



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed

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Important Dates

January 5th

School reopening in 2015

January 7th - January 10th

BT Young Scientist Exhibition

January 8th

1st & 2nd years

Parent/Teacher meeting

January 15th

Closing date for UCAS

January 19th - January 23rd

Friendship Week

January 24th

Incoming 1st year testing

February 1st

Normal closing date for CAO applications

Principal's Address

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all our Leaving and Junior Certificate students on their excellent results in State Examinations, 2014. We wish our Graduates the best of luck in their chosen fields of study in Universities and Colleges right across Ireland.

As you read through this newsletter you will see that it has been an action packed and exciting year to date. September 2014 saw the introduction of iPads, and academic tracking for students. Christmas tests are now complete and students' hard work will be rewarded when results arrive home.

The extra curricular diary is also very busy. Students are engaged in a vast array of activities and sports such as Young Scientist, MATHlethes, Green Flag, Business Initiatives, Hurling, Gaelic Football, Camogie, Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Athletics, Swimming and School Musical. County success has already been achieved in first year hurling, first year basketball and senior basketball.

I will conclude by thanking our Parents Council and Board of Management for their continued support and I wish all our students, teachers, staff and their families a peaceful Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful New Year.

Denis Quinn, Principal

u19 Boys Basketball team win Midlands Regional Final



Victory for Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed Hurlers in the County Hurling Blitz Final

Our 1st year hurling team defeated teams from Templemore, Roscrea, Carrick-on-Suir and Thurles C.B.S. to progress into a closely contested final against Coláiste Phobail Roscrea which they won on a score line of 2-02 to 0-02.

Also included in the photo are hurling coaches Mr Stapleton and Mr Brennan, Deputy Principal Ms Wallace and Principal Mr Quinn.



Best of Luck to our TY and 5th year students in the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition in January



All Ireland Engineering Award

Congratulations to 2014 Leaving Certificate student Patryca Brzeszcz who won the "National Young Engineer Award" for her outstanding Engineering project at the National Engineering & Technology Awards Ceremony in Maynooth.



Photo shows Patryca proudly displaying her prestigious award and the high performance truck that she designed and made in Engineering class with Engineering & Technology teacher Mr T Byrnes, Principal Mr Quinn and Deputy Principal Ms Wallace.

Second Level is a New Chapter for our First Year Students.....



"I am enjoying my time in first year. I like all my friends, teachers and subjects" - Ivan O'Sullivan

"In this school, I made new friends. It's a brilliant school - Nikesh O'Halloran

"Tá mé ag baint taitneamh as mo laethanta anseo agus tá na múinteoirí go deas ar fad" - Lauren Byrne

"I really like secondary school. I like all subjects." - Joey O'Donoghue



"Ar dtús, imionn na laethanta go mall ach, nuair a fhoghlaimionn tú cursaí sa scoil, imionn said níos tapúla. Díriú ar obair chrua! Rath as Saothar" - Caylum Pitout

"Rinne me a lán cairde nua anseo agus is breá liom na hábhair nua" - Zoe Ní Dhuinn

"I love the sport and food choices in the canteen" - Gary Delaney

"I'm enjoying this school, the teachers are nice and I've made lots of new friends" - Matthew Cullen

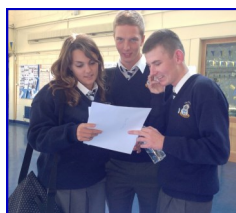
"I really like this school, there are really interesting teachers and good subject choices. Some of my favourite subjects are Woodwork, Art, Home Economics, English and Science.

The canteen is amazing too" - Cara McLaughlin

"It is very different to primary school, you don't feel the time passing in secondary school as you are constantly moving classes. I have met a lot of new people and made new friends" - William McCarthy



Smiles Galore!



Congratulations to the 2014 Junior Certificate students on their excellent results.

Photo shows a delighted Aaron Moriarty (on right) ringing home with the good news of his Junior Certificate.

Comhairle na nÓg

Three delegates Arnold Arnoldius, Chantelle O'Dwyer and Seán Kearney represented Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed at the Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg in the Horse and Jockey Hotel recently.

Comhairle na nÓg is a forum that gives children and young people a voice at community level. *"The United Nations Convention on Human Rights"* was the topic of discussion this year and students also participated in a workshop themed *"No Hate Speech"*.



Photo shows Student Council members and teachers Ms Cahill and Ms Hickey wishing P.E. teacher and Tipperary Hurler Mr Paddy Stapleton all the best in the All-Ireland Hurling Final.

