

# CLONKEEN CHRONICLE



## PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD

**First things first; it is my pleasure to welcome all of you reading the very first edition of the new and improved school newsletter.**

**Over the last number of years, student participation in the newsletter was somewhat curtailed due to COVID-19. However, now that restrictions have been lifted, that is no longer the case.**

*Welcome*



**Since September 2022, Mr. J Burgess, Mr. Stafford and Mr. Coughlan have been collaborating with a team of students to ensure that the collective student voice is heard through the newsletter. A school podcast has also been launched to diversify and update the manner in which that student voice is broadcast. I look forward to seeing what our talented students produce over the next few months and the coming years.**

**Well done to all involved!**

**Now, I want to extend a very warm, if belated, welcome back to our staff, students and the extended school community. I would also like to give a warm welcome to those who are joining us at Clonkeen for the first time. I bid a fond farewell to the Leaving Certificate students of 2022. They should be extremely proud of themselves for showing resilience and determination in the face of adversity over the last number of years. Not only did they survive, but they also thrived. Additionally, a very well done to our Junior Cycle students of 2022 who achieved excellent grades in their exams. All the teachers who guided, advised and taught either, or both, of these state examination year groups should be proud of their achievements.**

**Finally, I would like to share how enjoyable and satisfying it has been to see the school back in full swing this academic school year. I would like to thank members of the entire school community for their selfless efforts over the last few years to ensure that our school continued to provide an excellent education to all our boys.**

**It is so heart-warming to see the positive interactions between our students and staff. Well done and thank you, also, to everyone on the amazing efforts outside the classroom with the myriad of extra-curricular activities the school offers. Now, we look forward to the remainder of the school year with great ambition and excitement.**



**Rugby Roundup**



**Stand up week**



**2nd year Dublinia trip**



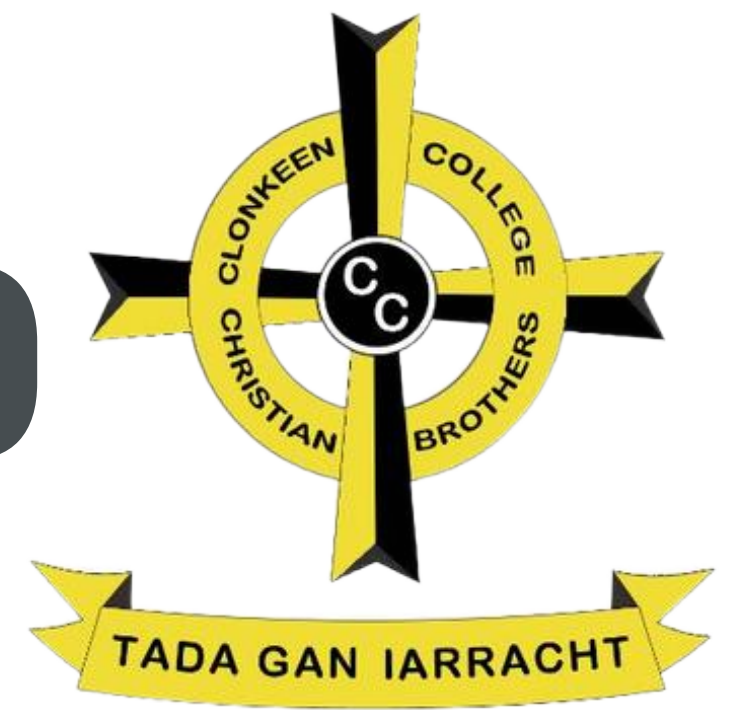


# EDITOR'S FOREWORD

**Editor: Bao Zhang**

**Welcome back to all staff and students both old and new. I am delighted to announce the revival of the Clonkeen Newsletter in our school this year. Here at the Chronicle, we seek to inform and educate students and staff about news and events both inside and outside our school community. In this day and age, keeping up to date with what is happening in our world today is of utmost importance. We strive to provide accurate, factual information about all that goes on today. Special thanks to Mr. Burgess, Mr. Coughlan, and Mr. Stafford, without whom this initiative would not be up and running. Best of luck to all staff and students for the year 2023!**





