



# NEWSLETTER



*The official newsletter of Coláiste Chiaráin*

## Welcome

Welcome to the March 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 Our All Ireland win at Briery Lane Light Entertainment Competition, Seachtain na Gaeilge and the return leg of our American Exchange, we have had a very busy month!

Enjoy the read!

- ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS IN LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT
- STUDENT ENTERPRISE AWARDS
- 20 YEARS OF GAISCE AT COLÁISTE CHIARÁIN
- SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE COMPETITION VICTORY
- HISTORY COMPETITION SUCCESS
- RETURN LEG OF OUR AMERICAN EXCHANGE
- 'PI' MATHS COMPETITION
- YOUNG INNOVATORS SPEAK OUT
- SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE
- CONOR SHEEHAN TD VISITS COLÁISTE CHIARÁIN
- AND MUCH MORE.....





# Briery Lane Light Entertainment All Ireland Champions!!



On March 24th, 20 students from the cast of Our House were chosen to represent Coláiste Chiaráin in the all Ireland Briery Gap light entertainment competition at the cork opera house. These students worked tirelessly rehearsing with Ms. Moroney and Ms. Rowan since January, rewriting and retelling the story of Casey Street in 15 entertaining minutes. Our students, wowed the judges and were crowned the 2025 Briery Gap light entertainment champions. Harry Moriarty also claimed the award for most outstanding individual performance. Soloists included Harry Moriarty, Alisha Twomey, Oisín Moore, Mia Rouziers, Tomás O'Sullivan and Lily Hurley. These students have shown unbelievable commitment and immense teamwork and camaraderie throughout their rehearsals. Special thanks also to Fergal Moore for his support and musical direction and Barbara Meaney for her amazing choreography skills.





# Student Enterprise Awards

Congratulations to the following enterprise students who represented the school exceptionally well at the recent Student Enterprise Awards.

**First Year:** Ella Wilkinson, Leah Moloney, Ciaran Kennedy, Zoey Nash, Ciaran Kennedy, Will Shea, Eoghan O'Brien

**Second Year:** Rolan Belovs, Alex Johnson, Aoibheann Doran, Ellie Lynch, Lacey McInerney, Ava Glesson, Lauren O'Connor, Clodagh Tierney, Lacey Higginston Crowe

**Third Year:** Klara Kosieniak, Keela Murphy, Zia Mubin Merchant

A special well done to **Alex Johnson, Ella Wilkinson and Leah Moloney** who placed 2nd in their respective categories. Also well done to **Klara Kosieniak, Keela Murphy and Zia Mubin Merchant** on coming 3rd in their respective category. We are really proud of all the students who again represented the school so well at the ceremony.





# ‘Celebrating 20 years of Gaisce in Coláiste Chiaráin’

On March 5th we were delighted to celebrate ‘20 Years of Gaisce in Coláiste Chiaráin’ with an official ceremony and to welcome Mr. Stephen Peers, the Gaisce Munster Development Officer who has worked with Gaisce for the past 40 years as our guest speaker.

Gaisce will be celebrating its 40 year Anniversary this year and it was a special day for Coláiste Chiaráin and Ms. Rosina Coleman who introduced the Gaisce Programme to the school in September 2005 and has mentored over 500 students over the last 20 years with the help of the Transition Year Co-ordinator Mr. James Galvin.



Sean O'Sullivan attended the Limerick Person of the Year ceremony on March 7th. He was formally awarded a presentation for January Limerick Person of the Year 2024. Well done Sean and well done to all the monthly winners and the overall winner





# Sustainable Village Competition

A group made up of TYs and one Fifth year took part in the **Design a sustainable village for 2050 competition** hosted by the EpiStem school in UL.

The students designed an eco-friendly vilage for 2050 in Ireland. They each took an aspect of the village to design including topics such as agriculture, building design and materials, energy generation and travel. The students built a model village showcasing all their decisions. They also created a website explaining the thought process in the development of the design. The students were delighted to be awarded best overall design for their project and a second award for outstanding use of STEAM knowledge.

The students involved were;

David Cagney  
Marija Galinovska  
Anastasija Golovina  
Patrick Hogan  
Eva Liang  
Felix Nabor  
Brendan Paul Boco  
Andrew Svetlitsnoi  
Erin Noonan  
Rosemary Lucey  
Ruben Massey  
Tymoteusz Baranowski



The contest was held in the Foundation Building of the University of Limerick. There were a large number of schools competing with villages of their own. The other projects were impressive, creative, unique and informative. There were several awards such as "Best Artefact", "Most sustainable transport" and "Best overall village". Coláiste Chiaráin won 2 awards- **The STEAM award** and the Top Prize of **"Best overall village" Project**. Well done all. We are so proud of you!