Shakespeare's Othello

Our 6th year English class students had a unique opportunity to experience the best of *Shakespeare's Othello* offered by the Gaiety School of Acting at the Nenagh Arts Centre. The programme involved a workshop focusing on original text and designed to directly address the 2014/2015 English syllabus Shakespeare question. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all students and the feedback was very positive.



Photo shows 1st year students Kornelija Varnelyte & Madison Pitout displaying some of their work on Open Night.

Geography Trip to West Clare

In early September, the 6th year Geography students and their teachers ventured to West Clare to undertake their Leaving Certificate Geographical Investigation.



This year they studied coastal erosion and methods of protection at Lahinch, Creg Beach and Clahaun Beach and the beautiful autumn sunshine was perfect for the collection of all the necessary data for their coursework.

Heading towards Self Evaluation



In our **Literacy Initiative**, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed is focusing on **Reading for Pleasure** and **Vocabulary Instruction**. To encourage students to read, all Junior students have one library class per week. Our new library was recently stocked with €12,000 worth of books and new titles are due to arrive after Christmas. We have a **Red Wall** and students are encouraged to share their favourite book by displaying the title on the wall. Every fortnight, the whole school engages in **DEAR** or **"Drop Everything and Read"**. The use of **Keyword** notebooks and **Eportfolio** projects with students encourages the use of technology to improve spelling and grammar.

The school is currently establishing data to identify target areas in **Numeracy** and two current initiatives are to create a **Maths rich environment** and the **That's Maths** initiative where students are to identify Maths in different subject areas throughout any day.



Photos show Oskar Lipinski (1st year) receiving his **That's Maths Award** from Principal Mr Quinn and Colm Keyes (2nd year) receiving his award from Ms Conroy. Oskar and Colm are the first winners in their respective years of the **That's Maths Initiative**.

School Musical

This year the students and staff enthralled and captivated audiences with an awesome production of "Back to the 80's". The cast of the school musical which was staged in The Dome included students from 1st to 6th year. The show brought the audience back to a time when M.J. Hammer, Rick Astley, Cindi Lauper, and Wham etc. were the kings of pop! A journey to the world of cassette tapes, Pacman, The Rubik Cube, The Karate Kid, legwarmers and the Ninja Turtles. The audience joined the final year students of 'William Ocean High' as they explored the themes of friendship, love and adolescence. All this drama was played out to such unforgettable numbers as 'True Colours', 'Footloose', 'Grease Lightning' and 'Walking on Sunshine'. Huge credit goes to all involved in the production of another outstanding and memorable musical. In particular, congratulations to Ms. Geaney, Ms. Murray, and Ms. Hickey who oversaw the choreography, musical directing and production of this year's musical "Back to the 80's".



Transition Year News

A special Céad Míle Fáilte to all our non-national Education First (E.F, SPIL & EDEX) students who have chosen our school to undertake their education from such places as Switzerland, Spain, Austria, Germany, France this academic year. Some foreign students are here for one term only and will be leaving our school at Christmas time.

The TY class have had a very enjoyable and rewarding first term experiencing life inside and outside of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. The class have enjoyed educational and recreational trips to the **National Ploughing Championships**, the **European Union Parliament Offices** in Dublin and to **Killary Harbour Adventure Centre** where the students completed the famous Killary Turf Challenge, High Ropes and Laser Combat Challenge.



Students are participating in various activities and projects such as community care, BT Young Scientist, Gaisce award, Chinese, school musical, marketing, creative writing, woodcraft and sculpture, engineering, fitness testing, yoga, knitting and many more. Each student is also keeping an eportfolio of their work which is a learning record providing evidence of actual achievements and can also be a platform for self expression.



Earlier this term, the class completed a **Peer Leadership Training Day** and duly received their certificates from Tipperary Regional Youth Services (TRYs). In Social Education class, the students undertook a project entitled **"Be happy, be bright, be you"** under the guidance of their teacher Ms Geaney. In small groups the students carried out projects pertaining to problems and concerns of young people in society today. The project leaders were Brid Gleeson and Emma Enari. The class also coordinated a Christmas Shoebox appeal on behalf of **HOPE Ireland** where they collected a wide array of items that will be greatly appreciated by deprived children in Developing Countries over the Christmas period.

Horse Riding

In Ireland, you have a lot of cross jumping and hunt shows. In Germany, we have a lot of dressage and show jumping. In every country there are people, who say that riding is not a sport, but this statement is not correct. The only thing is that you move other muscles than those moved by soccer or rugby players. It is a very old sport and some people say that it is a girls sport. That is not correct either, I know a lot of boys and men who horse ride.

So, what exactly do I want to tell you about horse riding? I want to say to you:

Forget all the prejudices and try it.

