

# COLÁISTE ÉAMONN RÍS



## CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2019

### SEASON'S GREETINGS

Bhur gcéad fáilte go dtí nuachtir na Nollag 2019. 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.

## **THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

The school's current Board of Management has just commenced the second 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 Mary O'Byrne and Mr. Anthony Roche. It will be reviewing the school's Anti-bullying Policy and Child Protection Policy in early 2020. The school's Admissions Policy will also be reviewed in the context of new legislation governing admissions to schools.

## **THE PARENTS' COUNCIL**

The Parents' Council A.G.M. was held in October 2019. The following officers were elected: Caroline Busher (Chairperson), Paula Fenlon (Secretary), Jenny O'Keeffe (Treasurer). The Council has purchased a second defibrillator for the school which is located in the school reception area.

## **STUDENTS' COUNCIL**

A new Students' Council has been established for 2019/20. An election was held for each year group. The Council is now successfully up and running and takes suggestions from the student body by various means including through a confidential suggestion box.

Our Council Members are as follows:

### **Junior Representatives:**

**1st Year:** Adam Rossiter, Rían Doyle, Dylan Brady, Jimmy O'Keeffe-Dobbs.

**2nd Year:** Eoin Deenen, Richie Barlow, Cillian White, Seán Kirwan.

**3rd Year:** Darragh Sinnott, Finn Baneham, Lorcan Breen, Adrian Bialkowski.

### **Senior Representatives:**

**T.Y./4th Year:** Evan Buggy, Cillian Doyle, Quinton Kelly, Dean Cashe.

**5th Year:** Seán Mackevicius, Liam Lahiff, David J Kelly, Matthew Colgan.

**6th Year:** Cormac Sinnott, Jack Byrne, Ruairí Fenlon, Conor Brennan.

### **Officers**

Chairperson (CH): Cormac Sinnott

Vice-Chairperson (VC): Darragh Sinnott

Secretary (Sec.): Quinton Kelly

Assistant Secretary (AS): Eoin Deenen

Head of Public Relations Officers (H.PRO): Cillian Doyle

Public Relations Officers (PROs): Conor Brennan, Séan Kirwan, Finn Baneham

Irish Language Officer (ILO): Ruairí Fenlon

Irish Second-level Student Union Officer (ISSU.O): Quinton Kelly

Liaison Teacher: Mr. Nolan

Other things that we have achieved so far this year is that representatives from the council (Cormac Sinnott, Seán Kirwin and Quinton Kelly) attended a recent Board of Management meeting. We are delighted to report that this meeting was very successful with the both parties listening to advice from the other.

Representatives (Seán Kirwin, Cillian Doyle, Conor Brennan, Lorcan Breen and Matthew Colgan) from the council recently attended the Annual Edmund Rice School's Trust (ERST) Conference in Croke Park. Our representatives found this day very educating in how we can bring new ideas into the council. Conor and Matthew also gave an excellent presentation on behalf of the council.

Our aims for the next half of the year is to input into the school's 3-5 year strategic plan, to discuss the idea of a talent show and to keep on working with the other councils in the school such as the Board of Management, Young S.V.P., the Parent's Council, and the staff. Thank you for taking the time to read this quick update from us. We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Cillian Doyle* (H.PRO) on behalf of the Student Council.

## **CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL**

In November, 70 first year students took part in Team Hope's 'Christmas Shoebox Appeal'. These students got creative and filled shoeboxes with items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, socks, underwear and sweets for impoverished children. The total number of shoeboxes collected in Wexford Town was just under 10,000 with nearly 8,000 heading to Eswatini and the rest to Moldova. It was great to see so many students taking part in this worthwhile cause.







## **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.

## **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

So far this year we have established a new council for the year 2019/20, Created our action plan for the year including many befriending projects, awareness projects and fundraising initiatives. Already this year we have organised Carol Singing with Mrs. Marchese in Tesco and we also sang in Kerlogue Nursing home for the elderly there.

