



NEWSLETTER



The official newsletter of Coláiste Chiaráin

Welcome

Welcome to our April edition of our Coláiste Chiaráin Newsletter. We are delighted to celebrate and showcase the many activities, events and achievements of the past month.

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Young Entrepreneur Success

Team Coláiste Chiaráin successfully achieved three gold medals and one bronze medal in the TY and 5th year categories at this year's Young Economist of the Year National Finals. This year marked the 10th anniversary of the competition which took place in the O'Reilly Hall in UCD on Friday 28th April last. Special congratulations to 5th year Economics students Rania Alaorfi and Julia Dluzniewska for picking up the Spirit of Young Economist of the Year category award and bursary sponsored by Munster Technological University (MTU). Special mention must also go to Syeda Fatima Shah and Mastora Akhon for being awarded the gold medal standard for the second year in succession.

The topics for this year's projects included an investigation into the Irish Healthcare system, Corporation Tax, Taxing Gambling and Sustainability. Well done to the following students that represented the school so well this year: Syeda Fatima Shah, Mastora Akhon, Aiden Oscar, Ben Moloney, Ahmad Bilal, Rania Alarofi, Julia Dluzniewska, and Maksim Halinouski



Mastermind 2023



Chinese Language and Cultural Events

On April 27, 2023, Coláiste Chiaráin celebrated Chinese Language and Culture for the first time. The Director of Confucius Institute UCC, Junyi Huang, arrived with 11 more teachers to educate students about Chinese traditions. More than 100 students in TY, first and second year took part in Chinese Language and Culture Day. They experienced Chinese paper-cutting, Tea ceremony, Traditional Chinese mask painting, Blowing painting and Taijiquan. 6th year music class experienced traditional Chinese music with two professional Chinese musicians performing a mini concert for them.

The Confucius Institute presented Coláiste Chiaráin with an inspirational Chinese Painting. The calligraphy characters represented in the painting “书山有路勤为径，学海无涯苦作舟” (Shū shān yǒu lù qín wèi jìng, xué hǎi wú yá kǔ zuò zhōu) mean “**diligence is the path to the mountain of books, and hardwork is the boat to the ocean of knowledge**”.

The artist commissioned to write this calligraphy is Jiaxin Xuan, famous appraiser, calligrapher, painter, and seal carver. He is currently the vice chairman of Shanghai Calligraphers Association.

The school demonstrates great importance to introducing Chinese culture to the campus. Before the activity, detailed and thoughtful arrangements were made to assist the teachers of the Confucius Institute to carry out the activity smoothly. The atmosphere was warm and the activity was a complete success.



Northern Trust & Business in the Community Mentoring Programme



BITC/Northern Trust workshop took place in Coláiste Chiaráin. The aim of the session was to inform the pupils of the platform and the use it has in the professional world. The mentor's goal was to explain how they use LinkedIn and to share best practices to open students' realisation of the benefits of networking and self-marketing in their future career paths.

Wrap Up session 2023

Mentors and mentees got the opportunity to share their experiences and give feedback on the programme. All students received their certificates for participation too. Thanks to all the Northern Trust mentors for giving of their time, their generosity and honesty in sharing their experiences and for helping the coláiste Chiaráin 6th year students navigate the skills involved in the world of work. A huge gratitude to Linda Hall from Business in the Community and Adam Somers and Emma Mc Cormack of Northern Trust for organising and encouraging the link with Coláiste Chiaráin

Greens Schools Day of Action

It has been another successful campaign to attain a “Green Flag” for the school. Over the past two years, staff and students have worked on the theme “Global citizenship: Marine Environment” resulting in the awarding of the Flag in late April. The Green-Schools committee met every Monday to discuss weekly, monthly and longer plans. After doing a review of the new campus and how it runs (different in some ways from the old campus), the committee set about various tasks to make the school and the local community “Greener”. Management provided new bins with both “General Waste” and “Recyclable Waste” sections, which took a bit of getting used to for some, so the Committee (with the help of Mr. O Keefe’s Media Team) created a step-by-step video on “how to use the bins”. New signage relating to that issue was placed around the school and on the 2 new Green-Schools notice boards.

There have been many other Green actions over the past two years; for example, the canteen has switched from plastic containers to compostable ones. The school has several water dispensing stations to help reduce single use plastic bottles. Staff and students were involved in planting over 4,000 trees around the school grounds and specifically an orchard at the front of the school. The science department have a new poly-tunnel and compost bins up and running beside the school pitch. Several departments are dealing with Green Issues in their subjects areas helping with the Whole School Approach that impressed the Green Schools Inspector in March.

As part of the work done by the committee, the school held a “Day of Action” to help create awareness around the Marine Environment issue. We held 4 presentations to different year groups. Permanent Art Displays dealing with plastic in the oceans was installed in the GP area, as well as a Pop-up gallery exhibit of 1st and 2nd year artwork dealing with Marine environmental issues. The committee has also done a number of “Clean-Ups” in the local community and have fundraised (with the help of the student council) money to help “The Irish Dolphin and Whale Foundation”.

