

SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER

THANK YOU

As the 2017-18 school year draws to a close in Coláiste Éamonn Rís, it is time to reflect on another busy and eventful one. I would like to thank Mr. Hegarty, Deputy Principal, for his hard work, help and support in the running of the school. I would also like to thank all the teaching staff for all their hard work in guiding, instructing and inspiring our students during this school year. Special thanks to the many teachers who gave of their free time to undertake class tutor or year head duties or who volunteered for the various staff committees. It would also be remiss of me not to mention the various teachers who facilitate the provision of an array of extra-curricular activities on offer in the school. These activities add significantly to the educational experience of all our students and greatly enhance and embellish school life. I would like also to record my thanks to Bernie, Colleen and Edel, our SNAs, our canteen staff Martina and Geraldine and our caretaker Derek for their work and support during the last year.

BEST WISHES

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Leaving Certificate class of 2018 the best of luck in the Leaving Certificate. Seventy nine students will sit the Leaving Certificate here this year. Many hours of study and homework have been spent over the last five or six years in preparation for this exam. I hope it bears fruit over the next few weeks.

The school's mission is to develop responsible individuals in a Christian environment, who will participate fully in a changing society. I trust that our Leaving Certificate students' future lives will bear witness to our success in this regard.

I would also like to extend best wishes to all our Junior Certificate students. One hundred and twenty one students will sit the Junior Certificate here this year. The Junior Certificate exam is an important milestone in their educational journey.

CONDOLENCES

On behalf of all staff and students, I would like to express our deepest sympathy to any family in the school community who were bereaved in the past year and to the following in particular: to Ms C. O'Brien and her family on the death of her mother and father; to Mrs C. Hayes on the death of her father; Fionn O'Callaghan (First Year) and the O'Callaghan family on the death of Fionn's father, Colm; Kyle (Second Year) and Shane (Third Year) Clancy and the Clancy family on the death of Kyle and Shane's mother, Susan.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management has had another busy year in guiding the fortunes of the school. I would like to thank Mr. Gerry Forde (Chairperson) and the other Board of Management members for their support and ongoing commitment to the school. The current board's term of office ends in October 2020.

PARENTS' COUNCIL

The Parents' Council has also been very supportive of the school in the past year. I would like to thank the members of the Council for their efforts. This year, once again, the council co-sponsored the Gaeltacht scholarships in conjunction with the board of management. The Council has an important role to play in the running of the school. Active participation in the Council's affairs by even more parents would be welcome. I would particularly like to thank the parents involved in preparing for and working at this year's Graduation reception in the school gym. It was a credit to all involved.

Six Gaeltacht scholarships were awarded this year. Three Second Year students (Corey Lacey, Cillian Doyle and Jakub Mastek) and three Fifth Year students (David Harte, Ryan Healy and Eoin Bergin) will be heading to Coláiste na nOileán in Galway for three weeks over the summer.

COLÁISTE ÁCLA

Roinn na Gaeilge in conjunction with the Physical Education Department organised a four day trip to Coláiste Ácla from 8th-11th May for our Second Year students to improve their linguistic skills in our native tongue and to help promote the language as a living one among the school cohort. They also took part in various outdoor activities as part of the experience. Ninety two students travelled. Bhain said sult as an turas!

IMMERSION PROJECT

Mr. Whitty and Mr. Gannon are proposing to run another Immersion Project with the intention of travelling to Zambia in June 2019. A considerable number of students expressed an interest in getting involved and since places on the Project are limited, interviews were held to determine those who will participate. The students and teachers involved will be actively engaged in fundraising for the next year in particular. All the funds raised for the Project will be used to help complete the Sables Centre which helps orphaned and vulnerable children. The Sables Centre provides food, shelter, education and counselling for these at risk children and aims to eventually integrate them into the normal education system. Whilst in Kawbe, the group will also engage in home visits, hospice visits and help in the classrooms to educate the children. The project has always been a huge success and the communities visited have greatly appreciated the work and kindness of the students and teachers.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

I would like to thank the Students' Council for its contribution to school affairs during the last year. I would like, in particular, to thank Abdullah Azam (chairperson) and the other Sixth Year members of the

Council who will be leaving us this year for their efforts on behalf of the student body. The Council was represented at Comhairle Na nÓg and at the E.R.S.T. training day for Students' Council members.

SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT

Monday 16th February 2018 was a historic day for all in the school community as we began our first day in the newly developed school. Staff, students and parents have expressed their delight with the new spacious building.

Phase 1 saw the commencement of enabling works, the construction of a new gym and the provision of temporary accommodation. This was completed by June 2016.

