



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed Thurles



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Principal's Address

Welcome to our *Summer Newsletter*. We have come to the end of another busy, vibrant and exciting school year in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed and I hope you will enjoy getting a glance into student life as you read through our newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate students every success in their exams and I know your hard work will be rewarded. I wish to thank our hard working Parents Council, Board of Management and teachers for their on-going cooperation, support and vision. Have a great summer!

Denis Quinn, Principal

F1 in Schools All Ireland Champions

Congratulations to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Eds Formula 1 Team "**Firebolt Racing**" who designed a F1 model racing car using a very advanced 3D CAD package and successfully scooped the **F1 in Schools Entry Class All Ireland Champions** title. The 2nd year students also won awards for the **Fastest Car**, the **Best Portfolio** and the **Best Sponsorship and Marketing Campaign**.



Photos shows "**Firebolt Racing**" team members **Padraig Connolly, Ellen Clarke, Jack Murphy and Leisha Ryan** proudly displaying their winning trophies with their teacher **Mr Jack Spillane**.

School Digital Champions visit Google

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed is involved in the **School Digital Champion Pilot Programme** and our 2nd year students with the guidance of Ms Bergin and Ms C Wallace worked on different aspects of ICT for their project research, including videoing, data analysis and building up a social media presence. The visit to Google HQ in Dublin was an inspiration to both students and teachers and they thoroughly enjoyed this unique experience.



"Success in Maths"

Congrats to 2nd year student **Darragh Sweeney**, who is the proud recipient of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Eds **Maths Achievement Award**.

Darragh's hard work and effort at Maths throughout the year was acknowledged at the Awards Ceremony, when he was presented this unique award by Maths teacher **Mr J Brennan**.



Tipperary ETB County Hurling Champions

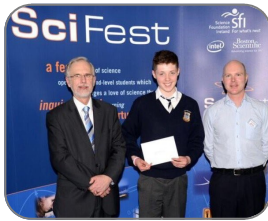
Congratulations to the 1st and 2nd year hurlers of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed and their coaches **Mr S Ó'Crádóg** and **Mr JP Butler** on their superb victory in the final of the Tipperary ETB SCC Hurling tournament.



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed are now accepting applications for September 2018.

Apply early to avoid disappointment, as we are currently operating a waiting list for September 2017.





SciFest 2017

An impressive array of eight Science projects greeted the judges at SciFest 2017 in the LIT Thurles campus. Second year student Cormac Walsh received a special award for Physical Science in Junior Certificate with his project entitled '*An Investigation into the Effect of Adding Cow Manure to Concrete*'. First year students were also highly commended by the panel of judges with projects such as '*Turning Milk Into Plastic*' (Daniel Nolan & Gareth McCarthy), '*The Corrosiveness of Metals*' (Bill O'Dwyer), and '*Centripetal Forces*' (Nathan Kenehan & Killian Hayes). Special acknowledgement must be given to teachers Ms Smith & Ms Carey on receiving an award for the best Chemistry teachers at SciFest!



Congrats to all students involved and their teachers and a special thanks to LIT Thurles who hosted the event. More information on courses in LIT Thurles can be found on www.lit.ie.

La Semaine Française

During French week, students got to work with a French theatre company, participate in a French quiz and treasure hunt, enjoy a French film and taste the very best of French cuisine, including l'escargots which went down a treat. Délicieux!!



Student Council

As part of a Fun Day school fundraiser in March, the Student Council members organised a soccer match featuring Senior Students versus The Teachers.



The match was extremely enjoyable to watch and had a competitive edge to it, as neither team wanted to be the losing side. However, on this occasion the teachers were victorious!



CSPE

All 3rd year students visited Templemore Garda Training College as part of their CSPE Action Project.



Japanese in the Sun!

Some members of Martin Sensei's Japanese class practicing their Kanji with calligraphy in the Summer sunshine!

"Ag dul go dtí an Ghaeltacht...."

Congratulations to Aaron Ó'hÍcí & Pól Ó'Sirideáin a bhuaigh scoláireachtaí chuig Corca Dhuibhne Gaeltacht in West Kerry.



Comhghairdeas le Katelyn Ryan a bhuaigh scoláireacht chun na Gaeltachta sa chomórtas Féile an Aonaigh le Conradh na Gaeilge.

