

# *Blue Star Flag*

## *2024*



*Four Masters N.S., Kínlough, Co. Leitrim*

# FÁILTE

*Four Masters N.S., Kínlough, Co. Leitrim*



*This is our fourth year to participate in the **Blue Star Programme**. We are delighted to present our wonderful work which we derived much learning and enjoyment from.*

*Congratulations to the students from 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes, along with their teachers, who have worked hard on their project work over the past few months.*

# What is the Blue Star Programme?



The Blue Star Programme teaches primary school pupils about European cultures and the EU through creative activities and projects.

There are 4 core learning pillars of the Programme

1. Historical
2. Geographical
3. Cultural & Creative
4. Institutional

Over the past few months our 1<sup>st</sup> class, 3<sup>rd</sup> classes, 4<sup>th</sup> class and 6<sup>th</sup> classes have been busy working on the elements of the Blue Star Flag Programme. We have been busy with our project work on the EU countries and recreating masterpieces by Leonardo da Vinci and Vincent Van Gogh!

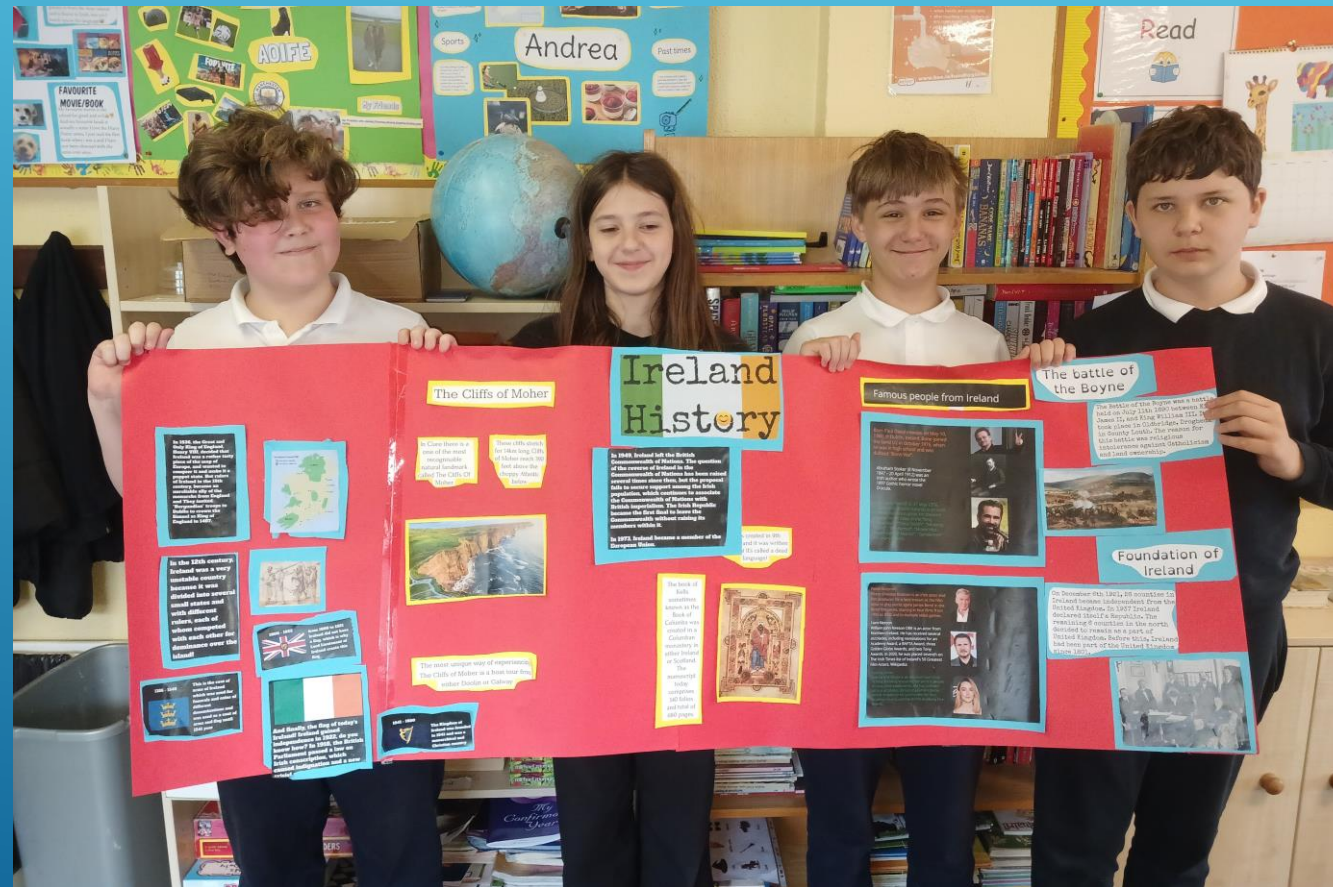
We engaged with the resources from the Blue Star Flag programme and especially loved the online quizzes.

