

# ZODIAC

Vol. XXVI No. 1

September / October 2016

## EDITORIAL

Welcome back to everybody, especially all our new teachers and students. Best wishes to all those who have left us.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	School closes at 3.20pm for Mid-Term Break.
Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	School re-opens.
Thursday, 10 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Bereavement Service in The Aras at 7.30pm
Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup>	“Charity Week” / “Day of Action” for Charitable Projects.

To all our pupils and especially our First Years, congratulations on negotiating the first two months of the 16/17 school year. Well done to our Junior Cert. pupils and we hope the 2016 Leaving Cert. pupils are making their way in the world beyond CCS.

A quick look at the school website highlights how busy we have been and how much has already been achieved. Well done to all the pupils and staff who have contributed so much to the life of the school. The energy and enthusiasm has been tremendous. It is unfortunate that the smooth running of the school will be interrupted due to the planned industrial action. All the more unfortunate as the root of this dispute and its solution is far removed from Carndonagh and we are caught up in a mess not of

our making. There have been industrial disputes before and they all came to an end. We have to manage the situation locally so that we can resume business as usual when all is resolved.

We are looking at preserving teaching time and the first casualty in this instance is the Awards & Prizegiving ceremony which has been deferred from Friday 28th October until a later date.

I sincerely hope that the dispute will not be prolonged as I believe that, like myself, the teaching staff want to be at school, at their work, contributing to the education and school experience of our pupils. Our school calendar - annual and weekly - outlines our plans for the year and it would be most regrettable if the school year was disrupted.

In the many crises that have occurred over the years, we have proved capable of steering our way through the storms - thanks to the combined efforts of pupils, parents and staff working together.

The Board of Management are monitoring events and will keep parents and pupils up to date. Please check the school website [www.carndonaghcs.ie](http://www.carndonaghcs.ie) for all updates. I wish everyone a peaceful Halloween break and hopefully we will return to a dispute free season.

*Paul Fiorentini, Principal*

## American Exchange Notice

Parents and children in 3rd year at present (as they will be TY and 5th year next year) will be eligible to apply for the trip to St. Louis, Missouri next October 2017. Application forms will be available shortly after Halloween.

## “Twice as Nice” Charity Shop (5H LCA)

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Class 5H (LCA) are currently running a “Twice as Nice” Charity Shop in the Fifth Unit every Friday. The public are very welcome to browse and buy. Contributions (unused / unneeded household items) are also greatly appreciated.



**Twice as Nice**

**Charity Shop**



**Room 501, Unit 5**

**9am-3pm every Friday**

**All proceeds in aid of C.C.S**



# It's Official! Irish Sister Cities Covenant Signed in June

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In early June, a delegation from Inishowen including Rena Donaghey (Chairperson of the Inishowen Municipal District) and Deputy Principal John McGuinness visited our sister city St. Charles, Missouri. Two important documents were signed by the officials in attendance. The covenant between Carndonagh Community School and St. Charles West High School was signed by Mr. McGuinness and Dr. Kim Fitterling (SCW Principal). Further to the formal twinning of the schools, the twinning of the municipal districts was overseen by Rena Donaghey and Sally Faith, Mayor of St. Charles. An interesting development of the project has been the appearance of "softball" on the sporting horizon at CCS. It took no time at all for sports fans in St. Charles to offer their services...

*"The Irish Chapter has just finished another project for their Sister City school in Carndonagh, Ireland. The students played softball in PE at the end of this year. It was a great big hit. We now welcome the Carndonagh Cardinals! We have gathered up softball and baseball equipment to add to their bat and ball. This equipment is being sent over with a local friend in a couple of weeks. We are excited that they have added this into their PE curriculum. Go Cardinals!"*

To return the favour, we're trying to establish if the game of Hurling would be legal in St. Charles City...The Irish Sister Cities movement goes from strength to strength.

# Senior Soccer Season Launched by All-Ireland Champs

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On Tuesday, 30th August, Mr. Martin Cavanagh, Sam Todd and Cathal Farren travelled to the FAI's training HQ in Abbotstown, Dublin. Their itinerary for the afternoon included a meet-and-greet with the senior Irish squad and management. As guests of Bank of Ireland they officially launched the BoI sponsored FAI Schools Dr. Tony O'Neill Cup, currently in the hands of Carndonagh CS. There were whispers that a certain Mr. Keane was quietly looking for some managerial advice, but you'll have to ask Mr. Cavanagh about that...The boys certainly enjoyed the experience. They now feature in a nationwide advert for school soccer (see school website).

## EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES @ C.C.S

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On Friday, October 2nd, C.C.S celebrated European Day of Languages once again. The main objective of the day was to raise language and cultural awareness amongst our students by getting

Several students, irrespective of their language abilities, took part, and all of this work was on display in the canteen area.