DEIS & School Self Evaluation

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed continues to engage in school self evaluation. Our focus is on DEIS-providing opportunities for all our students. This year we have reviewed our school *Literacy* strategy, continued to implement our *Numeracy* strategy and implemented a new *Learning and Teaching* plan around embedding formative assessment practices. We used the TL21 forum, which was run through Kilkenny Education Centre with seven staff, over a two year period to guide us in this work. The full DEIS plan and SSE documentation is available on our website at www.cmco.ie.

Photo shows teacher Ms Geaney receiving the TL21 Cert from Mr Paul Fields, Director of Kilkenny Education Centre.





School Business Partnership

We had another successful partnership with *Dew Valley Foods* this year. Our students gained a broad range of knowledge into the world of work. During the school year, all 5th year LCVP students under the guidance of their teachers experienced a site visit, engaged in “day in the life” presentations, mock interviews and student presentations. The staff at Dew Valley Foods were extremely informative and willing to give of their time.

By Mr J Brennan, LCVP



Photo shows Ms Eleanor Walsh, Schools’ Business Partnership Coordinator for the Midwest presenting a poster outlining the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development to Mr Denis Quinn, School Principal.

Photo shows Mr Paddy Bourke, European Sales Manager with Dew Valley Foods presenting a School Business Partnership Certificate to 5th year student Beatriz Nonell.



Humanities Tour

The 1st year students and their teachers undertook a Geography and History tour recently, visiting local, renowned attractions including Cabragh Wetlands, Holycross Abbey and the Rock of Cashel. Feedback from all in attendance was positive, as students were enlightened by superb talks delivered by tour guides in each venue.



Art Success

Congrats to Kayleigh Cronin and Gareth McCarthy who were selected from the Mental Health Ireland Art Competition to exhibit alongside artist Lisa Butterly in Dublin City Council offices.



Second year art student Elaina Thackaberry was awarded a certificate of honourable recognition for her outstanding art entry in the “*Lets Talk About Drugs National Youth Media Awards*”. A special thanks goes to Art teacher Ms Dorney for anchoring both projects.



Photo shows Cormac Walsh & Rebecca Elphick displaying their BT Young Scientist Project at the Gorta Self Help Africa Office, as part of the Science for Development Event.



Coding in First Year

All first year students received Scratch Certificates for completion of Scratch projects. Students worked for a number of weeks on their games, quizzes and mazes with the assistance of their coding teachers Ms Bergin, Ms Hayes and Mr Fanning.



Best Wishes to the Class of 2017

The graduation day began with the students making a trip to Silent Orchard Airsoft in sunny Rossmore Village, accompanied by class tutor Mr Brennan and Ms Delaney. On their return to the school, they enjoyed a fabulous lunch prepared by the school canteen in the courtyard where they were joined by many of their teachers. Their final school day finished with a very moving and emotional graduation ceremony which was celebrated by school chaplain Fr Hennessy. A huge thank you to all the teachers, students and parents who organised and assisted in making this occasion such a memorable day. We wish the class of 2017 all the best in their future endeavours!





Transition Year News by Claire McGrath, Cameron Ferncombe & Áine Flynn

Barcelona Tour



We flew to Barcelona on April 6th for a four day overseas school tour. Our accommodation was based in Salou, approximately two hours drive from Barcelona. When we arrived we went on a guided tour of Barcelona, followed by a guided tour of Parc Guell. We also visited the Olympic Stadium. We travelled to the hotel, checked in, enjoyed our dinner and relaxed. The next day, we woke up early and headed to Camp Nou, the home stadium of FC Barcelona and afterwards we visited the beautiful La Sagrada Familia church. We travelled back to the hotel early and after dinner we went bowling. On the third day, we went to the Aquarium, shortly followed by a walk to Las Ramblas, where we spent the day shopping. In the evening, we had free time to spend around Costa Dorada, which had beaches and shops just a 10 minute walk from our hotel. The final day was spent in Portaventura World. There was a variety of rides, shops and restaurants there. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the tour abroad!!

Creative Engagement Project

Mr Philip Quinn, a local renowned stonemason and sculptor from Holycross came to the school to do the creative engagement project with us. It was a six day project. We each had different jobs to do, such as brick laying, spray painting, carving slates and sanding. This year we added a new seating area, tables and decorative slates to the outdoor atrium.

On our graduation day, we showcased our creative garden and had a group photo taken with two of our mentors, Mr Philip Quinn and Tipperary hurler Mr Noel McGrath.

