

ZODIAC

Vol. XXVII No. 1

September / October 2017

EDITORIAL

We welcome all our new students and teachers and we wish every success to all those who left us in June.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday, 27th October** School competing in Choral Festival in Derry.
Friday, 27th “ School closes at 3.20p.m. for Mid-Term Break.
- Friday, 3rd November** Students / Teachers return from American Exchange.
Monday, 6th “ School re-opens.
Monday, 6th “ Class Tests for Sixth Years this week.
Monday, 13th “ Class Tests for Third Years.
Monday, 13th “ Fifth Year LCA on Work Experience until 25th Nov.
Tuesday, 14th “ Students / Teachers depart for Mock Trials in New York.
Wednesday, 22nd Sixth Year Parent / Teacher Meetings.
Thursday, 30th “ Third Year Parent / Teacher Meetings.
- Friday, 1st December** TY Craft Fayre in The Aras.
Friday, 1st “ “Day of Action” for Charitable Projects.
Thursday, 7th “ Fifth Year Parent Teacher Meetings.
Friday, 8th “ PLAY : “Dancing at Lughnasa” in The Aras.
Tuesday, 12th Forensic Science Workshop for Third Year Students.
Wednesday, 13th Blood Donation Clinic in The Aras.
Friday, 22nd School closes at 12.30p.m. for Christmas Holidays.

SALE OF UNIFORM JUMPERS

Uniform Jerseys are on sale in the Bookshop for €20 until Friday, 27th October. Parents who wish to buy Jerseys for students coming into First Year in September, 2018 are welcome to do so. Jerseys may be bought at any time on Thursday or Friday in The Main Office.

World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day took place on Tuesday 10th October 2017. This day, observed on the same date annually has the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world. SPHE classes designed posters to help create awareness of the day. Further events to promote positive mental health within the school community will take place during our Wellbeing Week in January 2018.

Ski Trip 2018 - Andorra

This year's Ski Trip will be the biggest in the history of the school with a total of 115 people travelling to Andorra. However, the news released from Ryanair a few weeks back brought a worrying sweat to a few of us. But at present, our return flights from Dublin to Barcelona have remained unaffected. There have been a few enquiries about how much spending money to take (Max €150 to €200). To avoid any theft or misplacements of large sums of money, could all students take a bank card with them on the trip. Any students that do not have a bank account with a bank card are asked to sign up with AIB TY Build-a-Bank. The second-last instalment was due on the 20th of October. Those that did not bring this in should do so as soon as possible. The next date to remember is 8th of December, when the final instalment should be paid. There are still a few outstanding passports to be taken in. The details are required for the airlines. Please bring in a photo of these immediately.

School Canteen

Marie has retired from the Canteen. We wish her well and acknowledge her contribution. Anne, Marilyn and Peggy have taken on the challenge. "Our aim is to try further healthy options, i.e. stew, pasta dishes, pasta salad, vegetable soup, cous-cous, fresh fruit salad, yoghurt, baked potato with beans, brown bread, curry/rice. We welcome suggestions from pupils and staff and are exploring gluten-free options. Regards - ANNE, MARILYN & PEGGY."

Important allergen information is available at www.carndonaghcs.ie, along with the weekly Canteen Menu...Enjoy!

LCA Driver Education Module Launched

CCS are delighted to host a Pilot Driver Education Programme with our LCA students, in conjunction with Donegal County Council and Pro-social Drivers Programme and funded by the North Inishowen School Completion Programme.

There are three main pillars within the school:

- (1) Pro-social Drivers Councillors
- (2) Presentations from Gardaí
- (3) Practical preparation and theory preparation from Driving Instructor, Dessie Kearney

We believe this is an important initiative in educating young people, before they start driving, in keeping our roads safe. The

Programme will be evaluated at the end and will inform the Pro-social Drivers Programme and Donegal County Council on the possible roll-out of the initiative to other schools and youth organisations. We wish all our LCA students undertaking the Programme success in this valuable opportunity.

SEN Department

Reasonable Accommodations in State Exams - NEW

The State Examinations Commission (SEC) has set out the guidelines for Junior Cert. and Leaving Cert. RACE.

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 Points:

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

2018 Reasonable Accommodations Key Dates - DEADLINES

	Application Forms Available From	Closing Date	Decision Framework
Leaving Cert./Leaving Cert. Applied 2018 - Reactivation Form and New Accommodations Form	Early October 2017	10 th November 2017	January 2018
Leaving Cert./Leaving Cert. Applied 2017 - Late Application Form	Mid-December 2016	23 rd March 2018	May 2018
Junior Cert. 2017 - Standard Application Form	October 2017	22 nd December 2017	March 2018
Junior Cert. 2017 - Late Application Form	Mid- December to mid - January 2017	23 rd March 2018	May 2018
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

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 and we will discuss this with you.

