



NEWSLETTER



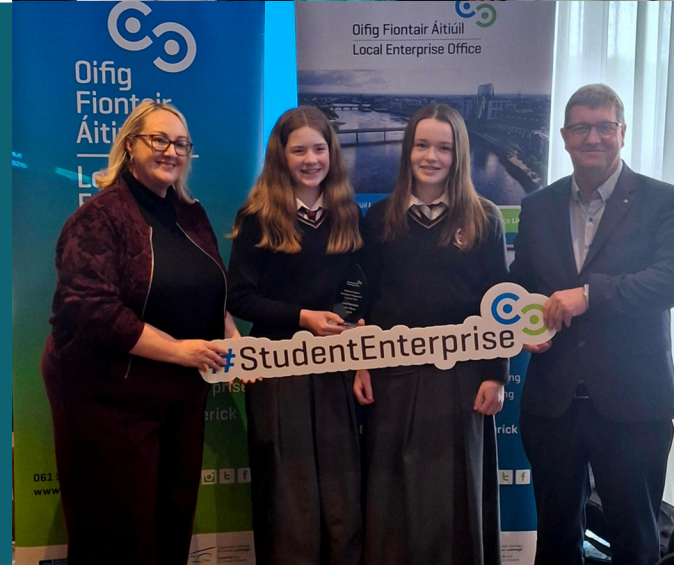
The official newsletter of Coláiste Chiaráin

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 WELCOMING OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS TO IRELAND, TO BECOMING ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS IN THE LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT COMPETITION TO OUR JUNIOR CAMOGIE AND H TEAM BECOMING MUNSTER CHAMPIONS, WE HAVE HAD A VERY BUSY MONTH! ENJOY THE READ!



- RETURN LEG OF OUR ANNUAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE
- SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE 2026
- BRIARY LANE LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS
- WELCOME TO OUR NEW DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MR. DAITHÍ Ó GEÁNAÍ
- STUDENT ENTERPRISE AWARDS
- GREEN FOR GOOD WEEK
- SUCCESS AT IMTA PI QUIZ
- EUROPEAN STUDIES NEWS
- CAMOGIE AND HURLING MUNSTER CHAMPIONS
- AND MUCH MORE...



Return Leg of Our American Exchange

The recent American exchange between Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom and Spring-Ford High School, Pennsylvania was an unforgettable cultural adventure packed with excitement, friendship, and discovery. The American students arrived on Saturday, March 6th, beginning two incredible weeks in Ireland.

The group wasted no time exploring, starting with a guided tour of Limerick city on Sunday led by Mr. Moore. Students enjoyed the scenic *Three Bridges Walk* while learning about local history, including landmarks such as the Treaty Stone and the medieval walls. A warm welcome breakfast on Monday set the tone for the week, followed by a trip to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park on Tuesday.

Midweek brought a highlight of the trip: a three-day excursion to Killarney. Students experienced traditional jaunting car rides, visited the stunning Torc Waterfall, explored Muckross Abbey and Killarney National Park, and even enjoyed a lively trad session at St. Brendan's College.

The following Saturday, the group travelled to Dublin, where they toured Kilmainham Gaol and enjoyed the Croke Park Skyline Tour and Museum. The excitement continued over St. Patrick's weekend, giving students a vibrant taste of Irish culture.

Back in Limerick, students took part in hurling activities and engaging presentations about American life and Spring-Ford High School. A trip to Lahinch on Thursday brought surfing, fish and chips by the sea, and a visit to the breathtaking Cliffs of Moher, all under beautiful blue skies – a perfect way to wrap up the adventure.

The exchange concluded with an emotional farewell dinner at the Treehouse in Adare before the American students departed on Friday, March 20th, leaving behind lasting memories and friendships that will not be forgotten.



Seachtain na Gaeilge 2026

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!

Ar an 9ú 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!

Sna ranganna don dara bliain, bhí comórtais agus dúshláin éagsúla ar siúl don tseachtain ar fad. Tosaíodh an tseachtain le Tráth na gCeist le cúig bhabhta bunaithe ar Spórt, Ceol, Teilifís, Tíreolaíocht agus Eolas Ginearálta. Bhí iomaíocht an-dian ann, gan dabht! Bhain na daltaí an-taitneamh go deo as an spraoi sna ranganna agus ag deireadh na seachtaine, bhuaigh na buaiteoirí duaiseanna blasta!

