

Christmas Newsletter



Distinguished School



Message from the Deputy Principal

It is hard to believe that we have reached this time of year. We have had such a busy term and much has been achieved. As we look forward to welcoming the New Year we also look back at the last term in 2018. As usual at Le Chéile Secondary School there has been a huge amount of activity with many highlights and I hope that you will get a chance to sit back over the Christmas period and enjoy reading through our Newsletter.

It is wonderful to have a first group of Sixth Year students and we were delighted to announce Andrea Beyer-Fraile and OJ Okey-Uche as our first Head Girl and Head Boy during the Awards Ceremony on our School Feast Day. Together with a team of fantastic prefects they are showing great leadership, are excellent ambassadors for the school and promote the student voice in a mature and appropriate way.

This term saw the school achieve some wonderful accolades. We are delighted to have received the "21st Century Schools of Distinction" Award from Trinity College, a recognition of our efforts to develop innovative approaches to teaching and learning. We have also been awarded Apple Distinguished School status. This award recognises learning environments where students are excited about learning, curiosity is fostered and learning is a personal experience. It is a privilege to be part of a such a progressive, creative and dynamic school and these awards reflect the hard work and commitment of our students and teachers.

The Christmas season is a very special time and brings great opportunities for spiritual re-growth and reunions with family and friends. It can however also be very challenging for some and at this time our thoughts and prayers are with those who are dealing with loss or anxiety over the health of loved ones.

Finally, I wish all families in the Le Chéile community a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas and look forward to welcoming students back in the New Year.

Ms Harrington

Message from the Dr Moran

Welcome to our first newsletter in the school year 2018/19. I extend a special welcome to the parents/guardians of our First year students and those who have transferred to Le Cheile Secondary School from other schools. I really do hope you have enjoyed your first term at Le Chéile Secondary School, that you have learned lots of new things and have made new friends. Welcome too to all our new staff. It is great to see the school community growing and becoming even more diverse. Certainly differences are to be celebrated!

This term feels like a harvesting of all the hard work that has gone in to building up the school to date. We have received a number of National and International awards that acknowledge our leadership in teaching and learning in the country. We received an Excellence in STEM award from the Department of Education and Skills. We are developing a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) academy in the school and the beginning of this academy is our Blue Sky initiative on Monday mornings. Student voice and choice is an important element of our school culture and in Blue Sky students get to choose from twenty different, student led workshops where they can explore learning outside of the confines of the ordinary curriculum.

We received the award of 21st Century School of Distinction from Trinity College. This award acknowledges the way in which encourage all students to be their 'best self' and to put no limits on their options when they leave school. The award also acknowledges innovative approaches to teaching and learning, mentoring, leadership development and post-secondary readiness. Part of being ready for the world outside of secondary school is to have confidence in yourself and to have a certain resilience when life deals you a tough hand. We couldn't ask for more for the students in our care.

The third award that we received is the very prestigious Apple School of Distinction. We are only the second secondary school in Ireland to achieve this award and it is all the more amazing when we consider that we are not yet five years old! What a journey it has been with you all. I know our students and teachers are always pushing the boundaries on how to best use technology in the classroom for maximum effect and minimum disruption.

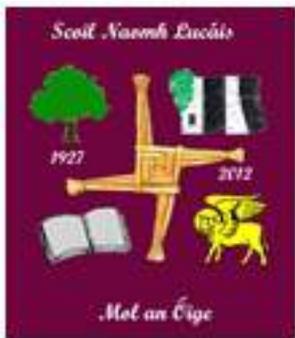
As an anecdote to technology (and as part of Blue Sky) I have had the great pleasure this term of working with the students to design and furnish our school library. This is now a beautiful space in which to curl up with a book or to do some quiet study. It is a technology free zone (well apart from the interactive board). We look forward to welcoming parents/guardians into this space in the very near future.

May I take this opportunity to wish each of you a very blessed Christmas. May the joy of 'God with us' - however you perceive the energy of God - fill your home with peace and goodwill this holiday season.

Dr. Moran

Le Chéile Welcomes St Lukes National School

On the lead up to Halloween festivities the community of Tyrrelstown was shaken with the news the news that two of its primary schools would have to close due structural faults in their building. This certainly caused a fright! In this time of crisis the community rallied and Le Chéile Secondary School welcomed 600 students into their new building. Andrea Beyer-Fraile and OJ led our merry band of prefects where they sang and danced to the aul classic Baby Shark doo doo doo doo doo doo... The students of St Lukes have been a credit to their school, their teachers and their parents during their time in Le Chéile. We'll be sorry to see them go!