Try dressage and jumping.

Maybe you like jumping more or maybe dressage.

Horse riding is not only that you sit on a horse and do nothing.

Horse riding is when you interact with your horse and you trust your horse and the horse trusts you.

There is one sentence, which says all these things:

We horse ride to fly, to feel, to touch, to breath, to laugh, to relax, to belong, to heal, to love & to be loved back.

We horse ride to LIVE.

Written by TY student Saskia Heinrich

One Book Project

TY students are currently busy reading the book titled **"The Girl who Came Home"** by Hazel Gaynor which is based around the Titanic. The class under the guidance of their English teacher Ms B Ryan will present a project on the book later this year in Thurlis Library.

The Road To Success

Is Always Under Construction

Hard work is the yeast that raises the dough.

A pint of example is worth a gallon of advice.

It's not the load that breaks you down it's how you carry it.

Patience carries a lot of wait.

People don't fail they give up.

Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

Tosach maith leath na hoibre.

Déanann taithí máistreacht.

Wenn einem das Wasser bis zum Halse steht, dann soll man den Kopf nicht hängen lassen - if there's water up to your neck don't let your head drop.

Lo difícil se consigue, lo imposible se intent - How hard is achieved, the impossible is attempted.

Written by TY student Brid Gleeson



1st Year Boys Basketball Team win the All-County ETB Basketball Blitz

In September, our 1st Year Boys Basketball team had a superb victory over St Ailbe's of Tipperary Town to win the All-County ETB Cup. Earlier, the team beat off stiff competition from Comeragh College, St Ailbe's and Coláiste Dún Iascaigh to qualify for the final.

Photo shows the panel of 1st year basketball players involved in this fantastic win.

u19 Boys Basketball

Our Senior boys basketball players and coaches Ms Hickey and Ms Delaney had a very successful term that culminated in December with a fantastic win against Scoil Mhuire of Clane, Co. Kildare in the u19 Midlands Regional Final. The game finished on a score line of 39-32 and the final whistle was welcomed with huge cheers from our many supporters in the balcony. Earlier in the term, the team successfully defeated Mountrath College, Scoil Mhuire and Tullamore College to reach the final. In the final, the boys played a fantastic match in defence and also in offence with captain Roland Santos leading by example with the accolade of "Top Scorer". Every player performed to their best potential and huge congratulations are extended to every member of the panel.



u20 Munster Cup Quarter Final



Our Senior soccer team met tough opposition from Fethard College and St. Fanahan's of Mitchelstown in the preliminary rounds before qualifying for the quarter final and this is a testament to the character and belief of the players involved and their coach Mr D Fahy.

In early December the team travelled to Dungarvan to play Mount Sion C.B.S. in the Munster Cup Quarter Final. The boys played very competitively in the first half with Damian Walczak stepping up to equalise the play with a superb goal. However, it was not to be a Munster Cup semi-final date for Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed as they had to succumb to a slightly better Waterford team on the day. Well done boys on reaching the quarter final!

1st year Soccer



In November, two 1st year soccer teams participated in the 7-a-side ETB Soccer Blitz in Killenaule. Our players had some great patches of football and were unlucky not to progress to the finals. These games helped prepare them for their opening round Munster Cup match against Scoil Ruain of Killenaule.

Gaelic Football



There has been a huge amount of Gaelic Football played at all levels in the school this year and their coaches Mr Ó'Crádóg and Mr Fahy are delighted with the numbers showing up to training.

Our **u15 Gaelic football team** had a well deserved victory against St Joseph's of Borrisoleigh earlier this year with Aaron Maher, Aaron Delaney, Cillian Donaghy and Bill Hogan showing great leadership qualities on the pitch from the start. In Round 1 of the Junior Cup, the team lost out to a stronger Ennistymon Community College team on a score line of 4-08 is to 3-06 to Ennistymon.

Our **1st year Gaelic football team** participated in the County Football Blitz in Cahir and many players showed some impressive passages of play which can only improve with training and practice of skills and teamwork.

Our **Senior football team** played against a formidable Coláiste Cluain Meala in the County Quarter Final and it was a very even contest in the first half but Clonmel claimed the spoils in a sporting and well fought second half. Excellent performances on the day were from Gavin Dunne, Liam Ryan, Paul Murphy, Curtis Ryan, Patrick Buckley, David Manning and Noel Walsh.



Swimming



On Sunday December 7th, Ben O'Sullivan Jack Keogh, Francesco Radovani and David Kearney represented Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed in the Munster Schools Swimming Competition in the University of Limerick Arena. All swimmers swam well with Francesco reaching the final but unfortunately he narrowly missed out on a medal.

