

Third class pupils' fight against germs

By 3rd class Newbridge Educate Together NS

Third class pupils at Newbridge Educate Together National School have been busy preparing for the local science exhibition, which took place in Newbridge Town Hall on Saturday 16th of November. The event, which was organised as part of National Science Week, placed an emphasis on science in the local community. The event gave the children in third class an opportunity to design and carry out an investigation into a science topic and to present their results at the exhibition.

The children decided to look into the importance of washing our hands thoroughly to prevent the spread of germs. They learned about the different types of germs, namely viruses, bacteria, fungi and protozoa. They also learned about the illnesses and diseases that are caused by these germs. The children decided to investigate the area of the school which had the most germs. It was decided that they would use slices of white bread to collect samples of germs in the school environment. The children mused that the bread with the most mould growth would indicate the area which had the most germs. The children inspected the bread over time and recorded their results, comparing these results with a control.

The children found that the bathroom soap handle in the bathroom was the most germ infested item from the investigation. The class computer keyboard was shown to be a great hiding spot for germs as was the banister for the stairs in the foyer. Overall the children learned the importance of washing your hands carefully after visiting the bathroom and before handling food. They also learned the importance of covering their mouth when they cough or sneeze to prevent the spread of germs. The exhibition itself was a huge success as the children had the opportunity to not only present their findings and discuss their investigation but also to mingle with other young scientists. It is hoped that this local science exhibition will become a yearly event for the pupils of Newbridge Educate Together National School.

