

# **Wexford CBS – An Edmund Rice School**

## **SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER**

### **THANK YOU**

As the 2018-19 school year draws to a close in Coláiste Éamonn Rís, it is time to reflect on what was another busy year. It has been a difficult year for all in the school community following the death of second year student Jack Whelan Kinsella in November and the untimely death of our teaching colleague Mrs Sinead Breen in the last week of term. 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, Edel and Melanie, our SNAs, our chaplain Fr James Cullen, our canteen staff Martina and Geraldine and our caretaker Derek for their work and support during the last year.

### **MRS SINEAD BREEN R.I.P.**

It was with great shock and sadness that we learned early on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May of the death of our esteemed colleague and friend Ms Sinead Breen, after becoming unwell on Monday 27<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Breen worked here in Wexford C.B.S. Secondary School since 2002 and taught Maths, Geography and Computer Science. She was also Transition Year coordinator. Ms Breen made a very positive contribution to the education of our students over the years and will be greatly missed by colleagues and students alike.

Ms Breen was popular with all her students. She was a particularly gifted teacher who excelled in the classroom. She was also made a major contribution to co-curricular and extra-curricular activities in the school, whether that was on the stage in the school's talent shows or in organising maths quizzes. She was also central to the success of the school's Transition Year programme.

Our sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with Sinead's husband Phillip, her daughters Chloe, Caitlin and Laura, her parents Con and Margaret Cosgrave, her brothers Eugene, Cornelius, Eoin and Christopher, the extended Breen and Cosgrave families and her friends at this time.

Thank you to the many parents who contacted the school after Sinead's untimely passing to express their sympathy and to the many students and parents who joined staff in forming a guard of honour outside the school as the funeral cortege made its way to Mulrankin for Sinead's funeral Mass.

## **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 Michelle Whelan and Seán Kinsella, our colleague Mark Power and the Whelan and Kinsella families following the tragic death of Jack (Second Year Picasso); Mr Donal Howlin and his family on the death of Donal's father, Sheamus; Grant Palmer (Second Year Bernini) and family on the death of Grant's father, Seán; Lukas Zilionis (Sixth Year) and family on the death of Lukas' father, Darius; Kyle Fanning (First Year Rynd) and family on the death of Kyle's father P.J. Fanning.

## **BEST WISHES**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Leaving Certificate class of 2019 the best of luck in the Leaving Certificate. Eighty students are sitting 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. 114 students are sitting the Junior Certificate here this year. The Junior Certificate exam is an important milestone in their educational journey.

## **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. Fionn O'Callaghan, Aodhan Collins, Liam Donoghue, Conor Dempsey from Second Year and Fifth Year students Conor Brennan and Adam Kehoe will be heading to Coláiste na nOileán in Galway for three weeks over the summer.

## **COLÁISTE ÁCLA**

The annual trip to Coláiste Ácla will take place from September 10-13, 2019.

## **IMMERSION PROJECT**

Mr. Whitty and Mr Gannon are running another Immersion Project and are travelling to Zambia in June 2019. The students and teachers involved have been actively engaged in fundraising and 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 REPORT**

Hi all from the Students' Council here in Wexford CBS. We are delighted to say that we had an excellent year here in the Council. Our representatives were as follows:

1st year -Jack Kelly, Shea Ryan, Eoin Deenen (PRO), Ryan Gavin

2nd year -Finn Baneham, Dean Glynn, Darragh Sinnott.

3rd year -Quinton Kelly (Secretary), Dean Cashe (PRO), Cillian Doyle (Treasurer), Evan Buggy (Assistant Secretary).

T.Y. / 4th year -Matthew Colgan (Vice-Chairperson), Kian Black

5th year -Cormac Sinnott (Irish Language Officer), Eoin Kehoe, Adam Minicucci

6th year -Ryan Kavanagh (Chairperson), Sean Reck (Head PRO), Niall Reck.

Liaison teacher -Mr. Nolan.

Our Achievements: Changed our constitution, achieved a level 5 student council and were listed in the top 5 councils in the country. We created a "Council of Students" otherwise known as "Officers". This committee is made up of seven Officers. These "Officers" are students' council members who were elected to roles in the council e.g. Chairperson, Secretary etc. This group makes the agenda for meetings and discusses issues in detail before a council meeting. We have three Wexford Comhairle na nÓg members on our council and an ISSU Regional Officer as well. Implemented Badges/pins for our members to wear, an anonymous suggestion box system, two student council notice boards, book/literacy club, Gear bag storage and a new microwave. We helped supervise at the T.Y. Ceilé with Loreto Wexford.

We also played a major part in student representation at the Official School Opening and offered tours to visitors. We planned for T.Y. reps. and students to take part in the Make-a-wish bag packing. We had

an ERST student council training day. Went to a SIPTU awareness Event in the county hall, ISSU East Regional Conference in Dublin, ISSU Annual Assembly also in Dublin and Wexford Comhairle na nÓg AGM in the County Council Chamber Room. We met the Parent's Council twice, we elected two wellbeing representatives from the council, who met with the school's wellbeing committee. We had input into the Healthy Eating Policy (September 2019), Timetable changes (September 2019) and finally we conducted a Survey for changes to the food survey in our school canteen which each class took part in. On behalf of the Students' Council, I wish everyone a safe summer and look forward another great year in the council.

*By Quinton Kelly*

### **SCHOOL OFFICIAL OPENING**

Many years of waiting officially ended in March as we opened our €12 million new school in a ceremony in the school.

Having been on the waiting list in the Department of Education for over twenty years, the new build was finally sanctioned seven years ago after many disappointments and false dawns. Planning was secured in 2015 and construction started the following year.

Master of ceremonies for the historic occasion was CBS Deputy Principal John Hegarty who also serves as a member of Wexford County Council. He welcomed the large crowd to the opening which was held in the new Gym hall.

Among the attendance were past pupil Labour Party leader Deputy Brendan Howlin, Minister Michael D'Arcy, James Browne TD, Mayor of Wexford Tony Dempsey, Cllrs George Lawlor, Ger Carthy and Tom Forde (another past pupil), current and past chairpersons and member of the school's Board of Management and Parents' Council, current and past staff, principals of local primary and secondary schools, representatives of the Christian Brothers and the Edmund Rice Schools Trust (ERST) as well as representatives from the builders Mythen's Construction and the architects KOBW.

