



NEWSLETTER



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Welcome

Dear Parents/Guardian

Easter greetings to you all. I trust our students are enjoying the sunshine during their school break. Easter is a time of hope and joy and it is particularly easy to be hopeful and joyful when the weather is good and the days are longer. We have lots of reason to embrace these qualities here at Le Chéile Secondary School that you will read all about in the following pages.



I am very happy to inform you that the school building in Tyrrelstown is finally moving ahead. All tenders are due to be submitted on April 21st and building should commence within twelve weeks of this date. We certainly all look forward in hope to the day the first sod is turned!

“Easter blessings on you all”

- DR. MORAN

Sean Goan (the Chairperson of the Board), Mr. O'Connor and myself visited An Tanaiste, Joan Burton during the February break. While we were in government buildings we also met the Minister for Education, Jan O'Sullivan. Both ministers have given us commitments that we will be in a position to move into the school in August 2016. As 2016 is an election year I would ask each of you to keep up the pressure on your local representatives.

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In the meantime we have been allocated a new extension to the current pre-fabs at Mill Road. This will include four new classrooms, a new toilet block, an office for the Deputy Principal and changing rooms for PE. The new extension will join the prefabs to the main building - so no more running between buildings in the rain!

At the moment we are going through the recruitment process for the new Deputy Principal. There is a lot of interest in the position. The appointment will be made the week of the 11th of May. Leadership is important in all schools but perhaps even more so at the beginning phase of a school. Please keep the process in your prayers that we will appoint the right person to help lead the school in the most positive way possible. In June we will recruit for new teaching staff to meet the needs of our growing student numbers.

As you read these pages you will appreciate how busy and exciting the last term has been. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our teachers, ancillary staff and all our students for the great work that they do every day. I would also like to thank the Parents Council for their involvement and support for the school.

Easter blessings on you all.

Dr. Moran

Dates for the summer term

April 13	School reopens
April 21	Tenders for building received
April 24	Rang Nelson Mandela go to the Skywalk in Croke Park with students who lost no points between January and the February break.
May 4	School Closed for Bank Holiday
May 7	Parent/Teacher Meeting
May 9	Interviews for Deputy Principal
May 12	Archbishop Diarmuid Martin celebrates Mass of Thanksgiving for the school year at 2pm in the school - all are welcome.
May 15	Sports Day
May 21	School BBQ and completion of the 'skip around Ireland' at 6pm
May 22	Prize-giving Day
May 22	School uniforms on sale in GP hall from 1.30pm
May 25 - May 28	Summer Tests (mornings only - students will finish school at 1pm each day)
May 28	Summer Holidays begin for students at 1pm on May 28th.
May 29	Staff Meeting

Subject Focus - Geography



Welcome to the Geography Department

Hello and welcome staff, students and parents!

At this stage of the year your son/daughter has had a taste of Geography at secondary school level. Each pupil in Le Chéile sampled this subject for 8 weeks and hopefully they fell as much in love with the subject as I did when I was in school.

Geography in junior cycle aims to develop students' understanding of the world they live in, what shapes the environment and how the environment is influenced by people in different ways. Geographical processes are happening in the world all around us and it is very interesting to find out how and why these events happen.

In the 8 short weeks your child has studied Geography, he/she already knows about our solar system and the processes that help shape our planet Earth. These include topics such as what causes plate tectonics to move, how volcanos are formed and earthquakes occur. Your child has already developed their very own interactive Geography ebook, to present the new information they have learned in their 8 week block course. Your child has watched videos, made their own mini iMovies and recorded information in their copies to help them in their understanding of this subject.

If your child is interested in pursuing Geography over the next two years of their junior cycle, here is what to expect. Your child will learn how to source and use information from different sources including the internet, books, maps, photographs, graphs, diagrams and newspapers. As students learn in Geography they are encouraged to collect information related to their learning beyond the classroom through fieldwork studies.

Geography is a subject that suits most pupils as it has a nice balance between scientific and human elements. So far in first year, we have looked at scientific geography, or physical geography (as it's more commonly known.) In second and third year, we will be focusing on topics such as rocks, rivers and the sea, however we will also be examining the roles us humans have to play in the world around us.

