

Step 1 Science



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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Tree Planting



Pupils from 5th & 6th class
planting a tree to mark the
beginning of the new school
year 2022-2023.



Many hands make light work!

'A man doesn't plant a tree for himself, he plants it for posterity' Alexander Smith

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-All Around Us



Developing an awareness of the fruits of Autumn-foraging in local hedgerows.



The Infants feeding the birds at the outset of Winter.



The Senior Room planting Crocus bulbs for 'The Crocus Project' to commemorate the children who lost their lives in the Holocaust. Meaningful integration between Science (Living Things) and History.

Lots of work on the Living Things strand of the Science Curriculum

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Tree Hunt



National Tree Day in October-Leaf and Tree Identification Hunt around the Village.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Germination and Growth



Testing Horse Chestnuts/Conkers prior to planting to determine which will germinate. If they sink they will germinate, if they float they will not.



Planting Horse Chestnuts/Conkers with the hope that saplings will emerge in the Spring.



Environmental Awareness: Planting the Horse Chestnuts/Conkers in biodegradable containers.

Cultivating Horse Chestnut trees for future generations of Shanahoe pupils!

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Human Life: Promotion of Healthy Eating



These members of the Student Council from the Infant Classes, promoted the benefits of healthy eating on a daily basis, during the school's participation in '*Food Dudes*' week.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Plants and their parts



3rd & 4th class investigated how water travels to all parts of the plant (using food colouring).



Identifying the different parts of a flower/plant and the specific function of each part.

3rd and 4th class learned all about plants, their parts and how they function.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things

Preparation for Potato Planting



5th & 6th class prepared the potato bed for planting by adding in some well rotted farmyard manure provided by former Principal Mr. Brickley.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things

Potato Planting



5th & 6th class 'chitted' potatoes inside in egg cartons prior to planting them outdoors.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things

Fair Testing with plants



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3rd and 4th class grew Spider plants in the classroom. They conducted a fair test investigation to determine which cuttings would root first- those in water or those in soil.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Life Cycles



Mrs. Brickley brought frogspawn to school from her neighbour's pond. All classes got to observe the growth and development of the frogspawn into tadpoles. Seen here are the Infants observing the new life in Spring in the school grounds. The tadpoles were returned to their pond on the day of the Easter holidays.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things



Spring sprung in Shanahoe when we had a special visitor to the school, namely a lamb who was brought in by one of our parents Gráinne. His arrival provided great excitement and the pupils even got an opportunity to feed him!