Le Chéile Secondary School

The Claddagh - What's in a name?

Le Chéile students by now should know that our new ASD class at the front of the school is called 'The Claddagh' but most may not know why. Many ASD classes in Irish schools get an Irish name and the word 'Claddagh' is the Irish for the word 'shore'. It could be supposed that the location of the Claddagh right at the very front of our school building is a bit like a shore if you were to imagine our school carpark and pitch as the sea. The shore is a place of safety just as we'd like to think 'The Claddagh' is a place of safety for our students.

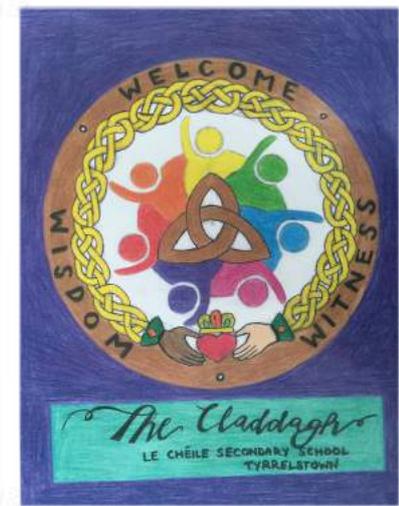
However, the main reason for naming our ASD class 'The Claddagh' is because of the Claddagh Village in Galway City. Although this is a separate village and was just outside the city walls at one point, it is also right beside the centre of the city and today is in reality a part of the city, close to its heart and as synonymous with Galway City as Shop Street or Eyre Square one might say. Even the location, geography and shape of our ASD class in relation to the rest of our school building could if we stretch our imaginations, be a little bit like 'The Claddagh Village' in relation to Galway City, but most importantly it is the metaphor of a village that is found within a City that we wished to convey. The fact that 'The Claddagh' historically has a somewhat separate identity and culture to the rest of Galway may also be true at some level with our ASD class. Essentially, it straddles both worlds of being a little bit separate but at the same time being part of 'Le Chéile' just like the Claddagh and Galway.

Another part of our thinking with this name is the famous 'Claddagh Ring' and it's appropriate symbolism of hands representing 'Friendship', a heart representing 'Love' and a crown representing 'Loyalty'. We think that these 3 concepts are very important for the families of students with special education needs as it is to all our students, staff and their families. Love, loyalty and friendship are also central to the philosophy of what we as a Catholic School wish to create and promote here in this new ASD class, in Le Chéile Secondary School as a whole and in the wider Community of Tyrrelstown and beyond.

The other thing 'The Claddagh Village' is most famous for is fishing. Someone once said "There's more to life than fishing, but not much", maybe there's some truth in that. Education is a bit like fishing in some ways as we try to hook our students on the love of learning. Fishing played an important part in the life of Jesus (fitting in well with our school's Christian Ethos), we have the famous story of the Salmon of Knowledge from Irish mythology and the fish image is also a major symbol for education in Ireland. Like the fisher folk of the Claddagh who provided nourishment to the people of Galway with their hard won catch, it would be our hope that the students and staff of our new ASD class will provide a nourishment of kindness and understanding to the rest of our school community and vice versa.

Unlike some Irish words 'the Claddagh' is quite easy to pronounce for everyone. The story of the man who designed 'The Claddagh Ring' is also a very exciting one that I'll let you research yourselves if interested. We think it would do no harm for our students to learn a little about 'The Claddagh' as the important treasure of Irish culture that it is and we can all bring new meaning to this name with the creation of our own 'Claddagh' here at Le Chéile. The way the Claddagh ring fits so well within our school's crest is an added bonus of choosing this name and it is appropriate symbolism to put a heart at the centre of our school motto. Welcome, Wisdom and Witness should always come from our hearts, don't you think?

Thank you to Gillian Garcia in Transition Year for her help with the design of 'The Claddagh' crest, it is really beautiful. So that is the story why 'The Claddagh' is so called. We hope that you might think 'The Claddagh' at Le Chéile has a nice ring to it.



Designed by Gillian Garcia



Claddagh students along with some members of the 'Cairde Claddagh Club' who met Spiderman when he called in to take our footballs and basketballs down from the school roof. You will be able to read all about some of the activities of the 'Cairde Claddagh Club' in the next edition of our school newsletter.



