



# COLÁISTE ÉAMONN RÍS CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2020

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

Bhur gcéad fáilte go dtí nuachtir na Nollag 2020. As we approach the end of the most extraordinary and challenging year in living memory, I want to sincerely thank Deputy Principal Mr Nolan, Year Heads, Class Persons, Teaching Staff, SNA's, Derek, Bernie, Edel and Melanie, for all their efforts in helping us successful re-open the school in September and facilitating it staying opening since then. In difficult circumstances for all of us, the cooperation and good behaviour and remarkable good humour of our students has shone through. The response of staff has been exceptional both during Lockdown and since we reopened and the support we receive from our parents for all we do is invaluable. I would also like to thank the members of the Board of Management, the Parents' Council and the Students' Council and

school Chaplin Fr James Cullen for all their ongoing efforts for the benefit of all in the school over the past year.

I would like to wish each and every one of you a peaceful, happy and safe Christmas and every good wish for 2021. The new year will no doubt present challenges but regardless of whatever January brings, I believe with the combined efforts of all members of the school community we will be well equipped to face it.

## **COVID 19**

Since September, Covid has been the number 1 priority in school. As outlined previously, we have implemented many changes to how we do things in school. From POD's to facemasks, social distancing to sanitizing, under the guidance of our LWR's Ms Martin and Mr D Byrne, we have managed to make the best of a bad situation, even if it is a very different experience to this time last year. Covid has also limited greatly the range of activities that we have been in a position to get involved in. However, in spite of this, we have still managed to have a reasonably busy term as laid out below. Also, if anyone hasn't seen our Christmas 2020 video, produced by Ms Byrne and Mr C Byrne, please check out the mayhem and fun here <https://youtu.be/YnM5oeueduk>.

## **THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

The school's current Board of Management has just commenced a new three-year term. The Board consists of eight members. Four are Trustee nominees; Mr. Gerry Forde (Chairperson), Mr. Jim Hurley, Mr Dara Lynott and Miss Ann Walsh. Two are teachers' nominees; Ms Linda Scallan and Mr Peter Kirwan. Two are parents' nominees: Mrs Helena Kirwan and Mrs Mary O'Byrne.

I would like to thank outgoing Board Members, Mr. Sean Hurley, Mrs Ann Barry and Mr. Anthony Roche who made a huge contribution to the Board over the last 6 years, at a very important and historic time particularly in overseeing the redevelopment of the school building.

## **THE PARENTS' COUNCIL**

The Parents' Council A.G.M. was held in October. The following officers were elected: Caroline Busher (Chairperson), Paula Fenlon (Secretary), Jenny O'Keeffe (Treasurer). The Parents Council have continued to support the work of the school, sponsoring Gaeltacht scholarships and contributing to the school Wellbeing Committee and fundraising efforts in the school. They meet monthly and are always happy to accept new members.

## **STUDENTS' COUNCIL**

The Student Council is a body of students which aims to represent the whole school community. Each class group at Junior Cycle level has one elected representative on the Council. At Senior Cycle level each year group has four representatives. A new Students' Council has been established for 2020/21. An election was held for each year group. The Council is now successfully up and running. It is a very active group within the school. Meetings are held on a fortnightly basis and any student can bring an issue to the attention of the Council and ask the members to advocate for change if necessary. Issues often raised are the school uniform, the canteen facilities, the fairness of certain school rules etc.

This year is a little different to other years, however, and at the start of the year the Council was involved in a poster campaign to raise awareness about Covid 19 and the new procedures which are in place to protect students in the school at this time.

The Student Council also liaises with ERST and attempts to foster the spirit of Edmund Rice in the school. With this in mind, the Council organized a sponsored fast in aid of the homeless on Friday December 11<sup>th</sup>. So far, a little under €1,800 has been raised thanks to the generosity of students, parents and staff.

It remains to be seen what next year will bring but there is no doubt that the Student Council will remain active and continue to be a voice for all school students.