Our Conference Members are as follows:

**1st Year:** Rían Doyle.

**2nd Year:** Eoin Deenen, Seán Kirwan.

**4th Year:** Cillian Doyle, Quinton Kelly, Dean Cashe.

**5th Year:** Nathan Murphy, Matthew Colgan.

**6th Year:** Conor Brennan.

**President:** Conor Brennan

**Vice-President:** Matthew Colgan

**Secretary:** Quinton Kelly

**Public Relations Officers:** Cillian Doyle Séan Kirwan, Eoin Deenen

**Liaison Teacher:** Ms. O'Connor

We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Regards,

The CBS Young SVP Conference



## **JUNIOR CYCLE**

New subject specifications have been implemented in the following subject areas: English (First Year 2014-15), Science and Business Studies (First Year 2016-17), Gaeilge, French, German and Visual Art (First year 2017-18), Maths, History, Music and Geography (First Year 2018-19), Religious Education, Graphics, Wood Technology, Engineering, Classics and Applied-Technology (First Year 2019-2020). The various subject specifications are also available on the [jct.ie](http://jct.ie) website. The focus in these documents is now very much on learner outcomes rather than content. For further information on the new JC, go to [jct.ie/publications/Junior Cycle for Teachers-Parents Information Leaflet/](http://jct.ie/publications/Junior Cycle for Teachers-Parents Information Leaflet/) Primary and Post Primary. Both these documents are also available on the school website.

## **CLUB EAMONN RIS**

Club Éamonn Ris is the schools Peace and Justice society and have been working this year on raising awareness on *The Education of Women in 3<sup>rd</sup> World Countries*, this topic has been selected by ERST as a topic of interest for social justice groups all across the country this school year we hope to launch our awareness project when we return after the Christmas break.

In January we will also be starting our project on *Single Use Plastics*, we plan on taking the extra step on educating our peers on just how harmful the amount of plastic that we use on a daily basis harms our local environment in the hopes to create cultural change around single use plastic usage.

## **WELLBEING**

The Framework for Junior Cycle (2015) provides for a new area of learning at junior cycle called Wellbeing. Wellbeing crosses the three years of junior cycle and build on the substantial work already taking place in the school in support of students' wellbeing. It also includes learning opportunities to enhance the physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing of students. It enables students to build life skills and develop a strong sense of connectedness to the school and their community. The junior cycle Wellbeing programme began in 2017-18 for First Years with 300 hours of timetabled engagement planned across the three years. DES guidelines require this time commitment to build up to 400 hours for First Years starting in September 2020. However, timetable and curricular changes made in preparation for the 2019-20 academic year has enabled us to meet this target for First Years 2019-20.

## **TRANSITION YEAR**

Transition Year students have been busy since September with a combination of exciting activities and modules. The first excursion was an overnight camping trip to the IOAC in Tagoat where the boys bravely tackled the high ropes, raft building and Battlezone. In October the boys completed the 46km of the Greenway and also visited Hook Lighthouse and Loftus Hall. The boys had a drumming workshop in November and visited Go Quest in Dublin. Go Quest is an indoor challenge area which is a custom-designed area with 28 different rooms each featuring a different challenge to solve within a certain amount of time. In December the boys took part in the Christmas Fair and sold items that they have been working on in Enterprise. Finally, during the final week of term, the boys went to the Science Emplorium in Sandyford which the boys took part in many physical and mental activities. For the remainder of the year the boys have the Cycle against Suicide Congress in Dublin, a driving course, a day in Leisure Max, Surfing, SongSchool and finally Tayto Park all to look forward to. Some of the boys will also be either travelling to China or Italy in March.

Transition Year students are offered exciting modules this year including Media Studies, Self- Defence, Drama, First Aid, Consent, Chinese, Computers, Nutrition, Cooking, Enterprise, American Studies, Road Safety, Public Speaking and many more exciting modules to ensure the students are engaged in independent, self- directed learning.

Work Experience is an important aspect to the Transition Year Program. Each student has now taken part in one cycle of work experience each Monday for 8 weeks and will repeat this again after Christmas. Work Experience is a valuable opportunity for the boys to gain an insight into a working environment. Many use this opportunity to sample careers which they may be contemplating. This will also help when deciding on what subject options to choose for their Leaving Certificate. Co-operating with strangers, discovering new environments, handling real-life situations, all contribute to the development of the individual and provide valuable material for subsequent curriculum vitae and interviews. This year some of the boys took part in work experience with the Garda and the Army.

I would like to thank the employers for giving the boys the opportunity to take part in work experience.

Looking forward to an exciting, action packed 2020 in Transition Year!

## **SCHOOL BANK**

Hi all from the school bank team 2019/20! Over the past term we have worked with Bank of Ireland, who provide training, support and supplies for the school bank team. Peter from Bank of Ireland helped us set up and show the students how easy it is to set up a bank account. Peter also came into Mrs Barry's, Ms Martin's and Mrs Codd's classes to speak to students about financial Literacy which was very worthwhile.

This year we successfully opened 56 current accounts with a 105 applications sent out we how to reach over the hundred mark in the new year. This year's offer was better than ever! Students had opportunity to open a Bank of Ireland student Visa debit current account. Students have access to a contactless payment online banking and much more... all



completely free for roughly the next 10 years! (Now up to two years after graduation in college!)