Phase 2 saw the construction of a link building joining up more modern separate blocks of the existing school and the construction of a computer room and language laboratory. This was completed by September 2016.

Phase 3 consisted of the decanting from the old school into the temporary accommodation, the demolition of the old school and the construction of a new state of the art facility comprising seventeen classrooms, three science labs, a library, an ASD Unit, group rooms, a staff room, offices and stores. The GP room was renovated and existing classrooms were renovated and reconfigured to provide a music room and a lecture hall which can be also used as classrooms. This was completed in February 2018.

Phase 4 will involve the development of a playing pitch later in the calendar year when the temporary accommodation is removed from its current location. This phase of the project is currently on hold while the CBS Primary school is located in the temporary accommodation formerly occupied by the secondary school.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Ms C. O'Brien, Ms S. Breen, Ms Ruth Ivers, Mrs H. Turner, Mr F. Davey and Mr D. Howlin are currently taking part in an Instructional Leadership Programme run by Professor Barrie Bennett in conjunction with the ETBI.

WSE-MLL FOLLOW UP INSPECTION

The school received a very positive evaluation from the Department of Education Inspectorate during the recent WSE-MLL Follow Up Inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate progress made on the recommendations arising out of the WSE-MLL (Whole School Evaluation-Management, Leadership and Learning) held in November 2014. Both reports are available on the school website (www.wexfordcbs.ie) or on the DES website (www.education.gov.ie). Much work had gone on in the interim in implementing the recommendations in the 2014 Report to further enhance the quality of educational provision in the school and it was great to see this recognised in the Report.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Given the cutbacks in funding for education, parents' contributions are as important as ever. Higher insurance, electricity and heating bills over the last number of years mean that it will be harder to pay the school's bills next year. Many other additional costs arose in the past few years due to the redevelopment work such as the decanting costs. I would like to thank those who have given generously this year and I would appeal to all parents to make an extra effort next year to contribute to the voluntary contribution at the beginning of the new school year. Your financial contributions are greatly appreciated. As outlined above, we hope to install a pitch to complete the school re-development and all costs of same will also have to be borne by the school.

ENROLMENT

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are reminded to submit Expression of Interest forms for younger male siblings if they haven't already done so.

TRANSITION YEAR

There will be four Transition Year classes next year, each with twenty four students. The Transition Year programme which will provide the students involved with many educational challenges both within and beyond the school walls.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2017-18

This year once again four of our students travelled to Lourdes to represent us on the Ferns diocesan pilgrimage. They acted as helpers on the pilgrimage and all found the experience to be a very rewarding one. Fionn Roche, Ryan Healy, Niall Reck and David Harte travelled on the diocesan pilgrimage as part of the Ferns delegation. Once again, I received very positive feedback from the group leaders on the students' contributions. They were a credit to their families and their school.

JUNIOR ENTERPRISE AWARDS 2017-18

Coláiste Éamonn Rís was well represented at the X-Cel Enterprise Awards Co-Final 2017-18 in White's Hotel. Well done to all the students involved and to Mrs Barry, Mrs Codd, Mrs O'Brien and Ms McGrath for their work this year in promoting and fostering entrepreneurship in the school.

CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE

As the CAS slogan goes, 'Shoulder to shoulder we can break the cycle of suicide on the island of Ireland'. Once again, I would like to congratulate and thank Ms Ivers for her trojan work in spearheading the initiative in the school. We have been awarded ambassador status once again.

Well done also to Diarmuid McDonald Sixth Year who was a Cycle Against Suicide ambassador this year.

TEXT MESSAGING

As you are aware, a text message is sent out to parents of students who do not present at 9.05am or at 1.45pm. Text messages are also sent to alert parents about staff meetings, parent-teacher meetings,

late detentions, report card detentions etc. Please ensure that if you change your mobile contact number that you let us know. Similarly, if you change address, please let us know in order to change your contact details on the school administration system.

LUNCHTIME/SIGNING OUT

A reminder to all parents of Junior Cycle students that they are forbidden from leaving the school grounds at lunchtime unless accompanied by a parent or a teacher. No exceptions will be made. Junior Cycle students who leave the school premises without permission will face severe sanction. **Junior Cycle students must be collected if they need to leave the school premises during the school day for appointments etc. All pupils must get permission to sign out before leaving the school premises.**

BOOK FUND

All parents who require financial help with the purchase of text books should have received the Book Grant form. These should have been returned to the school office.