These activities included:

- posters based on different traditions and customs;
- greetings in the target language;
- translating names of European countries into different languages; making banners of these flags for display;
- designing menus in different languages;

- Irish music and dance;
- dress up in traditional costume;
- face-painting;
- quizzes based on Europe and its languages - winners received prizes!

AND FINALLY... The school canteen was turned into a EUROPEAN BISTRO for the day to give students and staff a taste of foods from across Europe. Log onto to the C.C.S website and view the many photographs of the day's events.

## Senior Girls Soccer - CCS 2-0 Deelee College

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The senior ladies kicked-off the season with a comprehensive 2-0 victory over Deelee College on Wednesday, 5th October. A fantastic team-worked goal finished by Shania McGonigle, and an own-goal were enough to see the ladies through. The scoreline may have read 2-0, but as Mourinho himself said recently, "It could have been 3-0 or 4-0 at half-time, 6-0 at the end of the game, but the result was 2-0; that's football!". It was a real team performance from start to finish. CCS stopped Deelee crossing the halfway line in the first half, with only a couple of opposition raids in the second. The squad can be proud of their performance as they look forward to their final group match next week against Milford. With news filtering through that local rivals Merville have pulled out of the competition, the girls are more focused than ever, believing that this is their year. If they can replicate a performance like Wednesday's next time out, they'll find themselves in another Ulster Semi-final.

## Girls Continue Winning Ways Against Milford...

The senior girls won a battle against Milford on Wednesday, 12th October to send them into the Ulster Semi-final. They had a tough first half, but with Niamh McDaid coming up from centre-back they scored two well delivered corners from Mary Jane Doherty.

This left the girls relaxed going into the second half. Aoife McColgan who was carrying an injury had to come off at half time. Player of the match Cathy Doherty replaced her in goal. Cathy played the first half at left back and had to step up to the mark at half time and to Aoife and had an outstanding second half in goal.

Late in the second half, Mary Jane Doherty delivered a great ball into the box where Shania McGonigle struck it into the back of the net for the third and final time in the match. The girls look forward to home advantage in the Ulster semi-final after half term. - *Mary Jane Doherty*

## Girls GAA

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### Football

Both the U16 and Seniors have been training hard for the past three weeks. The U16 girls will play their first match on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> October against Gairmscoil Chú Uladh. The Seniors played their first match on Monday against Dean Maguire from Tyrone on a rainy day in Steelstown. The game started well for Carndonagh with a few good scores coming from Saoirse Farren and Mary J. Doherty. The girls regrouped at half-time, two points up.

Going into the second-half, Dean Maguire came back and the two teams were even with ten minutes to go. But CCS came away the eventual winners by one point. The management and team would like to wish Saoirse Farren and Aoife McColgan a speedy return to the panel after picking up injuries at the match.

## Camogie

Congratulations to the CCS camogie teams who participated in the Donegal Camogie Blitz in Letterkenny recently. The girls finished first and third in their respective competitions. The clash of the ash is back! The re-emergence of camogie in CCS is an exciting prospect and great credit must go to their manager, Mrs. Anita Doherty. Well done girls!



## Bienvenue à Juliette

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Welcome to our new French Language Assistant, Juliette Cottureau from Brittany. She will be a member of the French Department for the year. She will also be involved in the French Club, which takes place every Wednesday at 3.30pm in Room 125.

# School Golf News

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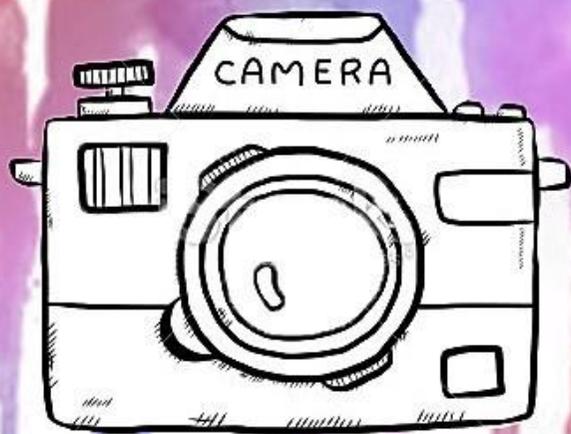
Oisin McGonigle emerged as the overall individual winner, as CCS kicked off their campaign to retain their Donegal Schools' Golf title for the third year in a row. Conditions were perfect as CCS took on St Eunan's, Loreto Milford and Scoil Mhuire at Stranorlar & Ballybofey Golf Club last Thursday. Oisin, recently cut to a 12 handicap, returned a fine score of 38 points (which included 2 blanked holes!!), to secure first place on the day. After Day 1, the CCS team find themselves in 3rd position.

