



NEWSLETTER



The official newsletter of Coláiste Chiaráin

Welcome

Welcome to our November/December edition of our Coláiste Chiaráin Newsletter. We are delighted to celebrate and showcase the many activities, events and achievements in the past two months. Enjoy the read!

IN THIS ISSUE

- The Northern Trust Mentoring Programme
- Stand Up Awareness Week
- Red Cross Fundraiser
- Success at Concern Debating
- American Exchange
- Science Week
- More Success at Concern Debating Competition
- Sixth year Christmas Dinner
- Transition Year Activities

and much more.....

Editor: Ms. Lisa Horgan
Photos: Mr. O'Shaughnessy & TY Media Team
Design: Form 4 Newsletter Team



The Northern Trust mentoring Programme

BUSINESS
IN THE
COMMUNITY
IRELAND



The **6th year Mentoring Programme with Business in the Community and Northern Trust** began again this year mid November. Students got an opportunity to visit Northern Trust and have a tour of their offices. It was wonderful to see past pupil Lauren Reid reversing the role and acting as a mentor.

All pupils had the opportunity to form relationships with their mentor, find out about the world of work and how they ended up in their chosen career path. This was done by using ice-breaker exercises, having refreshments and hearing stories from various Northern Trust employees.

It was wonderful to hear from General Manager Catherine Duffy and the experiences of apprentice Sanita who spoke about her route of apprenticeship whilst following a college course.



Stand Up Awareness Week

Standup Awareness Week Workshop : As part of Stand Up Awareness Week which ran nationally, from 6th -10th November 2023, a Stand Up Workshop was organised by Ms. Maher, Guidance Counsellor, in conjunction with GOSHH. The theme of the workshop was how to be a good ally for LGBTQ+ young people.

The workshop was attended by senior students and representatives of the Coláiste Chiaráin student council. Well done to all those in attendance for taking the time to educate themselves about relevant terminology, but in particular for showing their willingness to engage in a workshop that promotes understanding and inclusion of our LGBTQ + community.



Guidance Department Welcome Theresa Dempsey

On Wednesday, October 25th, the Guidance Department welcomed Theresa Dempsey, Work Based Learning Manager at Atlantic Technological University to speak to our senior students about the work based learning degree programme in Engineering-Mechatronic Systems.

Theresa outlined the collaboration between ATU and Stryker, in facilitating students achieve a degree in Engineering, whereby students attend lectures online for two days per week with ATU and are placed in the workplace for three days per week.

Red Cross Fundraiser



The Wellbeing Team presented volunteers from the Limerick Red Cross Branch with a cheque of € 574. This money was collected from the Bake Sale held during Mental Health Week in October. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way. The Volunteers Jean and John spoke to a second year group on how the Red Cross started and all the great work they do in the Limerick area and also how they help others in need abroad. Thankyou to Ms. O' Connor for organising the event

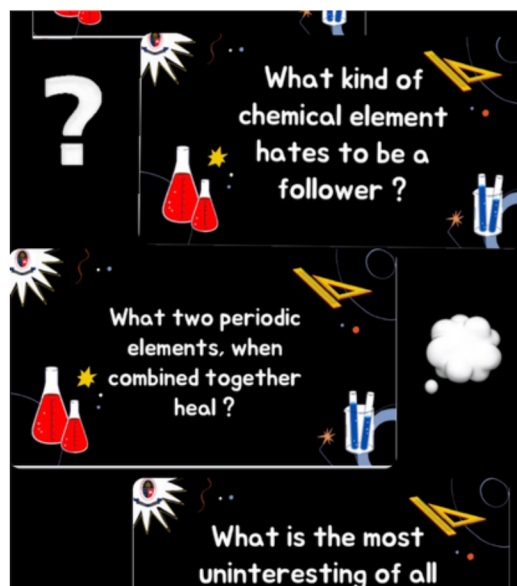
More Success at Debating

Congratulations are in order for the Concern Debates Team who received news that they defeated St. Louis Grammar School of Kilkeel . Cóláiste Chiaráin were opposing the motion that African Nations should be allowed to use fossil fuels to develop their economy. We won on a score of 3-1 and we later beat Colaiste Fionnchua, Michelstown . Well done to Sean, Maksim Mylko, Diana or Luke and the rest of the team (Emily, Maksym Olesovs and Hina) who do so much to help with the arguments and rebuttals. Special thanks to Mr. Bushell and Ms. Cassidy for mentoring the students.

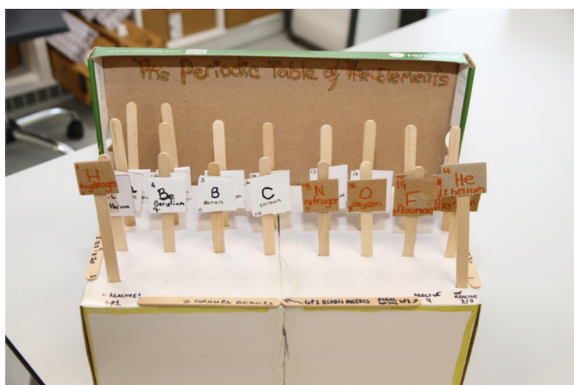


Science Week at Coláiste Chiaráin

Throughout the week, there was a science week riddle competition with a new riddle posted on the Science room door each morning. The first student to come to the lab with the right answer won a prize. Below is a picture of the four winners.