# RUGBY ROUNDUP

**WRITER:BAO ZHANG**

**The junior rugby squad played 3 matches in the ranking blitz, winning 2 with one loss. They progressed to the qualifying blitz, winning all 3 games and thrashing St. Davids of Holy Faith 21-0 in the qualifying match to the Division 3A Shield.**



**They went on to beat De La Salle College Dundalk 59-19 at home at Seapoint, before facing St. Colmcille's Knocklyon in the semi-final. At full time the score remained 0-0, and in an outrageous move, it was decided the winner would be chosen through a coinflip, which Clonkeen lost, putting them out of the division.**



**The senior squad played 4 games in their ranking blitz, winning 2, drawing 1 and losing 1, with the same outcome in their qualifying blitz while putting them top of their group to qualify for the Division 3A Cup. However, they suffered a 17-0 loss to Arklow CBS in the quarter final losing their place in the division.**





# **CLONKEEN ROBBED**

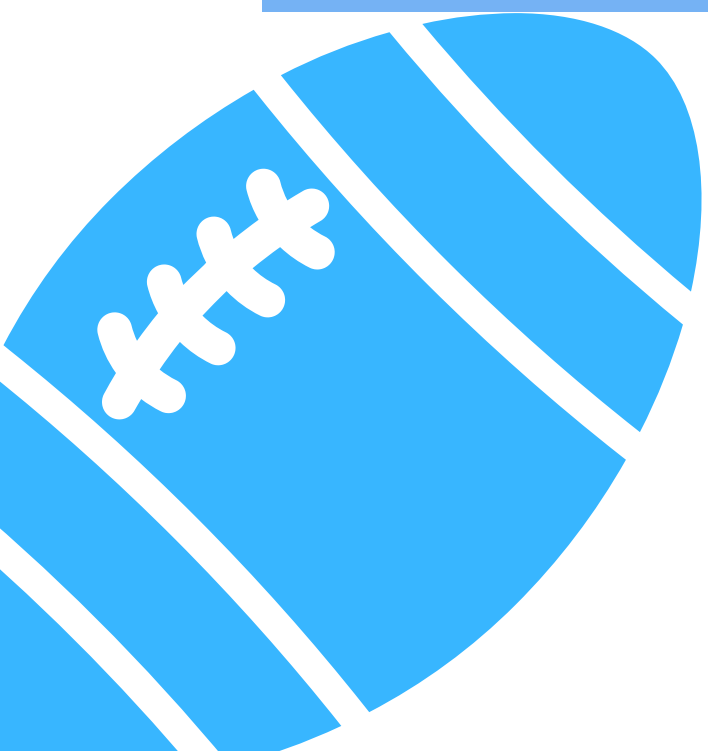
**WRITER; MATTHEW BONAR,  
CHRIS D'SOUZA**

**On December 6th, Clonkeen faced St. Colmcille's College in Terenure in the junior rugby Leinster semi-final.**

**Spirits were high for the Clonkeen squad as the players warmed for an intense battle for a Leinster final in Donnybrook. They started well, unfazed by the aggressive Colmcille squad. The subs were cheering on their teammates to get them the win. As scraps broke out, crunching tackles, near tries for both sides and countless cuts and bruises, neither team was able to get the ball past the try line. The full-time whistle blew; would it go to overtime, maybe a shootout or even a rematch? NO!**

**The verdict came down to a coin flip! Clonkeen lost the toss, resulting in their knockout. There was anger and sadness from coach and players. 2nd year players Liam Finn and Darragh Kelly were interviewed. Both had only one word to describe the outcome, 'a disgrace'!**

**Despite this outrageous call from the referee and Leinster youth organisers, we are still immensely proud of our team.**





# SENIOR SOCCER: ROAD TO THE FINAL



WRITER:EOIN FARRELLY

**The year got off to a strong start for the under 19 soccer team. Under the tactical commands of Mr Donnelly and Mr Hogan, they notched up two stellar 5-0 wins against Kylemore College and Moyle Park. Things were looking good for the year, until a couple of weeks into the campaign disaster struck.**