#### Student Council Members 2020

##### **1<sup>st</sup> year**

Scott Spellacy- Athens Class Rep, Peter Hirst-Beijing, Luke Brophy -London, Eoghan Lynch-Tokyo, Shadhin Flynn-Rio

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> Year**

Luke Molloy-McAleeses, Rían Doyle-Robinson, Dylan Brady-Childers, Jimmy O’Keefe-Dobbs-Higgins

##### **3<sup>rd</sup> Year**

Eoin Deenen-Boyle, Daniel O’Neill-Callan, Jack Dempsey-Preston, Seán Kirwan-Rynd

##### **TY**

Callum McDonald-TY 1, Aaron Cooney - TY2, Cathal Moran -TY3, Killian Whelan TY4

##### **5<sup>TH</sup> Year**

Quinton Kelly, Cillian Doyle, Ronan Brennan, Adam Ffrench

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

Morgan Lawrence, Nathan Murphy, David J Kelly, Matthew Colgan

#### **SCHOOL PITCH REDEVELOPMENT**

Really exciting news in relation to the redevelopment of our school pitch. The final phase of our school redevelopment is the instillation of an all-weather floodlit AstroTurf soccer pitch on our school grounds. This would be the first of its type in the county. The Board of Management hope to submit a planning application for the pitch in early January. The overall cost of the project will be in the region of €400,000 and will need to be financed from our own resources but it would be a really wonderful facility for all our students for training, PE and especially for an area to play at lunch time. The need for space has become even more of a priority during Covid where we really need open areas to circulate in the fresh air during break times.

## **CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL**

In November, our traditional shoe box appeal took place but under very different circumstances as it had to be a digital shoebox this year. Well done to all students and parents who took part in this year's Christmas Shoebox Appeal. The participation levels were very high and it's great to see our students giving back at this time of the year.

## **PAST PUPILS ASSOCIATION**

We are currently in the process of setting up a Past Pupils Association. More details will be posted on our social media pages over the Christmas break, so keep an eye out if you're interested in getting involved. We look forward to reconnecting with our past pupils all over the world so spread the word.

## **IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER**

We commemorated All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day this November by writing the names of the loved ones we've lost and miss dearly on the leaves of a tree. Sixth years: Roy Somers, Kyle Lewis, David J Kelly and Sean Byrne, helped create the tree and the CBS students coloured and wrote their remembered family and friends' names on the leaves. At the end of the month our chaplain, Fr. James Cullen, led a prayer of remembrance on the intercom of the school for each student and staff member who are grieving the loss of someone this year or remembering a friend or family member. He acknowledged it has been particularly difficult this year because we could not have the traditional remembrance services with all our family and friends around us due to restrictions. We felt it was important to create a sacred space for remembering our loved ones who are no longer with us and we will leave it up into the new year to give us comfort. May they and all who have died from Covid rest in peace.

## **DUBLIN ZOO & SECRET VALLEY**

It has been a difficult year for many this year, our friends in Dublin Zoo and Secret Valley were no exception. Wexford CBS has strong ties with both places and I am sure we all have personal, happy memories there too. So, we tried to do our bit by doing a collection in school and all funds raised will be split evenly between the two zoos. We would like to thank all students and staff who donated and a special thank you to the student council for their help on this. It is evident that the charitable, giving spirit of this school community is still going strong.

## **MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID**

During these trying times we all need a bit of extra support and so the Mental Health First Aid Team was born. Our aim is to help and support our colleagues, we spend so much of our time at work, it makes sense that we know how to look out for and help one another. We have also organised a calendar full of positive, uplifting moments throughout the year. With the continued support of management, we know we will get through this year and be a stronger school community.

## **TRANSITION YEAR**

Transition Year students have been busy since September with a combination of exciting activities, workshops and modules. The first excursion was a two-day trip to the IOAC in Tagoat where the boys bravely tackled the high ropes, kayaking, crate stacking and an obstacle course. They also walked 18km along the cliff walk in Rosslare Harbour as part of the Gáisce adventure. In October the boys had a drumming and Segway workshop.

In November the boys completed a First Aid course and went mountain biking to Fort Mountain. For the Christmas trip, the students went to Leisuremax. Last Friday the boys sat DAT tests which are good at determining what subjects to choose for Leaving Cert. Even Santa made a visit and provided lunch.

For the remainder of the year the boys have workshops in photography and self-defence to look forward to. Students will be completing a Drivers Ed programme in February and in March, will be going paintballing. In April all TY's will go surfing and finish the year with a trip to Tayto Park.

