

# CLONKEEN COLLEGE



## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Prepared by Transition Year Students*

January /February 2020

### *Welcome Back*

We would like to wish all our staff, students and their families a Happy New Year. We hope that everyone had the opportunity to relax and recharge their batteries over the Christmas break. We look forward to all that 2020 will bring us!

### *Anthology 2020*

The deadline has now passed for submissions to this year's anthology, and with over thirty submissions it seems this is going to be our biggest edition yet. The anthology team are now working on the layout and on editing the content. Advance orders of Anthology 2020 can be made in the school between March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, with publication, launch and distribution to take place in April 2020.

A reminder to all our budding writer that the closing date for entries for the Clonkeen College Press writing competition is Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Two winners will each receive Dundrum Vouchers to the value of €25.

Finally, remember that our website [www.clonkeencollegepress.com](http://www.clonkeencollegepress.com) is constantly being updated with exciting new student writing!

### *Young Social Innovators (YSI)*

Our Young Social Innovators (YSI) class received delivery of their reusable Clonkeen branded water bottles on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The personalised water



bottles have since become a resounding success with both pupils and teachers. Congratulations to the pupils of 1<sup>st</sup> Year class — A1 who placed the largest order for the bottle. They were rewarded for their efforts in reducing single use plastics in Clonkeen College with a lunchtime pizza party on January 16<sup>th</sup>.



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### *F1 in Schools*



F1 in Schools is an international STEM competition in which a team of 3–6 students use 3D CAD modelling software to design a scaled Formula 1 car. The teams' design is analysed, manufactured and rigorously tested in line with technical and competition guidelines using CAD/CAM design tools; in a similar fashion to Formula 1. The aerodynamic design of the car is analysed by the team using computational fluid dynamic software. The cars are powered by CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges and are attached to a track by a nylon wire. Teams must also raise sponsorship money to pay for competition and team expenses.

The competition is held annually with regional and national finals in each participating country. The overall winners of the national finals are invited to compete at the world finals, which are held at a different location each year. In March 2020, Clonkeen College will be presented by Team Trojan in the eastern regional finals of the competition. Each team will be judged on their overall car design, adherence to the specifications and manufacture, design and engineering portfolio, enterprise portfolio, verbal presentation and car racing.

We wish Team Trojan the very best of luck as they prepare for the regionals.



*Team Trojan (L-R): Dominic Chechlowksi, Conor Dunne, Eoin Manning, Fionnan Kelly.*

### *Garda Youth Award*

Transition Year student, Sam Kinsella, was recognised for his work as part of a group working to help teenagers in the Dun Laoghaire area when he was awarded with The Garda Youth Award. Congratulations to Sam and his team on the award and on their fantastic community spirit.



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### Entrance Awards

Four students from the Leaving Certificate Class of 2019 were recognised by their chosen universities for their academic achievement at the Leaving Certificate Examinations 2019. Ciarán Haverty, Allencris John Rubesh Rajan, Samuel Hayden and Finn McGrath each received an entrance scholar



award from their university. Ciarán (pictured above) is studying for a degree in Aeronautical Engineering at the University of Limerick, while Allencris (pictured below) is pursuing studies in the field of Maths, Physical and Geological Sciences at University College Dublin. Samuel is also



attending UCD, where he is studying Psychology and Finn (pictured below) is a student in Philosophy, Politics, Sociology and Economics at Trinity



College Dublin. We would like to commend these students on the hard work and commitment to their studies that they showed throughout their time with us at Clonkeen College. We would like to send them our very best wishes in their studies and on their chosen paths.

### *BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition*

A group of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year Chemistry students attended the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition at the RDS in January. After experiencing the buzz of the exhibition this year, we hope some of our students will be inspired to enter the competition next year. A big thank-you to Mr Burgess who organised the visit and accompanied the group.

