



Coláiste Eoin Newsletter

Issue 1
February
2016

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

What a roller coaster year we have had since our last newsletter in October 2014. It has been a whirlwind of teaching and learning full of high drama and great celebration. In October we had our wonderful Friendship Week. We partied, celebrated our differences and had a great Friendship Friday when students and teachers in fancy dress had a great day of sports and cooperative games.

Some of the boys and girls from 1st to Transition Year created a remarkable RAP with well known rapper Gary McCarthy. Their RAP focused on the theme of anti-bullying and they had great fun writing and then performing it. The students have not only performed their

Rap in the school, some have performed in DCU at the Annual Achievement awards ceremony and the group have gone to appear on RTÉ television.

This year the school have also been involved in some exciting new initiatives such as SICAP and our European exchange students and the ongoing development of our iPad project. Check out our website to see videos and more information of our various events www.colaiستeeoin.ie



Coláiste Eoin Rappers
at the RTÉ studios.

SICAP



SICAP is the new Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme, set up by the Tolka Area Partnership. This new 'High Achievers Hub' is an amazing and exciting programme which will ensure that with extra supports students will reach their full academic potential and achieve higher level results in the state exams. There are currently over 30 students from three collaborating schools, Coláiste Eoin, St. Michael's and New Cross College, participating in the after school programme which takes place in Coláiste Eoin on

Monday and Tuesday evenings. Students attending the hub receive additional tuition in exam subjects including Maths and English from subject experts as well as guidance and study skills support. This is an exciting opportunity for students to participate in a new collaborative programme and avail of extra educational supports to allow them to reach their full potential in a fun, safe environment.

A VISIT FROM THE PRESIDENT

In January 2015 we had a visit from the President Michael D Higgins and his wife to celebrate the school's 50th Anniversary. The President and Mrs Higgins met many of our students and saw a wide variety of displays of students' work. They were treated to a show of students' talent from samba drumming and rapping to Irish dancing. It was a great day of celebration for the school.



THE YOUNG AMERICANS

In February 2015 the Young Americans paid us a visit. Students from primary schools all over Finglas joined us, along with students from Cabra Community School, and took part in four days of musical workshops. Coláiste Eoin became a hive of singing and dancing. It was a fantastic week in which students got a chance to showcase their talents which culminated in a one night musical extravaganza. We are already planning for their next visit in October 2016.



CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE

Last year we registered to be an ambassador school for 'Cycle against Suicide'. To achieve this status the school held a variety of events to make the school community aware of how important minding your mind is. One of these was a sponsored cycle as part of the Application for Ambassador Status. This is an ongoing project they we hope will help raise awareness.



LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2015

Congratulations to our 2015 Leaving Certificate students. Most of the students have gone on to further their education on PLC and university courses. We wish them all the very best for the future.



JUNIOR CERTIFICATE 2015

Congratulations also goes to our 2015 Junior Certificate students who did really well in their exams. These students are now in Transition Year, fifth year Leaving Certificate or doing the Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA).



IPAD PROJECT

We have been using iPads in the classroom for group projects for the last few years. This year we are piloting an iPad for each student with the second year Dilis class. The iPads are used in a variety of ways to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom. With the iPads the students have access to their eBooks, use them for researching classwork and homework, share work and presentations with their teachers and other students, they are even learning coding.



EUROPEAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Back in September Coláiste Eoin welcomed it's first group of five European exchange students from Germany and France. The students joined our TY class, 4 Pearse, and have got very involved in all aspects of school life.

In January we welcomed three more students from Germany and Italy. This picture shows three of the exchange students enjoying the Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS where over sixty of our students had the opportunity to see hundreds of projects.



LIBRARY NEWS

The library became a recording studio when we had a visit from Garry McCarthy of GMC beats. A group of students wrote and recorded a rap called "Forever", then shot a video for it in November. They put in a lot of hard work and their talent is amazing. They have gone on to appear on the RTÉ TV programmes News2Day, Two Tube and Swipe TV. The group have recently been working on a new rap to celebrate and commemorate the 1916 Rising.