Cycle Against Suicide (CAS) Ambassador Schools

Fifth year students Ella Devlin and Ernest Postrero travelled to Dublin in September to collect The Ambassador School award. This was recognition of the hard work carried out last year to promote positive mental health, and the message 'it's okay not to feel ok, and it's absolutely ok to ask for help'. A special word of thanks to all staff who helped CCS achieve this award. The theme for this year is 'Empower your Voice', and all students and staff will be able to get involved in the project.

LCVP

Leaving Cert students will be busy putting the final touches to their portfolios. All our students were successful in the 2017 Leaving Cert, with over 76% using their LCVP for college points. Congrats to all students and their teachers. We will hope to build on the number of distinctions this year.

HSCL

My name is Mary Lafferty and I am the Home School Community Liaison teacher in CCS. Please feel free to contact me if you have any issues you want to discuss about your child, and we can have a chat on the phone, in school, or I can visit. Whatever suits best!

All our first years attended 'Blast Off' by Amazing Brains, which should help them develop good study skills. If your child is struggling in any way with the move to CCS, please get in touch. First year parents also got a bitesize session. Thanks to all parents who attended the First Year coffee morning; great to meet and chat with you all.

Team Hope Shoebox Appeal

Class 3C are inviting all students, teachers and the school community to do the shoebox appeal. Let's give joy this Christmas to those less fortunate than ourselves...

Fill a Box

Five simple steps to follow:

Grab a Shoebox, or a plastic container. Wrap the box and lid separately with Christmas paper.



Print a label, or get one from 3C Room 211 - Mrs N. Kelly (or use boy/girl sticker from leaflet) and choose who (and what age) you want to give your Christmas Shoebox to.

Fill the box - get as creative as you like and have some fun with this! - You can use our four W's as a rough guide.

Close the box - include €4 in your leaflet envelope, either on top of the gifts or taped to the inside of the lid. To make it easier you can donate your €4 on the secure website.

Secure with an elastic band - please don't seal with tape as contents need to be checked (to comply with regulations).

Drop the shoebox off to room 211 (Mrs N. Kelly) on or before November, 8th 2017.



4 W's

Here are some ideas of things you might put in your shoebox:

Something to Write with

Pens/ Pencils
Crayons
Paper

Colouring books
Markers
Sharpeners & Erasers



Something to Wash with

Soap (wrapped)
Hairbrush
Comb

Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Facecloth



Something to Wear

Socks
Underwear
Flip Flops

Hat
Scarf
Gloves



Something to Wow

Cuddly toy
Skipping rope/ yo-yo
Sweets (in date until 03/18)
Small musical instrument
Photo of yourself
Toy car

Sunglasses
Stickers
Doll



Roinn na Gaeilge

The Club Cainte continues every Friday at 1pm in Rm 110. Tá fáilte roimh chách.

Turas na Gaeltachta

After Halloween, Ms Mc Gowan and Ms Byrne will be collecting deposits from any students who are interested in going to the Gaeltacht next March. More details to follow...

Feachtas Tráth na gCéist

On Thursday 12th October, 12 CCS students took part in a Tráth na gCéist in Coláiste Ailigh, Letterkenny. CCS were represented by three teams with students from 2nd to 6th year. The students completed the entire quiz (6 rounds of questions) trí mhéan na Gaeilge. The students had a great time and had the opportunity to display their Irish skills.

As they say...Bhí an chraic go hiontach!!

Chaplaincy

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 is an initiative that 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 end of next week.

North Inishowen School Completion Programme

Summer Programmes

There were two very successful cooking camps held in the school at the beginning of July. 40 students took part in the programme and cooked some delicious culinary delights over the week. Feedback from both parents and students has been excellent, with many students looking forward to next year already!

Numeracy Classes

After school numeracy classes for identified 3rd and 6th year students began in September. These classes focus on exam preparation and motivation. 33 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.

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.

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.

Transition Year News

It has been a busy few weeks for the TYs - Two Ireland matches in Dublin - Ireland Versus Serbia and Ireland versus Moldova. On both trips the students had an enjoyable day/night.

TY versus Teachers GAA Match....Don't miss Paul Shiels' TYA account of the match. As a TY student I'm sure his loyalties lay with his comrades. However, one must admit that there was only one winner on the day. Sorry Shane, David, Tony and Adam...you were no match for the victorious teachers. See those few months of training paid off!!!!!!

Enhancing co-ordination, agility and cardiovascular fitness is certainly being put to the test in PE...And no, I'm not talking about the trips to Creggan, Kayaking, Spinning, Badminton or Surfing - it's the TY Dance that is breaking a sweat. But believe me, it will all be worth it.

