

SOLAS MAGAZINE

ST. AIDAN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN HILL, CORK
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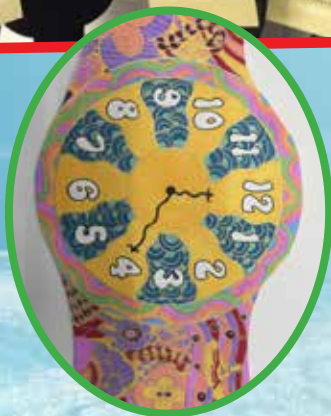
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Swatch
this space!



Congratulations to Jessica Ricken on winning the Swatch Watch original design competition which was run by Neville's Jewellers, Blackpool.

Vicky Burke and Lauren Murphy also received prizes, which included a beautiful Swatch watch, for their fantastic designs. Their drawings are being forwarded to the Swiss watch maker. Now in their final year of school, we wish these talented artists the very best in the future.

Wellbeing

In St Aidan's we are continuously working on the many indicators of wellbeing. Students are pictured here during our annual Health Week, trampolining in Airtastic, enjoying a skin-care and make-up workshop and attending an aromatherapy & relaxation workshop with therapist Debbie Moriarty.



"A happy mind is a healthy mind, and a healthy mind is good for the body."
 Dalai Lama

“You can find magic wherever you look.
Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.”

Dr Seuss



Literacy Wellread Award

This year we will be applying to become a Wellread school, the PDST National Award.

As part of our literacy initiatives we are working to create heightened awareness about the importance of creating a culture of reading in our school. It is envisaged that being part of this national award will explicitly foster and nurture a reading culture and will bring about an overall improvement in students' literacy levels in a fun and engaging way. Students are currently involved in a number of reading initiatives such as paired reading, read at home programmes and students also work on creating book displays in the school library.

A student book club is also now being held once a week during lunch time. We look forward to working with parents on reading initiatives in the coming months.





RENOWNED AUTHOR ENTHRALS YOUNG AUDIENCE

Michael Smith, the world-famous author and acknowledged expert on the Antarctic explorer Tom Crean, came and visited us in Pobalcholáiste Aodáin this term. He was doing a tour of Ireland publicising his latest book when Leaving Cert Applied student Courtney Ní Crabháin emailed him requesting further information on a project we are doing on Antarctica and Tom Crean.

There was a certain alignment of the stars that facilitated this trip that Courtney managed to arrange. Rang Oisín were also doing an Idirbhliain Project on Tom Crean so Michael came to speak to both groups. He spoke for over an hour and it is fair to say that he had his audience in rapt attention for the duration. Both classes compiled a thorough and quite exhaustive list of incredibly perceptive and engaging questions to which Michael had a volley of extensive responses. He mentioned to me afterwards that both classes had asked him the most intelligent and thoughtful questions he has come across to this date. There is no doubt but that the legend of one of our most treasured sons, Tom Crean, will continue. Go maire an fínscéal seo go deo!

Rossai

IRISH NATURE WALK

I mbliana agus le cúpla bliain anuas, tá béim mhór ar litearthacht ar fud na tíre agus go h-áirithe i bPobalcholáiste Aodáin leis. Cuireadh ár dTionscnamh Litearthachta ar an bhfód i riocht na scéime seo- réamh mhúineadh na focail a ghabhann leis na crainn, na dathanna agus na bláthanna as Gaoluinn, chuir na mic-léinn agus na h-iníonacha-léinn íomhánna ar a bhfóin phóca agus thugadar iad isteach leis na focail chearta clóbhualite orthu ar an scáilean. Sa tslí san, d'fhoghlaimíodh na tearmaí agus nuair a chuamar ar ár dturas chun obair sa ghort a dhéanamh, bhí sé ar a gcumas acu cuid des na crainn 's eile a aithint. Tá iontráil dialainne á scríobh acu fé láthair. Ní foláir a rá go bhfuil leigheas sa dúlra ar gach aon ní agus fás agus forbairt le fáilt d'intinní óga leis.



An tUasal Rosboire



In continuing our General Educational Task with Rang Ruairí we opted to do our field research in Abhainn na Scáil, birthplace of the great explorer Tom Crean. We met with Gary Percyville, owner of The South Pole Inn and local expert on the topic. He actually opened up the centre out of hours for us to enable us to take photos and listen to his incredible talk on Tom's travels. He even went to the trouble of bringing us to Tom's birthplace and to his grave. His talk was fascinating to the highest degree and we learned even more information for our task.

It has been a very busy but rewarding year for both LCA classes, Ruairí and Eithne, who have risen to every challenge they have faced thus far, very much in the spirit of our great hero!
 Rossaí

Lee Donovan, Craig Morey, Jack Stewart, Cian O'Connor and Tyrone Gleeson, class Sean, attended a Film Festival's school screening of the much acclaimed "Michael Inside" at the Gate Cinema in November. The film's gripping plot which draws on questions of recidivism, justice, friendship and control had students captivated from the opening scene.



