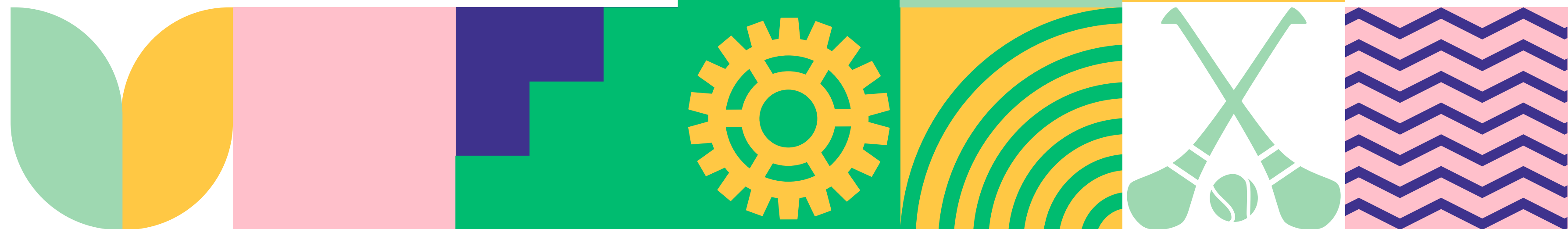# an post | Making *better* happen
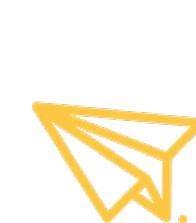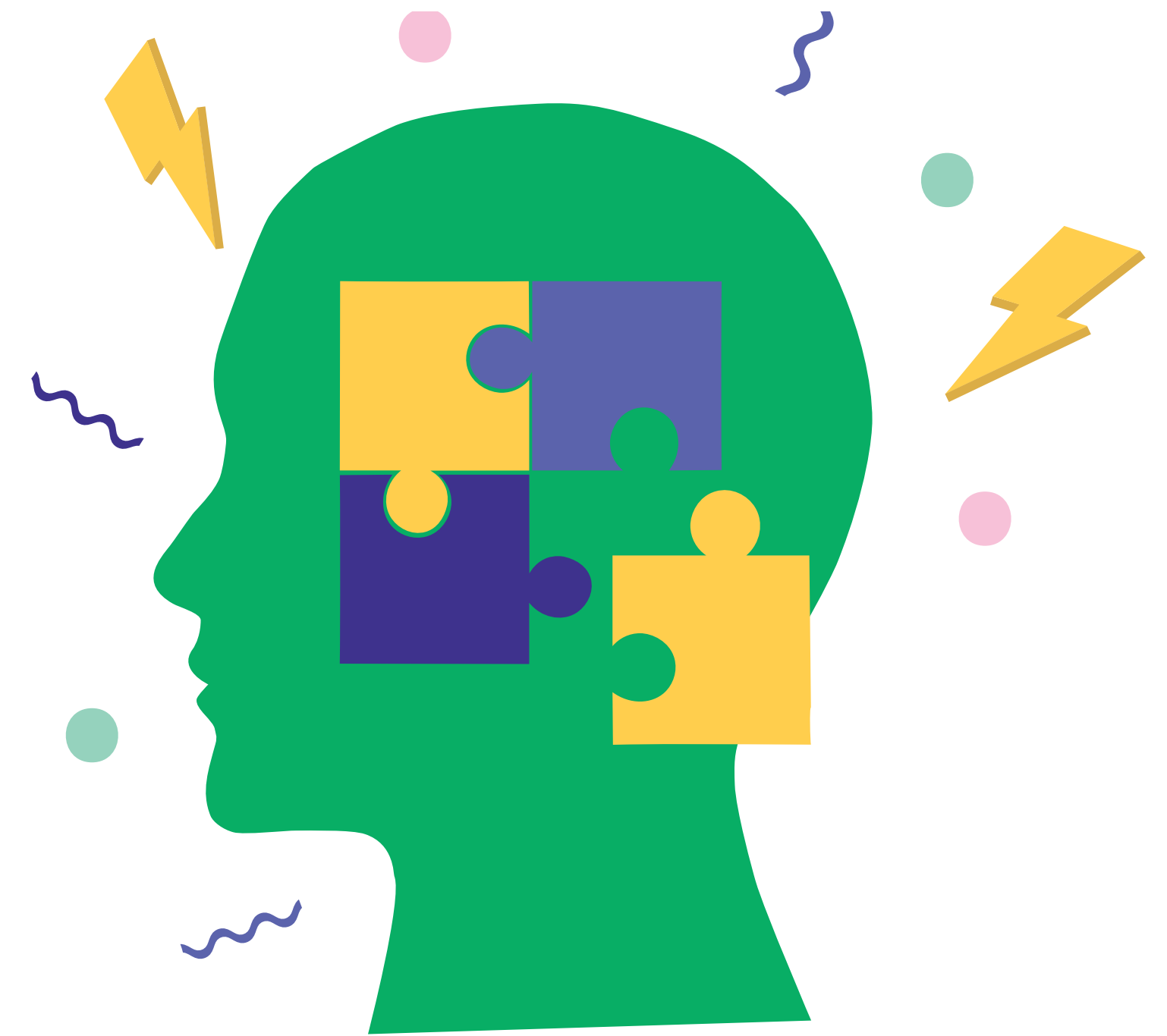
Making Better Happen for Our Community

