

CLONKEEN COLLEGE



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by Transition Year Students

January/February 2022



New Year Message

In our first edition of 2022, the newsletter team would like to wish everyone in the school community best wishes for the year ahead. We look to the future with positivity as life slowly begins to return to normal. We wish to congratulate our students on their excellent Christmas results and wish our 3rd Year and 6th Year students good luck in their mock examinations.

Music News

We are immensely proud of our talented 6th

Year music students, Andrew O'Donovan and Oran McGrane, who raised the roof at Dun Laoghaire Further Education Institute's Live Music Event on Wednesday 9th February 2022. Andrew and Oran performed as a vocal duo accompanied by Andrew on guitar. Their impeccably blended vocal harmony, stylish guitar accompaniment and engaging stage presence made for a fantastic performance.

A special thank you to family and friends who came to support and of course, to our 6th Year

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music class, who were front and centre cheering on their classmates. Congratulations Andrew and Oran!

Ms. Fox



5th and 6th Year Art Trip

On the 8th of February, 5th and 6th Year Art students visited Brú na Bóinne, Newgrange and Knowth in County Meath. At the World Heritage Site, they enjoyed an immersive learning experience about Neolithic art and architecture.



L1 News

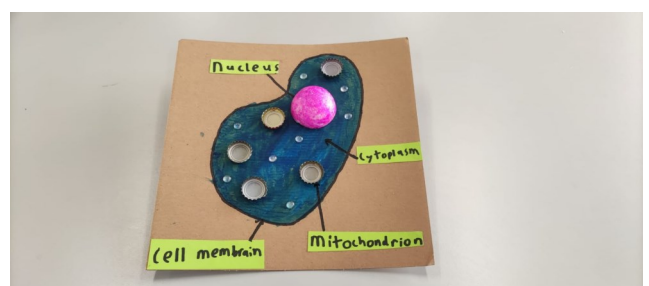
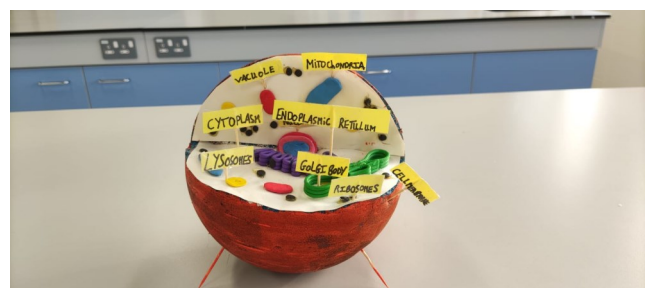
As part of our Horticulture and Preparing for Work Level 2 Learning Programmes, L1 visited Festina Lente Equestrian and Garden Centre in Bray. We also met an old friend of Clonkeen College, Mark Sullivan who is working and studying there at present.

Mr. McGloughlin



Science News

Our talented and creative 1st Year students made excellent use of household items to make wonderful models of a cell.



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Green Schools Committee

The Green Schools Committee have been working on various projects this term. We have created water awareness slogan/posters to display around the school. These posters have been placed in the bathrooms, Science labs, the Home Economics room and near the new water fountains. Our energy inspectors have been checking all school computers have been switched off throughout the day to save energy.

The committee also ran a water quiz this week. The idea of the quiz was to make students aware as to how much water goes into the manufacturing of certain products. Well done to C4 and Ms. Sheahan's CSPE class who won.

Our day of action will take place on Wednesday 2nd March. We will be visiting a local beach to take part in a clean-up operation. Finally, we will have our renewal visit with a member from Dun Laoighaire Rathdown Co. Council to award us with our third green flag, fingers crossed!

Don't let *life* slip down the drain

Ms. Nolan



College Awareness Week

In November 2021 Clonkeen College celebrated

College Awareness Week for the second year. The Careers Team arranged for several activities to take place, these included:

Teachers posted the crests of the colleges they attended on their classroom doors. Students were encouraged to discuss the courses and third level institutes with the relevant teacher.

Staff also posted the different jobs they had before teaching on their doors and each morning there was a competition where students had to match the job announced to the teacher. Prizes were given out daily to the winners.

Tutor and career classes took part in a Kahoot quiz where they had to guess what named celebrities had studied in college. 6th Year students researched jobs that related to science and posted them outside Ms. Murray's lab.

