

# **CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2014**

## **SEASON'S GREETINGS**

Bhur gcéad fáilte go dtí nuachtitir na Nollag 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff and students for all their hard work during the course of the past year and to wish staff, students and parents/guardians a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I would also like to thank the members of the Board of Management, the Parents' Council and the Students' Council for all their hard work on behalf of the school community in the past year. On behalf of the school community, I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to all in the school community who have been bereaved in the past year.

## **THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

A new Board of Management was appointed in October to replace the outgoing Board, which had completed its three year term. We would like to thank Mrs Colleen Hayes, Mr Sean Ahearne and Ms Anita Moloney for their service on the outgoing Board. The new Board consists of eight members, five of whom served on the outgoing Board so it is great to have continuity between the Boards. Four are Trustee representatives; Mr. Gerry Forde (Chairperson), Mr. Jim Hurley, Dr. Tom Mc Loughlin and Miss Ann Walsh. Two are teachers' representatives; Mr. Sean Hurley and Mrs Ann Barry. Two are parents' representatives; Mrs Joan Crean and Mr. Anthony Roche. The Board has recently reviewed the school's Child Protection Policy, and the school's Admissions Policy. The school's Anti-bullying Policy and the school's Attendance and Participation Strategy are to be reviewed early in 2014.

## **SCHOOL RE-DEVELOPMENT**

The Board is pleased to announce that the school's re-development project has been sanctioned by the DES to proceed to the tender stage. A pre-tender list is already in place. We are hoping to be in a position to begin the construction process in April/May 2015. The first phase will involve construction of the new gym and the installation of temporary accommodation on the playing pitch. This phase is expected to take about six months. This work will be followed by the decanting to the temporary accommodation, the demolition of the parts of the school earmarked for demolition, the construction of the new classrooms etc. and the refurbishment of the part of the Junior Block being retained.

## **THE PARENTS' COUNCIL**

A new Parents' Council committee was elected at the A.G.M. in October. Committee members are as follows: Abina Moore (Chairperson), Charlotte Creane (Secretary), Yvonne Eaves, Joan Crean, Anthony Roche, Abi Okegbile, Alison Kavanagh, Breda Murphy, Brian Molloy, Brigitte McLoughlin, Carmel Dowdall, Catherine Hophkins, Claire Molloy-Nolan, Eamonn Saunders, Ellen Lordan-Lohier, Fiona Saunders, Gabrielle Brennan, Geraldine Merrigan, Maria Reck, Mary Reck, Melanie Carroll, Tracey Kehoe, Ursula Warren and Valerie Foley. The Council has helped in funding a number of initiatives for 2014-15. €1,500 was donated by the Council towards the cost of the Homework Club. The Council donated €2,000 towards partially sponsoring a number of Gaeltacht scholarships for summer 2015. It also purchased 24 lockers costing €1,013.52. It also donated €490 towards the Fifth Year

Study Seminars held in September and €324 towards the cost of the First Year Science Workshops. If any parent has a concern they would like discussed or an idea that they think could be of benefit to the school community, they are welcome to attend meetings or to bring the matter to the attention of a Council member. The meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month @7.30pm in Room 10.

### **STUDENTS' COUNCIL 2014-15**

The Students' Council is the representative body for all students in the school. It is elected each year in September. It meets regularly to discuss school matters. The 2014-15 Students' Council members are as follows: Jack Egan, Connor Lynott, Eoin O'Connor, Richard Cleary, Ibar Quirke, Hugh Fanning, James Freeman, Eoin Hickey, Lee Walsh, Ryan Kavanagh, Philip Cullen, Ryan Healey, Robert Borhan, Conor Sinnott, Conor Bent, Thomas O'Keeffe and Scott Radford.

### **MEITHEAL PROGRAMME**

The Meitheal programme has been running very successfully in the second level schools in County Wexford for a considerable time now. The programme identifies and trains school leaders among the student cohort, who in turn act as mentors for the First Year students in each of the schools involved in the programme. This has proven to be very effective in combating bullying in the participating schools and also provides leadership opportunities for our senior students. I would like to thank the students who have volunteered for these leadership and pastoral roles this year. Our 2014-15 Meitheal leaders are as follows: David Dempsey, Niall Connick, Eric McGuire, Andrew Ross, Aaron Scahill, Donal Moore, Corey Mahon, Jack Barrett, Chris Doyle, Ross Long and Nicky Moloney.