The committee also had a “Boat Race” (boats made from recyclable materials) on the back pitch, which drew a good crowd of smiling students. Well done to all involved and to Mr. Deloury for organising everything.



GreenSchools
@colaiste

Scifest 2023

Cóláiste Chiaráin had great success at Scifest this month. Well done to all and their teachers, Ms. Farrell, Ms. Strong and Ms. Naughton

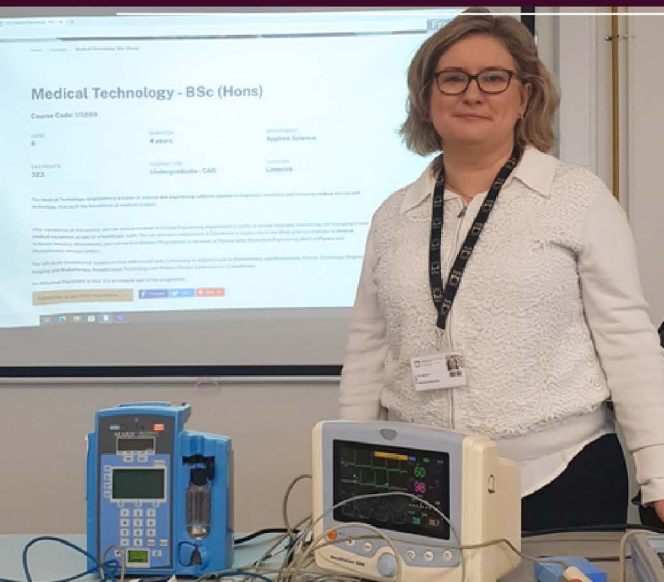
Winners on the day were:

- Amina Costello: Second place junior life sciences.
- Ruben Massey: First place junior physical sciences and special award for chemistry
- Matthew Furlong: Second place junior physical sciences and special award for physics
- Miles Bueno: First place junior technology and Intel award for technology
- Taha Njie and Aiden Oscar: Senior technology First place and BEST OVERALL PROJECT!!
- Seán O' Sullivan was awarded Intel Award for Excellence in Technology

Well done to all!

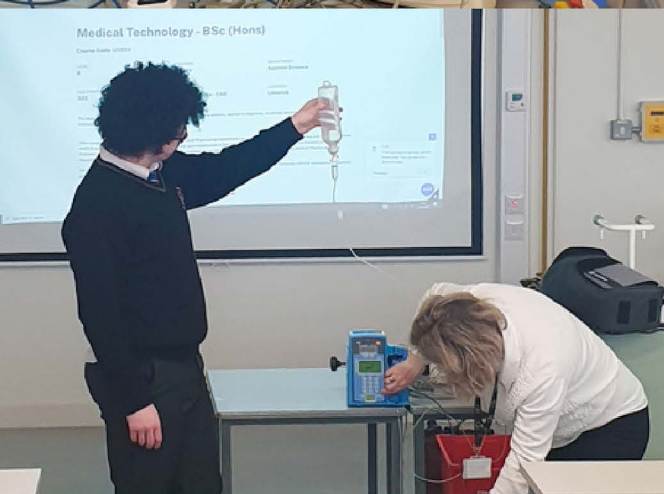


Medical Technology Presentation



On the 21st April, The Guidance Department were delighted to welcome Maired Dennehy, lecturer at TUS Midwest to the campus today to speak with senior students on the Medical Technology degree offered at TUS Midwest. Medical Technology is a combination of Engineering, Science and Technology that offers graduates two distinct career paths; clinical engineering in a hospital setting or medical device industry/medical software industry employment in a variety of roles. Medical Technology is also a great pathway to biomedical engineering or even as a possible pathway to a postgraduate qualification in radiography.

Maired really engaged the students, bringing along medical equipment, involving the students and giving them a little hands-on experience on where the course fits in with the wider hospital and medical device industry. Many thanks to Maired for the presentation and also for taking the time to be interviewed by the school's media team.



Transition Year Gaisce Trip to The Burren Co. Clare

On Tuesday April 25th the 4th year Gaisce students took an overnight trip to the Burren Co. Clare. The group stayed in the Burren Outdoor Education Centre where they participated in a two day expedition of the scenic area. The expedition was a journey with a purpose and the participants trained, planned and completed the task which involved adventure, challenges and fun.

On the first day the students hiked for four hours up Turlough Hill in glorious weather. They really appreciated the beauty of nature and the spectacular views of Galway Bay. It was a wonderful experience and every individual displayed tremendous willpower and perseverance. On arrival back at the hostel, all were exhausted and famished. The aroma of a comforting and delicious dinner greeted the group on their return and all enjoyed homemade cupcakes too! The next day they set off after a hearty breakfast for the Flaggy Shore. It was a beautiful 8km scenic walk along the coast. The group came across a beautiful beach where they rested on the limestone boulders enjoying the ambiance of the place.