Transition Year students are offered exciting modules including Media Studies, Careers, Drama, Economics, Woodwork, Consent, Chinese, Computers, Enterprise, American Studies, Road Safety, Public Speaking and many more exciting modules to ensure the students are engaged in independent, self-directed learning. This year GAA Future Leaders is also offered to all TY students. The aim of the Future Leader programme is designed to encourage maturity, initiative, responsibility and leadership skills in students.

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 students 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.

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 2021 in Transition Year!

Ms. Scallan

TY Co-Ordinator.

## **SCHOOL AMBER FLAG**

In support of Pieta House and the Amber Flag, we decided to run a competition for first year students to design and create a CBS Amber Flag to promote positive mental health around our school. We had great participation in this competition amongst all first-year students.

I'd like to congratulate Tadhg Murtagh 1st Place, Michael Benson 2nd Place and Kevin McDonald 3rd Place.

Well done to all who entered!

## **SCHOOLS HURLING**

While Covid-19 has meant that hurling action has been confined to coaching, with all championship games been postponed, the hope remains that the Bokerboys may see some action in 2021.

The first years have shown great promise under the tutelage of Mr Brosnan and Mr Foley. The boys are out in big numbers and have been working on their skills and their strength. The TY Future Leaders also ran skills events every Friday September and October.

Mr Bennett and Mr C. Nolan are coaching the second years and they are showing lots of promise while we have been lucky enough to have Ray Harris and Shane O'Hanlon from the Wexford GAA Coaching office in school to coach the seniors every Tuesday and Thursday with emphasis on their skills but also the strength and conditioning of the hurlers.

When intercounty action restarted earlier in December we were very proud to see past pupils Richie Lawlor, Josh Sheil and Glen Murphy Butler involved with the county under 20 hurlers while current students Darragh Carley, Ollie McClair, Darby Purcell, Cian Doyle, Andrew Moran, Mark Doyle, Eoin Hartigan and Josh Carley were on the county minor hurling squad when defeated by Kilkenny in the semi-final.

## **CBS "ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE"**

In November, the school ran the theme of an "Attitude of Gratitude". The aim of the attitude of gratitude was to foster a practice of gratitude in the CBS community. Research has shown that a practice of gratitude has many benefits. While 2020 has been and continues to be a difficult year for many, we felt it was important to instil a bit of positivity and a change in perspective by reflecting on what we are grateful for. During tutor time, students and staff were encouraged to write down three things that they were grateful for. The gratitude app we recommended was the "Delightful" gratitude journal. Via social media pages we invited parents, guardians and the extended CBS community to join us in the "Attitude of Gratitude". The feedback from students, staff, parents and the wider community including our educational psychologists was all very positive. To conclude the theme the Transition Years, coordinated all student and staff gratitude entries and created a Gratitude Wall. Each post-it on the wall represented a gratitude entry from each student and staff member in Wexford CBS. The Attitude of Gratitude has been a great success, reflecting on what we are grateful for created new perspective which was particularly important in these challenging times. We hope that the positive impact and the practice of Gratitude continues on past November.

## **CHRISTMAS DOOR COMPETITION**

To keep the festive spirit alive around the school, we decided to run a Christmas door competition encouraging both students and staff to take part. This was a huge success and brought great atmosphere around our school this Christmas.

Our winners were the following :

First place: TY Munster.

Second place: ASD Suite.

Third place: 1st Year Beijing.

Staff prize: Ms. Henneberry and Ms. McGrath.

Special Contribution: Mrs.Byrne, Mrs Turner and their elves!

Massive well done to everyone involved!'

## **SCHOOLS FOOTBALL**

As with the Hurling, after school training has restarted for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Years. We are delighted to have current Wexford County Senior Star Mr Porter to coach the lads this year.

## **CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

Thank you to all who contributed to our Christmas Jumper Day collection on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. €750 was raised for the St Vincent de Paul.

We also raised €1000 for Wexford Rape Crisis Centre from a no uniform day in November.

## **FIRST YEAR 2020-21**

The Board of Management offered 120 places in First Year 2021-22. The demand for places greatly outstripped 120 and hence there is a substantial waiting list in place.

## **TEXT ALERT**

Are you getting text messages from the school? If you're not, it's probably because you have changed phone number. Please let us know if you change mobile or landline numbers or address to facilitate updating contact details. In light of what we experienced from March to June of this year and with an increased on blended learning, it is also very important that we have up to date email addresses for all parents.