Among the many speakers were Gerry Forde, Chairman of the Board of Management; Leo Hogan from ERST; Catherine Busher O'Sullivan from the Parents' Council; Ryan Kavanagh of the Students' Council; Michael McMahon, CBS principal and Brendan Howlin who officially opened the school

Fr. Aodhan Markham, representing Bishop Denis Brennan spoke and also blessed the school with the assistance of Fr. James Cullen and Rev Conor O'Leary.

The audience heard of the history of Wexford CBS which started educating boys in Wexford town in 1849 at the site of the current Faythe primary school before moving to a building at George's Street in 1853. Such was the popularity of the school that 192 boys turned up on the first day and up to 80 boys were turned away due to there not being sufficient space for them. The school moved to its current location in Green Street in 1875 with the financial help of local businessman Richard Devereux and has been expanding since then. However a new school has been necessary since the 1990s and after a lengthy and frustrating wait it has finally arrived. It was a difficult construction project due to the fact that 640 students and their teachers remained on site in prefabs during the build which presented

significant logistical difficulties. Some of the rooms from the old school were also incorporated into the new school during construction which lasted two years. The school now enjoys state of the art science laboratories, language laboratories, a music room, computer rooms, classrooms, woodwork rooms, technical graphic rooms, library, office accommodation, new gym/hall, fitness suite, learning support and an impressive ASD unit. The project was a massive success and will serve generations of Wexford CBS students very well into the future. Musical entertainment was provided by students Luke Spellacy, Sean Kirwan, Sam Hoffheinz and Alex Gregg. The large crowd of past pupils, parents, neighbours and members of the general public enjoyed refreshments before being brought on a guided tour of the new school by members of the Students' Council. The total cost of the new school was €12 million which includes improvements to the adjoining Wexford CBS primary school. However, the school's playing field has yet to be completed and is unfortunately unusable at the moment but the school are currently planning and undertaking fundraising to finish this aspect of the project.



## **VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

The school would like to thank those who have given generously this year and 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 you are aware, 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. The Transition Year programme which will provide the students involved with many educational challenges both within and beyond the school walls.

## **LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2018-19**

In May 2019, 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. David McDonnell, Aaron O'Connor, Conor Brennan and Paul Leonard travelled on the diocesan pilgrimage as part of the Ferns delegation. Once again, we 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**

It was another busy and successful year of Enterprise in the school. Students from 1st, 2nd and TY participated in the E-Xcel Student Enterprise Awards. The students set up businesses which involved researching their product and services, producing a prototype and marketing and selling their product. Our Christmas Fair was held on 7th December in St. Michael's Hall and was a huge success. Students contributed €163 to St. Vincent de Paul on the day.

The Co Final of the Students Enterprise Awards was held in the National Opera House on 27th March. CBS was represented by four mini-companies and three of them received awards on the night which was a huge achievement. Well done to 1st year Robert Reynolds and his mini-company Poptastic who was awarded Best Overall Report in the Junior and Intermediate Category and to 1st years John and Michael O'Keeffe/Dobbs and their mini-company M & J Timbers were awarded a merit in the Junior Category. Jason Dempsey Ty and his mini-company Three D's achieved a merit in the Senior Category. Well done boys on such fantastic achievements!

Thank you to all those who support Enterprise in the school and ensure its continued success.





### **BOND TRADER CHALLENGE**

5<sup>th</sup> year Business and Accounting students travelled to Gorey in February to participate in the Bond Trader Challenge. Students had a very exciting time immersed in the stock market, reacting to real life situations, trading in stocks and shares and managing their own bond portfolio. CBS teams did super on the day and were awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place and 5<sup>th</sup> places out of 27 teams from schools all over the South East. We certainly have some very successful traders of the future in our midst!



## ATHLETICS

It was another successful year for the school in athletics with the school picking up medals in both cross country and track and field. The athletics season began in October with the All Ireland combined events in Athlone. The schools sole representative, Jack Forde got two personal bests in the 200m and 800m and finished a respectable 6th overall.

Next up for the athletes was the County Schools Cross Country held in New Ross. The school finished second overall behind the hosts Good Counsel College with the Under 17s being the stand-out performers on the day. Nathan Murphy won the under-17 race (2000m) with Conor Keane, Jack Forde and Adrian Jasiewicz making up the other members of the under-17 team to take the gold medal. Our second team at under-17 of Sean White, Jack Dempsey, Owen McNulty and Nicolai Tcaci took team bronze. James Hegarty came third in the under-14 race (1000m). The under 15s excelled on the day with Rian Sammon finishing second and Ben English ending up in 4th place. The under 19 team of Conor Brennan, Padraic Jordan, Nathan Barron and Sean Reck took home bronze medals. In the South Leinsters, Nathan Murphy had a fine run to qualify for the Leinster cross country.

The track season began in Waterford in early May with the South Leinsters track and field championships. Day 1 began with the minor and junior boys races. Rian Sammon took silver in the long jump with a personal best jump of 5.22 metres. Before the long jump was held, Rian finished just outside the medals with a 4th place finish in the 1500m. Sean White made his debut in the walks and finished third in the 2000m walk. Ben English qualified for the 100m and 200m finals but finished 4th in both races.

At the second day of the South Leinsters, there was further success for the school with Gergely Pap and Jack Forde the most impressive performers on the day. Gergely Pap had a metre to spare in the Shot

Putt when taking the gold medal and finished in second place in the Discus. He made up for his disappointment with the Discus performance with a double gold in the Leinsters just a week later. Jack Forde took home a gold medal in the High Jump and a silver in the Shot Putt at the South Leinsters. He followed up the gold in the High Jump at the South Leinsters with another 1st place finish in the High Jump at the Leinsters in Santry. Paul Freeman finished first in the 110m senior hurdles while Conor Brennan produced a strong finish to take the silver medal in the senior boys 200m. The final medal of the day was taken home by Rian Doyle who finished second in the 400m. Jack and Gergely will both travel to the All-Ireland track and field finals in Tullamore on Saturday 1st June with medal aspirations.



## EQUESTRIAN

Wexford CBS was represented by Oisín Meyler (2<sup>nd</sup> year) in the Equestrian Interschools Showjumping Competition held in Wexford Equestrian, Tomhaggard and in Barnadown, Gorey.

Oisín on his pony, Tricklebrooke Jaguar, joined teams from Presentation Wexford and East Glendalough to successfully compete in the show jumping competition. Well done Oisín and best of luck in the 2019/20 Equestrian Interschools season.



