

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

December 2017



SAVE OUR PLAYING FIELD!

The Clonkeen Playing Field Action Group, is a group of 10 individuals comprising of teachers, parents, a former Principal and a former Clonkeen Board of Management Chairperson. As everyone is aware the Congregation of Christian Brothers informed the school last May of their intention to sell 7.5 acres of our playing field. Legal action was taken, by seven Board of Management (BOM) members, against the Christian Brothers to reverse these plans.

The Action Group individuals have come together to offer their help and different levels of expertise to support the seven BOM individuals in their campaign to try and save the fields from being sold. The Action Group is working tirelessly to promote the cause and to actively support in the form of fundraising and practical help. It has been working solidly since May and continue to meet weekly, every Wednesday night.

We now have a website up and running. You will find it at saveclonkeenplayingfield.com. This incredible website has been constructed by an Action Group member. This website answers questions you may have regarding the current situation as well as lots of other related information. Donations to the cause can also be made directly on the website. Other fundraising initiatives, organised by various members of staff, include the selling Car Stickers, selling Christmas Trees, selling Christmas Cards and organising a Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you to everyone in the Clonkeen College community for supporting these massive efforts and ventures.

The Action Group is also in the process of organising a 50th Anniversary Gala dinner for past pupils and friends of Clonkeen, to be held on the 6th April 2018 in the Clayton Hotel (formally the Burlington). Everyone in the school is very excited about this event. With more than 3,000 past pupils expected to attend, it will be a very heavily subscribed event. Please contact Ms Gibson at the school or email clonkeentickets@hotmail.com if you need further information or tickets for this exciting event.



Please continue to constantly contact politicians at local and national level. Please try to seek publicity and open avenues in any way you can through social media, main stream media and anyone else who will listen!

Thank you to everyone who is supporting our school in its endeavours. We look forward to your continued support in the New Year. We would like to wish a happy and peaceful Christmas to all!

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UCD Entrance Scholars

Congratulations to four members of the Class of 2017 who have been recognised by University College Dublin at the Ad Astra Entrance Scholars awards ceremony that took place on 16th November.



Ned Quirke, Naoise O'Conluain and Kevin Gannon were all recipients of UCD Entrance Scholar Awards. This honour is awarded to 1st Year students who have achieved 560 points in the Leaving Certificate Examinations (or equivalent), in recognition of their accomplishment to date. Ned is currently pursuing a degree in Medicine, Naoise, a degree in Commerce and Kevin, a degree in Economics and Finance.

Seán McDonald was the recipient of a Sports Scholarship. Seán has made a name for himself as a talented soccer player. He has made several appearances for Ireland as an underage player and has been a key member of UCD's U19 team playing both in the Airtricity League and in European competition. Seán is studying for a degree in Sports and Exercise Management.

We hope that all four boys will enjoy their time at UCD and we wish them every success in their future endeavours.

Health Promotion Flag

Clonkeen College received its Health Promotion flag on 26th October. The flag comes after much hard work by teachers and students. The Health Promotion Team has implemented several initiatives over the last two years, as they worked towards achieving the flag for Clonkeen College. The merits introduced for 1st Year students last year have continued with both 1st and 2nd Year students involved this year. Rather than only discouraging poor behaviour with bookings, the new system has used merits to encourage good behaviour. Students can achieve these merits through excellent homework, great effort and class participation. The team has relied on both students and teachers working together to get the flag.



Congratulations to the Health Promotions Team, who have been the driving force behind positive change in Clonkeen, on this wonderful achievement. The teachers and students involved were Mr Brennan, Ms Dunlop, Ms Egan, Fionnan Kelly, Oscar Singleton, Aaron Maher, Liam Georgieff and Michael Keane.