## **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

## **SCHOOL SENIOR CHOIR**

The senior choir have been rehearsing each week and practicing hard this term in advance of some exciting online events. In the five-day period leading up to Christmas, the choir will perform 'The Christmas Carol Countdown' - a festive favourite each day on all school social media platforms to mark the exciting countdown. We have had great fun recording the songs for this year's slightly different performance! The choir were also delighted to perform a virtual concert for the staff and residents of Kerlogue Nursing Home. We wish all of the school community a very merry Christmas and we look forward to returning with our new songs in 2021!

## **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 in February. 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.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Well done to Cillian Doyle 5<sup>th</sup> Year who was awarded the Pope John Paul II award recently for his charity work in Gambia.

## **DEBATING IN WEXFORD CBS**

In 2020 our debating teams thrived. Prior to lockdown we had some amazing results in the 2019/2020 UCD Leinster schools junior debating competition with 5 of our students making it to the 1/4 finals. In the final week before lockdown Darragh Sinnott and Ronan Brennan exited the competition. This October saw the resumption of the competition online via zoom. Sam Hoffheinz bowed out in the semi final stage, however Connor Mackey and Paddy O'Reilly made it to the prestigious final. Unfortunately, it was not their day as CBC Monkstown took the title but it was an incredible journey and constant level of performance for the lads to make it to the final 8 from over 500 students in the earlier rounds. This was an incredible achievement for the boys who handled a wide variety of topics and were up against excellent competition for so long.

In this years competitions which are also being held via online forums our senior teams in the Leinster schools competitions are having mixed success so far with Ronan Brennan and Darragh Sinnott looking likely to make it to the knockout phase. Our senior concern team of Darragh Sinnott, Ronan Brennan, Sam Hoffheinz, Dean Glynn, Finn Baneham, Enda Morgan, Paddy O'Reilly and Connor Mackey have so far participated in two debates winning one and losing one so far in a group phase including 5 teams.

This year also sees a large number of new recruits to the junior debating set up with Thomas Francis, Dylan McBride, Sean Kirwan, Rian Doyle, Jack Bergin and Dawid Rogoza so far competing in the UCD Junior schools' competition.

## **GREEN SCHOOLS**

Our school was due to be assessed for a second green flag last March but that of course was postponed due to the pandemic. We are hoping to achieve this flag under the energy theme this year. We have also purchased some BPA School crested Water bottles which are made from sugar cane in an effort to reduce waste in the school by encouraging pupils and staff to use re-usable bottles. Under the trees for Wexford Scheme run by the county council we have been allocated a large number of shrubs, hedging and trees which will be planted in the new year.