## **BERLIN TRIP**

After meeting at 2.00am at Bride Street, 40 First Year students departed Dublin Airport on Monday the 11th of February for Berlin. They touched down in Tegel Airport, Berlin at approximately 11.30. After a bit of lunch in McDonalds the group continued on a bus tour around Berlin. The bus tour included some famous landmarks such as the Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, the television tower and some of the iconic remains of the Berlin Wall. Following a long day the 40 students and their teachers, Ms Davey, Mr Francis, Mr Brosnan and Mr Davey dined at an Italian restaurant before returning to their hotel for the night

On the second day of the trip the group visited 1936 Olympic Stadium. The group got a tour around the stadium and got to see where celebrities and Hitler would have entered using an underground entrance. Following the stadium tour the students had some lunch before going to an indoor water park known as Tropical Island Water World. The students finished the day at an 'All you can eat' Chinese restaurant.

Wednesday started with a visit to a Holocaust memorial designed by the architect Peter Eisenman and engineer Buro Happold. The students had time to pause and reflect at the memorial. The group the

travelled to the Stasi prison in East Berlin, where political prisoners and people who spoke out against the East German government were sent. The group were given a tour and learned of some of the treacherous interrogation and psychological methods used by the Stasi. After the tour the group did some shopping and picked up a few souvenirs. The group enjoyed tasty burgers and fries at Andy's Diner before enjoying bowling to round the day off.

On Thursday the group checked out of the Aletto hotel where they had been staying. Once the bus was packed up, the 40 lads visited Checkpoint Charlie Museum where they learnt about life in Eastern Berlin under communist rule. In the museum there were different tales of successful and unsuccessful attempts to escape over the Berlin wall to West Berlin. The group then enjoyed lunch at McDonalds before visiting Deutsches Technikmuseum where they learnt about the earliest computer and Luftwaffe aircraft from WW2. After the tour the group made their way to Tegel Airport for their return flight. Departing at 6.45 pm the group arrived back in Wexford at 11.30 after a very enjoyable trip. Thank you to all the parents for giving us permission to go on the trip and also to Ms Davey, Mr Francis, Mr Brosnan and Mr Davey who accompanied the group.

*By Jamie Clancy*



## **ITALIAN TRIP**

On the 14th of March, we set off on our TY trip to Italy. This was a four day trip where we learned a lot about the history of different famous cities in Italy. We arrived in Milan early in the morning and got a bus into the centre of the city. At about 1 o'clock, we met up with our tour guide and got a nice, relaxing tour around the city of Milan. Just before having our free time in Milan, we were suddenly surrounded by Frankfurt fans that came to watch the Europa League match. As soon as we finished our lunch and had some free time, we all headed back to the bus and had our three hour bus journey to our hotel.

The second day started off with breakfast at the hotel which is very different to the breakfasts we usually get in Ireland. Our second bus journey was to the city of Venice where we had to get a water taxi to the city. Lunch was very tasty in Venice as most of us got very delicious pizza. Our tour of Venice started at around 2 o'clock and lasted roughly two hours. We got the chance to see the statue of Juliet and the Grand Canal. It was very fascinating to see people riding up and down the streams in Venice. Our day finished off with us arriving back at the hotel for a nice dinner and desert.

On the third day, we headed off to the beautiful city of Verona. When we arrived in Verona, we had our third tour of our trip. This tour was very interesting as we got to visit the gigantic amphitheatre. The sights from the top of the amphitheatre were truly jaw-dropping as we were able to see the whole city. Our teachers Ms Scallan, Ms O'Connor and Ms Tiernan were feeling very generous and decided to buy us lunch at a very pleasant, outdoor restaurant. After we finished our food, we had our own free time for a while and as the day was coming to an end, we headed back to the hotel.

On the 17th of March, our last and final day was a day spent seeing the great Lake Garda. On that day it was very foggy so we couldn't see much but it was still very fun on the boat trip around Lake Garda. We stopped and had lunch in Sirimione which is a very nice town on the edge of the lake. We were sad that we were missing St. Patrick's Day back in Ireland so we decided to all dress up in green and have our own St. Patrick's Day over in Italy. We arrived home late that Sunday night and almost everybody on the bus was asleep as we had done a lot of travelling that day.

Overall, this was a very fun trip and was a great experience for all of us. We all hope that some day we will return.

*By Denis Miculescu*



## HURLING

## NEWS

**First Year Hurling:** For the second year in a row, Wexford CBS claimed Leinster honours. Cistercian Roscrea were our final opponents again and the only difference to last year (apart from the players!) was the venue which was Dunmore COE in Kilkenny. Our lads tore into the game and had built up a commanding lead at half-time and eventually won by 6-5 to 2-4. Pat Henderson from Leinster Council presented the cup to CBS captain Paidi Doyle. **Wexford CBS:** Jack Kelly; Eoin Browne, Mark Tormey, Eoin Gleeson; Rory Gilbert, Paidi Doyle (Capt. 0-1 free), Darragh Kirwan; Darragh Hayes, Shane Kehoe (0-1); Cillian Ferriter (2-0), Noah Whelan (1-1), William Murphy (0-1); Justin McMahon (1-1), Shay O'Leary (2-0), James Hegarty. **Subs:** Conor Mullen for Hegarty, Bobby Doyle for Browne (both HT), James Byrne for Kirwan, Shane Carroll for Kehoe, Rory Donoghue for Ferriter, Josh Donovan for O'Leary, Dean Hillis for McMahon, Conor Martin for Tormey, Charlie Quirke for Murphy, Jake Roche for Doyle, Shea Ryan for Gilbert, Jack Sinnott for Gleeson, Conor Sydney for Whelan (all 45 minutes).



**Juvenile Hurling:** CBS participated in the South Leinster 'B' championship and had a great start to the year with a big away victory over Gorey C.S. and a walkover from Borris VC. This meant we topped our group and hosted Abbey CC (Ferrybank) in the semi-final. After a titanic battle we lost out to two late points by 2-15 to 2-13 **Rice Cup:** We are delighted to play in the prestigious Rice Cup (u14) and this year we faced Kilkenny CBS, Carrick on Suir CBS and Mullingar CBS and all 29 hurlers got loads of game time.

**Junior Hurling:** CBS finished second in their group as victories over Bridgetown VC & Ramsgrange CS were followed by an away defeat to Colaiste Bhríde (Carnew). This meant we had a home quarter-final versus Callan which was won and then CBS travelled to Thomastown and enjoyed a semi-final win against the home side to set up a final v Colaiste Bhríde (Carnew). The final in Ferns COE went to extra-time and both sides still couldn't be separated. The replay was close again but CBS lost out by 1-13 to 1-10.

