



NEWSLETTER

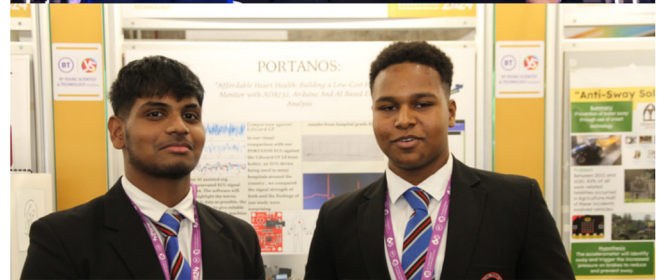


The official newsletter of Coláiste Chiaráin

Welcome

Welcome to our January edition of our Coláiste Chiaráin Newsletter. We are delighted to celebrate and showcase the many activities, events and achievements in the past month. From achieving huge success at the BT Young Scientist & Technology Competition, performing our Annual School Musical and many more achievements, we have lots to celebrate! Enjoy the read!

- Huge Success at BT Young Scientist and Technology Competition
- School Musical
- Concern Debating
- Feile 2024
- Northern Trust/Business In The Community 6th year Mentoring Programme
- Food Fair 2024
- IAMTA Problem Solving Quiz
- and much more.....



History in the making for Coláiste Chiaráin at 60th 2024 BT Young Scientist and Technology Awards

We had huge success at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Competition this year. The event took place in the RDS in Dublin in early January. Ms Edel Farrell, science teacher and mentor to all the entrants was thrilled with the results as was all the school community. The students, their projects and awards won were as follow:

- Sean O' Sullivan: Overall Winner of this years 60th BTYSTE competition and recipient of the Atlantic Technology University special award for Best Technology Project.
- Aiden Oscar and Taha Njie: First Place Senior Technology and Analog devices Gold Award
- Miles Bueno: Highly Commended in intermediate Technology and Display Award.

Other participants:

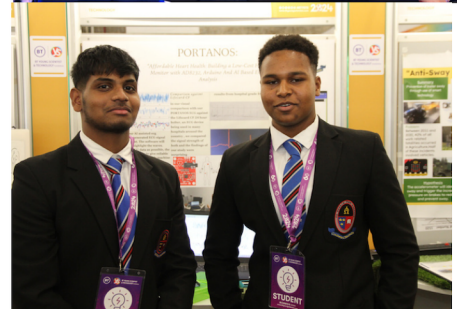
- Lily Li: Intermediate Mathematical and Physical Sciences
- Ruben Massey: Intermediate Mathematical and Physical Sciences
- Amina Costello: Intermediate Social and Behavioural Sciences.
- BEST SCHOOL IN REPUBLIC OF IRELAND!

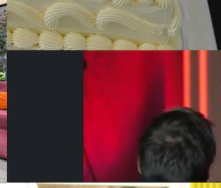
Seán O'Sullivan, 5th Year student was the overall winner of the 60th BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition. Seán (17) was announced as the winner at an awards ceremony. His project, 'VerifyMe: A new approach to authors attribution in the post-ChatGPT era', looked at how academia and industry can discern "true" human writing from that of language models like ChatGPT. It was praised by the competition's judges for its innovative approach and Seán's programming skills. He was presented their trophy by Education Minister Norma Foley and BT Ireland managing director Shay Walsh.

Seán was crowned overall winner from a field of 550 projects from more than 1,100 students representing 219 different schools across the country.

He will now go on to represent Ireland at the EU Contests for Young Scientists in Katowice, Poland in September.

Minister for Education Norma Foley congratulated Seán: "I would like to sincerely congratulate Seán O'Sullivan from Colaiste Chiarain, Limerick, on winning the hugely prestigious top prize in the 2024 BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition. Being awarded this prize is a tremendous achievement, given the extremely high standard of entries presented. It is testament to Seán's hard work and dedication to his chosen field of research, and to the unwavering support of his family, teachers and school.





Musical Memories

Our Annual School Musical took place in the Lime Tree Theatre on 26th and 27th January to two sold out shows. Coláiste Chiaráin has had many remarkable performances of musical theatre throughout the years. Musical Memories revisited many of our previous school musicals and celebrated the wonderful achievements of all our students. We also had a glimpse of what the future might hold from some of our younger performers. This production was one to remember as it showcased the immense musical talent which Coláiste Chiaráin has to offer, which included a number of very special performances from past pupils. A production of this size was a hugely ambitious undertaking and many students will be directly participating on stage, with very many others in support. As in previous years, the students rehearsed with Mr Moore and Ms Hanley and our Director Des Henn, Choreographer, Barbara Meany and Musical Director, Michael Young since last October.





