

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

April 2016

YSI Speak Out

Nathan Costello & Liam Flatman

The YSI Speak Out Tour brings together young social innovators from across the country to showcase their ideas and raise awareness for their projects and the related social issues. The Speak Out in Dublin was presented by Nathan and Graham, hosts of the ZooCrew on Spin 103.8, and it took place in UCD Student Centre on 5th April. 28 schools from Dublin participated.



Clonkeen College's YSI class, mentored by Mr Traynor, showcased a project on bicycle safety, which was well-received by the audience. The performance by the YSI class demonstrated the difference in the day of a life of a teenager who always wore his bicycle helmet and another who, regrettably, never did. The scene was narrated by Tadiwa Morowa and Killian Farrelly while Jack Browne, Finn McGowan, Nathan Costello, Charley Tonge and a number of other members of the YSI group starred in the two-minute scene.

A wide range of social issues were tackled by students from schools across the Dublin area. Each project was marked by four judges and the students taking part were then given some feedback. The judges selected finalists who go forward to the Young Social Innovators Awards and Showcase which will take place in City West on May 10th.

French Writer Visit

French author Sébastien Brebel and Dalkey Archive founder John O'Brien visited us on April 15th to speak with 5th Year and TY students about literature and translation. The discussion flowed in English and French with the students asking questions about all aspects of both visitors' work. Thanks to Mr Toomey who organised the event.



Health Promotions Spikeball

As part of the Healthy School's initiative social Spikeball is available to all 1st Year students every Thursday at lunchtime. All 1st Years are welcome; just turn up to the hall at 1:15 p.m. with your packed lunch!

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Pi Maths Quiz

3rd Year students Lucas Carraher, Finn McGrath, Allencris John Rubesh Rajan and Sean Nolan represented Clonkeen College in the Pi Maths Quiz in Leixlip on Friday evening 22nd April. The team completed no less than two tie breakers, missing out narrowly on 3rd place! Well done to all involved and thank-you to Ms Fulton who accompanied the team.



Pléitear saolta agus cúla na gcarachtar féin agus déantar machnamh ar an Éirí Amach. Tá píosa ceoil againn freisin chomh maith le giota ón bhForógra chun atmaisféar fíor-Ghaelach a chruthú! Rinneadh taifead den chlár i stiúideo Fhoras na Gaeilge ar an 10ú Márta agus táimid ag fanacht anois ar thorthaí an chomórtais - €1000 an duais atá le buachaint! Ádh mór do gach duine.



Tháinig cigire isteach sa scoil arís i mí Aibreáin. Tar éis na cuairte fuaireamar an nuacht go raibh an Gaelbhratach bainte amach again. Chuaigh daltaí ón gcúigú agus ón séú bliain chun an bhratach a fháil ar an 27ú d'Aibreáin. Táimid an-bhródúil as an éacht seo.

Coiste Gaelbhratach

Tá an Coiste Gaelbhratach ag glacadh páirte i gcomórtas raidió atá á eagrú ag Raidió na Gaeltachta. 'Guth na gCeannairí' is ainm dár gclár. Is clár cainte é ina gcuirtear seisear de phríomhcharachtair Éirí Amach na Cásca faoi agallamh ag an láithreoir beomhar, Peadar Ó Muirí. Is iad Séamus Ó Conghaile, Éamonn Ceannt, An Chuntaois Markievicz, Pádraig MacPiarais, Sean MacDiarmada agus Éamonn DeValera na haíonna atá ag Peadar ar an lá seo, go gairid i ndiaidh an Luain chinniúnaigh sin.



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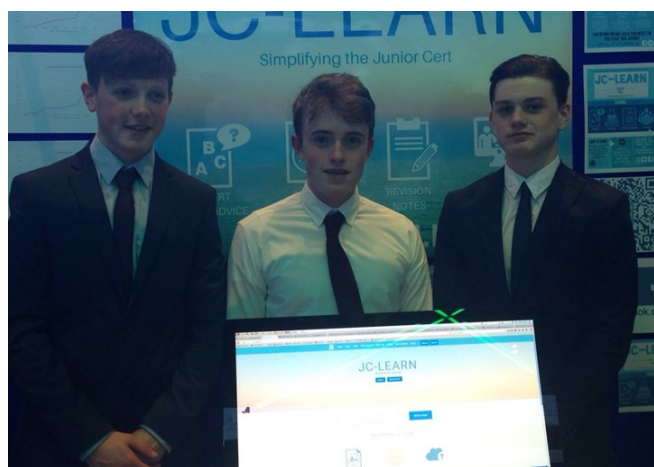
Oral Exams

Well done to all our Leaving Certificate students who recently sat their oral exams in French and in Irish. We hope that all their hard work paid off and that they have made a good start to their Leaving Certificate ahead of the upcoming written papers. We wish them all the best as they make final preparations for their exams in June and hope they enjoy their final weeks with us at Clonkeen College.