BOOKLISTS, EXAM TIMETABLES and CALENDARS

The 2018-19 booklists for the various years are available on the school website. Copies have also been distributed to each student. The 2018-19 school calendar is now also available on the school website. A copy will also be posted to each parent/guardian. The Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate timetables are also available on the school website and the State Examinations Commission website www.sec.ie.

CHINA 2017-2018

Coláiste Éamonn Rís China Trip 2018-A Diary

On March 13th 2018, 30 students and 3 teachers boarded Flight EY42 on Etihad Airways bound for Beijing via Abu Dhabi. A trip of a lifetime waited. The students had all participated in a Chinese Studies Module before departure, giving them some sense of what was in store. Equipped with some useful phrases, knowledge of some geography and history of China and a huge curiosity as to how a country with such a vast population actually functions, we landed in Beijing early on the morning of 14th March. Our initial impression was the WOW factor, as Chinese writing seemed to be everywhere, we were definitely in China. It was a grey morning with an invisible sun high in the sky. This was what we had heard about, smog. Your nose and mouth sensed it was very different from home. People with masks on were common. Yes this was China.

Our itinerary was full and varied. After our arrival we were taken to a restaurant for lunch. Working with chopsticks was a great experience. A skill you mastered or went hungry. The food was all we expected- full of luscious aromas, crunchy colourful vegetables and chicken and pork in wonderful sauces.



Day 1

It began in **Beijing's 798 Art Zone**, comprising of a complex of 50-year-old decommissioned military factory buildings boasting a unique architectural style, located in Dashanzi, Chaoyang District of Beijing, that houses a thriving artistic community.

Tiredness was setting in as we got our evening meal, again sitting at tables of 11. We conversed about the food, the journey and the idea of actually being able to sleep in a bed. The routine of eating remained the same for the duration of the trip, varied company and conversations at the table and varied menus to spice up the palate.

We checked into our hotel, situated on the North West corner of the second ring road. We were never so glad to get horizontal. Lights out and the longest day was over.

Day 2

The next day began early as we headed to **The Great Wall**. Very impressive. From there we had lunch, went to a **Tea Ceremony** where we tasted many varieties of tea. No milk, no sugar needed.

Next we went to enjoy the **Olympic Village** built for the 2008 Olympic Games. The Birds Nest and The Cube. We then went to the **Houhai Lakes** and surrounding hutong of **Nanluoguxiang** where we saw the traditional housing from early Beijing. More food and back to base to chill out and again try catch up on much needed rest.



Day 3

We made an early start once again to try to avoid the morning traffic. We went to **Tiananmen Square**. But it was partially blocked off as The Party Conference was on. This is when they elected the President into office for life. Also we found out when we got home that Kim Jong Un of North Korea was also in town when we were there, which explained the heavy security presence around the Square. From there, we entered the **Forbidden City** under the watchful eye of Chairman Mao. We were struck by the vastness of this place, the very specific layout and design, all to the liking of the Emperors. We learned about the importance of colours and numbers in Chinese culture.



Day 4

St. Patrick's Day. We all dressed up in our greens and had our own parade. We were greeted with a snow blizzard at **The Lama Temple** as we asked for the gods to be kind to Ireland as they faced England in Twickenham for The Grand Slam. Next up was **The Pearl Market**, the opportunity to shop and haggle. This was the ultimate experience in shopping, bargaining for Beats, Under Armour, Leather bags, Sunglasses, Silk and many other goods. One had to be careful and wise and understand the conversion of currency. Think fast and recognise a good deal. Also you learned to walk away when the going got too tough.

Exhausted from shopping we visited an **acrobatic show**, where we witnessed amazing feats. From 16 people on one bicycle to 7 motorcycles in a sphere going every which way at speed.



Day 5

Our usual early start, heading north-west to **The Summer Palace**. The life of the emperor was certainly one of opulence. **A Kung Fu class** in the park, being watched by all the local elders was certainly entertaining. Our instructor is well known in the area and is a master in Beijing style kung fu. After our brave efforts in the martial arts, we walked across the park to **The Temple of Heaven**. This is where the emperor would make sacrifices to ensure a good harvest to help feed his people. One of the highlights was the exquisite food tasting on **Snack Alley** just off **Wangfujing Street**. Here we got to taste scorpions, starfish, snake and all sorts of other delicacies. Not everyone was a fan or daring enough to try.

Day 6

Final day in Beijing was a visit to the **Zoo** and a chance to see the famous **Pandas**. From there we went to the **Beijing City Museum** which had excellent displays of the cities ancient history. A short bus trip took us to **Beijing South Railway Station** where we boarded the night train to Shanghai. It was a 12 hour journey, four in a cabin, snug little bugs. Super in Beijing, breakfast in Shanghai.