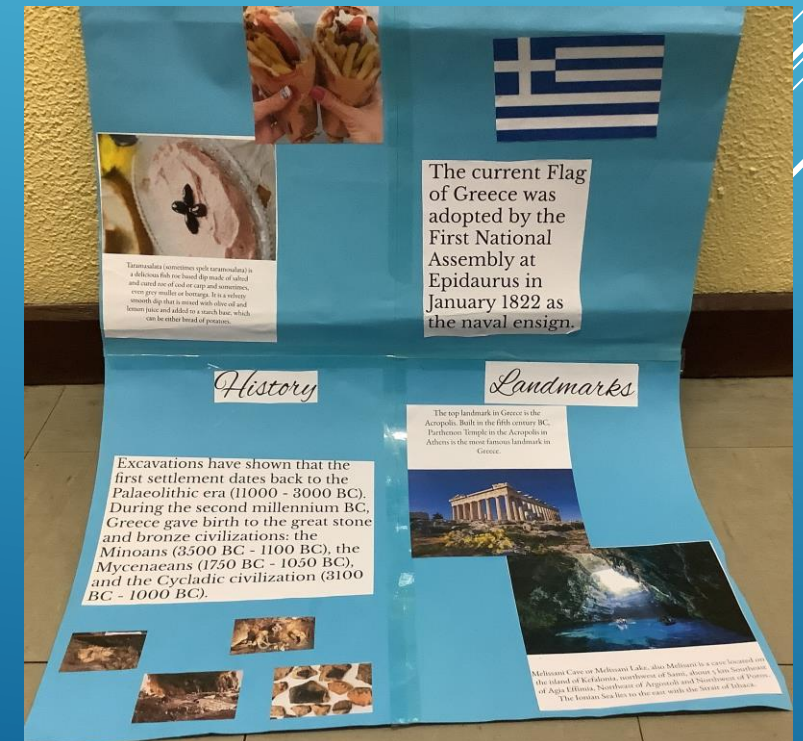
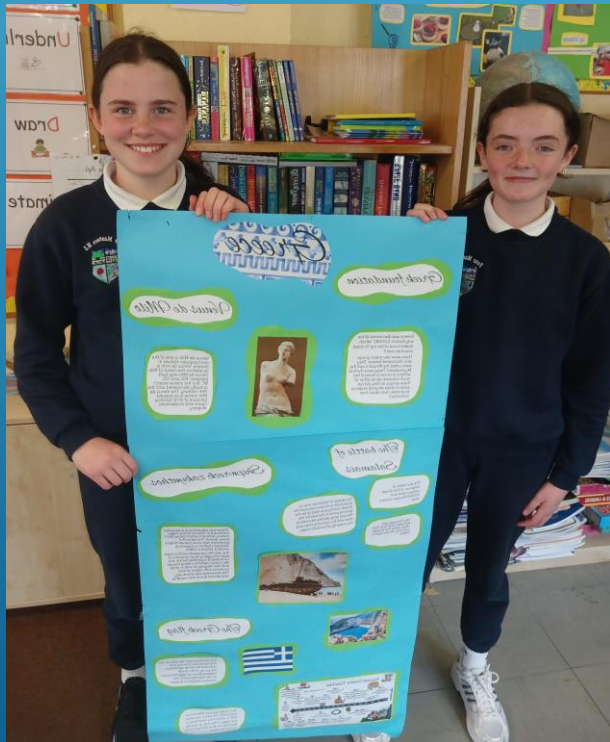
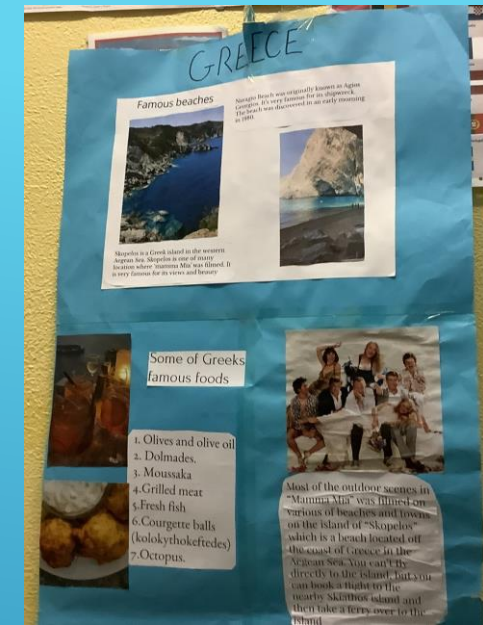
The EU motto 'United in Diversity' is very special to us here in Four Masters National School. We are proud to say that we have a multi-cultural student population and we embrace everyone's culture and traditions in our school community. Using the motto, we had a lovely art competition for the whole school. The creativity in Four Masters flowed!

We hope you enjoy our work!

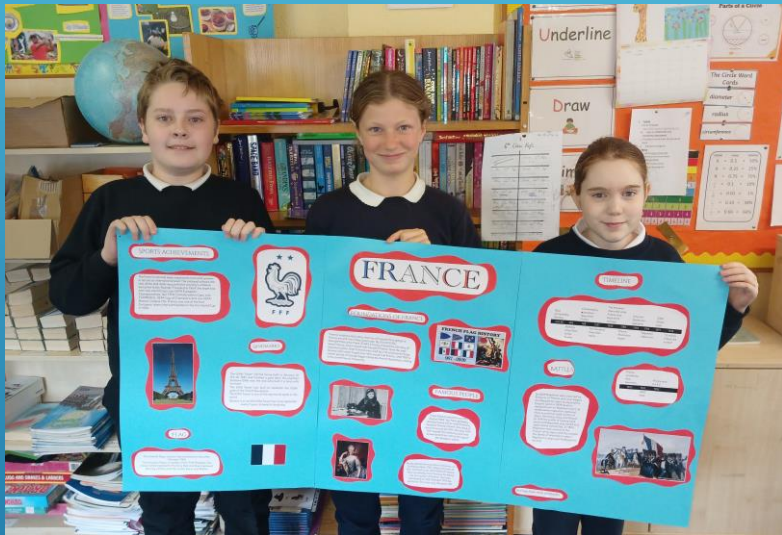
# Historical

Our Ukranian students enjoyed researching the History of Ireland



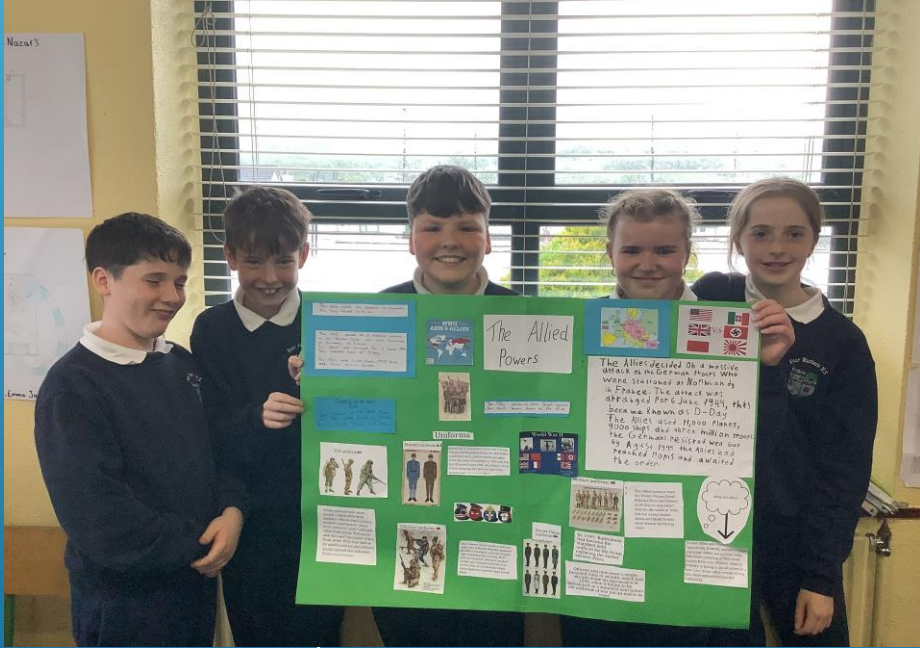
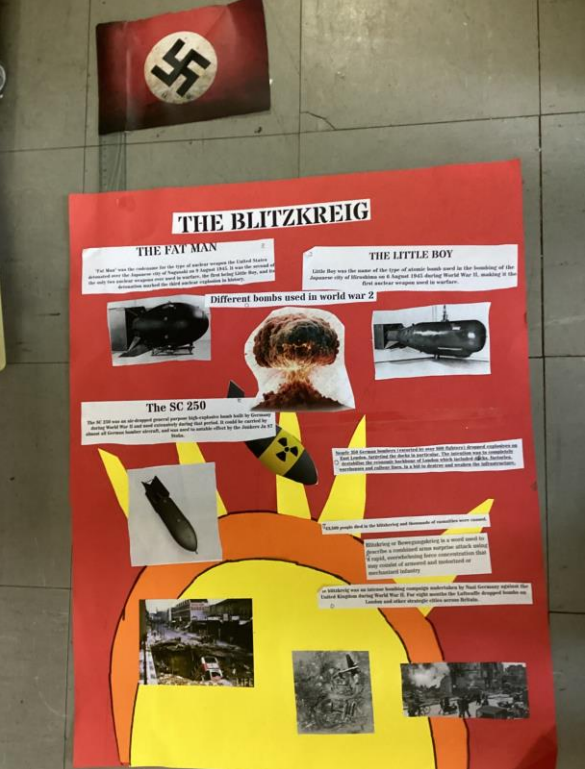
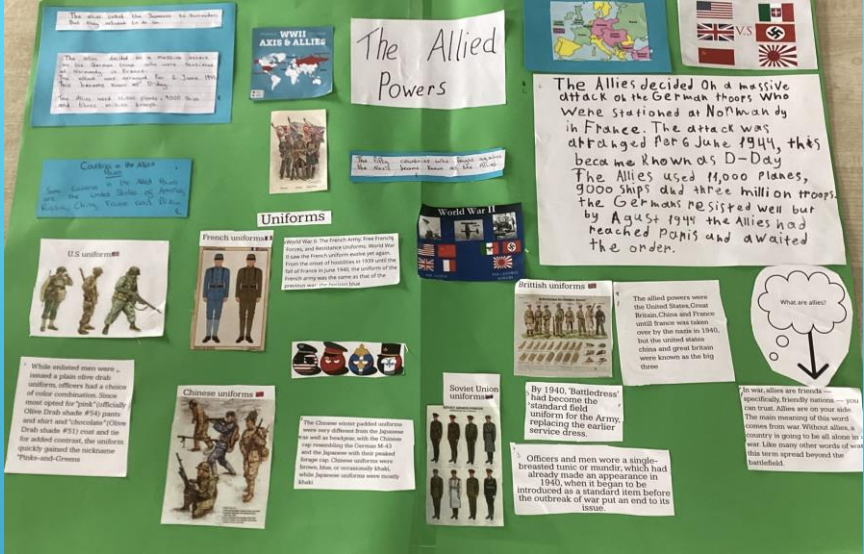