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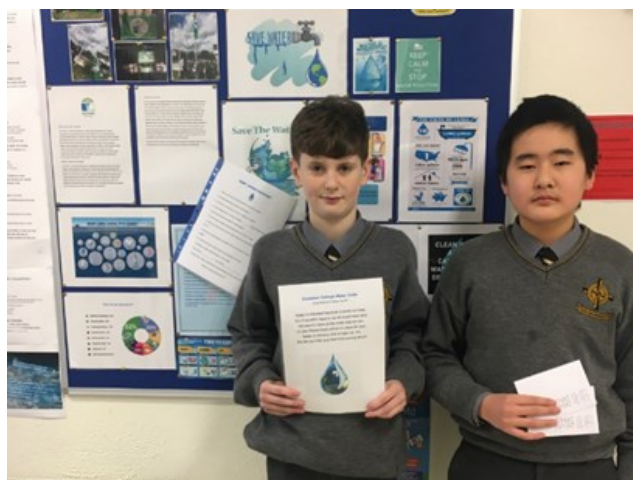
### *Green-Schools News*

Last term was a busy time for the Green-Schools committee. We gathered and published our findings from our recent water usage survey. The results can be found on the Green-Schools noticeboard and on the school twitter feed. The committee came up with a list of top tips to help save water both at home and all school.

- Ensure you turn off the tap when brushing your teeth morning and night.
- Choose a shower over a bath. Baths use far more water than showers. A 5 minute shower is the recommended length of time.
- Ensure washing machines and dishwashers are filled to capacity.
- Invest in a re-useable water bottle instead of buying a new plastic bottle every day. Every day approximately 8 million pieces of plastic find their way into our oceans.



This term the committee ran a Water Code competition. Congratulations to Bao Zhang (B3) and Hayden Foley (B1) (both pictured below) who wrote the winning code. This can be seen on the Green Schools noticeboard.



We also ran a water quiz competition for tutor groups across the school. Well Done to 5.3 and Ms Cullen who were the winning tutor group.

### *Public Speaking Workshop*

Mr Alan Devine visited the school a number of times recently to deliver a workshop on public speaking to Transition Year students. Mr Devine has over 20 years' experience working as an actor in Ireland and has appeared in various productions including The Tudors, Vikings and Fair City. He runs Dramaclub where he provides a public speaking workshop for post primary students.

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The workshop taught the students how to speak publicly covering topics such as eye contact, body language, how to tell a story, how to connect with your audience and how to learn speeches. The interactive nature of the workshop allowed all students to opportunity to practice the techniques they were being taught.

Each group had a follow up session the next week where they read aloud a speech they had prepared at home. This really brought home the importance of preparation and gave the students a chance to speak in front of an audience. Mr Devine gave each student feedback following their speech. It was truly an invaluable experience. A big thank-you to Mr Devine and to Ms Mooney who organised the workshops.

### *Maths Quizzes*

Well done to the students involved in the IAMTA Junior Problem Solvers quiz, which took place in Oatlands College on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.



The two teams consisted of 3<sup>rd</sup> Year students: Ronan Kennedy, Matthew Dutton, Shane O'Sullivan and Eoin Farrelly (pictured above) and TY students: Eoin Manning, Salmaan Bari, Fionnan Kennedy and Maurice White (pictured below). We then had two 6<sup>th</sup> Year teams represent the school in the IMTA



senior maths quiz in Rathdown School on 24<sup>th</sup> January. The two teams consisted of Seán Walsh, Tom O'Connor, Jack Moraghan and Rahul Matthews (pictured below) and Conor Ring, Conor Nolan, Elvis Cooney and David Farrelly. All teams did very well and had great fun problem solving on the night!



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### CanSat

What is CanSat?

Are you one those people who has never heard of the CanSat competition?



Well then read on ..... !

CanSat is a mini version of a real satellite that has to fit into the size and shape of a soft drinks can! Our team's challenge as TY and Fifth Year Students is to fit everything found in a satellite such as power, sensors and a communication system into the size of a 330ml can of your favourite drink!

The likes of the power, sensors and communication systems are known as our primary mission.

So how do we go about this you might ask?!