Day 7

On arrival in Shanghai it was immediately noticeable that this was a very different type city from Beijing. This is New York style, high rise buildings dominating the skyline, Shanghai Tower being the tallest. We went to the Old Town and got a glimpse of what it was like to live in a condensed space, gone were the traditional courtyards of Beijing. Here the houses were in lanes. We visited the **Yu Garden**, a piece of majestic tranquility in a bustling city. Following lunch we ascended **The Jinmao Tower** which gave

amazing views of the city and **The Huangpu River**. A walk down **The Bund** gave a spectacular view of the business district with the famous skyline in all its glory.

Nanjing Road, one of the world's busiest shopping streets gave an insight into the hustle and bustle of daily life in a city of 24 million people



Day 8

Our final hours in Shanghai were spent shopping in the famous underground market of **Xiangyang**. Here you needed a good sense of direction as well as the art of bargaining. It was an absolute maze of shops and stalls, everything available for 'best price'.

Following our last meal and probably the end of using chopsticks for some time, we headed for the **Pudong Airport** to catch our long 10 hour flight to Abu Dhabi. The 3 hours stop over was welcomed to stretch the legs before our final flight to Dublin.

It was an amazing trip to be able to do at such a young age and to gain so many wide and varied experiences along the way, was a real education.

The students who travelled would like to thank Mr. Ahearne for his time and energy in making the trip possible, Ms MacDonald and Mrs Barry who accompanied the students and the Confucius Institute in UCD for its help in organising the trip.

Ms Argue has begun preliminary work in organising a tour to China for the 2018-19 T.Y. students.

GERMAN EXCHANGE

Mrs Sinnott is currently planning a school exchange, in conjunction with the Loreto Secondary School, to St. Ursula's Catholic Secondary School in Baden-Wurtemberg in south-west Germany in February 2019. Those travelling will experience life in a German secondary school and stay with German families for a week.

The students who hosted our students in Germany in February will be coming to Wexford in September. They will attend classes and get a taste of Wexford life, while brushing up on their English. I would like to thank Mrs Sinnott for her work in organising our part of the exchange.

NEW YORK EXCHANGE

Planning is underway for another exchange with our fellow CBS school, Iona Prep in New Rochelle, New York. I would like to thank Mrs Hayes for her work in organising the schedule for our students and making the necessary arrangements for our American guests when the visit later in the year.

CUMANN ÉAMAINN RÍS

Well done to all the members of the Justice and Peace Society who undertook various initiatives in the school in the past year. The society reflects the values of Edmund Rice and presented further leadership opportunities for our students.

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Transition Year Awards Night

The Transition Year Awards ceremony was held in the school's gym room on Monday 28th May. This gave the Transition Year students an opportunity to showcase their year's work to their parents.

Nominations for Spirit of Transition Year Award

The following students were nominated for the Spirit of Transition Year Award: Joe Barrett; Jack Cunningham; Riley Kohl; Glen Murphy-Butler; Cormac Sinnott; Conor Brennan; Jack Freeman; Weng Geng Lin; Thomas O'Keefe; Luke Spellacy; Fiachra Brodie Hayes; Adam Kehoe; David McDonnell; Shane O'Leary and Ian Sweetman.

Weng Geng Lin emerged as the worthy winner of the Spirit of Transition Year Award.

School Awards Night

Our thirteenth Annual Awards Night took place on Monday 21st May in the Riverbank Hotel. This year the guest speaker was Mr John Roche. Mr. Roche has recently retired from his position as Chief Superintendent in the Gardaí and is a past pupil of the school. The awards ceremony is held to recognise

and affirm the efforts of those of our students who have set high academic standards, those who have worked to the best of their ability and those who have set sporting standards in the school. They seek to affirm the positive and are a celebration of our students' academic and sporting excellence. The **Kathleen Fahy Award** was also awarded on the night. The school has a proud tradition of community involvement and charitable work and encourages the students to extend their life experiences and to be of benefit to the community within which they live. This aspect of school life is recognised by the Kathleen Fahy Award. The winner of this award was Matthew Colgan (Third Year) for his considerable work in this sphere both in and outside school. Diarmuid McDonald (Sixth Year) was also nominated for the award. Matthew gets to take possession of the bespoke perpetual trophy for the year and a piece of glass to keep as a memento. Sports awards and extra-curricular awards are also presented to students from the various year groups except for Sixth and Transition Year.

