

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

October 2017

Save Clonkeen Playing Field

Car Stickers (pictured) for your rear window will be on sale following the mid-term break. They are priced at €5 per sticker with all profits going to the Save Clonkeen Playing Field fund. We hope that you will all join us in purchasing lots of stickers and displaying them on your family's cars in support of this great cause.



Minding your Mental Health

On Friday 13th October, we celebrated minding our mental health in Clonkeen College. All students took part in a #littlethings focused competition that saw them seek out the themes of eight #littlethings posters that were strategically placed around the school. Students were reminded of the importance of diet, sleep and exercise in maintaining good mental health. Congratulations to Cedric Bueno (C1) who was the overall winner of the #littlethings competition.

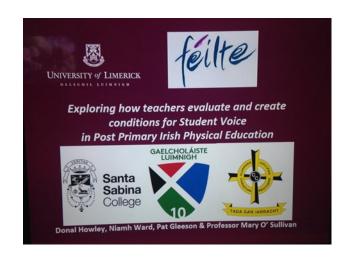


Lunch Service

A lunch service is being offered to students for the period from mid-term break to Christmas. The menu can be found on the school website, in addition to details regarding payment.

Clonkeen College Represented at FEILTE 2017

Clonkeen College was proudly represented at the recent Teaching Council Festival of Education in Learning and Teaching Excellence (FÉILTE) exhibition at the RDS on October 7th.



Mr Howley showcased a research project completed last year with a cohort of 3rd Year students exploring how teachers evaluate and create conditions for student voice. Over the course of the year, Mr Howley and students engaged in a process of collaborative practice within their Physical Education classes, critiquing and reflecting on their learning experiences. Findings from the research are set to support and inform the new Junior Cycle Well-Being programme, which is currently being rolled out in all Post Primary schools.



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Open Night

We held our annual Open Night on October 3rd 2017, to give prospective students and their families an opportunity to visit the school and meet current staff and students. Our visitors delighted in seeing our wonderful new facilities and the beautifully renovated older part of the school. Teachers and current students showed the visitors displays and demonstrations of student work and our extra-curricular activities as they toured the school. There were also many interactive experiences, which gave our prospective families a taste of life here at Clonkeen College. A big thank-you to all staff, students and members of the Parents' Association who helped to prepare the school and helped out at Open Night. The atmosphere in the school was fantastic and the displays, demonstrations and activities were excellent, as always.



















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TY Musical

Rehearsals and design work are currently underway for our Transition Year Musical.



We are appealing to all families to look deep into their wardrobes to see if they have any of the following items that they would like to donate to our costume department. Please note that the clothing items do not need to be in suitable sizes, as we will carry out alterations to suit our actors.

- Men's suit trousers
- Braces for trousers
- Men's shirts and ties
- Waistcoats
- Trilby and Fedora Hats
- Feather Boas

If you have any of these items to donate, please give them to Ms Cullen (Room 25). Thank-you!

YSI Sleep Out

On Friday 20th October, members of our YSI class and their teacher Ms O'Rourke took part in the Sleep Out for the Simon Community. The Simon Community are an organisation based in Dublin who work with homeless people, offering a variety of services and providing emergency accommodation in a bid to prevent homelessness. A big thankyou to all who supported the event and to the teachers who helped on the night. Well done to Ms O'Rourke and all the students involved.



Anti-bullying Ambassadors

Our anti-bullying ambassadors are looking for new members. Students from all year groups are welcome. Meetings take place every Tuesday at 13:40 in Room 10.

Extra Art Classes

Extra Art Classes will resume on Wednesdays and Fridays. The Wednesday class, for 3rd Years, will take place from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Friday class, for 6th Years, will take place from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.



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L1 News



We are in a new classroom. We have new furniture, a new mat, nice blue chairs, lovely tables and comfortable tub chairs. We have new lockers. They are viola! We feel really happy here. We have lots of space.

See you soon,

MacDara, Sam, Mark, Robert, Luka and Daragh.

Debating

Our debaters have got the year off to a good start with junior members taking part in the Junior Maces at Coláiste na hInse (on 30th September) and Loreto on the Green (on Saturday 14th October). Ayman Memon represented Clonkeen at both events. He was joined at Coláiste na hInse by 1st Year student, Joseph Villalonga-Corr and at Loreto on the Green by another 1st Year, Shane O'Sullivan. All three students displayed their excellent debating skills. They are looking forward to taking part in further rounds of the Matheson Junior Mace competition to be held before the Christmas Holidays and hope to make it through to the Leinster Final in the New Year.

Finn McGrath and Killian Farrelly represented Clonkeen College at the 1st Round of the Leinster Schools Prepared Debating Competition at

University College Dublin on Tuesday 26th September. They progressed comfortably to the 2nd round which will take place sometime in November.