By Mr McNulty

Science Week & Scifest

Science week at Le Chéile Secondary school ran from the 12th – 16th November 2018. With daily riddles, dingbats and hidden scientists it was hard to miss! On Monday students got a chance to participate in a UNESCO workshop where students learned about the environment, the effect of plastics and how we can improve our impact on the environment. Students in Blue Sky forensics also got a chance to work with real DNA and see how it is broken down in crime scenes. On Tuesday, students took part in a life web chat called I'm a scientist, get me out of here! During this, students got to talk to real life scientists who are working in research based industry. Some great questions were produced and students were able to see that science extends beyond Le Chéile! On Wednesday students were treated to a quiz where not only their scientific knowledge but also their scientific knowledge was tested! On Thursday, students enjoyed our science film, Pirates! In an adventure with scientists. Scifest @ Le Chéile was held on Friday the 16th to finish the week in style! It was a fantastic week and congratulations to all involved.



1 6

November 2018 Over 30 students students from 1st, 2nd and Transition year exhibited 11 projects in SciFest@School in Le Chéile. This was the school's 2nd SciFest@School and it was the most successful one yet! Students demonstrated their knowledge of science, technology, engineering and maths through their creative and innovative projects. Some of the projects on display included music, how different people hear things and how plants grow using different liquids. The overall prize went to The Big Bingwatch Theory. This project aims to investigate whether people retain information better from binge watching tv



By Ms Sheehan



Feast Day

To start off the day, Fr. Eoin celebrated Mass in the PE Hall with the help of readers, gift bearers and the beautiful songs from our choir. The theme of the celebratory mass was "Called by Name". In advance of the mass, Ms O'Shea and the TY students had carefully and thoughtfully written the name of every member of our school community on fallen Autumn leaves they had gathered. Students, teachers, SNA's, administration staff, caretakers and our cleaning staff were all included and therefore the Mass was very much inclusive of the whole school community, whether they were present at the ceremony or not.



Following Communion, Ms Finnegan (Second Year, Year Head) and Ms O'Shea led our Angel missioning and badge ceremony. Angel missioning is where groups of 1st Years are designated groups of 2nd Years students to be an "Angel" and to watch over them and guide them through the transition from Primary School into Secondary School.



Immediately following Mass, Dr Moran led the badge ceremony, which saw students designated with special responsibilities across the school- Sports Prefects, Coding Wizards, iHelp, Gaelige, Amber Flags, Librarians, Justice Ambassadors, Green Schools, City Farmers, Health Ambassadors, Harmony Ambassadors, Ceol, Film, Cairde Claddagh, Technical Department member, College For Every Student Ambassadors, Breakfast Club, Art Curators, Table Tennis and Tennis. Some students saw themselves nominated many times over and as a result their jumpers became more colourful and weighed down as the badge awarding went on!

To conclude this ceremony, our first ever Le Chéile Prefects were announced. These 6th Year students had filled in application forms and sat through interviews with Dr. Moran and Ms. Harrington (all the teachers know just how daunting this is!). Our inaugural team of prefects are Andrea Beyer-Fraile, OJ Okechukwu Okey-Uche, Daisy Agboola, Daniel Chakhanine, Iyalla Dinney, Jack Fitzpatrick, Santa Gicevica, Alan Irimia, Kacper Kluza, Ashley Ogiamien and Michaela Solinas.

At 11.30am, the entire school started a 5km charity walk to the Blanchardstown Centre. Students had been asked to donate a small sum of money and the funds raised were divided between Jigsaw and The Claddagh. Senior year groups set the pace, leading the way and thankfully everyone recalled the Safe Cross Code, arriving safely and in time for the next event!

Our students and teachers took up two whole cinema screens in the Odeon and everyone really enjoyed the heartwarming film "Wonder". This movie tells the story of one brave and wonderful boy and his family, proving that nothing is ever impossible. Many students (and teachers!) found that they had something in their eye at various points throughout the movie and tissues were used in abundance!

The movie rounded off what is always a memorable day- well done to all who organised and participated in the event.

By Ms Mckeown

Angel Quiz

On November 9th we held our annual Angel quiz. Being an Angel is super important here at Le Chéile, this is when our second year students act as angels to our first years, by looking out for them, offering friendship and helping them with the move from primary school to secondary. Each team worked exceptionally well together to solve the questions and figure out the riddles, a big well done to everyone, but especially the Mother Teresa team of Loic, Thomas, Micheal, Chris, Farah, Iga and Tosin who were crowned champions.

By Ms Finnegan

Film Production

By Gillian Garcia

"Static" is a mystery/thriller short film that explores the complicated workings of the inner mind. It deals with sensitive issues and the unexpected aftermath of a tragedy.