Academic Award Winners

Fifth Year

Accounting: Fionn Roche

Applied Maths: Paul Lohier

Art: Paul Eaves

Biology: Gary Carroll

Business: Eoin Bergin

Chemistry: Niall Reck

Construction Studies: Jack Abrams

Design & Communication Graphics: Cian Dempsey

English (H): Ryan Healy

English (O): Pdraig O'Leary

French: George Gould

German: Cian Foley

Geography: Jack Berry

History: Dylan French-Corish

Irish (H): Ryan Healy

Irish (O): Cory Furlong

LCVP: Ryan Kavanagh

Maths (H): Ryan Healy

Maths (O): Ian Browne

Physics: Cian Foley

Religious Education: Ryan Healy

Agricultural Science: Carlos Sasaran

First Year

Academic Award Winners

Merit Award Winners

Bernini

Cian Doyle
Finn Baneham
Tristan Scallan

Kaylem Codd
Darragh Corish

Monet

Daniel Howlin
Shane Fortune
William Lin

Ben O'Connor
Sam Moore

Picasso

Eoin McMahon
Dara Browne
Tadhg Brohan

Tadhg Hayes
Oisín Meyler

Rembrandt

Ronan Brennan
Aodhán Collins
Ruairí Flannery

Sam Hoffheinze
Andrew Moran

Second Year

Academic Award Winners

Brennan

Roko Strgr
Corey Lacey
Conor Dobbs

Pearse

Callum Corcoran
Jack Wilde
Muhammad Khan

Connolly

Adam Ffrench
Michael Mackey
Jack Corcoran

MacDonagh

Dylan Waters
Cillian Doyle
Aidan Conneely

Merit Award Winners

Eoin Doyle
Quintan Kelly

Aaron O'Connor
Michael Stypula

Conor Wall
Leon Beaver

William Byrne
Eoin Hartigan

Third Year

Academic Award Winners

Beethoven

Nathan Murphy
Gergly Pap
Andrew Tsebrynskyy

Handel

David Kelly

Merit Award Winners

Seán Byrne
Jake Giltrap

Kian Black

Darragh Collins
Jahnvi Parinkayale

Niks Ziemelis

Mozart

Conor Keane
Jason Dempsey
Abdul Osman

Jack Walsh
Luke O'Rourke

Strauss

Shane Clancy
Denis Miculescu
Oliver Gould

Conor Parle
Ivan Traci

Vivaldi

Jack Forde
Seán White
Eoin Afolobi Joseph

Dylan O'Brien
Ian Cullen

Extra-Curricular Award Winners

Debating

Junior Debater of the Year: Ronan Brennan

Senior Debater of the Year: Eoin Bergin

Visual Arts

Visual Arts Award Winner: Dermot Ryan

Sixth Year Awards Night

The Sixth Year Graduation Mass and Awards was held in the G.P. room in the school on Thursday 24th May at 7.30pm, celebrated by Fr. James Cullen. All Sixth Years and their families were invited to attend. I would like to thank all associated with the end of year awards and ceremonies for all the hard work in making the night such a success.

Sixth Year Academic Award Winners

Accounting: Martin Kehoe

Agricultural Science: Diarmuid McDonald

Art: Evan Daly

Biology: Luke Flaherty

Business: Cathal Kirwan

Chemistry: Shaun Hartigan

Construction Studies: Christopher O'Dowd

Design & Communication Graphics: Christopher O'Dowd

English: Adam Flaherty

French: Angelo Miculescu

German: Luke and Sam O'Neill

Geography: Ben Butler

History: David Corish

Irish: Martin Kehoe

LCVP: Diarmuid McDonald

Maths: Cormac Monaghan

Music: Sascha Santschi-Cooney

Physics: Angelo Miculescu

The Edmund Rice Award: The premier award the school bestows on any one of the graduating students is the Edmund Rice Award, named after the school's founder. The nominees for this award, of which there were 17, are those students who are judged to best embody the spirit of the school. Young men who that use their academic abilities but more importantly demonstrates though out their school careers the qualities of integrity, leadership, co-operation and commitment to the school ethos. The 2018 Edmund Rice Award was shared, with Ben Butler and Martin Kehoe both deserving joint -winners. Ben and Martin have possession of a bespoke sculptural trophy for the next year and each receive a plaque as a permanent reminder of his enormous achievement.

Edmund Rice Award Nominees: Philip Cullen; Ryan McLaughlin; Shane Hall; Shane O'Neill; Luke O'Neill; David McDonald; Adam Dempsey; Martin Kehoe; Ben Butler; David Corish; Cormac Monaghan; Matthew Currid; Sascha Santschi-Cooney; Angelo Miculescu; Jason Moore; Chris O'Dowd and Diarmuid McDonald.