6<sup>th</sup> class students researched the history of different countries, including the significance of the country's flag, historical landmarks, famous people in history and historical facts. Well done 6<sup>th</sup> class on your presentations!

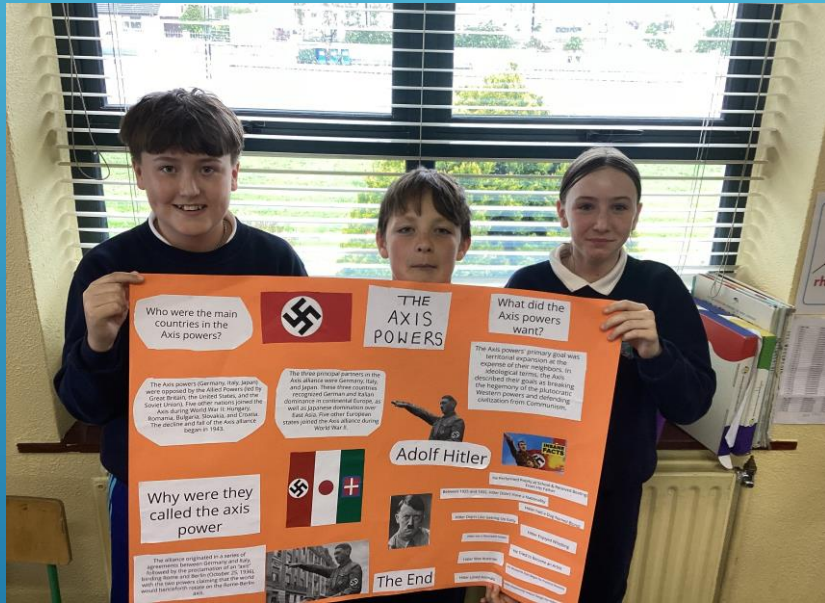


More great work from 6<sup>th</sup> class

World War 2 always proves a very interesting topic for our 6<sup>th</sup> class students. Well done on your beautiful presentations!







**Who were the main countries in the Axis powers?**

The Axis powers (Germany, Italy, Japan) were opposed by the Allied Powers (led by Great Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union). Five other nations joined the Axis during World War II: Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, and Croatia. The decline and fall of the Axis alliance began in 1943.

**THE AXIS POWERS**

The three principal partners in the Axis alliance were Germany, Italy, and Japan. These three countries recognized German and Italian dominance in continental Europe, as well as Japanese domination over East Asia. Five other European states joined the Axis alliance during World War II.

**What did the Axis powers want?**

The Axis powers' primary goal was territorial expansion at the expense of their neighbors. In ideological terms, the Axis described their goals as breaking the hegemony of the plutocratic Western powers and defending civilization from Communism.

**Adolf Hitler**

He Performed Poorly at School & Received Beating From His Father

Between 1925 and 1932, Hitler Didn't Have a Nationality

Hitler had a Dog Named Blo

Hitler Didn't Like Getting Up Early

Hitler Enjoyed Whistling

Hitler was a Decorated Soldier

He Tried to Become an Artist

Hitler Was Austrian

His Mustache Style Began for Practical Reasons

Hitler Loved Animals

Hitler (Apparently) Helped Design the Swastika

**Why were they called the axis power**

The alliance originated in a series of agreements between Germany and Italy, followed by the proclamation of an "axis" binding Rome and Berlin (October 25, 1936), with the two powers claiming that the world would henceforth rotate on the Rome-Berlin axis.

**The End**

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**The End**

And not forgetting our Viking heritage! 3<sup>rd</sup> class worked on the theme of the Vikings and produced this lovely art display.



# Geographical

*Mila* Italy

Capital City  
Rome

Official Language  
Italian

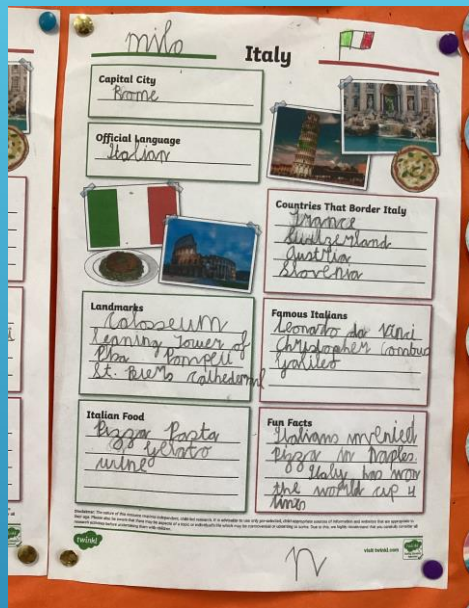
Countries That Border Italy  
France  
Switzerland  
Austria  
Slovenia

Landmarks  
Colosseum  
Leaning Tower of Pisa  
Vatican  
St. Peter's Basilica

Famous Italians  
Leonardo da Vinci  
Michelangelo  
Galileo

Italian Food  
Pizza  
Pasta  
Gelato

Fun Facts  
Pizza was invented in Italy  
Italy has the world's cup in 1934



Which countries are part of the European Union?

Colour in the 27 countries which make up the EU.



Extension: Why might some European countries not want to be part of the EU?

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Colour in the 27 countries which make up the EU.



Extension: Why might some European countries not want to be part of the EU?

Lots of research on EU countries!  
Terrific work 1st class.

