

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

January 2016

Welcome Back

Eoin Mogan

Clonkeen College would like to welcome all our students and staff back after the Christmas Holidays. We hope that 2016 will be a happy, healthy and prosperous year for them and their families.

Mock Exams

Best of luck to all our 3rd and 6th Years who are sitting their Mock Junior and Leaving Certificate exams at the moment.

L1 Enterprise Project



Sam and MacDara recently carried out an enterprise project. They prepared and sold scones with jam and cream at break time on Friday 29th January. Their project was a resounding success.

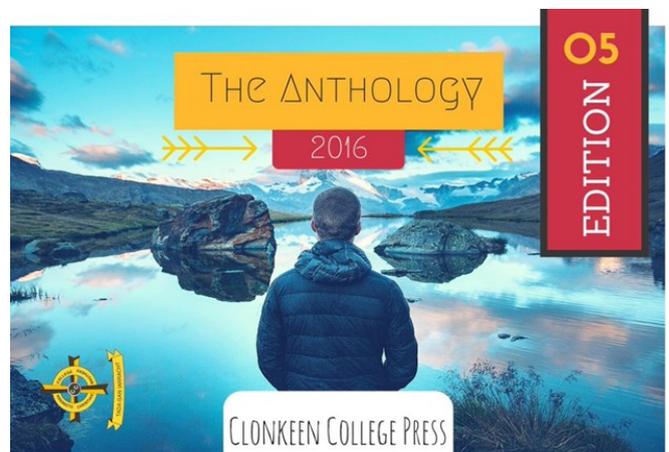
Anti-bullying ambassadors

Our signature wall has been set up in a prominent place close to Room 19. All members of the school community are invited to sign this wall to show that bullying of any nature is not tolerated in Clonkeen College.



We have also set up an e-mail address where students can confidentially report incidents of bullying to the anti-bullying ambassadors. The e-mail address is reportbullying@clonkeencollege.ie

The Anthology 2016



Mr. Toomey's TY Creative Writing class are now taking orders for The Anthology 2016. Orders must be made and paid for by Friday 12th February.

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BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition

We were delighted to have two projects accepted to the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition this year. The projects were carried out by 2nd Year students Jack Georgieff (B1), Ryan O'Carroll (B1), Joe O'Driscoll, Ryan Noronha (B2) and Elvis Cooney (B2) with their teacher Ms. Duffy. Elvis Cooney has written the following account of his experience at the exhibition.

"This year, along with five other 2nd Years, I represented the school in the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2016. Only two of the ten projects submitted by our school were chosen to participate in the exhibition. I was really happy when I found out that one of the two chosen was mine. My friend Jack Georgieff, also in 2nd Year, and I had been working since September on the project. It was a lot of work but the end result was definitely worth it.

The actual exhibition was huge. There were 2,500 projects submitted to the exhibition with only 550 accepted to participate - that's about 12,000 exhibiting students. Our project was entitled 'Exploring the Human Energy Field'. The main hypothesis was that there is a field of electromagnetic vibration extending around the human body, and that it can be affected by positive and negative influences. For example, if you were feeling sad or lonely, the energy field around your body would get smaller and emit weaker magnetic radiation, but if you were feeling happy or excited, your energy field would get bigger and emit stronger magnetic radiation.

A lot of people were very interested in our project. Unfortunately, we didn't win any prizes in the end but the experience was definitely worth it. During the exhibition we were judged three times by the Young Scientist Judges as they tried to decide who might be contenders for a prize.

There were lots of amazing people at the exhibition. We met Stephen Byrne from RTE, and Tony Scott, the founder of the exhibition. There were also a lot of media representatives. We had our picture published in two newspapers and I found myself on the RTE Six O'Clock News.



There were projects from all over the country and we made lots of friends among the other exhibitors. The projects we could see were from a variety of different areas, each one unique; from self-driving cars, to the mathematical algorithm of coffee rust, to the effect of the lunar cycle on horses foaling, to the hidden dangers of high heels. The exhibition was open to the public for three very busy days. Apart from the students' exhibitions there was also an Industries Hall where different corporations exhibited their newest advances in technology and science."

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Mathletes

Two teams of 6th Year students represented Clonkeen College in the recent Irish Maths Teachers' Association Senior Maths Quiz. With tough competition on the night, the boys were very unlucky to miss out on third place, despite an excellent performance.



