

## St. Catherine's Special School are Winners at PE Expo!



St. Catherine's Special School is a twenty teacher school located at Newcastle in Co. Wicklow. The school caters for students with moderate general learning disabilities and severe and profound general learning disabilities with or without co-occurring disorders including autism spectrum disorder.

Classroom 4, one of our senior classes, won the Junior ICT / Photography section at PE Expo which was held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Trinity Comprehensive School, Ballymun. This is the third year of PE Expo. Our PE teacher, Andrei, along with the class team, helped the students to prepare and attended the event with them on the day.

Classroom 4's project was 'PE adapted for Individual Needs' and the aim of the project was 'to teach individual students PE skills that will enable them to increase their participation in team games'. For the eight weeks prior to the event the students worked on improving targeted individual PE skills. Methodologies employed included modelling, task analysis and physical prompting (faded over time). The skills practised included walking, throwing, catching, balancing, jumping, gripping, rolling, volleying and sit-ups.



Classroom 4: some of the PE skills showcased.



A new game 'sitting volleyball' was introduced. Lots of fun was had and individual PE skills improved even within the short timeframe.



Classroom 4: playing sitting volleyball.

On the day, the students showcased their individual PE skills and team game abilities through photographs on a large poster and in video format as well as verbally.



Classroom 4: displaying and explaining our PE Expo Project on the day.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the day: the bus journey, waiting for the judges, answering their questions and explaining their individual parts in the project, talking with everyone who stopped to look at their project, the afternoon activities, receiving the medals and trophy, having their photographs taken and much more. It was a fantastic experience and each of our students is extremely proud of their achievements.

View [VIDEO](#) 😊