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Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College
Doughiska, Galway
Winter, 2016

Merlin Branches

Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College Newsletter

Winter 2016

A word from our Principal

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and Peaceful New Year. Please have a look at this year's Christmas newsletter which hopefully will give you a small glimpse of some of the activities that took place throughout the year.

Christmas is a time for reflection and family but it is especially a time for children. I hope that you will all have a lovely and peaceful time this Christmas and that we will all be renewed for 2017!

Best wishes,

John Cleary.

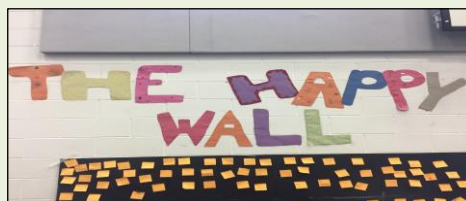


Health Promotion Week

Health Promotion Week took place the week beginning 12th December.

Events and activities were organised for all year groups such as Move It Monday: Exercise Classes ,Try It Tuesday: Mindfulness Session All first years Wellbeing Wednesday: Looking after ourselves, listening to our body, guestspeaker Damien Joyce (Motivational speaker on well-being) and Teamwork Thursday: working with people we don't know.

Well done to the organising teachers and all the students who participated in the week's activities.



IAN McDONAGH TO REPRESENT MERLIN COLLEGE AT BT YOUNG SCIENTIST in 2017

Ian Mc Donagh, 3rd Year, will represent Merlin College once again at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition which takes place in early January in Dublin's RDS. This will be Ian's second time to represent the school at the prestigious competition. Last year his project on horses and the lunar cycle was awarded second place in its category. Ian's project for the 2017 exhibition is entitled: *A Scientific Investigation of the Cures and Folklores of the Irish Travellers.*

"I am aiming to document each cure and strengthen the importance of passing down our knowledge within our Traveller Community, and communities worldwide" Ian states in his proposal. Ian has already visited UCD and the Galway Traveller Movement to gather information for his project.

The BTYSTE takes place from the 11th -14th January. All our first year students are looking forward to visiting Ian in the RDS.

Science Week 2016



Above: A selection of photographs taken during Merlin College's Science Week in November, 2016.



Pictured outside Dáil Éireann, Angel Myobi, 2nd Year and Ian McDonagh, 3rd Year with Galway West TD Anne Rabbitte. Angel and Ian visited UCD and Dáil Éireann on a recent trip to Dublin as part of Ian's research for his BT Young Scientist and Technology project.

Roinn na Gaeilge / Irish Department



Is scéim ghradaim í **Gaelbhreach** a thugann aitheantas do scoileanna a ghníomhaíonn le húsáid na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn tríd an scoil ar fad. Tá Gael-Linn i mbun Gaelbhreach sna scoileanna i gcomhpháirt le Conradh na Gaeilge ar an dara leibhéal agus tá **Coláiste Mhuirlinne** ag glacadh páirt i mbliana don chéad uair.

Tá sí mar aidhm ag an scéim Gaelbhreach scoileanna na tíre a spreagadh agus a chumasú le gníomhú chun úsáid na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn tríd an scoil ar fad ar bhonn pleanáilte, leanúnach, taitneamhach, ar bhealaí atá agus a mbeidh:

- Spreagúil in úsáid na Gaeilge sa scoil
- Spreagúil le comhoibriú gníomhach idir na mic léinn, na múinteoirí agus ceannasaíocht na scoile



Ghlac **15** dalta scoile ó Choláiste Mhuirlinne páirt í ndúshlán teanga darb teideal **Gaeilge24** agus iad ag labhairt as Gaeilge amháin ar feadh 24 uair a' chloig Dé Céadaoin, 16ú Samhain 2017.

Bheartaíomar ceangail a dhéanamh i mblíana le Coláiste an Chréagáin chun an dúshlán seo a chomhlíonadh agus cuidiú mór ab ea an nasc seo chomh maith.



Tae & Pléigh

Tugadh cuireadh don Idirbhliain ó Choláiste Cholmcille Indreabhán, fillleadh ar mhaidin 'Tae & Pléigh' le rang na hIdirbhliana Coláiste Mhuirlinne/Merlin College ar an 2ú mhí na Nollag.

Roinn na Gaeilge/ The Irish Department have been very busy so far this academic year! Our main aim this year is to achieve the "Gaelbhreach" (bratach means flag) in recognition of our endeavours in promoting the Irish language within the school. Many events have been organised this year including "Gaeilge 24" when 15 students took on the challenge to speak Gaeilge for 24 hours. At the beginning of December TYs held a "Tea and Talk" (Tae & Pléigh) morning when they hosted students from Coláiste Cholmcille.