The TY students had a talk on Domestic Violence from Lifeline. The aim of the talk was to increase awareness of domestic violence and its effects, and to continue to enhance existing services and develop new services.

Student of the Month - a student was selected from each TY group for a variety of reasons. Congratulations to all 5 students. Names will not be published as one student feels he is in the running for next month. HINT! TYA student.

TY students can find out all information on *GAISCE* - The President's Award - on the school website and from Mr. Niall McGee. Why do Gaisce? 1. Make new friends. 2. Learn a new skill 3. Help out your local community. 4. Get active. 5. Go on an adventure. 6. Achieve something worthwhile.

Students can also find out about John Paul II Award from Mrs. Serena Doherty.

The TY students are busy getting organised for the Christmas Craft Fayre on December 1st. It was a huge success last year, so no pressure on the students and their Enterprise teachers!

Students are also busy organising their own individual enterprise projects.

TYA boys - a group of students helped with the Primary School Hurling Blitz in Foden.

TYE have taken part in a Literacy Programme with Ms. Fiona McLaughlin's First year English Group.

TYD have just completed a three-week First Aid Course. Hopefully the students feel equipped with the skills and knowledge to provide emergency life-saving treatments in common emergency situations.

On 10th October all TYs attended the Annual Road Safety Talk in Letterkenny. The show is part of the Donegal County Council's ongoing commitment to improving road safety in the county.

AIB Build a Bank interviews are over and names of the students who were successful are posted on Ms. Harkin's door. Well Done to all the students.

On the 11th October 70 TYs headed to the Balor Theatre in Ballybofey. A great day was had by all.

On 12th October all TYs had an early start to Dublin - every student on the bus by 7.45am - IMPRESSED! Off to the Go Quest Challenge Zone. No major incidents on the way down (ok, apart from the downing of 2 bottles of some sugary drink...and you know what follows. Bus had to stop, student had to get off. Bus delayed for 15 mins.). On arrival at the Challenge Zone the students were put into teams and the teachers, aka "THE PROFESSIONALS", formed their own team. The 28 challenge rooms were a mix of light physical, skill and mental challenges with 3 levels of difficulty. Room one and the teachers had brain

freeze and unfortunately never got time to recover. Well done to the Donegal Donkey Sanctuary who claimed the top points. The students displayed impeccable behaviour and enthusiasm on the day.

Peter Casey, entrepreneur from Derry (better known for his role on Dragon's Den) gave a talk to the students on interview skills. Students asked some very interesting questions, with one male student asking "Did he meet his wife before or after he made his money?"

Collette Ferguson delivered a presentation to the students on the work of the Simon Community. As a follow-up, the students had a "Sleep-In" on Friday 13th in the Aras. Mr. Havlin was on night duty and claims he never closed an eye!!!! So, who was snoring???? The rules: only bring a sleeping bag. Ms. Fiona McLaughlin felt she could adjust the rules slightly, bringing along a duvet, pillow and hot water bottle. Mr. McDonagh was in hiding after 3am. No sightings reported after that time, strange! It was a fantastic night and only one word to describe the students - AMAZING.

Work Experience will begin on Monday December 4th for one week. Use the time now to get a placement that you will enjoy and will link into your future career in some way. Seagate in Derry are taking on 6 students for 3 days' work experience from November 6th - 8th.

Enterprise Day - 12 TY students represented the school at an Enterprise Competition in Letterkenny on Wednesday 18th October...Enjoy the Halloween break!!!

Girls GAA

Girls GAA Training takes place every Thursday, 3.30-4.30 for all the girls on the U16 and Senior girls GAA Teams.

U14 Training will take place after Christmas.

The first senior girls match will be against St. Catherine's, Killybegs and the first U16 match will be against Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana.

First Year Futsal Lunchtime Leagues

The First Year Futsal Lunchtime Leagues have been running since the start of September. There have been some fantastic matches so far. We have to thank a number of Transition Years who have given up their lunchtimes to coach the teams, take photos and referee the matches twice a week. After four weeks of end to end games we had classes 1D, 1E, 1G and 1H reach the semi-finals. In our 1st semi-final, 1E and 1G played out a closely fought game that had only 1 goal in it until the closing stages. Two classy strikes from Adam Duffy and Lee Coyle put the game to bed in the closing stages and put 1E into the final on a scoreline of 3-0.

The other semi was a rip-roaring game that was played at a high tempo with some great end to end football. 1H took the lead after exerting serious pressure on the 1D goal, Aaron Porter popped up with a tidy finish to put them one goal up. 1D pressed very hard and were caught on the counter-attack. Jamie

McKinney finished off a great team move to put 1H 2-0 up with just over three minutes to play. 1D immediately got a goal back after a scramble in the box and laid siege to the 1H goal for the final two minutes...but 1H held out.

