

COLÁISTE ÉAMONN RÍS



**CHRISTMAS
NEWSLETTER 2016**

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Bhur gcéad fáilte go dtí nuachtitir na Nollag 2016. 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 ongoing efforts for the benefit of all in the school. 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.

ERST

The Trustees continue to support the educational aims of the school. A new series of posters have been delivered to the school and are displayed in prominent positions. These posters have been reproduced in book mark form and are available to members of the school community.

The Trustees support and encourage their schools in areas of peace and justice. At the recent regional seminars schools were encouraged to become involved in the area of advocacy and mental health. These ideals fit nicely with the aims of our Stay Strong Week.

THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The school's current Board of Management is now in its third year of a three year term. The Board consists of eight members. Four are Trustee representatives; Mr. Gerry Forde (Chairperson), Mr. Jim Hurley, Mr Dara Lynott 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 Admissions Policy. It will be reviewing the school's Anti-bullying Policy in early in 2017.

THE PARENTS' COUNCIL

A new Parents' Council committee was elected at the A.G.M. in October. Committee members are as follows: Fiona Saunders (Chairperson), Charlotte Creane (Secretary), Yvonne Eaves (Treasurer), Joan Crean, Abina Moore, Anthony Roche, Caroline Busher, Valerie Foley, Alison Kavanagh, Paula Fenlon, Ann Dempsey, Colette Black, Dolores Healy, Brigitte McLoughlin, Karol Jackson, Lynda Harman, Catherine Hopkins, Gabrielle Brennan, Paul Brennan, Geraldine Merrigan, Maria Reck, Mary Reck, Ann Porter, Jenny O'Keefe, Melanie Carroll, Orla McGuinness, Elaine Crosby and Tracey Kehoe. Once again, the Council has helped in funding a number of initiatives for 2016-17. €1,400 was donated by the Council towards the cost of the Homework Club. The Council donated €2,400 towards partially sponsoring a number of Gaeltacht scholarships for summer 2017. It also donated €650 towards the Fifth Year Study Seminars held in September. 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.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL 2016-17

The Students' Council is the representative body for all students in the school. The body was elected from the student cohort in September. It meets regularly to discuss school matters. The 2016-17 Students' Council members are as follows: Ryan Kavanagh, Andy Wongprachan, Josh Byrne, Enda Doyle, Conor Brennan, Daniel Crosby, Angelo Miculescu, Abdullah Azam, Adam McGuire, Philip Cullen, Ryan H, David Harte, Cian Roche, Jack Wilde, Ibar Quirke, Jake Giltrap, Denis Miculescu, Josh Howlin and Harry Ransom.



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 and commend them for their work to date. The Meitheal Awards day will take place on Wednesday 13th January 2016, hosted by Gorey Community School. Our 2016-17 Meitheal leaders are as follows: Shane Flood, Mark Enright, Josh Byrne, Enda Doyle, Conor Bergin, Cormac Byrne, Alex Eydt, Adam Baziz, Peter Doyle, Aaron Smythe, Thomas O'Brien and Dylan Breen.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

A branch of SVP Society was set up in the school in the last term. A committee has been elected with Kyle Long elected as the chairperson. Debbie O'Halloran has visited the school in December and will work with the school branch over the next while to advance the work. Any student seeking more information or wishing to become involved should contact one of the committee members or Mr. Walsh.

CUMANN ÉAMONN RÍS

The Cumann is now in its second year. After a very successful first year where great efforts were made to advance peace and justice issues in the school, the pace has slowed down a little. Links with the Presentation have not been started yet. Fund raising at Christmas was aimed at helping the Share a Dream foundation. Matthew Colgan is currently acting as the chairperson. Donal Shiggins is overseeing the Cumann's activities and has set up links with other schools. Mental health is an issue that will be explored in the coming months.

SCHOOL RE-DEVELOPMENT

The school re-development work is progressing well at the moment. The secondary school development is on schedule and should be ready for students by December 2017. The dry weather during October and November meant that no days were lost when putting in the foundations.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and Safety is of primary importance so I would ask all parent(s)/guardian(s) once again to impress on their sons(s) the importance of obeying all Health and Safety regulations pertaining to the site and not to enter the construction site under any circumstances.

I would like to remind all students, parents and staff to take great care while entering or exiting the school grounds.

