

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

December 2019

Christmas Concert

We were treated to a morning of musical delight on Friday 13th December, thanks to the hard work of Ms Duignan and Clonkeen's music students and TY students. In what has become an annual event, our students sang and played a variety of musical instruments including tin whistle, piano, flute, drums and guitar, as they performed Christmas carols and popular Christmas songs, showcasing the incredible musical talent in our school.



SVP Appeal

A big thank-you to all members of our school community who supported the annual St Vincent de Paul appeal. Transition Year students assisted Mr McGauley in preparing food hampers which were then collected by local members of the St Vincent de Paul. The hampers will be distributed them to families in need in our community over the coming days. Well done to Mr McGauley and the TY students on their hard work.



There were several moments of reflection as we were invited to consider those less fortunate than ourselves, this Christmas, with a particular focus on those facing homelessness during the festive period. We were reminded of the startling realities faced by many children and their families this Christmas. Congratulations to Ms Duignan and all the students and staff who assisted with bringing this fantastic event to life.



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Past-pupil visit

We were delighted to have past-pupil Conor Flannery (LC 2016) visit the school on 2nd December to speak to 5th Year Physics and TY DCG students



about his involvement with UCD's Formula Student team. UCD's Formula Student team are working to build an electric formula one style car to take part in the Formula Student Electric Competition at Silverstone in the UK. This is one of the world's largest and most prestigious engineering competitions,



attracting over 100 teams from different countries. We would like to thank Conor for his most interesting talk and discussion and wish him and his teammates the very best of luck in the Formula Student Electric Competition.

TY Young Social Innovators

Our TY Young Social Innovators (YSI) class have decided to try to reduce Clonkeen College's use of single use plastics. They have targeted the huge number of plastic bottles being used on a daily basis in our school and are now selling reusable Clonkeen branded water bottle. The bottle is made of lightweight durable aluminium and will be personalised with each student's initials. Members of the YSI class have taken orders over the last few weeks and are looking forward to the delivery of the bottles in the New Year. This is a fantastic initiative.



We commend Ms O'Rourke and the students involved for their efforts in making Clonkeen College a more environmentally friendly school.

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David Gillick Visit

David Gillick visited the school on 2nd December. He spoke to our GAA Future Leaders about his career as an athlete and discussed nutrition. He



worked with the group in the Home Economics kitchen to prepare healthy pancakes. All students very much enjoyed their morning with David Gillick. Huge thanks to Mr O'Brien who organised this activity and to David Gillick who was, as always, an inspirational speaker.



Rugby

Congratulations to 6th Year student, Seán Walsh who has been selected as a member of the Irish U18 Schools Rugby Squad that will take part in the Six Nations U18 Festival at Marcoussis, the French Rugby high performance base, from 4th to 12th April 2020. First up for Seán and the team is a



three-day training camp that will take place at the IRFU's High Performance Centre from December 28th to 30th 2019.

Golf

Transition Year student Nathan McGowan has been selected to be part of the Golfing Union of Ireland's (GUI) Under 18 Leinster Transitional Coaching Panel. Nathan, who plays at Woodbrook Golf Club, Bray, is looking forward to taking part in six, six-

hour coaching lessons with some of the finest coaches in Ireland. Congratulations Nathan and best of luck!



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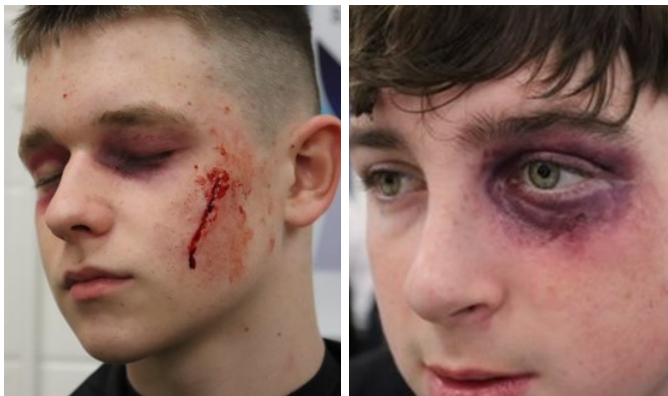
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Theatrical Make Up

Our TY students took part in a theatrical make up workshop on November 29th. They learned how to create realistic cuts and bruises using make up. As in previous years, the boys really enjoyed this experience. A big thank you to Ms Mooney who organised the workshop and to Zoe Gibney who delivered it.



Transition Year Round Up

Our Transition Year students have had a busy couple of weeks. On Monday, December 9th they travelled into the city centre to help out with the **ISPCC Holly Campaign**, collecting for the charity in the Grafton Street area. Later that same week, it was time for a little festive fun as the whole year took to the ice in Dundrum for an afternoon's **ice-skating**. Thankfully the group and their teachers remained injury-free and an enjoyable afternoon was had by all. Finally, on Monday 16th and Tuesday 18th December, TY students took part in **bag packing** in

Dunnes Stores, Cornelscourt to raise funds for the school. We would like to thank Ms Mooney, the Parents' Association and all the teachers involved in these various activities and all those who donated to the ISPCC and bag packing campaigns. It is very much appreciated.



Merry Christmas

We would like to wish everyone in Clonkeen College and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope that everyone has a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas break and that we will all return to school refreshed and ready for the challenges that lie ahead in 2020. Please note that the school will reopen on Monday, 6th January.