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Wormeries

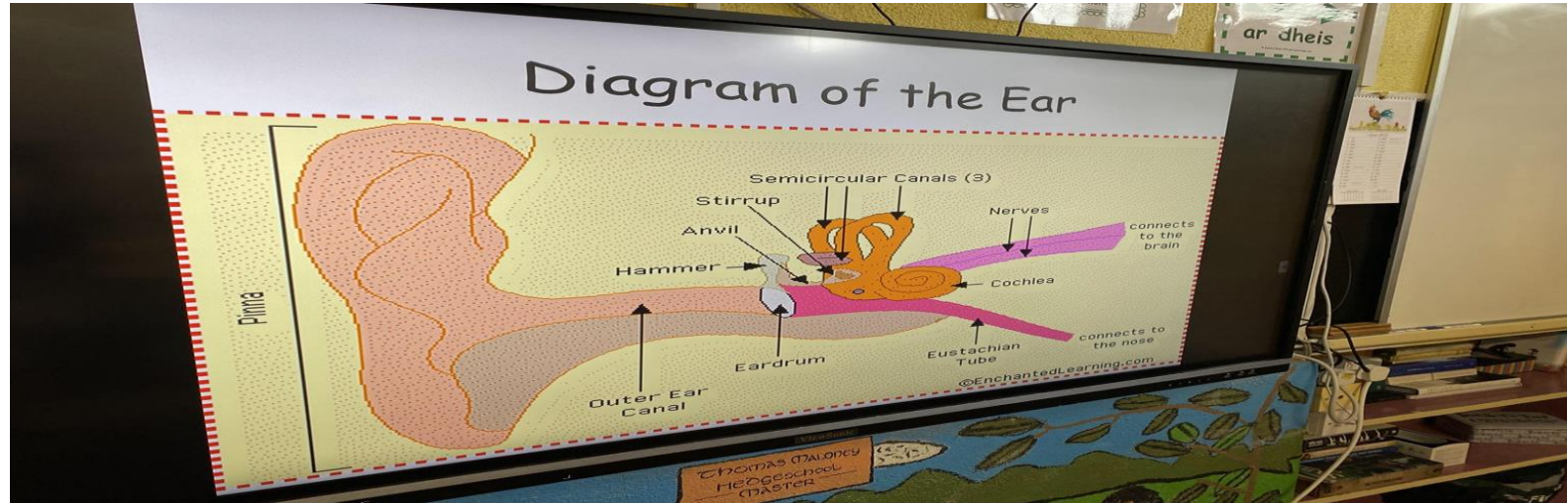


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1st and 2nd class combined living things with the design and make element of the curriculum to create their own wormeries.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Human Life (The Ear)

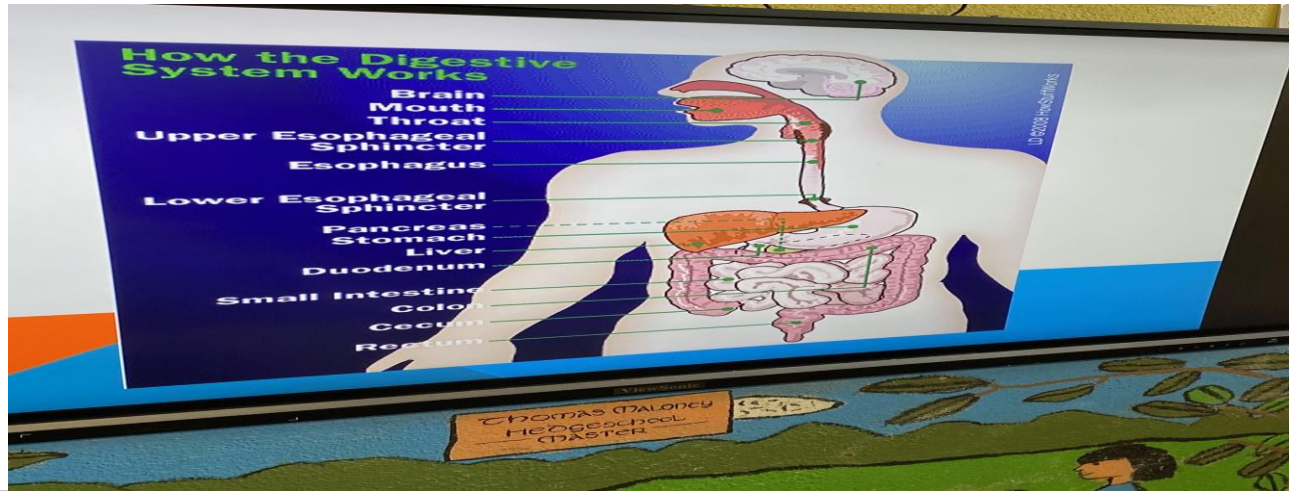


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Lines of integration were opened up between the Strand Unit: Sound and the Strand Unit: Human Life when pupils in the Senior Room learned about how we hear/how the ear works when learning about Sound.

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STEP 1 Science: Living Things-Human Life (The Digestive System)



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Pupils in the Senior Room learned about how we digest our food, in the unit of work that they completed on the Digestive System.

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces- Sound



5th & 6th class used Concept Cartoons and Pre-Study Concept Mapping as formative assessment tools prior to commencing their unit of work on Sound.

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces- 'Sounds Like Science'



3rd & 4th class investigated how vibrations create sound and how sound travels through different materials. They designed & made their own string instruments.

