## Nuacht ó Gharrán Mhuire science special



Our Science Outreach Programme began back in September with Mrs. Linehan, who is a parent of two boys in our school. Mrs. Linehan teaches all areas of Science in collaboration with the Class Teachers. So far the topics have included Magnetism, Plant Life and The Lungs. Electricity will be covered from Junior-3rd classes in the coming weeks. Míle Buíochas to Mrs. Linehan for volunteering to share her expertise with children and teachers alike.

Seachtain na hEolaíochta 2019 The theme of this year's Science Week was Climate Change. To mark the occasion, the children in Room 13 planted a native crab apple tree on the school's grounds. Heritage in Schools expert, Éanna Ní Lamhna shared her wealth of knowledge with 5th and 6th classes. A sound recording took place and the children shared their views and asked questions about the importance of planting trees in our environment in order to help combat Climate Change. We look forward to



hearing them on 'The Mooney Goes Wild' radio programme at a later date.

It has been a fantastic week of learning. We hope that every family will take ownership of one small change in order to protect our planet. At school we will be very mindful to conserve water and electricity. We will continue to encourage families to walk and cycle to and from school.



Scientists called The Cell Explorers from UCD challenged our 6th classes with



two experiments. The children extracted DNA from a banana using specialised equipment and made a 3D model of DNA. DNA was also explored and investigated in the 5th classes. Lucy's mom, Denise Drudy, helped the children to go through a step by step process to 'extract DNA from saliva'.



Meanwhile, Mrs. Linehan facilitated the use of microscopes to investigate and learn about cell biology in all of the senior classes.

In October we had a visit from zoologist, Mairead Stack, who worked with 2nd and 3rd classes as part of the Heritage in **Schools** scheme. The first part of the workshop was carried out in the classroom where the children watched and discussed a slide show about the biodiversity of Goatstown and focused on the changes in the area over the years. Afterwards, with clipboards in hand, the children in 2nd class completed a nature trail identifying the various plants, trees and signs of animal activity on the school grounds. 3rd class completed a wildlife detective activity and learned about the various habitats within our school environment.

The Rediscovery Centre facilitated Science



workshops with our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes. The centre promotes the use of reusable and recyclable materials. 6<sup>th</sup> class enjoyed a 90-

minute session of working as Maths Detectives. 5th classes learned about forces and designed their own parachutes. 4<sup>th</sup> classes studied the topic of electricity and made their own circuits. During the week, children were given the opportunity to showcase some of their science experiments at morning assembly.