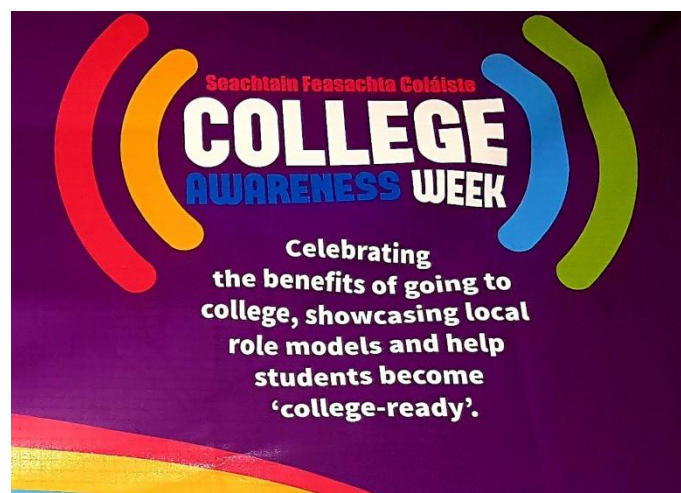


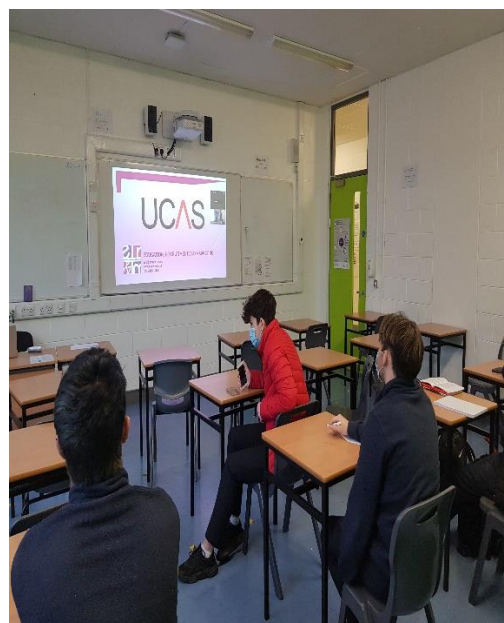
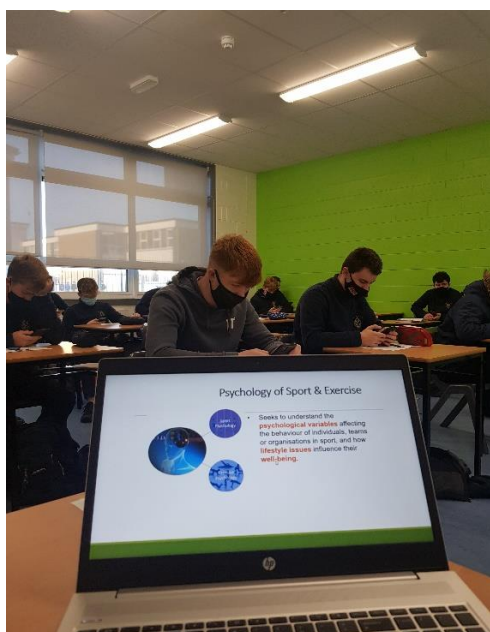
## SCHOOL SOCCER

Our school soccer teams were having another memorable year prior to the pandemic with our current second years having claimed a Wicklow/Wexford league title and also just made it to the Leinster schools final after an emphatic 6-1 win in the semi-final vs Schoil Mhuire Clane. The boys looked poised to claim a Leinster title and compete in the all-Ireland series. Our senior side also won the Wicklow/Wexford league and were awaiting a Leinster semi-final. Unfortunately, there are no competitions taking place at present due to the pandemic. Under the watchful eyes of Mr Whitty and Mr Fanning the under 17 soccer team has participated in some training after school with great enthusiasm shown by the students. In the run up to Christmas our first years have also been active in soccer at lunch times on Thursday and Friday with the help of a number of teachers in an active and fun environment.

## Colaiste Eamonn Ris Career Guidance 2020/2021

In November we celebrated College Awareness Week 2020. Needless to say, it was a more subdued event compared to last year but never the less we still managed to achieve our aim of getting all students, from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> year, thinking and talking about their future options. During CAW 2020 we had a number of activities running throughout the week including; **“College of the Day”** & **“College Trivia”**, which was a massive success with many entries each day.