Some other events and activities that the TY students participated in or attended this term included the:

- **Road Safety Seminar** in Garda Training College with Ms Conroy.
- **Great Irish Bake** for Temple Street Children's Hospital with Ms Dunphy successfully raising €300.
- **EA Robotics Challenge** in Galway with Mr O'Sullivan.
- **Agricultural Science Farm Visit** with Ms Kenihan.
- **Drug & Alcohol Awareness Film** for drugs.ie with Ms Geaney.
- **Scratch programming, HTML Web Design and Construct 2 Programming** with Ms Bergin.
- **French Film Competition "Bonjour Bonheur"** with Mr Fahy.
- **Student Enterprise Competition** with Ms Dunphy and selling commemoration pins to fundraise for local charities.
- **Gaisce** - The President's Award

Congratulations to all our Transition Year Graduates and well done on all you have achieved both as a class and individually!



TY Construct 2 Programming

As part of the Transition Year Coding Programme, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed has liaised with LIT Tipperary to undertake a course which will emulate first year Computer Science Studies in college. Consequently, the TY students completed a manual which worked through Construct2 and created 2D games. Our TY students found it challenging, but enjoyable and deemed it a most positive experience!



Photo shows TY students who successfully completed the online Construct2 manual with their teacher Ms Bergin and Dr Liam Noonan, lecturer of Game Design and Development in LIT Thurles.



CMCO in Bloom

Photos show 1st year and 5th LCA students busy decorating flower tubs with beautiful summer flowers.



Student Enterprise 2017

Congratulations to our students who were awarded certificates in Junior, Intermediate and Senior categories at the recent Student County Enterprise Competition in LIT Thurles. Among the business products undertaken were wood turning products, customised candles, recycled slate products and Christmas decorations. Third year student Oscar Lipinski won third place in the Intermediate Category. Business Studies teachers Ms Bergin & Ms Molumby must be acknowledged for their guidance and mentoring of each young entrepreneur involved.



Photos show our students displaying their Student County Enterprise Certificates and 3rd year student Oscar Lipinski being presented with his 3rd place award at the county finals in March.



2017 Robot Games Ireland

In early May, TY students Dylan Molumby and Rúairí Barrett showcased their Sumo Robots using the genie microcontroller at the *ICT in Education Conference* in LIT Thurles. On May 16th, a group of TY and 5th year students and their teacher Mr O'Sullivan ventured off to Galway to partake in the *All-Ireland Sumo Robot Competition 2017*. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance!



2nd Year School Tour

On May 11th, all second year students and their class tutors went on their school tour to *Tayto Park* which boasts attractions such as, the *Cú Chulainn Coaster*, *Air Race*, the *Rotator*, the *Climbing Wall* and *Zipline* and much more. Mr Fanning and Ms G Cahill were especially courageous on the day and braved *Air Race*. The weather was spectacular and lots of sun cream was needed!



I would give the park ten out of ten and would highly recommend it.

By Ellen Clarke



Business Studies Pilot with the NCCA

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed is one of seven schools working as part of a pilot scheme with the NCCA (National Council for Curriculum) to develop new assessment techniques which will form part of the new Junior Cycle Business Studies curriculum.

The 1st year students were busy working on marketing padlets, making and presenting Kahoots and designing marketing posters as part of the NCCA assessment of tasks.



By Ms Molumby



Photo shows some of the 3rd years on their school tour to Jump Zone, an indoor trampoline park in Dublin. A fun day was enjoyed by all!

Biology Students carry out an Ecological Study of the Cabragh Wetlands



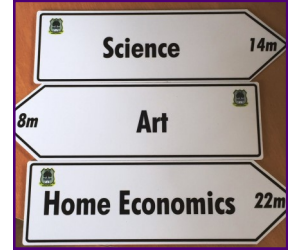
Photo shows the 5th and 6th Leaving Certificate Applied students proudly displaying their certificates after successfully completing sessions one and three respectively. Congrats to all!



JCSP News

A huge thank you to all the teachers and students that have been involved in JCSP Initiatives this term. A wide variety of events have taken place including *Celebrity Chef*, *Artist in the Classroom*, a *French Drama* and a *Cross Curricular Initiative* creating signage for the interior of the school. *Make A Book* was also in full swing again this year with all 1st year students creating a recipe book based on *"Healthy Eating"*. In May, all first year students enjoyed a school tour to Dublin Zoo as part of our JCSP Summer Celebration. Well done to all 3rd year students who received their official JCSP Student Profiles from the Department of Education and Science.

