

US High School Band Visit Merlin College

The Morris Knolls High School Wind Ensemble from New Jersey, USA, visited Merlin College on Tuesday 5th April as part of their Irish Tour. The renowned band, who have previously played at the halftime show of the Super Bowl, wowed the Coláiste Mhuirlinne students with a 40 minute concert. Conducted by their teacher, Mr. Daniel Schwartz, the American students a mix of contemporary and classical pieces.

International Day

Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College held their annual International Day event to coincide with the visiting American band. A selection of native foods were showcased at morning break when students could taste a range of international foods like Jollof Rice, cabbage rolls from Romania, French sausage, Spanish omelette, Irish soda bread, to name but a few.

In the afternoon the students displayed their many talents for the American visitors. There were performances from the Choral Group as well as solo performances, along with Irish dancing and hip-hop exhibitions. A first year student Tintswalo Mhelembe recited a piece of Zulu poetry dressed in traditional costume while another 1st year Manoah Kazadi read a poem he composed especially for the event. A dance ensemble from first year closed the show with their version of the Amhrán an Dreoilín dance.



International Day at Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College. From Left to right: Tyrone Ezeogo, Rachel Manogue, Julia Nikiel, Tinswalo Mhelembe



1st Year Dance Group at International Day 2016. From Left to Right – Quintin Kerrigan, Rachel Murray Molly, Shauna Walsh, Vivien Punch with MC for the day Tabo Malaba.

1916 Commemoration

Proclamation Day

Proclamation Day was held in Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College on Wednesday 15th March as part of the school's commemoration programme of the centenary of the 1916 Rising. All students, teachers and staff attended the event. Special guests on the day included Mr. David Leahy, CEO GRETB and Mr. Tommy Glynn, Chairperson of the school's BOM.

Mr Cleary, Principal, addressed the school community before first year student, Teniola Olaleye, delivered a speech on 'The relevance of the Irish Flag Today'. Seven students then read the Proclamation, each speaker representing one of the authors. Mr. Tommy Glynn, Chairperson of school's Board of Management raised the Irish flag accompanied by an instrumental piece of music played by Ms. Hynes. The school's choral group and the music students sang and performed various pieces of Irish music during the event. The ceremony concluded with the entire school community singing the national anthem, Amhrán na bhFiann.

Proclamation Day marked the culmination of the school's 1916 Commemoration Programme. Inside the school building Coláiste Mhuirlinne's/ Merlin College's own Proclamation for a Modern Generation was on display reflecting the values, ideals and

aspirations of the Coláiste Mhuirlinne students. A minute's silence was observed at 12pm in memory of the men and women who died during the Rising.

Other 1916 Commemoration Activities:

- Each student drew a copy of the Irish Flag which were used to create a 1916 /2016 mural in the main school Foyer.
- Students wrote their own "Proclamation for a Modern Generation" and these were also displayed in the school foyer.
- The doors of seven classrooms were renamed after the signatories of the Proclamation giving details of their life etc.
- All students received a badge of the tri-colour.
- All students were taught Amhrán na bhFiann.
- Three students from the Student Council went to Dublin and received the Irish Flag from President Michael D. Higgins.
- A table quiz was held through as Gaeilge.
- A Céilí took place in the PE Hall on Friday 11th March.
- Irish dancing and music took place during lunchtimes.
- First Year students travelled to Coláiste Cholmcille, Indreabhán to participate in music, drama and poetry events that centred on the theme of 1916.



Student Council Representatives Hashir Mahmood, Slywia Szkup and Oliver McCamley at Flag Day in Croke Park.



Taken at Proclamation Day Mr. Tommy Glynn, Chairperson Board of Management, Mr. David Leahy, CEO Galway Roscommon ETB and Mr. John Cleary, Principal Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College



The seven Merlin College students who read the Proclamation on Proclamation Day at Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College :

From Left to Right: Ms. Lorraine Ní Dhomhnaill, History Teacher, Luke Leahy Reilly, Rhoda Osagie, Mr. Tommy Glynn, Chairperson Board of Management, Tabo Malaba, Reni Olusola, Mr. David Leahy, CEO Galway Roscommon ETB, Daniela Goluba, Cian Canning, Mr. John Cleary, Principal Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College and Matilda Kuaku.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge fíorghnóthach againn i gColáiste Mhuirlinne i mbliana. Bhí go leor eachtraí ar siúl le linn an fhéile ar nós tráth na gceist, taispeántas scannáin, fógraí an lae, comórtas póstaer agus céilí mór.

