



# Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed agus Gaelcholáiste na Siúire

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## Important Dates

**July 1<sup>st</sup>**

CAO Change of mind

**July 15<sup>h</sup>**

FETAC Results

**August 15<sup>th</sup>**

Leaving Certificate Results

**Mid September**

Junior Certificate Results

## Principal's Address

We have come to the end of a very busy, exciting and successful academic school year and it has heralded many changes and causes for celebration, so I hope you enjoy reading about some of the exciting activities we have had in 2011/2012. Firstly, I want to thank the students for their pride in their school and their participation in so many activities; be it in academic studies, sport, music, drama, debating, art, business, charity work etc. our students do themselves, their families and their school proud. I would also like to thank our hardworking staff for their commitment and dedication in striving to get the best out of all our students. On behalf of the staff, I thank the Parents Council for their ongoing cooperation, support and their hard work and efforts with the school weekly Lotto. I would like to thank the Board of Management for their vision, leadership and continued commitment to the successful running of the school. I also wish our exam students continued success in their remaining exams and I know that their hard work will be rewarded by excellent results. We wish all our staff members that retired during the school year a happy and fulfilling retirement and we welcome our new Deputy Principal, Ms Clare Wallace and wish her every success and enjoyment in our school. Finally, I wish all students a very enjoyable and safe summer holidays.

*Denis Quinn, Principal*

## Farewell and Best Wishes

After many enjoyable and fruitful years of service, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed and Gaelcholáiste na Siúire said a sad farewell to five of its most loyal staff members - **Principal Mrs Fiona O'Sullivan, Ms Donna Ryan, Mr Karl Walsh, Ms Ann Hackett and Ms Rita Quinn**. They will be greatly missed by the whole school community and we wish them long life and happiness in their retirement. The staff and students would also like to wish Ms Gemma Duff every success in her teaching career in Dublin.



## Parents Council

The Parents Council of Coláiste Mhuire Co Ed and Gaelcholáiste na Siúire are a group of parents who have children in the school. Our job is to try to raise as much money as we can to help buy things that the school needs to help our children learn and get the best education possible. The weekly Lotto which you are buying gives €1.23 of every €2 to the school. Sales have improved greatly and we thank all who supported us during the year. We made €560 from the recent clothes collection and we hope to continue fundraising next year.

Presently our committee is made up of : Deirdre Dunne-Chairperson, Bernie Ryan-Assistant Chairperson, Geraldine Egan-Secretary, Ann Marie Carroll-Treasurer, Mary Russell-Assistant Treasurer, Joe O' Sullivan and Kathleen Wright. We wish you all a happy and safe summer and look forward to having some new parents to join our team next year.

*Deirdre Dunne, Chairperson*

## Farewell to the Class of 2012

On Thursday May 24th, the 6<sup>th</sup> year class of 2012 celebrated their graduation. The group spent the day in Kilkenny where they went bowling accompanied by Ms Delaney and Ms Wallace. On returning to school, the girls were treated to a pampering session organised by Ms Walsh where they got their hair styled and make-up done. Later that evening the group celebrated their graduation with a prayer service in the school Assembly Hall celebrated by Fr. Joe Egan. We wish our 6<sup>th</sup> year students well in their upcoming exams and in their future endeavours.



### Education for Life

The Post Leaving Certificate students and Art teacher Ms Regina Dorney of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed and Gaelcholáiste na Siúire, Thurles ran a very successful Art Exhibition “Education for Life” in L.I.T, Thurles campus. This involved all the Education Centres of North Tipperary V.E.C under the guidance of C.E.O Mr David Leahy.

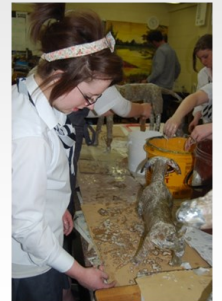
The young artists visually depicted their interpretation of what Education for Life means to them, which was expressed in a variety of media including Installation Art, Photography, Sculpture, Bricolage, Print and Painting.

