these meetings, the Student Council representatives will collect ideas and suggestions from all classes, for the agenda. Also, Ms. Cussen may put forward topics to be dis-

cussed or upcoming events which need to be deliberated about at the meetings. As well as bringing matters to the Council for discussion, the members will be required to report the out-



come of meetings to the other classes.

Topics:

- school rules
- Wellbeing
- behaviour and discipline
- health and safety
- friendship
- lunchtime games and activities
- Fundraising

School Matters:

The school gate opens at 9:10am. Children who are at the school gate before this time are not the responsibility of the school. Likewise, at 3:00pm children here beyond this time are not the responsibility of the school.

Nut Allergy:

A severe nut allergy can be life threatening. Since we have several children in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy, it is essential that children who have an allergy do not come into contact with nuts or nut products. With this in mind we ask that all parents and carers follow our

'No Nuts In School Rule'.



Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan

We were delighted to welcome Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan to Watergrasshill N.S. on Tuesday the 27th of September. Cllr. O'Callaghan addressed the students of 5th & 6th class and our newly elected student council members. We learnt about her job, the workings of the county council and ways you can help the people you represent. She spoilt us with goodie bags from Cork County Council.



1st class entry for Newsletter

Space Week Shared Writing
Space Log Number 2

I woke up in my sleeping bag in the wall. Next, I brushed my teeth. I swallowed the toothpaste. Then, I eat breakfast. After, I check my to-do list from NASA. Today, I went on a space walk. It took four hours to put on my space suit. It was a tiring day.

Lucas Dorgan: Maths Week

Today is Wednesday. It is Maths

Week. We are solving puzzles. We are counting things.

Ms. Linehan's class won the Golden Boot for having the most children walk to school on 'Walk on Wednesday'



Amber Flag Initiative

In order to promote positive mental health and wellbeing in Watergrasshill N.S. we have decided to take part in the Amber Flag Initiative. Successful completion of the Amber Flag initiative involves the whole school community coming together in order to create a safe, positive and healthy attitude towards our general physical and mental health and well-being.

What is the Amber Flag?

The Amber Flag initiative is an initiative run by Pieta House which recognises the individual efforts of primary and secondary schools, youth reach, third level institutions, community groups, clubs and companies to create healthy, inclusive environments that support mental wellbeing.

Minsters Jan O'Sullivan and Kathleen Lynch launched Well-Being in Primary Schools- Guidelines for Mental Health Promotion in 2018. This joint collaboration between the Department of Education and Skills and the Health Service Executive, aims to promote positive mental health and wellbeing in primary schools. It is recognised in these guidelines that positive mental health and wellbeing enables young people to lead fulfilling lives and is vitally important to their holistic development.

We, at Watergrasshill N.S. wish to rally the wider school community together to endorse positive mental health and wellbeing. If any parents are willing to share their skills and talents with us in terms of music, meditation, mindfulness, fitness, healthy eating, art, etc. please get in touch with Ms. Cussen. We acknowledge and appreciate the knowledge and skills you all have

which may help us create a positive mental health and well-being environment here at Watergrasshill N.S. **Our aims and objectives are...**

- To create an Amber Flag notice board in the school, promoting positive mental health strategies.
- To hold a fundraising event for Pieta House and a Wellbeing Week to promote positive mental health in our school
- To hold a 'Design a Poster' competition within the school to raise awareness of positive mental health strategies.

To obtain a "Buddy Bench" for the school yard.