Tyndall Lecture

Jamie Redmond

Ms. Duffy's 5th and 6th Year Physics classes attended the Tyndall Lecture at UCD on 25th January. The lecture, which captivated all in the audience, covered areas relating to the Physics of Space. The lecturer spoke about the spaceflight, current research and the future potential of the spaceflight.

All the students who attended found the lecture extremely interesting and it certainly gave those with aspirations towards a career in Physics some food for thought. Thanks to Ms. Duffy who organised the visit and accompanied the students on the day.

Student Council

Student Council elections took place recently in the school. We would like to congratulate the following, 5th Year students who will form the Student Council for the coming year:

Ned Quirke (Chairperson)

Craig Finn (Secretary)

Eric Ryan (Treasurer)

Naoise O'Conluain (P.R.O.)

Adam Ledwidge
Downes

Adam Waldron

Kevin Gannon

Christian Kelly

Daniel Flatman

Devon Keogh

Greg Sheehan

Jim Kennedy

Jordan Kelly

Liam McDermott

Klent Nervez

Ronan Hayes

Ronan Miyachi

Seán McDonald

Seán Smyth

On Thursday, 14th January, the 19 newly elected members of the Student Council met at Fitzpatrick's Hotel, Killiney along with Ms. O'Keeffe (Student Council Liaison Officer) and Mr. O'Hora (Outgoing Student Council Liaison Officer) to attend a training day.

The trainer on the day was Mr. Pat Murphy who delivered a workshop in the morning on the workings of the Student Council. This was followed in the afternoon with a session on Leadership in the School Community. Student council badges were presented by Principal Mr. Melly and Chair of the Board of Management Mr. Michael Blachfield, who also addressed the students during the afternoon.

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6th Year Theatre Visit

Daniel Culloty

On 15th January Mr. Byrne, Ms. Brougham and their 6th Year English classes attended a performance of Shakespeare's *King Lear* at Smock Alley. The performance featured graduates from the Gaiety School of Acting. Students were divided into smaller groups where they took part in a workshop that focused on the study of the play for the Leaving Certificate.

TWSG News

Cónan Scanlan

Boys from across the school community took time out from their Christmas preparations to take part in the annual Christmas Eve Third World Support Group Collection. Groups spent the day collecting in Dun Laoghaire and Blackrock. As always the collection was very well supported by the festive shoppers who gave generously.

Over the Christmas break, students were sponsored by family and friends to go a day without food as they undertook our annual Christmas Fast. As always a huge number of students participated in this event and latest figures suggest that the total amount raised will exceed last year's total. Well done to all involved!

A big thank-you to school management, staff and all the students who supported the recent non-uniform day, which took place on 29th January. All money raised by the group is going directly to the Indian School Building Project currently being carried out in Assam, in conjunction with the Jesuit Fathers and Educo.

Over the Christmas Holidays, Mr McGauley visited the school in Assam to meet with the local team working on this project. He was accompanied by 6th Year students Conor M. Murphy and Jamie Hume who saw first-hand the value of this work to the community.

This was one of the final activities for our outgoing Chairman and Secretary, Conor and Jamie. We would like to thank them and all our "retiring" 6th Years for their input and tireless work over the last three years. Following our recent elections, we welcome Klent Nervez as our incoming Chairman and Devon Keogh as our incoming Secretary. We wish them all the best for their year in these roles.

Model United Nations

On Friday 22nd January, Clonkeen students Killian Farrelly, Mark Brophy, Ruairí Greene and David Farrelly joined others from the Dublin area at the Model United Nations. During the evening hosted by Blackrock College, each school was assigned a delegation that the students represented at committee stages, passing resolutions before addressing the general assembly. Although our boys didn't progress to the next stage of the competition they represented their delegation, Ukraine, admirably.



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Green Schools News

Ms. Brennan

There was a great turnout for the Green Schools AGM which was held last Thursday. The newly elected committee are as follows: Co-Chairpersons - Klent Nervez and Devon Keogh, Secretary - Stephen Hogan, PRO - Ayman Memon, Energy Officers - Hammad Ul Haque and David Byrne, Litter Officers - Ryan de Leeuw and Jamie Smith. We are looking forward to a great year with a number new initiatives starting up soon. We'll keep you posted!