This film gave us many challenges to work around and it was sometimes hard to achieve what we had in mind due to our lack of resources and time, but through the power of music, editing and camera tricks, we managed to pull it off successfully. Although it may not have turned out exactly how we wanted it, our team was very happy to see the final product and we are all very proud of it. Hopefully it does well in Fresh Film!

By Gillian

STATIC

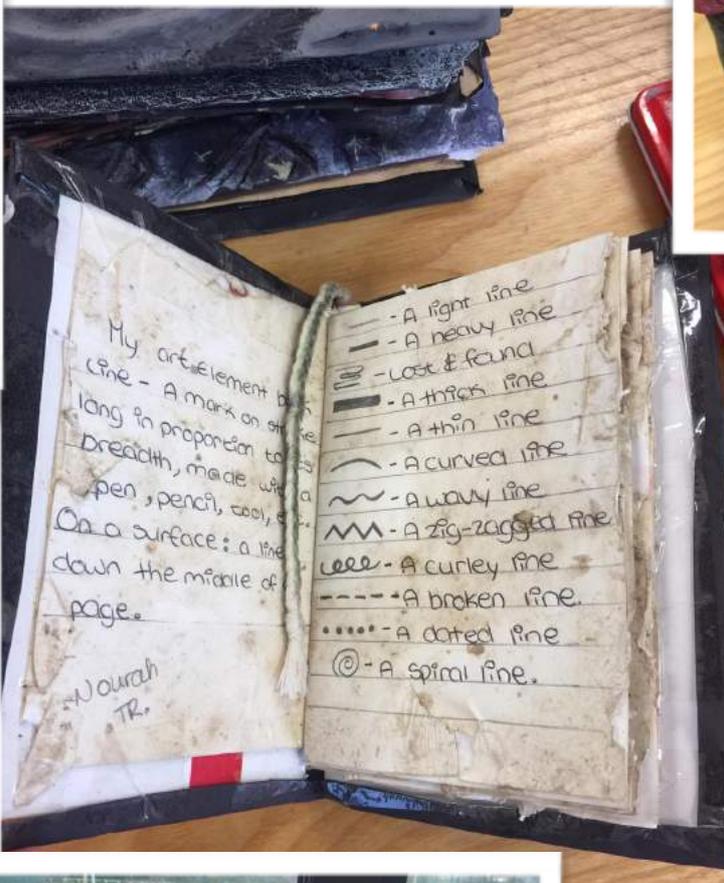
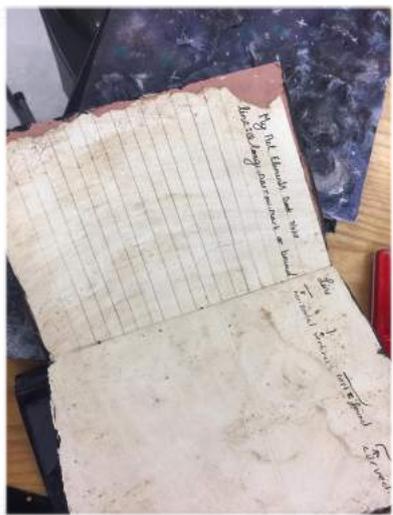
(The people in our group - Gillian, Nik, Philip, Alam, Nicole, Demetry, Martyna)



Amazing Art



**Book Binding projects
brightening up our day!!!**



Celebrating Creativity

Le Chéile on Tour



French Exchange

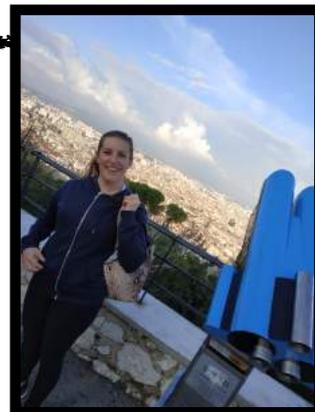
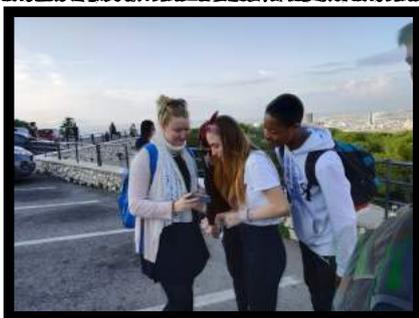
On the 11th of November, seven fifth and sixth year students travelled to France to take part in a school exchange with Lycée Montgrand in Marseille in the south of France. The journey was not as straightforward as originally was planned but it actually worked out in everyone's favour. The plan was to fly to Carcassonne and get the train to Marseille, however due to floods a few weeks before the trip, the train was cancelled at the last minute. This meant a night's stay in a beautiful three-storey house in the historic quarter of Carcassonne – no complaints there! The next day then the students and teachers took a bus to Marseille, stopping off for a short visit in Montpellier along the way.