First of all, we are using a 3D printer to printing a 3D drinks can. When that is done, we have to fit it with both a temperature and air pressure sensor connected to an Arduino (an Arduino is an open-source electronic prototyping platform enabling users to create interactive electronic objects).

We have decided that we would like to fit our can

with a GPS and a Magnetometer (a device that measures magnetism).

After that we need to design and develop a parachute that will slow the can's descent speed to around 8 meters per second, as on the day of the competition our can will be deployed from a drone, 15 meters above the ground.

The team must also work on team branding. We decided to call our team "Canny Fox" and recently hosted a logo design competition in the school, to raise awareness and to get all year groups involved. Congratulations to the winner of the competition was Barra Malone (3<sup>rd</sup> Year) and the runner up, Gavin Crowe (1<sup>st</sup> Year).

As we work through our preparations for the regional finals on March 26<sup>th</sup>, we hope you'll support our team by following us on Twitter @CannyFox and on Instagram @clonkeencansat where you'll find all our latest updates!



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### *JCPA Presentation*

Well done to our Transition Year students who were presented with their Junior Cycle Profiles of Achievement on 15<sup>th</sup> January. The Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement is a certificate that recognises all student achievement across a broad range of areas of learning. Our TYs were also joined by spe-



cial guest, MacDara Lambertini who also received his JCPA the same day. It was a momentous occasion for MacDara who is the first student from L1, our ModGLD class, to receive the certificate.

### *Business Studies Award*

We would like to extend our congratulation to Salmaan Bari (Transition Year) and his Junior Certificate Business Studies teacher Ms Murray on Salmaan's fantastic result in the 2019 Junior Certificate Business Studies Examination. Salmaan who achieved a Distinction in the exam was awarded a Certificate of Achievement by the Business Studies

Teachers Association of Ireland (BSTAI) and UCD Quinn School of Business at a reception at UCD on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Well done to Salmaan and Ms Murray.



### *1<sup>st</sup> Year Solar System Models*

Well done to our 1<sup>st</sup> Year Science student on their fantastic solar system models. There was great creativity from all students and materials used ranged from playdough, lego, recycled lids to cakes! Well done especially to Harry Cunningham who got the class vote, and not just because it was a very tasty chocolate cake solar system....

More of our fantastic models can be seen on the next page...



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*More of our fantastic solar system models*

### *Sports Round Up*

Great progress made with our two oldest Gaelic Football teams in January. After surviving the group stages our U16s find themselves in the Dublin Final. A match to look forward to after the mid-term break, details still to be announced. Well done on getting this far, lads.

Our Seniors also battled through to the semi-finals with a fine win away to Coláiste Choilm in Swords. Next up is Oatlands after mid-term. Two finals would be brilliant lads!

For 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Years, the Dublin Championships will get underway in February and March in Hurling (U14) and Gaelic Football (1<sup>st</sup> Year).

In Soccer our 1<sup>st</sup> Years have come though against Tallaght CS. We're now awaiting our opponents in the Leinster Shield quarter finals. And at a similar stage are the U15s away to Wexford CBS in their Leinster Cup. Again, big occasions to look forward

to after mid-term.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Basketball teams are hoping to make it to the play-offs. We've managed 5 wins from 6 matches. If we can secure final wins in the group stages we'll secure a play-off place in both competitions. Special thanks to Mekael Ballili (6<sup>th</sup> Year) and Salmaan Bari (TY) for their co-ordination of the coaching of both teams. Well done all!

Our Rugby teams continue to make progress. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Years were unbeaten in the last tournament with 3 wins and 2 draws. And our Juniors will have a tournament to look forward to after mid-term too.

And finally in athletics : great turnout for our indoor athletics sessions in the hall. We had 10 representatives in Abbottstown at the Leinster Indoor Championships. And braving the elements for the East Leinster cross-country we had just under 20 donning Clonkeen singlets Avondale on a chilly January afternoon. Congratulations to Ryan Jenkins (1<sup>st</sup> Year) who came away with a bronze medal, but well done to all!