The offer is still valid and we will ready to open accounts after the Christmas break.

School bank team:

1. School Bank Manager -Quinton Kelly
2. School Bank Sales and Marketing Manager -Cillian Doyle
3. School Bank Digital Manager - Jack Corcoran
4. School Bank Operations and Audit Managers - Callum Cullen, Ryan Malone, Harry Ransom, Elliot Doyle.

Have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year from the school bank team!  
*Quinton Kelly - School Bank Manager.*

## **DEBATING**

Our senior and junior debating teams have competed in multiple competitions this year. Our senior concern debating team have not quite matched the heights of last year but Manus Harte, Ian Sweetman, Quintan Kelly, Fiachra Byrne, Eoin Kehoe, Jack Cunningham and Cormac Sinnott have delivered many memorable performances in both the Leinster schools and Concern debates competitions. The boys have further debates in the concern and outside competition after Christmas so we look forward to tracking their progress. This year unfortunately will see the end of a distinguished schools debating career for our 6th year students and especially Cormac who have given a tremendous account of themselves and the school over the years.



Following on from major success last year our junior teams are doing exceptionally well in the UCD Leinster Junior debating competition. With over four hundred students competing in the league phase only the top 64 will progress to the knockout phase and we are hopeful after results that a good number of our students will progress. Conor Mackey and Paddy O'Leary have placed in the top 2 in all 3 of their debates, Ronan Brennan and Darragh Sinnott have placed 2nd in 3 debates, Finn Baneham and Sam Hoffheinz have won one of their 3 debates and Sean Kirwan and Darragh Corish have also given a great account of themselves and will be hopeful. As always the lads have shown great commitment in giving up time after school to travel to Dublin for competition so well done guys. In the new year we hope to find more students interested in participating as we host local debates with St Peter's and other schools.

## **JUNIOR CERT AWARDS WINNERS**

The following students were honoured at an Awards function held in the Riverside Hotel in December.

Tony Boland Medal - Masib Jawad

Large Plaques (9 honours) - Leon Beaver, Emielijus Bielis, Evan Buggy, Aidan Conneely, Sam Day, Conor Dobbs, Cillian Doyle, Elliot Doyle, Mark Doyle, Adam Ffrench, Jack Foley

Jack Fortune, Eoin Hartigan, Conor Heath, Quinton Kelly, Maurycy Krzyzanowski, Corey Lacey, Michael Mackey, Jakub Mastek, Alex Mulvihill, Asjadullah Shori, Conor Wall, Dylan Waters, Jack Wilde.

Medium Plaques (8 hons) - Conor Brady, Zach Breslin, John O'Sullivan, Kyle Clancy, Calum Corcoran, Tommy Gallagher, Muhammad Zubair Sami Khan, Maksim Maksimenko Paul Redmond, Roko Strgar, Michal Stypula

Small Plaques (7 Hons) - Eoin Donovan, Eoin Doyle, Daniel Lacey, Sean Mackevicius, Josh Mc Guire Moore, Josh Moriarty, Jack Mullan, Harry Ransom, Noel Sebi, Tautvydas Sniezka, Shane Sweetman

## **FIRST YEAR 2020-21**

The Board of Management offered 108 places in First Year 2020-21. 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.

## **GERMAN SCHOOL EXCHANGE**

Our 6th annual German Exchange will take place from January 31st to February 6th next year. A group of 5 fifth year students, and a group of students from the Loreto Secondary School, accompanied by their teachers, will travel to the Black Forest region. The students will stay with their exchange partners, attend school, go sledding on the snow covered Feldberg mountain and visit the beautiful city of Constance on the border with Switzerland as well as, of course, eating lots of Bratwurst (German sausage) and Schwarzwaldkirschtorte (Blackforest Gateau). Hopefully a good time will be had by all!

## **NEW YORK EXCHANGE**

### ***Iona Prep and Coláiste Éamonn Rís Brotherhood Going Strong***

Our seventh exchange with Iona Prep High School from New York ended with their return trip to the not-so Sunny Southeast. We had a great week hosting our guests in early December. Conor Brennan, Richard Browne, Matthew Colgan, Jason Dempsey, Ruairi Fenlon, Richard Lawlor, Sam McQuaid, Adam Moriarty, Kieran Morris, Matthew Pollard, Andrew Simmons, Mr. Howlin and Mrs. Hayes were delighted to see their American friends arrive down to Wexford on Sunday afternoon.