On the Monday, before the students met their partners, the French teachers of Lycée Montgrand gave us a quick tour of the Vieux Port, or Old Port, of Marseille. We rode the giant Ferris Wheel and saw the enormous city of Marseille from a height as the sun was setting by the Mediterranean Sea. Finally, it was time for the students and teachers to meet their host families for the week.

All week the students were kept busy with so many varied and wonderful activities. From a 24,000 step walking tour of Marseille to a hike in the Calanques, from swimming in the sea in November to visiting the historic Roman city of Arles, from shopping for French comic books to a boat trip out the island of Chateau d'Ile!

We were exhausted by it all but we didn't want it to come to an end, but alas it had to. On Sunday the 18th of November, we said our (somewhat tearful) goodbyes to our new French friends and got on a train to Nice for one last adventure before the flight home. A few hours in Nice watching the sun set not just on a fabulous day but a life-changing trip for some of us.





Le Chéile on Tour



Erasmus+ is an EU funding programme for education, training, youth, and sport. It provides opportunities for students and teachers to participate in transnational projects with other schools in the European Union. The overall aims of Erasmus+ are to help young people to acquire additional life skills, enhance teaching and learning in schools, promote youth participation in society and encourage and support European integration.



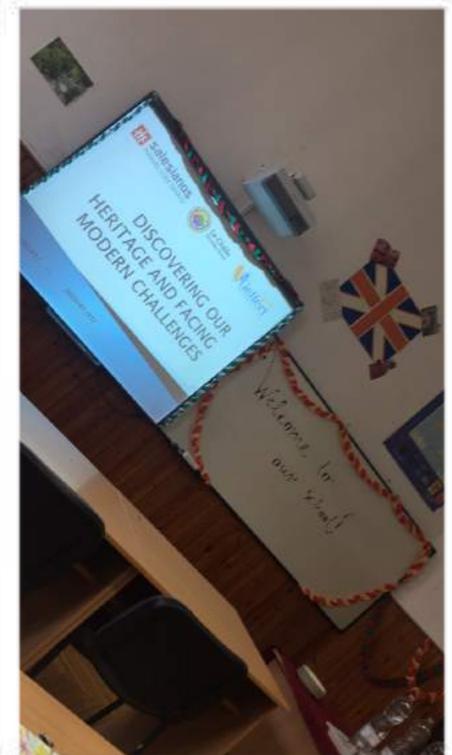
With that said, Le Chéile Secondary School are privileged to be taking part in such a project over the next seventeen months with Szent Gellért Katolikus Általános Iskola és Gimnázium in Budapest, Hungary and C.E. Manuel Lora Tamayo in Jerez, Spain. The purpose of this project is to get students to look at our schools' common values and how our linked catholic heritage can help students in the future when facing potential job and family related issues. The project will be led by Dr. Moran, Ms. Cahill and Ms. Scannell.



Ms. Cahill and Ms. Scannell flew over to Budapest before the October midterm to get preparations underway for an exchange between the three schools. While they were there they visited the primary and secondary schools and their classes, met the students and teachers who will be taking part, and started to come up with an itinerary for the other schools' visit to Ireland in January. When they came back, the two teachers started to look for 5th year students who would like to be involved.

Each project meeting will focus on a different topic. The first meeting, taking place in Ireland, is aimed at introductions and the discovery of our common religious heritage and values. The second meeting, which takes place in Spain, focuses on job-related issues. The third, and last, meeting will be organised in Hungary and concentrates on family-related challenges. Project meetings will include a wide range of activities (workshops, drama performances, exhibitions, cultural evenings, drama pedagogy, lectures, role models, cultural trips, etc.)

We are very excited to get this project up and running and cannot wait to welcome our Hungarian and Spanish visitors in a few weeks' time!



Ms Cahill



The Irish Debate Competition

This was the first year Le Chéile entered not one but two teams into the Gael Linn Cóláiste an Phiarsaigh Schools Debate competition. The competition took place in St Mac Dara's Community College in Templeogue on Thursday 8th November. Both teams achieved the highly commended awards and were presented with them on the night. It is an outstanding achievement to perform in front of an audience and present your ideas and arguments through the Irish language and the Irish department teachers are incredibly proud of the students who were involved.