HISTORY SUBJECT INSPECTION

We had a subject inspection in History in early October. The findings were very positive and affirmed the very good work being done by the teachers in History Department. The Inspection Report is available on the school website and on the DES website.

WHOLE SCHOOL EVALUATION-MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING

Work is ongoing on implementing the recommendations of the WSE-MLL- Whole School Inspection-Management, Leadership and Learning, conducted by inspectors from the Department of Education and Skills in November 2014. Progress is being monitored by the Board of Management.

SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION

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

The first SSE-Literacy SIP (School Improvement Plan) has run its course. We made great progress on two of the set targets. The drop off in the number of students reading for pleasure after Second Year emerged during the course of our research. We are currently working on a plan to cover the next three years and using the knowledge garnered over the last three years to further enhance literacy standards in the school. Many of the initiatives undertaken are still in place such as 'Drop and Read', 'Book in the Bag' and a First Year spelling competition. First Year parents were circulated with a list of reading material worth purchasing for their sons. The list is also available on the school website www.wexfordcbs.ie. All First Years will also be given a list of fifty commonly misspelt words from various subject areas early in the new term. We will be holding a spelling competition in late 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. The reading board, where teachers and pupils post the titles of books they have recently read, is still proving very popular.

We are also in Year 3 of our SSE SIP -Numeracy. The Plan is working well with significant progress made on most of the targets set for Year 2.

School Self-Evaluation-Teaching and Learning has focused on drafting a School Improvement Plan (SIP). A sub-committee has been working hard on putting a plan together and as a result a draft proposal has been prepared for consideration and implementation by the staff.

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 will be held from Monday 23rd –Friday 27th January 2017. A number of initiatives focusing on keeping well in body and mind will be undertaken. There will also a focus on combating cyber-bullying, with a presentation to all First Year classes by Mr Colin Browne, Microsoft, on the topic. All our First Year students will be 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.

AWARDS WINNERS

Well done to Daniel Lynch who won the 2016 Leaving Certificate Student of the Year Award. This annual award is presented to the student who receives the best results in the Leaving Certificate. He is currently studying Actuarial Maths in DCU. Daniel is a past-pupil of Wexford CBS Primary School. Daniel was presented with a silver medal and a cheque by the P.P.U. to mark his achievement.

Well done also to Cian Foley, winner of the Tony Boland Award for best results in the 2016 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: Ciarán Bridson, Gary Carroll, David Harte, Ryan Healy, Paul Lohier, Kian McCormack, Jack Berry, Marcin Bryla, Seán Farrell, Gary Hall-Roche, Dan Hendrick, Ryan Hodge, Luke Moloney, Jack Nolan, Niall Reck, Fionn Roche, Carlos Sasaran, Shane Bergin, Eoin Bergin, John Brady, Aaron Breen, Ian brownr, William Cole, James Crean, Cian Dempsey, George Gould, Ruaidhrí Griffin, Brendan Smith, Daniel Tsapchuk and Jack Webster.

Congratulations to Daniel Lynch and Adam Carroll (L. C. Class 2016) on winning Entrance Scholarships from DCU and NUI Maynooth respectively and well done to Eoin Hickey (also L.C. Class 2016) on receiving an Entrance Award from UCD.

MERIT SHEET

As part of the school's emphasis on positive affirmation, students gain merits for the various ways they have achieved or contributed to school life. The merit sheets are filling up in many students' journals so parents are asked to keep a check on how their son is progressing and affirm appropriately.

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 . 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 (DDLDP-Deputy Designate Liaison Person).

FIRST YEAR 2017-18

The Board of Management offered 108 places in First Year 2017-18. The demand for places greatly outstripped 108 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 mobile or landline numbers or address to facilitate updating contact details.

ZAMBIAN IMMERSION TRIP

The following students have been chosen to travel on the Immersion Programme to Zambia in June 2017: Adam Flaherty, Cian Foley, Cathal Kirwan, Patsy Whelan, Sam O'Neill, Shane Hall, Luke Dowdall, Aron Walsh, Diarmuid MacDonald, Ryan Healy, Paul Lohier, Fionn Roche, Cian Dempsey, Shane Bergin, Cian Whelan and Adam Walsh. Thank you to all those who have supported their fundraising efforts to date.