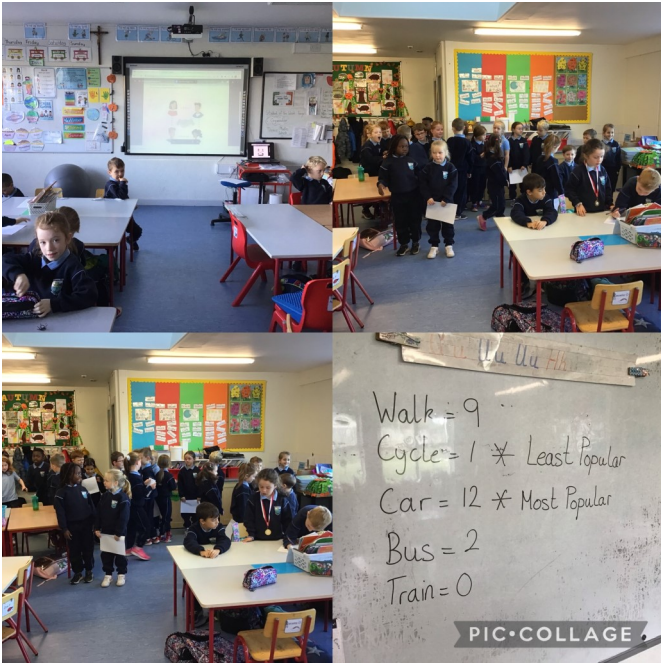
As part of our Amber Flag initiative this year we decided to establish a Student Council to give the children in our school a voice! Our Student Council will work together to help promote positive mental health in our school. There is a representative for each class. They have been working tirelessly to outline lots of innovative ways to promote positive mental health and wellbeing amongst our students.

Events

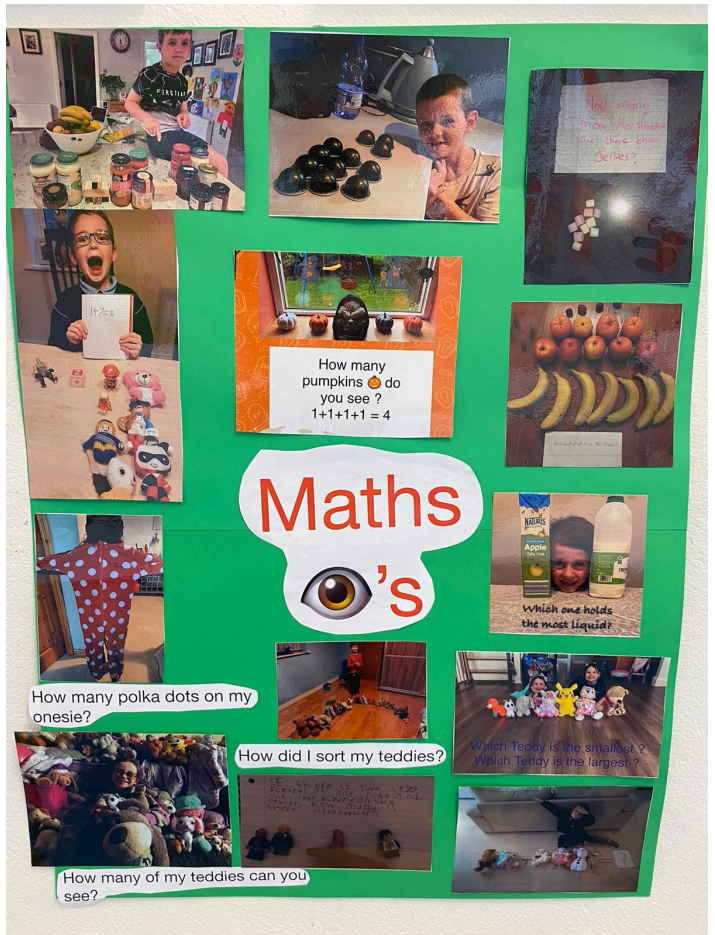
Further updates on all of the exciting events and initiatives we have



