



CEIST

Catholic Education
An Irish Schools Trust



Wishing our staff,
students and parents
a very restful
Halloween break!

Halloween Newsletter

October 28, 2022



This year our TY class have been writing up this newsletter which has been in the works for the past number of weeks. Students have been working hard during their Computer classes along with the help of Ms Murphy.

We hope you enjoy reading it as much as they enjoyed writing it!!

From Class 4A & 4B

DEAR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

The past nine weeks has been very busy and an exciting first term. We welcomed our new first years in September who are continuing to settle into their new school. They have enjoyed a bonding day in Letterkenny and a variety of activities during Friendship Week and Wellbeing Week.

This term, we welcomed three new teachers to our school: Mr. Lee (Science, Ag. Science, Biology), Ms. Walton (Science, Maths) and Mr. Hunter (PE). Our extra-curricular profile continues to broaden and will do so over the next few months.

A huge thank you to our staff for their never-ending hard work and commitment on a daily basis – without them, much of what you read about here would not have happened.

This newsletter celebrates the **talents** and **achievements** of our students. Congratulations to all those who won, took part or even helped out in various events this term. Thanks to all parents for your continued support this term.

OPEN NIGHT 2022-23

Our open night for 1st year 2023-24 will take place in the school on **Thursday 17th November**. Enrolment packs and application forms have issued to 6th class pupils in primary schools. If you have not received one, please let us know by emailing office@cmbm.ie.

STEM Club

1st 2nd and 3rd year students have been enjoying a range of activities in our new STEM club each Wednesday lunchtime. Thank you to Ms Walton for running the club.



CAT Testing: Students from 1st 3rd and 6th year have taken part in the process of Cognitive Ability Testing. (CAT). The purpose of cat testing is for us as a school to identify and understand how each individual student learns best, for example through written materials or visual cues.

Student Mentors This year we welcome back our mentoring program, 'Big Brother Big Sister' which allows 1st years to settle better into our school with the help of our TYs, who have done a wonderful job in helping the 1st years find their feet. The Mentoring Program has resulted in our new 1st years feeling settled in their new school.

Leaving Cert Results

Well done and a huge congratulations to the Leaving Cert Class of 2022 on completing their exams and receiving excellent results in return for all of their hard work. We wish them the best of luck for the future!

CHOIR SUCCESS!

On Friday the 21st of October, the school choir went to Derry and competed in the Derry International Choir Festival. They won a silver certificate in the post-primary school's Par 2 competition and also won the Bishops Daly and Mehaffey award for outstanding performance in the school's competition.

During the trip the choir also sang 3 songs in the Foyleside shopping centre and got a chance to walk around the walls of Derry. It was a fantastic day out for all and was a great experience for the choir.

A huge thank you to Mr o' Connor and Ms Heaney-McGreal for all of their hard work getting the choir ready for the event.



GLOBAL SCHOOLS

Recently our school has become more involved in making sure we do our part to keep the planet safe. Ms. O'Donnell and many of the first years along with the help of some TY students planted more flowers and plants around the school. This year we invested in new benches for outside the canteen which are made with sustainable materials. They have been a huge hit with first years!

We also invested in new bins for the school which help to keep our school grounds as clean and tidy as possible. Ms. Greene and the TYs have cleaned up the vegetable patch and planted shrubs.

The WWGS (World Wise Global School) committee continue their hard work in creating awareness about the environment and biodiversity by planting pollinator friendly plants. This year the committee will focus on other global themes that impact our daily lives, such as climate change, responsible consumption and production and clean and affordable energy.



ART TRIP TO DUBLIN

Ms. McGrath and her 3rd, 5th and 6th year art students enjoyed a trip to the National Botanical Gardens in Dublin on Monday the 26th of September. Students had a very enjoyable experience. Thanks to Mr. Coen and Mr. Lyng for accompanying them. Ms. McGrath and her TY students also had the opportunity to visit the Model and Abbey in Sligo.



OPENING SCHOOL MASS

On Thursday 27th October we celebrated our opening school mass. It was a lovely celebration of all the pupils have achieved in the first term. Thank you to Fr. James for celebrating with us.

TRANSITION YEAR

We are back! After a very quiet year with no Transition year at Coláiste Muire we are delighted that for the first time there are two transition year classes. There has **been a fantastic start to the year with both activities** taking place inside and outside of the classroom. Here is a snapshot of what we have been up to. . . .

Surf Trip

On the 8th of September the TY students had a very enjoyable day out in Strandhill. They had a great surfing lesson from Strandhill Surf School and enjoyed ice cream from Mamma Johnson's afterwards. The students showed great enthusiasm and hope to go back later on in the year. It was a fantastic start to the year.