On our Junior team we were ably led by Nicole Rosca as our captain, followed but our two speakers Ruby Ffrench and Wiktorija Kluza. The team was supported by Sophie McQuillan Clarke who acted as our team substitute.

The senior team was led by Erin Fagan and followed by two speakers Geoffrey Onwueme and Nina Czarnecka. Jack Walsh and Natasha Fogarty supported the team in preparing for the event.



Maths Week $2 + 2 = 4$



Przemyslaw 1NM with his Mangahigh

Ms O'Shea & Ms Fitzpatrick

Maths Week, again had to be the highlight of October when students had the opportunity to take on THE CUBE!!! Whether it was Balancing the Beam, Lightning Hands, Breaking the Code, the Ten Second Challenge, or Shape Shaker, to name but a few, the goal was always the same - to hold your nerve and just like the gameshow, to beat the Cube!

Maths Week also included First and Second Year Students becoming detectives and developing their Code-Breaking Skills to solve the Murder - a number of staff, still have question marks over them. Suspect number one still being the one with the Calculator!!!

Pi-Day and Maths T-shirts along with lots of students solving the Maths Puzzles, and an amazingly fast Rubiks Cube solving demonstration by Loic Peloille during Assembly - in 42 seconds - rounded off another great celebration of Maths.

Well done to all the Maths Teachers and TY Maths students for their great work.

Sports



Our Junior and Senior girls enjoyed a number of challenge games this year and all the hard work over the the past two years is beginning to pay off. They are looking forward to their up coming games and continue to train as hard as ever!

First Year Boys Football Team:

Congratulations to our S1 boys football team who have won their last two FAI Schools League football matches and look like they will qualify for the play-offs despite being unlucky in their first match. Nothing is official yet as there are still other schools waiting to finish playing their group matches, but it's looking good. The play-off matches will take place in January. Here's their 3 results so far:

LCSS 3 vs 5 Rockbrook Park School (Rockbrook)

LCSS 7 vs 4 St Killians DSD (Clonskeagh)

LCSS 8 vs 1 St John's College (Ballyfermot)





U19 Team - Back row L-R: M.Capocius, D.Makauskas, M.Nugent, D.Afekhai. **Front row L-r:** R.Guilalas, B.Valenzuela, N.Miah, **Missing from photo:** S.Praise, J.O'Sullivan, D.Billonnes

Senior Boys Basketball

This has been an exciting term for the U16 and U19 boys basketball teams at Le Cheile.

U16 Team

The U16 team have made it through to the All-Ireland League Play-offs Series which takes place in Castletroy, Limerick on the 13th of January. They also had great success in the Cup and are now through to the All-Ireland Cup Semi-finals on the 10th of January in the Oblates, Inchicore. The team have done extremely well to come this far in both competitions and have had hard fought games to do so. We wish them the very best in January.

U19 Team

The U19 team came 3rd in the league and went on to make the semi-finals of the Plate competition after beating Columbas College in the quarter finals. Unfortunately, this was as far as they would go as they lost narrowly to Scoil Caitriona, Glasnevin at their home grounds in Tolka.

However, the U19s have the All-Ireland Cup Semi-finals to now look forward to on the 8th of January at NUIG, Galway. They will take on St Brendans, Belmullet so the very best of luck to them.

By Ms Muldoon



TY's Fighting Fit 🥊🥋🏆



Leinster Rugby



Our TY classes have been extremely busy working on their health and fitness in the first part of the school year in PE. Many of the group also chose to improve their leadership skills by coaching groups of students from St Lukes..

The activities covered include rugby with Leinster Rugby, Kenpo Martial Arts with Braveheart Academy, rowing with Rowing Ireland, Gaelic Football, Yoga and Fitness training.



Aviva Trip



Student trip to Ireland V Wales (I know you'd rather forget that one) Tuesday 16th October.

44 students attended the Ireland Nations League match versus Wales on Tuesday 16th October, 2018. Everyone seemed to enjoy their evening out, despite the dismal football display and disappointing result for the boys in green. While the match wasn't as entertaining as we would have hoped, our students did the school proud with their exceptional behaviour and great support of the Irish football team. The big question is...who was Mr Park cheering for? 🤔😏



Comhairle na nÓg



Comhairle na nÓg
Young Voices. Local Issues.

"Comhairle na nÓg are child and youth councils in the 31 local authorities of the country, which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies."