Student Enterprise Awards

Jack Manning & Johnnie Bell

The National Finals of the Student Enterprise Award were held in Croke Park on April 20th. Out of the 22,000 entries nationwide, Clonkeen College represented the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown region in the Senior Category with the project JC-Learn. In the finals there were just 32 companies per category.



It was, therefore, a tremendous honour for us to represent not only Clonkeen College but also the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Enterprise Office in the finals.

We set up JC-Learn, an online study resource for Junior Certificate Students, after realising that there were many sites focusing on the Leaving Certificate but very few that looked specifically at the Junior Certificate. We were unfortunate not to take home a prize on the day, but found the experience of networking with other like-minded students hugely beneficial.

We would like to congratulate Luke Byrne from Coláiste Craobh Abhainn in Wicklow on his winning entry (Headphone Helpers) in our category and to extend a special thank-you to Joseph Keating from The Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Enterprise Office for all his advice and also Mr Sheehy who mentored all the TY entries.

TWSG News

Ben Hickey

The Third World Support Group (TWSG) held their last non-uniform day of the year on April 15th to raise funds for their school building project in India. Thank-you to all students who donated €2 for the right to wear their own clothes for the day and to the teachers and school management who facilitated this event.

The annual TWSG Raffle will take place on May 19th. The group has received fantastic support from students' families and local businesses who have generously donated prizes for the raffle. Tickets have been distributed to all students in the school. The TWSG hopes that the raffle will receive the same support it has done in previous years. As always, all monies raised will go directly to the India school building project and to the agricultural initiative in Uganda.

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The Anthology

Alex Cooper

Anthology 2016 has recently been printed and all copies ordered have been distributed. Following our call for our artists to express their interest, the cover for next year's Anthology has already been designed. Thank-you to Clifton Lewis (6th Year) who has designed the covers over the last three years. We extend our best wishes to him as he comes to the end of his time in Clonkeen. A big thanks also to everyone who submitted a story, poem or illustration for this year's edition and to Mr Toomey who guided us through the whole process of publishing the book. A final thank-you to all who purchased a copy. We hope that you are as delighted with the end result as we are.



Green Schools News

Tadiwa Marowa & Devon Keogh

The Green Schools Committee in Clonkeen has been doing some excellent work recently in the school and the surrounding environment. The Annual Spring Clean that took place on April 27th was a great success. We have improved on last year and hope that next year we will have an even better showing.

Members of the Green Schools Committee have distributed WEEE Battery boxes to everyone in the school. They will be collected soon and the batteries sent back to the redistributors. From there they are recycled and the proceeds donated to the Laura Lynn Foundation in Leopardstown.

Finally, the Green Schools Committee is interested in changing the school's search provider from Google to Ecosia. www.ecosia.org donates 80% of advertising revenue to the planting of trees in areas like the Sahel region of Africa, preventing desertification and providing employment to local communities.

Clonkeen Active Week

Adam Coulter, Oisín Murray & Cormac Spain

Clonkeen College Active week took place from 4th to 8th April. This was the second year of the event and again it proved extremely popular among staff and students.

Monday had an exciting list of events and activities for most of the students. 5th Year students were put through their paces in a boot camp class led by past pupil and local fitness instructor Stephen Flynn, while 3rd Years enjoyed a soccer skills circuit. The first Student v Teacher Challenge, King of the Bench was held during lunchtime. The challenge ended in a tie for first place between two teachers Mr Sheehy and Mr McLoughlin, who both lifted the 45kg weight 38 times. A quick fire game of dodgeball between the teachers and a group of 3rd Year students also took place during lunch break.

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Tuesday led more students into activities. The 1st Years had some practice for this year's track and field events while Zumba was the activity of choice at lunchtime. A special mention must go to Mr Lynch, the only teacher to take to the floor for this dance based exercise class.

On Wednesday Dominick Smith visited the school to deliver an Ultimate Frisbee workshop to all 2nd Year students. In the afternoon, a large group of 1st and 2nd Year students stayed back at the end of the day to participate in a Spikeball Blitz.



Thursday was jam-packed with activities from start to finish. 1st Years had a taster of Tag Rugby thanks to a visiting coach from the Leinster Branch of the IRFU. Later, some of the 3rd Years took part in a Leinster Cricket workshop. At lunchtime we had the Puc Fada and the Crossbar Challenge. While all of this was taking place in school, we were well-represented at the Edmund Rice Games in Santry and at the U15 Soccer Leinster Semi-Final in Newbridge. The day's activities were rounded off, after school, with a Teacher v Student Basketball match.



The final day of Active Week was again filled to the brim with activity. The day started with the community cycle in the morning. Again, a large number of students turned out to complete a cycle around the local area. Transition Years had a very busy morning, firstly taking part in a Gaelic Football coaching session with Geraldine Moran's coach Darren McGee, before trying out Bar Monkey Calisthenics with Jamie Geraghty. Teachers and students braved the rain to take part in the Mile Challenge at lunchtime, while indoors, others attended a Fencing taster session. Drop Everything and Dance filled Friday afternoon with teachers and students all stopping for 40 minutes to dance in the hall. This event brought Active Week to a memorable close.