Ag am sosa chuile lá cuireadh siamsaíocht le blas Gaelach ar siúl sa cheaintín do phobal na scoile ar fad- ina measc bhí damhsa Gaelach, amhránaíocht agus rinne tobshlua ón gcéad bhliain cur i láthair iontach d’amhrán na gcupán freisin.

Anuas ar sin eagraíodh turas go dtí seit Ros na Rún agus bhain na daltaí sult as a bheith ag siúl timpeall príomhshráid Ros na Rún, as pionta a tharraingt i dTigh Thaidhg agus as freastal ar na “custaiméirí” sa siopa áitiúil!

Ina dhiaidh sin chuaigh na daltaí go dtí Scoil Cholmcille, Indreabhán áit a bhí drámaíocht, damhsa Gaelach agus amhránaíocht den chéad scoth ar siúl. Chuir na daltaí ón scoil sin seó dén chéad scoth ar siúl agus bhain na daltaí tairbe agus taitneamh as!

Bhí pobal na scoile rannpháirteach sna himeachtaí ar fad agus tá Roinn na Gaeilge fíorbhuíoch do na daltaí agus do mhúinteoirí a thacaigh linn le linn na coicise 😊.



Céilí sa Halla! Kalagh Keenan agus Kinga Nuemann ag damhsa Ballaí Luimní.



Tobshlua sa Cheaintín. Daltaí ón chéad bhliain ag déanamh amhrán na gcupán sa cheaintín in rith am sosa.

Trócaire Appeal

Students and teachers took part in the Trócaire school marathon on Monday, 14th of March. A total mileage of 196 miles over 8 hours was clocked on the treadmills in the school's fitness suite! The proceeds of the end of term Non-Uniform day were also donated to Trócaire, bringing the total funds raised by Coláiste Mhuirinne/ Merlin College to €1,400.

Library Fundraiser

The Student Council held a Bake Sale on Tuesday 15th March to raise funds for their school library. The fundraiser proved to be very successful raising €350. The Student Council wish to thank the parents and students who supported their fundraiser and they welcome any further donations of used books to help stock the school library.

TeenTech Success

A group of First Year Students participated in NUI, Galway's TeenTech competition on Tuesday 8th March. Following on from the school's recent BT Young Scientist success, the Merlin College students were victorious once again!

Savannah Okojie was awarded a prize for her project which was based on DNA extraction from her own saliva. A group of 10 students were presented with the Super Safety Inventor Award for their "Common Sense Car Sensor" device. Another group won the Most Fun Invention Award for their "Flashy Dresser" device.

The Science Club now look forward to developing projects for SciFest and indeed next year's BT Young Scientist and Technology Awards.



Prizewinner Savannah Okojie, taken at TeenTech, NUI, Galway on Tuesday 8th March



Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College students at TeenTech 2016

SPORTS UPDATES

Boys Gaelic Football

The Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College Boys Gaelic Football Team were victorious over St Paul's, Oughterard on Thursday 3rd March. Final score 9-6 to 3-1.

Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College then went to to play Coláiste Iognáid in Galway Connacht Cup quarter final on Thursday, April 7th. Coláiste Mhuirlinne/Merlin College played into a strong wind in the first half and were trailing at half time. A strong second half performance brought Colaiste Mhuirlinne right back into the game but with time against them they could not overturn the deficit and were narrowly beaten on a score of 4-7 to 1-12.

Ladies Football Victory

Well done to the Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College Ladies Football Team who were victorious last Tuesday 15th March against Coláiste na Coiribe. Final score: 7-6 to 2-2

Photo of Ladies Football Team below

Athletics

Merlin College competed in the Connacht Indoor Athletics championships held in Athlone IT held Wednesday the 6th of April. Our team did very well coming fourth in the team competition. We are working hard in preparation for the the Connacht Outdoors championship which will be held later in the term.