Working together to make things better

5th and 6th Class

Think and Talk

- What does 'community' mean?

- What communities are you a part of? (Think about your town, your clubs, places you like to visit)

- What do you like about your communities?

- How can you make things better in your community?

- How does it make you feel to be part of a community?

- Why is it important to be in a community?

Watch this video from An Post

Click to Play ▶

- How does An Post make better happen in communities?

- Who is impacted by the work of An Post?

- Who do you help in your community? Why?

- What else might you do to make better happen in your community?

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Key Words

- **Sustainable**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

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Key Words

- **Nurture**
- **Care**
- **Community**
- **Diversity**
- **Inclusion**
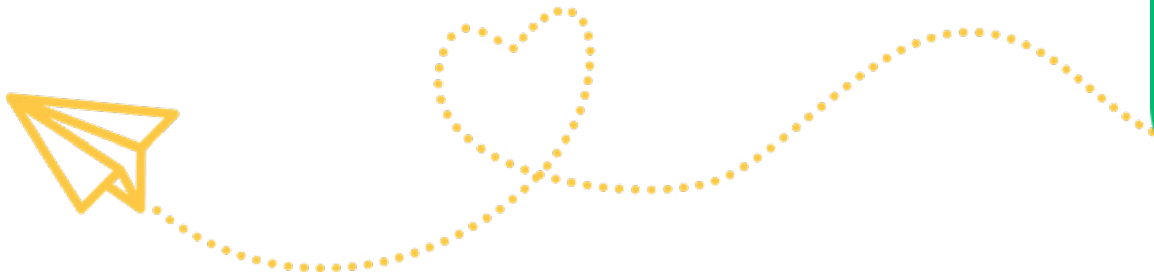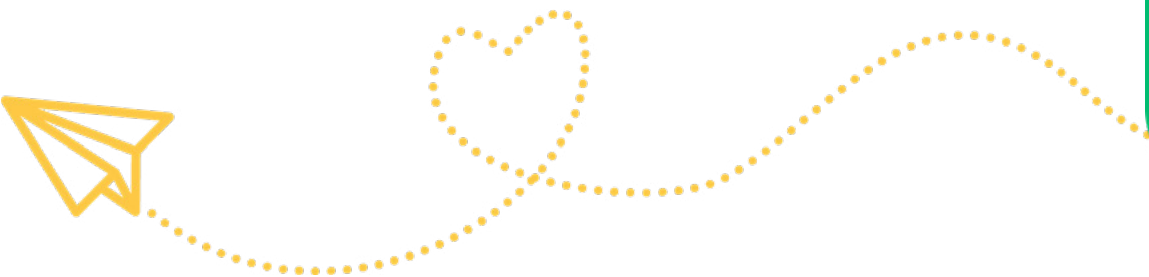
How can we make our communities better?