SCHOOL EXCHANGE

Mrs Sinnott is currently planning a school exchange, in conjunction with the Loreto Secondary School, to a school in Germany. Six of our German students will travel to St. Ursula's Catholic Secondary School in Baden-Wurtemberg in south-west Germany from 3rd - 10th February 2017. They will experience life in a German secondary school and will be hosted by German families for the duration of their stay.

NEW YORK EXCHANGE

The Iona Prep exchange has been put on hold this year.

CHINA TOUR

Preparations are well underway for the Transition Year Tour to China from 31st March - 6th April 2017. Thirty one students and three teachers will make the trip this year. The group will fly to Beijing and after spending some time there will then travel on to Shanghai. They will visit the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the Summer Palace as well as experiencing Chinese cuisine and culture at first hand.

FIRST YEAR TOUR

Preparations are well advanced for the forthcoming First Year tour to Barcelona from 1st March-4th April 2017.

PERCENT FOR ART

The Board of Management have appointed Ms Aileen Lambert to co-ordinate the Percent for Art Scheme. The scheme provides funding as part of capital projects to commission art work for the new school campus. A sub-committee has been set up to work with Ms Lambert and is made up of staff, students' and parents' representatives from both the CBS Primary and Secondary schools. An initial meeting has been held and it is hoped to make substantial progress early in the New Year in indentifying a project or projects, commissioning artist(s) etc.

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 €700 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.

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 €110 this year and will be collected in advance of the exams by Ms Power. The Junior Certificate Mock Exams fee will also be €110 this year and will be collected by Mrs Scallan. If you wish to pay by cheque, please make the cheque payable to C.B.S. Wexford.

CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE

Our T.Y. students will attend the Cycle Against Suicide Congress on 18th January 2017, where students from all over Ireland will participate.

C.B.S. TALENT SHOW

This year's C.B.S. Talent Show will be held in the Dun Mhuire Theatre on Wednesday 1st February 2017.. Auditions have taken place and preparations are well under way for this year's event.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair held on Friday 9th December in St. Michael's Hall, was a tremendous success again this year with huge numbers attending. I would like to thank Mrs Barry, Mrs O'Brien, Mrs Codd, Ms Hart, Susan and Derek for all their hard work in making the project happen and ensuring the smooth running of events during the course of the day. 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.

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. Luke Rogan Sheil and Adam McGuire have been selected to travel with the IHCPT (Irish Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust) pilgrimage to Lourdes during the Easter holidays. Well done to all who put their names forward for selection.

WEXFORD JUNIOR COUNCIL

We are taking part in an initiative involving Wexford County Council and the five other secondary schools in the Wexford Borough i.e. Selskar College, St. Peter's College, Loreto, Presentation and Bridgetown V.C., aimed at promoting citizenship, raising awareness of the work of the Council, giving young people an opportunity to influence policy development at Council level. Each school will be sending four representatives to the inaugural Junior Council meeting in January 2017, drawn from their T.Y. or Fifth Year cohorts. We will be sending four students elected by T.Y., namely Marcin Bryla, Dan Hendrick, Daniel Tsapchuk and Eoin Bergin. Seven candidates put their names forward so an election was held based on the P.R. model, used in general and local elections. This gave the students an early introduction to voting using PR, with the various counts taking place in front of the students. Officials from Wexford County Council officiated and explained each step in the process as we went to five counts, various eliminations, candidates reaching the quota etc. Well done to the successful candidates and also very well done to the unsuccessful candidates who courageously put their names forward for inclusion on the ballot paper.



CAREER GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING

CAO/PLCs & Careers:

All 6th year students at this stage have received their CAO books as well as instructions from Ms. Barnwell on the application procedure. Further to this, a parent's information evening was held on Tuesday 25th October, 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 and make their application before 5.15pm on January 20th 2016. 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 right up until July 1st 2016. A most helpful website in relation to careers and course searching is www.careersportal.ie. This website also has a specific section for Parents/Guardians in relation to guiding the process of career choice for their child.

Should any student suffer from a disability, specific learning difficulty, ongoing illness or mental health condition 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 and supports once in college. An additional route into 3rd level called the HEAR scheme is applicable to those students who are experiencing severe financial hardship in the home or who come from a family/area where college attendance is not the norm. There are certain criteria to meet for this scheme also so any student interested should consult Ms. Barnwell. Important to note is that not all colleges participate in these schemes. For example, WIT and IT Carlow have their own access routes which require filling out additional forms. Additional and comprehensive information on all of the above can be found on www.accesscollege.ie. The deadline for form submission in relation to these routes is April 1st and intention to apply for these routes must be indicated on the online CAO form by March 1st.