**Wexford CBS:** Chris Ryan; Sean Byrne, Ben Hynes, Mark Doyle; Callum Corcoran (0-1), Darragh Carley (Capt.), Tommy Gallagher; Eoin Kavanagh, Jason Gordon; Ollie McMahon (0-1), Josh Carley (1-1), Cian Doyle (0-7, 5f); Eoin Hartigan, Zach Breslin, Tadhg Brohan. **Subs:** Liam Donoghue for McMahon; Oisín Waters for Brohan, Rian Sammon for Donoghue inj. Also: Owen McNulty, Jake Doyle, David Kelly, Conor Keane, Ollie Gould, Alex Looney, Cillian Doyle, Josh Howlin, Jack Corcoran, Rian Doyle and Fionn O'Callaghan.

**Senior Hurling:** The seniors had been operating in 'B' since last claiming South Leinster 'C' honours in 2013/14 but this year CBS returned to the 'C' grade. Following group wins over Ramsgrange CS and Bridgetown VC, we hosted Callan CBS in the quarter-final. CBS came out on top and earned a home semi-final v Pres De La Salle Bagnalstown which was won. CBS faced Grennan College (Thomastown) in the South Leinster final in Ferns COE and an injury time point from Michael Laffan secured victory by 1-20 to 2-16. Captain Richard Lawlor received the cup from Pat Henderson of Leinster Council. **Wexford CBS:** Chris Ryan (St. Martin's); Ben Hynes (Faythe Harriers), Josh McMahon (Faythe Harriers), Conor Graydon (Glynn-Barntown); Darragh Carley (Glynn-Barntown), Kyle Scallan (Faythe Harriers), Joe Barrett (St. Martin's); Jason Gordon (Faythe Harriers 1-3, 1-0 free), Emmett Nolan (Faythe Harriers); Michael Laffan (Glynn-Barntown 0-9, 4f, 1'65), Richard Lawlor (Faythe Harriers Capt. 0-2), Paul Leonard (Glynn-

Barntown 0-1); Eoin Kavanagh (Faythe Harriers 0-2), Josh Shiel (Faythe Harriers 0-2, 1f), Glen Murphy-Butler (Faythe Harriers 0-1).**Subs:** Sean Byrne (Faythe Harriers) for Nolan, Ollie McMahon (Faythe Harriers) for Leonard, Aaron Clancy (St. Martin's), David McDonnell (St. Mary's Rosslare), Chris Flood (Glynn-Barntown), Josh Carley (Glynn-Barntown), Oisín Waters (St. Martin's).



CBS faced Colaiste Naomh Cormac of Kilcormac in Offaly in the Leinster semi-final but went under to the eventual Leinster champions by 2-14 to 1-12.

**Coaches:** The hurlers in Wexford CBS are extremely lucky to have Willie Cleary attached to the school and helping Mr Brosnan and Mr Howlin in the role as Wexford Hurling Development Officer. Willie is a frequent visitor to the school for coaching and is a superb asset to the school. **County teams:** We are very proud of the huge number of our students who played on the various county teams this year and look forward to even more in the years ahead. **Hurlers of the Year:** Senior – Richard Lawlor Junior – Darragh Carley Juvenile – Cian Doyle First Year – Paidi Doyle.

## **SOCCER**

2018/2019 will go down in history as one of our most successful ever seasons on the soccer field. Our senior team captained by Cian Foley captured the Leinster Senior cup defeating Salesians of Celbridge 3-1 in a memorable Leinster final in front of an electric crowd. There were some exceptional displays en route to the final defeating Enniscorthy CBS, Arklow CBS, Templeogue College, Patricians of Newbridge and Boyne CS. The Bokerboys had their dreams crushed in the All Ireland semi-final when losing on penalties to CBS Middleton after a tremendous battle on the field in the RSC Waterford. Again our support was magnificent and certainly won't be forgotten as the remaining Bokerboys on the team will be eager to reach this stage again next year. The Senior side also captured the Wicklow/Wexford League title defeating fierce rivals Enniscorthy CBS in the final. We say goodbye this year to some of our most

successful ever players who have done us proud throughout their time in the CBS and we wish them every success in their exams and future off and on the field.

Our 17s, 15s and 1st year sides also performed admirably on the field this season putting together a fine style of football and the future is certainly looking bright. The 1st year side won the county futsal competition this year before agonisingly losing out in both the Wicklow/Wexford league and Leinster cup finals by a single goal. These young players certainly showed what they are capable of however with a number of scintillating performances all over the province with memorable wins over Gorey CS (7-1), Celbridge CS (7-0) and when coming from behind to defeat Ardgillan Balbriggan 2-1 in the Leinster semi final 2-1 with captain Shay O'Leary saving a penalty when the sides were level. They were very unfortunate and will no doubt be determined to capture titles going forward in years to come.

It was also a special year for our soccer players with both Reece Murphy (5th Year) and Shay O'Leary (1st Year) representing their country, Reece in the centenary shield vs England, Northern Ireland and Wales and Shay was between the posts vs the Netherlands. This is a phenomenal achievement and we congratulate them both and hope to see their continued success in the future.



## **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, congratulations and thank Ms Ivers for her trojan work in spearheading the initiative in the school. Wexford CBS have been awarded Cycle Against Suicide Ambassador School status based on the outstanding work you have carried out with your school this year! This is a huge honour for the school. The awards ceremony will be incorporated into our HEADSTRONG training day (Summit) and will take place on September 25th 2019 in the Printworks in Dublin Castle.



## **Cycle Against Suicide**

### **Gear 1: Mental Health Education**

Wexford CBS is a Restorative Practice school. It has an integrated positive mental health and physical health education programme. We aim to help all members of our school community to build confidence in their young lives, and maintain their self-esteem. To further embed this, a Cycle Against Suicide Module was included as part of the timetable up for Transition Year students.

However, it must be noted here that the academic year of 2018-2019 has been a traumatic one for Wexford CBS and the Wexford community as a whole. Not only did we lose one of our 2<sup>nd</sup> year students to suicide in November 2019, a local girl's school also lost a 6<sup>th</sup> year student to suicide in December 2018. The tragic events of this year have impacted heavily on the whole community. Several processes, activities and events were (and are) put in place to manage and scaffold our young people and those who aim to support them through living life.

Initially, our school worked with National Educational Psychology Service (NEPS) to create a Critical Management Team (CMT) to get us through the days and weeks that followed. Between quiet rooms, informal chats, group discussion and workshops the teachers, parents and students worked together to further embed the relationship of trust which we have always tried to nurture.

A parent's information evening was organised in partnership with NEPS. The main topic of the evening focused on how to support your teenager in a time of crisis.