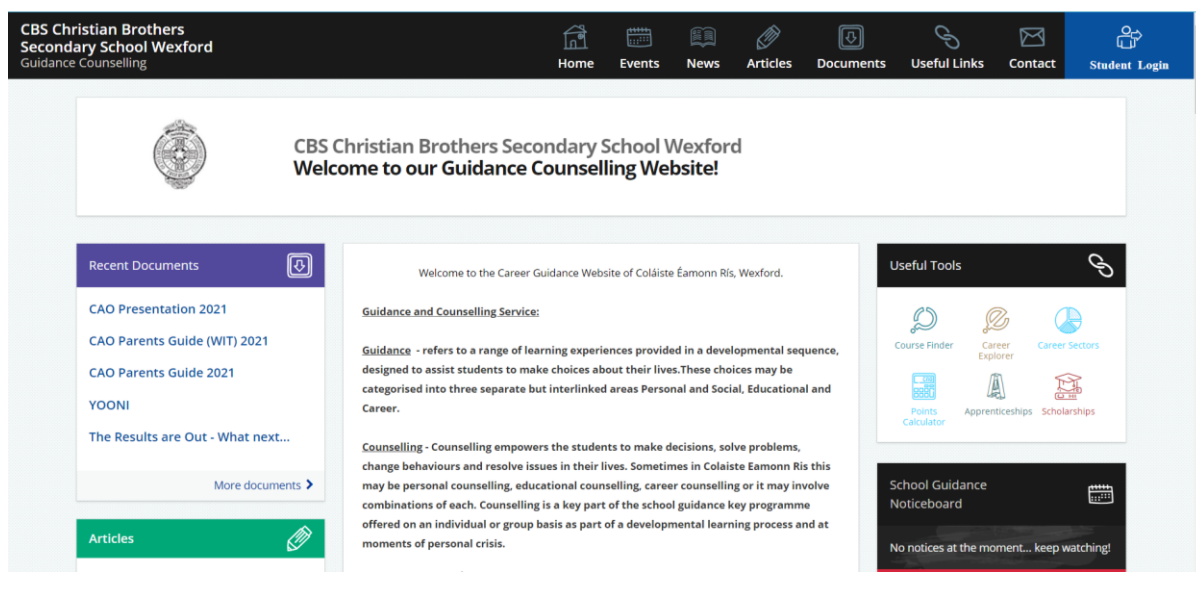


# CAO

**REMINDER TO ALL 6<sup>th</sup> YEARS THAT CAO APPLICATIONS REMAIN AT €30 UNTIL 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY. OPEN YOUR APPLICATION TODAY TO AVOID EXTRA COSTS.**

## 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 much more.



*I hope that all students and their families and friends have a healthy & happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing everyone back safe and well in 2021.*

*“We are not all in the same boat, but we are all in the same storm, therefore support each other, be kind and don’t judge”.*

*Ms Goff*

\*\*\*

## SCHOOL AWARDS

The school awards that were postponed in May were finally awarded this term. It is great to celebrate success and well done to all the award winners.

### First Year Awards

Academic <u>Childers</u>	Merit
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ciarán Doyle</li> <li>2. Callum Pierce</li> <li>3. Sean Og Sheppard</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Donnacha O Callaghan</li> <li>2. Kieran Dooley</li> </ol>
<u>Robinson</u>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. J.P Fielding</li> <li>2. Jack Conneely</li> <li>3. Rían Doyle</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jake Broaders Kelly</li> <li>2. Aaron Doyle</li> </ol>
<u>Mc Aleese</u>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Michael Collins</li> <li>2. Harry Condon-McGuinness</li> <li>3. Roman Monaghan</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Darragh Browne</li> <li>2. Daniel Mulvihill</li> </ol>
<u>Higgins</u>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cillian Maher</li> <li>2. Ciarán Kelly</li> <li>3. Jimmy O’Keefe Dobbs</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John Dwyer</li> <li>2. Joshua Higginbotham</li> </ol>

### Second Year Awards

Academic	Merit
<b><u>Boyle</u></b> 1. Alex Mythen 2. Robert Reynolds 3. Conor Mc Guinness <b><u>Preston</u></b> 1. Conor Sidney 2. Páidi Doyle 3. Eoin Browne <b><u>Callan</u></b> 1. Jake Roche 2. Ritchie Barlow 3. Conor Deveraux <b><u>Rynd</u></b> 1. Evan Byrne 2. Andrew Ó Brien 3. Seán Kirwan	1. Eoin Furlong 2. Jack Cullen  1. Cillian Ferriter 2. Conor Mullan  1. Bartłomiej Swetelski 2. Jamie Clancy  1. Arturas Samuilovas 2. Szymon Kryzanowski

### Third Year Awards

Academic	Merit
<b><u>Rembrandt</u></b> 1. Darragh Sinnott 2. Ethan Carberry Luccano 3. Ronan Brennan <b><u>Picasso</u></b> 1. Oisín Meyler 2. Enda Morgan 3. Tadgh Brohan <b><u>Monet</u></b> 1. Danny Howlin 2. Abdul Azam 3. William Lin <b><u>Bernini</u></b> 1. Darragh Corish 2. Cian Doyle 3. Dhiyakhali Bin Azahran	1. Liam Philips 2. John O'Connor  1. Fionn O'Callaghan 2. Dean Glynn  1. Darragh Kelly 2. Taofik Kotum  1. Kaylem Codd 2. Aaron Cooney Morris

### 5th year Subject Awards 2020

Irish (H):	Jack Forde
Irish (O):	Denis Miculescu
English (H):	Darragh Collins
English (O):	Ollie Pierce
Maths (H):	Jahnavi Parimkayala
Maths (O):	Thomas McIntyre
History:	Jack Wilde
Geography:	Maurycy Krzyanowski