### **WSE-MLL**

A Whole School Inspection-Management, Leadership and Learning, conducted by inspectors from the DES, was carried out from the 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November. The initial verbal feedback from the inspectors to management, staff and the Board of Management was very positive. The written report will be published and shared with all members of the school community. It should be ready for publication early in 2015. Thank you to the Fifth and Second Year parents who returned the feedback questionnaire, conducted as part of the evaluation process.

### **PISA**

The school will be taking part in PISA 2015. The purpose of PISA is to establish how well Irish students are performing in numeracy, literacy and science compared with students in many other countries. 42 of our students, born in 1999, will be selected at random by the Educational Research Centre, St. Patrick's College, Dublin, from the DES database of our students. A confidentiality agreement has been signed for this purpose between the DES and the ERD. The test will be held in the school on 10<sup>th</sup> March and parents of all those selected will be notified in advance.

### **SSE**

School Self-Evaluation (Literacy, Numeracy, Teaching and Learning)

We are now in Year 2 of the school's Literacy Plan. Among the initiatives in place to promote literacy are 'Drop and Read', 'Book in the Bag' and a First Year spelling competition. All First Years have been given a list of fifty commonly misspelt words from various subject areas. We will be holding a spelling competition in January among First Year classes. The best four spellers in each class will go forward to a final where a First Year champion will be crowned. The winner will get a Kindle. We have also circulated a list of book titles suitable for teenagers to parents and we recommend to parents to consider buying books as Christmas presents. The reading board, where teachers and pupils post the titles of books they have recently read is proving very popular. Literacy now forms a key element in subject plans.

We are also in Year 1 of our Numeracy Plan. A School Improvement Plan for Numeracy has been prepared and a number of initiatives are under way to enhance whole school numeracy.

In 2015-16 the School Self-Evaluation focus will also encompass an aspect of Teaching and Learning.

### **STAY STRONG WEEK**

A 'Stay Strong Week' in keeping with the school's anti-bullying slogan and in the context of promoting positive mental health was held from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> November. A number of initiatives focusing on keeping well in body and mind were undertaken. There was also a focus on combating cyber-bullying. All our First Year students were given a wristband containing a USB memory stick. The stick contains important information on dealing with and reporting cyber-bullying and also contains the school's Anti-bullying Policy. We are also hoping to hold a 'Health Week' sometime in the next term.

### **AWARDS WINNERS**

Well done to Colm Joyce-Ahearne who won the 2014 Leaving Cert. Student of the Year Award. This annual award is presented to the student who receives the best results in the Leaving Certificate. Colm also won an All-Ireland Scholarship, sponsored by J.P. McManus. He is currently studying in DCU.

Well done also to Christopher Cash, winner of the Tony Boland Award for best results in the 2014 Junior Certificate exams. Well done also to all the other T.Y. / Fifth Year students who were awarded prizes at this year's Junior Certificate Awards Evening: Dylan Breen, Christopher Cowman, Matthew Creane, Enda Doyle, Alexander Eydt, Marco Fleck, James Freeman, Eoghan Mahon, John-Anthony Murphy, Thomas O'Brien, Evin Ryan, Graeme Smyth, Brian Sweetman, Tuan Wadding Hayes, Abdullah Amin, Rokas Baika, Alex Brady, Ryan Byrne, Chihun Lee, Thomas McGuinness, Kevin Reddy, Darren Sills, Alan Browne, Josh Byrne, Daniel Crosby, Sean Hopkins, Richard Kielthy, Ethan Lahiff, Ciaran Mahon, David Ngugi, Noel O'Brien Wright, Ben Walsh and Terry Whitty.