It was officially opened by renowned artist Robert Ballagh. Many paintings were sold on the night and the exhibition ran from March 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup>.



### Man’s Best Friend

The 2<sup>nd</sup> year students of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed and Gaelcholáiste na Siúire, Thurles successfully ran a two day workshop with Art Teacher Ms Regina Dorney and sculpture Diarmuid Neilan. The sculptures were based on the student’s dogs where they made preparatory and investigative drawings based on their observations. This developed into 3D constructions and the dog sculptures were made out of recycled materials. The students stressed their concerns for the environment, where each dog carried an environmental message creating awareness of such issues. The theme of this project was to reduce, reuse and recycle.



### Visit to Áras an Uachtaráin

A group of senior students along with the Principal, Mrs O Sullivan were invited to Áras an Uachtaráin on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October to witness President McAleese’s last official ceremony. Five ambassadors presented their credentials with all the pomp and ceremony that accompanies such a formal procedure. The Army Guard of Honour was inspected by each ambassador individually. Following the ceremony, The President was introduced to all the students. Frederick (German), Miguel (Spanish) and Dónal Ó’Maolchathaigh (Irish) addressed the president on behalf of the students in their respective languages. The students were surprised and impressed when she replied in fluent Spanish and Irish and complemented them on their Gaisce awards. Ben Walsh made a presentation to Mrs. McAleese on behalf of the school. Ben’s father, Commandant Michael Walsh, along with the four other Aide-De-Camps were present on the day. It was a memorable and historic occasion for the teachers and students present.



### Visit of Eucharistic Bell

The School Choir led by Ms Wallace and the Students Council led by Ms Cahill formed a guard of honour to welcome the Eucharistic Bell to our school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October. In fact, our school was the last stop before it left County Tipperary. In his address our school chaplain, Fr Lanigan Ryan reminded us that the bell is calling us to pray, to hear the voice of God in our lives and to contemplate and be silent. He also reminded us that bells symbolise joy and are rung at festive times like Christmas and Easter. This bell is asking us to celebrate our faith. Prayers were read by Dónal Ó’Maolchathaigh and Jessica O’Gorman. Ms Dorney’s art class decorated the library with beautiful religious paintings for this important visit. At the end of the ceremony students and teachers were invited to ring the bell.



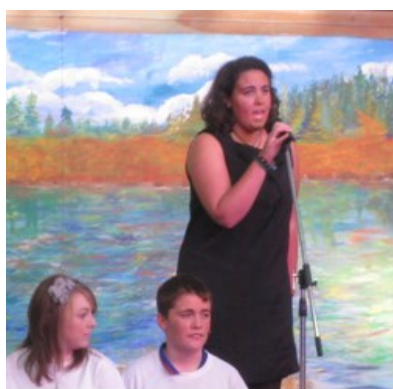
### Lisheen Mine Venture

This year saw the inaugural school's business partnership with Lisheen Mine. Our TYs and LCA students had a unique opportunity to experience the world of work first hand and to get a taste of the wide variety of careers. This was followed by sessions on cv preparation and interview skills before mock interviews and feedback. The highlight of the link was the opportunity the students had to "go underground" and visit the mine itself. At the end of year our students presented a 'wrap' session highlighting what they learned from the link, and also presented the mine with a montage of photos and a cheque for the Four Peaks challenge charities. The students and staff received very positive feedback from Mr Terry McKenna, HR Manager at Lisheen Mine and Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed looks forward to working with the mine again next year.