We will all our debaters good luck in their upcoming competitions

LCVP at Zeminar

5th Year LCVP students attended Zeminar at the RDS on October 10th. Zeminar is a social enterprise aimed at those between the ages of 15 and 20. It aims to provide them with access to influential speakers, essential resources, workshops and fun activities and to guide them towards leading a happy and fulfilling life. A highlight for our boys, on the day, were the O'Donovan brothers from Cork, who appeared at the event as guest speakers.



Reading Club

Reading Club will resume after the mid-term break and will take place in the library. Additionally, the Parent-Teacher Reading Group hopes to meet before Christmas. As we work towards achieving the National Well-Read Award we will be setting up a Library Committee to direct the setting up and organisation of our new library space.

CHING CIAN BROCHE

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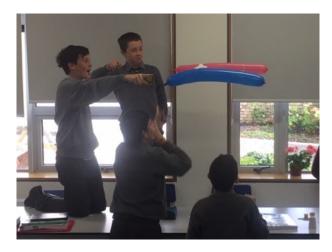
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Space Week

Ms M Duffy

Space Week took place from 4th to 10th October. All Science classes took part in fun activities and research projects. 1st Year Science raced their space rockets across the classroom on balloons and brought in amazing facts about space.



2nd Year Science made brilliant model planets of the solar system (although Jupiter and Neptune seemed to have been swallowed up by a black hole!).

3rd Year Science made cool Rosetta satellite models.



Physics students created posters on space and satellites, which were really impressive! 5th Year Physics undertook the egg challenge. They had to launch their "eggnaut" to space. Their challenge consisted of seeing what force an egg could withstand, the paper "eggdrop" from the top of the stairs and then design their own egg capsule to drop from any materials they wanted. The next stage of the challenge was to design and build a water rocket and then a release capsule with a parachute that would launch their "eggnaut" to space but return to Earth unharmed!



Unfortunately,
many eggs were
harmed in this challenge ② Check out
twitter for one of
the successful
launches! Great fun
was had by all and
there are definitely
some future engineers in the class!



We would also like to congratulate David Farrelly who has been selected to represent Clonkeen College at the Irish Science Olympiad which will take place in November.



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More Space Fun!

1st Year Space Facts:

There is enough DNA in a human's body to go to Pluto and back 17 times!

If you could fly to Pluto it would take you more than 800 years.

1,000,000 Earths could fit into the sun!

It would take 100,000 years at the speed of light to get from one side of the Milky Way to the other.

A single light year is approximately 6 trillion miles!

Any free moving liquid in space would turn into a sphere because of its surface tension!

Astronauts cannot burp in space.

5th Year Space Posters:









CHANGEN COLLEGE

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Gaisce

Congratulations to the students who received their Gaisce President's Award on October 2nd. These students committed to spending time each week participating in three areas: Sport, Skill and Community Involvement and Activities. On top of this, the students then undertook an adventure activity. For this group of students, their adventure activity took place last May, consisting of a 35km hike with an overnight at Lough Dan. They were presented with their Bronze Award by Mr Melly on October 2nd. Well done to all the students involved and a big thank you to all the teachers who facilitated their achieving of this award.



TY Disability & Inclusion Workshop Mr D Howley

The Transition Year Adapted Physical Activity programme recently got under way with the current D3 student cohort. The programme aims to promote greater participation and inclusion in sport and physical activity for students in Clonkeen College as well as providing students with hands-on experience of working with people with disabilities.

DLR Sports Inclusion Disability Officer Brian O Donnell presented a workshop to students sharing his own experience of working as an adapted physical activity officer in addition to numerous volunteer roles such as those with Special Olympics Ireland. Students then had the opportunity to work alongside MacDara, Sam, Luka, Mark, Darragh and Robert from our L1 Class in delivering a 40 minute physical activity lesson. The program will continue when Transition Years return after the midterm. Well done to all students and staff involved!

TY Practical Skills

Some of our Transition Year students have taken part in Practical Skills Classes as part of their Thursday afternoon activities. This short series of lessons is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain practical experience of a variety of tasks including bicycle repair and maintenance and basic construction. On 5th October the group made picnic benches for the school yard, aided by teachers Mr Brennan and Mr O'Shaughnessy.









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We will all our debaters good luck in their upcoming competitions.

Green Schools

Ms L Nolan

This year the Green Schools Committee will start working towards achieving their Energy Flag. The process will take approximately two years to complete.

On Friday 13th October, the committee met with Dean Eaton (Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown Council Environmental Awareness Officer). Dean worked with the committee, Ms Nolan and Ms Reynolds to come up with exciting projects for the coming year.