Ms Lattin

Event Focus - Emmanuel concert at the Helix by Kelly Egbon



The Emmanuel Concert 2015 was from: 3 March - 5 March and it commenced at 7:30 pm and ended at 10:00 pm. It was only €10 to watch the incredible concert performed by secondary students around Ireland.

This year over 2,100 secondary students from 59 different schools came to the Helix several hours before the concert to rehearse songs about God in The Mahony hall with Ian Callanan, the music director. The students rehearsed the songs on their Emmanuel song books which they were given to, by their music teachers.

There are several brilliant songs in the Emmanuel song book such as Holy ground by Liam Lawton, arr. Chris de Silva, Canon of Praise by Johann Pachelbel, arr. Hal. H. Hopson, Live the message by Tom Kendzia, To You, O God by Bob Hurd, God is by Phillip LaRue, Chris Stevens and many more.



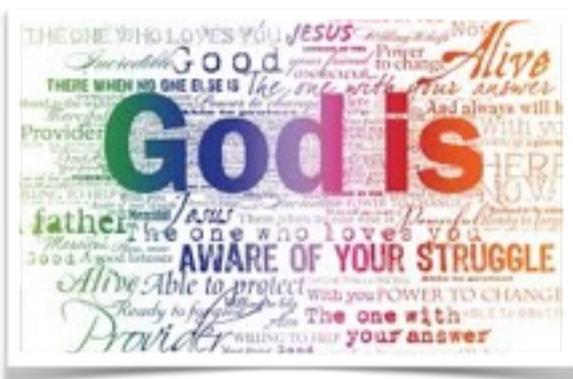
Event Focus - Emmanuel concert at the Helix by Kelly Egbon

The students practiced and practiced and practiced till they aced their rehearsal. Finally it was show time!

Many parents arrived for the concert to watch their kids preform beautifully. The concert commenced at 7.30 with lots of enjoyable songs/solos,dancing and interesting speeches.

The concert was very fascinating,marvellous and it was the most memorable concert ever! I would love to go to the Emmanuel Concert in Helix ever year. I had so much fun and I noticed everybody else did as well.

By Kelly Egbon



Event Focus - International week

At the start of this term, Ms. Ní Dhonncha and Ms. Byrne organised "Connecting cultures" week where pupils learned more about the world they live in as well as having celebrated both what is unique, and what is similar, about their heritage and backgrounds.

Children enjoyed daily "D.E.A.L." competitions where pupils had to "drop everything and listen" and identify which country the song playing originated from.

On the Tuesday and Wednesday, the focus was on China where they learned about the cities, the panda sanctuary, the language and culture. They made postcards, wrote their name out in Mandarin, did quizzes and engaged in a discussion about the "one child policy." Each child then wrote a postcard home from China to show what they had seen and heard on their learning trip there! Some pupils chose to write an extra card about a country that they had to do new research about.

Mr. O'Connor also launched his international science channel where Le Chéile has been twinned with a school in Vietnam where they will be able to share science tips.

The week's celebrations culminated on the Friday with "Connecting Cultures" day when pupils were joined by their parents in celebrating global culture. Each child brought in a speciality cooked /baked food from their family's countries of origin and a massive feast was had by all. This was preceded by a concert and fashion show where pupils showed off their countries' national dress as well as singing national anthems, reciting poetry and telling the audience what they liked about living in Ireland.



Le Chéile also celebrated Seactain na Gaeilge (Irish week) during this term. The week was a great success with quizzes, a ceili mór and lots of "Gaeilge" enjoyed by all.