### Camp Rock

The lights were dimmed and the hall was festooned with balloons for this year's show Camp Rock which was staged on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October along with two matinees. The beautiful backdrop of blue sea and flower power set the summer tone with aplomb. **Shane Grey**, ably played by **Dean Quinn** with all the grooves of a rocker, was teaching at camp rock while keeping a look out for a band singer. **Mitchie Torres (Ciara O Dwyer)** captured his interest with the opening number "Who will I be". Ciara with her beautiful voice did a wonderful job on this popular song. **Tess Tyler** played with attitude and confidence by **Caomhe Egan** checked out Mitchie and put her in her place. She was aided by her side kicks **Peggy (Jessica O Gorman)** and **Ella (Patricia Perote)**. **David Walsh** played **Brown**, leader of the camp with authority. The Camp auditions were captivating with solo performances from **Lola (Sveva Scarioni)** singing "Our Time is Here", and Tess (Caomhe) singing "Too Cool". Shane (Dean) stole the show with his rendition of "Gotta Find You". Another poignant moment was when Shane joined Tess for the duet "This is Me".



Others who shone on stage were Rachel O'Connor, Brima Jordan, Nils Oprecht, Miguel Barroso, Melissa Stapleton and in particular Mary Maxfield. The chorus featured strongly throughout and filled the hall with a variety of numbers "Hasta la Vista", "Play My Music" and "We Rock". In her closing address Mrs O Sullivan praised all the performers for their excellence and thanked the staff for their hard work in particular Miss Browne (Producer), Miss Wallace (Music), and Miss Byrne (Choreography) along with Miss Dorney and Mr O Connell from the Art Department and Mr Dunne (Construction). The chorus and cast finished up a wonderful show with one last rendition of "We Rock". The audience showed their appreciation with a tumultuous round of applause and a standing ovation as they too rocked on.

### Junior Certificate Schools Programme

Congratulations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year students who have completed JCSP and received their official certification from the Department of Education and Science.

Since Christmas 2<sup>nd</sup> year JCSP students have taken part in a Creative Writing Programme. Elements of the programme included string poems, pattern poems, sense poems and short stories. Students displayed their work in the **Make a Book Exhibition** which took place in Cork City Hall at the end of March. As part of the trip to the Make a Book Exhibition students also visited the Crawford Art Gallery.

A number of successful JCSP initiatives have taken place during the year in the areas of Science, Art, Irish, Literacy and Numeracy. Well done to all students who have taken part all these initiatives.

### Visit to the National Ploughing Championships

In September, the TY, 5th and LCA students enjoyed a day trip to the National Ploughing Championships in Athy and were accompanied by Mr Dunne, Ms Conroy and Ms D Ryan.



### Science Week

The Junior cycle students and 5<sup>th</sup> year students attended events titled Move It!!! and a Space Chemistry Magic Show organised by LIT Tipperary. Both shows were very enjoyable and informative and many students eagerly volunteered to help out the presenters. Also, the TY students displayed their research work on famous scientists around the school and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students tested their science knowledge by taking part in a science week quiz.



### Educational Trips to Limerick and Dublin

In January, the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year biology students attended a "Biology for Today" symposium in the University of Limerick which included four very informative talks anchored in the LC Biology Syllabus. In February, the senior cycle biology and art students enjoyed an educational and fun tour to Dublin where they visited the Human Body Exhibition, the Science Gallery in Trinity College, the National Art Gallery and the Natural History Museum.



### Science Magic Show

As part of the JCSP Science Initiative, a Science Magic Show visited the school and all Junior cycle students enjoyed a very exciting and interactive show full of magic and involving the use of fire, liquid nitrogen, flowers etc. and it had plenty of student interaction.



Well done to the TY and LCA students who participated in different fundraising projects in aid of the **Myasthenia Gravis Association Charity** and successfully raised a total of €253.82 from their Plant-A-Bulb Campaign and Flowering Plant Sale.



### LCA Tasks 2011/2012

Well done to the 5LCA and 6LCA students who worked extremely hard throughout the year in completing tasks and key assignments in their various modules.



**Trip to the Zoo**

On Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> all students who took part in the school show “Camp Rock” were treated to a day out in Dublin Zoo and some retail therapy in Newbridge on the way home. A great day was had by all and the trip has created a buzz about next year’s production.