### **MERIT POINTS WINNERS**

Well done to the students in First Year Hamilton, Newton and Pythagoras who remained 'booking free' since the beginning of the school year. Second Year Ash and Cedar and Third Year Meehan won their respective year group prize for best behaved class(es). Hamilton,

Newton and Pythagoras were rewarded with a trip to the cinema on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Ash and Cedar spent Monday 15<sup>th</sup> engaging in outdoor pursuits at the Shielbaggan Centre. Meehan also engaged in outdoor pursuits in Shielbaggan on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

The school's Child Protection Policy has been reviewed and adopted by the Board of Management in keeping with the terms of Department of Education and Skills Circular 0065/2011. The Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools have been adopted as part of this child protection policy. A hard copy of the policy is available to any parent by request or can be viewed on the school's website [www.wexfordcbs.ie](http://www.wexfordcbs.ie). The person responsible for dealing with child protection concerns in the school is the Principal (DLP-Designated Liaison Person). In the principal's absence, this responsibility lies with the Deputy Principal (DDL-Deputy Designate Liaison Person).

## **FIRST YEAR 2015-16**

The Board of Management offered 120 places in First Year 2015-16. The demand for places greatly outstripped 120 and hence there is a substantial waiting list in place.

## **TEXT ALERT**

Are you getting text messages from the school? If you're not, it's probably because you have changed phone number. Please let us know if you change number to facilitate updating contact details.

## **SCHOOL EXCHANGES**

Mrs Sinnott is currently planning a school exchange, in conjunction with the Loreto Secondary School, to a school in Germany. Five of our German students will travel to St. Ursula's Catholic Secondary School in Baden-Wurtemberg in south-west Germany in early February. They will experience life in a German secondary school and stay with German families for a week. The host students will be coming to Wexford in September 2015

Preparations are well underway for the Transition Year Tour to China from 14<sup>th</sup> March to the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015. Twenty eight students and three teachers will make the trip this year. The group will fly to Beijing via London and then travel on to X'ian by train. They will visit the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace and the Terracotta Warriors. They will stay in an International School and attend classes. Opportunities to sample the local cuisine and engage in some bargain hunting will greatly enhance their understanding of Chinese life.

## **CAREER GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING**

### **CAO:**

All 6<sup>th</sup> year students at this stage have received their CAO books as well as instructions from Ms. Barnwell on the application procedure. Letters were sent home in November outlining

various websites such as [www.careersportal.ie/parents](http://www.careersportal.ie/parents) in order to assist parents and guardians in advising students on their best possible options. All students have been strongly encouraged to apply to the CAO system so as to keep their options open for the remainder of the year. In order to avail of an online reduced rate application fee of €25, students must log onto [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) and make their application before 5.15pm on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The fee will increase to €40 should a student choose to apply using the paper form. Therefore all students have been encouraged to apply online. Deadlines are extremely strict and students have been warned of the pitfalls of leaving things to the last minute. Choices made at this point may be altered completely at a later date if the student wishes.

Should any student suffer from a disability or a specific learning difficulty of any nature, they or their parents are encouraged to speak to Ms. Barnwell. There is a supplementary access route for students in this position called the DARE scheme. Should they qualify for this scheme, they can gain access to the course of their choice on a reduced points' basis. They may also be entitled to extra tuition once in college. An additional route into 3<sup>rd</sup> level called the HEAR scheme is applicable to those students who are experiencing severe financial hardship in the home. There are certain criteria to meet for this scheme also so any student interested should consult Ms. Barnwell. More information on this can also be retrieved at [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie).

### **Open Days and Speakers:**

33 students attended WIT open day on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December. It was a very beneficial day as students were able to attend various talks on courses offered in the college. They were also able to speak to current students and lecturers in order to ask any questions they may have had. On the way down to the open day we stopped into Waterford College of Further Education (WCFE), where students received information on the multitude of PLC courses on offer. They were then able to tour the campus and speak to the relevant students and teachers involved in each course. PLC courses can help students gain access to 3<sup>rd</sup> level should they be unsuccessful in doing so from their Leaving Certificate. They can also be a good option for students who perhaps feel that they are not yet ready for the transition to 3<sup>rd</sup> level next September.

Applications for any PLC course must be made to the individual college, and most application forms can now be completed online. Towards the end of January/start of February is when students need to be applying for these courses. Any students wishing to ensure that all options are open to them next year are advised to apply for such courses. Five passes in the Leaving cert plus successful completion of an interview are the requirements for entry. The closest PLC venues are; Wexford Vocational, Enniscorthy Vocational College (EVC) and the aforementioned WCFE.