There was a competition run among the 3rd year groups to build a 3D model of the periodic table. Congratulations to Ms.Danagher and Ms.Benenati who's classes came joint 1st.



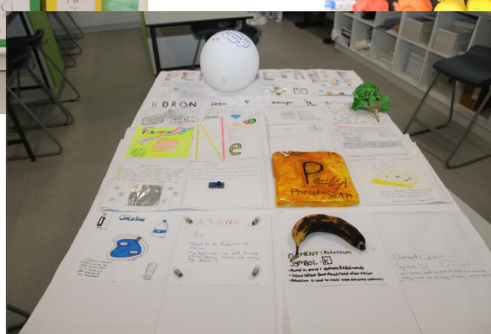
Ms.Benenati's classes



Ms. McInerney's Class



Ms. Danagher's Class



Ms. Farrell's Class



All the 1st year students went on a trip to UL to a 3D Astronomy Experience and really enjoyed it and there was a Second Year Quiz where lots of fun was had by all.



We are currently accepting batteries for recycling in aid of the Batteries for Barretstown fundraiser. A wonderful initiative being coordinated by one of our students Henry Coveney. The recycling box is located in the Reception area. Please support this initiative.



Leaving Cert Applied, School Library Visit

As part of a social education module being completed by the class, a trip to the school library was arranged. The LCA class visited the school library and met with Mr. Hayes and Igor from the library. Mr Hayes and Igor facilitated a full presentation and tour of the library. This information will now be used by the class in completing one of their key assignment tasks.

A huge thank you to Mr Hayes, Igor and all of the school library staff for their wonderful welcome, presentation and tour of the library. A huge thank you also for their continued work in the provision of this valuable service and resource to the staff and students of Coláiste Chiaráin.

Poetry Aloud



Scifest Final



Well done to senior student Seán O'Sullivan who qualified for the Poetry Aloud National Final after competing at the National Library of Ireland earlier this month. The final took place on Friday 8th December. He was the only student from Limerick to qualify for the Grand Final. Well done Séan and to his mentor, Ms. Mary-Kate Hanley

Taha Njie, fifth year and Aiden Oscar, 6th year took part in the National Final of Scifest in Dublin. They were presenting their project: 'PORTANOS,' which is a portable extensible diagnostic medical device. The Project was awarded Best Overall Project at the regional competition at TUS, Limerick in April and they qualified for the grand final.

In Dublin, the boys were presented with an *Excellence in Stem Award* on the day. Well done boys and mentor Ms. Farrell. We are super proud of you!



The American Exchange

Celebrating 15 Years - Limerick to Limerick Exchange
Coláiste Chiaráin Transition Year Students Embark on Exciting American Exchange Programme with Springford High School in Limerick, Pennsylvania.

On Monday November 13th, 14 of Coláiste Chiaráin's transition year students set off on the schools annual American Exchange Programme, connecting Coláiste Chiaráin students with peers from Springford High School in Limerick, Pennsylvania. The program offers a unique opportunity for students to immerse themselves in American culture and education. The group of enthusiastic students embarked on a memorable journey that took them to iconic destinations such as New York City and Washington, D.C. The adventure aimed to provide the students with a firsthand experience of the rich history and vibrant atmosphere of these renowned American cities.

During their stay in New York, students explored iconic landmarks like Times Square, Central Park, and the Statue of Liberty. The bustling city served as an exciting backdrop for cultural exploration, allowing the students to witness the diversity and dynamism that defines American life. Washington, D.C. proved to be an enlightening stop on the itinerary, offering students the chance to visit historical monuments, museums, and the heart of American governance. The group delved into the nation's past, taking in the significance of landmarks such as the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the Capitol.

A highlight of the trip was witnessing the Philadelphia Flyers in action, a thrilling experience for sports enthusiasts. The raucous cheers and electrifying atmosphere of a live ice hockey game added an unforgettable moment to their American adventure.

As the Irish students immersed themselves in the local customs with their host families, they also had the opportunity to partake in American high school life, gaining insights into the academic and extracurricular aspects of their American partners' education.

In March, our students eagerly await the return of their American exchange partners, who will have the chance to experience the vibrant festivities of St. Patrick's Day in Ireland.

This exchange program not only fosters international friendships but also nurtures a deeper understanding of different cultures. It has become a cherished tradition, symbolising the enduring commitment of both schools to promote this cultural exchange.

As the Irish students bid farewell to Springford, their hearts filled with new friendships and memories, the anticipation builds for the return leg of the programme, promising an equally enriching experience for their American partners on the emerald shores of Ireland.