By Ms H Wallace



JCSP Make a Book

One of the most memorable events for me this term was the *Make A Book Exhibition* which took place in the Strand Hotel, Limerick. The theme for the book was *"Healthy Eating"*. All 1st year students participated. Each student created a recipe, cooked it and photographed their meal for the book. My recipe was a healthy breakfast consisting of poached eggs on spelt and honey bread.

By Kayleigh Cronin, 1st Year

School Choir News



The school choir worked very hard this term preparing for the 6th year graduation ceremony and the annual awards night. We practiced out in the music room every lunchtime. I love music and singing, so I didn't mind giving up my free time. I had two solo numbers *"The Climb"* and *"Stand By Me"*. Other soloists included, Danny Slattery, Cormac Leahy, Gareth McCarthy, Kayleigh Cronin, Kacie Dorney, Katelyn Ryan, Leisha Ryan and Jennien O'Gorman. I am really looking forward to September, when we will begin rehearsals for our school show *"Bring It On"*.

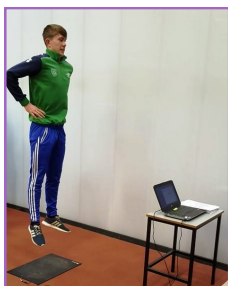
By James O'Donoghue, 2nd year

"Darkness into Light" Walk for Pieta House



Health Promoting Schools, ASF & Friendship Week

The Health Promoting Schools team are in the process of applying for the Health Promotion Flag. The themes for this year are *"Mental Health"* & *"Healthy Eating"*. A huge number of events were organised to combine the Health Promotion Schools, Active School Flag and Friendship Weeks. Every student received a planner for healthy eating and to help track their weekly exercise. All year groups participated in the *LIT Performance and Wellbeing workshops*, where they were coached by 1st year LIT Strength and Conditioning students and overseen by Kilkenny All-Star hurler Michael Fennelly. Students were treated to an inspirational talk from guest speaker *Jamie Harrington* on *Mental Health and Community Activism* and Jamie officially opened the *"Wellbeing Wall"* in the school surrounded by Ms G Cahill, Ms Martin and the 5th year students who helped to design the wall.



It was really lovely to see some of our Leaving Certificate 2016 class, who have completed their first year in Further Education revisit our school.

Photo (l to r): Maciej Walczak & Aaron Hassett (Limerick School of Art & Design), Cristina Elphick (Sport and Recreation in Athlone IT), Philip O'Sullivan (Athletic Therapy & Rehabilitation in Athlone IT) and former year head Mr PJ O'Connell.



Athletics



It was a very successful and busy term for our budding athletes having won 15 medals in the Tipperary County Athletics Competition in Templemore and 4 medals (3 gold and 1 bronze) in the East Munster Athletics Competition in Waterford. Armand Schoeman won gold in the 100m sprint and 75m hurdles, Azuolas Varnele won gold in the shot putt and Gavin Ryan claimed a bronze medal in the 1500m race. Our school also won the best minor school award at the East Munster event. Armand Schoeman claimed another gold by winning a Munster Minor boys in the 60m hurdles at the indoor athletics finals.

In March, our school was the only Tipperary school selected to take part in the **Bank of Ireland Talent ID Programme** in association with **Athletics Ireland** and eighteen students along with teachers

Ms E Carey and Mr JP Butler, were lucky enough to attend a prestigious masterclass event in the National Sports Campus in Abbotstown.

The students had an opportunity to take part in the long jump, sprints, vertical jump and other athletics based workshops with Olympic & Irish athletes such as David Gillick, Brian Gregan and Kerry O'Flaherty before learning top nutrition tips from a sports and performance nutritionist and ways to positively train the mind through a sports psychology talk. A fantastic day was enjoyed by all!

Soccer

Congratulations to the u14 Soccer team on reaching the East Munster semi-final following a superb victory over St Ailbe's of Tipperary Town in the quarter final.



U15 Gaelic Football

Photo shows the u15 Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed Gaelic Football squad that reached this year's county semi-final of the Sciath Uí Chatháin. Well done to all!



Well done to Gavin Dunne who is pictured with Principal Mr Denis Quinn at the awards night, where he was presented the **Best Leaving Certificate Trophy** for his outstanding results in 2016.

Gavin is presently studying **Architecture** at the University of Limerick. Gavin was also an **All-Ireland winning member of the 2016 Tipperary Minor Hurling team**. We wish him every success in the future.



