



# Explorers: Scéal

24-3-2014 # 2

## Scoil Mhuire

Flowing into Ms. Powers class each day this week, we observed a lot of interesting things in our aquarium. Since the St Patricks weekend break our plaice is nowhere to be seen!!! After a thorough check from Ms. Power and a lot of siphoning from Camille & Nathan (pictured), we still couldn't find any trace of Paul the plaice.

The shanny attacked the starfish on a number of occasions, but thankfully Starsky resisted the attack from Shannon.

Camille & Nathan siphoned the murky water out of the tank & replaced it with fresh water brought



to us by Keith from Sealife (thanks Keith!). Our first attempt at siphoning was hard work but our team soon got the hang of it. Well done guys! Anton our Anemone has

been very active, especially on

Friday. We think that Anton is still feeling threatened as Shannon, who we think has grown in size, is continuously swimming around the rock. Take a look at our pictures & see



can you notice anything different

about Anton this week?  
Thanks for reading Explorers.  
By Conor, Finn & Kevin.

## Scoil San Eoin

This week in Scoil San Eoin has sadly been uneventful where our fish are concerned. The anemone has not opened at all, which is a disappointment, after he was 'open' last week. We have elected 4<sup>th</sup> class students to feed, clean and take care of the fish.

We are planning to install an underwater castle ornament for the plaice (Rocky Pancake) just in case the Goby, (Gobby Sherlock) decides to have a go at him! Gobby Sherlock has 'jumped' at Rocky Pancake but both were unscathed at the end of it! We hope to research the fish next week. By Jessica Finnigan and Grace Cleary (6<sup>th</sup> Class)

## St Mary's & St Gerard's

Our sea creatures were well after St Patrick's Day. But on Wednesday, Gumball (Sea Anemone) started to deflate. We were very worried. But yesterday, he re-inflated again and is happy today. Obi (Goby) swims up to gobble all the food when we feed them so Gumball wasn't getting any.



Jimmy (Flat Fish) is getting much bigger. Felix (Starfish) loves the bottom corner of the tank. Gumball enjoys the bubbles. Obi seems to like Irish music – it makes him swim around like mad!



This week we learned about tides & submarines. We made submarines out of bottles

that dived & surfaced for us. We did projects on pirates, famous ships, sea legends & maritime disasters. We also made Bubble Art pictures.

By Abigail & Blaithin

## St Catherine's

We are sorry to say that this week has been quite a tragic week so far. On Thursday when we were cleaning the tank we saw the shanny chasing the plaice, trying to bite it. Unfortunately he did get a chunk of his tail. We had to leave them for the long weekend and on Tuesday when we came back to school there was absolutely nothing left of the poor, helpless little plaice.

Other than the plaice and our anemone, who hasn't been moving at all, everything has been going swimmingly. We have noticed our starfish loves playing hide and seek. Unfortunately he is not very good at it as he has been hiding for over a week, mainly behind the filter and the explorers sticker. Also within an hour of getting our fish tank we had already named all our fish. Our plaice WAS called Podge, our shanny is called Pablo, our anemone is called Eminem and our starfish is called Patrick. We are delighted to have an aquarium in our classroom and we



h o p e everything will go a bit m o r e smoothly and no more fish will get eaten.

by Meadhbh and Ruby

**Picture shows our experiments with fish hydrodynamics this week!**

## St Kevin's Explorers World Take 2!

This week was a short one. We just came back on Wednesday. We were so relieved that all four of our new fishy friends were still living after our 4 days away! We got busy with our jobs this week and everyone is taking care of some part of the creatures' well being. This week we did lots of observing and recording in our learning logs. One of the most interesting things we observed was



the reaction of the creatures to food on Wednesday. They went crazy!! They were flying up, down and all around the tank! Our starfish has also moved home and he and Thunder our Shanny are neighbours now.



We are delighted that Thunder is friendly and doesn't seem to mind his new neighbour. We also started some cool art on Friday making our own little underwater coral scene using toothbrushes and tinfoil! We are really enjoying our exploring. Lets see what comes next!

## Johnstown BNS

This week has been a very exciting week again! After Sea-Life put the blenny into the tank, the goby started to attack it instantly. We quickly called our caretaker, Peter, who put a smaller glass tank inside the bigger tank for the blenny. On Monday, Annemarie, an SNA, brought a beadlet anemone in for us. On Tuesday she brought us three hermit crabs, an edible crab, three sea snails and five more beadlet anemones. The next day Sea Life brought in another starfish for us. We now have



eighteen fish in our tank! On Thursday the blenny managed to get into the bigger tank but we used the net to put it back safely into the smaller tank. It has been another brilliant week and we can't wait to see what happens next week.

Patrick, Eoghan, Stephen and Callum

## **Scoil Treasa Naofa**

We got an aquarium with four types of fish. We have a starfish, sea anemone, shanny and goby. We gave them names by writing a name we chose and writing reasons for it. We named the starfish Star, anemone Sucker, shanny Shaun and the goby Rashey. We have all the equipment and every day we observe and check the equipment. A very fun fact about our shanny is that it camouflages from a black colour to a greenish-greyish colour that looks like camo. We really love our fish and every day we make sure they're ok and happy. This week we also began to learn about the Irish Fishing industry and the communities around our coasts that depend on it.

By Weronika Swistowska

### **Francis Street**

On Friday, boys in 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> class came over for a tour of the aquarium. We explained to the boys what was involved in caring for our aquarium.



In creative writing we had to choose one of our creatures and

pretend that we were them!! It was a lot of fun because you had to use your imagination!

Pat gave us a brittle starfish instead of a common starfish. We think that one of the common starfish got attacked so that's why we didn't get one! We like the brittle starfish because he looks really creepy. If you want to see what a brittle starfish looks like we took a picture of ours!



The anemone didn't move at all and we thought he was dead but when we came in on Monday he had moved to the other side of the tank!

We had a busy week taking care of the fishes but it was really exciting writing about the creatures and giving a tour of the aquarium to the other classes.