Throughout the week along with the boys attending classes our Irish host families organised activities and visits that included: ice skating, bowling, the Hook Lighthouse, Johnstown Castle, soccer and basketball in the Joseph's, the cinema and even sea swimming!

The whole group went on a walking tour of Wexford with both the Irish and Americans learning a great deal about our Viking/Norman history. Monica Crofton was our amazing guide, a retired primary school teacher and avid historian...do you know who Robert McClure is?

On Wednesday we went on a guided tour of Kilkenny Castle that never fails to impress. Our tour guide knew absolutely everything about the history of the castle and area. Not one question went unanswered! We then travelled over to Callan to see the homestead of Blessed Edmund Rice, our founder. Brother O'Carroll brought us back in time to when Edmund was a boy and described, through memorabilia, what it would have been like to grow up in the Callan farmhouse and how he was able to accomplish everything he did in his life.

Friday began with a farewell prayer service with the Iona and Coláiste Éamonn Rís 'Brothers' and teachers. Father James Cullen shared a lovely lesson on Christmas, love and friendship. We then waved goodbye to another cohort of Iona boys to pass through the halls of Wexford CBS. Long may our brotherhood continue.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS**

For daily updates on all the news of events in Wexford CBS please check out our social media platforms:

Instagram – wexfordcbs

Facebook – Wexford CBS

Twitter - @wexcbs

## **TRANSITION TOUR TO CHINA**

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 30 students and 3 teachers will once again embark on the adventure that is the trip to China. This will be the tenth year this trip is going ahead as part of the Transition Year Chinese Language and Cultural Studies module.

Students and teachers will spend 9 days discovering the sights and wonders of Beijing including The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City and of course the markets. We will also get the overnight train to Shanghai to spend a couple of days exploring this modern, energetic city.

Keep an eye on our social media pages for updates and photos!

## GAELTACHT SCHOLARSHIPS

### Turas go Coláiste Acla

D'fhreastail bliain a 3 ar an ngaeltacht i Mí Mheán Fómhair. Chaith siad ceithre oíche i gColáiste Acla, i gcontae Mhaigh Eó. Bhí an-chraic acu ann. Bhain siad taitneamh as imeachtaí éagsúla cosúil le 'bog snorkelling', surfáil agus céilithe freisin. D'fhoghlaim siad cúpla damhsa agus tá súil againn, cúpla focal nua freisin!





## 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.

Junior & Senior Cycle Mock Exams will be held during the week February 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be €110. Payment can only be made online. A link to facilitate payment will be put in place in the New Year on the school website and relevant parents will be contacted and advised when payment can be made.

Student taking mock Exams in February are encouraged over the Christmas Holidays to use their spare time productively and to revise ahead of their exams.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair held in St. Michael's Hall on 5/12/19 and was a great success. Students from 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Transition Year set up a mini-business which involved researching their product and services, producing a prototype and marketing and selling their product. There was a wide variety of products available on the day including Christmas logs and wreath, Christmas trees made from off cuts of stainless steel, bottle cap keyrings, medal holders with club crests, CBS power banks, CBS hoodies, shorts, half zips etc. Students donated to St. Vincent de Paul on the day. Santa Claus greeted all the children from the primary school and there was mulled wine and mince pies available for all and the children enjoyed Christmas colouring and face painting. Money was raised for St. Vincent de Paul and the CBS Zambia Immersion Project. Thank you to all who helped to make the Christmas Fair such a great event.





## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Thank you to all who contributed to our no-uniform collection on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December. €700 was raised for the school pitch fund.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

We also raised €1000 for Wexford Special Olympics from a no uniform day in November.



## **EXTRA SUPERVISED STUDY**

It is hoped to organise Supervised Study for Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate students during the Easter holidays. Details in relation to cost/times/dates will be finalised in the New Year.

## **DONATION**

The school wishes to thank the family of the late John Ellard (a past pupil) and uncle of Current CBS student Charlie Ellard for their generous donation of some of his timber and tools to the Woodwork Department. John was a keen woodturner and now our students can look forward to making wonderful projects for years to come from this kind donation.





## LOURDES PILGRIMAGES

Fifth year students will be invited to apply to travel on the annual pilgrimages to Lourdes early in 2020. Each year Coláiste Éamonn Rís sends four students on the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage in May. Two students will be selected to travel with the IHCPT (Irish Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust) pilgrimage to Lourdes during the Easter holidays. Students interested should speak to Mr Gannon for further details.