Our Amazing Work

Italy



*Mila* Italy

Capital City  
Rome

Official Language  
Italian

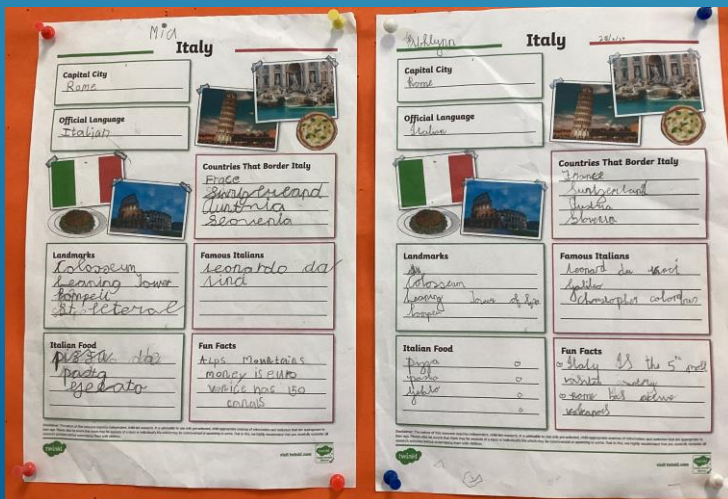
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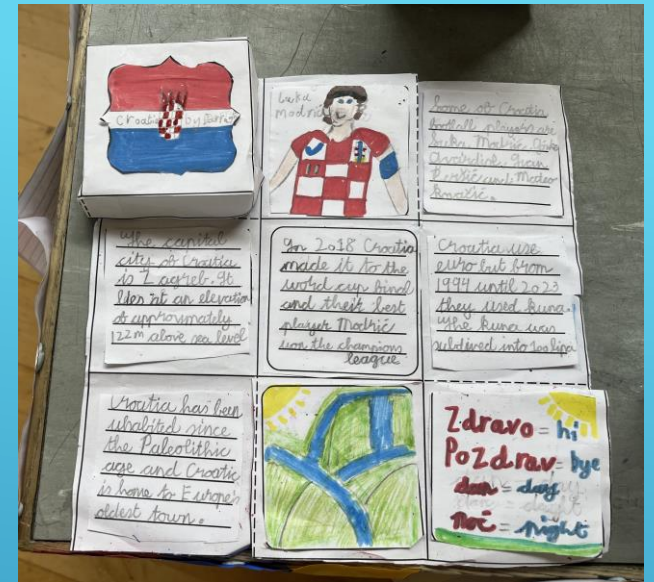
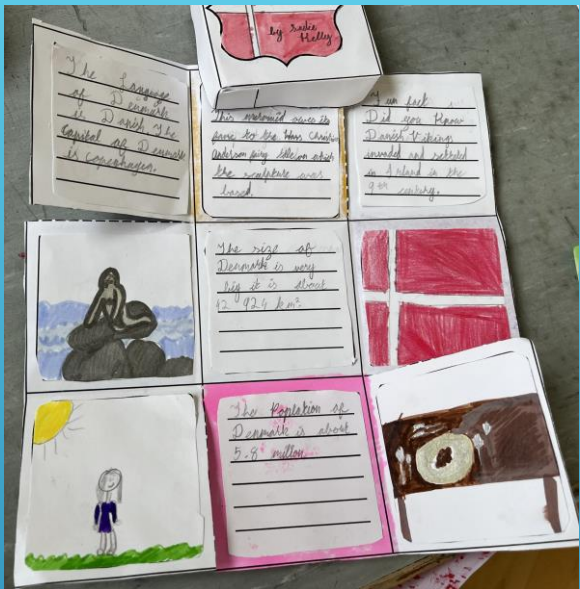
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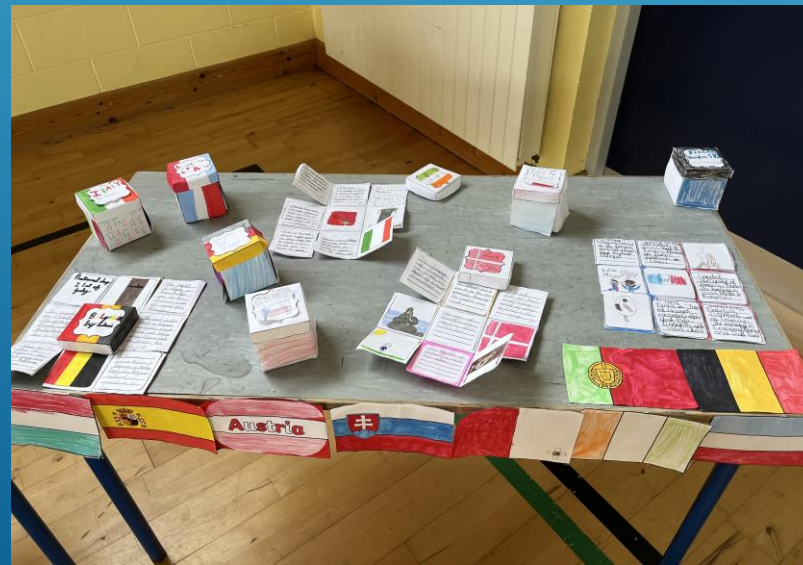


Europe





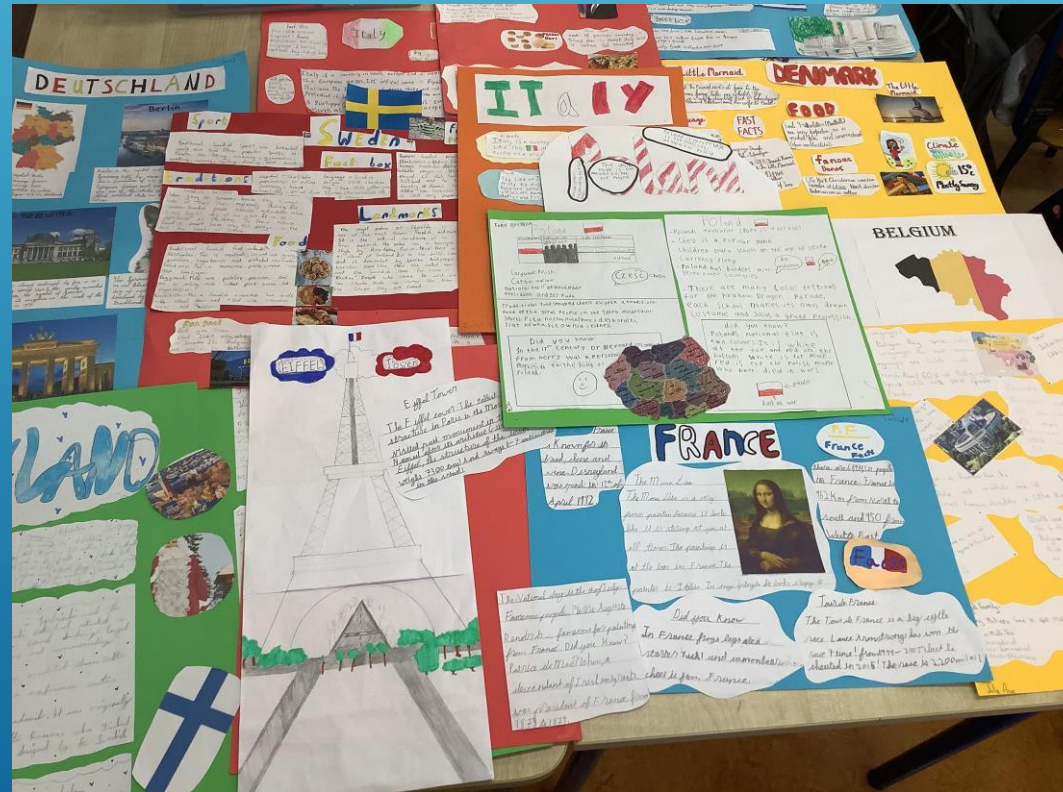
3<sup>rd</sup> class were very creative with their 'country in a box'