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Leaving Certificate Biology Success

We would like to extend our congratulations to Ned Quirke (Class of 2017) and his Biology teacher Ms Egan on Ned's fantastic Biology result in the 2017 Leaving Certificate Examination. Ned finished top of a cohort of 27,000 Leaving Certificate Biology Students. This is a remarkable achievement. Ned and Ms Egan were honoured at a reception hosted by the Institute of Biology on November 24th.



Bugsy Malone

Preparations are continuing for our musical, Bugsy Malone, which will take place in March. Our actors are putting in hours in rehearsals, running lines, getting their dance moves on point and ensuring their vocals are pitch perfect. Behind the scenes, lots of work is going on organising costumes, designing sets and promotional posters. The posters have recently been printed and are now on display in the school. We look forward to getting final preparations under way in the New Year.

One of our lead actors in Bugsy Malone, TY student Seán McGrane, was snapped up by local school St Joseph of Cluny to play the role of Chad in their production of High School Musical. Fellow TY student and star of Clonkeen's Bugsy Malone, Nathan Tormey, went along on the opening night to support Seán.

Although several students from Clonkeen College, attended auditions at Cluny, hoping to be selected for a role in their production of High School Musical, it was Seán McGrane who caught their eye and was given the coveted lead role of basketball player, Chad. Following a period of intense rehearsals, tensions rose as opening night approached and final run throughs ensured that there would be no slip-ups and everything would go smoothly. Despite first night nerves, everything went off without a hitch. Seán's big solo was excellent. He performed like a true professional unperturbed by the presence of his friends and teachers in the audience. At the final curtain, the cast received a massive round of applause. Congratulations to Seán and all the other performers on a wonderful show. We look forward to seeing him in Bugsy Malone in March.

Smock Alley Theatre Visit

All 6th Year Higher Level students visited Smock Alley on November 10th to see a performance of Shakespeare's King Lear and attend a workshop on the play. The performance was excellent, as always. The workshop, which was held in the theatre this year, helped students to explore questions relating to theme, character and staging. It was an excellent opportunity for students to develop their knowledge and understanding of the text. A big thank you to the teachers of 6th Year English who organised the visit and accompanied the students on the day.

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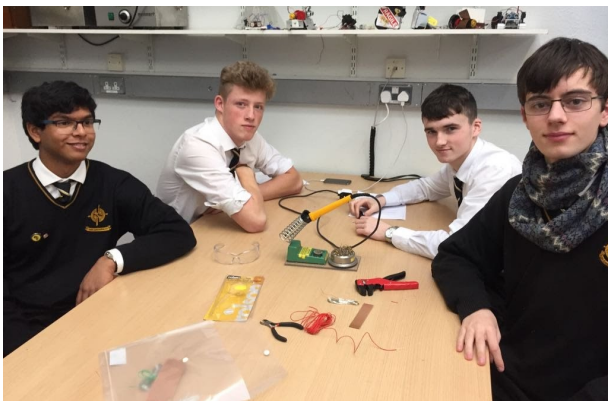
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CanSat

Clonkeen College has entered the CanSat competition for the second time! Eight students from 5th and Transition Year, mentored by Ms Duffy, will compete in this international competition, the first stage of which is run by Dublin Institute of Technology. The goal of the competition is to assemble a computer that can fit into a regular sized soft-drinks can, which at this stage is dropped from the sky by a drone! While it is falling, the computer inside collects data, and sends it to a computer on the ground.



The winning team in the Dublin area will compete against the winning teams from every county in Ireland with the hope of eventually representing Ireland in this EU-wide competition.

We wish our students the best of luck!

Clothes Recycling Fundraiser

A Clothes Recycling Fundraiser will take place on Saturday 27th January 2018, in aid of the Save the Playing Field fund. We invite everyone to declutter and clear out their wardrobes and to drop their unwanted items to the school between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. There are many items suitable for recycling that we are able to receive such as clothes, towels, handbags, belts, shoes, runners, boots, curtains and bed linen. Please note that

we are not in a position to recycle duvets or pillows. We hope that you will all support this very worthy cause – remember, every bag counts!