To date, the current 6<sup>th</sup> years have had a speaker in school from NUI Maynooth. A large number of students also attended the Higher Options Careers Exhibition back in September in the RDS, Dublin. It is anticipated that speakers from IT Carlow, NUIG and Enniscorthy Vocational College will be coming to the school to speak with 6<sup>th</sup> years in the New Year. Students will be updated as these talks arise. Attendance is strongly encouraged bearing in mind that their CAO choices can be changed later in the year.

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.

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](mailto:cbswexgc@gmail.com).

## **GAELTACHT SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Board of Management and the Parents' Council are subsidising six Gaeltacht scholarships again this year to Coláiste na nOileán in Connemara. Three Second Year and three Fifth Year students will be receiving scholarships worth €690 each. For further details see the Irish subject link on the website or contact your son's Irish teacher. Given that the aural and oral components account for 50% of the Leaving Certificate Irish exam, a visit to the Gaeltacht is highly recommended to improve competency in the language.

## **THIRD YEAR/T.Y OPTIONS**

All Third Year students and their parents are reminded to begin focusing their options for 2015-16. Important decisions have to be made regarding subject choice for Fifth Year or opting for T.Y. For those looking for more details regarding Admissions Policy/ T.Y., please consult the school's Admissions Policy on the school website. The current Transition Year students should also begin considering subject options for the next academic year. An Information Night on T.Y./Fifth Year will be held in early March.

## **MOCK EXAMS**

While the Department of Education and Skills waive Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate fees for medical card holders, the school will have to collect mock exam fees from all students to cover Mock Exams costs. The Leaving Certificate Mock Exams fee will be €100 this year and will be collected in early February 2015. The Junior Certificate Mock Exams fee will be €100 this year and will be collected from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015. If you wish to pay by cheque, please make the cheque payable to CBS Wexford.

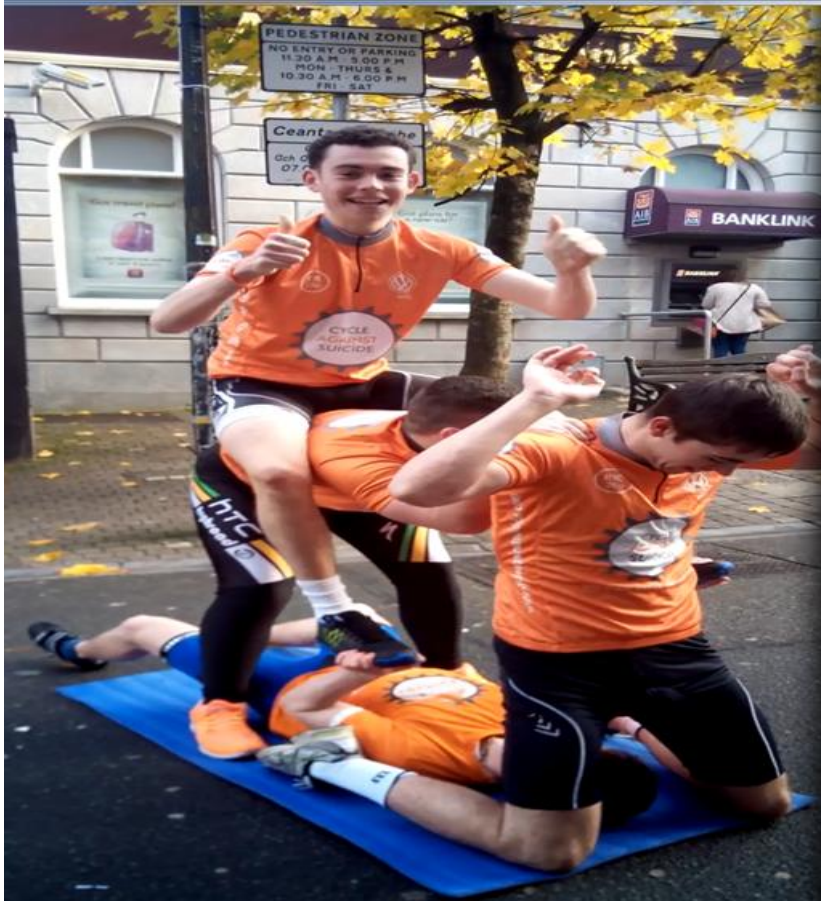
## **CBS CYCLING CLUB/CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE**

The CBS Wexford Cycling Club is continuing this term to create awareness of the benefits that are gained from having a healthy body and healthy mind. The first Time Trial took place, and our cyclists put their best efforts into completing personal records over a 13km route. The TT times will continue to be challenged throughout the school year.