A conference took place in Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords where three students represented Le Cheile Secondary school. The students really developed their communication and collaborative skills during this exciting day event and met with other like minded students who want to make a real positive impact and contribution to today's society on a national level.

Students were discussing issues relating to young people with an emphasis on mental health. All students thoroughly enjoyed the day and hopefully next term we will be taking on our first Model United Nations conference in Wesley college to resolve and discuss international issues.

*Ms Leddy
MUN Co-ordinator*

On the 18th of October, 2018 three representatives from Le Cheile (Adam Tully, Daisy Agboola and myself, Carla Tudor) attended the Comhairle Na nÓg event. In order to get to know the reps from the other schools, we did a few icebreakers and made many friends in the process. After the icebreakers, we were told what exactly Comhairle Na nÓg do and the positive influence that they have on schools and teenagers in Ireland. They also presented their project for the year which was about men and boys who face unrealistic body images in the 21st century. This video was a source of inspiration for us teenagers as many of the representatives signed up for the Comhairle Na nÓg team.

Carla Tudor 3rd Year



🐶 Barking Mad 🐶

Dogs Trust - Pupcake Sale

The Pupcake Sale is a bake sale in aid of Dogs Trust that is used to raise money for and awareness about the amazing work that Dogs Trust do. It was organised and run by Andrea, Kacper, Santa, Robert, Milana (all in sixth year) and Martyna and Kissmat (TY). We asked people to bake cakes, cupcakes and muffins, some of which were doggy-themed, to be sold during lunch in the GP hall on the 4th of October. We also sold tea and coffee and any leftover baked goods at the Open Night that evening. It was a huge success and we raised €414.41!

On the 23rd of November Ms. Cahill, Ms McHugh, Ms. Doyle, Andrea, Kacper, Martyna and Kissmat all went to the Dogs Trust re-homing centre in Finglas to hand in the cheque and all of the other things students in our school donated such as blankets, beds and toys. We were given a tour around the facility and heard all about the hard work that the Dogs Trust do.

We had a lot of fun setting up and running the Pupcake Sale and establishing a love of dogs in Le Chéile, but it all wouldn't have been possible without the help of Ms. Cahill!

By Martyna Glowicka and Kissmat Salami



By Ms Cahill

School Bank



Two days later, on October 18th, the students chosen for the positions took a trip down to the nearest Bank Of Ireland Branch in Ballycoolin Industrial Estate. Here's a picture of our team!

On October 15th we received a talk from Grainne, the bank of Ireland school branch representative and we got told the ins and outs of opening a bank account. After that talk we got given an application form to apply for a position in our schools upcoming branch. There were five positions on offer, Branch Manager, Audit and Operations, Sales Manager, Marketing Manager, Customer Digital Advisor. The application form asked you questions like "Skills you have for this position" and then we had to give our completed form to Mr. Mc Cann.

The next day, October 16th, a group of students went in for an interview and answered a number of questions to do with the position they're applying for as-well as a few questions about themselves eg Favourite subject and hobbies.

At the end of the day all the students that went in for an interview gathered into a room and Grainne announced the people who got the position. We got to look around the branch including the Safe room and also the mechanics behind the ATM, basically we got the whole run down of how the new bank looks.

We got goodie bags and it was a very pleasant experience. We then sat down at the meeting table and discussed our plan for the next week. When we got back to the school we began to make our very first promotional video for our branch.

On Friday, October 19th, we had our first official launch of our school branch. We got people to sign their names as we gave our lollipops and chocolate bars.

Here is our team minutes away from our launch!

By Roisin

My bank of Ireland experience

Bank of Ireland school

bank was amazing! We went to the branch in Ballycoolin and saw where all the business happens we went to the meeting room we saw the behind of scenes of ATMs we saw how it works how they store the money where the money is kept and let me tell you they have really high security there to get to the room with all the money stored there's a code and every time the order of the code changes so no one can copy it from behind. They honestly didn't make us feel like teenagers they made us feel like adults I felt like I was employed there.

Going into the bank of Ireland branch I was expecting something very formal and a bit boring but I was proved wrong it was colourful big and welcoming at the end of it all we were gifted with goody bags and we all really appreciated it as we went back to school to start our quest we already had ideas fast forward to the first launch event it was amazing we had music sweets and opportunities to open a student bank account the support we got from our instructor was amazing she made us feel like anything was possible we didn't believe we could get people to sign up but we managed to accomplish it. So Being part of the bank of Ireland experience was amazing and also being chosen as the branch manager just placed the cherry on top.