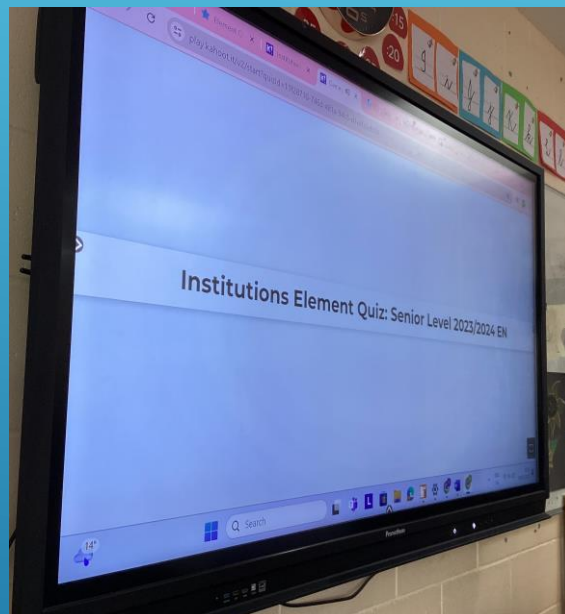


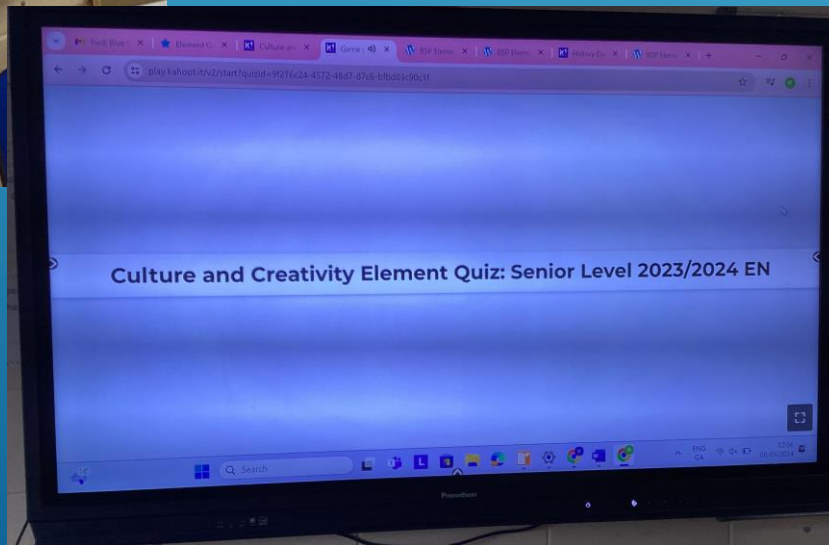
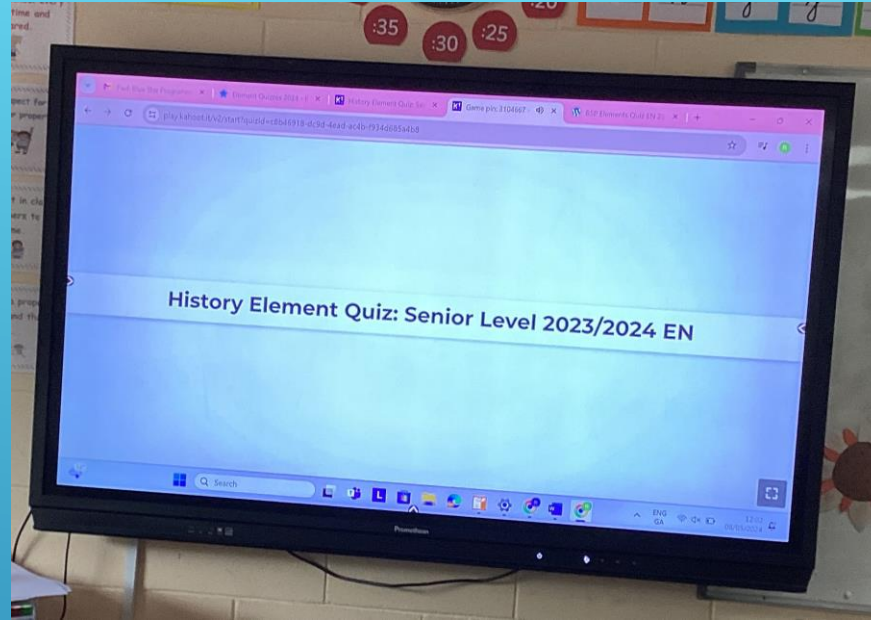
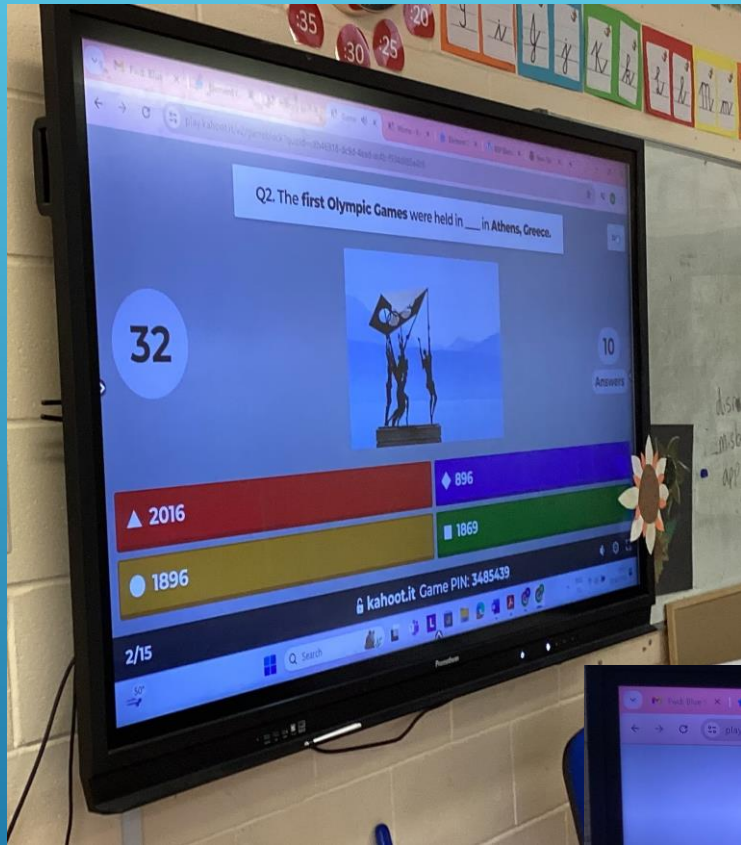
Thanks for the lovely resources Blue Star!  
4<sup>th</sup> class loved the game

# 4th class busy working on their projects!



# Online quizzing in 3<sup>rd</sup> class







Use your atlas. List the counties of each province in this table.