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces- Sound 'Good Vibrations'



5th & 6th class explored how vibrations cause sound, by undertaking the investigations/experiments 'Twangy Ruler', 'Voicebox Vibrations' and 'Rice on a Drum'

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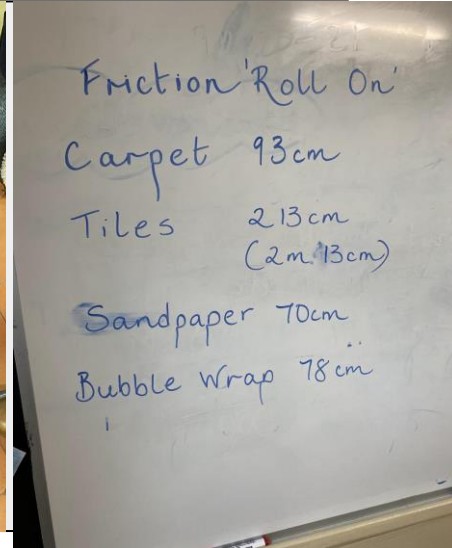
STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces- Sound



5th & 6th class explored how sound travels through different materials namely wood and water by conducting the investigations '*Tapping the Table*' and '*Water Filled Balloons*'.

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces- Forces-Friction 'Roll On'



5th & 6th class explored friction by conducting the fair test investigation 'Roll On', to determine how far a toy car would travel on different surfaces namely tiles, bubble wrap, sandpaper and carpet, having come down off of a ramp. They were very innovative in the manner in which they created a crash barrier using their shoes!

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces- Designing & Making Parachutes



5th & 6th class designed and made parachutes as part of their work on Forces during 'Science Week' in November. They explored what materials they would use, they planned their designs, they made their parachutes, flew them and then evaluated their designs/work!

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces: Friction



5th & 6th class conducted the investigations '*Rubbing Hands*' and '*Wear and Tear*' to explore friction as a force and its effects.

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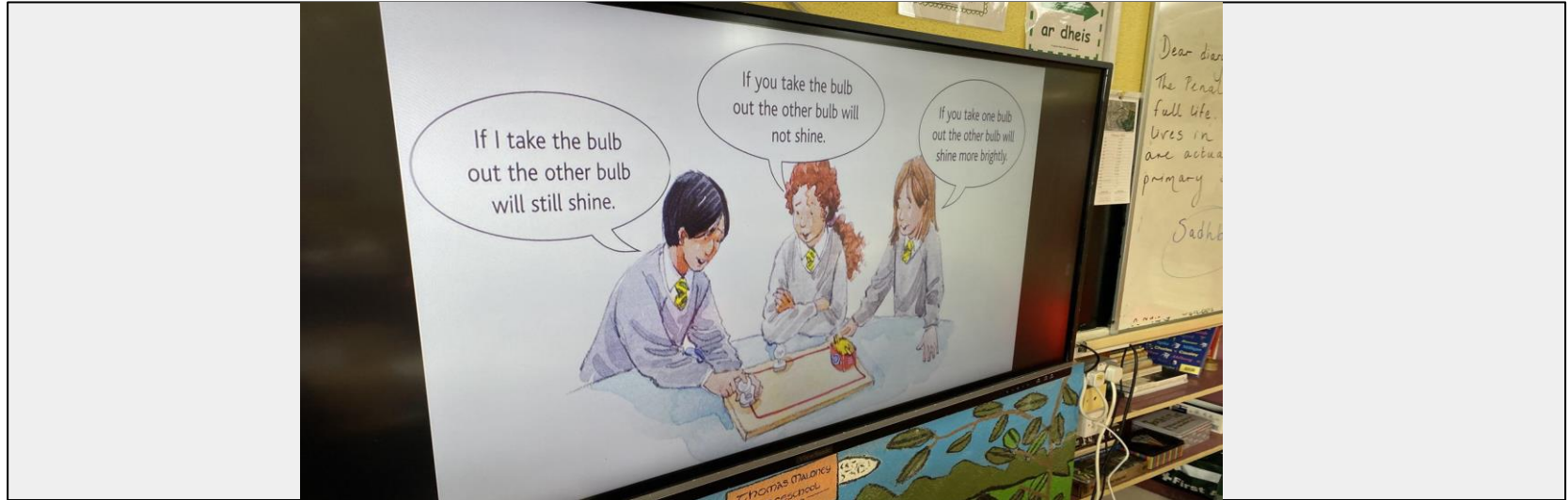
STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces: Magnetism



3rd and 4th class investigated magnetic and non-magnetic materials in their unit of work on magnetism.