## LCVP

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The LCVP Leaving Cert results this year were fantastic and earned students valuable points for CAO. No pressure on current Leaving Certs! School deadlines will be set shortly and communicated to student. It is worth the effort as there is up to H4 (66points) up for grabs.

Our Fifth Year pupils are finishing of their CVs and would appear to be enjoying the programme. Class 5B will be engaging in the 'Business in the Community' link with LYIT. This is a great learning opportunity for all!



# PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

FRIDAY AT LINTHIMES

IN ROOM 306A

NO PREVIOUS PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS NEEDED

MEET NEW PEOPLE

LEARN NEW SKILLS

HAVE FUN!

# HSCL

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My name is Mary Lafferty and I am the Home School Community Liaison Teacher in Carndonagh Community School. Firstly, I want to extend a warm welcome to all the new pupils in CCS, especially all our first years. I hope you all have settled-in and are enjoying the experience of second-level education. Like most things in life, school is what you make of it, so make the most of it!

Plans are underway for a short cooking/baking course in the school on Wednesdays. There will also be courses in flower arranging, family trees, and photography. If interested, please get in touch. (086 822 2169)

First years and their parents got to experience 'Amazing Brains', and they should try to practice the skills outlined in the workshop. It is hoped to host a study-skills for 3rd years early in the New Year.

First year parents are invited to a coffee morning in the school library on Wednesday, 11.30am-12.30pm. Please drop in for a cuppa and a chat. Please remember - my job is to support parents/guardians to assist their child achieve in school; do not hesitate to get in touch if I can help in any way.

# Under-17 Boys Soccer

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## **Scoil Mhuire 1-2 CCS**

CCS under-17 boys progressed to the League Semi-final with a well-earned win away to Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana. Played in glorious sunshine, Scoil Mhuire were quicker into the game as CCS struggled to get up to pace, having been delayed before kick-off. CCS had to deal with a number of corner kicks and a packed midfield in the early stages. Jonathan Toye was tested early on and pushed a close range header over the bar.

As the half progressed and the cobwebs were shaken away, CCS stated to command the park, making the short pitch look bigger than it was with excellent passing. CCS were unlucky not to score after 15 minutes when a Jack Doherty corner was met by the head of Conor O'Donnell on the penalty spot, but the keeper was well placed to catch the powerful header. Five minutes later it was 1-0 when the same players combined again; this time the keeper could only parry the shot into the net.

CCS took their eye off the ball in the minutes that followed and five min before half time it was 1-1. The whole team seemed to stand off and allow the Scoil Mhuire player pick his spot for a long range effort. CCS should have been 2-1 up at half time, but Cade Cooke saw his chip-shot easily saved by the keeper.

CCS came out in the second half determined to play their own style and kept to the game plan as the half progressed. CCS had a number of chances and while Kieran Farren saw his free kick sail over the bar, he was well placed to pick up a loose ball in the penalty area to finish low following a well taken corner from

Fionn McClure. CCS held on for the win thanks to a superb one-handed save from close range by keeper Jonathan Toye. Well done all.

Team: Jonathan Toye, Anthony Doherty (Lorcan Bradley), Jake Harkin, Ciaran O'Donnell, Nathan Logue (Ciaran Doherty), Mickey Friel, Kieran Farren, Jack Doherty (Adam McLaughlin), Fionn McClure, Luke Rudden (Pearse McCarron), Cade Cooke (Jordan McLaughlin). Subs not used: Sean McCarron, Nathan McKinney, Oran Raymond.

### **Royal & Prior 0-8 CCS**

Played on a crisp, dry day in Raphoe, it took CCS twenty minutes to break the deadlock. But once they did they took complete control of the match and went on to a comprehensive win against a very well drilled and resolute Royal & Prior team.

CCS tested the keeper after 10 minutes when a Fionn McClure free-kick was turned around the post by the keeper. Five minutes later Pearse McCarron burst through and saw his shot parried away. CCS scored their first on 20 minutes when a Jordan McLaughlin cross was collected by Luke Rudden who finished into the right hand corner past an outstretched keeper. CCS pressed but were nearly undone by a counter-attack; Jonathan Toye was well placed to deal with the long range effort. Within 2 minutes of the restart it was 2-0 when a high, looping cross from Pearse McCarron found Luke Rudden, who switched the ball to confuse the last defender before curling the ball past the keeper.

Within 2 minutes it was 3-0 when Pearse McCarron chased a back-pass before taking the ball off the keeper to slot home

from close range. CCS saw out the first half with some excellent passing play, with Mikey Friel linking up well with midfielders and defenders.