**The two stars of the team, Conor McManus and Stephen Mohan became unavailable for further matches. Instead, Conor left to sign a pro-contract with Brentford while Stephen was on holidays with the Irish team in Croatia. This, along with a handful of injuries (and the odd suspension) left the team in crisis. Although a strong team was still fielded, further complemented by great fifth-year additions, the team suffered two losses on the bounce, knocking them out of the Cup and nearly ruining any League chances. However, a fortunate bye against St Marks, saw their passage through to the quarter finals.**

**In the New Year, the reintroduction of Ireland international Stephen Mohan and the honour of new jerseys reignited the team. On a dismal Tuesday afternoon, on a mucky pitch outside Tallaght Community School, the Clonkeen senior soccer team laid their claim in the semi-finals, in a gripping, tense, hard-earned 4-3 victory, with Stephen scoring a hat-trick. All eyes turned to the semi-final, as the team travelled to face Palmerstown. With the help of another four goals from Stephen, Clonkeen had an emphatic 5-0 win.**

**The final of the under 19 A Dublin Schools League South Division will be played on Thursday the 26th of January against Templeogue College. The winner will progress to a larger Dublin final. We wish them the best of luck.**





# SENIOR SOCCER:

## Clonkeen College vs Templeogue

### South county Dublin final



WRITTEN BY: MATTHEW BOLTON



The senior football squad unfortunately lost the south county Dublin final 3-1 against Templeogue. The boys played amazing football with great skill and determination which drove them on in the 90 minutes. An early goal from Templeogue gave them the edge. The game was very scrappy. At half time it was 1-0 to Templeogue.

“We’re playing like the team that’s 1-0 up instead of 1-0 down, they need to up the pace, midfielders have to take the ball on the back foot and play forward”, Mr. Faherty commented at half time.



In the second half, the boys played their hearts out, getting so many chances with one goal getting cleared off the line and saving a penalty. Stephen Mohan had an outstanding game.

There were 2 cards shown to Templeogue, a yellow then a red card for mouthing off to the crowd.

Two further breakaway goals gave Templeogue a commanding lead. Despite this, Clonkeen kept possession and constantly tested the Templeogue keeper, leading to a fabulous goal by Callum White, late on.

The team will be disappointed, but they shouldn’t be, as they poured their heart and soul out into the match and that is all we can ask for. Also, a shoutout to managers Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Hogan who were a great support.





# STAND UP WEEK

**WRITER: JAKE KEOGH**



**Last November, Clonkeen college had its annual Stand Up week. Stand Up week is all about promoting and celebrating LGBT+ in Clonkeen. Multiple competitions took place during the week in order to get the students involved. These included taking pictures of rainbows through different perspectives and how different objects can reflect and transport light and colour. There were also quizzes throughout the week where students and teachers got to answer general LGBT+ questions and they got to guess the famous LGBT+ person.**



**Every day of the week a song was played at the start of the day and the students got to guess what the song was and who the artist was. All the songs played promoted being yourself and not letting others bring you down. The Music, Art, Home Economics and Science Departments also based their work of everything to do with stand up week. Each teacher in Clonkeen put a piece of paper outside their classroom door explaining why Stand Up week is important to them. To help inform students and staff of LGBT+, LGBT+ flags were hung up around the school with the meaning of the flag beside them. Mr. Kilroy and Ms. Marley hosted a coffee morning for all the members of staff to help promote and celebrate LGBT+ in Clonkeen. Ms Marley also made a rainbow themed cake with each layer dyed a different colour representing everything LGBT+.**



**Shout Out (An organisation that helps to improve the lives of LGBT+ people through educational workshops.) came into Clonkeen to do a workshop with the TY students to help educate them on the importance of creating a welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ students and how to be good allies. They were also taught LGBTQ+ terminology and they went through scenarios to help students get involved.**

**There was fantastic support from the students and teachers of Clonkeen throughout the week, especially the students of L1 who helped throughout the week and participated in a lot of the activities and competitions. A big thanks to everyone who participated and helped throughout Stand Up week especially Mr Kilroy who helped with all the information that is in this Article.**

**Stand Up week was an enormous success and hopefully this year's Stand Up week (2023) will be the same!**





# MICROSOFT: DREAM SPACE WORKSHOP

## WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY?

**AT THE START OF THE SESSION, EACH STUDENT WAS GIVEN A NAMETAG WITH A LETTER AND NUMBER ON IT, USED TO DETERMINE GROUPS FOR THE DAY AND TO PUSH STUDENTS OUT OF THEIR COMFORT ZONE BY INTERACTING WITH OTHERS THEY NORMALLY DO NOT INTERACT WITH.**