Open Days and Speakers:

50 students attended the Higher options conference in the RDS back in September. This was an invaluable day of information gathering. Students were able to speak to representatives of the colleges they are considering and also attended talks on various career sectors. 15 students also attended the Open day in The Solas Waterford training centre on the 21st November. Here students were able to learn about the various apprenticeships on offer. It is proposed that we will also attend WIT Open Day on January 20th. Students will be informed on this in due course. A list of all open days and college events can be found on www.qualifax.ie in their events calendar on the home page. Students are strongly encouraged to attend weekend events in their own time in order to help with the college decision-making process.

To date we have had a speaker in from WIT regarding courses in IT. In the New Year speakers from NUI Maynooth, DCU and UCC have been scheduled. There will be further speakers throughout the year and 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.

Post-Leaving Certificate courses:

If you've finished your secondary education and are thinking about developing vocational or technological skills to get a job, a Post-Leaving Certificate (PLC) course could be for you. They are designed as a step towards skilled employment and so they are closely linked to industry and its needs.

PLCs are based on an integrated approach, focusing on technical knowledge, core skills and work experience.

Who are they for?

PLCs are sometimes seen as just available to school-leavers, but you can also attend as an adult participant. The courses are full-time and last for one to two years, offering a mixture of "hands-on" practical work, academic work and work experience.

They can also be a way to step into further third-level education, such as diplomas or undergraduate degrees.

Nearly half the time spent on these courses is devoted to knowledge and skill-training related to employment, with a quarter of the time spent on relevant work-based experience.

What subjects are covered?

Over 90% of PLC courses are delivered by VECs (vocational education committees). Each county or region has its own VEC and currently over 1,000 courses are on offer in some 229 centres.

A wide range of disciplines are covered including business, electronics engineering, computing, catering, sport and leisure, theatre and stage, performance art, art craft and design, equestrian studies, multi-media studies, journalism, tourism, marketing, childcare and community care, hairdressing and beauty care, applied science, horticulture etc.

Qualifications

Many of the one-year PLC courses offer Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC) accreditation at level 5. More advanced courses may offer FETAC level 6, which can lead to further studies at third level.

Other qualifications such as City and Guilds are also available. Check out the qualification attached to a particular course before you apply.

PLC Grants

A maintenance grant scheme for PLC is available. The maintenance scheme is means-tested and grants are paid along the same lines as the current third level student support scheme. Grant applications are available from local VECs.

How to apply

In general, you should have finished your secondary education and taken your Leaving Certificate examination in order to be eligible for a PLC course.

Find the course in which you're most interested and apply directly to the school or college offering that course. Because the courses are work-related, you could be called for an interview before final selection.

These interviews are often quite informal, offering you the chance to discuss your interest.

Plc courses can help students gain access to 3rd level should they be unsuccessful in doing so from their Leaving Certificate. They can also be a very strong option for students who are not yet ready to make the full transition from Secondary school to 3rd level.

**** Note:** PLCs have a totally independent process of application from the CAO. Should a student wish to apply for a PLC, they must make an application to the relevant college as it is not a centralised procedure. The process of gaining entry to a PLC is the need to attain at least 5 passes in the Leaving cert as well as successful completion of a short interview. Points are not required. There is a PLC section on www.careersportal.ie . The majority of PLC applications are now done online and deadlines vary from January to February.

Careers Appointments:

All 6th year students have been encouraged to schedule at least 1 careers appointment prior to the CAO deadline with the majority having done so. However there are still a number of students I have not yet seen and so I would encourage parents/guardians to have them make an appointment immediately after the Christmas break. Any queries may be directed to Ms. Barnwell @ cbswexgc@gmail.com .

SUSI Grants:

All students in 6th year have the option of making a grant application to SUSI in order to obtain financial assistance for 3rd level. This is generally done in May and applications cannot be made prior to this. Once the latest information becomes available I will be delivering this to the various 6th year groups. In the meantime, parents/guardians may investigate the likelihood of being eligible on www.susi.ie . Once you log on, simply select the 'grant process' tab at the top of the homepage. In addition, you may select the 'eligibility' tab. This will help with deciding whether to apply.