Royal and Prior took the fight to CCS at the start of the second half and Daniel Houghton had to be wide awake in the CCS goal as Royal and Prior tried to pull one back. However, it was 4-0 after 10 minutes when a Cade Cooke corner was met by Luke Rudden who saw his shot deflected into the net. While CCS rang the changes, the goals kept coming. Number 5 came when a headed clearance from the keeper was picked up by Fionn McClure who finished from 40 yards. Shortly afterwards, Cade Cooke passed to captain Kieran Farren who saw his powerful shot slip under the keeper. A short time later the same two players linked up, but this time Farren was the provider when he bounced a low ball through to Cooke who finished low past the on-rushing keeper.

Number 8 came with 15 minutes left on the clock when a cross to the back post was met by Adam McLaughlin who managed to loop the ball over the keeper into the far corner.

CCS wrapped things up by keeping the ball in a passing game that involved every CCS player on the pitch on several occasions. Well done all.

Team: Jonathan Toye (Daniel Houghton) (Oran Raymond), Anthony Doherty (Sean McCarron), Jake Harkin, Connor O'Donnell, Nathan McKinney (Adam McLaughlin), Mikey Friel, Kieran Farren, Fionn McClure, Jordan McLaughlin (Lorcan Bradely), Luke Rudden (Nathan Logue), Pearse McCarron (Cade Cooke).

# Transition Year News

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The TY class of 2016-2017 comprises 123 pupils who will hopefully have one of the best years of their lives and certainly one to remember! Welcome to our Spanish amigos, Blanca, Laura and blessed among women, Jaime - all of whom will be with us until Christmas.

All the TY classes were represented at the Idea Generation Day organised by Donegal Enterprise Board on 26th Sept. TYA Tony Lafferty, Ciaran Doherty, Jordan Doherty, Ryan Collins, Niamh Douglas, Katie Durey: TYB Caoimhe M Doherty, Lisa McLaughlin, Shanice O'Donnell, Caoimhe Doherty, Rachel Moore, Saoirse Farren: TYC Liam Harkin, Jordan McLaughlin, Daire Porter, Patrick Monagle, Kate Hunter, Eimear Smith: TYD Adam Mullins, Ellen Keyes, Ciara Parke, Tara Doherty, Seanáin McLaughlin, Emma Johnson and TYE Caitlin Keogh, Lauren Devlin, Jordan Donaghy, Keelin White, Daniel Mc Cormick, Martin O'Connor. The pupils participated in various team exercises that forced them to think outside the box and solve problems. The skills they would develop by working as part of a business team were highlighted. Each student received a workbook to assist them in this year's mini company programme. Thanks to all the Enterprise teachers for organising this trip.

The TYAs were in action at the Cross Country Trials on 27th Sept. The pupils were: Katlyn Grant, Drew Fahey, Ciara McGonigle, Nathan Crumlish, Caitrin Farren, Brian Harkin, Kyle Logue-Davis, Erin Doherty, Rachel Devlin and Ben Nelson. Their help was invaluable to Mr Niall McGee.

Still in volunteering mode, the following TYs assisted at the primary schools' Gaelic Blitz in Foden on 29th Sept. The pupils were: TYA Caiti Farren, TYB Jack McLaughlin, Sean O'Neill, Jason Lynch and Saoirse Farren and TYD Ellen Keyes. Well done, guys!

Mr Niall McGee from CCS PE Dept. is participating in a DCU nationwide initiative on Fitness. The following pupils from TYA helped him with the uploading of Bleep Test Data for a School Fitness Challenge on Thursday, 13th Oct. They were Chloe Doherty, Erin Doherty, Niamh Douglas, Breda Doherty, Drew Fahey, Chloe McLaughlin, Ben Nelson and Nathan Crumlish.

The annual TY v Staff Gaelic match in aid of much needed school funds was held on Friday, 30th Sept. Thanks to all the teachers, (especially those who came out of retirement!) SNAs and pupils for taking part! Rumour has it that the Staff won...but that's just a rumour! Apparently, the pupils did score lots of goals! Who knows?! The TYDs would like to take this opportunity to thank all the class teachers, LCVP, RE, SPHE etc teachers for selling the tickets. They couldn't have done it without you! Well done to Mr McDonough and Class TYD on a very successful mini-company!!!!

Thanks to Ms McCole for affording the following TYC pupils the opportunity to help with the Dyslexia Screening on 3rd Oct. This was a valuable learning experience for all. The pupils were: Mary McLaughlin, Emma Harkin, Daire Porter, Aidan Cunningham and Darragh McCormick.