A group session was organised with Transition Year students during their Cycle Against Suicide Module. A World Café Process (methodology to facilitate group discussion) was completed in the weeks that followed. Feedback and observations on how the school managed the situation, alongside student suggestions were gathered and reported to the CMT. This student feedback has been incorporated into our Well Being Policy.

National Office for Prevention of Suicide held a course called SAFE, and management facilitated teacher Continual Professional Development for this. This will be rolled out to the whole staff in September.

NEPS, in association with all five Wexford secondary schools, organised a conference that focused on a range of topics such mental health, suicide prevention, critical & grief management.

Wexford CBS has also set up a mentoring system with a member of the GAA for two vulnerable students in our school. Weekly sessions have been facilitated, which have already had a huge impact as attendance and positive attitudes have been noted across the board from teachers.

Since our tragic loss school management, alongside the CMT, weekly updates are circulated to all staff on our Circle of Vulnerability. All staff are vigilant and work together to observe, report and engage with students on any issues that may arise. This process is an extension of our Restorative Practice Behaviour Policy.

In addition to these processes and activities, Wexford CBS has a number of programmes at work:

- **Amber Flag: A Student – Led Initiative**

Students have created a committee, which is facilitated by a member of staff, to engage in school wide projects from poster campaigns, to facilitating talks and providing and distributing mental health awareness material.

- **Student engagement with social issues**

Within both Senior and Junior Cycle course work in SPHE and Personal Development students are encouraged to discuss issues relating to sexuality, drug awareness and personal development. We maintain an ethos of open dialogue and respect for one another through sharing experiences, sharing in different experiences and creating challenges that help us further our understanding of what it is like to be a young person in this school, and Wexford. Eg. "The Mask You Live In" is a documentary watched by TY students and a workshop is held with the students on the issues and observations that arise from it.

- **Personal Development talks for exam students**

These talks are arranged by our Guidance Counsellor and school management team to help prepare our young adolescents in their future decision-making processes. They range from career options, to study schedules to coping with stressful situations and so on. Eg. Study Skills workshop: Managing Time & Pressure. We aim to cater for both the physical and mental strain that accompanies an exam year.

- GAA Well Being Week

Motivational talks, covering a range of topics from time management, nutrition, positive attitudes to skills and drills will be held next week as part of the GAA Well Being Week.

#### Gear Two: Project Work

- Community Involvement Artwork

Transition Years created banners with this year's motto, "Positive Vibes, Super Lives". This banner is on display in the GP Hall, where all students can access it. Motivational messages as the year ends will be written by students.

- Public Speaking

The Debating Club has become a feature of school life. Positive mental health is a theme that is covered regularly. Students researched their work, used facts & figures to debate the impacts, both positive & negative of mental health awareness. Eg. Our First Year Debating Team were Leinster Finalists, and we had a student who made it into the top 20 out of the 450 students who entered the All Ireland School's Debating at junior level.

- Meithéal Leaders Programme

This is an ongoing process in Coláiste Éamonn Rís whereby sixth years act as mentors for first years. They meet with them regularly, and the assigned Meithéal Leader is the first port of call should a first year have any issues or queries. This programme supplies a young person with confidant who can relate to the experience they are going through as new secondary school student.

- Cycle Against Suicide Transition Year Module

Transition Years engaged with the Resilience Programme as set out by Cycle Against Suicide, and was followed up by the Hope Worksheet. Emphasis was placed on peer-peer relations.

Following "The Mask You Live In" documentary, students completed a videoed survey and the feedback from the workshop was edited into a short clip for all students to watch.

- Leadership & Team Building Workshop

Transition Year students were given a leadership and team-building workshop. Students who illustrated key leadership skills were then picked to facilitate the workshop with the 2<sup>nd</sup> years. This gave the students to lead in teaching and learning, as well helping the peer-peer communication skills.

#### Gear 3: Community Engagement

- Céilí Against Suicide

Transition Year and 5<sup>th</sup> Year students from Coláiste Éamonn Rís came together with Loreto Secondary School, for a Céilí Mór in aid of Cycle Against Suicide, on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This coincided with our #SchoolsGoOrange Day where we had a non-uniform day and raised over €1,000 for Cycle Against Suicide.

Our aim was to promote the positive mental health message that is supported by Cycle Against Suicide. This event was organised by CBS Transition Year Students and Ms Ivers. Several Transition Year students helped out with organising this event on the day, and on the days leading up to it. Representatives from the Meithéal Leaders Programme also helped with the refreshments and set-up.

- Cycle Against Suicide School's Congress

Transition Year students attended this year's Congress in the 3 Arena, the array of speakers and personal stories resonated deeply with the students. Hearing the stories of their peers leaves a lasting memory.

Side note from Teacher: It was lovely to hear one of my Transition Year students ask if they could go back stage with one of the Volunteers to say "hello" to *one* of the past pupils were helping out with the event. We have had many Student Leaders pass through our doors, and to know they are giving back to the community is a proud achievement for those that have supported them along the journey, and of course for Cycle Against Suicide as a whole.

#### Gear 4: Schools Go Orange

- Free Fruit Tuesday CBS had a free fruit Friday in support of promoting healthy eating and positive mental health, which are inexplicably linked. This is a great idea because not only does it save people money for their lunch, it also encourages creating healthy eating habits.

- Orange, Who?

Non-uniform day and face paints were arranged for all students. Denotations were given, and alongside the Céilí Against Suicide, over €1,000 was raised.

- Healthy Walks

Senior students were given a slot to go for a walk with teachers as a means to create an environment that is different from the classroom to help talking and relieve the pressure of study and exam stress.

- Quote of the day  
Our Vice Principal, on a board outside his office, writes a different inspirational quote on it each morning. Students find this interesting and uplifting to read when they pass by it. Sample quote: "It's not about how hard you get hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward". A favourite was voted on by students and announced on the intercom over the days that followed.

## **Gear Five: Get Active**

- **Greenway Cycle**

All Transition Year Students cycled the Waterford to Dungarvan Greenway which was 48km. This was a group effort and all abilities were catered for. Shoulder to Shoulder we cycled through the rain, had a few detours, found the route again, knocked a teacher off the bike, but alas we all made it safe and sound through the pouring rain!

- **Transition Year Dancing**

Transition Year students, as part of the CBS has Talent Show, took part in a hip-hop dance workshop that lasts a few weeks. Students then performed in two shows, firstly in front of the whole school and secondly in front of friends and family that in an evening show. Overall the performance was watched by over 1000 people.