Ulster	Leinster	Munster	Connacht
Donegal	Carlow	Cork	Galway
Louth	Dublin	Clare	Leitrim
Monaghan	Kildare	Ferry	Donegal
Drogheda	Wick	Wexford	Donegal
Dundragh	Limerick	Tipperary	Donegal
Drogheda	Wick	Tipperary	Donegal
Drogheda	Wick	Tipperary	Donegal
Drogheda	Wick	Tipperary	Donegal
Drogheda	Wick	Tipperary	Donegal
Drogheda	Wick	Tipperary	Donegal

Fill in the correct province (1) and county (2) for each landmark.

	1. Leinster 2. Dublin		1. Ulster 2. Antrim
	1. Ulster 2. Antrim		1. Connacht 2. Galway
	1. Munster 2. Tipperary		1. Leinster 2. Meath
	1. Connacht 2. Sligo		1. Munster 2. Clare

3<sup>rd</sup> class enjoyed the on-line quizzes

### The European Union (E.U.)

Ireland has been a member of the E.U. since 1973. Today, there are 27 countries/states in the E.U.

- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden

### E.U. 15/12/20

France  
Cap: Paris  
Size: 632,806 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 67 million  
Language: French  
National Day: 14 July

Latvia  
Cap: Riga  
Size: 64,589 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 2.9 million

Slovenia  
Cap: Ljubljana  
Size: 20,273 km<sup>2</sup>  
Pop: 2 million  
Language: Slovenian

Latvia  
Capital - Riga  
Size - 64,523 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population - 1.9 million  
Language - Latvian  
National Day - 18 Nov

Italy  
Capital - Rome  
Size - 302,073 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population - 60.2 million  
Language - Italian  
National Day - 2 June

Malta  
Capital - Valletta  
Size - 315 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population - 0.5 million  
Language - English, Maltese  
National Day - 21 Sept

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- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden

### Blue star Programme's Quiz

- Greek
- True
- Celtic times
- Italy
- Spain
- Artist
- Vikings

### Blue star Programme's Quiz

- English
- False
- Celtic times
- Italy
- Spain
- Cale sum
- Artist
- Vikings
- St. Patrick
- Saint Patrick

### Spain

Capital - Madrid  
Size - 505,966 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population - 47.3 million  
Language - Spanish  
National Day - 12 October

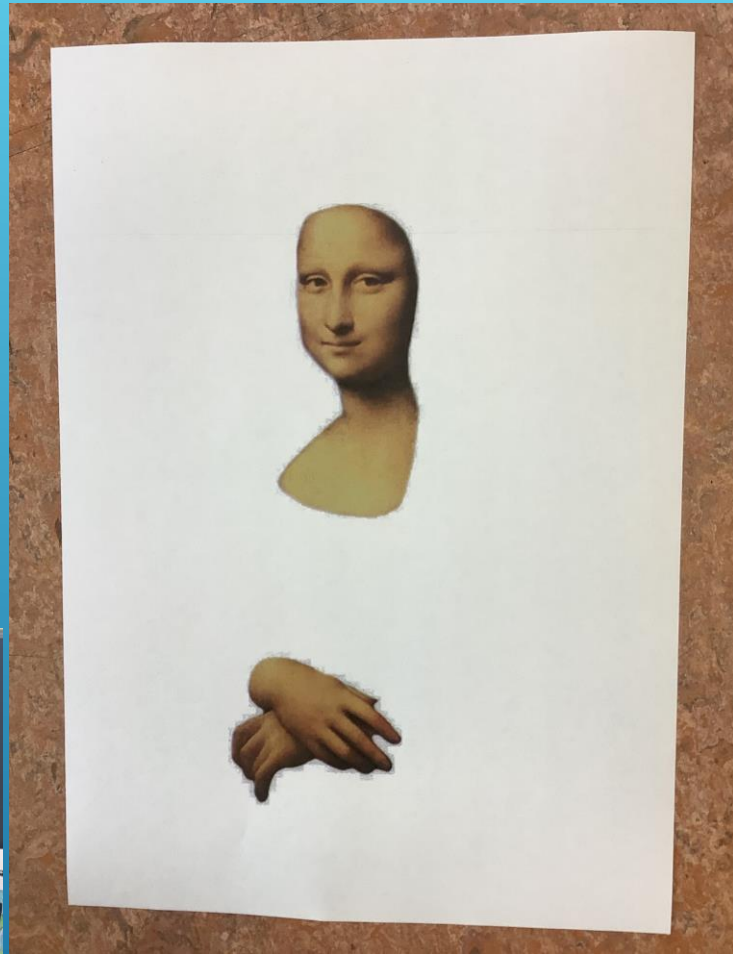
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# Cultural and Creative



Some budding Leonardo Da Vinci's in Four Masters



Beautiful displays 3<sup>rd</sup> class

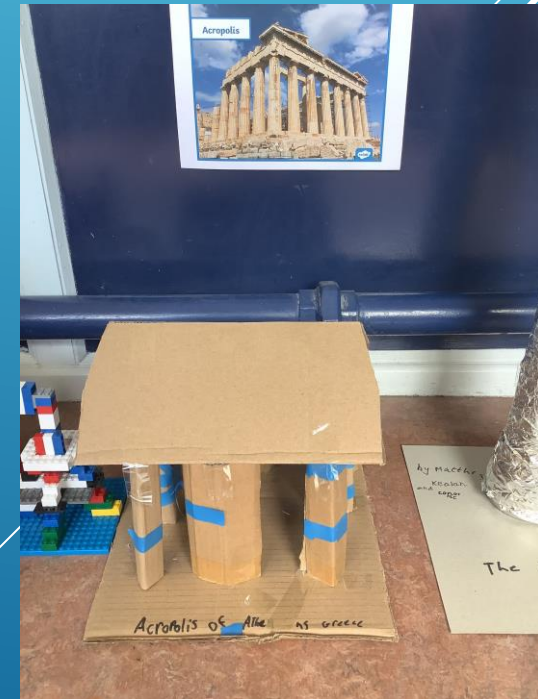
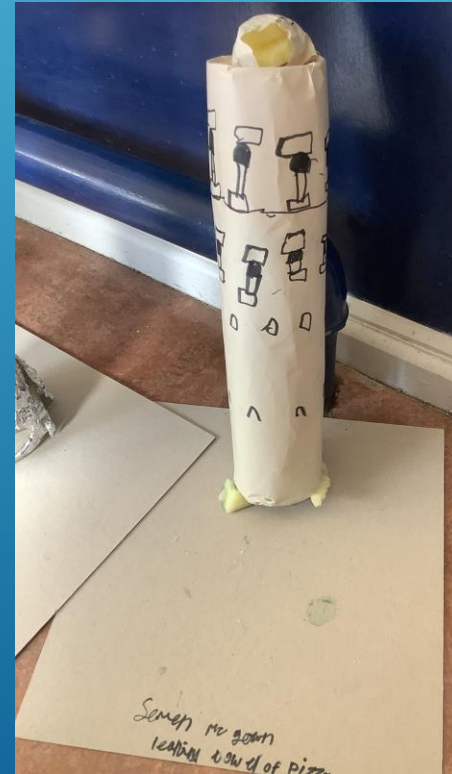


3<sup>rd</sup> class created another striking display for the hall, inspired by Vincent Van Gogh's famous painting 'Sunflowers'