The group aims to create a Green Code for the school, to be displayed in every classroom, to organise Clonkeen College's first Energy Day and finally, to participate in the Annual Day of Action with Spring Clean 2018.

Green Schools Committee meetings take place every Monday from 1:35-1:55 in Room 19. All new members welcome!

TWSG

Our fundraising to build an eight-classroom school in Malawi continues this month. We held the first non-uniform day of the school year on Friday 20th October. As always, this event was well-supported. We would like to thank all staff who facilitated the event and all students who contributed €2 to not wear their uniform.

Over the summer holidays, two members of the Third World Support Group (TWSG), Jack O'Sullivan and Devon Keogh travelled with Mr McGauley to Thondolo in southern Malawi to visit the school. They met with the school principal, teachers and



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TWSG Contd.

students. Currently there are only two classrooms in the school, so the majority of students are taught under a large tree.



The eight-classroom plan, which will be built in conjunction with Action Aid, will allow for 600 local boys and girls to be educated over two shifts per day. The first 300 students will attend from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. while the second 300 will attend from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. Education provision is so poor in the region that it is possible that approximately 1,200 to 1,300 pupils may wish to enrol in the school. There is a very large number of orphans in this area as a result of the AIDS epidemic. These pupils will be given priority when the school opens in August 2018.



Hurling Round Up

Mr C O'Brien, Mr T Bennett & Mr D Egan

Our **U16 Hurling Team** started their campaign with a narrow loss to Templeogue College away at Tymon Park, despite a solid performance. They followed this up with a very impressive victory against our neighbours Oatlands College on a score line of 5-10 to 3-09. As it stands we have to play Blackrock College, but we should progress to the quarter final stage. A super bunch of hurlers who will have a big in where this championship goes.

The **U18 Hurling Team** started their campaign away to Oatlands College. In a high-scoring encounter we came away with a substantial win scoring 3-27 to Oatlands' 1-13. We followed this game up with games against Templeogue College and St MacDara's Community College and unfortunately came out ono the wrong end of each result. In what was a disappointing end to our campaign, the lads showed their usual grit and determination, but we just came up short. Many thanks to all the senior hurlers for their commitment and dedication to hurling in Clonkeen College. A special mention to our 6th Year players who have played their last games for the school.

Coming up after the mid-term break, we will see the **1**st **Year Hurling Team** their campaign.

Futsal

Futsal is back, following its huge popularity last year. Training is taking place after school with a 1st Year blitz to be held before Christmas. It is hoped that there will be a blitz for our 2nd Years sometime in the New Year. Anyone who is interested in becoming involved should contact Mr Faherty or Mr O'Shaughnessy.



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Student-Teacher Match

The annual student-teacher soccer match took place on Wednesday, 4th October. This year's outing was held in aid of the Save Clonkeen Playing Field fund.

The teachers were looking to defend last year's title. Rumour has it that there was a strict exercise and diet plan in the staffroom for the month of September in preparation for the game. To further aid their cause, the teachers also recruited Dylan Davis to guard their goal. This was Dylan's second year in this position – surely nothing would stand between them and victory!



Unfortunately, the teachers hadn't considered their own side's Gaelic sports prowess, which saw many an attempt at goal, sail beautifully over the posts. Soccer being the game at hand, this resulted in a goalless first half for the teachers. Fortunately, their student counterparts also failed to score and so it seemed that it was all to play for in the second half. Both sides were determined to get the first score of the match and played valiantly with many chances. As time counted down the scoreboard stuck at 0-0 with neither side managing to get a shot past either keeper. With the score nil all at the final whistle, the game would be decided by a penalty shootout.

There were many fantastic shots taken during the penalty shoot-out, with Student Council goalkeeper Finn McGowan proving his credentials. His excellent work denied the teachers the two-in-a-row and handed victory to an ecstatic Student Council.



A big thank you must go to the Student Council and Ms O'Keeffe who organised the match, to both teams, to the teachers who facilitated and supervised during the match and to all the students who paid to attend and supported their Student Council team so very well. Congratulations to the Student Council team!

Spikeball

Mr D Howley

The Spikeball season is kicking off again with both 1st and 2nd Year boys set to compete in the Round One qualifiers against Sutton High School, Trinity Comprehensive and Grange Community College. After an impressive campaign last year, which saw our 1st Years reach the All Ireland semi-finals, the school will be looking to go one better in both grades. With the school's new indoor sports facilities, both teams will be looking to make home advantage count. Please speak to Mr. Howley about getting involved!