All classes were encouraged to discuss the careers that students could progress to after studying their subjects.

Ms. O'Rourke



Student Council

Check out our two brand new state of the art water fountains installed as a joint project between the Student Council and Parents'

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Association! Thanks for all the hard work and effort, our students really appreciate them.



1st and 2nd Year Basketball

There have very big numbers for our Tuesday and Thursday Basketball sessions since Christmas. Well done to all students for the brilliant turnout.

We take on Newpark Comprehensive and Ballinteer CS before mid-term to seek our places in the play-offs. We hope to at least emulate the performances of our Seniors (S/F) and U-16s (Final) before Christmas. Good luck to both teams!!

Under 14 Hurling and Gaelic Football

We've had a good turnout for our next generation of hurlers. It was great to see the 2nd Years hurl for the school after Christmas after their enforced absence last year. They were ably helped by our new intake too. Matches are to

resume after the mid-term break.

Before Christmas our 2nd Year/U-14 Team gave a very good account of themselves in the Dublin Championship. Unfortunately, no wins but the groundwork is set for next year's U-16 campaign. Many of the footballers are now involved with the U-14 Hurlers. Here was panel from last Autumn's campaign lead by captain, Eoin Gibbons, B1:

Cian Cavanagh, Seán Greene, Craig Howard, Finn Hudner, Liam McAteer, Lucas O'Donnell, Ted O'Reilly (all B1), Quinn Doyle, Jazz Ga-an, Zach Johnston, Evan Kearney, Seán Lambie, Finlay Rice (all B2), Keelyn Cullen Stone, Rhys Knight, Donal Moylan, Orin Noctor (all B3), Sam Murphy, Alex Traynor and Kevin Walsh (all B4).

They were well supported by our First Years whose own competitions will take place in the Spring:

Matthew Bonar, Harry Fitzsimons, Tom Hickie, Seán Hurley, David Kelly, Aidan O'Sullivan (all A1), Daniel Glynn, Harry McGeown, Joe O'Shea, Patrick O'Shea, Michael O'Sullivan (all A2), Matthew Bolton, Yahia Hadziselimovic, Eoin McDermott (all A3), Daniel Keogh and Oisín Reilly (both A4).

We'll report on our progress in the First Year Blitzes in our next issue.

Under 15 Soccer

Clonkeen's Under 15 soccer team played two matches this term: one in the Shield and one in the league. The first match against Moyle Park College was a real nail biter. On a tough pitch the lads managed to assert their authority on proceedings. However, the match finished 2-2 in

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normal time due to a number of poor refereeing decisions. Moyle Park College had a goal allowed even though the ball had gone out of play during the build up to the goal. Following this, Clonkeen had a perfectly legitimate goal ruled out for offside. Despite these setbacks, the lads kept their heads and won the match on penalties. The next round will be played after mid term.

In the team's other match of the term, an experimental line-up lost to Drimnagh Castle. Fortunately, Clonkeen are still in with a shout of progressing to the semi-finals of the league if they beat St. Mark's Community School. Well done to all those involved!

Senior Rugby

Quarter Final Match Report

Topic - Clonkeen College vs. Mountrath Community College

Location – Kilbogget Park, Cabinteely.

Date – 31st January 2022

The team arrived at 11.30 a.m. to their adopted home ground of Kilbogget Park, home of Seapoint Rugby Club. The extended squad of 27 players, many of whom play or have played for Seapoint RFC, prepared for the encounter by being put through their paces on the pitch in the warmup before the game started.

The match began with out-half Rory O'Kane kicking off into a strong head wind which would prove to be a decisive factor later in the match. Our own kick-off was caught by captain Andrew O'Donovan and this set the tone for the team for the rest of the afternoon.

Mountrath Community College, having travelled from County Laois, soon settled into the game and took the lead halfway through the first half with an unconverted try to lead 0-5. Clonkeen's backs were against the wall and did well to weather the storm but conceded another try just before half time to go in at the break 0-12 down. Despite the score line the home team were still very much in the game.

At the half time interval, the players refuelled and made light work of the Jaffa Cakes that were provided by the coaching team. After a rousing half time talk by coach Conor Ryan, the second half began. This time Clonkeen College players were playing with the wind at their backs.

An early try was scored by the home team to pull the score line back to 7-12. Soon after, a penalty in front of the sticks was conceded by Mountrath and was duly converted by O'Kane to make it a 2 point game with 20 minutes to go in the second half. The Clonkeen supporters' belief on the sideline, began to grow.