TY Bake Sale

On the 27th of September Transition Year students held a bake sale to raise money for the shoebox appeal. There were loads of different kinds of buns, cakes, biscuits and drinks. Buyers were spoilt for choice!

A massive thank you to all the TY students who put in huge amounts of effort. Over €700 was raised and the money raised will go towards the shoe box appeal.

Zip-It

On Thursday 22nd September our TY pupils went on a trip to Zip-it in Boyle Forest Park. Zip-it is a mix between zip lining and treetop challenges.

The pupils spent roughly an hour going through all of the challenge levels. Each colour represented the difficulty of the challenge. Two brave pupils even completed the most challenging red line!

Pupils finished the day off by visiting the coffee shop in Lough Key and getting a well-earned treat.

Mini-company

TY students have been working on their Mini Companies since the start of the year. They have put in a lot of effort with it over the past few weeks and are coming up with great ideas for their products. We had two speakers into the school to talk to the students about their ideas, which really helped them as well. They will have a fair around Christmas time, where they will be able to sell their products.

OUR SPORTING CORNER...

School Girls Gaelic Football:



Juniors:

On October 25th 2022 the Junior girls had a match against Grange Secondary School. The girls travelled to Ballymote pitch for their final game of the season. The girls had a great first half scoring plenty of goals. In the second half Grange kept the girls busy by going into our half of the pitch. But it wasn't to be for Grange with the Ballymote girls securing a comfortable win with a score of 9-8 to 3-4.

Seniors: On October 18th the Senior girls travelled to Sligo to face Mercy College Sligo in the final game of the season. In the first 10 minutes of the game the girls were up by 6 points with 2 great saves from our goalkeeper, keeping us in the game. Then at the 20 minute mark Mercy College brought back the score to a 1 point game with 2 good goals. In the second half the girls were down a few points but with determination the girls brought the game back to a level playing field. Mercy College just had the edge and got a few goals defeating Colaiste Muire by 5-17 to 5-5.

School Boys Gaelic Football:

During the year the school competed in many football matches.

- The 1st and 2nd year boys competed in a football blitz in Scardaun on Thursday the 22nd of September.
- On the 29th of September the Senior boys won decisively against Enniscrone with a final score of 5-16 to 5-8.
- Following the Senior's win, the Junior boys drew with Mohill in an exciting game on Wednesday the 5th of October. The game's final score was 2-11 to 1-14.
- On Monday the 10th of October the Senior boys won very strongly against Carrigallon with a final score of 1-20 to 0-14.
- Finally on Monday the 24th of October the Junior boys won by 2 points in a tough game against Enniscrone in the Began Centre of Excellence in Mayo.



MERCY DAY!

We celebrated Mercy Day in school on the 26th of September. Pupils made posters and a display in Religion classes. We heard prayers and reflections over the intercom.

Mercy day is the anniversary of the opening of the first house of Mercy which was opened in 1827 by Catherine McAuley who founded the Sisters of Mercy.

The Mercy tradition is based on the values of compassion, respect, integrity, justice, hope and joy.

1ST YEAR BONDING TRIP!

On Thursday 29th of September all 1st year and the TY mentors went to Letterkenny Adventure Centre, it was a full day out leaving the school at 9:15am and not returning until 6:30pm! When pupils arrived in Letterkenny they were introduced to the instructors and we were put into 3 groups with group 1 doing zip lining first, group 2 doing footy golf and group 3 doing archery and a maze. It was great to see the first years getting on so well together and helping each other out, particularly when pupils were afraid of the heights. It was fantastic to see everyone being so supportive to their fellow classmates!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Monday 7th November:** School re-opens
- Thursday 10th November:** School closed for staff training
- Thursday 17th November:** 1st year 2023-24 Open Night
- Wednesday 23rd November:** JC Results
- Monday 28th November:** School closed (discretionary day)
- Tuesday 29th November:** 3rd year Parent-Teacher Meeting
- Tuesday 29th November:** 6th year CAO Info. Evening
- Monday 5th December:** 1st year Parent-Teacher Meeting
- Wednesday 21st December:** School closing for Christmas

MERCI MADAME...

This term we were delighted to have Madame Guebel helping us in language classes. Madame Guebel is from the Alsace region of France and has been working with pupils alongside Ms. Murphy in French classes for two weeks in October. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn first hand about French culture. Pupils from 1st to Transition Year worked on the theme of sports and the Olympic Games Paris 2024., Whiles senior students appreciated the help for their orals!

FOR A GOOD CAUSE...

On Thursday 13th October Students held a non-uniform day to help 6th Year student Malachi Drew raise money for the 'Shine a light' fundraiser held by Focus Ireland. Despite the poor weather Malachi took part in the event and spent the night outside to raise awareness about homelessness in Ireland. Well done Malachi!