By Lola



Blue Sky

As part of our STEAM academy we have begun our Blue-Sky modules with 1st, 2nd and Transition students on Monday morning. Our Blue-Sky module is influenced by Brightworks pedagogy that involves three arcs: exploration, expression and exhibition. Blue Sky offers twenty different workshop style classes in topics as varied as bicycle maintenance, skincare, maths craft and economics, Game Development, Interior Design, Braai & Climate Change to name but a few. Students self-select which courses they want to be part of and develop their own project during the one hour Monday morning class. Students now take ownership of their learning, developing skills such as being self-directed in their learning, decision-making, and a managing priorities in and out of school. Blue Sky groups are made up of students of different ages and experience. The Blue Sky module contributes to wellbeing by giving students choice, and fostering co-operation between students in different year groups thereby building up strong relationships.



By Mr Harvey

Student Council

Le Chéile held its student council elections week this year to coincide with the Irish Presidential elections. The week saw a flurry of activity where candidates canvassed the student population with great enthusiasm. Tuesday saw Junior Cycle candidates participate in an afternoon debate in the GP hall in front of 1st, 2nd and 3rd years. Thursday was Voting day and the polls opened at 09.05 and closed that day at 15.30. They were ably managed by 2nd and 3rd year CSPE students. The count happened after the midterm and the results were announced that day. Please see following page for our new Student council members.



English and History teacher Ms. Byrnes voting in Le Chéile's student council elections

2nd and 3rd year CSPE students were responsible for counting the votes in the Student council elections.



By Ms Ní Dhonncha

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES WEEK



Ms. Cahill and Ms. Ní Dhonncha with some of the contestants that took part in the European Languages week Spelling bee.



Nicole Rosca, who won the overall prize in the European Languages week Spelling bee!

Le Chéile enjoyed a very successful European languages week this year with a host of activities such as lunchtime films in the European languages, introduction to the new and developing MFL library, quizzes and interesting facts that were posted on schoology every day. The pinnacle of the week was on Friday when the whole school participated in a language assembly where they learnt facts about the European languages that are spoken by members of our school community as well as the wider community in Tyrrelstown.

Assembly was followed by a European Language Spelling Bee where every first and second year Tutor group was represented.

The pupils had to spell Le Chéile Wellbeing words – Learn, Connect, Reflect, Active, Notice, Give back, Eat well, Respect, Sleep – in the languages of English, Irish, French, German, Spanish, Romanian and Polish. There was also a teachers' event which French and Irish teacher Ms. Scannell won!! Congrats Ms. Scannell.

All participants were ably assisted by native speakers who helped in the pronunciation and the Modern Foreign Languages department would like to thank all who were involved in the event.

A big congrats to Nicole Rosca who was the overall winner of the event.

By Ms Ní Dhonncha

Student Council

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

2018-19



Chloe Forde
Junior Student
Council member



Mukesh Yendamuri
Junior Student
Council member



Lily Ann Blood
Junior Student
Council member



Zuzanna Skorzepa
Junior Student
Council member



Nicole Rosca
Junior Student
Council member



Akin
Junior Student
Council member



Amber Hanney Maxwell
Senior Student
Council member



Chike Okafor
Senior Student
Council member



Daniels Afekhai
Senior Student
Council member

🎄 The Magic of the Christmas Market 🎄

Another amazing Christmas Market in Le Chéile Secondary School was a massive success. There was a fantastic array of products with a massive amount of budding young Le Chéile entrepreneurs taking part! Many of the products on display were made from recycled materials from ReCreate. Record sales, record profits, record attendance. Rumour has it that profits were greater than Amazons on Cyber Monday 😎

The young entrepreneurs were also in a giving spirit and managed to raise a decent sum of money for the SVP Hamper Appeal. Well done to all students and staff involved as it was a great experience for everyone who attended. The hustle and bustle mixed with fine aromas and beautiful crafts on sale really put us all in the Christmas mood.

Recreate ♻️



At the beginning of the school year we had a company called ReCreate in for a workshop with our Transition Year students. ReCreate aims to take materials that would otherwise end up in a landfill site and find creative new uses for them. The aim of the workshop was to help students design new products that they could sell at the annual Le Cheile Christmas Market. Students were able to come up with great money making ideas while also doing their part for the environment. Among the fantastic ideas were dream catchers made from reused wool and a tornado in a recycled plastic bottle.

Le Cheile has now joined as a member of ReCreate allowing us access to a variety of environmentally friendly materials for all future projects.

Mr Kershaw