Our wish is for PEACE in the EU and PEACE in the World

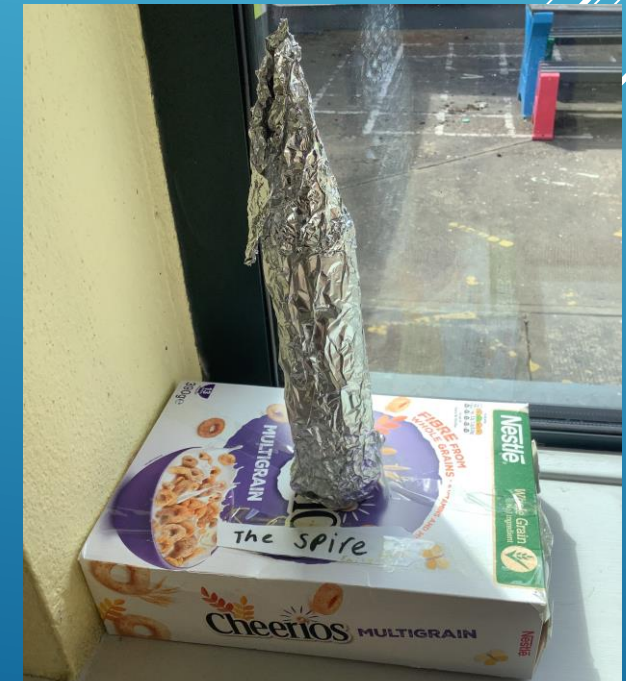


# Beautiful replicas of famous EU landmarks by our 3<sup>rd</sup> class students





And some more...

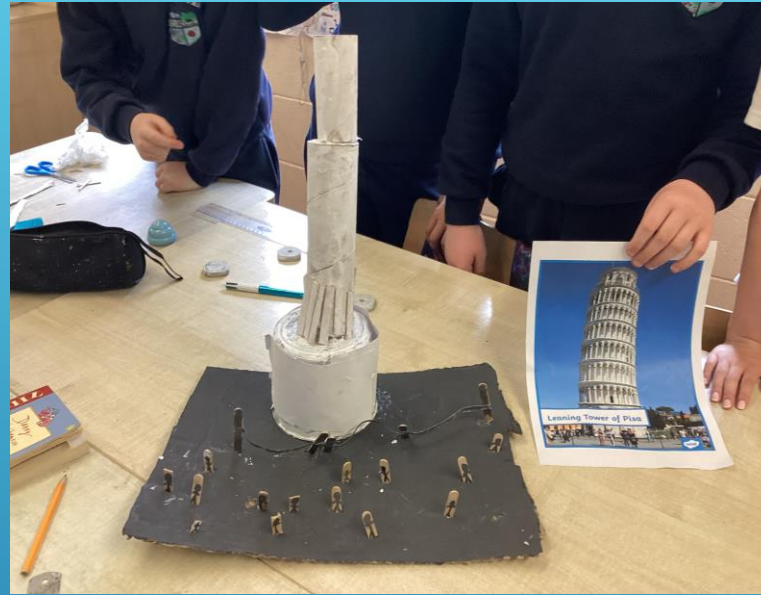


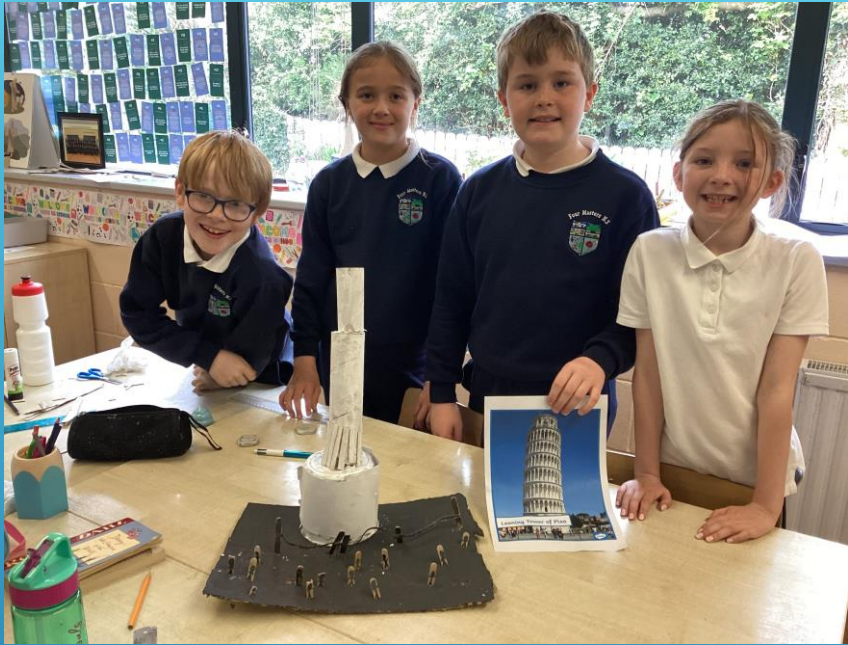
# 3<sup>rd</sup> class gathering and assembling the recycled materials for their EU landmark replicas





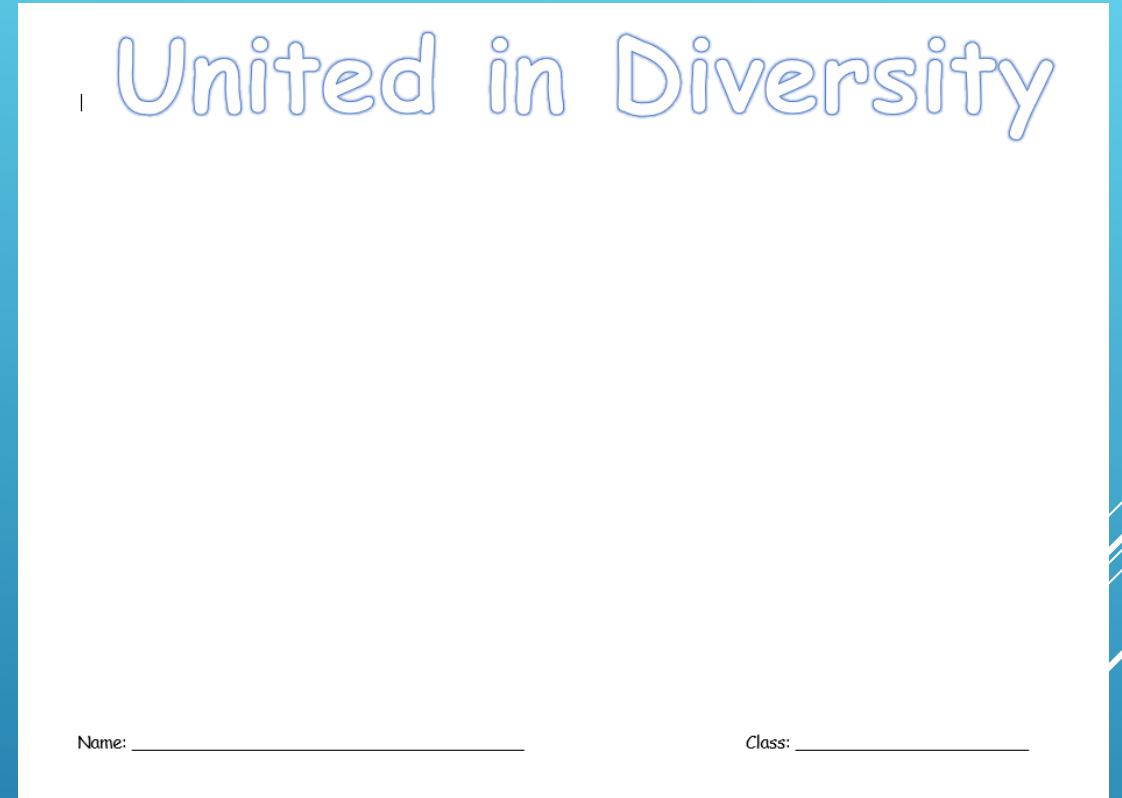
# And the finished models...





