



NEWSLETTER



The official newsletter of Coláiste Chiaráin

Welcome

Welcome to the 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 celebrating The BT Young Scientist success, to performing our two sell out shows of our musical 'Our House' and hosting a very successful Careers Fair we have had a very busy month! Enjoy the read!



- SUCCESS AT BT YOUNG SCIENTISTS COMPETITION
- 'OUR HOUSE', THE SCHOOL'S ANNUAL MUSICAL
- CAREERS FAIR
- ARGENTINIAN VISIT
- NORTHERN TRUST/ BUSINESS IN THE COMMUNITY
- FÉILE LUIMNIGH
- CREDIT UNION ART COMPETITION
- SPORTS NEWS
- AND MUCH MORE.....



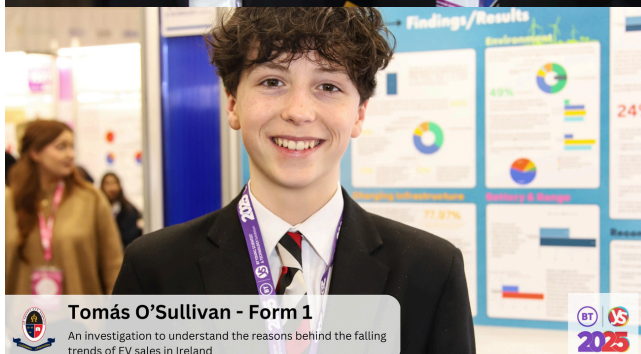
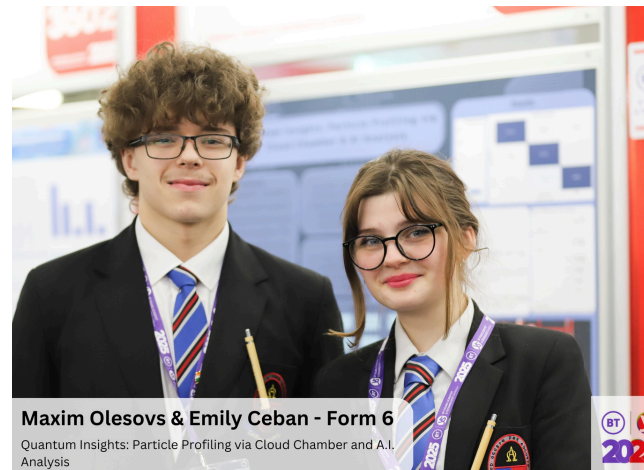
BT YOUNG SCIENTIST COMPETITION

We had no less than 8 projects accepted to the National BT Young Scientists competition this year. Again, Coláiste Chiaráin achieved great success!

Lillie and Miles placed first in their category and won the overall 'Stripe' award. This is a fantastic achievement and great credit is due to them. Effectively they placed just outside the Top 4 projects and were definitely in the running right up to the end... Absolutely fantastic achievement.

Max and Emily got a Highly Commended award.

Farrah has literally gone viral and has captured the hearts and minds of so many. She was excellent. Well done to all. You represented your school so well and we are so proud of you all. Special thanks to their teachers and mentors Ms. Farrell, Ms McInerney and Mr. Leacy



The Show Must Go On with Coláiste Chiaráin's 'Our House'

With the matinee showing cancelled due to Storm Eowyn, the whole production were on tenterhooks waiting for the green light for the Friday night show to go ahead. Undeterred by such uncertainty, the cast and crew doubled down and, once the Friday show was confirmed, unleashed a sparkling blend of dance, song and some intricate storytelling.

'Our House' follows the story of Joe Casey, a sixteen year old boy who faces teenage choices and challenges, accompanied by bombastic songs such as 'It Must be Love', 'House of Fun' and of course, 'Baggy Trousers'. You could see young and old in the crowd bob their head in instant recognition of the classic tunes, and with the students giving it their all on stage, the show had something for everyone in the audience.

A striking feature of the production was the distinct range of performers on stage; from fledgling first years, to accomplished sixth years. Such a blend echoes the sense of community within the school, and the spirit in which the creative arts are supported and encouraged in Coláiste Chiaráin.

Principal Gerard O'Sullivan expressed his pride and delight with the musical, remarking "Our House, despite unprecedented challenges in terms of weather alerts, captured the unity and incredible talent of our students and remarkable commitment of our staff. It is such a joy to witness not only the dazzling performances, but also the wonderful relationships that are formed throughout the whole production".

As the audience filtered out of the LimeTree theatre on Saturday evening, there were mixed emotions; sad that the journey of 'Our House' had come to an end, but also buoyed by what lies on the horizon for 2026. What is clear is that the musical talent in Coláiste Chiaráin continues to thrive with more captivating performances to come.