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1st & 2nd Year Basketball

Joseph Clarke

Clonkeen College's 1st and 2nd Year Basketball Teams, coached by Ms Ní Chatháin, both reached the final of their respective leagues. The matches were played in the Oblate Hall in Inchicore on April 13th.

The 2nd Years' match was first; their opponents were Coláiste Raithín from Bray - Yellows vs Greens. During the first quarter, we took a little longer than planned to get into the rhythm of the game, which resulted in the occasional basket conceded. However, we had built momentum by the second quarter, and our defence tightened. In the final quarter, our supporters began to chant "Let's go Clonkeen, let's go!" while clapping, which encouraged the players to the point of scoring six baskets in quick succession; each one met with greater excitement from our crowd. Unfortunately, this was not enough to surpass the lead that Raithín had built early on, and Clonkeen had to be satisfied with a hard-earned second place.



1st Years' opponents were the purple-jerseyed Le Chéile Blessington. The first quarter was a lively one, with many baskets scored on both sides and some impressive shots. The score remained even throughout the first half of the match. Our opponents stepped up their game taking a solid lead towards the end of the third quarter.



Despite the encouragement of our supporters chanting to the sound of a djembe played by a Blessington supporter, the score difference between the two teams began to widen further towards the end of the match. By the final klaxon, Blessington were the clear winners and our 1st Years also had to be content with a silver medal.

Edmund Rice Games

Felix Byrne

70 students, Mr Sheehy and Mr Davis, travelled to Morton Stadium in Santry, on April 7th, to take part in the annual Edmund Rice Games. They competed in a wide range of track and field events against students from the other ERST schools. As always, Clonkeen's athletes put in an excellent performance bringing home an impressive 20 medals. Congratulations to all the student who took part and to their coaches.



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U15 Soccer

Liam Flatman & Nathan Costello

Our U15 Soccer Team faced rivals Tullamore College at Newbridge in the Leinster Semi-Final on April 9th. Neither side managed to score despite each having several opportunities in the first half. Byron O'Gorman was unlucky not to find the back of the net for Clonkeen with one of his attempts, created from a great passing movement. Clonkeen came back in the second half looking for goals with Byron forcing the Tullamore goalkeeper to pull off a great save. Oran Maloney played a great ball through to Byron which again forced the goalkeeper to work hard. Tullamore pressed hard to try to score but Clonkeen held strong, denying them any chance of a goal. At the final whistle it was scoreless.

Extra time kicked off with both teams looking for a goal but no great chances in the first half. The second half of extra time began with both teams looking tired. Dylan Wildes was unlucky not to score with his strike hitting the crossbar. The game remained scoreless at the end of extra time.

Penalties began with Tullamore first up. With Tullamore 2-1, Oran Maloney stepped up to take the shot that would force the match to sudden death. He was unfortunate not to score and so Tullamore College went through to the final victorious. Commiserations to the team, their captain Dylan Davis, who had an excellent match, and to their coaches Mr Faherty and Mr Cassidy. Well done to all involved on reaching this stage of the competition.

Centenary Shield

Carl Cullen

Well done to 5th Year student, Eric Donnelly and 6th year student Shane Hanney who were members of the International U18 School's Squad that represented Ireland in the Centenary Shield. This was a first appearance for Eric in the competition, while Shane had the honour of being selected again, having participated in the 2015 competition.



The Irish team were title defenders and faced tough competition from their English, Scottish and Welsh counterparts in the tournament. England won the tournament with an impressive 10 points in 4 games. Ireland were the only team to take points off the champions with a well fought 2-2 draw on April 16th. The team secured second place in the competition with an emphatic 3-0 win over Wales on April 29th.



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U14 Hurling

Robert O'Hara & David O'Riordan

Commiserations to our U14 Hurling Team who lost their quarter final match against Malahide Community School on April 18th.

The team put in a valiant effort scoring no less than four goals, showing great skill and discipline on the pitch. Unfortunately, Malahide proved the stronger team on the day, denying us a way through to the semi-finals. Well done to the team and their coaches Mr Bennett and Mr O'Brien on reaching this advanced stage of the competition.

Seán McGrane (B3) won gold in the shot put, Korey Sweeney-O'Connor (A1) took home bronze in the 500m, Shaun Toner (B1) was third in the Long Jump and the Junior B Relay Team also finished third in the 4x100m relay.



East Leinster Track & Field

The East Leinster Track and Field Championships took place at Morton Stadium in Santry on April 27th and 28th. Clonkeen College was well-represented with students from across all years competing in the various events.



In what is always a very tough competition we were delighted to come away with medals in a number of events.

Rugby

Our Rugby team, coached by Mr Howley, had a thrilling 48-36 victory over Oatlands on April 20th.



It was clear to see how much the team's game has developed since the introduction of Rugby to Clonkeen at the start of this year. Although the teams remained close on the scoreboard throughout the match, Clonkeen held tight to ensure that they were in the lead when the final whistle blew.