# Colaiste Eamonn Ris Career Guidance 2019/2020

Here at Colaiste Eamonn Ris we provide an extensive Guidance and Counselling service to **ALL** students right through from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Year. The school Guidance and Counselling service provides educational, vocational and personal guidance. This term has been an exceptionally busy term for all and here is just some of the topics and activities that students have engaged with throughout the course of the last couple of months.

Year Group	Activity
1 <sup>st</sup> Years	Personal Counselling/Guidance, Career Guidance Class; Transition from Primary-Secondary School, Study Skills, Target Setting, My Friend's Youth, Sexting, Bullying.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Years	Personal Counselling/Guidance, Career Guidance Class; Mindset, Study Skills, Target Setting, My Friend's Youth, Sexting & Bullying.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Years	Personal Counselling/Guidance.
TY	Modular; 1) Consent – Manuela Programme. 2) Career Guidance Class; Career Awareness, Career Timelines, High 5 Principles, Dreams & ambitions, find what you love, Carpe Diem, Career & Personal Values, My Talents, 3) DATs testing & 4) Career Interest testing.
5 <sup>th</sup> Years	Personal Counselling/Guidance.
6 <sup>th</sup> Years	Personal Counselling/Guidance. CAO Information Night for Parents. Vent in the Tent. Guest Speaker – Maynooth University. One-One Guidance Interviews - Personal Career Plan. Career Guidance Class; Study Skills, Target setting, NFQ, CAO application process and deadlines. Trip to Higher Options & WIT Open Day.

### Higher Options 2019



### Vent in the Tent – World Mental Health Day 2019

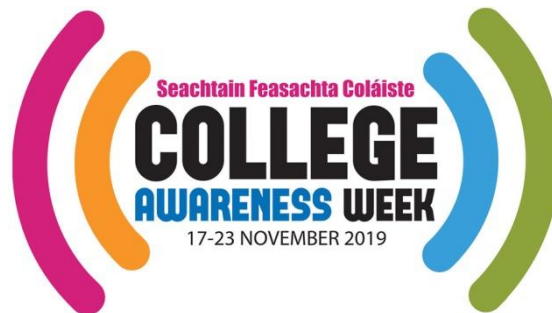


### Maynooth Guest Speaker





## CAO Parents Information Night



In November we had a very successful College Awareness Week which saw students involved in the following activities;

TY:

- Carlow IT, Wexford Campus Open Day



**5<sup>th</sup> Year:**

- **College Guest Speakers;** DCU, Carlow College, Kildalton, UCD, UL, NUIG, WIT, Carlow IT



**6<sup>th</sup> Year:**

- **College Guest Speakers;** DCU, Carlow College, Kildalton, UCD, UL, NUIG, WIT, Carlow IT & Wexford Campus.



## Visit to Waterford Training Centre



## - Visit to WIT Open Day







**REMINDER TO ALL 6<sup>th</sup> YEARS THAT THE CAO APPLICATION PROCESS IS CURRENTLY OPEN!! STUDENTS ARE ADVISED TO OPEN THEIR APPLICATIONS BEFORE JANUARY 15<sup>th</sup> TO AVOID OF THE EARLY PRICE. APPLICATIONS CAN BE MADE AT <http://www.cao.ie/>.**

## **CAREER GUIDANCE WEBSITE**

For further information, please make sure that you check out the Career Guidance Website which can be accessed through the school website at; <http://www.wexfordcbs.ie/> under Pastoral Care/Career Guidance. On the website you will find upcoming events and key dates, up to date careers/college information, careers/college articles, mental health articles and information, links to relevant websites and information about CAO applications and deadlines.

***Wishing everyone a very Happy, Healthy & Peaceful Christmas surrounded by family & friends and looking forward to seeing everyone back in the New Year.***

***Ms Goff***

## **MEITHEAL**

Over the last few months, twelve sixth-years have taken part in meitheal leader programme, which aims to provide the smoothest possible transition from primary to secondary school for incoming first-years.

In March of this year many current sixth-years applied for the meitheal programme and underwent an interview process in order for the most suitable meitheal leaders to be selected.

Those selected attended a meitheal leader overnight training camp in Carne during the summer, at which we received full teaching in how to deal with any issues the first years may have and learned of the full extent of our roles as meitheal leaders.

Since the beginning of the new school-year, the meitheal leaders have taken their class groups for one class period, at least once a fortnight and have overseen their successful transition from primary to secondary school.

