

St. Conleth's Community College

February Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2017

FEBRUARY ISSUE

Principal's Piece

You are all very welcome to our first newsletter of 16/17. There is something for everyone here. The variety and creativity of the articles and events in these pages represent the talents of St Conleth's Community College students and staff alike. We have had a very busy start to the school year for both staff and students. There have been many trips both educational and recreational for students and the Teachers have attended a number of Training Days in relation to the New Junior Cycle.

Our Parents Association's International Food Day was a great day in the school as was our recent Awards Day for students. Third and sixth years are currently sitting their Mock Examinations and after mid-term will have a busy term of Orals and Practicals so I would like to wish them all the best.

A publication of this nature takes a lot of organisation and work. My special thanks go to Ms O'Connell and the Student Council for their endless energy in making The

School Magazine possible. Thanks also go to those students and staff who have contributed articles, drawings and photographs.

And finally to wish you all a relaxing and rejuvenating Mid Term break.

Ms Patricia O'Brien

Principal



Positive Mental Health Week

Jan 16th-20th the 5A class organised Positive Mental Health week in St. Conleth's CC. There was information displays and competitions for all students and staff to take part in.

Positive Mental Health week was ran in conjunction with the General Education task for Leaving Certificate Applied and the Amber flag initiative, which the 5A class are working towards this year.

Students especially enjoyed the "Guess the Teacher" baby photo competition, as well as creating art work and poetry on the theme of Positive Mental Health.

The winning posters and poetry is on display on the school's Positive Mental Health notice board, as well as the Relaxation gardens designed by the Horticulture class and the 'Good Mood Food' recipes designed by the Hotel, Tourism and Catering class.



Trip to Germany

On 28 October 2016, St Conleth's Community College school tour visited the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany. We spent most of the morning there. We had a tour guide who gave us information about the concentration camp, the conditions the prisoners faced and what became of the concentration camp after it was liberated by the Allies at the end of the Second World War.

Walking through Dachau was emotional. I felt as if I was walking in a graveyard among the graves of the victims who brutally died from labour and terrible conditions. There was no life, no birds flying overhead.

It was as if they could feel the bad energy, as if they knew the horrible experiments that were performed and the daily torture that the people in the camp had to endure.

It was such an eerie place. Seeing the conditions in the camp and learning about its history made me want to share the experience with others in order for them to be able to know what happened there. I believe that all people should go and visit these places and see what happened so that history does not repeat itself. Photographs of our visit can be seen at www.stconlethscchistory.weebly.com

Elizabeth Ryjkova and Nicole Morrissey 2G



Science Corner..

Young scientists exhibition: In January the 1st year students were brought to the young scientists exhibition in the RDS in Dublin. Students had an opportunity to see a wide variety of different displays and seminars on the day.

There was everything from robots, magic shows and computer games. All students had a great day and some went home full of ideas and hopes to enter next year.

Biology ecology trip:

In September the 5th and 6th year biology classes went to Dublin for an ecology trip. The group left Newbridge in the early morning and got the train to Dublin. We then walked to Phoenix park and carried out a wide variety of ecology experiments.

After they had completed their ecology work the students then went to Dublin zoo and enjoyed loads of free time to explore the zoo and have lunch.





Sport News

Basketball news

It was once again a successful year for the boys and girls teams in St Conleth's Community College with the girls and boys U19 and U16 teams performing well in the first and second term.

The first year boys tournament kicks off with a game on Thursday 16th February—Best of luck to all involved.



Soccer tournament

There will be 3 weeks of fixtures in total in the soccer tournament. The teams are made up of a mix of all of the different year groups. It's great to see some of the other students taking the younger ones on board. Every team gets to play at least 5 games resulting in a prize for the overall winning team.



I can name all the animals who dwell in the forest. There were Mr Curly tail pig, Jack daw and his family, and old creepy owl. He got the name creepy because he would always frighten the children with his haunted cry "Boo-Hoo", he would say. That's just to name but a few. Yeah the whole forest is such a busy place at this time of year.

- Author, Martin Phillips

Student News

Awards Day

The student awards day was held on Tuesday 7th February. Awards were given for Attendance, best Christmas results and the awards for the top results in the Junior Certificate 2016 were awarded to joint scorers Joseph Ward and Leah O' Halleron. Congratulations to all winners.

Upcoming Paris trip

Thirty three lucky St Conleth's Community College students will set off with their teachers to Paris on Thursday 14th September this year. They will enjoy a mix of cultural and fun activities including a guided tour of the highlights of the Louvre Museum, a bird's eye view of Paris from the Eiffel Tower, great attractions and a magnificent Dream Show with a fireworks display at Euro Disney.

Other highlights include a visit to the twelfth century Notre Dame Cathedral, a Bateau Mouche trip along the Seine and typical French cuisine in a city centre French restaurant.

It will be a wonderful opportunity for the St Conleth's students to practice their French and get to know Paris.



Parents Association

Sale of Work in aid of cookery book

A sale of work was held in the school on Tuesday 7th February to raise funds for the publication of our new cookery book which will be ready for sale just after Easter. The sale was run in conjunction with our 2nd year parent-teacher meeting.

All of the Home Economics, Woodwork, Metalwork and Art teachers helped their students to produce goods to sell at the event. It was a very successful evening.

Bag Packing

The Parents Association also had a bag-packing day in Dunnes Stores on Thursday February 9th from 10.00-4.00. 5th Year LCA students also helped out. Many thanks to all involved.

Trips

The parents Association will be attending a cookery demonstration in the IVY House cookery school on Friday morning Feb 17th.

A trip to the Dail has also been organised for Tuesday March 28th.



National Library trip

On Tuesday 17 January our 5th Year history class visited the National Library of Ireland, located on Kildare Street, in the heart of Dublin city. The National Library is next door to Leinster House where Dáil Éireann sits.

The purpose of visiting the National Library was to give us an opportunity to learn research skills and how to analyse sources. We attended a workshop in which we learned how to use the library catalogue. We were also shown the reading room where people carefully (and silently!) examined sources of interest to them.

Our journey around the city was rich in history. Our train arrived at Pearse Station which is named after the 1916 leader Pádraig Pearse. We then walked past the Merrion Square entrance to Leinster House and on to the Shelbourne Hotel and St Stephen's Green. British snipers were stationed on the roof of the hotel during the 1916 Rising with a group of rebels below them in St Stephen's Green. We saw the Mansion House on Dawson Street where the First Dáil met in 1916 before walking to Kildare Street to the National Library.

After our work in the library was done we walked to O'Connell Street to the General Post Office, the rebel headquarters during the rising. It was truly fascinating to see the bullet holes and shell damage that remains on the pillars in front of the GPO. Our train back to Newbridge departed from Heuston Station which is named after Seán Heuston who was executed in Kilmainham Jail in 1916.

The workshop and tour will certainly be exceptionally useful as we complete our Leaving Certificate Research Project!

By Dominika Pawlik, 5G