Sports Review

Hydras Swimming Club

Senior Swimmer Award Winner: Conor Brennan

Junior Swimmer Award Winner: Jakub Mastek

Waterpolo

Junior Waterpolo Award Winner: Denis Miculescu.

Hurling News

First Year Hurling: This is the first year that Leinster Council organised this competition and we were drawn in a group with Colaiste Bhríde (Carnew) and Callan CBS in Division 3. We topped our group after two comfortable wins and earned a home semi-final v Pres De La Salle Bagnalstown which we won by a large score. Despite the best efforts of the snow and rain, the Leinster final v Cistercian College Roscrea was eventually played in Heywood C.S. (Laois) on their Astroturf pitch. The game was fast and furious on the astroturf and CBS raced into a commanding lead (5-5 to 2-1) at the break but the Roscrea lads battled back to within six points entering the home straight before CBS took off again and claimed the title on 9-8 to 5-4 scoreline.

Wexford CBS: William Linn; Danny Howlin, Fionn O'Callaghan (0-2); Oisín Meyler, Tadhg Brohan, Rian Sammon; Cian Doyle (Capt., 2-4, 0-2 frees, 0-1 '65), Tadhg Hayes (1-0); Jack Kennedy, Andrew Moran (2-0), Adam Murphy (1-0); Liam Donoghue (1-2), Quinn Kelly (1-0).

Subs: Conor Mackey (1-0) for Kelly, Callum McDonald for Kennedy, Dylan Moran for Murphy, Darragh Sinnott for Donoghue, Harry Quirke for Howlin. Also Alex Breen, Darragh Browne, Luke Cullen, Conor Dempsey, Ruairi Flannery, Eoin McMahon, Evan Murphy, Stephen McDonnell, Eoin Walsh, Mustafa Weis.

Tom Walsh Blitz: CBS were invited to play in a first year hurling blitz in Good Counsel in May. Our lads had games against St. Kieran's College (1-7 to 1-0), Kilkenny CBS (1-4 to 0-4), De La Salle, Waterford (3-6 to 3-4), Good Counsel (3-2 to 0-3) and St. Augustine's Dungarvan (4-4 to 3-2). Despite losing all the games it was a fantastic day for all 28 hurlers who had a super

experience playing against some of the best schools in the country.

Wexford Blitz: We also sent two teams to participate in a County First Year Blitz in Ferns in October.

Juvenile Hurling: CBS, captained by Darragh Carley, commenced the South Leinster 'B' championship with an away match v FCJ Bunclody and after a tight game the home side finished stronger and won by 0-4. However, CBS bounced back in fine style with a hard-earned one point victory over Gorey CS. Abbey CC (Ferrybank) made the journey to Blackwater to play round 3 and were dispatched by 3-8 to 1-2 in a clinical display in dreadful conditions.

As a result, CBS qualified for the Shield Final v Borris VC which was a bit of history as it's a long time since the school played in a final at 'B' level. However, on the day Borris proved too strong and there was disappointment for CBS despite a heroic effort from the entire panel.

Rice Cup: The u-14 hurlers travelled to Kilkenny in March to take part in the prestigious Rice Cup Blitz for CBS schools. CBS lost to Kilkenny CBS and Youghal CBS before enjoying a victory over Mullingar CBS.

Junior Hurling: After winning the Juvenile 'C' championship two years ago, CBS have been playing at 'B' level in Junior and this year the school qualified for the knock-out stages of a 'B' championship for the first time in 25 years.

We faced home games against Gorey CS (eventual Leinster champions) and Enniscorthy CBS which we lost while we picked up the points on the road v Wicklow Schools. We finished in third position in the group and this resulted in CBS travelling to Laois to take on Heywood CS in the quarter-final and unfortunately they were too strong for us.

Coaches: Thanks to Mr Brosnan and Mr Blake for their time and effort with the teams and also to Paul Carley and Wexford GAA coaches Willie Cleary, Shane O'Hanlon, Eoin Morrissey and Ray Harris who visit the school and take training sessions at regular intervals.

Hurlers of the Year:

Senior – Adam Howlin

Junior – Richard Lawlor

Juvenile – Darragh Carley

First Year – Cian Doyle.





Basketball

Second Year Basketball Award: Michael Mackey

First Year Basketball Award: Liam Berry

Rugby

While no honours were won this year, many of our players were Leinster medal winners with Wexford Wanderers Under 14s.

Senior Rugby Award Winner: Shane McGuinness

Junior Rugby Award Winner: Cian Connolly.

First Year Rugby Award Winer: Kaylem Codd.