**Trip to Cobh and Mitchelstown Caves**

A very successful cross curricular Literacy and Numeracy initiative ran in the school this year with all first and second year students. The initiative was the brain child of Ms Maura Wixted and was based on the Titanic. The initiative captured the minds of the students and helped to promote a whole school approach to Literacy and Numeracy. The initiative culminated with a trip to Cobh to visit the Titanic Museum. The group also visited the Mitchelstown caves. Well done to all involved.



**Gaisce Trip to Kerry**

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, a group of 24 Transition Year and Fifth Year students travelled to Castlegregory in Co. Kerry for a Gaisce adventure trip. The students trekked through Glentennassig Park and climbed Carrigadav Mountain. After 4 hours of trekking students took time out on a nearby beach before enjoying a well deserved barbeque. Many thanks to all for a great trip especially to Commandant Michael Walsh for guiding the group through the Gaisce experience.



Aodhán de Buitléir agus Brian Ó' Lanagáin a bhuaigh gradam i bhFéile an Aonaigh i rith na bliana.



### “Ag dul go dtí an Ghaeltacht....”

Pilib Ó Súilleabháin agus Caoimhín Mac Lochlainn bliain 1, a bhuaigh scoláireachtaí chuig Gaeltacht Corca Dhuibhne i rith na bliana. Bain sult as a bhuachaillí.



### Business News

Our business students completed a business plan which allowed them to improved their literacy and numeracy skills. The latter is outlined in the Finance section of the plan which shows the cost of producing the goods and the finance needed, a trading account was completed for each business. If applying for a loan in the banks they always look for a good business plan. Students met with Ms Bergin to work on their businesses at lunch time so well done to all.

To further prepare our business students for real business life our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students visited the **Bank of Ireland**. They were given a tour of the bank and shown the lodgement room which looks after the needs of businesses with large lodgements and facilitates large withdrawals. Students were given a talk on the various sources of finance available and what interest rates are available. They were also given the option to open an account and start saving. By completing the application form with their parent/guardian signature, they have successfully opened an account and this process enhances their literacy skills.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year Business students worked in groups to develop business ideas and produce business plans. The school market day was 7<sup>th</sup> December when they put their ideas into action and presented their products for sale. Among the goods on sale were lamps, Christmas decorations and logs, sweets and confectionery. There was a great buzz in the hall as the whole school community shopped for Christmas. Also invited were third and fourth class from Gaelscoil Bhríde who especially enjoyed the pancakes and popcorn. Four first year and three second year teams were chosen to represent our school in the **Young Entrepreneur County Competition**. Innovation, use of recycled goods and profit were among the criteria used in selecting the winners. **Congrats to the following teams who each won a second place in the county final: 1st year students: Bríd Gleeson, Ciara Dorney, Aaron Moriarty and Kevin McLaughlin and 2nd year students Belinda McCarthy and Milena Rataj.**



### NFTE Enterprise Awards

David Walsh with his web design company Dominant Design represented the school and the southern Ireland region in the ALL Ireland final of the NFTE competition in April. David presented his business to a panel of business experts including Bobby Kerr of Dragon's Den fame and was named runner up on the day, narrowly beaten by his fellow competitor from Dublin. He received a cash prize and a glass trophy and will continue to work on his business for the future. Congratulations David!



### World Language Day

A wide variety of activities was organised by Mr Fahy and Ms Tuohy to commemorate World Language Day on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Transition Year students made language posters that they displayed throughout the school to raise awareness. The students played language games. They enjoyed a French breakfast and watched a French film. This immersion in French was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

### Kickboxing Five Nations Silver Medal

Dylan Mc Kay travelled to Newark England with his trainer from the Thurles club Pat John Mc Coole on 27<sup>th</sup> November. He took part in the Five Nations competition where he won his group and made it through to the final. He was beaten by the English boxer thus winning the silver medal. Well done Dylan. This is a huge achievement and good luck with your kickboxing career.