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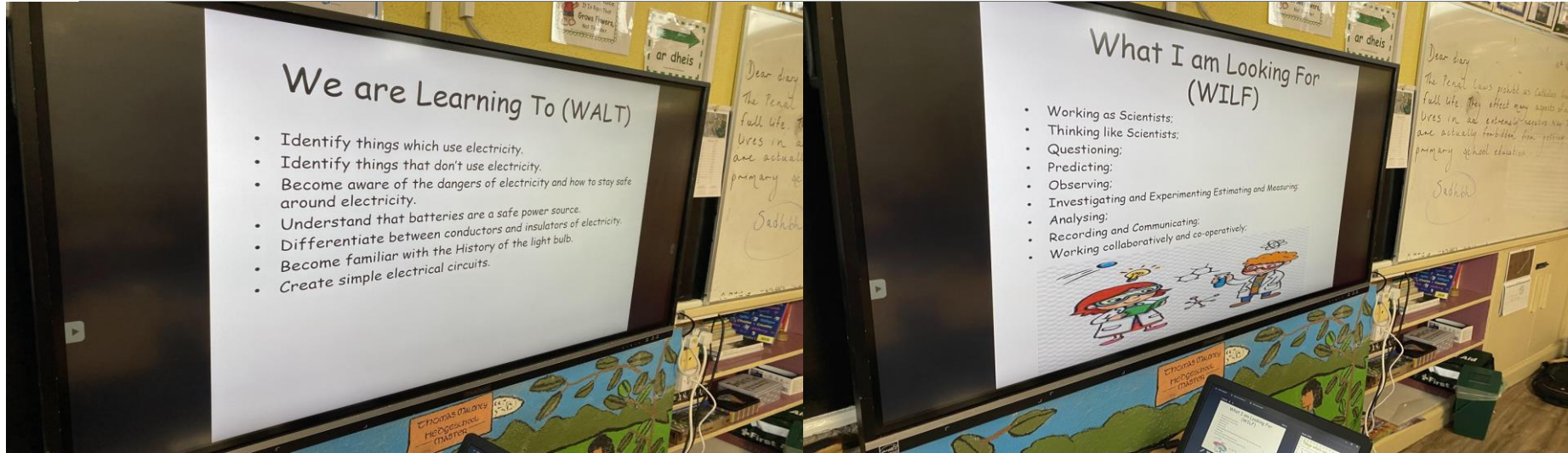
STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces: Electricity



Concept Cartoons were used as a pre-study assessment tool in 5th & 6th class prior to starting work on creating circuits in the strand unit electricity.

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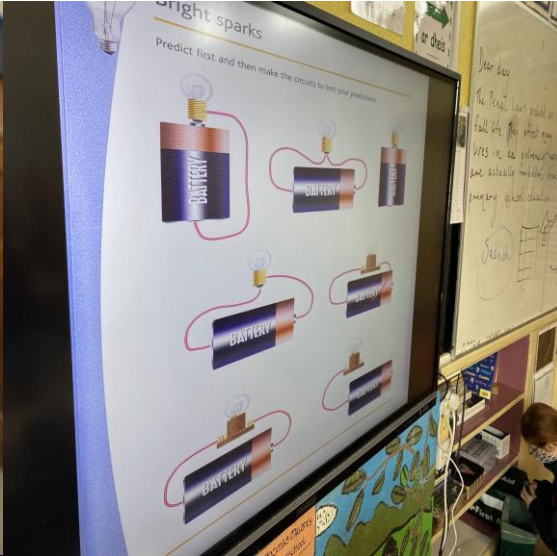
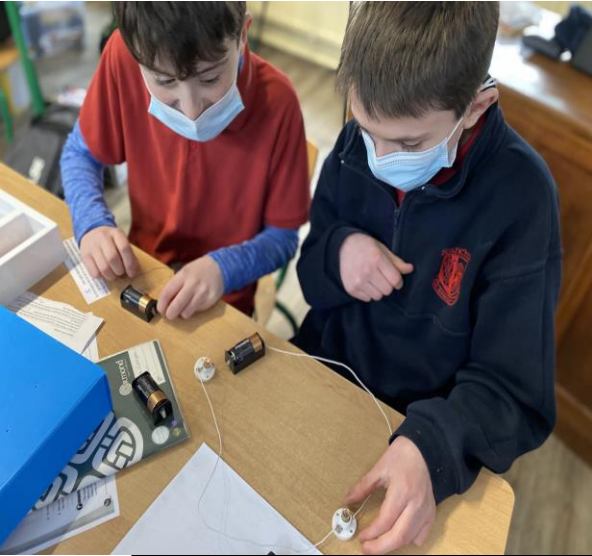
STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces: Electricity