## **UNIFORM**

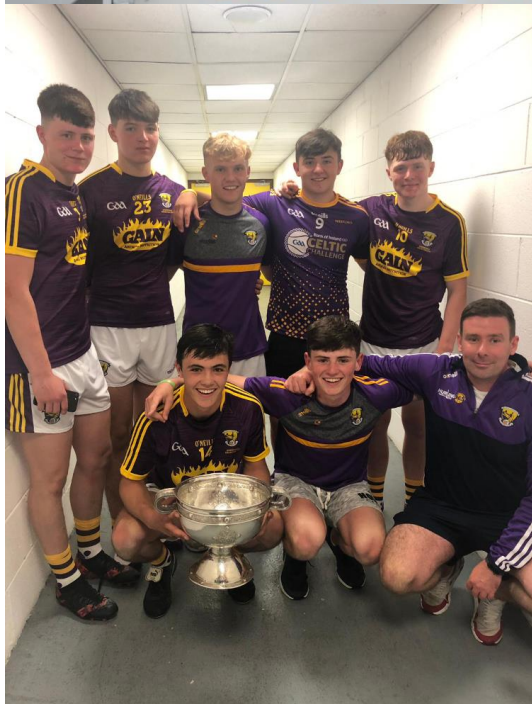
School jackets are available from Mr. Hegarty. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to ensure that their son(s) present themselves in school in full uniform. The school jacket is an integral part of the school uniform for all years. Those wearing non-uniform jackets will have them confiscated. Students presenting 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. Lost jackets can be retrieved from the 'Lost and Found' press. Parents and students should ensure that the student's name is marked on the jacket. Jackets are available to buy from Hore's Stores. The school has a limited supply of small and extra-large jackets left in stock.



## SPORT

### HURLING

It has been a very busy few months since we started back in late August. CBS hurling is on the crest of a wave after the summer as a Bokerboy led Wexford to their first Leinster minor hurling final success since 1985. Team captain Richard Lawlor was joined by six other CBS students on the Wexford panel – Kyle Scallan, Josh Shiel, Michael Laffan, Darragh Carley, Eoin Kavanagh and Jason Gordon.



This achievement was a great honour for the school. Well done boys.

On our own playing fields, it is exciting to report that all our hurling teams will compete at Leinster 'B' level this year having been at 'C' for many years. The juniors were the first team in action and enjoyed super victories over FCJ Bunclody and Abbey CC Ferrybank before losing to Gorey CS in the final round. This qualified us for the Shield 'B' final where we underperformed and lost to FCJ Bunclody.

The first years participated in a county blitz in Pairc Charman in October and it is pleasing to note that CBS emerged victorious from a blitz day involving St. Peter's College, Good Counsel College and Abbey CC (Ferrybank).

These young men will play their championship in the New Year and it is hoped we may continue our winning ways in the Leinster championships having won titles in each of the last two years. No pressure lads!

The second years – like the first years are busy preparing for their championship which will kick off in February.

Our senior hurlers travelled to Ferrybank in Waterford to take on the local Abbey Community College but lost out by 0-19 to 0-13. This put the side under pressure and basically in knock out hurling. The lads responded in round two and recorded a super three point victory over Castlecomer. This set up a winner takes all showdown with Gorey CS and unfortunately our lads went under by just one point and exited the championship.

This group of hurlers have given distinguished service to Wexford CBS hurling and leave the school with South Leinster 'C' medals at juvenile and senior level from their time here. We wish them every success in their future hurling careers.



Nine of our students were involved with the Wexford Schools Combined team which operate in the Leinster Schools SHC 'A' championship. The team had a great win over Dublin South but lost by 0-4 to Dublin North and were knocked out. This is fantastic exposure to elite schools hurling for our students. Well done to Kyle Scallan, Joe Barrett, Richard Lawlor, Josh Shiel, Eoin Kavanagh, Glen Murphy-Butler, Jason Gordon, Charlie McClair and Sean Byrne.

Thanks to Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brosnan, Mr Foley and Mr. Howlin who continue to give their time to coach the CBS hurlers and it is also important to note the excellent coaching provided

by Willie Cleary. We are also indebted to Faythe Harriers and St. Mary's Maudlintown for the use of their facilities.

## **FOOTBALL**

### **Second Year Football**

The Wexford CBS Second Year footballers were crowned South Leinster C champions on the 5<sup>th</sup> December with a hard-fought victory over Tullow CS in Ferns Centre of Excellence. The victorious Second Year footballers, along with the champions of North Leinster and Dublin await the draw for the Leinster Championship where they will either face a semi final or have a bye into the Leinster Final

The Second Year footballers began the year with a three point loss to their eventual final opponents, Tullow CS on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. The game played in Tullow was played in wet conditions and the lads had a controversial goal disallowed after the referee consulted with the umpire. Despite the result there was good performances from Ryan Gavin, Rory Gilbert, Leo Barry, Noah Whelan and Justin McMahon who scored our only goal of the match.