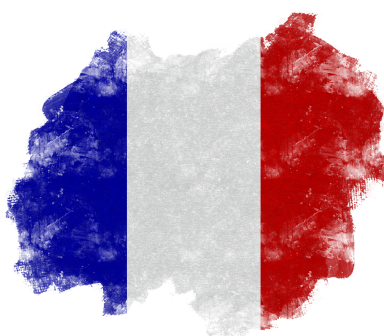
# History Competition Success

The History students of Coláiste Chiaráin displayed their exceptional knowledge as they booked their place in the All-Ireland final. Finishing the qualifying competition as the highest-ranked team in Co. Limerick, the history students progressed to The All Ireland Final. The team placed 7th overall in a highly challenging contest. Congratulations on representing our school so well. The team consisted of Chloe Danagher, Adam Sheehan, Ciaran O'Sullivan and Fionn Murray.



## La Journée de la Francophonie - le 20 mars

On the 20th March we celebrated the day of the French-speaking world. Various activities to highlight the French culture took place. Each year group got involved in these activities from quizzes, singing the national anthem, researching famous French people, studying a film and writing poetry. The students even displayed their work and their love of all things French in the GP area.





# The Return Leg of our American Exchange

On the 8th of March Coláiste Chiaraáin welcomed our American friends from the airport. They got settled into their host families homes and they all met in Adare for a walk around to look at all of the historical sites of the village. The Fitzgeralds kindly hosted a welcome dinner that evening for all of the students and their teachers. They had a jam-packed two weeks which included a trip to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, a day of surfing in Lahinch followed by a visit to Pol na mBrón, a trip to Dublin and two nights in Killarney. They had a fantastic two weeks and the weather was amazing throughout, which really made it all that much more enjoyable. There were many tears at the airport when we had to say our goodbyes, but it is certain that this group will remain friends for life.









# Pi Maths Competition

For the first time, four teams from Coláiste Chiaráin entered the prestigious Pi Maths Competition.

The IMTA Pi Maths Competition is renowned for its challenging questions bringing together some of the brightest young minds in the country. This year's competition saw schools from across the region competing in a series of challenging questions all designed to test participants' skills in logic, reasoning, and advanced mathematics.

In an outstanding display of mathematical prowess one of our teams emerged victorious. This exciting achievement highlights the exceptional talent and dedication of our students, who have proven their aptitude in mathematics while showcasing the power of teamwork and problem-solving. Well done to Alice O'Brien, Harry Moriarty, Adam Sheehan and Oscar Biggs.

Their triumph at the regional final is a testament to their hard work and determination. Thanks to teachers Una Power and Caroline Hartnett for their guidance and time in preparation for the competition.

The victory at the regional final serves as a reminder of the incredible talent within our school and the importance of fostering a love for learning and mathematics in our students. Well done to all four teams involved.





# Young Innovators Speak Out Event

YSI students have three projects underway and presented to a panel of experts and hundreds of students at the YSI Speak Out event on March 12th in Cork City Hall.

'Senior Smiles' is a group that focuses on reducing elderly isolation. They have been collaborating with staff members to run after-school workshops for the elderly. So far, a group of over ten have completed an Art workshop with Mr. Delohery, a chair yoga class with Ms. Power and a baking class with Ms. O'Connor. This is an excellent initiative with great feedback so far.

'Light Up The City' is a group that is aiming to reduce suicide rates in Limerick City. So far, they have raised over 800 euro for Limerick Treaty Suicide Prevention. They also arranged for LTSP to come to the school and talk to all TY students about the importance of looking out for each other. Finally, they have also worked with the HSE Connecting for Life and Limerick City Council to get planning permission to redesign a bench in Arthur's Quay Park. This will be called a Hope Bench and will be colourful to raise moods, will have a positive formation and will have emergency contact numbers on it.

'Paws for Thought' is a group focusing on animal welfare. This group has completed a number of fundraisers for Limerick Animal Welfare - including a very successful dog treat bake sale. They made healthy snacks for dogs and sold them in school and in Croom College of Further Education.





# Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí SnaG an-ghnóthach againn i mbliana; líonadh na laethanta le himeachtaí inár dteanga náisiúnta. Bhí go leor spraoi ar siúl sna ranganna i rith na seachtaine, idir cluichí, scannáin agus dathadóireacht - sos deas ó na leabhair!