Sustainability

Biodiversity

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Diversity and Inclusion
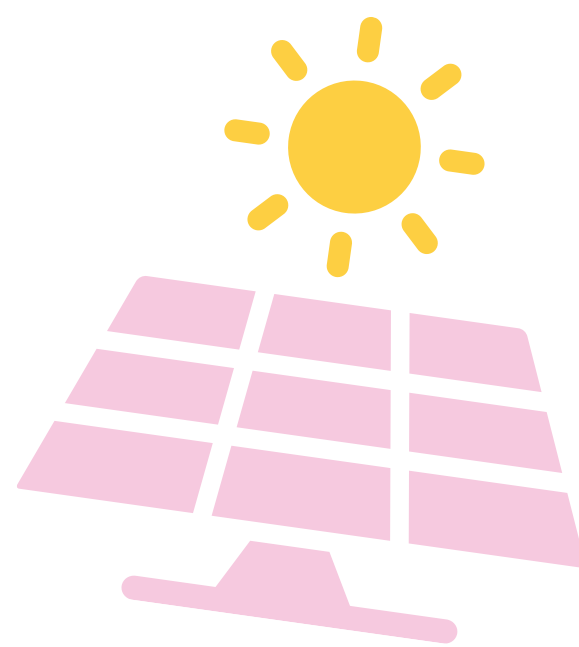
Reading for All

Principal Jones' Letter

Dear 5th and 6th Class Pupils,

I am writing this letter today to seek your help. I know you are a kind and caring group of pupils. You value the world around us and others in society, especially those that are sometimes forgotten or on the fringes of society. I am writing to you all now to appeal to your knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

Firstly, the proprietor of the local nursing home, Blooming Meadows, has recently reached out and contacted me for some help regarding integration activities for the residents in the home. Many have families who are living far away and don't get visited very often. He was looking for some help in getting involved. He said that visits or some kind of engagement with the community outside of the nursing home would revolutionise the feeling for the residents, many of whom currently feel lonely. He suggested some gardening programmes, or linking in with our school so that we can teach something you're learning about in school to the residents, and they can in turn teach you a valuable skill.

Second of all, our local library has been in contact with me about our literacy initiatives, and how we could involve families and communities more in our literacy projects. In our school, parents sometimes come in for reading in younger classes, and we do "Reading Buddies", where 3rd and 4th Class read with the Junior and Senior Infants every second week. However, we are looking to do bigger and better things next term. We want to share the gift of literacy and remind all of our pupils how literacy can bring us together. We would like to get families involved, and even extend ideas to the wider community too, as well as linking in with our library - a real community event! How can we involve all pupils? How can we excite people in our community?

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Principal Jones' Letter
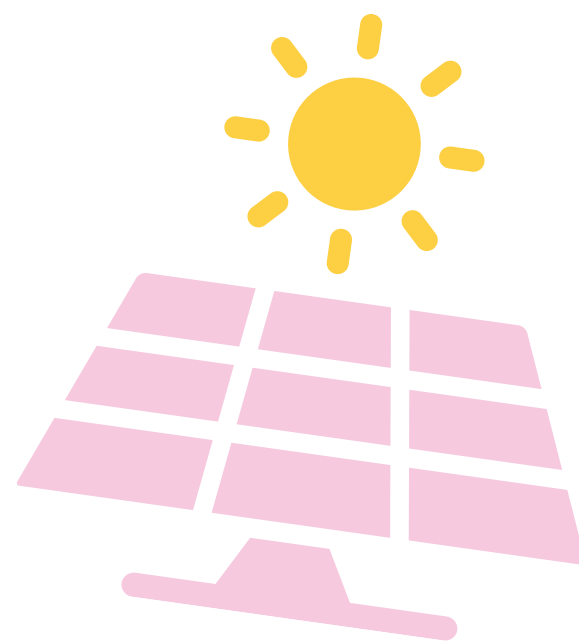
Finally, I would like to pick your brains about how we can make our school greener. We might think of ways to reduce energy consumption in our school, dispose of our waste in a better way, and promote healthier ways to travel to school. I have some ideas already, such as installing solar panels on the roof - but we might need to raise money for that. This is very important to us all, as it will have a big impact on our school community in the future. Can you think of anything else that we could do to build a greener community among the pupils, families and teachers in the school?

We have a strong legacy of being a wonderful school community and I am very proud of that. In your responses, I want you to think about those in our broader local community who are less fortunate, or less able than others. How can we make the initiatives more accessible for them? If you have any ideas about any one of these areas, or even all three, I would greatly appreciate a reply outlining your thoughts. We know that you have the power to make better happen in your communities, and we all need your help.

Thanking you in advance,
Principal Jones

Questions

- What are the problems Principal Jones mentions?

- What solutions can the pupils think of?

- What ideas can pupils think of to make their comunities better in terms of sustainability, biodiversity, reducing, reusing and recycling, diversity, inclusion and literacy for all?

- How could pupils craft a letter to show how actions they take, or how motivating others to get involved, can make better happen in communities?

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