Against the backdrop of the school's message, "Stay Strong", the promotion of positive mental health was also spread among the Wexford Community as a zany cycling tour of Wexford town was completed by some truly dedicated cyclists, Jack Crean, Nicky Lawlor, David Dempsey, Kevin Birney & Ross Long. This tour started from the school, proceeded down through town and onto the quays before returning to the school through Tesco. Please log on to the following link to watch how CBS students are positively spreading the message

of "Stay Strong" alongside the Cycle Against Suicide's slogan, "It's okay, not to be okay. And it's absolutely okay to ask for help!" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hTXY2uFWYU>.

We are all looking forward to the annual Cycle Against Suicide Congress in January 2015, where CBS Students will participate, discuss and enhance the movement to break the cycle of suicide on the island of Ireland and promote positive mental health.





### **C.B.S. TALENT SHOW**

Well done to all the students who took part in this year's Talent Show in the Dun Mhuire Theatre which took place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014. The afternoon and evening shows were very successful. For those who failed to make the cut this year, keep practising. I would particularly like to thank Ms. Spellman and Ms. Kavanagh in particular, for the countless hours of hard work they spent with the students in auditioning, organising and rehearsing for the show.

### **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

The Christmas Fair held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December was a tremendous success again this year with huge numbers attending. I would like to thank Mrs Barry for all her hard work in making the project happen. This annual event helps to spark a great deal of entrepreneurial spirit among the students. I would also like the parents and students who supported the event on the day and helped to make it such a success. Well done to all T.Y, 1st and 2nd year students involved. The visiting children were delighted to meet Santa Claus and to have their faces painted. Many thanks to Crosbie Signs for their generous sponsorship.

### **SCHOOL SAFETY**

I would like to remind all students to take great care while entering or exiting the school grounds or exiting the school into the school yard. Our site is limited in terms of parking facilities so it is important that we all are vigilant and aware of the risks of vehicular traffic. The bollards have helped keep the footpath clear of parked vehicles. I would also like to remind parents dropping off students to park safely before allowing passengers get out rather than stopping in traffic and allowing passengers out.



## **EXTRA SUPERVISED STUDY**

It is hoped to organise Supervised Study for Leaving Certificate students during the February mid-term break in advance of the Mock Exams and during the Easter holidays. Supervised Study may also be available for Junior Certificate students during the Easter holidays. Details in relation to cost/times/dates will be finalised in the New Year.

## **LOURDES**

Fifth year students will be invited to apply to travel on the annual pilgrimages to Lourdes next term. Each year Coláiste Éamonn Rís sends four students on the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage in May and two students on the annual Easter Pilgrimage with the Irish Pilgrimage Trust.

## **UNIFORM**

School jackets are available from Mr. Hegarty. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to ensure that their son(s) present themselves in school in full uniform. The school jacket is an integral part of the school uniform for all years. Those wearing non-uniform jackets will have them confiscated. Students presenting out of uniform are in breach of the school's Code of Behaviour and will have sanctions imposed, up to and including being sent home. Your help in enforcing the wearing of the uniform is greatly appreciated.

## **CHAMPIONS**

Congratulations to Dale White who recently became a double World Champion in Kung Fu Minus 60 Kg title for 16-17yr old boys. Well done also to our Senior Cross Country team who took team gold in the 3000m race at the county schools championship held in the J.F.K. Arboretum outside New Ross. The team consisted of Jack Crean, Conor Fenlon, Nicky Lawlor, Eoin McDonald, David Dempsey and Ciaran Kirwan.



Our Intermediate team finished in fourth place, while the Junior team of James Crean, Callum Broaders, Gary Hall-Roche and Shane Doyle took Bronze. Joshua Porter and Jordan Sinnott ran well at Minor level. All the athletes will continue to train for the South Leinster Championships which take place after Christmas.