My Experience of LCA

We chose this programme because we thought it would suit us more than the standard Leaving Certificate. It has been a busy first term with many key assignments to complete. Our teachers have been keeping us busy, both in and out of the classroom. The many trips and activities have included Clonakilty Outdoor Adventure Centre, Spike Island in Cork harbour, the Cookery Cottage in Douglas and Annascaul in Co Kerry where we visited the birthplace of Tom Crean as part of our general education task. Overall, we are really enjoying the LCA course and are really glad we chose this programme.

Katie McCarthy & Courtney Craven,
 Class Ruairí.



WE TEACH...



ART



WE CARE...



KAYLEIGH, MS. LEE & JAMIE



BAKE-OFF!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

"EDUCATION IS NOT THE LEARNING OF FACTS BUT THE TRAINING OF THE MIND TO THINK." ALBERT EINSTEIN



AROMATHERAPY WITH DEBBIE

WE
MOTIVATE...



ENGINEERING



MATERIALS WOOD
TECHNOLOGY



ROSS AND LAUREN ATTEND A STUDY SKILLS CLASS WITH ORLA FARMER, UCC

WE
INSPIRE...



As part of their Christmas assessment, 4th year class Oisín ran a basketball coaching session for 1st year class Marcus. In the lead up to the event, students were tasked with organising groups and planning the lesson. They practiced and prepared various basketball skills and drills, while also engaging in peer coaching. A variety of warm ups, drills and matches were played on the day and students had a great time.

Well done to all!



Senior students have been working with 3rd year classes to help them prepare for their Classroom Based Assessments and Assessment Tasks which will take place this year in English, Science and Business Studies. Practical advice and tips as well as very important study skills are shared with the students.

Thank you to Kelly Meaney and Shauna Lane, pictured here, for providing valuable support and feedback to students.

Congratulations to Katie Cronin, 2nd year class Muireann, on her recent competition success. She won multiple prizes for her club, The Sapphire Baton Twirlers. Well done Katie!

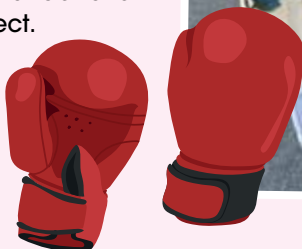


ART



ST. AIDAN'S ART STUDENTS HONOUR LOCAL BOXING LEGEND

Our LCA 2 Art students welcomed the family of local boxing legend, Pakey Mahony, to Blackpool library to mark the opening of their exhibition on the life of this remarkable man. The exhibition "Pakey Mahony, the boxer from Blackpool" featured an amazing re-creation of the Irish heavyweight champion's belt. Pakey's daughter and grandchild Liz are seen here proudly displaying the belt with our students Lee Donovan, Cian Heaphy, Cian O'Connor, Adam Brew and Tyrone Gleeson. A huge thank you to Ms. Lee for inspiring her students to undertake such a worthwhile project.



Our 6th year art class had the wonderful opportunity to visit Dublin's National Gallery of Ireland to explore the work of famous Irish artists like Louis le Broquay and Mary Swanzy, the National Archaeological Museum to view Europe's greatest hoard of gold iron-age artefacts and the Hugh Lane Gallery to see Francis Bacon's work. The rain didn't stop the group from enjoying the Molly Malone statue, Trinity College and The Spire. Day two at Newgrange in Co. Meath saw the group explore this Neolithic passage grave and its beautiful surroundings. The class would like to thank the school especially Ms. Quane and Ms. Curley for helping to organise and fund the trip.





The TY Enterprise module has seen pupils put their creativity, entrepreneurship and communication skills to good use. A team of students have been busy maintaining the outdoor garden spaces while inside, a successful pop up café, a cinema day and raffle by AJS hampers were organised by our budding entrepreneurs.

GAISCE AWARDS



Gaisce or “great achievement” is a self-development programme for young people aged 15-25 and has been in existence since 1985. The core values of the programme are empowerment, respect, excellence, inclusion and quality. This year 13 students received the Bronze Award for participating in a number of challenges which included learning sign language, Korean and playing a musical instrument. We took part in an overnight trip to Carlow and put our physical endurance to the test when we canoed 25km down the river Barrow! We completed these challenges with the help of our PAL, President’s Award Leader, Mr Breen.
Kelly Meaney, TY

SHOEBOX APPEAL 2018



Team Hope is an Irish Christian development aid charity, working with children, their families and communities in Eastern Europe, former Soviet Union, and Africa. They work all year helping children access education, proper infrastructure, hygiene and health. The annual Shoebox Appeal sees thousands of boxes filled in this country destined for children who live in extreme poverty. Every single box makes a difference in a child’s life – showing that there is someone who cares. We are very proud of Clara, Ian and Jake, pictured here, who represent the many TY students who participated in the Shoebox Appeal.

BASKETBALL

at St. Aidan's



“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.”

PHIL JACKSON
Basketball player & Coach





Merry Christmas to the staff and students of St Aidan's from Ellie and Darraugh!



Wishing our families and friends a very merry Christmas and New Year, from Hollie and David



Wishing our neighbours and friends a very happy holiday season, from Lauren and Darraugh.



Hoping that 2019 brings peace and happiness to all! From Zach and Rachel.