5th & 6th class worked collaboratively to create different types of circuits in their work in the strand unit electricity.

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STEP 1 Science: Energy and Forces: Electricity



5th & 6th class worked collaboratively to create different types of circuits in their work in the strand unit electricity.

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STEP 1 Science: Materials-Marla Making



Junior & Senior Infants worked collaboratively to make old fashioned 'marla' using flour, water and food colouring!

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STEP 1 Science: Materials Butter Making



1st and 2nd class had great fun making real butter as part of the Materials strand of the Science curriculum. Their work in this strand integrated very well with History as Mrs. Brickley brought in an old-fashioned device/'artefact' to use as part of the process. The pupils shook the cream repeatedly in a jar until it began to solidify into butter. 1st and 2nd class even got to sample their own produce at the end!

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STEP 1 Science: Materials



As part of the unit of work on Properties and Characteristics of Materials, 5th & 6th class investigated air pressure using paper spinners.

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STEP 1 Science: Materials



As part of the unit of work on Properties and Characteristics of Materials and air pressure, 5th & 6th class designed, made and 'flew' their own paper airplanes. They evaluated their designs afterwards.

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STEP 1 Science: Materials-Fair Test Investigation to test paper strength



5th & 6th class conducted a fair test investigation to explore the tearing strength of different types of paper i.e sandpaper, sugar paper, photocopier paper & kitchen towel. They kept the test fair by using the same sized amount of paper each time, by using the same container to hold the marbles and the same type and length of twine.

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STEP 1 Science: Environmental Awareness and Care



The school registered for the 'Picker Pals' Environmental Awareness & Care Initiative this year in conjunction with Laois County Council . Mrs. Cahill's 3rd & 4th class assumed responsibility for this very worthwhile initiative within the school. Maith sibh go léir!

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STEP 1 Science: Environmental Awareness and Care



The Senior Room engaged in a 'clean up' of the village during 'National Clean Up Week' in conjunction with Shanahoe Tidy Towns in the Autumn.

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STEP 1 Science: Environmental Awareness and Care



An innovative way of keeping the leaves in the barrow during the Autumn clean-up!

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STEP 1 Science: Environmental Awareness and Care



The Infants did their part to assist in tidying up the school grounds in Autumn! All leaves were added to our compost heap.

Plaque of STEM Award STEP 1 Science: Science Activity 1: 'Science Week'.



1st & 2nd class held a 'Science Showcase' for the Principal on his Administrative Day during 'Science Week' in November. They conducted the experiments/investigations 'Tornado in a Bottle', 'Surface Tension', 'Floating & Sinking', 'Shaving Foam Water Cycle' & 'Creeping Colours'. They both demonstrated and explained the different processes really well. Mr. Whelan was very impressed with their super, scientific skills.

Plaque of STEM Award STEP 1 Science: Science Activity 1: 'Science Week' continued



Junior & Senior Infants conducted the investigations 'Creeping Colours', 'Gummy Bears' and the 'Walking Water' experiments for Science Week in November.

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STEP 1 Science: Science Activity 2 Environmental/Sustainability Project



Pupils and parents planting 25 apple and pear trees under the 'DC for Bees Orchards in the Community Scheme' and 25 native trees under the 'Trees on the Land' scheme, which we were fortunate enough to be part of this year. Both will help to encourage sustainability and biodiversity in our school grounds. All members of the school community including pupils, staff and parents came out to support this wonderful environmental/sustainability project.