Mountrath then surged up the field to score a try of their own against the run of play which was converted which made it 10-19. From the kick-off, the ball was sent high up into the air and was knocked on giving Clonkeen an attacking scrum 5 meters out from the Mountrath try line. Off the resulting scrum, Jamie Maguire barrelled over the line just to the left of the posts and the kick was converted to make it 17-19 with only minutes left.

One final effort was needed and that was exactly what the Clonkeen supporters got. Clonkeen to

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earned yet another penalty which was put into the corner and after a nervy lineout, the ball was tidied up well by Liam Dunne and Clonkeen had field position and their chance to launch an attack. Mountrath were out on their feet at this stage. The ball was passed out to the far-right hand side of the pitch to Ben Brophy who weaved his way through the tired, rushing defence to go over in the corner. The conversion hit the post, but it was enough to give Clonkeen a 3 point lead 22-19.

The kick-off was still to come and the men hailing from the O'Moore County had one final chance to win or draw level. The kick-off was caught by Jamie Maguire and the forwards did well to secure the ball for scrum half and brother Mark Maguire to pass to O'Kane who sent the ball into row Z.

The final whistle blew giving Clonkeen a narrow 22-19 victory and their ticket into the semi-final.



Semi-Final Match Report

Topic - Clonkeen College vs. Presentation DLS

College, Bagenalstown

Location – Oak Park, Co. Carlow.

Date – 11th February 2022

The squad set off from the school gates at 12 p.m. towards Co. Carlow ahead of the 3 p.m. kick off time. We arrived with plenty of time to spare allowing the players to soak in their surroundings and familiarise themselves with the tricky weather conditions. The warm up took place in a windswept but sunny and dry Oak Park but the same cannot be said for the match itself.

By 3 o'clock the signs were ominous. Dark clouds descended and began to open 20 minutes into the first half of the match. With the wind and rain at their backs Clonkeen scored first with a try from captain Andrew O'Donovan but Bagenalstown quickly hit back with a try of their own to make it 7-5 to the home side. Unfortunately, Clonkeen were unable to score again in the first half and went into the break 2 points down with it all to do.

The half time team talk seemed to work and Clonkeen came out all guns blazing in the second half. Some great individual running by centre Jamie Maguire led to Peter Kenny scoring twice in the corner with Liam Dunne also crossing over the line to score Clonkeen's 4th try of the afternoon. However, Bagenalstown managed to respond after each try with a score of their own. With 3 minutes to left on the clock, 1 point separated the two teams. The score was Clonkeen College 20-19 Presentation DLS College, Bagenalstown.

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Controversy dominated the final 2 minutes of play with some questionable refereeing decisions. Presentation DLS College, Bagenalstown were awarded a dubious penalty that made it a 2 point game with one minute to go. Clonkeen had one last opportunity from the kickoff to salvage something from the game. Despite having scored late tries on 2 occasions earlier on in the season, Clonkeen were unable to register a winning score in the final play of this game and exited the competition with their heads held high.

It finished at a damp and dreary Oak Park - Clonkeen 20 – 22 Presentation DLS College, Bagenalstown.

Mr. O'Connor

Senior Gaelic

The senior Gaelic team had a good year getting to the Dublin Q-final. We lost this match to the eventual winners: a very strong St Mc Daras team. Our highlight was our win against Oatlands College, a game in which we scored 5 excellent goals. The team prepared well for all games and played challenge games against Pres Bray. In the league we beat Old Bawn and Oatlands.

A large part of the panel will be with us again next year and myself and Mr O'Brien are really looking forward to getting things going again in early September. Thanks to all the lads for their effort throughout the year and we wish our 6th Year lads the best of luck in their future careers.

Mr Sheehy & Mr O'Brien

Transition Year

Huge thanks to the Irish Red Cross for providing our Transition Year students from D3 with their TY Emergency Response Course, an amazing life skill to have.



Revised work experience dates for term 2:
Week 1:

Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February
Week 2:

Monday 28th February - Friday 4th March

Midterm Break

We hope that all our students, staff and their families enjoy the midterm break. We look forward to hearing all about our Transition Year students' two-weeks work experience. We wish our exam years good luck in their mock examinations. Their resilience over the last two years continues to impress.