## **BUSINESS QUIZ WINNERS**

CBS Wexford emerged as winners of the CIMA Business Quiz for the South East Region held in WIT on Wednesday 12/11/14. The team members were 3<sup>rd</sup> Year students Martin Kehoe, Angelo Miculescui, Con Mc Intyre and David Corish and their teacher was Mrs. Barry. The team were in second place at half time to St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny and went on to take the title. The boys will go on to compete in the National Final in Thurles in April 2015. Congratulations boys and best of luck in the final.



## **SENIOR HURLING**

Well done to the Senior Hurling team, captained by Joe Redmond, on their performances in the Leinster 'B' Championship. They narrowly missed out on a play-off spot following victories over F.C.J. Bunclody and Wicklow Schools and narrow losses to Enniscorthy C.B.S. and Gorey C.S.

## **DEBATING**

Following last year's success in the National Public Speaking competition the school decided to enter a number of debating competitions this academic year. The renowned Leinster Schools debating competition held in UCD and Trinity College throughout the term saw some success from the Debutant School. 5<sup>th</sup> Year students Evin Ryan and James Freeman won their first round debate arguing against the motion "that corporal punishment should be re-introduced in schools", progressing now to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round, defeating 7 other schools from around Leinster including Enniscorthy CBS and Kilkenny College. The boys did remarkably well to win this debate as the standard in this particular competition is extremely high. Christopher Cash and Chihun Lee were not so fortunate however as they were eliminated in Trinity College after 2 rounds but put in an outstanding effort. There is now a debating society in the school primarily held within the 5<sup>th</sup> Year group and the interest is growing with

a number of other students finding the confidence to get involved. Dylan Broaders and Evin Ryan were unlucky in a separate competition in Carlow I.T in October but competed well. Upcoming this year will see Evin and James continue in the Leinster Schools competition and we also look forward to entering the Trinity College Philosophical society debates in March. Towards the end of the academic year we also hope to participate/co-ordinate a Wexford debate consisting of teams from all over the county.

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Unfortunately the Mental Health Ireland Public Speaking project will not be run at national level this year for the first time in 35 years. However, we will be participating in the same format of competition run by Wexford Mental Health Association. Also we are looking forward to other public speaking competitions this year in Trinity College Dublin and the Poetry Aloud competition.

## **ZAMBIAN IMMERSION PROJECT**

16 students and 4 teachers will be travelling to Kabwe, Zambia for 2 weeks in June 2015. This has become a tradition in the school and takes place every 2 years. This trip shall renew old friendships and add to a strengthening bond between Wexford CBS and the local community there. The Immersion Project has been a great achievement for the school and an amazing experience for the students and teachers who have travelled in the past. The trip is the climax of a long year's work for the students but its success owes to the support and encouragement of everyone at the school and in the local community who contributed to our preparations and fundraising. This coming summer marks the fourth Zambian Immersion Project for the school in which a group of students and teachers travel to Zambia where they are 'immersed' in Zambian life for two weeks. While in Zambia, students and teachers will work in schools, help to build a new shelter for orphans and visit communities, hospitals, and housing compounds. In a very real way, students and teachers will serve as ambassadors for the school and parish which should in turn raise awareness in a personal way for those that travel to Zambia.

We will be travelling in affiliation with Zamda Ireland which has been set up through St. Josephs CBS in Fairview Dublin, which provides developmental aid in Kabwe. They are dedicated to provide direct and effective aid to a number of projects in and around the city of Kabwe. Their primary focus in Kabwe is Sables - a centre that provides food, education and shelter to the at risk Street children of Kabwe. On the schools most recent trip in 2013, CBS students were involved in the fundraising for and building of a brand new Sables Centre to help provide better facilities for the children.

On this trip the group travelling will primarily be working on the building of an emergency overnight shelter which will provide accommodation for children who are in danger and at risk on the streets. In addition they will be spending time teaching and engaging with the children of sables, participating in outreach programmes in the community and visiting hospices to meet with those who are extremely ill.

The students are actively fundraising at present and will be organising events right up to the moment we depart in order to raise the maximum amount of money possible for this great cause. All support from the community would be greatly appreciated. The funds raised will

be used to buy much needed equipment to improve people's lives and will help with the development of Sables. To follow the boys progress check out the Wexford CBS Zambia Immersion Facebook page, the school website and the Bokerboys Blog.