Bhí an tríú bliain gnóthach don tseachtain ar fad ag ullmhú don MRB sna ranganna Gaeilge. Sheas gach duine suas agus rinne siad a seacht ndícheall. Maith sibh! Bhí faoiseamh orthu nuair a bhí siad críochnaithe, gan dabht. Mar a deireann an seanfhocal: 'Ní bhíonn bua gan dua!'

Ar an drochuair, ní raibh deis againn dul amach ar shiúlóid na Gaeilge leis an gcéad bliain mar is gnáth. Bhí an aimsir go huafásach an mhaidin sin- ró-ghruama! Mar sin, d'fhan an chéad bhliain sa cheaintín teolaí agus ghlac siad páirt i gcluiche biongó. Bhí sceitimíní ar gach duine ag cleachtadh a n-uimhreacha. Rinne an Idirbhliain an rud céanna ar an Déardaoin. Bhí duaiseanna le haghaidh líne amháin, dhá líne agus teach iomlán! Bhuaigh na buaiteoirí uibheacha seacláide! 'Aoibhinn Beatha an Scoláire!'

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!

Ach ní féidir caint faoi #SnaG26, 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' don dara bliain as a chéile! Maith thú Ms. Cassidy! Tugadh duais do Ms Farrell agus Ms. Finn chomh maith, 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!



Back to Back All Ireland Champions!

Twenty students from across 1st to 5th year came together to represent the school in the **Briary Gap All-Ireland Light Entertainment Competition** in January 2026. Under the guidance of Ms. Moroney, Ms. Rowan, and Mr. Moore, they delivered a dynamic fifteen-minute performance that captured the essence of our hit musical production *Newsies*. Ms. Rowan worked tirelessly to craft an original script that both strengthened the narrative of *Newsies* and seamlessly wove together the songs selected by the students.

The group impressed the judges at the preliminary round in February and worked hard to refine and enhance their performance before the final. The competition final took place on March 26th, where fifteen schools entertained a packed audience at the Briary Gap Theatre in Macroom, Co. Cork

Our Light Entertainment group were crowned All-Ireland champions for the second year in a row, while also earning a number of prestigious awards.

- **Judges Choice Award:** Mia Rouziers
- **Judges Choice Award:** Cormac Clancy
- **Overall best individual award:** Harry Moriarty
- **Best Director:** Ms. Moroney & Ms. Rowan



Success at the IMTA Maths Pi Quiz



On the 24th March, a number of our students participated in the Maths Pi Competition under the guidance of Ms. Una Power. We had great succes. All of our students represented the school so well and one of our groups were clear winners and are through to the All Ireland Final which will take place next month.. We are so proud of you all and best of luck!Kai Navarro, Sonia Holmes, Tadhg Twomey and Zuhaa Sarmad.





Welcome to Our new Deputy Principal, Mr. Daithí Ó Geánaí



Success at the Student Enterprise Awards 2026

Well done to all our students who entered a project into the Student Enterprise Awards this year under the guidance of Mr. Martin Murphy and Mr. Tadgh Bennett. Everyone represented the school so well and we had some winners on the day...

- **Gemma Donohue** (Nit'N Bitins Crochet) - 3rd place in the Junior Category.
- **Grace Nyhan and Bobbi Roche** (BG Dog Treats) - 3rd place in the Intermediate Category.
- **Alex Johnson** (Alex's Workshop) - 2nd place in the Intermediate Category.

“ Green for Good “ Week

Coláiste Chiaráin just finished holding its “Green for Good” week. The students and teachers were involved in lessons and activities with a Greener and Better future in mind. Under the umbrella of this week was Green Schools , ISSN (Irish Sustainable Schools Networks) and WWGS (World Wise Global Schools) work, to both educate and develop all here at the school.

Tutors shared and discussed 3 of the 17 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) each morning.

A new school weather station was set up and will be a great resource for lessons in STEM and other areas.

The woodwork department built Bird-houses that will be painted and varnished before being put in place in our biodiversity area.

First year SPHE students and teachers took part in Green Games in the GP and all students had the opportunity to get involved at breaks and lunches.