Sports & Extracurricular

Afterschool Activities 2016/2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Maths Club	Drama	Ladies Basketball	Ladies Fitness
Ladies Soccer	Boys Basketball	Boys Soccer	Trad Group
	Glee Club	Ukulele Club	Gaelic Football
	Computer Club		

Girls Gaelic Football

The girls had a very busy few months playing U14 and Junior football. The girls apply a "never give up attitude" to all their games which is great to see.

The girls have been complemented by the referee in nearly all of their games for being so mannerly. Keep up the good work girls!!

Soccer

Merlin College have three teams entered in FAI Schools leagues. In the most recent fixtures our Under 17 boys team played two games beating Coláiste an Eachreidh Athenry 5-1 at home. The boys were narrowly defeated in a very competitive game against Galway Community College in Mervue the game finishing 4-2.

Our under 14's and under 15's have one more group game to play after Christmas.

Boys Gaelic Football

Both our First Year and Juvenile teams have performed very well over the last term, recording victories against Clifden C.S. Colaiste Cholmcille and Coláiste Chroí Mhuire, Spiddal. We look forward to returning to action in the New Year.



Leaving Certificate Applied Raise Funds for Hospice

The LCA Hotel, Catering and Tourism held a coffee morning for teachers and staff in aid of Galway Hospice, on Friday December 2nd, in Ms Biggins' Home Economics room. A total of €375.62 was raised for the worthy cause. Well done to all involved!

Left: Ms Biggins & Ms. Kyne preparing for the Galway Hospice Coffee Morning

Xmas Jumper Day 2016



L-R: Klera Balandina, Kieran, Erika Ligeikaite, Eoghan O Connor, Dylan Watters, Jack O Connor, Emma McGrath & Miriam Lawless



Student Council Representatives, L-R: Kinga Nuemann, 2nd Year, Angel Myobi, 2nd Year, Patricia Goluba, 3rd Year, Emmani Kazadi, 1st Year

The Art Department



Above: A selection of student work and social media posts from the Art Department. See our Art Department's blog for more info and examples of student work <http://333tree333house.blogspot.ie/>

The Student Council

The student council have been working on the following this term:

Healthy Eating Recommendations/Survey completed

Uniform Survey

Traffic Easing Plan (currently in progress)

Xmas Jumper Day (fundraising)

Library Drive (to establish more library time)



Junior Cert Results



Top: Aleksandra Delatowska &
Danielle Caffrey
Middle: Andy Lukas & Dolapo
Shomefun
Bottom: Dennis Soukhikh, Mateusz
Bukowski, Craig Burns, Gary Carolan



TY Highlights 2016



1. Team Building Day Renvile Park Wednesday
2. Enterprise Talk
3. Trip to Bank of Ireland Mervue
4. Leaving Cert Applied trip to NUIG engraving department
5. Trip to Galway GAA Centre of Excellence
6. Merlin Park hospital link
7. CANSAT science and Technology project GMIT
8. Lisa Regan Talk on Wellness
9. NUIG Business Academy
10. GMIT Open Day
11. NUIG Enterprise Day
12. Foróige Leadership Programme
13. Teen voices public speaking program {10 week program}
14. Madra dog shelter Day Trip
15. Shout Out {Talk on LGBT issues in school.}
16. CISCO Careers Talk
17. NUIG Coding Workshop
18. Beauty Workshop
19. Build a Burglar Alarm workshop
20. STEM careers Talk
21. GMIT Engraving Talk
22. CAMUS History Workshop
23. Introduction to Water Safety
24. Zumba Fitness Class
25. Boston Scientific Link Program
26. Induction programme with Merlin Woods Sixth Class
27. ISPCC talk
28. GRETB Apprentice morning Mervue
29. Merlin Park Hospital Art project
30. Leaving cert applied Coffee morning in aid of Galway Hospice
31. Leaving Cert applied Indoor soccer tournament
32. ISPCC Charity day
33. Athletics Cross Country with Claregalway College
34. Ice Skating





A selection of photographs taken during Health Promotion Week. 1st Year, 2nd Year and TY students made "Mindfulness Jars" pictured above. TYs also had a mindfulness session with Keith Horan from Being Mindful. Oranmore.



Christmas Cake Decorating



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**MANY THANKS TO THE PARENTS,
STUDENTS AND STAFF MEMBERS WHO
SUPPORTED OUR RECENT BAG PACKING
FUNDRAISER IN DUNNES, BRIARHILL,
€1150 WAS RAISED!**

THANK
You!

Merlin College



Winter 2016



Merlin College 100% Junior cert success

Principal of Merlin College, John Cleary, has said that he is "over the moon" and delighted with the 100% success rate achieved by the school's Junior Certificate students. Although the results were a first for the school, Mr Cleary was adamant to point out that the teaching staff and the school's ethos were the key to this success. He said the school would continue to offer a holistic and pastoral approach to every child that attended the school and that the school would continue to strive for excellence in all its endeavours.



Galway City Tribune



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