On Thurs 6th Oct, forty-five TY students set off from CCS for the Ireland v Georgia match. A quick pit-stop in the

Blanchardstown Centre allowed the students to refuel before heading out to the Aviva Stadium for the World Cup qualifier. While the game was a poor spectacle, the students had a great time getting fully involved in the chants and cheers. Donegal native Seamus Coleman not only scored but managed to assist himself for the goal!!! The students were great ambassadors for the school and while it was late home on Friday morning (2am), the majority made it to school the following day. Thanks to Mr Humphries for organising the trip! Well done all!

Mental Health Week was celebrated in CCS from Mon 12th - Fri 16th October with lots of activities for all. TYB pupils did their bit to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health on World Mental Health Day (10th October). They decorated the First Corridor with an array of posters highlighting the issues surrounding mental health. The overall objective was to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilise efforts in support of mental health. Well done to TYB who carried out the promotion under the guidance of Mrs Emma Doherty as part of their Social Studies - Wellbeing Module.

On Wednesday, 19th Oct a mix of TY classes attended Donegal ETB Enterprise Day in Letterkenny with Ms Emma Doherty. As it turned out, they were the overall winners in Donegal ETB's Enterprise Day, earning themselves the title of Entrepreneurs of the Year 2016! This was a fantastic achievement as over 200 students from across Donegal participated in the event. This competition is designed to encourage students to explore their innovative and enterprise skills and involves working as a team to develop a product and pitch their idea to a judging panel made up of local business people. The students are also given the opportunity of working alongside a business mentor. Presented

with a set of materials ranging from paper plates and pegs to balloons and straws, the students created an electronic scanner that would help students highlight the most important elements of their notes and transfer the information to their phones, iPads and laptops. Having impressed the judges with their initial pitch, the students secured a top three place and were then invited to pitch their idea once again, this time to a packed room of over 250 people! The pupils were; TYA - Ben Nelson, Rachel Devlin; TYB - Ellen Simmons, Aidan Doherty; TYC - Kate Hunter, Rory McElroy; TYD- Amy Doherty, Emma Johnson and TYE - Brigid Doherty and Lauren Devlin. Hopefully, they are now teeming with new ideas for their mini-companies!

On Friday, 21st Oct there will be a presentation by 'Team Hope' at 9 a.m. in Aras for all TYs. This relates to the annual Shoe Box Appeal which is such a worthwhile cause. Hopefully, all the TYs will get behind this and make Christmas morning a little brighter for children who have little in their lives. Thanks to Ms. Fiona McLaughlin for organising this.

Eimear Smith TYC and Brigid Doherty TYE have been busy with the Real Life Science competition. The girls have been investigating the merits (or lack thereof) of detox pads and have recorded a video for submission. Watch this space!!! Thanks to Ms Siobhan Coll for supporting the students. Apparently, an honorary TY called Sally McKenna is also involved!!! Thanks to Ms Coll for also taking the following TYDs on the excursion to Malin Head Coast Guard Station on Wednesday 19th Oct; Adam Mullins, Evan Mc Laughlin, Danielle Houghton, Jaime Urena, & Tara Doherty. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience!

Tuesday, 11th Oct - all of TYB attended the Lived Lost Lives: Youth Suicide in Ireland Exhibition at Fort Dunree. On Fri 14th Oct - a mix of the other 4 TY classes also attended. This project was created by the Regional Cultural centre on behalf of Donegal County Council and the HSE as part of the 'Connecting for Life Donegal Suicide Prevention Action Plan'. The organisers commented on the impeccable manners of the TYs. Thanks to Ms Emma Doherty and Ms Caroline Crawford for accompanying the pupils.

On Wednesday, 12th October TY students attended the Road Safe Road Show in the Aura Leisure Centre in Letterkenny. This very sobering but lifesaving initiative by Donegal County Council has already had a positive effect on young drivers in the county. Well done to Jordan Doherty TYA, who made his TV debut! Eileen Magnier was very impressed!

We have applied for the Solicitors of the Future TY work experience programme in the Law Society of Ireland. The Bar Council of Ireland will be launching their Look into Law Programme very shortly. Hopefully, CCS will be successful in our application to both!

Congratulations to Cáití Farren TYA and Adam Mullins TYD who will participate in the TCD TY Physics Week in November. Forty-eight students are selected from schools across the country to take part in this fantastic programme. Unfortunately, CCS was unsuccessful again this year in the Royal College of Surgeons Mini-Med lottery.

On Tuesday, 18th Oct AIB launched their 'Build a Bank' competition in the Áras with a very insightful C.V. Workshop.