Library

A committee to direct plans for our new library has been formed. The student representatives are Luke Bailey (A1), Chris Cherian (A1), Oscar Lewins (A1), Kyle Delahunty (A4), Mukilson Dheepson (A4), Connor O'Brien (B2), Kian Hans Pagharion (B2), Ruairí Greene (5th Year), Finn McGrath (5th Year), Seán Nolan (5th Year) and Allencris John Rubesh Rajan (5th Year). The group, with Ms Healy, will look at many aspects of the creation of our library. They will consider the organisation of the physical space, displays within the room, literary genres, authors and activities to promote the use of this wonderful new space.



It is hoped that all their hard work will help the school achieve the National Well-Read award which celebrates the creation of a Culture of Reading and the improvement of Literacy Standards within schools. Although there is a library committee, the achieving of the Well-Read Award is a whole-school pursuit, involving everyone from students' families to our ancillary staff. We hope that all members of the school community will support our upcoming events and activities.

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Maths Week

Ms M Duffy

Maths week took place from 14th to 22nd October. Students did projects on Mathematicians, the History of Mathematics and also brought in Maths jokes.

Each day there was a puzzle to be solved (see below to see if you can solve them!). The winners from each day were:

Monday - Daniel O' Neill (6th Year)

Tuesday - Mhyla Salapuddin (2nd Year)

Wednesday - Alex Cooper (6th Year)

Thursday - Carl Cullen (6th Year)

Friday - Mike Donnelly (5th Year).

Prism took place for Transition Year, 5th and 6th Year Higher Level Maths students. This is a national problem-solving competition organised by NUI Galway. The highest scoring students in each year were: 6th Year: Oisín Murray, Joe Clarke and Tadiwa Morowa, with a score of 16/20. 5th year: Ciaran Haverty with a score of 15/20. Transition Year: Elvis Cooney, Tom O'Connor and Conor Ring with a score of 13/20.

Students then had the opportunity to take part in Round 1 of the Irish Mathematics Olympiad. Top scorers in 6th year were Oisín Murray (6/6) and Joe Clarke (5/6), in 5th year Ciaran Haverty and Sam Hayden (4/6) and in Transition Year Ryan O'Connor and Byron O'Gorman (4/6). These students will take part in mathematics enrichment classes in UCD where they hope to be selected as members of the Irish Mathematics Olympiad team. The international competition will be held in Romania next year.

Maths club has started back and takes place on Thursday at lunch time in the Physics Lab. Come and join us if you love solving problems!

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to wish Ms Kelly the best of luck in her new school. She will be missed! We have a new numeracy co-ordinator Ms Shortall. Congratulations – we love the new Numeracy noticeboard!

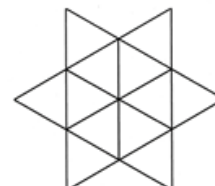
Maths Week Puzzles:

(Solutions on last page!)

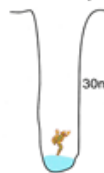
1. Which number should go in the empty triangle?



2. How many triangles can you see in the picture?



3. A frog has fallen into a pit that is 30m deep.



Each day the frog climbs 3m, but falls back 2m at night. How many days does it take for him to escape?

4. "I was between Murphy and O'Reilly" said Anne.

"I was in front of Smith and Murphy" said Mary.

While John said he was behind Smith and O'Reilly.

What are their full names and in what order were they?



5. Easter Monday 1916 occurred on the 24th April. The centenary was commemorated on Easter Monday 2016 which fell on March 28th. How many weeks were there between the two events?



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Science Olympiad

Congratulations to David Farrelly who took part in the European Union Science Olympiad trials at Dublin City University on Saturday, 11th November. It was a very challenging day, competing among the top 340 Science and Maths students in Ireland. While David did not make the final team to represent Ireland, he performed very well on the day and did Clonkeen proud. Well done to David on this great achievement!

