



Explorers: Scéal

17-3-2014 # 1

St Catherine's

St Catherine's NS have been minding four sea creatures: the beadlet anemone, the common starfish, the plaice and the mystery fish (we think it's a shanny). We think it's a shanny because it has one long dorsal fin and a shanny's nickname is a sea-frog and our mystery fish hops around a lot. Unfortunately our shanny tried to eat the plaice; luckily the plaice escaped. The starfish tried to eat the plaice as well. The beadlet anemone has not moved for over three days. Unfortunately the shanny is lying on top of the plaice. We made a shelter to try and protect him during the weekend. Our starfish has eaten lots of the food that we gave them on Wednesday and Friday.

By Harry and Eva L

Francis St CBS

Our tank came on Monday but the fish did not come until Wednesday. It was very exciting!

We got four different types of fish. We got a Beadlet Anemone, a Brittle Starfish and we got two mystery fish. We discovered that they are a shanny and a rock goby.

We have a lot of jobs to do like making sure the filter is working., cleaning the tank and lots more.

On Thursday morning when we came in to school I looked at the fish tank and I saw a tentacle on the rocks. We all thought that the starfish had been eaten! We were trying to find it for ages. Then Blaine found it in a corner hiding! Also the Anemone got a lot bigger.



• Will it float?

We were also learning about John Philip Holland an Irish inventor. Did you know that he invented the first submarine? We made submarines out of plasticine and lego. We are enjoying the opportunity to be Marine Scientists!

by Ben.

Scoil Mhuire

This week in Scoil Mhuire, Ms. Powers 6th class have been getting to know their new classmates! They include a Plaice, Common Starfish, a Beadlet Anemone & a Shanny (we think). We know them better as, Paul, Starsky, Anton & Shannon!

Shannon has been very lively & was hunting Paul on Tuesday. But luckily Paul camouflaged himself in the gravel. Shannon swam back to the filter disappointed, having failed in his quest for Paul.



We have observed that Starsky stays at the back of the tank out of harm's way & Anton has settled nicely onto



his rock. On Wednesday just before Tom's visit, we noticed that Anton opened his tentacles. We think that he might have felt threatened

& that Shannon may have been responsible! Check out our photos to see.

We are loving the class aquarium & can't wait until next week to see what happens next. Plenty of research, observations & fun to come!

By Aubrey, Dean & Ryan.

St Mary's & St Gerard's



On Thursday, 6 March, Pat from Sea-Life brought the aquarium into our class. He put in a filter and an oxygenator. Then he filled the tank with sea water. He told us how to clean the tank and when to feed the sea creatures. He had them in a bag which he put in the tank. We named our sea creatures-Obi (Goby), Jimmy (Plaice), Felix (Starfish) and Gumball (Anemone). We googled our sea creatures. We feed them every three days. We record the air, salt water and freshwater temperatures every day. Yesterday we went to Sea-Life. We saw sharks, piranhas and stingrays. It was fun.

By Amy and Alex

Johnstown BNS

We at Johnstown were very excited about the new fish tank that was coming to the classroom. Pat from Sea-Life came in on the 7th of March with the fish tank. We got a plaice, a starfish, a beadlet anemone and a sand goby.

We had great fun naming the fish. We named the plaice Johnstown and the starfish Patrick. The anemone is known as Fish and we called the sand goby The Chosen One but have since changed its name to Jaws! We fed them on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On the first day the goby bit the plaice. By Tuesday the plaice had died so we took the plaice out of the tank.



On the 13th of March the starfish lost one of its legs. The next day when we came into school the starfish was gone. Sadly, the only sea creatures left in the tank were the beadlet anemone and the goby. Unfortunately, the goby ate the starfish as well. Dawn from Sea Life visited us today and we got a

blenny to replace the dead plaice. We have had an eventful week and we have learned lots of information about the fish. We can't wait to learn more about our class aquarium.

From the boys in fifth class in Johnstown

Scoil San Eoin

After much anticipation, Pat and Tomás, having been led astray by a rogue GPS, arrived with our aquarium Thursday. The pupils even did some 'overtime' in order to 'supervise' the installation of the species!!

Things did not go according to plan and on Friday, Pat had to make a return trip to change the tank as it was leaking.



Monday, the fish were swimming in murky water. After a poor attempt at syphoning, I enlisted the help of our caretaker and all is well again! We are looking forward to the lessons ahead and Sharkbait, Patrick Jr, Goby Sherlock and Rocky Pancake, have the place to themselves for a few days!

Saint Kevins and the Fish!

Let the Exploring begin!! When the fish arrived we were very excited and listened really carefully to all the instructions from Pat. We all have different jobs to do in class to look after our new visitors. First we decided on names - our Plaice is Chips, our Anemone is Spikey, Twinkle is our starfish and our mystery fish is Thunder.

We picked different people to look after the different creatures and to observe what they normally do. Some of the fish can act a bit strange and stay in the same place for lots of the day. When they get fed it's totally different and they start buzzing around!



Seán was working at being a marine biologist this week and tried to work

out what our mystery fish is. He did a lot of research and we have decided it looks like a Shanny - are we right Pat??!

We have a big poster at the back of the room with all the different jobs displayed and all our names matched up with a job. We have lots to do but we think it's going to be great! So far all our visitors seem happy and have all found a spot in the tank that is home! We have been busy making a safe home for the Plaice too just in case Thunder gets any bad ideas! Keep your eyes on Saint Kevin's and the Fish!

By Destinee Kabongo



Who is the odd one out in St Kevin's all green day classroom?



Pat outlines the care to be taken of the visiting sea creatures to the 5th class in Holy Trinity School.