CCS is, as always, very grateful to AIB for giving our TYs the opportunity to learn. Thanks to Mrs Mary Harkin for liaising with Ms Tracey McCallion in AIB and for supporting the pupils. Ms Elaine McGoldrick will shortly be working with Mr Barry Timlin from the Bank of Ireland to start the BOI TY Student Bank Initiative in CCS.

The following TYs will be assisting Ms Elaine Farren in her Numeracy Initiative during November and December: TYA Ben Nelson, Laura McGeoghegan , TYB Jason Lynch, TYC Caoimhe Ruddy, TYD Ellen Keyes and TYE Aisling McCarron .

**BAD NEWS!!!** The first SHARE residential was booked for Wed 16th Nov - Fri 18th Nov 2016. Unfortunately, because of the upcoming strike action by the ASTI, teachers will be precluded from supervising such activities. For the moment, please take it that SHARE will not take place this side of Christmas. We are **SO SORRY**.

The date for the first TY Work Experience is Mon 5th Dec - Fri 9th Dec 2016 (Subject to change). I would urge parents/guardians to maximize this opportunity to explore genuine career interests of the pupil. That may mean asking a relative / friend in Galway to provide them with accommodation for five nights. By all means stay local, but if the best place is some distance away, please help make it a reality! If the employer can only take the pupil at another time, that is not a problem. Let Ms. Nabla McGeehin know, and the pupil will be marked present in school during that week. Organize work experience well in advance of the dates. The documentation will issue to you in advance. N.B. Only employers with Public Liability Insurance should be considered. Remember that all

documentation must be back with your Enterprise teachers by Monday, 28th November.

A date for your calendar!!! The CCS Christmas Fair - Friday, 16th December - 11am-7pm! Hand crafted Christmas gifts - Home Crafts; Home Produce; Christmas Gifts; Christmas Cards; Christmas Decorations. All are welcome! Tell your friends and family!

Congratulations to Jason Lynch TYB who was elected to represent CCS on the Donegal Youth Council. Ernest Postrero TYD was elected as first sub in the event that Jason may not be able to attend on certain dates. Well done to the other candidates for putting their names forward; Ella Devlin TYD, Ben Nelson TYA and Bridget Doherty TYE. This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to improve on their communication skills and to work with other talented young people. The training is excellent. Great for the C.V.!

### **Opportunities to Add Value to your time in TY**

Any students interested in applying for the DCU Online Courses for Transition Year should contact Ms. McGeehin for an application form. The courses on offer are; Writing, Cutting Edge Science, Legal studies, Medicine and Psychology. The fee is €200 and the closing date is Friday, 18th November 2016.

All TYs attended a presentation on the John Paul II Award, organised by Mrs Serena Doherty on Thursday, 20th Oct @ 2pm (period 7) in the Aras. I hope that you have all signed up!!!

## The President's Award

TY year pupils who successfully take on the *Gaisce* challenge are awarded the Bronze Award. Young people can continue in their quest for the Silver and Gold when they go to university. It is highly regarded by employers as it indicates that the person is a self-motivated individual. Mr Niall McGee is the *Gaisce* link person in CCS and he will oversee the applications of the pupils and advise them during the course of the year.

Please check the TY Blog on the school website and the notice board on the mall for important information, competitions and other opportunities for TY students! You have the talent....so use it!! Make the most out of TY - get involved and make this year count when it comes to your C.V! Have a great year!!!

## Ski Trip 2017

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This year's ski trip will see 49 students fly off for a week of snow-filled fun in lovely Andorra. Departure from the school will be on the Friday night (17th) of the midterm in February. More details will be available after Christmas with regards to departure times and resorts.

Students going should get themselves warm ski gloves and ski socks for the trip. Ski goggles are not required but sunglasses are recommended. The school will provide the ski jackets and trousers for each student.

Next payment is due on the **11th November** and should be brought to Mr Havlin in room 136 **before 9 am**. No payment will be accepted during class time.

# Rugby

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The U16s rugby team travelled to Ballymena on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> October to play in the Pollock Cup - a competition for the best secondary schools in the province.

CCS played Carrick in the first game. The boys were slow to start after the two-hour bus journey. Carrick scored after 3 mins, with no conversion. The CCS team started to string a few phases together. Michael Harkin, with good strength and vision, drove over for our first score (not converted) after 6 minutes. After half-time, both teams tackled well and the Carrick boys finished a slick back-line move under the post (converted) two minutes from time. Full-time score: CCS 5 - Carrick 12.

In the second game, CCS played Sperrin and both sides showed great tackling and rucking skills. Some clever play out of CCS's own 22 by full-back Doherty pinned Sperrin back continuously, but CCS could not break down their defence. Full-time score: CCS 0 - Sperrin 0.