There were quizzes and an art show as well as an impressive Photo exhibit as part of a school-wide Photography competition.

Students had lessons doing seasonal planting in the poly-tunnel and nature walks as well litter picks in the local community.



European Studies News

Form 1, Form 2 and Form 3 students were delighted to welcome Billy Kelleher MEP to our school on Friday 27th February. Having the opportunity to engage with two Members of the European Parliament within such a short period of time gave students a unique insight into how the European Parliament works and how decisions made at EU level affect everyday life in Ireland.

The atmosphere during the discussion was lively and engaging. Students listened carefully and showed great curiosity about politics and the role Ireland plays within the European Union. Meeting Billy Kelleher in person was an amazing experience, and students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to ask questions, hear first-hand about life as an MEP, and gain a deeper understanding of European politics.



Form 1 Spanish Students Get into the Festive Spirit!

There has been a real buzz of excitement in the MFL corridor as our Form 1 Spanish students have been busy preparing for two seasonal events!

In class, students explored fun and practical Spanish vocabulary linked to both Saint Patrick's Day and the Easter holidays. From learning how to describe celebrations and traditions to picking up useful everyday phrases, they showed great enthusiasm and creativity.

The highlight has been their fantastic decorations, which have completely transformed the MFL corridor into a colourful and welcoming space. Bright displays, student work, and themed posters now showcase their learning and bring a festive atmosphere to the school.

It is clear that a lot of effort and teamwork went into the preparations, and the results speak for themselves. ¡Buen trabajo!

Now, with all their hard work complete, our students are ready to enjoy a well-deserved break. ¡Felices vacaciones!



Exciting Language Opportunities with Euro Languages College!

The MFL Department were thrilled to welcome Euro Languages College (ELC) to speak with our Transition Year students about the exciting possibility of participating in a residential summer language course here in Ireland!

Students learned all about courses in Spanish, French, or German, discovering how these immersive experiences are very similar to Irish Gaeltacht trips—full of language, culture, and fun!



First Year Spelling Bee 2026

On Friday 27th March Coláiste Chiaráin held their annual Spelling Bee Competition for all first year pupils. It was a very enjoyable day for all involved.

The event was organised by 2nd year Performing Arts pupils and their teacher Ms. Mary-Kate Hanley. First year students had been preparing for this competition for weeks by researching commonly misspelled words and practicing in class with their English teachers. It's a fantastic initiative and a great way to promote literacy in the school.

Congratulations to Kieran Tomasko who won the competition! Well done also to Ellen O'Rourke who placed 2nd and to Andrew Ryan who placed 3rd. It was a great competition with a pretty intense sudden death between Kieran and Ellen in the end.

A wonderful day was had and every participant should be extremely proud of themselves!



Coláiste Chiaráin Ethos Ambassadors

Coláiste Chiaráin's newly formed Ethos Ambassadors undertook their first community litter pickup in March. Students from all years are part of this group and they intend promoting the Ethos of our school and all LCETB ethos. Our core values include Excellence in Education, Care, Equality, Community and Respect. The students spent the morning collecting all manner of waste materials in the wider Croom area. Several bags were collected; a lot done, more to do. Our Ethos Ambassadors are looking forward to promoting Our core values through Innovative Initiatives going forward.



Our Student Council organised a very special event for Easter where students could nominate other students or teachers that they felt should receive an Easter Egg. They explained why their nominee should win and then the student council chose the best entries.



Sports News Update

On Tuesday 24th of March the first year girls basketball team travelled to Athea to play the South West region semi final and final.

They played Kilrush in the semi-final and won by 3 points which meant they progressed to the final. They played amazingly the final, hitting the ground running with a continuous flow of scores and an brilliant defence, only letting St. Mary's Nenagh score 5 baskets. Ruby Fitzgerald sealed the victory with a fabulous 3 pointer which added to the excitement of the day. A great performance by all. Special thanks to Samanta Unda in TY for coaching the girls so well.



Our Under 15 Boys Hurling Team who are **Munster Champions** after being victorious over Rathkeale On 24th March





The Under 16 Girls Camogie Team who were crowned the **South East Shield Munster Champions!**. They were victorious over Comeragh College in The Final and received a heroes welcome arriving back to Coláiste Chiaráin