On January 29th members of the Green Schools Committee attended a workshop on Climate Change and Energy provided by Dun Loaghair-Rathdown County Council. The workshop was very interesting and provided plenty of inspiration for the boys as they set about achieving our second green flag which will be for Energy.

History Quiz

A team made up of 5th and 6th Year students Devon Keogh, Michael Culloty, Scott Flynn and Conor M. Murphy competed in the recent History Teacher Association Senior Table Quiz held at Tallaght Community School. Twenty-eight teams from the greater Dublin area took part in the quiz. We finished in 8th position. A Junior History Quiz will take place in April.

Sports News

1st Year Soccer

Johnnie Bell

On 11th January, our 1st Year Soccer Team played a league match against **St. MacDara's Community College** on the Peamount AstroTurf pitch. Unfortunately, the game ended in a 3-2 defeat.

Clonkeen took the lead very early on with a goal from Mark Ivie (A3). MacDara's struck back, equalising in the 12th minute with a devastating counter attack which followed our corner. Just before half-time, MacDara's took the lead with a terrific strike. Our brave goalkeeper, Jack Jenkinson, could do nothing about it, despite his valiant effort.

The second half began and the game was tight. To the delight of our coaches, Mark Ivie (A3) equalised to make it 2-2. He showed beautiful skill with a deft chip over their goalkeeper from just inside the box.

With about 15 minutes to go, MacDara's struck the final blow. They comfortably dispatched a penalty to make it 3-2, and soon after the final whistle was blown. Nonetheless, the spirit of the Clonkeen players throughout the game was highly commendable.

On 15th January, the team prepared to play their penultimate league match against **St. Benildus College**, in a group which also included Oatlands and MacDara's. The game was played on the Benildus AstroTurf pitch and ended in a close 2-2 draw. This was the final league game for our boys who unfortunately did not manage to progress beyond the group stage of the competition this year.

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Although, out of the league the 1st Year boys still had hopes of progression in the cup. They played their last 16 match against **Drimnagh Castle Secondary School** on Tuesday, 26th January. Although the boys represented us well, showing grit and determination they were unfortunate to end the match level on a score line of 4-4. In the penalty shoot-out the team showed composure and skill but were unlucky to lose 6-5. Commiserations to the team and their coaches Mr. Faherty and Mr. O'Shaughnessy on their exit from the competition.

U15 Soccer

Cormac O'Neill & Ryan Hempenstall

On 13th January coaches Mr. Faherty and Mr. Cassidy brought our U15 Soccer Team to Wayside to play a semi-final match against **Old Bawn Community School** in the South Dublin League.

The first half was fairly uneventful and the two sides went into the break level on a score of 1-1. Conor Keane (B2) put Clonkeen in the lead with a goal early in the second half. A few minutes later Cal Doran (B1) added another to the scoreboard. Although Old Bawn tried their best to make a mark on the game, our side's impeccable defence kept them away from the goal line. Clonkeen were delighted to come away winners with a score of 3-1.

Advancing to the last sixteen of the competition, the boys met a strong team from **Templeogue College** on 21st January. The first half saw both teams vying to take the lead but the sides were level (1-1) when the half-time whistle blew.

An eventful second half saw gutsy performances from both sides. It was only in the final minutes of the game that Templeogue managed to deny Clonkeen a chance of progression to the quarter final stages of the competition with a goal that put them through on a scoreline of 2-1.

Commiserations to the team and their coaches, Mr. Faherty and Mr. Cassidy on their exit from the competition.

U17 Soccer

Cameron Murphy & Finn McGowan

On 7th January our U17 Soccer Team achieved a tremendous 2-1 win against **Drimnagh Castle S.S.** at Wayside. It was a crucial last sixteen fixture in the Leinster Cup for the team who had home advantage but had to host at Wayside due to our pitches being unplayable.

The sides appeared well-matched in the early part of the first half but it was Drimnagh who managed to get the opening score when they capitalised on a free kick. Clonkeen came back strong but went into the break behind.

Although their spirits had been dampened, our boys came back, showing their indomitability in the second half. Luke Hannigan (C3) and Brendan Stapleton (D1) each found the back of the net and our defences worked hard to keep the Drimnagh side at bay. The boys and their coaches Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Kelly were delighted to progress to the next stage of the competition.