<i>French:</i>	<i>Roko Strgar</i>
<i>German</i>	<i>Conor Keane &amp; David Kelly</i>
<i>Accounting:</i>	<i>Conor Keane &amp; Jack Forde</i>
<i>Business:</i>	<i>Leon Beaver</i>
<i>Physics:</i>	<i>Masib Jawad &amp; David Kelly</i>
<i>Chemistry:</i>	<i>Kieran Morris</i>
<i>Agricultural Science:</i>	<i>Jack Walsh</i>
<i>Construction Studies:</i>	<i>Oliver Mc Clair</i>
<i>Design &amp; Comm. Graphics:</i>	<i>Daniel Lawlor</i>
<i>Biology:</i>	<i>Andrew Simmons</i>
<i>L.C.V.P.</i>	<i>Emilijus Bielis</i>
<i>Applied Maths:</i>	<i>Jack Forde</i>
<i>Music :</i>	<i>Gergely Pap</i>

### **Sports & Extra Curricular Awards 2020**

**U.19 Soccer** -*Reece Murphy/Ciaran Carthy*

**U.17 Soccer** -*Michael Mackey*

**U.15 Soccer** –*Jesse Dempsey*

**First Year Soccer** – *Ben Harpur*

**Soccer Golden Boot** – *Brandon Stafford/Aaron Roche*

**Junior Football** – *Zach Breslin TY*

**Second Year Football** – *Rory Gilbert(Callan)*

**First Year Football** – *David Mc Donagh*

**Senior Hurling** - *Joe Barrett*

**Junior Hurling** –*Darragh Carley*

**First Year Hurling** - *Jamie Doyle*

**Second Year Hurling** –*Páidi Doyle*

**Junior Rugby** – *Kaylem Codd*

**Cross Country Athletics** –*Conor Keane*

**Senior Basketball** – *Denis Miculescu*

**Junior Basketball** –*Eoin Doyle*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Basketball** - *Shay O’Leary*

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Basketball** - *Jack Connelly*

**Senior Swimming** - *Conor Brennan*

**International Recognition Award-** *Shay O’Leary Soccer/Thomas Francis U14 Water Polo*

### **Extra Curricular Awards**

**Senior Debater** - *Cormac Sinnott*

**Junior Debater** – *Sam Hoffheinze, Conor Mackey, Paddy O’Leary*

**Visual Arts** – *Thomas McIntyre 6<sup>th</sup> year*

**Performance Arts** – *Luke Spellacy 6<sup>th</sup> year*

**Enterprise** – *Rían Doyle 1st Year, Jamie Clancy 2<sup>nd</sup> Year, Evan Dwyer 1<sup>st</sup> Year*

## **UNIFORM**

Due to the requirement of keeping air circulating in classrooms during Covid a decision was made to allow the lads to wear their own warm coats from Halloween and Easter. Otherwise parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to ensure that their son(s) present themselves in school in full uniform. Your help in the wearing of the uniform is greatly appreciated.

## **FACEMASKS**

Anyone looking for Christmas present ideas for their sons, I would suggest you purchase a few reusable facemasks for your son. They will be used every day, more durable and more environmentally friendly than the disposable masks so the ideal Christmas gift.

## **SIGNING OUT**

Parents are reminded that any student who needs to leave the school during the day or any reason needs to sign out and be collected from school.

## **1<sup>st</sup> YEAR HOMEWORK CLUB**

Homework club offers 1<sup>st</sup> Year students a place to work in a supportive environment out of school hours. It takes place for an hour after school from Monday to Thursday and is supervised by a teacher. The supervising teacher is on hand to help and support students with their homework.

Homework club can provide:

- a safe, quiet and calm space for students to concentrate
- a supportive environment
- one to one or small group support
- a chance to share knowledge
- an opportunity to build relationships
- an opportunity to develop good work habits and a positive attitude towards learning
- the chance to develop skills involved in becoming an independent learner.

For further information contact Ms. McGrath – [amcgrath@wexfordcbs.ie](mailto:amcgrath@wexfordcbs.ie)

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**School re-opens Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

**Second Year P/T Meeting – Week of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**First Year P/T Meeting - Week of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Mid-term Break 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021 inclusively.**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March- Junior Cycle Cluster Day-Staff Inservice- School closed for students**

**St. Patrick's Day 17 March 2021 - school closed.**

**Easter Holidays Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March- 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – school closed.**

*Mar fhocal scoir,*

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

**John Hegarty  
Principal**



Merry Christmas!

Is he **EVER**  
gonna throw that  
stick???