Dé Luain 10ú Márta, cuireadh fáilte roimh na cuairteoirí ó Mheiriceá le céilí mór beomhar! Ghlac 40 dalta ón Idirbhliain páirt ann agus rinne siad an-iarracht leis na 1, 2, 3s. Ag deireadh an taispeántais, fuair na Meiriceánaigh seans 'Ballaí Luimnigh' a fhoghlaim. Tá súil againn gur bhain siad taitneamh as!

Níos déanaí an lá sin, chuaigh na daltaí ón gcéad bhliain amach ag siúl i gCromadh chun samplaí den Ghaeilge a aimsiú. Chonacthas an Ghaeilge ar charranna, ar chomharthaí, sna fuinneoga - tá an teanga beo i gCromadh gan dabht!

Tosaíodh an Céadaoin le Tráth na gCeist don chúigiú bliain. Cúig bhabhta bunaithe ar Spórt, Ceol, Teilifís, Tíreolaíocht agus Eolas Ginearálta. Bhí iomaíocht an-dian ann (agus píosa conspóide!) ach ar deireadh, bhí an bua ag Foireann 13. Comhghairdeas mór le Paul, Ben, Aidan agus Patrick.

Roimh deireadh an lae, tháing na daltaí ón tríú bliain le chéile chun cluiche biongó a imirt. Píosa craic agus iad faoi bhrú leis an MRB faoi láthair. Comhghairdeas lenár mbuaiteoirí - Ellie, Nadia agus Liam.

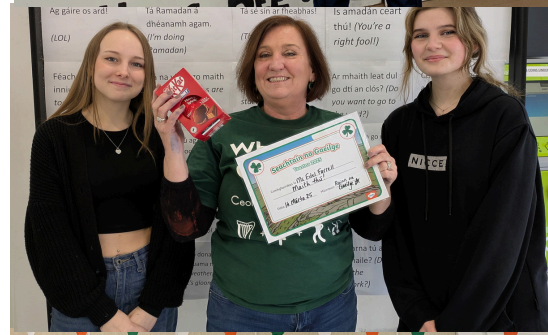
Tráthnóna Déardaoin, bhí seans ag na daltaí sa dara bliain a gcuid eolais a thaispeáint le Tráth na gCeist. Comhscór a bhí ann idir Foireann 18, 21 agus 32 agus bhí orthu teacht ar ais maidin Dé hAoine don bhabhta réitigh. Ar deireadh, tháinig Foireann 32 amach ar bharr - comhghairdeas le hAva, Jen, Sinéad agus Patricia.

A leithéid d'aoibhneas a bhí ann don séú bliain maidin Dé hAoine! Tosaíodh an lá le Geandáil Ghasta; dhá nóiméad ag caint 's ag comhrá leis an duine os a gcomhair agus ansin ar aghaidh leo go dtí an chéad duine eile - cleachtadh iontach don scrúdú béil a bhí ag druidim leo!

Cuireadh críoch le #SnaG25 le comórtas litrithe don chéad bhliain. Tríúr as gach bunrang ag déanamh a seacht ndícheall focail a litriú i gceart. 'Ollmhargadh' an focal deireanach sa chomórtas agus, é litrithe i gceart aige, ainmníodh John Shanahan mar bhuaiteoir an chomórtais. Maith an buachaill!

Ach ní féidir caint faoi #SnaG25, gan Comórtas na Múinteoirí a lua. A leithéad de bhuzz a bhí ann i mbliana leis na múinteoirí go léir ag déanamh iarrachta cúpla focal a úsáid ina ranganna féin. Bhí an iomaíocht an-ghéar, chaith daltaí na scoile na mílte vótaí dá múinteoirí ach ar deireadh, b'í Ms Cassidy 'Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine'. Tugadh duais do Ms Farrell, Mr Newman, Ms Byrnes agus Mr Moore a rinne an-iarracht freisin.

Gabhann Roinn na Gaeilge buíochas mór le gach uile duine a ghlac páirt i Seachtain na Gaeilge i mbliana agus leis na múinteoirí ar fad a thug tacaíocht dóibh. Ní neart go cur le chéile!







# Lá Glas

Congratulations to Ms. Hanley's 2nd yr CSPE class who raised a whopping €717.60 for the homeless charity NOVAS. On Friday 14th March the school community dressed in green and availed of St. Patrick's Day themed face painting at break time. All was a great success and a great day was had by all.

Next month Jackie Leonard, Head of Fundraising NOVAS, will visit the class and speak to them about the issue of homelessness where she will be presented with the cheque.



vol. 24-25.3





# Conor Sheehan TD Visits Coláiste Chiaráin

On Friday, 21st March 2025, Conor Sheehan TD visited our school to speak with Form 1, 2, and 3 European Studies students. This much-anticipated visit was particularly special, as Conor is a past pupil of Coláiste Chiaráin. It was a fantastic opportunity for students not only to meet a politician but to engage with someone who once walked the same school corridors—though in the old school building! This detail was highlighted to students, who were reminded of how fortunate they are to now benefit from the modern facilities of our new campus.

