

Foxford Community
Art Project
2022-2023



Our Mission

To create an opportunity for the community to connect and embrace our town in a creative all inclusive fun way, breaking all barriers such as age, ability, language, background.

Thank you to everyone who made this project possible. It was wonderful to have so many people from the Foxford community involved.

What a great experience and achievement!



Our Participants



They say great minds think alike and that may be the case with this project. Anna Clarke was in Claremorris on a wet afternoon in August and was lifted by the colourful display of bottle cap art that she saw on the bridge- she immediately knew this would be lovely for Foxford too.

She contacted Alfreda Courtney, the art teacher in St. Joseph's Secondary School in Foxford as they had worked together on a previous community art project.

Anna was amazed to discover that Alfreda was also collecting bottle caps and planning to do a mural with her students as it tied in with the Green Schools programme and would enable her students to work on a large scale art work together.

Alfreda presented the project to the secondary students and management at St Joseph's and their enthusiasm inspired her to believe that this ambitious project would be possible. She knew that it would take the commitment and dedication of her art students to ensure that the planning would reach fruition.

A project of this scale would require many months of planning, organisation, and artwork. With Anna's help, the one large scale piece of artwork that the students were working on turned into 8 pieces as her support in organisation and planning was invaluable.



This project would not have been possible without the involvement of the community who collected their bottle caps and dropped them at various collection points in the town.

Anna approached companies and explained the concept of the project and how it would benefit the community and enhance the town. Companies generously donated materials and expert advice which enabled this project to proceed.

Anna and Alfreda wanted the project to be inclusive of a large cross section of the community. They designed and planned a project which would involve the students in St. Joseph's Secondary School, Foxford National School, Blackrocks Nursing Home and The Growing Tree Preschool in Foxford.

The theme for the project was the River Moy - its importance to Foxford, historically, commercially and as a habitat for wildlife. The importance of preserving the quality of water would be emphasised.

They created posters and presented the project to the pupils in Foxford National School. They invited the pupils to create artwork which reflected the wildlife- the birds, fish, insects and flora that they see along the River Moy.



The students in St Joseph's Secondary School developed these wonderful drawings into large scale boards which were painted with images relating to the Moy.

The art room became a hub of activity with Alfreda and the art students spending many hours a week enjoying working on the project. They were assisted by Anna, and local artist Angela Murphy.



March was a busy month as on four consecutive Wednesday mornings- students from fourth to sixth classes came to the art room in St Joseph's to work on the bottle caps art project alongside the transition year and fifth year students.

Great fun was had by all and it was wonderful to see the energy and creativity that was on show.



The transition year students designed the mural for The Growing Tree Preschool which shows a large tree surrounded by colourful bottle caps.

On a sunny May morning, third year students worked with the preschool children to create this striking artwork. The mural has been displayed in the sensory garden of the preschool.



One of the highlights for all involved was the morning in May where students and teachers from St. Joseph's Secondary School visited the nursing home.

The residents and staff were treated to singing, dancing and music in addition to working on the bottle cap art project. It was heartwarming to see the pleasure the students and residents had when enjoying the activities.



In June, Anna and a group of parents and teachers facilitated workshops with students from junior infants up to third class in Foxford National School.

This creative experience was a well deserved reward for all the hard work that the students had done in sorting and collecting the bottle caps.



With the murals completed, it was great to engage with the local council regarding their display. The theme of the River Moy ties in so well with the Riverfest that takes place in August so it was fitting that this would be the time to launch the artworks.

The artworks are a culmination of the great community spirit that is present in Foxford and the surrounding areas.



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