Well done to all the students in both 3<sup>rd</sup> classes. Architects and engineers of the future...!

# Whole School Competitions



Junior Infants to Second Class students had to colour a picture.  
Third to Sixth class students had to design a poster based on the EU Motto:  
**United in Diversity**

# And the winners are...

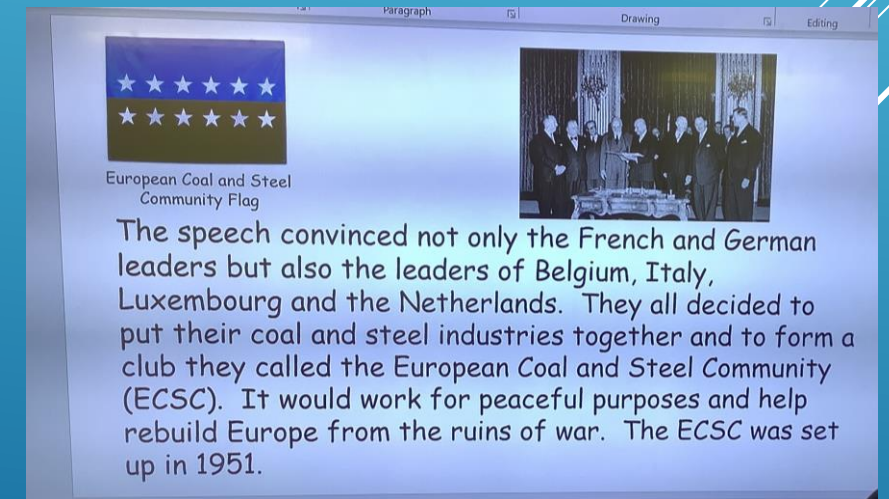
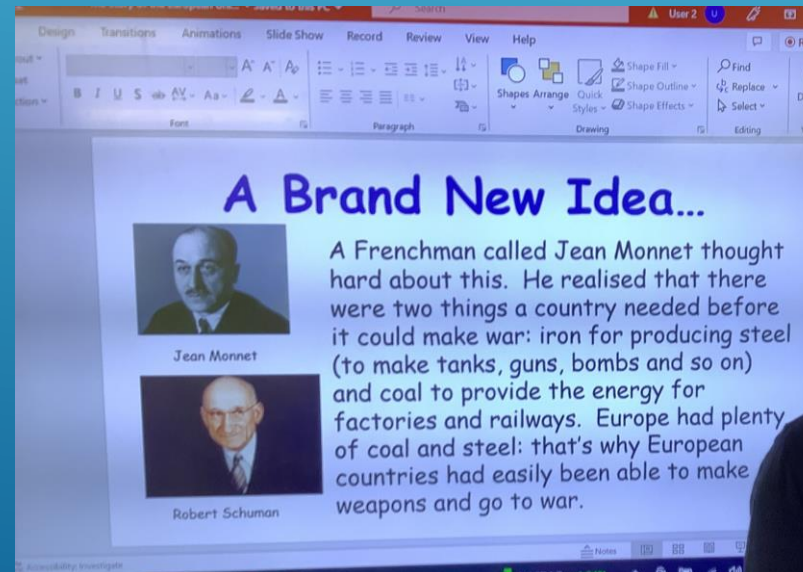




# *Institutional*

We enjoyed learning all about the E.U. We looked at the resources which came from The Blue Star Flag programme.

Our focus was 'The Story of the E.U.' and 'What the E.U. does for Ireland?'



# We are glad Ireland is a member of the E.U.



A very daring idea...

So Jean Monnet came up with a very daring new idea! His idea was that the governments of France and Germany - and perhaps of other European countries too - should no longer run their own coal and steel industries. Instead, these industries should be organised by people from all the countries involved and they would sit around a table and discuss and decide things together. That way, war between them would be impossible!

## The EU today...



1<sup>st</sup> May 2004: Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta.

1<sup>st</sup> January 2007: Bulgaria and Romania.

1<sup>st</sup> July 2013: Croatia

June 2016: the United Kingdom voted to leave the EU

2020: the total number of EU countries: 27



## Food and Farming



The Second World War had made it very difficult for Europe to produce food or to import it from other continents. Europe was short of food even in the early 1950s. So the EEC decided on an arrangement for paying its farmers to produce more food and to make sure that they could earn a decent living from the land.

This arrangement was called the 'common agricultural policy' (or CAP). It worked really well. Nowadays, the CAP also pays farmers to look after the countryside.

# Welcome to Maria Walshe, MEP and our VIP!





# Our VIP Visit

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, we were delighted to welcome Maria Walshe, MEP, to our school as our VIP visitor this year. Maria addressed our assembly of 200 students and teachers! Maria told us all about her work as an MEP and this was followed by a question and answer session. We presented Maria with a piece of jewellery from our local jewellers, McGonigle Glass in Donegal Town, and a rose bush which was aptly named 'Inspiration'. Following this, Maria cut the 'EU 2024 cake' before heading out on yard for a quick game of football!

We sincerely appreciate Maria taking time out of her busy schedule to come and visit us in Four Masters!

# Our E.U. Assembly





# The Presentations...





Thanks to our speakers...



And they had to get a photo with Maria!

Thanks to Mrs. Lee, Mr. Britton and staff for making our E.U. celebration a memorable day. Special thanks to Mr. Frank Feighan, T.D. and local councillor, Mr. Justin Warnock who joined us for our assembly.



1<sup>st</sup> class students enjoying the assembly with their 'E.U. country' headbands. Well done 1<sup>st</sup> class!







1<sup>st</sup> class are very photogenic! Thank you Mrs. McSharry for the beautiful photos.









# Acknowledgements



We, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes along with our teachers, Mrs. McSharry, Ms. Corr, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Curneen, Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Britton, would sincerely like to thank the following people for their support and help over the past few months:

- ❖ Mrs. Siobhán Lee, Principal
- ❖ Board of Management, Four Masters N.S.
- ❖ Staff and students of Four Masters N.S.
- ❖ Our parents
- ❖ Ms. Maria Walshe MEP and her associates
- ❖ Mr. Frank Feighan, T.D.
- ❖ Mr. Justin Warnock, local Councillor
- ❖ Charlie, our caretaker
- ❖ Ms. McGee and Ms. McGovern for the photo frame
- ❖ Mr. Michael Rooney for the lovely 'European' themed cake
- ❖ Blue Star Co-ordinators – for their initiative, support and resources