- **Drum Workshop**

Students participated in 1h30m drum workshop which allowed them to participate in a wide range of various drumming techniques. Hidden talents of rhythm were unearthed, and 2 students have taken up the Bodhrán!

- **Range of Clubs & Activities**

We have a range of sporting clubs and events that are facilitated by the teachers and the school. From GAA, soccer, cycling, water polo, swimming and basketball but to name a few. It is a rare day that there is not something active going on in our school! Eg. Our senior soccer team won the Dr. Tony O'Neill Leinster Senior Cup, Wicklow/Wexford Senior League and were in the Leinster Champions League Final in May. We are very proud of our young, dedicated and talented players.

## **TEXT MESSAGING**

As you are aware, a text message is sent out to parents of students who do not present at 8.50am or at 1.45pm/1.55pm. 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.

## **GERMAN EXCHANGE**

The CBS German Exchange first took place in February 2014 and it is run each year in conjunction with the Loreto Secondary school here in town. The exchange is very popular in the Loreto and is growing in popularity here where it is open to both TY and 5th year students.

Each year a group of students from both schools travel to "Sankt Ursulas" which is a mixed, Catholic school in the twin towns of Villingen-Schwenningen in the state of Baden-Wurttemberg in Southern Germany.

This year a group of six students departed Wexford with Ms Sinnott at 7am on a cold and wet January morning and travelled to the snow clad mountains of the Blackforest. They were greeted late the same evening by their exchange partners and their families with whom the CBS boys would be staying for a week.

That week entailed some time in a German classroom, lots of time eating the famous German Blackforest gateau "Schwarzwaldkirschtorte" and hotdogs "Bratwurst" as well as drinking the not so popular fizzy water "Sprudel" and many trips and excursions to places such as the university city of Freiburg with its impressive medieval cathedral.

Perhaps the highlight of the exchange was the journey up the "Feldberg", the highest mountain in the region, to go "Schneesuhlaufen" which roughly translates as snow shoe walking and involves walking through deep snow wearing shoes that look like tennis rackets. The boys loved it and the views were magnificent!

One of my favourite trips is to the museum in Villingen which is dedicated to the tradition of "Fastnacht" a form of carneval which involves parades and dressing up in the lead up to Lent. The boys and girls got to dress up in traditional costumes many of which date back to the Middle Ages and the era of the guilds.

At the end of the week the students returned to Ireland tired but happy. How much German did they learn? We don't know but we do know that they came back with a greater understanding of who the Germans are and how they live.

The German exchange partners will be travelling to Wexford in September of this year.



## CHINA TOUR

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 myself and thirty of my class mates went on a trip to Beijing, China. This trip was organised by three of our teachers: Ms. Argue, Mr. S. McMahon and Mr. Gannon.

We left Wexford town early on a Thursday morning because our flight from Dublin to Frankfurt was at 11:20 in the morning. It took us two and a half hours to fly to Frankfurt. When we got there we had to wait about an hour to catch our connecting flight to Beijing. The flight from Frankfurt to Beijing took nine and a half hours. As we flew overnight we were given dinner and breakfast on the flight. We arrived in Beijing on Friday. When we got to there we met with our tour guide, Tony and got our bus to a restaurant where we had our first meal. Then we went to the hotel to check in and dropped our bags to our rooms. Later on that evening we went to the Beijing Zoo where we seen all their native animals. When we were finished with the zoo we went to get dinner and to go back to the hotel to go to bed, as we were tired after all the travelling.

On Saturday, we took the bus to The Great Wall of China. We climbed about two – three kilometres of the wall. It was amazing. We spent three hours there. After that we went to the Olympic stadiums where they held the 2008 Olympic Games and will hold the Paralympic Games in 2022. After that we went to get dinner and then onto a small food market to try all the different food the locals eat. Then we went back to the hotel to go to bed.

On Sunday, which was St. Patrick's Day we all got dressed up in the Irish colours and we went to the Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. It was amazing to see the size of the Forbidden City. The Tiananmen Square was also big considering that it is in the middle of a city. Later on that evening we went to the Irish Embassy to meet with some Irish people and we also had some Irish food like roast potatoes and beef. After we were done with that we went shopping in the silk markets. We all couldn't wait for this because we know we could try and haggle with the sellers and try to get a bargain.

The next morning we had to pack our bags and check out of the hotel because that night we were heading to Xi'an on the train. But that morning after checking out we went to the Temple of Heaven where we had a karate class which was very cool to take part in. After we spent about two hours at the Temple of Heaven we went to the stunning Summer Palace. At around 7:00pm we left to go the train station where we would get the overnight train to Xi'an. The train wasn't what you'd call luxurious as it was very stuffy and quite small so there wasn't much space.

We arrived in Xi'an on the Tuesday morning. We meet with our new tour guide and she brought us to our hotel where we checked in and dropped our bags up to our rooms. After that then we went on a tour of Xian's city and we also cycled on top of the wall surrounding the city. It was amazing to see the contrast between inside the city walls and outside the city walls. Inside them there were low rise buildings were as outside the walls there were very high rise buildings.

On Wednesday, we went to the Terracotta Warrior factory which is where they make exact replicas of the real Terracotta Warriors. After that then we went to the real sites where they excavate the Terracotta Warriors. This was great to see because the size of the project is absolutely huge.

The next morning we had to pack up our bags again and check out because later on that evening we had to head back to Beijing again. But before we left we went to two more places in Xi'an which were the Shaanxi history museum and the Muslim snack street. Both trips weren't the most interesting trips but it was nice to find out a bit more about their history and it was also nice to try more of their weird food in the snack market. When we had finished both trips it was time to head back to the train station where we took the overnight train back to Beijing.

Thursday was our last full day in China. After getting off the train we went to the hotel and checked back in. Then we got some food and we went to the pearl market for more shopping and bargaining. After we finished shopping, we to the local theatre and watched an acrobatic show which was very cool to see because they did all sorts of mad stuff. On Friday, we were up early to get the bus to the airport to get our flight back to Frankfurt then onto Dublin.

To sum up the whole trip, I'd have to say it was one of the greatest trips I have ever been on and ever will be on. The main reason it was so good was because we saw so many great historical places in such a short time period. We had a lot of fun/craic on the journey as well.  
*By Owen McNulty*

## **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 2019-20 booklists for the various years are available on the school website. Copies are also available from the office. The 2019-20 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](http://www.sec.ie).