In the final pool game, Fivemiletown were the opposition and CCS dominated from the off with Michael Harkin and Shaun Doherty scoring; Mark Scott converting one. Full time score CCS 12 - Fivemiletown 0.

The team watched the last game in hope that the score would have been on our side. But Carrick progressed to the final against Craigavon. Carrick won the Pollock Cup in the end.

*Team: Paddy Monagle, Owen Doherty, Caolan Whoriskey, Michael Harkin, Finin McLaughlin, Dylan Doherty, Patrick O'Leary,*

*Stephen Kelly (captain), Andrew Cunningham, Christopher McDaid, Mark Scott, Odhran Cavanagh, Tony Keyes, William John Callaghan, Anton McLaughlin, Patrick Doherty, PJ Callaghan, Shaun Doherty, Sean Carroll, Ultan Doherty, Ethan Harkin and Patrick O'Leary.*

## Chaplaincy

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Prayer for the beginning of the school year:

Dear Lord,

We ask that you would bless  
all the students in our school

with Your infinite and loving mercy,

granting them the strength to learn, concentrate,  
and act in love towards their teachers and fellow students.

We also ask that You would watch over them, at home and at  
school and give them proper direction so that they may

learn of Your wonderful virtues. We ask this in  
the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

### **John Paul II Award**

The John Paul II Award was launched this year by Sean Farrell from the Diocesan office. This initiative allows students to achieve an award for voluntary work carried out in their local parishes and communities. It is open to all students over 16 years old and anyone wishing to register should call to see Mrs. Serena Doherty, school Chaplain before the Halloween holidays.

## **Bereavement Mass**

The annual Bereavement Mass will take place in the school this year on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. All are welcome to join with us in prayer as we remember our loved ones who have died. May they rest in peace.

## **SEN Department**

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### **Reasonable Accommodations in State Exams - NEW**

The State Examinations Commission (SEC) has produced a new set of guidelines and rules for RACE, starting with June 2017 candidates - Junior Cert. and Leaving Cert.

Special Access arrangements (RACE) are meant to remove barriers that prevent students from understanding what they are being asked to do or prevent them from showing the examiner that they can do it. They are not meant to give anyone an advantage.

Not all students with a learning or physical difficulty will need to have special access arrangements (RACE) made for them.

#### **Key Changes:**

The school will identify students whose work is affected from day to day by any learning difficulty or physical impairment. Any student wishing to access special arrangements for State Exams will need to meet minimum necessary conditions for those arrangements to be granted.

RACE that was provided at Junior Cert. will be reactivated at Leaving Cert. subject to the confirmation by the school authority of an identified and continuing need.

Grounds for Making a RACE Application:  
 Learning Difficulty (replacing Specific Learning Difficulty)  
 Hearing Difficulty  
 Visual Difficulty  
 Physical Difficulty

### Reasonable Accommodations Key Dates - DEADLINES

<b>These dates are specific to 2017 only. In future years it is likely that earlier timeframes will apply</b>	<b>Application Forms Available From</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>Decision Framework</b>
Leaving Cert/Leaving Cert. Applied 2017 – Reactivation Form and New Accommodations Form	Late October 2016	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	End January – End February 2017
Leaving Cert./Leaving Cert. Applied 2017 – Late Application Form	Mid-December 2016	7 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	May 2017
Junior Cert. 2017 – Standard Application Form	November 2016	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	End March - End April 2017

Junior Cert. 2017 – Late Application Form	Mid- January 2017	7 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	May 2017
Emergency Application Form – LC and JC		n/a	n/a

More information will be provided to parents as it becomes available. For updates, please contact the State Exams Commission at [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

### **Drop Everything and Read**

Due to popular demand, this Literacy Initiative will recommence after the Halloween Break - Students should use the holiday to get a supply of relaxing reading material for school. We will take 10 minutes each week to READ AT LEISURE FOR PLEASURE. Times will be announced in the usual way. This is also a fun family activity.

### **Word of the Week**

We have a great bank of new words (vocabulary) for students this year. Parents are invited to find the *Word of the Week* on the school's website every Monday and use it at home when possible.

### **Resource and Learning Support**

If any parents are still unsure about any aspect of their student's SEN support, please contact the school.

## **Dyslexia Awareness Week (Oct 3 – 7, 2016)**

Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty which makes it hard for some people to learn, read, write and/or spell correctly. We know that Dyslexia can affect 1 in 10 students. The CCS Dyslexia Initiative this year was to screen the CCS students in their class groups for dyslexia using computer software. This allowed us to screen pupils and identify those who may have slight dyslexia. We can use this information to monitor students' progress and Learning Support will be put in place for those who need it. Parents will be informed of any change made for their son/daughter. All pupils gained from the experience, discovering what learning style they possess and what study techniques work best for them.