Athletics

Cross Country Athlete Award Winner: Rian Sammon

Field Athlete of the Year: Jack Forde

It was another successful year for the school in both cross country and on the track and field scene. The schools athletics year began in November with the county cross country which was held at Good Counsel, New Ross. The schools cross country teams won Best School Honours at the county championships with teams across the four age groups winning medals. Tadhg Hayes, Fionn O'Callaghan, Alex Gregg and Stephen McDonnell won bronze in the minor boy's race. Jack Dempsey, Nicolai Tcaci, Andrew Moran and Chris Ryan also won a bronze medal in the junior boy's race. Darragh Collins, Conor Keane, Sean White and Rian Doyle won inter gold while Pierce McDonnell, Nathan Murphy, Alex Looney and Owen McNulty won inter bronze. The senior boys team of Aaron O'Connor, Paul Freeman, Padraic Jordan and Nathan Barron won team gold. Next up in the cross country calendar was the South Leinsters and the school had many good running performances that day with Rian Sammon, Tadhg Hayes and the inter boys team of Darragh Collins, Conor Keane, Sean White, Rian Doyle, Nathan Murphy, Alex Looney, Owen McNulty, Cormac Phillips and Pierce McDonnell qualifying for the Leinster finals in Santry. At the Leinster cross country in Santry, Conor Keane, Rian Sammon and Tadhg Hayes all finished inside the top 30 in a field of over 100 athletes.

The track and field season has proved equally successful for the school so far with the All Irelands still to come on the 2nd of June. David McDonald has won the 100m and 200m in the South Leinsters and the Leinsters. Aaron Tierney-Smith finished 4th in the Leinster 110m hurdles. Rian Sammon placed 2nd in the 1100m minor boys race in the South Leinsters. Nathan Murphy secured a silver medal in the u16 boys mile race at the South Leinsters and ran a good race at the Leinsters to finish 6th. In the field events Gergely Pap won the Shot Putt and Discus at the South Leinsters and continued that form into the Leinsters picking up silver in the Shot Putt and a bronze in the Discus at Santry stadium. Jack Forde won the Triple Jump and finished second in the High Jump at the South Leinsters and placed 3rd in both events at the Leinster finals. The All-Ireland track and field championships were held in Tullamore on the 2nd June. David McDonald was desperately unlucky to lose out in the final of the 100m on the same time as the winner of 10.52 seconds. This was an incredible performance from David and qualifies him for the world games later in the summer. He also lost out to the same runner in the 200m final, again finishing second. Two silver medals at this level is still a fantastic achievement and all in the school would like to wish David well in his future athletic career as he has been a magnificent ambassador for the school, his club and family.



Cross country and track and field athletics teams

Back row: Nicolai Tcaci, Conor Keane, Aaron O'Connor, Paul Freeman, Padraic Jordan, Nathan Barron, Sam O'Neill, David McDonald, Aaron Tierney-Smith, Luke O'Neill, Owen McNulty, Rian Doyle.

Front row: Darragh Collins, Christopher Ryan, Fionn O'Callaghan, Alex Gregg, Andrew Moran, Stephen McDonnell, Dara Browne, Tadhg Hayes, Jack Dempsey, Alex Looney, Nathan Murphy.

Gaelic Football Award Winners

Senior Football: Adam Dempsey

Junior Football: Jason Gordon

Juvenile Football: John Hore

First Year Football: Oisín Meyler

Soccer

U.19 Soccer Award: Shane Hall

U.17 Soccer Award: Reece Murphy and Cian Foley

U.15 Soccer Award: Kyle Clancy

First Year Soccer Award: Liam Berry

Golden Boot Award Winner: Ciarán Carthy

CAREER GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING – Ms. Barnwell

CAO:

6th year students are now in a position to review their CAO course choices for college through utilising the CAO 'change of mind' service. This facility allows students who have applied for CAO to add to, delete or alter the order of their course preferences. Changes can be made on line and it is advisable to do this as opposed to filling out paperwork as it helps avoid any mistakes. This facility will remain open until July 1st. After this date it will not be possible to amend selections. It is vital that every student enters their selections in genuine order of preference so as to avoid disappointment when offers are released in August.

On this note, it is important to note that CAO offers will be issued in August a number of days after Leaving Certificate results have been released. Offers are usually issued at 6am on the CAO official website on the student's individual account and can be accepted online. There is usually a week's grace period within which students must decide whether they will accept the offer made. It is important to note that if a student fails to accept an offer and subsequently receives no further offers should there be a second round, they will have no entitlement to then accept the first offer. Second round offers are by no means guaranteed so it is advisable to accept first round offers. Should a second offer arise, the student may then accept it if they wish and it cancels out the first offer. If there are any queries whatsoever on this process, students & parents can contact Ms. Barnwell on cbswexgc@gmail.com . There is also a contact facility for CAO which can be found on their website www.cao.ie .

