

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

December 2014

Transition Year News

Work Experience

Jake Healy

Transition Year students carried out two weeks' work experience from November 3rd to 14th. During these two weeks, students gained valuable insight into the world of work. Students came back to school on November 17th with a new perspective on what working life will be like in the future. We would like to thank all the employers who facilitated our work experience.

Mental Health Awareness

Klent Nervez

I joined 19 other students from across Ireland to take part in a one week placement in St. Patrick's Mental Hospital from November 24th to 28th. During this week we participated in lectures given by individuals from the organisation. Subject areas covered included The Structure and History of St. Patrick's and The Stigma of Mental Health in Ireland. We also attended CPR training. The goal of the organisation is to raise awareness of mental health issues and educate the population starting with the twenty students invited. These twenty students then return to their schools and present what they have learned to their fellow students. It was a very worthwhile experience. I would like to thank St. Patrick's and Mr. Traynor for giving me this opportunity.

ISPCC TY Collection Day

Shane Kelly & Daniel Flatman

On Thursday December 4th, all Transition Year students took to Grafton Street with Holly Pin boxes, to fundraise for the Childline Emergency Christmas Appeal. We were positioned outside shops all the way down the street. It was a very successful collection day with some students collecting in the region of €150 for the charity. The purpose of his collection was so that Childline could be kept open during night hours, as it is facing financial troubles as a result of a lack of donations. The Childline phone service is the most well-known service that the ISPCC provides, and is so important to the children who use it. The representatives of the ISPCC were very appreciative and thanked all the Transition Year Students who participated.

Ice skating

Jim Kennedy

On Thursday, 11th December Transition Year students were joined by Macdara, Tim & Sam on their annual Christmas ice-skating trip. A fun-filled festive afternoon at the RDS was had by all. Thanks to Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Mr. Sheehy, Mr. McGloughlin and Daphne.



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Sports News

First Year Soccer

Adam Waldron & Ryan Murphy

Clonkeen College v Oatlands College

Clonkeen College were victorious in their match against Oatlands College on Friday, 5th December. It looked a fairly even match in the scoreless first half but within the first five minutes of the second half, Clonkeen took the lead. Clonkeen went on to score eight more goals really distinguishing themselves as the better team. The final score was Clonkeen 9 – Oatlands 0. Congratulations on a great result to the team and their coaches Mr. Faherty & Mr. O' Shaughnessy.

Clonkeen College v Palmerstown CS

Thursday, 11th December saw a further victory for Clonkeen's First Year Soccer Team. A tough match against Palmerstown CS, the scores remained level for most of the first half. Clonkeen went ahead just before the break and then capitalised on their lead in the second half to win the match 4-0. Congratulations to the team and their coaches Mr. Faherty & Mr. O' Shaughnessy.



U16 Hurling

Clonkeen College U16 Hurling Team had a convincing win over Oatland's College in the final of the U16 C Championship at O'Toole Park, Crumlin on Thursday 4th November. Second year student Liam Murphy proved to be a star player on the day, scoring an impressive 1-9. Other notable players for Clonkeen were James Murphy (TY) at centre back, Cathal Gillen (TY), a rock at full back and Rory McMahon (TY) and Greg Sheehan (TY) in midfield. Final Score: Clonkeen College 3-14, Oatlands 1-7. Congratulations to the team and their coaches Mr. Bennett & Mr. O'Brien.



Ireland call up for Dylan Watts

Congratulations to Dylan Watts (5th year) who participated recently in a training camp with the Irish U18 team. The camp took place over three days at AUL and ended with a training match against UCD.

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Mountain Biking

Congratulations to Conor Lavelle (5th year) on achieving a third place mountain biking World Ranking. Conor writes:

“2014 was a big year for me travelling all over Europe racing my mountain bike. If you had asked me twelve months ago whether or not I planned on going abroad and racing in World Series Events I probably would have laughed and said that if I made it to Scotland I would be happy.



I got my first real feel of international racing in Scotland at the second round of the Enduro World Series where to my surprise I managed to finish 3rd place in Juniors. Following my good result in Scotland I was keen to get to as many other World Series races as possible and try to secure a World Ranking.

I was lucky enough to receive some financial support from a local company who were happy to help me out meaning I could compete in three more Enduro World Series races. After competing in 4 of 7 rounds I managed to do well in all 4 events giving me a World Ranking of 3rd place in Juniors.