County Tipperary Cross Country Championships

Congratulations to our Junior Athletics team comprising of Aaron Fogarty, Bill Hogan, David Kearney and Oskar Lipinski who have qualified for the forthcoming 1,500m team event in the Munster Championships. The team ran superbly in the County Championship and we wish them every success in their next race.

Science Week @ Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed

The Science Department organised a number of events based around the theme "The Power of Science" during science week. These events included a visit to an EirGrid interactive electricity show in the Nenagh Arts Centre, a Junior Science table quiz, daily slide shows with interesting facts about the Power of Science around us, a live online chat with various scientists working throughout Ireland and a visit to see the Mad Professor Science Show in the Thurles library.



Photo shows members of the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place team winners in the Junior Science Table Quiz with Science teacher Ms D Ryan.

Photo shows 1st year student Matthew Cullen on stage with the "Mad Professor".



Photo shows 2nd year Science students asking challenging questions to scientists in a fast-paced online chat as part of the "I'm a Scientist Get me out of Here" event that they participated in during Science Week.



Cabragh Wetlands Ecological Study



Photo shows 6th year Biology students on their visit to Cabragh Wetlands with ecologists Michael Long, Anne Lloyd, Adam Tozer and Vinny O'Meara. The students completed a full ecological study of the hedgerow and meadow habitats in this wonderful ecosystem gathering a vast amount of information that they can use in the Leaving Certificate exam.



Photo shows 3rd year Science students and their teachers Ms D Ryan and Ms M Smith at the EirGrid Electricity Show.

BT Young Scientist Exhibition



The preparation for the young scientist exhibition are moving up a gear and our two teams are busy analysing their collected data. TY students Julia Letz, Ana Zuazua and Pia Kolb earned a place in the Social & Behavioural category at the forthcoming BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition with their project entitled "The Attraction of Ratio" and 5th year students

Eleonora Micozzi and Lara Unger qualified for the Senior Technology category with their project "The Point of a Parabola - focusing signals for a better wireless network".

The students, teachers and staff would like to take this opportunity to wish our two teams and their Science teacher Ms M Smith the best of luck in the exhibition in January and we look forward to supporting them at the event.



Active Leisure Flag

This year the school is participating in The Department of Education and Skills initiative, to recognise schools *that strive to achieve a physical educated and physically active school community* by awarding them the Active School Flag (ASF).



This is a whole school approach, led by teacher Ms Molumby and the ASF Committee.

Drop Everything and Read



Photos of students participating in the reading for pleasure action which is part of our Literacy SSE.

Career Guidance News

Earlier this term, all 3rd and 6th year students were treated to a very important study skills seminar presented by a speaker from the Student Enrichment Services. The students learned about study time management, effective note taking, exam techniques and the "SES TEST" method of studying. Feedback from our students was very positive following this seminar.

Our 5th and 6th year students visited a Higher Options Conference in Kilkenny where they attended lectures from various organisations and institutions who offered them valuable advice and information about application processes to Third Level Education in Ireland and in the U.K.

ETB Inter Schools Talent Quest

On December 4th, four students represented the school in the county semi-final of the ETB Inter Schools Talent Quest; 6th year student, Stephen Troy played traditional flute, TY student Ciara Dorney sang the Beatles number "Let it Be" to rousing applause, Arron Wort, 3rd year sang "Let Her Go" by Passenger and Dylan Molumby, 2nd year sang "Stolen Dance" from Milky Chance.

Our students acquitted themselves admirably and while we did not enjoy success we certainly flew the flag for the school with great pride and with excellent performances. Well done to all and many thanks to their teacher Ms Murray for organising the event.

Green Schools News

This year the Green Schools' committee is working on their second green flag for Energy. The committee is bigger than ever and the students are committed to reducing energy consumption in our school. We congratulate Aaron Moriarty on being elected Chairperson and Philip O'Sullivan on becoming Vice Chairperson. We look forward to the year ahead and encourage everyone to help reduce energy.



Business Trip to Dublin

Our senior Business Studies students visited the Offices of the European Union Parliament in Dublin and thoroughly enjoyed participating in a table quiz following a very informative presentation.



School Bank

Earlier this year, Business Studies teachers Ms Bergin and Ms Walsh organised for the opening of a school bank to encourage students to save small amounts regularly.



Photo shows Bank of Ireland official Patricia Ryan with some new bank customers.