The teachers and students would like to thank all those who helped or contributed to the various fundraisers held already to fund the trip and look forward to your continuing support. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### **Zambia Immersion Project 2014-15 Students**

- Adam Baziz
- David Gaul
- Peter Cole
- Dylan Broaders
- Conor Larkin
- Daniel Lynch
- Joe Redmond
- Rob Donnelly
- Liam Hore
- Brendan Furlong
- Ryan Byrne
- Enda Doyle
- Jack McGuire
- Adam Barnes
- Domantas Sniezka
- Lee O'Connor

### **SOCCER**

This year the Wexford CBS are enjoying a tremendous year in the soccer department with all teams excelling in their respective competitions, each side in the school have topped their groups and are currently preparing for a semi-final after the holidays. The first years were crowned Futsal champions for the county defeating Gorey in the final 3-2 after a day's success defeating teams from all over the county. The boys travelled to Dublin for the Leinster championship and were unfortunate as they were defeated by eventual champions Ashbourne 2-0 in their opening group game. They went on to win the rest of their 6 games but unfortunately only one team progressed to the final.

The under 15 side have excelled this season winning all four group games to top their group and qualify for the semi-final of the Wicklow-Wexford league. The boys beat Enniscorthy V.C 5-0 in their opening game followed by a 3-2 win over last year's u-14 champions Bridgetown. Perhaps their most impressive result was next as they defeated old rivals Gorey

C.S away from home 4-1 before closing out the group with a 2-1 victory over Arklow CBS. Todd Hynes is leading the line up front for this side with 6 goals so far but the team have been outstanding to date and look forward to their semi-final with confidence.

The u-17 side topped a difficult group defeating Enniscorthy V.C 4-0, Bridgetown 3-1 and coming from 2-0 down with ten minutes remaining to snatch a draw against Enniscorthy CBS to claim top spot in the group on goal difference. The 17s also remain in the Leinster Shield competition at the ¼ final stage after defeating Robbie Keane's old school St. Aidan's of Tallaght 8-2 and Tallaght Community School 1-0 and will play Arklow CBS at home in the new year.

The Senior team have enjoyed an entertaining season so far defeating Ramsgrange C.S. 4-2 after extra time in the first round of the Leinster cup following on from that the boys beat highly fancied Presentation College Bray 2-1 away from home before bowing out in the last 16 on a 4-2 scoreline to Palmerstown Community College on a day they would rather forget. Missing a couple of key players and in an end to end game, they did not take their chances on the day and unfortunately that was the end of the road. In the Wicklow-Wexford league the boys have shown some of their best football this year starting with a 3-2 victory over Enniscorthy V.C at home before defeating Bridgetown 7-0 away and rounding off the group with a 1-1 draw away to rivals Gorey C.S. to top the group on goal difference. The boys will play the winner of Carnew vs St. Brendan's Bray in the semi-final knowing that if they continue to show their best they stand a real chance of winning this competition. To follow the progress of the boys check out the Bokerboys Blog, or the School Soccer Twitter account @WexfordCBSAF.

## **SWIMMING CLUB NEWS**

The CBS Swimming Club is now in its second year of existence and continues to promote swimming and water safety within the school. The club caters for all levels of ability. Some students are learning how to swim, some are just keeping up their fitness levels and a number will be taking part in the Leinster schools competition in January. The option to take part in the Wexford lifesaving competition in the New Year is available to students and it is the intention to make the Irish Water Safety Pool Lifeguard Award also available to students. The club swimming sessions take place from 3.45pm-4.45pm every Friday in the Ferrybank Pool. New members are always welcome. If any students are interested in getting involved please speak to Mr. Byrne.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**School re-opens Monday January 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**Second Year P/T Meeting Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 4.15pm-6.45pm. Classes end at 3.45pm.**

**First Year P/T Meeting Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 4.15pm-6.45pm. Classes end at 3.45pm.**

**Mid-term Break 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015 inclusively.**

**Junior Cert. Mock Exams Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February –Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**Leaving Cert. Mock Exams Monday 23<sup>th</sup> February 2015–Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

**School closed Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and Bank Holiday Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

**School closes on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 for Easter Holidays.**

**Easter Holidays Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015-Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

Mar fhocal scoir,

Nollaig Shona daoibh.