## **NEW YORK EXCHANGE**

Eleven CBS students departed Dublin Airport with teachers Ms Hayes and Mr Howlin for Iona Prep secondary school in New York (USA) in March for the trip of a lifetime. On arrival on Friday evening in Newark airport the CBS gang were met by Mr. O'Meara from Iona Prep (which is also an Edmund Rice School) who brought us to our house in New Jersey which was our base for exploring Manhattan for the weekend. We hit the Big Apple on Friday night and enjoyed Times Square and a leisurely walk around the streets and avenues while also stopping for a pizza.

On Saturday we got a ferry to Manhattan and took in the fabulous views from the One World Trade Centre Observatory Tower, the eerie 9/11 memorial and museum before the boys hit a Gucci store for a bit of shopping but ended up just looking instead! After lunch, we strolled uptown on the High Line and that evening the boys visited Broadway and saw the show Jersey Boys. Afterwards a very tired Wexford bunch made the journey back over the Hudson River to the house.

Sunday's weather was wet which scuppered the walk in Central Park. However, we enjoyed the Intrepid sea, air and space museum. Quick as a flash it was time for the train upstate to meet our host families from Iona Prep.

This was a really interesting part of the trip as the boys immersed themselves in American culture and also went to school for the week with their host student. On Wednesday we went to Madison Square Gardens to see the New York Rangers play Ice Hockey. They played poorly and lost 4-1 to Ottawa much to Mr. O'Meara's (A big fan!) disappointment but at least one of our crew made a new friend! On Friday morning Iona Prep hosted a breakfast for us and then we headed for JFK for our flight home. We welcome our American friends to Wexford CBS in December.



### **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 Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. Spirit of Transition year nominees:

Kian Black (winner), Daniel Bent, Aaron Doyle, Callum Doyle, Jack Forde, Conor Keane, Eoin Kinsella, Liam Lahiff, Denis Miculescu, Paul Perejan, Gabriel Perez, Jack Walsh, Seán White.

Other award winners:

Cross-country Athletics: Nathan Murphy

Field Athletics: Jack Forde

U-17 Soccer: Evan Farrell

Junior Gaelic Football: Luke O'Rourke

U-17 Squash (International recognition award): Seán White

Maths Award: Jahnavi Prasad Parimkayala

Kathleen Fahy nominee: Matthew Colgan

TY entrepreneur: Jason Dempsey

#### **School Awards Night**

Our thirteenth Annual Awards Night took place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May in the Riverbank Hotel. Professor Bill Roche was the guest speaker on the night. Bill is a Full Professor of Industrial Relations and Human Resources at the School of Business, University College Dublin and Honorary Professor at the School of

Management, Queen's University Belfast. He has written 13 books and published in excess of 100 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters, as well as many reports for public agencies. Bill is a regular contributor to TV, radio and newspaper coverage of human resource and employment relations themes and regularly contributes to professional conferences and seminars on developments in HR and employment relations. He attended Wexford CBS secondary school from 1969 to 1974. Academic Award Winners

## **Fifth Year**

Accounting: David McDonnell; Applied Maths: Paul Leonard; Art: Adam Kehoe; Biology: Manus Harte; Business: Dakoti Rossi and David McDonnell; Chemistry: Ian Sweetman; Construction Studies: Jakub Pakula; Design & Communication Graphics: Jakub Pakula; English (H): Ian Sweetman; English (O): Darragh Byrne; French: Manus Harte; German: Paul Leonard; Geography: Cormac Sinnott; History: Sam McQuaid; Irish (H): Ruairi Fenlon; Irish (O): Darragh Byrne; LCVP: Jack Freeman; Maths (H): Wen Geng Lin; Maths (O): Ian Cullen; Physics: Jakub Pakula; Agricultural Science: Chris Flood

## **First Year**

### *Academic Award Winners*

#### **Boyle**

Robert Reynolds  
Conor McGuinness  
Fiach O'Byrne

### *Merit Award Winners*

Aaron Byrne  
Alex Mythen

#### **Preston**

Paidi Doyle  
James Hegarty  
Conor Sidney

Sam Whelan  
William Murphy

#### **Callan**

Dermot Hogan  
Richard Barlow  
Jake Roche

Jamie Clancy  
Bartlomiej Swtelskii

#### **Rynd**

Evan Byrne  
Eoin Gleeson  
Sean Kirwan

Andrew O'Brien  
Christian Culleton-Lane

## Second Year

### *Academic Award Winners*

#### **Rembrandt**

Ronan Brennan  
Aodhan Collins  
Sam Hoffheinze

#### **Picasso**

Eoin McMahon  
Tadhg Brohan  
Dara Browne

#### **Monet**

Alex Currid  
Daniel Howlin  
William Linn

#### **Bernini**

Paddy O'Leary  
Darragh Corish  
Cian Doyle

### *Merit Award Winners*

Kent Lam  
Ethan Buckley

Liam Donoghue  
Dean Glynn

Jack Shiggins  
Ciaran O'Connor

Finn Baneham  
Tristan Scallan

## Third Year

### *Academic Award Winners*

#### **Pearse**

Masib Jawad  
Asjadullah Shori  
Jack Wilde

#### **MacDonagh**

Cillian Doyle  
Dylan Waters  
Eoin Hartigan

### *Merit Award Winners*

Muhannad Khan  
Evan Buggy

Aidan Conneely  
Sam Day

#### **Brennan**

Maurycy Krzyzanowski  
Roko Strgar  
Quinton Kelly

Corey Lacey  
Harry Ransom

**Connolly**

Adam Ffrench  
Jake Fortune  
Conor Wall

Leon Beaver  
Adam Prendergast Ryan

**Extra-Curricular Award Winners**

**Basketball**

Junior Basketball Award: Jack Foley

**Rugby**

Senior Rugby Award Winner: Shane McGuinness

Junior Rugby Award Winner: Kaylem Codd

**Gaelic Football Award Winners**

Juvenile Football: Liam Donoghue  
First Year Football: Dean Hillis

**Hurlers of the Year:**

Senior – Richard Lawlor  
Junior – Darragh Carley  
Juvenile – Cian Doyle  
First Year – Paidi Doyle.