Transition Year Ice skating



Archery Class



One Good School Gold Award

Coláiste Chiaráin has received the One Good School Gold Award from Jigsaw Limerick in recognition of our commitment to fostering a positive & inclusive learning environment. The Award Ceremony took place in Thomond Park early December.

Thank you to our students & the dedicated efforts of Ms Marita O'Connor, Ms. Sarah O'Brien & Ms. Fidelma Power.



Shannon College of Hotel Management

On Wednesday, December 6th, the Career Guidance Department welcomed Emma Daly, School Liaison Officer at Shannon College of Hotel Management on campus to speak to our senior students about their Level 8 degree programmes.



Transition Year Student Adriana with Emma Daly, School Liaison Officer of Shannon College



The LCA class, Ms. Paula Laffan and staff have planted strawberry runners and cabbages along with spring flowering tulips, daffodils, crocuses and bluebells have been planted in the two outside raised beds. The onions continue to grow well. Indoors, the students have propagated little spider plants and these will hopefully root over the Christmas break.

Our Polytunnel

ICE Mini Company

A number of Coláiste Chiaráin ICE students represented the school this year for the first time at the Student Christmas Market Day. The Christmas Market Day took place on Friday 8th December in the Milk Market and is run in conjunction with the Student Enterprise competition. There was €1,000 worth of prize money up for grabs at the competition this year thanks to sponsorship from Arachas Insurance.

4th year ICE received a merit award for their company 'Fire Starters' and were awarded a €100 prize. In addition to this, 3rd year ICE student Tadhg Purcell placed 3rd overall on the day for his company 'TPDecals' and as a result Tadhg was awarded €150 prize money.

Other participants on the day included 1st Year ICE students selling Christmas Decorative Logs and Key Chains. 3rd year ICE mini company 'Picture Perfect' were also on hand to offer their photography skills and service of 'Taking an Elfie' to everyone on the day.

Well done to all the students involved who represented our school so well on the day. We know that the future is bright for these young entrepreneurs. Thankyou to Mr. Martin Murphy for all his guidance .



6th Year Christmas Dinner

Inaugural Christmas Dinner Form 6 students took place today on December 18th. Invitations were issued to the Form 6 Dean and Tutors. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.





Bake Sale

On Thursday 14th December our Parents Council ran a very successful Bake Sale. Thank you to all who donated baking for this bake sale. Over €700 was raised. Well done all.



Well done Harry!

Well done to student Harry Moriarty 2nd yr who was part of a group who won the All Ireland Showchoir & the Ireland Variety Showcase 2023 in Dublin in November with Musical Theatre Academy Nenagh. Harry also won a personal award as star of the show !



Sports Update

- 7/11/23 Under 17 Boys Hurling match against Mungret College . Unfortunately we were not victorious on this outing losing 2-08 to 2-13
- Under 14 Ladies Football had a great win over Thomond College 15-20 to 0-0
- 8/11/23 under 16 Rugby team played St. Clements at home but lost 12-17 points
- 9/11/23 under 17 Boys Soccer team played St. Brendans , Killarney. Unfortunately , we had to admit defeat on this outing.
- 10/11/ 23 Under 16 & 19 Boys Basketball teams were winners of both matches against CBS, Limerick
- 14/11/23 under 19 boys football versus GC Carrigaline . Unfortunately we were unsuccessful on this outing
- 14/11/23 well done to the First Year Boys Soccer team who played Pallaskenry and won 2-1
- 16/11/23 Well done to the first year girls soccer team who were victorious over Nano Nagle as part of the Limerick National League
- 16/11/23 Under 17 Boys Boys Soccer team played Crescent Comprehensive
- 20/11/23 Under 16 Boys were victorious over St. Anne's Killaloe in the South West Semi Final 47-23
- 21/11/23 Hard luck to the Junior Camogie team who were unlucky in their first outing in the Munster Championship against Mill Street of Cork
- 22/11/23 First Year Girls Soccer team beat Pallaskenry 2-1.Well done girls
- 22/11/23 Hard Luck to the Senior Girls Basketball Team who lost to Scoil Pól
- 23/11/23 Under 19 Basketball team lost to LETSS.
- 24/11/23 First year Soccer team played Crescent Comprehensive
- 24/11/23 Junior Ladies Football were victorious over Limerick Educate Together. 9-10 to 2-04 .Well done ladies
- 27/11/23 Under 16 boys Basketball team played well in the South West Final against Newport They were very unlucky to be beaten 43-45. Hard luck boys!
- 28/11/23 First year boys Soccer lost to SMI.
- 7/12/23 Senior Boys have advanced to the County Semi.Final after beating Newport in the Quarter Final
- 7/12/23 The U15 Football team had a good win against Desmond College on Monday 11th December and as a result have qualified for the County Semi Final in the New Year.
- 8/12/23 Junior Girls Soccer team beat LETSS 3-2



First Year Girls Soccer Team who are on a winning streak



Boys Senior Football team



Boys Junior Football Team