Senior Music Students Visit NCH

On Tuesday 21st November, the 6th Year Music Class and their teacher Ms Fulton visited the National Concert Hall to see a performance of Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture.



The piece was played by the RTE Symphony Orchestra. The performance was designed to support the learning of students studying the piece as part of their Leaving Certificate Music Course. The overture was broken down into its five components: Introduction, Development, Exposition, Recapitulation and Coda. As each section was played a narrator described the techniques used by the composer and outlined important points, key to the understanding of the piece.

Following the detailed presentation of the piece, the overture was then played once more in full. The students really enjoyed the visit to the concert hall and found the experience really beneficial as they prepare for their upcoming exams. A big thank-you to Ms Fulton who organised the visit and accompanied the students on the day.

Antibullying Ambassadors

Our Antibullying Ambassadors recently ran a workshop for 1st Year students. There was fantastic participation from all students on the day and members of the group felt that it had been very beneficial for the new students. Well done to the group and their teacher mentors, Ms Egan and Ms Dunlop, who organised the day.



Disability in Sport Workshop

Brian O'Donnell from DLR Sports visited the school recently to deliver a workshop on the topic of inclusion in sport. Transition Year students worked with students from L1, learning in a hands-on way how to adapt activities to ensure that everyone is included regardless of their ability. Once again this was a fantastic experience for all who took part. We would like to thank Brian O'Donnell for planning such an interesting day and to thank Mr Howley for organising the visit.

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Anthology 2018

Accepting Submissions

Your own story or written work published in this year's Anthology available for purchase.



Work on this year's edition of 'The Anthology' is underway. The TY Creative Writing Class has formed Clonkeen College Press 2017/18 and has organised itself into Production, Marketing and Editing Departments.

The Production Team will be setting out the book towards the end of January before handing it over to the Editing Team who will prepare it to go to be printed.

Promotional posters were placed around the school from early December so keep an eye out!

The Marketing Department will be going to classes around the school early February to secure advance sales.

All support for The Anthology 2018 is appreciated whether it is by buying a copy of the book or submitting your own written piece.

If you have any further questions about The Anthology 2018 or are interested in submitting work, please feel free to direct questions to Mr Toomey in person or via email: ccp@clonkeencollege.ie

We hope to see many students of the school getting involved in the Anthology again this year! It was a great hit last time round! Hoping to see a sample of our students' amazing work!

Deadline: 19th January

Email: ccp@clonkeencollege.ie (by attachment)

Social Media:

- Twitter – @CLONKCOLLPRESS
- Instagram-@clonkeencollegepress
- Facebook-clonkeen college press

Senior Cycle Art

Ms L Healy

Ms Healy and the Senior Cycle Art Class recently visited the National Gallery and Newgrange as part of their preparation for their Leaving Certificate Art Exams. These annual trips play a key role in supporting and enhancing the learning that takes place in the classroom.

This year's gallery visit took place on October 26th, when the students had the opportunity to visit the recently restored and renovated **National Gallery of Ireland** on Merrion Square. Prior to entering

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the building, the group took a moment to appreciate the sensitive restoration of the façade and the landscaping of the grounds, which allows the showcasing of the statue of William Dargan, one of the founding members of the National Gallery. The first part of the day started at the Millennium Wing, where the students toured a temporary exhibition entitled 'For the Love of Art' that focuses on the work of Frederic William Burton.

Wicklow-born Burton spent much of his childhood in Co Clare. This connection to the West of Ireland permeates his work. He was an intellectual and emotional painter and had many friends and contemporaries in the art world: Oscar Wilde, the playwright, George Petrie, the antiquarian and George Elliot, the writer, to name but a few. He spoke many European languages and worked in Bavaria before finally settling in London where he was appointed Director of the National Gallery.