### Senior Girls Volleyball



*Congrats to our Senior Girls team on reaching an All-Ireland Quarter Final*

### Niall O Sullivan visits his Alma Mater with the Minor All Ireland Cup

The anticipation in the hall was palpable. The Tipperary rap song was playing as Niall and his parents Jacinta and Joe passed the guard of honour provided by The Student Council Officers. Niall entered the hall to rapturous applause. The school and pupils were all covered in blue and gold for this historic occasion. Present also with the group were Declan Burns, Andy Ryan (GAA Youth Development Officer) Fergal Mc Donnell (selector), Hugh Coughlan and Eddie Ryan (supporters club). Mrs O Sullivan praised Niall and said it was a great honour for the school to have a past pupil winning an All Ireland Medal. She complimented him on his work ethic both on and off the field which has contributed to this wonderful achievement. She hoped others would continue in his footsteps mentioning in particular his brother Philip in 1<sup>st</sup> Year. Many thanks to all concerned who took the time to come to our school. It was much appreciated by the students who loved having their photo taken with their hero and past pupil Niall.



### Athletics



*Congrats to Martin on winning a Bronze medal & to Luca on winning two Silver Medals at the East Munster Athletics Competition in Waterford.*

### School Sports Day 2012

On the last day of term, the students and staff enjoyed a fun filled sports day organised by Ms S Byrne which had a variety of different activities including soccer, sack races, tug-o-war, wheelbarrow, egg n spoon, three-legged and relay races.



Awards Ceremony

There was a great sense of expectancy and excitement in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed on Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Bean an Tí Iníon Ní Chathail took us through the awards which have become an outstanding milestone in the students academic lives. Several students received recognition for their achievements in a wide range of activities, Art, Music Enterprise, Woodwork, Languages and Sport. Transition Year and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year JCSP students also received their end of year certification at the ceremony. The Principal, Mr Denis Quinn thanked every student for their contribution during the year. He said that he was very proud of them and that they were all using their talents to full potential. The evening concluded with entertainment provided by students from the PE and Music departments.

Annual Awards

Entrepreneurial Spirit  
Comórtas an Óg Fhile

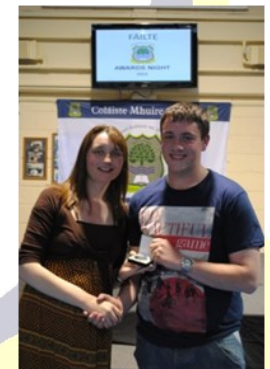
LIT/Tipperary Language  
Community Spirit  
Sporting Excellence  
Music  
E.F Student of the Year  
Sports Bursaries

Hurling  
Camogie  
Gaelic Football  
Soccer  
Volleyball

Mary Delahunty Cup  
Seamus Maher Award  
Frank Dwan Award  
Best Leaving Certificate  
Best Junior Certificate  
1<sup>st</sup> Year Student of the Year  
2<sup>nd</sup> Year Student of the Year  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year Student of the Year  
TY Year Student of the Year  
5<sup>th</sup> Year Student of the Year  
5<sup>th</sup> Year LCA Student of the Year  
6<sup>th</sup> Year Student of the Year  
6<sup>th</sup> Year LCA Student of the Year  
Principals Award

David Walsh  
Brian O'Lanagáin  
Aodhan De Buitléir  
Donal Mulcahy  
Lisheen Mine  
Dylan McKay  
Ciara O Dwyer  
Michaela Eitel  
Philip O'Sullivan  
Kevin McLaughlin  
Sean Butler  
Leigha Delaney  
Colm Ryan  
James Maxfield  
Sveva Scariono

Conan Flynn  
Andrew Morris  
Kerry Wright  
John Dunne  
Brima Jordan  
Philip O'Sullivan  
Stephen Troy  
William Bowe  
Frederik Hanlein  
Jessica O Gorman  
Piotr Ryczynski  
Ciara O'Dwyer  
Paddy Nolan  
James Maxfield



**THANK YOU** We would like to thank all staff who contributed to our newsletter. Ms D Ryan & Ms H Wallace.