From my success in 2014 I have received offers of a place on several teams. For 2015 I will be riding for a professional mountain bike team allowing me to compete in all rounds of the 2015 Enduro World Series. I will travel to New Zealand, Scotland, France, Italy, Canada, America and Spain to ride and race my mountain bike.”

Conor Lavelle (5th year)

U19 Soccer

Harikrishnan Radhakrishnan & Darragh Regan

Clonkeen College v St. Benildus

On 26th November Clonkeen College U19 played St. Benildus College. The match was due to be a home game for Clonkeen but on the day it had to be played on the AstroTurf at St. Benildus. The hosts lead in the first half 1-0 but Clonkeen started well in the second half drawing the game level. A further goal from Jack Matthews sealed the victory for Clonkeen who now go through to the South Dublin Finals. Final score: Clonkeen 2 — St. Benildus 1. Congratulations to the team and their coaches Mr. Howley & Mr. O’Shaughnessy.

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U18 Football

Maitiú Cawley & Michael Culloty

Clonkeen College v Coláiste Éanna

On 25th November Clonkeen College's U18 Gaelic Football team set out for victory in a match against Coláiste Éanna. Facing the disadvantage of playing away, unfortunately Clonkeen were defeated 4-15 to 1-07. Unlucky boys ! Commiserations to the team and their coaches Mr. Sheehy & Mr. O'Brien.

Euroscola 2015

Mr. D.Traynor

Conor Spain (5th year) was recently announced as the winner of the Euroscola 2015 Competition run by the European Parliament Office in Ireland. Conor has won a subsidised trip to Strasbourg for 24 students from the school to attend Euroscola, an annual event which brings together students from all over Europe to debate issues affecting people their age. It is a great honour for the school to represent Ireland at this event. Congratulations to Conor on this fantastic achievement.

Senior Art Trip

Ms. L. Healy

On Friday November 14th the 5th and 6th year Art students along with Ms.Healy and Ms. O'Rourke visited Newgrange and its heritage centre in Brú na Bóinne.

In spite of some serious flooding on the road leading to the Heritage site the bus made the journey safely. Thanks to Manos for his care

and patience. The bright blue sky created a stunning backdrop from which to view Brú na Bóinne.



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.

It is hoped that this will be an annual visit for the senior cycle art students in Clonkeen in that it is a topic on their History of Art curriculum for the Leaving Certificate and therefore extremely beneficial.

This visit was captured in photographs but it will no doubt register as a fond memory for all of those in attendance.

I personally am looking forward to next year already. Thank you to Manos, Ms O'Rourke and the students for their co-operation and excellent behaviour on the day.

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TWSG News

Non-Uniform Day

Marek Galus

A non-uniform day took place on Friday November 28th in aid of the Third World Support Group. The event was well supported with approximately €860 being raised on the day.

Christmas Fast

Devon Keogh

Mr. Nolan has been visiting classes in the school this week to distribute fast cards for our annual Christmas Fast. It is hoped that the event will be as successful as in past years. A big thank-you to all students participating.

Christmas Eve Collection

Kevin Nolan

On Christmas Eve members of the Clonkeen Third World Support Group will collect money on the streets of Blackrock and Dún Laoghaire. They hope to raise money for new and ongoing projects in Africa. Please support this worthy cause.

Mr. McGauley steps down

After 20 years of dedication, group founder, Mr. McGauley has decided to step down from the group. Over the last 20 years, under Mr. McGauley's leadership the group has raised hundreds of thousands of euro to fund projects in the Third World. It is his vision, hard work and determination that has driven the group forward over the last 20 years, resulting in countless lives being saved. We would like to thank him sincerely for everything he has put into the group over the last twenty years and we wish him all the best in the future.

SVP Christmas Hamper Appeal

Conor Kinsella

Clonkeen College's annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper appeal finished up last Wednesday, December 10th. The food collected will help those who avail of St. Vincent de Paul's services in our community. Mr. Mc Gauley organised collections for the event. As in previous years families in the school donated generously. SVP members collected the hampers from the school last Friday and will distribute them in the coming weeks. A big thank-you to everyone who brought in items for the hampers.

Christmas Exams

Martin Jensen

Good Luck to all students sitting their Christmas Exams this week. Keep calm and don't worry! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!



We would like to wish all staff, students and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!