**Soccer**

U.15 Soccer Award: Tadhg Brohan

First Year Soccer Award: Shay O’Leary

*International Recognition Award:*

Under-14: Shay O’Leary  
Under-18: Reece Murphy

**Debating**

Junior Debater of the Year: Ronan Brennan & Darragh Sinnott

Senior Debater of the Year: Cormac Sinnott

### **Visual Arts**

Visual Arts Award Winner: Szymon Krzyzanowski

### **Performing Arts**

Performing Arts Award Winner: Alex Saunders

### **Hydras Swimming Club**

Senior Swimmer Award Winner: Conor Brennan

Junior Swimmer Award Winner: Ciaran O'Connor

### **Waterpolo**

Junior Waterpolo Award Winner: Alex Kiedrowski

## **SIXTH YEAR AWARDS NIGHT**

The Sixth Year Graduation Mass and Awards was held in the G.P. room in the school on Thursday 23rd May, celebrated by Fr. James Cullen. All Sixth Years and their families were invited to attend. I would like to thank all associated with this year's sixth year award ceremony for all the hard work in making the night such a success.

### **Sixth Year Academic Award Winners**

**Accounting:** Daniel Tsapchuk

**Agricultural Science:** Carlos Sasaran

**Applied Maths:** Paul Lohier

**Art:** Paul Eaves

**Biology:** Ryan Healy

**Business:** Daniel Tsapchuk

**Chemistry:** Ian Browne

**Construction Studies:** Luke Moloney

**Design & Communication Graphics:** Cian Dempsey

**English:** Cian Foley

**French:** David Harte

**German:** Ryan Healy

**Geography:** Eoin Bergin

**History:** Ryan Healy

**Irish:** Ryan Healy

**LCVP:** Ryan Kavanagh

**Maths:** Paul Lohier

**Physics:** Fionn Roche

**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 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 through out their school careers the qualities of integrity, leadership, co-operation and commitment to the school ethos. The 2019 Edmund Rice Award winner is Cian Foley. Edmund Rice Award Nominees: Ryan Kavanagh, Sean Reck, Niall Reck, Ryan Healy, Fionn Roche, Daniel Tsapchuk, Eoin Bergin, Luke Moloney, James Crean, Paul Eaves, Paul Lohier.

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 Ryan Kavanagh for his considerable work in this sphere both in and outside school. Sports awards and extra-curricular awards are also presented to students from the various year groups except for Sixth and Transition Year.

## **CBS 5K FUN RUN**

With the school seeking to raise funds for a new pitch and equip the ASD suite in the school, the school held the 5km fun run on 10<sup>th</sup> March this year. There were around 200 participants taking part in the run on the day. The school would like to thank the students, parents and locals who supported the run. The fun run raised €3204 which will be evenly split between the pitch fund and autism suite. The school would like to thank its main sponsors for the run which were: The EPA, Traynors, Wexford Cleaning Services, Pat Roche Cleaning and Supplies, Philip Redmond Electrical, Park 100 Fire & Security, Bates Oil, Fleetline coaches, JJ Devereux and McMahons. The school would also like to thank Pettitt's Supervalu for their kind sponsorship of refreshments. Finally a special mention to all the members of staff and the

Parents' Council who helped make the fun run happen, and all the volunteers on the day who acted as steward both at the school and along the route. It was an enjoyable event and we hope to make it an annual date in the school calendar.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 [mbarnwell@wexfordcbs.ie](mailto:mbarnwell@wexfordcbs.ie). There is also a contact facility for CAO which can be found on their website [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie).

### **Grants:**

All 6<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2019:**

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 2019-20) 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 [mbarnwell@wexfordcbs.ie](mailto:mbarnwell@wexfordcbs.ie)

### **SCHOOL BANK**

Our school was lucky enough to have set up our own school bank with the help from Peter Cooney, from Bank of Ireland. TY students were interviewed by Bank of Ireland and a total of 9 were chosen for various roles within the school bank to manage its day to day operations in the school. Sean White was selected as Branch Manager, Matthew Colgan -Assistant Branch Manager, Liam Lahiff, Cillian Shiggins and Jesse Ryan were the Account Digi Advisors. Josh O'Brien and Evan Farrell were in charge of the Marketing. Conor Keane was the Financial Advisor for new accounts. Having an active school bank in the school is an enriching experience for the school bank team and it helps students to engage with their peers in a professional and respectful manner. It benefits the whole school community as well as helping the bank team to flourish in their confidence within their subject areas and socialising with their peers. Together the school bank team set up 60 accounts for students of CBS from 2nd year upwards. Well done to the school bank team.

### **UNIFORMS**

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

## **SCHOOL CLOSING**

The school office will close on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm and will re-open on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 9am.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **Re-opening dates:**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019 First Year Induction Day 9.30am-3.15pm

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> Year /Transition Year 10am-11.30am

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 2<sup>nd</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> Year 1.45pm-3.15pm

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019 All Years

## **TIMETABLE CHANGES REMINDER 2019-20**

As advised previously, students will continue to have twenty eight hours tuition time in the 2019-20 academic year. However, the number of classes per week will be increasing from 39 to 41. Each of these classes will be 40 minutes in duration.

The remaining 40 minutes will be provided over 4 days, 10 minute per day Tutor Time as part of the Wellbeing programme. Every Junior Cycle class will have one period of Computer Studies. Every student in Senior Cycle will have two periods of Physical Education. PLEASE NOTE the earlier start time each day, the shorter lunch break and the earlier finish time.

### **Monday**

9 period day.

Start time 8.50am

Morning classes (3)

Morning break @10.50am-11.00am

Mid-morning classes (3) 11.00am

Lunch time 1pm

Afternoon classes (3) 1.45pm

Finish @3.45pm

## **Tuesday-Friday**

8 period day plus Tutor Time

Start time 8.50am

Morning classes (3)

Tutor Time 10.50am

Morning break @11.00am-11.10am

Mid-morning classes (3)

Lunch time 1.10pm

Afternoon classes (2) 1.55pm

Finish @3.15pm

## **CASHLESS PAYMENTS**

We are endeavouring to eliminate the handling of cash in the school for security and efficiency reasons. Consequently, parents/guardians are requested to make payments on line via the Easy Payments Plus tab on the website [www.wexfordcbs.ie](http://www.wexfordcbs.ie) for all school contributions. **You are requested to pay all return to school fees for book lending, voluntary contribution, pitch levy etc. in this way before the beginning of term on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August.** Should you have any difficulties using this method, please contact the school office.

The Locker fee will still be collected in cash by the Parents' Council.

## **E-PORTAL**

We are also endeavouring to cut down on our carbon footprint in the school. We already have centralised printing in place for staff to cut down on our paper use. To further advance our objectives in this area, we will be ceasing to send out letters, reports etc. after the beginning of September, where possible. All parents will be given access to our E-Portal system to access their son's school reports, timetable, attendance and school letters. Details of log in and password details for each pupil will be sent out to each parent/guardian in August.

## **FINALLY**

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

*Michael McMahon*

Principal.