**THE DAY STARTED OUT WITH A GROUP ACTIVITY TO TEST THE STUDENTS' TEAMWORK AND QUICK THINKING. EACH GROUP OF STUDENTS WERE GIVEN A FOLDER FULL OF COMMON CRAFT SUPPLIES AND ONE MARBLE. THEY HAD 15 MINUTES TO CONSTRUCT A TRACK FOR A MARBLE TO RUN ACROSS. HOWEVER, THERE WERE RULES SUCH AS, THE MARBLE COULD ONLY TOUCH THE SUPPLIES IN THE FOLDER AND HAD TO STOP AT A SPECIFIC AREA. THE WINNING TEAM HAD THEIR MARBLE TRAVEL 156 INCHES.**

**THE STUDENTS WERE THEN INTRODUCED TO A SMALL COMPUTER CALLED A MICRO-BIT. AFTER BEING SHOWN A DEMONSTRATION ON HOW TO USE THE COMPUTER USING A WEBSITE CALLED MAKE CODE, THEY WERE TASKED TO USE THE COMPUTER AND THE LED LIGHTS ON THE COMPUTER TO SHOW THEIR NAME AND AGE, CREATE AN ANIMATION, MAKE A SONG AND CONNECT TO OTHER COMPUTERS AND SEND MESSAGES.**

**THE STUDENTS FINISHED OFF THE DAY WITH A KAHOOT BASED OFF ALL THE INFORMATION THEY LEARNED THAT DAY.**

**D3 AND THE TECHNICAL GRAPHICS STUDENTS WILL BE GOING BACK TO MICROSOFT DREAMSPACE IN JANUARY WHERE THEY WILL USE ALL THE KNOWLEDGE, THEY LEARNED FROM THE PAST 2 SESSIONS TO CREATE AND PRESENT A PROJECT.**



**ON FRIDAY THE 2ND OF DECEMBER, D3 AND MR. HOGAN'S TECHNICAL GRAPHICS CLASS VISITED MICROSOFT FOR THEIR 2ND SESSION OF MICROSOFT DREAMSPACE.**



**D3 AND THE TECHNICAL GRAPHICS STUDENTS HAD THEIR FIRST SESSION WITH MICROSOFT DREAMSPACE BACK IN SEPTEMBER WHERE THEY WERE INTRODUCED TO THE CORE STEM COMPETENCIES THROUGH BOTH UNPLUGGED AND PLUGGED ACTIVITIES. WHILE AT THEIR SECOND SESSION THEY WERE INTRODUCED TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (THROUGH LITTLE COMPUTERS CALLED MICRO-BITS) AND COMPUTER SCIENCE.**



## WHAT IS DREAM SPACE?

**MICROSOFT DREAMSPACE IS A PROGRAMME THAT PROVIDES IMMERSIVE, RESEARCH-BASED STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS) EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND COMMUNITIES TO ENHANCE THEIR STEM SKILLS ALONGSIDE CRUCIAL SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS SUCH AS EMPATHY, CREATIVITY, ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND COLLABORATION.**





# 2ND YEAR DUBLINIA TRIP

**Second years visited the history exhibit Dublinia as part of their Junior Cycle curriculum.**

**Today we will look at the museum of Dublinia, the first-hand practical education provided by museums of Dublin, and the experiences of the second years.**

**Dublinia is a fascinating recreation of the medieval and Viking settlements in Dublin. It offers information addressing death, trade, housing and much more relating to the life of the historic communities.**

## WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY

**Miss Mulville and Miss Harte organized the trip for 120 second year students to visit the site and receive a firsthand practical educational experience that complements the material covered in the second-year curriculum.**

**We explored many different live recreations of medieval/Viking Dublin. We were also provided with videos and written accounts of what happened and miniature maps and models of the city. The videos provided us with online 3D recreations of the town and people within it.**



**In all, Dublinia was a great success and the only flaw I would find was that the rooms were dark and cramped and written information felt clustered and unarranged. Overall, it was an enjoyable time, and we learned a lot.**