Linguistics Olympiad

On January 14th we hosted a very interesting linguistics workshop for TY and 5th year students with Dr Cara Greene, EPE Projects Lead from ADAPT Centre in DCU. This was in preparation for Round 1 of the All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad which took place 20th - 24th of January. In the workshop Dr Greene showed our students how to analyse language and break it down so that it makes sense. This was a great skill to cultivate for language learners. Our students tackled puzzles with great enthusiasm and took on board the advice given by Dr Greene in order to help them solve the puzzles. TY students qualified for round 2 of the competition to be held in March! Thank you to Ms. Maeve O' Sullivan who organised the event.



Congrats to Matthew, Liam, and Patrick on winning Best Team Award at the TECS (Technology, Engineering, Creativity and Science) Awards in UL! Their project, SmartSpecs, uses machine learning, computer coding, to recognize Lámh sign language in real time.



Best Team Award at the TECS

(Technology, Engineering, Creativity and Science) Awards



Northern Trust/Business in the Community

Coláiste Chiaráin hosted another positive and engaging meeting with Northern Trust and BITC where we discussed CV and interview preparation. Students got the opportunity to catch up with their mentors. Together they reviewed the targets they had set prior to Christmas and analysed why they did or did not meet them. They looked at what makes a good CV and how one can prepare for interview questions and scenarios. Another successful workshop for all involved.



Whizzkids IT Workshop

Many thanks to Eoin McCaffrey from Whizzkids IT who on 21st January facilitated a workshop session with Coláiste Chiaráin ICE students

Coláiste Chiaráin Careers Fair



Cyber Security at TUS - Presentation with Liam Noonan, January 17th, 2025

The Guidance Department was delighted to welcome Liam Noonan, Programme Leader on the Level 8 Programme in Software Development with Cyber Security to campus recently. This new programme offered by TUS is designed to produce graduates with an in-depth knowledge of the essential aspects of Software Development and the skills associated with Cyber Security.



Credit Union Art Competition

Three students received top honors at the highly anticipated Annual Credit Union Art Competition, showcasing not only their artistic talent but also the creative spirit flourishing in our community. The students, Eva Laing (4th year), Kimberly Daly and Sonia Holmes (2nd years) submitted their entries before Christmas.

Eva won 1st Place at Local Level and again at the Munster Chapter Level (14-17 category). Drawing inspiration from nature's quiet beauty, Eva's winning piece blended delicate acrylic paintwork with intricate pencil sketches to create an evocative and peaceful representation of the natural world. The competition, which drew submissions from hundreds of students across the region, has proven to be a launching pad for young artists. In addition to cash prizes, the top winners will have their works displayed on-line <https://www.creditunion.ie/news/art> , giving them further exposure to a wider audience.



On Tuesday January 14th we hosted a visit from Dr. Liang SHEN, the newly appointed director of the Confucius Institute at University College Cork. Discussion in relation to the provision of Chinese in Coláiste Chiaráin. The director was given a presentation on our school structures and also provided with a tour of our building.



Féile Luimnigh

Congratulations to Tomás O' Sullivan who won gold in u14 solo verse competition. Also congratulations to Ben Costello who won silver in the u 18 senior solo verse competition. Well done to all students and many thanks to their teacher and mentor Ms. Hanley.



Tomás O'Sullivan - Gold
U14 Solo Verse Competition

Ben Costello - Silver
U18 Senior Solo Verse Competition

Argentinian Visit to Coláiste Chiaráin

On the 17th January, it was a great pleasure to welcome a group of Argentinian students with Fernando Carro (ecolonias). It was a great opportunity for language exchange, cultural experiences and to make new friends.



Sports Update

- Under 19 Boys Basketball played Coláiste an Chraoibhin, Fermoy and Ennis Community College
- Under 16 Girls Basketball team represented the school against Athea
- Under 17 Boys Hurling Team who were victorious over Hospital and are now through to the county final.
- Coláiste Chiaráin will advance to the County Semi Final after a 4-05 to 1-04 victory over Desmond College
- 23/1/25 First and Second Year Camogie versus Pallaskenry. Girls represented their school so well
- 24/1/25 Senior Football Versus Desmond College. Well done boys. Great victory
- 27/1/25 Second Year Girls Basketball Blitz
- 28/1/25 Under 18 Bowen B Shield Rugby versus Middleton. We played so well but were not victorious on this occasion.



Thank you to The Kirby Group for your ongoing partnership and for sponsoring our new Basketball kit.