Next up in the group stages was a home meeting with Coláiste Chill Maintain. Played in splendid conditions in St Mary's Maudlintown GAA grounds, the Boker Boys had a comprehensive 4-25 to 2-1 victory. The highlight of the victory was that every one of the 34 man panel got a run. Special mention must go to Liam Dempsey for a fine penalty save.

With one victory and one loss going into our final group game against St Kevin's Dunlavin, a victory was necessary for our passage into the quarter final. Played in Sarsfields GAA grounds the lads won by 5-9 to 4-6. With ten minutes remaining and a six point deficit the lads demonstrated great character to claim a dramatic turnaround and a six point victory. Great displays from Darragh Hayes, Paidí Doyle, Darragh Kirwan and Kyle Fanning ensured that the lads came out on top at the end.

Cross and Passion Kilcullen of Kildare were our next opponents in the South Leinster Quarter Final. Kilcullen had home advantage as they were group winners from their section. Despite a long journey to Kilcullen and a game played in wet and windy conditions another victory was recorded on a score line of 7-5 to 2-7. Shay O 'Leary lining out at full forward bagged three goals and was ably assisted in attack by Shane Kehoe, Justin Mc Mahon and Shane Carroll. Darragh Kirwan and Cillian Ferriter controlled midfield. The defence was marshalled by Paidí Doyle, Noah Whelan and Rory Gilbert.

Following the successful journey to Kildare, Kilkenny CBS now lay await in the South Leinster Semi Final. The semi-final was played in torrential conditions in Geraldine Hanrahan's GAA grounds in New Ross. Kilkenny CBS started stronger and scored the first goal of the game. Ryan Gavin responded with a goal for the CBS lads as we lead 1-4 to a 1-0 at half time. Due to the poor conditions there was very little score taking for most of the second half. However, with ten minutes remaining, Man of the Match Ryan Gavin gave an exhibition of point taking and notched a further six points from play to book a place in the South Leinster Final. Along with Ryan, Noah Whelan, Paidí Doyle, Billy Walker, Darragh Kirwan and Darragh Hayes also stood out. The final score was Wexford CBS 1-11 Kilkenny CBS 1-1.



The South Leinster final paired us with Tullow CS for the second time this year. Playing with a strong breeze in the first half Shay O'Leary fisted our first goal of the game and then added four pints. Dean Hillis added two great points as we led by 1 06 to 1 03 at the interval. Five minutes into the second half Shay O'Leary demonstrated his penalty taking capability with a well taken spot kick. Ryan Gavin added a point from the centre forward position as we lead 2-7 to 1-3. Tullow had the advantage of the strong breeze and scored a goal and four points with our only reply coming via a Darragh Kirwan point. With five minutes remaining the Boker Boys were staring at defeat until captain Paidí Doyle strode up the field to bury the ball in the net. A third point from Dean Hillis ensured a first South Leinster Football title for the school since 2013 with a winning margin of three points. Paidí Doyle and Billy Walker defended gallantly. Darragh Kirwan and Cillian Ferriter controlled midfield while Shay O'Leary (2-4) and Dean Hillis (0-3) caused havoc in the Tullow full back line. Kyle Fanning when introduced on 25 minutes also played very well in the half – forward line.

All of the panel deserve great credit for the effort they have put in this year. Attendances at training have been excellent, averaging 25 to 30 students per session. The panel is currently still training in preparation for the Leinster Semi Final or Final. Thank you to St Mary's Maudlintown GAA and Sarsfields GAA for use of their facilities for games and training.



### **Junior Football**

The lads have got off to a great start in the south Leinster championship having recorded three wins from three in the group stage to advance to the knockout phase.

Our first game was away to PDLS Bagenalstown and the CBS boys showed great resilience and composure to get our first points on the board.

There were standout performances from Luke Cullen Ryan in defence and Michael Mackey at centre half forward caught the eye. Next up was Carnew who have proved to be formidable opposition in the past. We played against a very strong gale in the first half and went in at the break two points down. The second half told a different story as our lads made full use of the

conditions to notch a final score of 5-11. There was a big spread of scorers in a very good team performance.

Our final group game saw us take on Tullow CS in The Rocks. It took us a while to get out of the blocks and were 2-2 to no score down after a few minutes. After the break the boys turned in a much improved performance and a hat trick of goals from full forward Zach Breslin helped us turn the tide to record a two point win. They displayed great character in this game which will hopefully stand to us going forward in this competition. Thanks to the lads for all their efforts so far.