School Business Partnership with Lisheen Mine

In early December, the 5th year students got a unique opportunity to experience the world of work first hand at Lisheen Mine when they visited the mine and got a guided tour of the plant underground and over ground. Lisheen Mine have been liaising with our 5th year students over recent years and undertaken programmes that have involved preparing students for the world of work and incorporating mock interviews, C.V. preparation and presentations.



European Code Week

In October, the TY ICT class and their teacher Ms Bergin participated in European Code week where they created individual TY websites using coding languages HTML and CSS. Our students thoroughly enjoyed this topic and had excelled in many areas by the end of the week.

CSPE Trip to Nenagh Courthouse

The 3rd year CSPE classes accompanied by their teachers Ms Cahill and Mr Ó'Crádóg visited Nenagh Courthouse to undertake their action project that comprises 60% of their overall Junior Certificate CSPE result. The students viewed court proceedings in full session, got a tour of the building including a visit to see the holding cells and a tour of the old Nenagh Prison to learn about conditions and sentencing in Victorian Irish jails.



Photo shows TY students with the Christmas Shoeboxes they collected on behalf of Hope Ireland.

Photos show ceramic pieces that 6th year Art, Craft & Design students were working on last term under the guidance of their Art teacher Ms Cahill.



How Merry Christmas is said around the World....

Nollaig Shona Dhuit! (Irish), Merry Christmas! (English), Feliz Navidad! (Spanish), Frohe Weihnachten! (German), Joyeux Noël (French), Buon Natale! (Italian), Feliz Natal! (Portuguese), God Jul! (Norwegian), Vrolijk Kerstfeest (Dutch), C Рождеством (Russian)

Written by TY students Julia Letz, Simona Voney & Emma Enari



Christmas Market Day



Our Christmas Market Day took place on Friday 5th December and this year 10% of profits from each business was donated to the Suir Haven Cancer Support Centre. Students from first to sixth year set up businesses with the aim of making a profit and competing in the young entrepreneur competition. There was a huge variety of products on sale which included mini-hurleys, gift bags, candle holders, cakes, buns, Christmas decorations & cards, sweets, key rings, candles and much more. The market also created a warm and festive atmosphere in the school. Well done to all our budding young entrepreneurs and to their business teachers.



Students help to decorate the Christmas tree.



Junior & Senior Camogie

Our Junior and Senior camogie teams participated in the County Blitz against St. Anne's, Tipperary Town, Scoil Ruain and Ballingarry earlier this year. The girls gave fully committed performances in all three matches and no doubt the experience will stand to them in future tournaments. Outstanding performances in the competitions were from Claire McGrath, Leanne McGrath, Cara McLaughlin, Nicole Manning, Katelyn O'Gorman, Katelyn Ryan & Mary Moynihan. Our 1st and 2nd year girls have been making huge strides in training under Ms Cahill and they recently participated in a number of



Mr Ó'Crádóg with extended help from Ms McGrath and they recently participated in a number of competitive indoor camogie matches against St Anne's of Tipperary Town which were hosted in the Dome.

Hurling News

Hurling training has been ongoing with coaches Mr P Stapleton and Mr J Brennan throughout the term.

So far this year our **1st year hurling team** enjoyed a fantastic win in the final of the Tipperary County Hurling Blitz against Coláiste Phobail Roscrea.

Our **u15 hurling team** played in the U15 Hurling Blitz in Dr Morris and enjoyed successes against Newport College, Rockwell college and St Ailbe's of Tipperary Town in the group stages allowing them to qualify for the Shield Final against Thurles C.B.S.

Our **u16 hurling team** played in two very competitive matches against Coláiste Dún Iascaigh and Rockwell College and some excellent performances were noted from David Manning, Gavin Dunne, Padraig Gleeson, Dylan Molumby and Patrick Buckley.

Our **Senior hurling team** were narrowly beaten by St Clement's College, Limerick in their first outing this year.



All-Ireland Volleyball Semi Final



Photo shows the Senior boys Volleyball team who were narrowly beaten by Mountrath College from Laois in their semi-final contest.

Our u15 Boys Volleyball team played three competitive matches in a tournament in Mountrath against Coláiste Íde, Mountrath Community School and Dungarvan.

Good performers included Endijs Mickelsons, Emmett Clarke, Brian Curran and Francesco Radovani. Included in photo is their coach Ms D Wall.



JCSP News

On December 18th, the families of all 1st and 2nd year students were invited into the school to view samples of their work as part of the Junior Certificate Schools Programme Christmas Celebration. Also, many of our JCSP students received a well deserved post card delivered by post from their teachers acknowledging their positive work ethic and enthusiasm to learn.

THANK YOU I would like to thank the students & staff who contributed to this newsletter and to wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas. Ms D Ryan