Four students represented the school at the JCSP chess tournament in St. Kevin's College, Crumlin. They did really well and held their concentration for 9 full rounds of chess.

College Awareness Week science talk with DCU Access Services and study skills with Student Enrichment Services.



Students taking part in after school photography workshops in the library.





Niall de Burca had students and teachers mesmerized with his tales.



Raven, our writer-in-residence, working with students to write poems about 1916.



At lunchtime the library is full of students who come up to read, borrow a book or magazine, have a chat with their friends, use the computers or play chess or XBOX, or just to relax. We are very lucky in Coláiste Eoin to have our JCSP library.

To celebrate science month in November we had a forensics science workshop called "A Case of Conspiracy". Students learnt all about the science behind police work. They gathered a variety of clues, then analysed their findings to solve the crime. It was like having CSI in the main hall and it really brought science to life for the students taking part.

FERGUSON ASD CLASS

The Ferguson class have had a very eventful year with the introduction of Outdoor Education activities which includes hiking in the wilds of the Dublin Mountains and Meath to kayaking on the tranquil lakes of Blessington. We have had five outings this year and thanks to the CDU, students in the Ferguson class have had the opportunity to challenge themselves as well as experience the general pleasures of the great outdoors.



A visit to the Natural History Museum



Sight seeing in Howth



Getting out for a walk



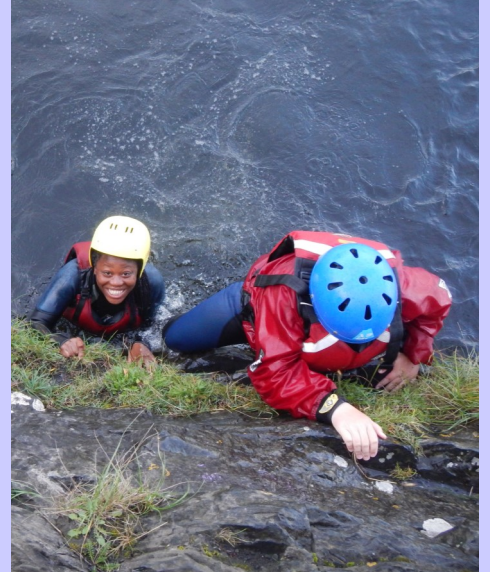
Cooking up a treat



TRANSITION YEAR

The September to Christmas semester for our Transition Year group has been one of great activity. It has seen our students partake in a number of modules including Renewable energy resources, Car Maintenance, Life Skills, Business in the Community and complete a residential visit to Lough Dan, Wicklow.

TY students have also completed the first part of their work experience and both groups have concluded a rotation of Outdoor Education, which encompasses hill walking, kayaking, orienteering, gorge walking and rock climbing to name just a few elements of the module. The spring to summer semester promises to be just as stimulating and enjoyable.



SPORTS

Since September we have participated in a wide range of sports events. We had great fun in the sun at the Gaelic Football. Fantastic results for many in the Orienteering competitions – Silver for Dimytro and Andrew, Gold for Aaliyah, Wictoria, Shakira, Patrick H, Darius, Patrycia and Sarah, and Edel and Natalie!

Our Cross Country runners had a great day with Junior Boys taking Bronze, Jasmine got a 4th, Darius a 3rd and won Katy 1st place. The Badminton teams did extremely well with the Inter Boys winning their mini competition, the Minors taking Silver and the fantastic Juniors- Jasmine, Lee, Aoife, Patrycia, Sarah, Darius, Dimytro and Kieran, retaining their Gold medal from last year.

Congratulations to the TY students who have been training with professional boxer Oisín Fagan. The students recently received their Bronze Boxing certificates. Some are going to go and train for their Silver Certificates and if they go on for their Gold they may even get a chance to train in the same gym as Katie Taylor!



Sports Captains 2015-2016



Badminton Team Medal Winners



TY Boxers with trainer Oisín Fagan



Bouldering Team Medal Winners