

Robertstown Bins Project

Robertstown National school together with local sculptor Peter Pilkington created bins for the village and school grounds. A vast amount of preparation and planning went into this project. This project was done in conjunction with Waterways Ireland and Kildare County Council. The design stage of the project involved the children creating pictures of animals and objects that incorporated a rubbish bin into the design. The winning designs were created by Aoife Ryder, Blaithin Byrne, Cole Lyons, Finn Gillespie and Evan O'Brien.

Peter Pilkington first trained a team of fifth and sixth class students to work with him. After students acquired the skills necessary to work with the fibre concrete, the rest of the children in the school all got a chance to learn the skills and help Peter to construct the bins. A bins project committee was also formed. These pupils

documented the whole process and gave interviews to the newspapers and presented to the invitees on the day of the launch. RTEs "The Den" arrived on Thursday 24th April just in time to see two of the bins being laid into their foundations (by Waterways Ireland). They interviewed the designers and it was broadcast that evening on News2day.

The official launch of the bins took place on Sunday 27th April and was a huge success. The Lucan Gospel Choir and the Brass Band provided the backdrop for the children's march from the school to the village and the school choir joined them for the unveiling of the bins. The event was widely supported by the whole community. Today the bins stand proud in the village of Robertstown. Each bin has a name and slogan chosen especially by the children to spread the green message.



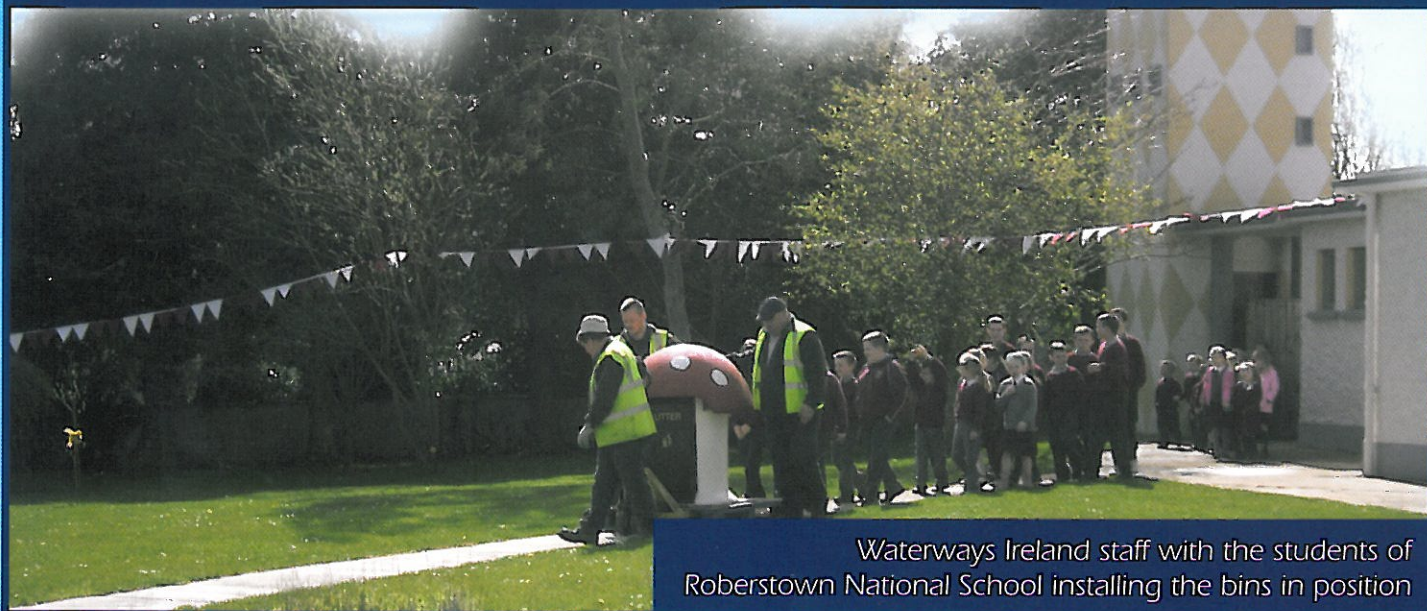
Shane Anderson, Jenny Blackford and the Mighty Mushroom Bin designer - Blaithin Byrne.



Who is hiding behind the frog????



Seanie Bulter and Joe Breen after installing the Mighty Mushroom!



Waterways Ireland staff with the students of Robertstown National School installing the bins in position