Cross Country

Congratulations to our silver medalists in the **Minor Team** event of the East Munster Schools' Cross Country Championship held at WIT.

Photo (l to r): Adam Fanning, Nathan Jordan, Gavin Ryan, Luke Galvin, Eoin Craddock, Killian Crosse and Mr D Fahy (coach).



Handball Tournament

The 1st year boys and girls enjoyed great success in their first ever tournament having won 1st and 2nd in the junior girls, 1st in the junior mixed doubles and runner up in the junior boys.

Many thanks to their coach Mr JP Butler.

Rugby at CMCO is growing at a rapid pace each term. Students are involved with the Munster Development Squad and are participating in many blitzes throughout the school year.



U15 Rugby Squad

Hurlball

Congrats to singles champions Eoin Craddock & Luke Galvin on winning their respective competitions and to Eoin Craddock & Seán Ryan on winning the doubles competition at the Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed Hurlball Tournament held recently at Holycross/Ballycahill GAA Club. Many thanks to organisers Mr S Ó'Cradóig and Mr JP Butler.



Awards Ceremony 2017

On Thursday 25th May, a great sense of excitement filled the assembly hall in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed as Mná an Tí, Ms Geaney & Ms O Ryan introduced the various awards at the annual awards ceremony. A vast array of awards, including some new STEM and sports awards were presented reflecting the achievements and talents of students during the school year. Special guests on the night included Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly, Ray Corbett, Denis O'Reilly, Joe O'Sullivan, John Hogan and representatives from various charities. The school choir and pianist Rebecca Elphick entertained the large crowd. Tremendous energy and input went into organising this most auspicious event and huge acknowledgement goes to awards ceremony coordinator Ms A Purtil.



Annual Awards

Scratch Certificates	All 1 st Year students
JCSP	All 3 rd Year Students
LIT Language	Nicholas O'Halloran
Entrepreneurial Spirit	Killian Crosse
Junior Music	Rebecca Elphick
Senior Music	Kacie Dorney
French Scholarship	Scott Beaton
Maths Achievement.....	Darragh Sweeney
Green Schools	Ivan O'Sullivan, Scott Beaton & JJ Schoeman
Scientists of the Year.....	Cormac Walsh & Rebecca Elphick
Scoláireachtaí	Aaron Ó hÍcí & Pól Ó'Sirideáin
Robotics.....	Dylan Molumbly & Rúairi Barrett
CMCO Achievement.....	Michael Spillane, David Kearney & Callum Hall
Seamus Maher Cup.....	Adam Shanahan
Frank Dwan Cup.....	David Morris
Mary Delahunty Cup.....	Thomas Grimes
Best Leaving Certificate 2016.....	Gavin Dunne
Best Junior Certificate 2016.....	Scott Beaton



Student of the Year Awards

1 st Year	Kayleigh Cronin
2 nd Year.....	Kellie Healy
3 rd Year.....	Conor Patterson
5 th Year.....	David Manning
5 th Year LCA.....	Liam Ryan
6 th Year.....	Brid Gleeson
6 th Year LCA.....	Emmet Clarke
Principals Award.....	Brid Gleeson

Sports Awards

Junior Hurling	Luke Galvin
Senior Hurling.....	Jack Dwan
Junior Football.....	Eoin Craddock
Senior Football.....	David Manning
Junior Soccer.....	Luke Galvin
Senior Soccer.....	Aaron Delaney
Athlete of the Year	Armand Schoeman



Sports awards were also presented for successes in Handball (girls, boys and mixed awards), Cross Country, Track & Field events, Hurlball and the winners of the Tipperary ETB Hurling tournament were presented with their county medals. Excellent attendance across all year groups was recognised and successful students were justly rewarded. Over €3,000 was raised by the students and staff of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed and donation cheques were presented to representatives from Temple Street Children's Hospital, Suir Haven, Mo Chara Animal Rescue, Tipperary Parkinson's Association, St Mary's Golden Years Day Centre, Community Hospital of the Assumption, Tipperary Red Cross and Tús Nua by members of the Student Council. Platinum, Gold, Silver & Bronze Merit Awards were presented to 1st and 2nd year students in recognition of their overall contribution to school life.



THANK YOU Míle buíochas to the staff & students who contributed to this newsletter and to the editors Ms D Ryan & Ms H Wallace. For more information on Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, log onto www.cmco.ie