Grants:

All 6th year students have received information on how to go about applying for both fee and maintenance grants. All applications are now centralised through SUSI. Information on eligibility, income limits, candidate status etc. can be found on the official website www.susi.ie . A contact number for the SUSI support helpline as well as an email address for same can also be found on this website. Should parents/guardians wish to view a step by step guide on how to make a grant application, a video tutorial can be found by logging onto www.youtube.com and entering 'susi video' in the search bar. This will show a 15 minute clip on the stages of the application and can be extremely useful especially for first

time applicants. Various documents are needed to support the application and these are outlined in this video. Finally, applications opened at the end of April and will remain open for the summer. Applications must be made through www.studentfinance.ie and I would advise that they are made as soon as possible so as not to risk any delays in payment once a student has enrolled in 3rd level or further education.

Note: Grant applications may also be made for students intending on pursuing a PLC course upon leaving school.

RDS Higher Options Seminar September 2018:

Every September, The Irish Times Higher Options brings a world of study choice to students. For three days, students are offered a unique opportunity to meet directly with over 150 representatives from universities, colleges and education institutions from Ireland, the UK, Europe and beyond. Ms Barnwell will be taking students (Sixth Year 2018-19) to this event. It will provide an invaluable experience in terms of information gathering and fact-finding for students exploring their options upon leaving the CBS. There will be various talks running throughout the day on different career paths as well as stands from each institution whereby students can pose questions to the relevant people on their courses of interest.

Throughout the year it is intended to also have numerous guest speakers from numerous institutions come into the school to speak to next year's 6th year students.

On a final note, just a reminder that careers, educational, or personal counselling appointments with Ms. Barnwell are available to all students in the school at any time throughout the coming academic year. Students who need assistance in any of these 3 areas are strongly encouraged to approach the Guidance office to make an appointment. Alternatively, any general queries, appointment requests etc. can be sent directly to Ms. Barnwell at cbswexgc@gmail.com.

PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THE TRANSITION OF STUDENTS FROM SECOND LEVEL EDUCATION TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The Minister for Education and Skills has announced reforms aimed at improving the transition of students from second level education to higher education. The reform consists of four changes that **will impact on students sitting the Leaving Certificate in 2017 and beyond**. The proposed changes address the following issues:

- The extent of predictability in the Leaving Certificate examinations;
- A new grading scale for the Leaving Certificate examinations;
- Proposals towards a revised common points scale for entry into higher education; and
- Broader undergraduate entry to higher education programmes.

The proposed changes are set out in the document Supporting 'A Better Transition from Second Level to Higher Education: Implementation and Next Steps', which is available in electronic format on www.transition.ie. It is also available on our school website.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Re-opening dates:

Monday 27th August 2018 2nd Year / 5th Year / Transition Year 9.05am-11am

Tuesday 28th August 2018 First Year Induction Day 9.05am-4pm

Wednesday 29th August 2018 3rd / 6th Year 9.05am-11.00am

Thursday 30th August 2018 All Years

UNIFORMS

All students require a school jacket as part of the school uniform. Jackets are available from as number of outlets in the town.

Incoming Fifth Year and Transition Year students will require the blue polo short/ sweater combination instead of the blue shirt, tie and grey jumper.

MEITHEAL LEADERS 2018-19

Congratulations to all the Fifth Year students who applied to become Meitheal leaders for 2018-19. Twelve were selected from the applicants following an interview process held outside the school. The Meitheal leaders act as mentors for the first year cohort and play an important role in ensuring that each one of them has a friendly and accessible outlet to share and address any problem that may arise. Thank you to all who applied.

The successful candidates were as follows: Ryan Kavanagh; Fionn Roche; Shane Bergin; Paul Lohier; Dan Hendrick; James Crean; Dylan French-Corish; Cian Foley; Ryan Healy; Eoin Bergin; Seán Reck and Niall Reck.

Training for the new Meitheal leaders will take place on 30th and 31st July 2018.

SCHOOL CLOSING

The school office will close on Wednesday 20th June @4pm and will re-open on Tuesday 14th August @ 9am. The Leaving Certificate results are due out on Wednesday 15th August.

I would like to wish all our staff, parents/guardians and students a safe and enjoyable summer. Le gach dea-ghuí.

Michael Mc Mahon.