The star of the Burton exhibition is 'The Meeting on the Turret Stairs'. This painting was inspired by a heart breaking Danish ballad about the forbidden love between the Princess and her bodyguard. Burton chose to capture their last moment together. George Elliot's description of the painting is succinct and powerful:

'A divine picture... the face of the knight is the face of a man to whom the kiss is a sacrament'

-George Elliot.

Following the tour of the Burton exhibition the students then visited the permanent work that the National Gallery has on display. The guide was informative and highlighted aspects of the works on display that the students are required to know for their Leaving Certificate Exam. She drew the students' attention to: lighting, lay-out and overall presentation of the work. The class left with a greater appreciation of the role of a curator. Of particular interest to the group were the impressive 'The Marriage of Aoife and Strongbow' that dominates the Shaw Room and the 'Opening of the 6th Seal' by Francis Darby, also displayed in the Shaw Room. They also visited works by Yeats and Harry Clarke's stained-glass windows, which are now presented in a darkened room.

The class visited **Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre** on November 24th. The area boasts three significantly large passage graves – Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth. Knowth is regarded as the largest and most decorated megalithic passage grave in all of Europe. These ancient burial chambers have been declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

The Leaving Certificate History of Art Paper is worth almost 40% of their Art grade. Both visits supported and enhanced the learning that has been taking place in the classroom in preparation for this part of their course.



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Science Week

Ms M Duffy

Science Week took place from 12th to 19th November. Students did projects on scientists, inventions and also brought in jokes and facts.

The students had great fun becoming the scientists in class, performing their own demonstrations for each other. We had elephant's toothpaste, disappearing test tubes, shrinking plastic bottles and black snakes to name a few! There were even balloon rocket races across the classroom.

5th Year and 6th Year Physics students took to the yard at lunch time to do Physics Busking in the yard. Even the teachers took part in the experiments (thanks Mr. Brennan!).



2nd Years took part in *I'm A Scientist*. Students got to chat online to real scientists involved in medical research and then vote for who they felt were the best scientist based on criteria they had debated in class. This was a great learning experience of what science is like in the working world!

A strongly-contested quiz saw our 3rd Year students dig into the depths of the scientific knowledge. The winners of a brain cell keyring were Shane Russell, Dominik Chechlowski and Adam O'Donnell.



The Irish Science Teachers Association Senior Science Quiz was held on 16th November at University College Dublin. The winners of the regional round were The High School, Rathgar. Well done to our three teams who took part. The 6th year students involved were: Eamonn Flannery, Joe Clarke, Patrick Craddock, Johnnie Bell, Killian Farrelly, Oisín Murray, Alex Cooper, Ferdia Moore and Conor Stokes.

We were delighted that Ned Quirke (Class of 2017) received an award from the Institute of Biology Ireland for the highest performing student in his Leaving Certificate Biology Exam 2017. More than 27,000 sat this paper! Congratulations to his teacher Ms. Egan too!!

Some Science Week puzzles to try: (See the last page for answers!) Say what you see!



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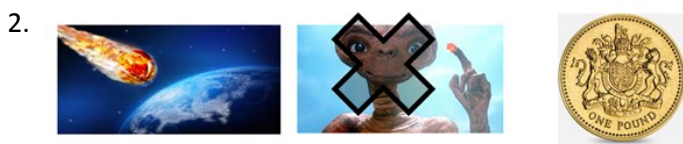
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3. **KNEE
LIGHTS**



5. **HIJKLMNO**

Art Competitions

The Art Department organised Art Competitions at Hallowe'en and Christmas. The standard of work produced by Clonkeen's budding artists was exceptional. The winners at Hallowe'en were Nathan Lawless (1st Year), Hammad Alajme (2nd Year) and Jakob Kryszczak (3rd Year). There were also a number of runners-up prizes awarded. These students received their prizes in early November.