Conor, known for his energy, enthusiasm, and passion for politics, captivated students with his insights and experiences. His deep commitment to his party and public service was evident throughout the discussion. Students eagerly posed questions, leading to a lively conversation on pressing issues for Limerick. When asked about his top priorities for the city and his constituents, Conor responded without hesitation: tackling housing and homelessness, increasing hospital capacity with another accident and emergency unit, boosting Garda presence, reducing crime, and securing more resources to address drug addiction.

Many students were also curious about Conor's journey into politics and his time at Coláiste Chiaráin. Our media team was on hand to document the occasion through photos and interviews, while 3rd-year European Studies student Gabriela Donnelly conducted an in-depth interview with Deputy Sheehan for her class.

This visit was particularly meaningful for our European Studies students, as understanding local and national politics is key to grasping the broader impact of European affairs. Conor's eloquence, clarity, and personable nature left a lasting impression on all who attended. His visit has inspired many students to take a greater interest in political issues and consider their own potential roles in shaping the future.

We sincerely appreciate Deputy Sheehan's generosity with his time and look forward to welcoming him back to Coláiste Chiaráin in the future—perhaps even to collaborate on upcoming projects. We will certainly be following his political journey with keen interest from here.





# Fresh Film Festival

This month CCO Studios proudly submitted five films to this year's Fresh Film Awards, with screenings held at the Omniplex Cinema Limerick as part of a vibrant celebration of filmmaking in North Munster. For the second year running, our students took home the coveted Audience Choice Award—an honor voted on by fellow young filmmakers in the region. This year's winning film, "Swapped", was created by Aimee Crysler, Sarah Jane Hanley, Clodagh Quinn, and Caoimhe Kiely. Watch it now on our Instagram: [@ccostudiosmedia](https://www.instagram.com/ccostudiosmedia/)! #FreshFilmAwards #YoungFilmmakers #CCOStudios. Other filmmakers whose films were shown at this event were, Sarah Hurley, Miles Bueno, Angus Bermingham, Brendan Boco, Dara Ajala, Shane Duggan, Moyah O'Sullivan, Hanna Koshy. Incredible for only our 3rd year involved in the competition.

In addition we also won the Green Schools Bus Karaoke Competition for our music video "I like driving on my bus" Created by Sarah Hurley & Miles Bueno in partnership with our schools green schools society.



## Linguistic Olympiad

On the 12th March TY student Ruben Massey attended the **All Ireland Final of the AILO (All Ireland Linguistic Olympiad)** in DCU. 850 students took part in round 1 in January and Ruben placed 25th in the country! We won't know the outcome yet but if he succeeds in coming in the the top 4, he will be heading to Taiwan in July!

AILO and ADAPT (who run this competition) use the results to search for future employees - those with an analytical mind who would be an asset in the area of Artificial Intelligence! Qualifying for today puts him in the top 500 of the English speaking world!!



# Careers Update

## Croom Further Education College Open Day

On the 12th March, 5th and 6th Year students took the short trip to Croom College of Further Education to gain an insight into all the Full and Part time Courses they have on offer







**Under 17 Boys Football team who fought hard against Glenstal Abbey to succeed in Progressing to the Limerick Semi Final.**



**Our Under 16.5 Ladies Football Team who were crowned County Champions on 25th March. We are so proud of you and thanks to your coaches Mr. Crowley and Ms. Houstoun.**





- **Basketball Semifinals:** The school's basketball teams travelled to Salesians hall in Limerick to compete in the SW Minor and Junior Basketball semifinals. The teams were coached by Mr. Crowley.
- **1st Year Girls Basketball:** The 1st year girls basketball team represented the school in the north Munster basketball blitz.
- **Junior Ladies Soccer:** The junior ladies soccer team played a game against Mungret College on March 24th. The team was coached by Mr. Feehan.
- **16.5 Ladies Football County Final:** The school's 16.5 ladies football team had a great win in the county final. The team was coached by Mr. Crowley and Ms. Houstoun.
- **1st Year Girls Soccer:** The 1st year girls soccer team represented the school against Gaelcholáiste in Adare. The team was coached by Mr. Moloney.
- **U17 Football:** The U17 boys football team progressed to the Limerick semi-final, playing against Glenstal. The team was coached by Mr. Mangan & Mr. Murphy.
- **Under 15 Rugby:** South West Munster Cup V Carrigaline, Cork, coached by Mr. Ryan.