The Northern Trust mentoring Programme

On Thursday the 19th of January, it was Coláiste Chiaráin's chance to reciprocate the hospitality shown by Northern Trust when we visited in November.

A group of TY students assisted in preparing the room and providing welcome refreshments to the 6th Year mentees, their Northern Trust mentors and coordinator Linda Hall from Business In The Community. This set a warm, comfortable and relaxing environment to share ideas and generate conversation.

The theme was Life Goals and Career Investigation. The students then had a one-to-one session with their mentors where they got the opportunity to discuss and reflect on career paths. The mentors also provided a sounding board when looking at the CAO application process.



IAMTA Problem Solving Quiz

The following students were involved in the IAMTA Junior Problem Solving Quiz which took place on January 18th in Scoil Pol, Kilfinane. A total of 35 schools from Limerick and Tipperary competed and we finished in the top ten which was a great achievement.

Rawan EL Hassany
Igor Wichman
Miguel Mendez
Daniela Alksnaja



The **Concern Debates Team** were unlucky in their matchup against St. Andrews College, Booterstown. Nevertheless, we are immensely proud of what they have achieved in our inaugural year in taking part in the Concern Debates competition and we are already looking forward to next year. Many thanks to Sean O'Sullivan (capt), Maxim Olesovs, Maksim Mylko, Luke Walsh, Diana Stasinaite, Emily Ceban and Hina Wadood. Special thanks to Mr. Bushell and Ms. Cassidy who mentored the team.

Coláiste Chiaráin Conquer at Féile Luimnigh

Coláiste Chiaráin returned to Féile Luimnigh this year and won an impressive hoard of medals.

The Féile Luimnigh Speech and Drama competitions were held in Mungret College from Wednesday 24th January to Saturday 27th January. It is an annual Limerick based Arts and Cultural festival which aims to promote and encourage creative effort and practice in the arts of Speech, Drama, Singing and Instrumental Music.

Students ranging from Form I to Form V entered a variety of competitions across the entire festival and were awarded for their performances. On Wednesday Form IV student Ben Costello won silver in the u18 Impromptu Speaking competition with Sarah Jane Noonan, also Form IV, placing third. The following day they were delighted to see more success in the area of Poetry Composition. Lily Li, Form III, received a Highly Commended award for her poem "I Fell in Love with Hope" in the u18 competition with Miles Bueno taking home silver for his poem "My Bedroom" in the u15 category. The victories continued into Friday where Form IV pupil Ben Costello took home gold in the u18 Solo Verse competition with Sorcha O'Sullivan winning silver in the same competition.

Teacher Ms. Mary-Kate Hanley said that "the standard of the competitors was exceptionally high and I'm so proud of all the Coláiste Chiaráin students who gave wonderful performances. It's not easy getting up there in front of an audience! We are absolutely thrilled with the prizes we received and we are looking forward to next year already!"



Coláiste Chiaráin Food Fair

The Modern Foreign Language Department and their TY students collaborated to organise a special event for 2nd years on 17th January. After studying the topic of food and culture, a food fair was set up to highlight the gastronomic specialities from Italy, France, Germany and Spain.

Students and teachers baked their favourite recipes to share with all. Samples of the countries' delicacies were also sourced. The TY students explained when they would be eaten and how the recipes were made. Each student used the target language of the country that they study when at the fair. They got an opportunity to sample all the foods on offer - among the delicacies on offer were: paella from Spain, frankfurters from Germany, viennoiserie and cheese from France, tiramisù, pandoro and pizza from Italy. It was great to see all students sampling - and also to get their opinions!

It was a wonderful experience for all to become more aware of and connected with the culture of the language they are studying whilst also highlighting the diversity and similarities of European countries for giving them a greater understanding and respect for each other.



Further Education & Training Open Day



Sports Update

- 9/1/24 North Munster Boys U 19 lost to John the Baptist
- Munster FAI Round 2 girls lost to St. Caimin's
- 15/1/24 First Year Girls continued their winning streak against Limerick Educate Together 11-0
- 16/1/24 Under 17 Boys Soccer were victorious over Hazelwood College 3-2
- 22/1/25 Boys 1st and 2nd year blitz. Both teams played very well
- 26/1/24 Under 17 boys Football Munster Championship lost to St, Pats , Shannon
- 26/1/24 Munster Camogie Championship . Unfortunately we were unsuccessful on this outing against Mallow
- 2/2/24 Under 17 Boys Football team who were victorious over Newport College 4-21 to 1-04



Huge Congratulations to our very talents student, Cormac Clancy who competed in the Dutch Open, representing Ireland in Taekwondo.