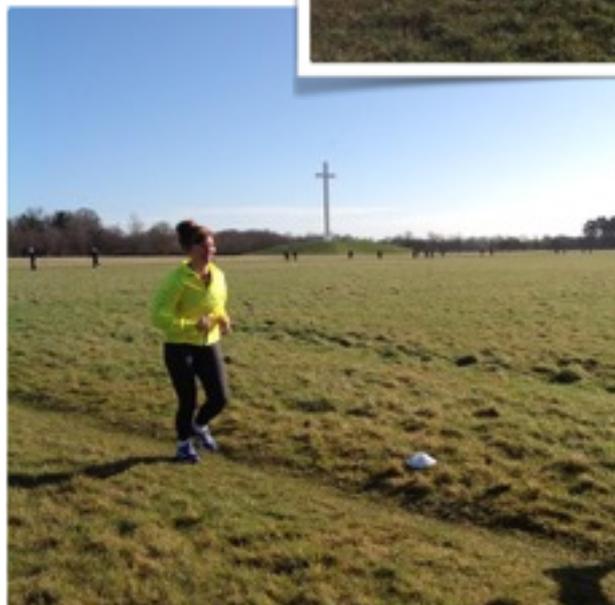
Event Focus - International week



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Event Focus - Couch to 5K @ Phoenix Park



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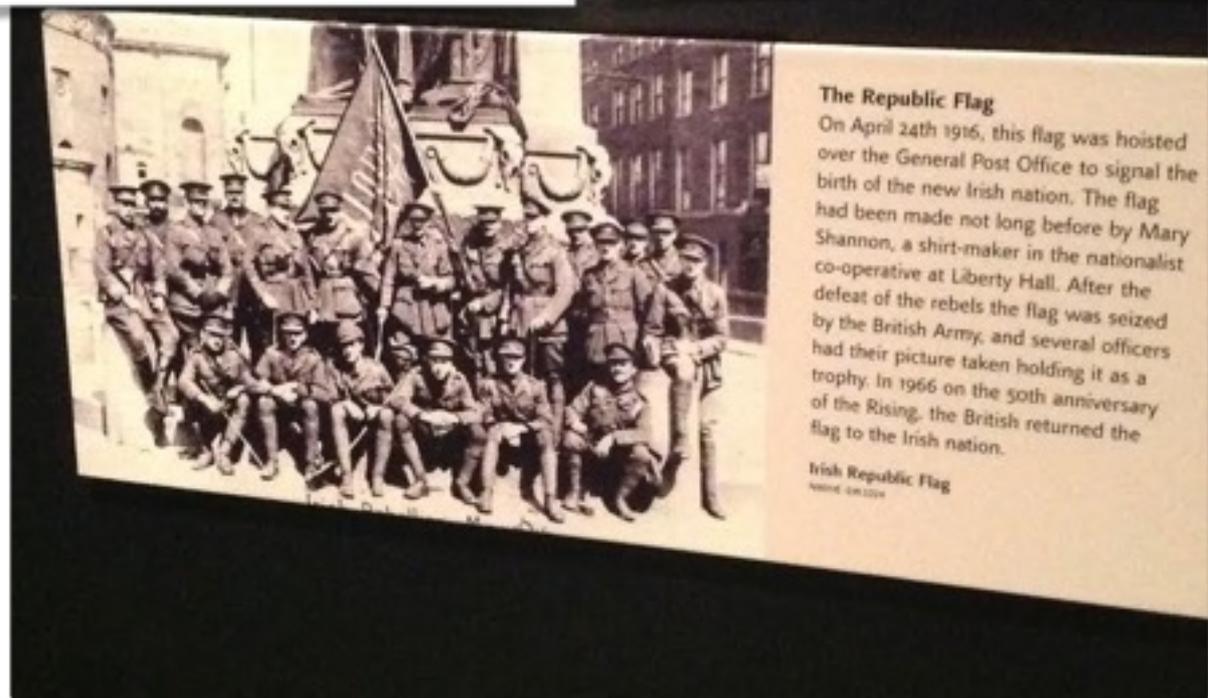
Event Focus - Couch to 5K @ Phoenix Park



Event Focus - Collins Barracks



Event Focus - Collins Barracks



Student photos - Le Cheile chicks





Watch the launch on the 'BISLeCheile' YouTube channel
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zovJMewDJxY>)



** Welcome * Wisdom * Witness **

LE CHEILE

Reaching new heights..

Read more at <http://lecheilesecondaryschool.ie>