There were ten winners of the Christmas Art Competition. The students' winning designs feature in Clonkeen College Christmas cards which were sold in the school in the run up to Christmas. All proceeds of the sale of the Christmas Cards goes to the Save Our Playing Field fund. The winners were: Ben Cunneen, Eoin Farrelly and Barra Malone (all 1st Year), Callum Bennett, Bhudhav Singh, Mhyla Salapuddin and Salmaan Bari (all 2nd Year), Caolan Burns and Jadron Omaña (both 3rd Year) and Mike Donnelly (5th Year).



Congratulations to all the winners. It was fantastic to see so many students from across the school take part in both competitions.

TWSG

The annual TWSG St Vincent de Paul Hamper Appeal has taken place recently in the school. First and foremost, we would like to thank all the families who have yet again supported this appeal so generously. We were delighted to be in a position to deliver 38 hampers to our local St Vincent de

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Paul, who will distribute them to families in need in our community. We would like to say a special thank you to the Transition Year students who organised the donations and packed the hampers.



Our fundraising efforts in support of the building project at Thondolo School in Malawi continue. We look forward to opening an eight-classroom school next summer. This school will offer life-changing education to some of the poorest children in Africa. Such is the interest in education in this area that school will take place over two "shifts" during the day. The first group and teachers will attend from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. while the second group and their teachers will attend from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. This will ensure that approximately 1,300 young children, many of whom have been orphaned by the AIDS epidemic, will have access to education. When the school is not in use by the children, it will hold classes for adults.

Our members bag-packed in SuperValu in Dalkey and SuperValu in Killiney, raising a total of €2530. We would like to thank SuperValu for its continued support of our work and indeed to thank the wider community and Clonkeen families who continue to give generously. While our recent fundraising efforts have been successful,

we are currently behind our targets, so we appeal to everyone, this Christmas, to dig deep and support our annual Christmas Fast and Christmas Eve collections in Dun Laoghaire and Blackrock.

STEM Challenges

Ms M Duffy

In recent years there has been a move by countries across the world to emphasise the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in our education systems. Not only are they crucial for many industries in this country, but it is important that students learn to understand the world around them. As a Science Department we have set up a STEM centre where students are set challenges individually or as groups. There has been a great response to these challenges from our students.

1st Year Science were set the challenge to build a cell. We received cells made from jelly, a cake, Lego, recycled materials and even a 3D virtual reality cell!

To get the students into the festive spirit, 1st Years had to design an elf treat which consisted of two layers of liquid, red and green, where the liquids couldn't mix. 2nd Year Science and 5th year Physics were set the challenge of making a snowball catapult. The snowball catapults were extremely innovative ranging from Lego which had the greatest height to a 3D printed catapult that had the greatest range!

With these challenges we have seen that you can never underestimate the creativity and skills that students have. We look forward to seeing how they rise to the next challenge after Christmas.



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Green Schools

The Green Schools Committee is back in full force this year, working to keep our current Green Flags, and with the hopes of getting a few new ones!

In late October we ran a competition to help choose Clonkeen's Green School's Motto. We had a fantastic number of entries, but the final winners were B1 students Adam Parry, Salmaan Bari and Aaron Major. Congratulations to all three students whose motto is now displayed in all classrooms around the school.

Our focus this year is on achieving the Energy Flag for Clonkeen. Everyone can play their part in saving energy. Here are some of our top-tips:

- Turn off lights, TVs, and computers when not using them (standby is not off!)
- Turn off the radiators and heating if it gets too hot inside; don't just open a window!
- Try to buy electronics with the Energy Star label, and with good energy efficiency. Not only do these save power, they also tend to be of much better quality, and will last much longer.

We thank everyone for their support so far, and we hope it continues well into the future.

Chess

Clonkeen's Minor Chess Team defeated St Conleth's College by 3-2 in the Leinster Schools' League. Eoin Farrelly, Conor Lowry, Seán Byrne, Oscar Sun and Ayush Priyadarshi competed for Clonkeen on this occasion. Congratulations to the team and their coach Mr McLaughlin.