### **Senior Football**

In our Championship match, the lads came up against a well drilled Tullow CS outfit who were able to adapt to the difficult weather conditions that bit easier. Playing with the wind in the first half, the lads created many scoring opportunities but unfortunately were not able to convert. This proved to be our undoing as in the second half playing against the wind we found it very hard to get into the same scoring positions. Tullow showed a bit more composure in front of goals and this proved to be the difference on the day. Unfortunately, this was straight knockout so it ended our interest in the competition this year. There are some talented players in this group and with more training can enjoy successful careers with their clubs and county.

### **KICK-BOXING**

Well done to students Adam Tierney and Cathal Moran who won silvers medals in the World Kick-boxing finals in New York in early November.

### **RUGBY**

#### Junior Rugby

Our junior rugby team made up of second and third year students got their Cup campaign off to a winning start when they faced Colaiste Cill Mhaintain in the second round (lucky to get a bye in the first round) of the Duff cup. The lads won on a score line of 24-0. Try scorers on the day were Andrew Moran, Conor Dempsey and Paidi Doyle x2 with conversions kicked by captain Fionn O'Callaghan and Paidi Doyle.

Next up the team faced Skerries Community College on home ground. The lads were the more dominant team from the outset of the game. The final score on the day 38-10. Try scorers on the day Alex Breen x2 Paidi Doyle, Kaylem Codd, Grant Palmer and Eoin Walsh conversions Paidi Doyle and Fionn O'Callaghan.

This saw the lads heading into the semi-final against Ardscoil na Trionóide in Enniscorthy Rugby Club. Ardscoil na Trionóide started the stronger of both teams getting the first points up on the score board. The lads dug deep and it was either team's game for the first half. After the half time talk the boys came out with all guns blazing and they dominated the first 25 minutes of the second half which was enough to get them a win on a score line of 43-33. Try scorers on the day we're Kaylem Codd x2, Fionn O'Callaghan, Grant Palmer, Andrew Moran, Paidi Doyle and Luke Cullen conversions Paidi Doyle and Fionn O'Callaghan.



All roads lead to Donnybrook for the cup final where the team faces St Patrick's Classical School Navan.

Also coming up after Christmas for the junior rugby team is the Father Godfrey Cup. The team qualified for this upon getting to the semi final of the Duff Cup. The first round sees the team meeting Newpark Comprehensive school in January.

## **SOCCER**

Our Senior soccer team are in a great position to achieve their goals this year. We qualified in 2nd place in our group a big victory over neighbour's Selskar College was followed by a big loss to rivals Arklow CBS and we face Woodbrook Bray in a semi final in the new year as the lads aim to defend their Wickow Wexford league title. Our Cup campaign is flying, the boys beat Creagh College on a big scoreline, followed by a victory over Arklow CBS and since we have had big victories and great team performances over St Kieran's Kilkenny and TC Greystones to advance to the quarter final. We are hoping to be the first school in history to retain the Leinster Senior A Cup.

Our 17s team lost out to enniscorthy CBS in the cup and since drew with same opponents in an improved display to qualify for knockout phase of the league.

The under 15 team captained by international player Shay O'Leary have had a flying season so far. Beating an excellent St Kieran's in the 1st round of cup before subsequently defeating Arklow CBS. They also topped their league group and are awaiting both a league semi final and a last 16 cup game vs Colaiste Choilm Swords after the holidays.



The newest Bokerboys, our 1st years have continued a fine tradition by capturing the county Futsal title in emphatic fashion. The boys transferred that promise so far to the bigger field as

they so far have had 2 big victories in the Leinster cup to qualify for the last 16 stage and also defeated CCM Wicklow in the league.

Well done to all of our soccer teams this season on an excellent effort so far.

## **WATER-POLO**

Congrats to First Year Thomas Francis who was on the Irish under-14 team that finished second at the ASA championships in England in December. Thomas was awarded the MVP (Most Valuable Player) for the Irish team.



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**School re-opens Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

**Second Year P/T Meeting - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020-Classes end at 3pm.**

**First Year P/T Meeting - Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020-Classes end at 3pm.**

**Junior Cert. Mock Exams: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 –Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

**Leaving Cert. Mock Exams: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020–Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

**Mid-term Break 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020 inclusively.**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March Junior Cycle Cluster Day-Staff Inservice-school closed for students**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March-school closed.**

**St. Patrick's Day 17 March 2020 - school closed.**

**Easter Holidays Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019-Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – school closed.**

*Mar fhocal scoir,*

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

Michael McMahon

**Principal**