As a follow-up to the Dyslexia Initiative, all First Year students attended the Amazing Brains - a 2-hour study skills workshop on Tuesday, 11th November, where they got the opportunity to look at learning styles and effective study techniques in more detail. Later that evening Amazing brains held a very successful workshop for parents of First Years.

For advice or further information on Dyslexia, please contact Mrs Martina Mc Cole or Mrs Catherine Monagle, SEN Coordinator Useful information can be found on [www.dyslexia.ie](http://www.dyslexia.ie)

# TYD / Seniors Visit Malin Head Coast Guard Station

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On Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, a group of TYD, 5<sup>th</sup> year and 6<sup>th</sup> year students went to Malin Head to visit the Coast Guard Station. When we arrived, we met Mike, Brendan and Dara who are all Coast Guards stationed in Malin Head.

We happened to be very lucky; the day before there was a yacht which lost engine power during its approach to Donegal Bay. They were able to tell us all about what they had to do in that situation. The South-Westerly winds blew the yacht into rocks, causing it to run aground. It was great to have a recent and interesting story. We also got to listen to the phone-call that took place the night before, informing them of the incident. Many of the men in the station were involved in this incident and had something to do.

The men were very kind and helpful and were willing to answer any questions that we had to offer. Mike showed us a video on the National Marine College of Ireland to give us a quick view of the training required for this job. NMCI also had an open night taking place the day after the trip, which Mike was attending. They showed us some of their fancy and high-tech equipment, including the radio sets which one of our group members, Adam Mullins, used to call a station in Galway! We also learned that if you are communicating via radios, it usually works better at night as the sun is not ionising the particles.....

They also showed us how their job has changed over the years. This trip was very interesting and enjoyable. We learned so much about the Irish Coast Guard and what they do.

*By Adam Mullins, Evan Mc Laughlin, Jaime Ureña, Tara Doherty and Danielle Houghton. TYD!!!*

This just in! Sally McKenna has been accepted into the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2017. We wish Sally all the best with her project Media Manipulation.

## North Inishowen School Completion Programme

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### **Attendance**

Attendance initiatives are ongoing and every student benefits from these. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of good attendance and punctuality among students and parents/guardians, and to emphasise the link between attendance and academic performance.

### **Summer Programmes**

There was a very successful cooking camp held in the school at the beginning of July. Thirty students took part in the programme, and family members visited the school on the final day, where they got to sample some of the delicious culinary delights prepared by the students. Feedback from both parents and students has been excellent.

### **Numeracy Classes**

After school numeracy classes for identified 6th year students began on Tuesday 18th October. These classes focus on exam preparation and motivation. 35 students are currently taking part in the programme.

## **Breakfast Club**

The Breakfast Club, run by Mr. Dessie Doherty, is ongoing and continues to be a great success. There are over 100 students currently availing of the service in the Coffee Dock every morning.

## **North Inishowen Family Support Worker**

The Family Support Worker, Helen McFarland, is currently working with families in the NISCP area. The families involved greatly benefit from this service.

## **Transfer**

SCP and HSCL have visited all first year classes to address any issues students may be having with transfer.

# **Athletics**

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A team of almost 50 athletes travelled to Maghergallon in Gweedore for the annual Donegal Schools' Cross-country Championships on Wednesday, 19th October.

With fine weather and dry underfoot conditions, the racing was fast from the outset. All of our athletes acquitted themselves extremely well with our third year boys winning team gold. They were led home by the impressive running of Lughan Devenney (3B) in second place. Fionn Bowyer (3G) just missed out on an individual medal when taking a very creditable fourth position; Jack Leddy (3G) sprinted home to fifth place. Patrick Corchane-Bonina (3D) moved up in distance and did very well over the 3000m course, finishing fortieth to complete the scoring team.

Up next for our athletes will be the first year sportshall competition in November and December. The Ulster Schools' cross-country is set for late January.

Athletics training continues for all year groups every Wednesday evening from 3.30pm to 4.45pm. All pupils are very welcome to attend.

## "A Musical Celebration of Christmas"

Auditions will take place the week after the mid-term break for any students interested in taking part in this year's Music Production "A Musical Celebration of Christmas".

Music students and Choir members have already begun their choral preparations for the show and are excited by the idea of bringing a musical buzz about the school this Christmas!

The "Musical Celebration" will showcase the wonderful performance talents of CCS students - with the Christmas theme as the link to all of our acts.

The show will take place on Tuesday, 20th December in the Aras at 8pm.

Any students wishing to audition for a limited number of places on the show are encouraged to get practicing now over the mid-term break and be well-rehearsed...Auditions take place on Tuesday, 8th November at lunchtime in rooms 406 & 407.