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Our U17's faced **Drimnagh Castle S.C.** again in the South Dublin League on Friday 15th January. Clonkeen had had home advantage again and the match was held on the AstroTurf at Peamount. Straight from the kick-off Clonkeen made a break and with a good through ball to Luke Hannigan (C3) who took a shot and managed to score as a result of an error by the Drimnagh goalkeeper. Drimnagh replied with a lucky shot on goal before half-time.

Drimnagh came back with renewed vigour after the break and a fantastic save from our goalkeeper kept the sides level. Clonkeen spent much of the second half in the opposition's half but failed to capitalise. Finally, Brendan Stapleton (D1) secured the winning goal for Clonkeen on the back of a rebound, following a Luke Hannigan attempt. Clonkeen held strong until the final whistle. The 2-1 win saw Clonkeen through to the league final.

The league final was played on 28th January against **St. Mark's Community School**, Tallaght. The sides were very evenly matched. Clonkeen showed tenacity and skill and were unlucky to find themselves a goal down at the break. Both teams came back even stronger in the second half, in what was a tense 40 minutes. St. Mark's managed to sneak a goal in past our goalkeeper and we were terribly unlucky not to be able to come back. The boys and their coaches Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Kelly were very disappointed to come away with a loss in the final, but they look forward to their next cup match and to the Dublin Cup competition.

U18 Gaelic Football

Brendan Stapleton & Matthew Reynolds

The U18 Gaelic Football Team had an important quarter final match against **Scoil Chaitríona**, Finglas on Monday, 18th January. Clonkeen swept aside their opposition by beating them 4-12 to 1-8 in what was an easy match for Clonkeen. Top scorer and man of the match, Sean McDonald (5th Year) helped the team to victory alongside team captain James Moffat (6th Year) and TY student, Liam Flatman, who had an excellent match. The team are now into the semi-final of the cup.

U16 Gaelic Football

Kevin Kirwan

On Monday, 18th January our U16 Gaelic Football Team faced **Blackrock College** on a wintery afternoon at UCD. Clonkeen showed skill and fluidity in all positions while Blackrock fielded a team that was marked by its physical strength, but unable to prevent our boys taking an early lead.

Blackrock came back with intensity in the second half, hoping to close their deficit but Peter Norlin (C3) kept them away with an on-target penalty that was followed swiftly by a beautiful goal set up by Cormac Spain (D3). Blackrock edged their way back into the game with two goals in quick succession in the dying minutes. A penalty, which would leave the sides level if scored, gave them a glimmer of hope but this was to no avail as the shot went wide. The final minutes were action packed but Clonkeen maintained their lead and finished the game two points clear of the opposition.

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Cross Country

Aaron Toner & Ronan Dunne

On Wednesday 20th January, the East Leinster Cross Country Championships took place at Avondale House in Co. Wicklow. Students from schools all over Dublin and Wicklow participated in this event. The weather conditions were perfect; a dry day for Mr. Howley, Mr. Sheehy and all 38 pupils (from 1st to 3rd Year) from Clonkeen who attended.



Although we had no qualifiers for the Leinster Championships, coaches Mr. Sheehy and Mr. Howley were very impressed with the group's performance. All eyes now turn to the upcoming track and field season, with East Leinster Championships taking place in early May. It's not too late for any student not currently involved in athletics to join up and get training for May. Contact Mr. Howley or Mr. Sheehy for more information.

We were represented with three teams in the Minor Boys category, three teams in Junior Boys and one team in Intermediate Boys. It was the first time that the Minor B's had raced, however the majority of the other teams had already competed at the Edmund Rice Games in early December.

We had many excellent individual performances but it was only the Junior B Boys team that managed to place, coming home in the silver position. The team was made up of James Rooney (B1), Jack Moraghan (B1), Dylan Wildes (B1), Conor Knight (B3) and Craig Nolan (B3). Well done to the boys!



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Fundraising Bag Pack

Transition Year student participated in a bag-pack at Dunnes Stores, Cornelscourt on 17th and 18th December 2015. Many thanks to the Parents Association for organising this fundraiser and for supervising the boys on both days.

TY Thursday Activities

Transition Year students partake in a variety of pursuits on Thursday afternoons including Sailing, Self-Defence and Rock Climbing. This month we bring you a selection of photographs from Rock Climbing which took place at UCD on January 7th.