3rd Year/TY Subject Choice:

Ms. Barnwell will be conducting a number of information sessions with all 3rd year and Transition year groups during February/March. The purpose of these sessions will be to inform students of their options moving forward in terms of subject choice/LCVP programme and TY programme (for 3rd years). An information night will also be held for parents/guardians of same in order to answer any queries that may arise. The new points system will also be discussed at this information evening. A comprehensive booklet will be given to each student outlining each subject's content as well as the implications of subject choices for 3rd level courses. Once all of the material has been distributed, students are welcomed to make a one-to-one appointment if needs be in order to discuss their own particular situation if they are confused as to what to choose. They will then complete a form indicating their subject choices in order of preference. This form will likely be due back prior to the Easter holidays.

TY Career trip 2017:

On January 10th a group of Transition years will attend a new and innovative careers event called the “Student Life Summit”. This event will take place in Croke Park and will be extremely beneficial to the students travelling in terms of learning about prospective careers. Sponsored by Aer Lingus, the information below outlines what will happen on the day.

- Students will have an opportunity to explore interesting & diverse career sectors with inspirational Guest Speakers, and attend employability, equality & diversity workshops.
- StudentLife Summit will have a Main Stage with World-Changing Leaders & Innovators including Q&A sessions. Information regarding students required subject choice will be available from career guidance counsellors.
- Students can visit Hubs where they can engage with Colleges and Employers, explore new apprenticeship models, while at the same time gain information that allows them to choose careers based on interest, ability and aspirations.
- The Summit's Keynote Speakers include US Ambassador, Mr. Kevin O'Malley; President of the Institute of Guidance Counsellors, Ms. Betty McLaughlin; Director of Sales, Aer Lingus, Ms. Yvonne Muldoon; Master, National Maternity Hospital, Dr. Rhona Mahony; Chairman, Bord Bia, Mr. Michael Carey; President, DCU, Mr. Brian McCraith and Chairman, Science Foundation Ireland, Ms. Ann Riordan.

It is hoped that this event will feed into students' decision-making around their subject choices as well as providing them with the motivation needed to achieve their goals as they progress into 5th year.

Counselling:

The counselling service within the school is an inclusive one which is available to all students. This is a private and confidential service which allows students to experience a safe place in which to discuss any issues they may be experiencing.

Sharing a problem is strongly encouraged by the guidance and counselling department so as to deal with it as quickly and effectively as possible. Simply talking and sharing can be of huge benefit to a student who is under emotional pressure. With the range of difficult issues that teenagers can face these days, it is of utmost importance that they seek help as soon as possible if they feel they are not coping well. We often think that admitting struggle is a sign of weakness, but we all struggle sometimes. We all get overwhelmed sometimes. We all need help sometimes. Acknowledging this is not a sign of weakness.

Bearing the above in mind, there are numerous ways to make an appointment with the Guidance Counsellor (Ms. Barnwell). Students may self refer by simply calling to the office and asking to schedule an appointment. They may ask a trusted teacher to organise an appointment for them if they feel reluctant/unable to do so themselves. Alternatively,

parents/guardians may contact Ms. Barnwell directly via phone (school number) or email @ cbswexgc@gmail.com to discuss any concerns they may have or to arrange a meeting.

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.

SPORT

Well done to the Senior Hurling team on their performances in the Leinster 'C' Championship. They narrowly missed out on a play-off spot following a narrow loss to Carnew.

NO-UNIFORM DAY

Thank you to all who contributed to our no-uniform collection on Friday 9th December. €906 was raised for the Zambian Immersion trip.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

School re-opens Monday 9th January 2017

Second Year P/T Meeting Thursday 19th January 2017 1.45pm-4pm. Classes end at 12.30pm.

First Year P/T Meeting Monday 30th January 2017 4.30pm-6.45pm. Classes end at 3.45pm.

Mid-term Break 20th – 24th February 2017 inclusively.

Junior Cert. Mock Exams Friday 10th February 2017 –Friday 17th February 2017.

Leaving Cert. Mock Exams Monday 27th February 2017–Wednesday 8th March 2017.

Easter Holidays Monday 10th April 2016-Friday 21st April 2017.

Mar fhocal scoir,

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir agus athbhliain faoi shéan agus faoi mhaise daoibh freisin

Michael McMahon