More from Maths Week: Ms. Warner's First Class

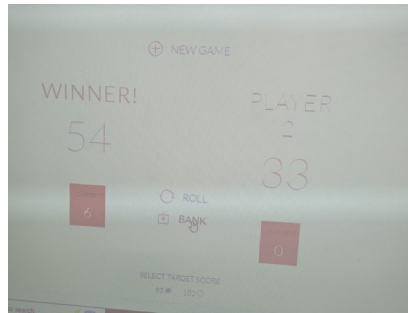


Ms. Murphy's First Class



More Maths Week in Mrs. Newman's 5th Class

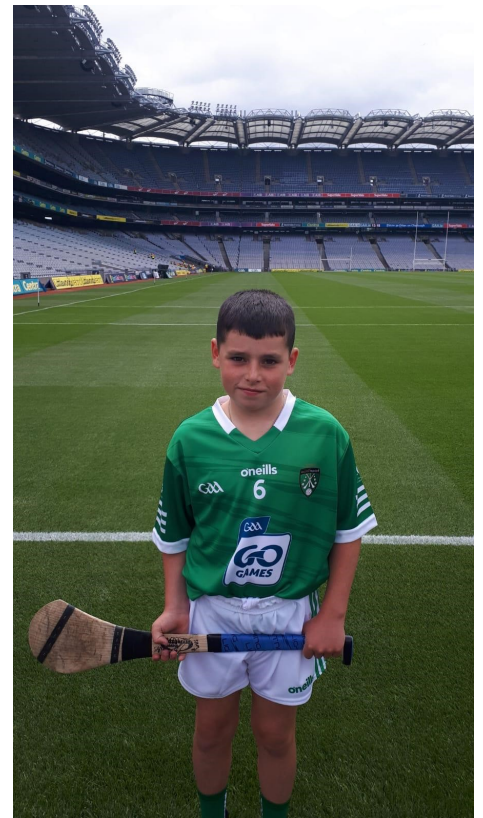
Activities included Paper folding to learn about fractions and there was huge excitement playing the game Pig and we also enjoyed the Daily Math's Puzzle



Dreams Can Come True

On the 3rd July I represented my school, club, family and county in Croke Park on All-Ireland Semi Final Day. It was a dream come true. Limerick were playing Galway in a game that I was looking forward to seeing. On the morning of the big day I woke up nice and early, put on all my Cork gear and my Watergrasshill jersey of course and ran downstairs. During the journey up with my family I was trying not to think about it too much but I was nervous when I saw Croke Park for the first time. I met the other young boys and girls playing on the day. I was playing with Limerick. I was happy because my great neighbour Kay is from Limerick. I met a boy named Jack also from Cork who was

playing on my team. We walked into the stadium together talking about hurling and all the other sports we play. We were eventually brought into the dressing room, where we got all of our gear on and went onto the pitch to get photos. We watched the first half of the game and then it was show-time! I got really nervous then. We went onto the pitch and it was so loud I didn't even realise where I was. It was a great experience. I was so happy that my family were there with me. We went back to our seats, watched the rest of the game and went back to the 'Hill. One of the best days of my life so far. I would love to play their with Cork again some day.



Active School

Active School Flag

The newly formed Active School Flag Committee started a slogan campaign in assembly last week. The new slogan will be our motto as we work towards an Active School Flag. After mid-term the Active School Committee will be launching four weeks of Active Breaks. The aim of the programme is to get children more active, more often.

The committee have organised a special guest to visit us in assembly in November. There will be lots of events running throughout the year for that the whole school will benefit from. We can't wait for everyone to get more active!



Sciath na Scol Football

Sciath na Scol football resumed for the boys and girls in the school in September. Great numbers training brought great excitement.

The girls and boys both played Brooklodge in a challenge before the real action began. The girls played a number of games and while unfortunately some results didn't go their way they gave

it their all in every game. Laura O' Riordan and Abigail Culloty were joint captains for the girls.

The boys qualified for the semi final where they travelled to Macroom but were unfortunately beaten on the day. Sam O' Leary was captain for the boys with Tom Fennell vice captain.

Well done to everyone for making such a great effort and thanks to the teachers also for their input and support.

We look forward to the hurling and camogie after Xmas now.



Green Schools

This year we are continuing our work on the theme of Global Citizenship Travel and we hope to earn our 9th Green Flag later this year.

The Green Schools Committee have arranged for a new bike shelter to be installed inside the school gates. It should be ready before

Christmas and we hope that this will encourage more people to cycle

to school.

We are also making every Wednesday a WOW day this year (Walk on Wednesday). We want people to make a special effort to walk to school or park and stride to school every Wednesday. The class that

makes the greatest effort each week will win the Golden Boot Award.

'If You Want to be Cool, Bíg ag Siúl!'

By Ava O'Sullivan (6th Class) and Aisling Broderick (5th Class)