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Soccer

Our soccer teams have been busy training ahead of their league and cup matches. While competitions have begun for our U17 and U19 teams, our U15 Soccer Team, and their coaches Mr Cassidy and Mr O'Shaughnessy, had their first match of their campaign, against Chanel College, rescheduled as a result of Storm Ophelia.

Our **17 Soccer Team** played their first Leinster Cup match against St Michael's College. We had home advantage, on a chilly October day, as we played some excellent soccer, scoring four goals in the first half. We were delighted to come away 4-0 victory. Unfortunately, luck was not on our side in our first South Dublin Metropolitan League match against Lucan Community College. Lucan got on the scorecard with a first half goal. Although, we played some great soccer we were unlucky to concede a second goal in the second half and lost the match 2-0.

This year we've a fantastic panel with a large number of players to choose from, all of whom are showing the utmost commitment coming in for early morning training sessions. With many more matches to come, we expect some great results from this team. Best of luck in their upcoming matches to the team and their coaches Mr Brennan and Mr Faherty.

On October 12th, an emphatic win against Chanel College helped our **U19 Soccer Team** get their Leinster Cup campaign off to a successful start. With goals from Luke Hannigan and Brendan Stapleton, the team and their coaches, Mr McBride and Mr Sheehy, were delighted to secure a 5-0 victory against their north side opponents. Congratulations to all involved.

Finally, our 1st Years have taken to the playing field to try out for places in the 1st Year Soccer Team. Over fifty students attended the trials which took place over three sessions in September and October. From those who attended trials, coaches Mr Faherty and Mr O'Shaughnessy, have selected a squad of twenty-two players. The squad is now training hard as they prepare for their league and cup matches, which will start after the mid-term break.

Jason Knight

Congratulations to 5th Year student Jason Knight who was a member of the Ireland U17 squad who qualified top of their group for the UEFA Elite Round. Jason played all three winning ties against Azerbaijan, Bulgaria and Ukraine. The draw for the Elite Round will take place on December 6th, with matches to be played in England in Spring 2018.



Leinster Senior Schoolboy Soccer

Well done to Seán Prenter (6th Year) and Luke Hannigan (5th Year) on making it to two Leinster Schoolboy Trials. This alone is a magnificent achievement. At the moment we're waiting for news on the lads' progress to the final panel. Well done to both students for flying the Clonkeen flag! Tada gan larracht!

CHANGE AN BROCHE

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U14 Gaelic Football

Mr J Lynch & Ms P Murray

Our Dublin campaign came to an end with a home defeat to Oatlands College in mid-October. We were in a tough group with St Mac-Dara's Community College and Drimnagh Castle Secondary School but fought all the way in each match despite losing the battles in the end. Our second-half displays against Drimnagh and Oatlands in particular augur well for the 2nd Years going onto U16 level and for the 1st Year competitions after Christmas.

We've also had an excellent turnout of 1st Years in our 10 sessions since September. In February there'll be a new Leinster competition followed by the Tom Quinlan Cup for Dublin Schools. We'll resume training after the mid-term break for them.

Well done to our 2nd Years. We missed out on a couple of our players from last year due to the U14 age limit. Niall Connaughton is currently flying the flag with the U16s. We were also unlucky with injuries to a few of our players at key times. But well done on your commitment since September 2016. The 2nd Year U14s were:

B1 – Gavin Doyle, Christian Dunne, Conor Dunne, Liam Georgieff, Liam Mulvaney and Matthew Ryan.

B2 – Ben D'Arcy, Oran Keane-O'Hagan, Sam Kinsella, Killian Lavelle, Stephen Maginn, Robert O'Gorman and Rory O'Kane.

B3 – Kevin Campbell, Eoin O'Carroll, Andrew O'Donovan and Darragh O'Dowd.

Well done lads and best of luck moving on to the U16 grade next year!

Athletics

Mr D Howley

Cross-Country Season is kicking off after the midterm. The year will begin, as always, with the Edmund Rice Schools Championships in November followed by the East Leinster Championships in January. The school has a proud history of participating in athletics, with the cross-country and track and field events continuing to draw a large number of students to compete each year. Any students interested in competing and representing the school can speak to Mr Howley and Mr Sheehy.

Golf

Mr D Egan

Our golfers have had two outings so far this year. The Senior Cup was played at Delgany Golf Club while the Junior Cup was held at Woodbrook Golf Club. Despite our best efforts we failed to progress to the next round, but with a young team we will look to use the league as a developmental process. We have four league games coming up before the Christmas break. Team: Oisín O'Connor (Captain), Ben Flynn, Ben Nolan and Nathan McGowan.



Chess

Chess takes place every Monday lunchtime from 1:15 to 1:55 In Mr McLaughlin's room (Room 28). It is open to all years. We will take part in the Leinster Chess Schools League which will commence shortly.