Hurling Round Up

Commiserations to the **U16 Hurling Team** managed by Mr Bennett and Mr O'Brien who were knocked out of the Top Oil Dublin Post Primary Schools Junior H Quarter Finals on Thursday, November 23rd. Clonkeen had home advantage and played the match on our playing field. It was a very physical, tight and fast-paced game against Coláiste Cois Life, Lucan. The boys were very unlucky to lose; the final score line of 3-13 to 1-12 not reflecting the close nature of the match. Hard luck to the boys and their managers and we wish them the best of luck in future campaigns.

Competitions will get under way for both **1st Year and U14 Hurling Teams** when we return after the Christmas Break. The boys have spent the last few weeks preparing for their campaigns. Training will take place on Wednesdays for both squads. We welcome all new players! Contact Mr Bennett or Mr O'Brien if interested!

U15 Soccer

The U15 Soccer Team have also had a good start to their season. Their training has gone well with a focus on short but hard-working training sessions.

They have got their competitions underway playing both Cup and League matches. Unfortunately, they have had an early exit from the Cup this year but are currently awaiting the results of other games to see if they will progress in the League.

Mr O'Shaughnessy and Mr Cassidy have done very well in the last number of years with school teams and with this team looking strong on the pitch it is hoped that they will be able to make their mark in the League. Well done to the two coaches and their team.

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U17 Soccer

The season has got off to a tremendous start for our U17 Soccer Team. Starting with a 5-1 win over St Michael's College, they registered three further wins over St Michael's (a second win), Palmerstown CS and Chanel College. The Chanel match was a particularly convincing win, with our boys coming from behind to take victory on a score of 7-4. On this fantastic team there are many high calibre players finding the back of the net for Clonkeen such as Andrew Byrne, Jamie Smith, Cal Doran, Dylan Wildes, Byron O'Gorman and Jamie Crilly.

Unfortunately, the team has had two losses; one against Coláiste Phádraig, Lucan and the other against Drimnagh Castle SC. We look forward to seeing more action from this talented group of players in the New Year. Well done to the coaches Mr Brennan and Mr Faherty and the team on their success to date.

Spikeball

On Thursday, November 16th students from 1st and 2nd Year took part in round one Ireland Spikeball qualifiers in New Cross College in Finglas. This was the students' first outing of the year and following last year's success there were high hopes for the 2nd Year team.

Clonkeen fielded three teams; one 1st Year team and two teams from 2nd Year. This was the 1st Years' first taste of competitive Spikeball and they rose to the challenge admirably. They met teams from Trinity College Comprehensive, Sutton Park High School and New Cross College. Both our 1st Years and 2nd Years won their opening games, leaving them in very strong positions to qualify for the knockout stage. They played very well in their remaining group fixtures ensuring their progression to the play-offs.

Unfortunately, this is where our 1st Years exited the competition with a loss to a team from Trinity College Comprehensive. They should, however, be very proud of their performance in their first tournament.



One of the 2nd Year teams, fared better with a comprehensive victory over New Cross College, which allowed them to qualify in 3rd place for the all-Ireland Qualifiers which took place in December in Mountrath Community School in Laois. There they played against teams that qualified from other regions. Registering wins over Mountrath's A and B teams, they again progressed to the play-offs. On this occasion, however, they were unfortunate to be knocked out of the competition by a team from St Paul's, Waterford. Well done to all the players involved and their coach Mr Howley.

1st Year Team (New Cross): Stephen Harpur, Surya Sathaya, Ethan Clack, Lewis Fennell, Andrew Perry, Javier Sanchez-Contreras, Shane McDonald, Evan Vella-Bolger and Killian Crowe.

2nd Year Team (New Cross): Zach Hall, Conal Murphy, Daniel Fishman and Matthew Ryan.

2nd Year Team (New Cross & Mountrath): Nathan McGowan, Ben Nolan, Callum Bennett, Salmaan Bari, Dean Kerins, Bhudhav Singh and Callon Vella-Buckley.