It was the most enjoyable trip and Ms. Coleman who organised the trip hopes that it is the beginning of a sense of discovery for the students and that the benefits of working together as a team will make a difference to any challenge they may face in the future.

Congratulations to all 4th year students who participated in the Gaisce President's Award 2022/23. Ms. Coleman and Mr. Galvin look forward to the Awards Day in a few weeks where the students will receive their Certificates and Bronze Medals.



Transition Year Barcelona Trip

Sunday April 16th marked departure day to Barcelona for the Transition Year students. Day one involved a guided walking tour of Barcelona. Two tour guides accompanied the groups on an informative walking tour of the city, taking in beautiful aspects of the city's history and culture as well as enjoying a fascinating stroll along the iconic Las Ramblas. That afternoon, we visited Park Guell with its distinctive architectural landscape. This was followed by a visit to the iconic CosmoCaixa Science Museum.

Day two started out with a trip to the famous Nou Camp stadium, home to FC Barcelona. This offered the group the chance to see first hand the amazing structure to the ground, as well as a view of the team's successes with an amazing trophy display. A much needed browse around the Maremagnum Shopping Centre satisfied the eager shoppers and the day was rounded off with an enjoyable visit to the local bowling alley and games centre.

Port Aventura Theme Park appealed to all the daredevils on day three and the group enjoyed a full day of fun testing their nerves on the phenomenal rides. Our last full day involved a visit to the beautiful walled city of Tarragona before reality called and we set off for the airport after a fun filled few days in Barcelona! Thanks to Ms. Canty, Ms. Cassidy, Ms. Cusack, Mr. Galvin, Mr. Feehan and Mr. Mangan for accompanying the students on the trip.



Fifth Year Paris Trip

In the early hours of Wednesday 26th April 55 students and 6 teachers left Limerick and drove to Dublin Airport. We were the first flight to leave Dublin that morning and flew to Beauvais Airport where we were met by 2 coaches that took us into the centre of Paris. Students had the opportunity to walk around and get something to eat. That evening we had a lovely cruise on the River Seine and had the opportunity to take some photos at the Eiffel Tower.

The following day (sleep deprived) they experienced a 2 hour guided coach tour around Paris. The students got to see the Opera Garnier, the well known Department Store The Gallerie Lafayettes and the Haussman District as well as Place Vendome, the Champs Elysee, Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre Museum and Notre Dame Cathedral. After lunch, a visit to The Invalides Museum where Napoleon's tomb lies and then to the Montparnasse Tower, a 210 metre skyscraper, with breathtaking views of Paris.

Friday involved an action packed trip to Asterix Park, the 2nd largest theme park based on the comic book Asterix, where students had the opportunity to go on roller coasters and rides. On the final day the students visited The Louvre Museum and Sacré-Coeur and Montmartre area. It was a wonderful trip and a great time was had by all. Thanks to teachers Ms. Stack, Ms. Power, Ms. Bourke, Ms. Finn and Mr. Murphy for making the trip possible.



EU AMBASSADOR SCHOOLS' PROJECT

Friday 31st March, 5 TY students took part in an EPAS workshop in Cyprus. Coláiste Chiaráin was one of three schools to represent Ireland as part of the EU Ambassador Schools project. Our students were representing the EU Irish South constituency, There were schools from Malta, England and Cyprus. Thanks so much to Ms. O'Brien for organising and accompanying the students on the wonderful trip

1st Year Wellbeing Day

This wonderful initiative took place just before Easter Holidays. This fun filled day was organised by the TY Mentoring Group. First years engaged in a variety of different activities, from Just Dance, Group Games, a Gym workout, Music Bingo and Easter arts and crafts. Each activity was design not only to be fun but to allow first year students to develop friendships in their base classes and experience different activities that are designed to help look after a person's health and wellbeing. The TY students did an excellent job in facilitating all activities and 1st year students certainly enjoyed the day!

4000 Piece Jigsaw!

Well done to Moaz Mosbah and Adrian Machnicki who completed a 4000 piece Jigsaw that is on display in The Hub. It took 5 months to complete in their own time. They both hope to make an even bigger one next year. That is some achievement! Well done boys



Sports Update

- 8/3/23, CCO had 17 athletes compete in the Munster schools Indoors in Nenagh Co. Tipperary We had athletes compete in the 60m sprint/600m/1000m and long jump. Well done to all who participated.
- 25/4/23 Under 14.5 boys played a Football Blitz in Rathkeale. The team performed very well all day. They had a good win over Charleville CBS but narrowly lost to Hospital, Hazelwood and Askeaton
- 24/4/23 North Munster Semi Final Under 19 Soccer Match took place against Crescent Comprehensive but unfortunately we lost 1-0.