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U18 Gaelic Football

Our U18 Gaelic Football Team, begun its defence of its Dublin 'B' Championship title. Under the guidance of coaches Mr McBride and Mr Sheehy, the team has spent many weeks preparing and training ahead of the competition. Their first encounter, played on November 20th was an away game against Castleknock College. Unfortunately, our boys came out on the wrong side of the 4-10 to 2-10 score line. Although disappointed the boys have picked themselves back up and are training well ahead of their next match against Coláiste Éanna. We wish the team and their coaches the best of luck in the upcoming games.

U16 Gaelic Football

Wins against Blackrock College and Oatlands College have ensured that our U16 Gaelic Football Team have got this year's campaign off to a fantastic start. Coaches Mr Brennan and Ms Shortall have worked hard with the team, guiding them to a 7-12 to 1-1 win over Blackrock and a 1-12 to 1-8 win over Oatlands. They are a committed and focused group of players, who their coaches hope to take far in the competition.

Golf

The Golf Team competed in three competitions this year, with quite a new and developing squad. They took part in the Junior Cup, the Senior Cup and the Schools League. The team comprised of new 1st Year members and older students with experience of competitions. The boys had tough competition as they encountered teams made up entirely of experienced players. Nevertheless, the boys represented the school very well, with many putting in very good individual performances. Congratulations to all who took part and to Mr Egan who supported the team throughout the season.

Fun Run Mile

Starting November 10th, a cohort of staff and students have run one mile at lunchtime each Friday. This event, organised by Mr Lynch and Ms Egan as part of the Health Promoting Schools initiative, encourages physical activity and emphasises the connection between a healthy body and a healthy mind.



There has been a fantastic turnout each Friday to date, with a particular mention going to our 1st Years. Peter Banhazi (A3) has been present at all runs, helping his class to the current class record of 47 miles run. Luka O'Brien from L1 has also done his class proud. Having accumulated 31 miles to date, the teachers have represented themselves well. It is hoped that lots more classes will venture out on Fridays in the New Year to help increase the total number of miles achieved by Clonkeen students.

Following the great start on our own playing field, many of our 'milers' signed up for the Cross-Country Championships at the start of December. Mr Howley noted that this year we had a record attendance from Clonkeen students. Well done to all involved both in Fun Mile and in the Cross-Country Championships.

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

December 2017

Frisbee

On 16th November, our Frisbee Team took part in their first ever Ultimate Frisbee blitz at UCD. Teams from Maynooth Post Primary, Blakestown Community School and St Dominic's, Cabra joined our boys for a fun-filled morning of Frisbee. Although, it was a friendly encounter our team was delighted to come out of the blitz having won all their matches. Well done to the students involved and to their coaches Mr Brennan and Ms Shortall.



"I was between Murphy and O'Reilly" said Anne.

"I was in front of Smith and Murphy" said Mary.

While John said he was behind Smith and O'Reilly.

What are their full names and in what order were they?



Mary O' Reilly, Anne Smith, John Murphy

Easter Monday 1916 occurred on the 24th April. The centenary was commemorated on Easter Monday 2016 which fell on March 28th. How many weeks were there between the two events?

5,214 weeks



Science Week Solutions:



Chromosome



Compound

KNEE LIGHTS

Neon Lights



Antibiotic

HIJKLMNO

H₂O (Water)

Maths Week Solutions:

Which number should go in the empty triangle?



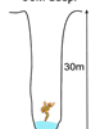
The missing number is 5 (add the bottom two numbers and divide by the top number).

How many triangles can you see in the picture?



20 triangles

A frog has fallen into a pit that is 30m deep.



Each day the frog climbs 3m, but falls back 2m at night. How many days does it take for him to escape?

It will take him 28 days to escape. After 27 days and nights the frog has only 3 meters to go. On the 28th day the frog is able to jump clear.

Merry Christmas