TY student Gavin McDaid, who coaches 1E, believes they have every chance of winning the final if they keep up their level of performance. He will be looking to Gabriella Doherty, Adam Duffy and Lee Coyle to maintain the excellent standards they have set to get them over the line. TY student and 1H manager Dean McEleney rubbished claims that his team were underdogs and is happy to be coming in under the radar, having had to fight tooth and nail to win each game so far. Dean is looking to Roseanna McConologue, Aaron Porter and Jamie McKinney in particular to make the difference.

We had the final of the lunchtime leagues on Friday, 20th October. All of the other 1st year classes were in attendance to watch the spectacle. 1H, managed by Luke Rudden and Alex McGonagle, took on the might of 1E who were managed by Gavin McDaid, assisted by Luke Doherty (Davi). The game started at a ferocious pace and 1H took the lead with an excellent finish from Jamie McKinney. The game swung from end to end with finishes from Adam Duffy and Lee Coyle, putting 1E 2-1 up. Jamie McKinney popped up with a replica of his 1st goal to make the game 2-2, but 1H were caught with a sucker punch when 1E scored right on the half time whistle. Aaron Porter, who had an excellent game along with Jamie McKinney and Roseanna McConologue, tried to make things happen for 1H. However, resolute defending by Gabriella Doherty and Jade McDaid kept them at bay. 1E had some excellent performances from 2nd half substitutes and they combined to make the game 4-2. Adam

Duffy popped up late to give 1E a 5-2 victory. It was a very tight and exciting game and the scoreline doesn't reflect how close the game was. Ms Nabla McGeehin presented medals to both the winners and runners-up and then presented the 1st Year Lunchtime League Trophy to 1E captain Adam Duffy.



CAMERA

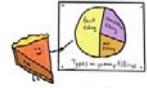
PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

FRIDAY AT LUNCHTIMES
IN ROOM 306A
NO PREVIOUS PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS NEEDED

MEET NEW PEOPLE
LEARN NEW SKILLS
HAVE FUN!

A graphic for a Photography Club. At the top is a line drawing of a camera with the word "CAMERA" written above it. The background is a watercolor wash of purple and pink. Below the camera, the text "PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB" is written in a large, purple, sans-serif font. Underneath that, in a smaller purple font, are the details: "FRIDAY AT LUNCHTIMES", "IN ROOM 306A", and "NO PREVIOUS PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS NEEDED". At the bottom, in a smaller purple font, are the benefits: "MEET NEW PEOPLE", "LEARN NEW SKILLS", and "HAVE FUN!".

Maths Week - Daily Puzzle Competition



Pie chart

MONDAY -> QUESTION 1

It takes 5 cooks 5 hours to bake 5 pies. Assuming no changes of rate, how many hours will it take 10 cooks to bake 10 pies?



TUESDAY -> QUESTION 2

I'm thinking of two positive whole numbers that multiply to 1000, neither of which contain the digit 0. What is the sum of these two numbers?

WEDNESDAY -> QUESTION 3



$$1 \square 2 \square 3 \square 4 \square 5 \square 6 \square 7 \square 8 = 30$$

Six out of the seven " \square "s above contain addition signs, and the remaining " \square " contains a subtraction sign.

Where should the subtraction sign go to make the equation true?



THURSDAY -> QUESTION 4



A full jar of honey weighs 750 grams, and the same jar two-thirds full weighs 550 grams. What is the weight of the empty jar in grams?

FRIDAY -> QUESTION 5



If the two triangles above are congruent, equilateral triangles, which is greater, the total area of the three red regions or the total area of the six purple regions?

Weekly Maths Puzzle Competition

All students are free to participate in Ms Shannon Doherty's weekly maths puzzle competition; a weekly prize is up for grabs. The puzzles can be found on the school website every Monday. Place answers in the folder on the noticeboard in the Mall before the end of the day every Friday.

“Boxing” down the Barriers to Reading

On the 6th of October it was all “hands on books” in room 206 as reading material was sorted, counted and boxed. To our delight, the final tally revealed we had received 1,100 books as part of our 'Book Drive'. As we began delivering the book boxes to teachers, excitement was rife. Some staff and students were even caught sampling the new reading material! Thank you to everyone who contributed. Due to the huge success, we are extending the Book Drive for another month.

D.E.A.R - Creating a Whole School Reading Culture

Our literacy initiative - D.E.A.R - has resumed for the year. This initiative is a shared experience that gets people reading while conveying a strong message that CCS acknowledges the importance of reading.

D.E.A.R has returned with a few small changes:

- D.E.A.R will now happen at a different time. Students will be kept in suspense as to what day and time it will take place.
- As always, students are encouraged to have reading material in their bag; however, most classrooms are now stocked with book boxes containing reading material that students can use during D.E.A.R.

Feedback has been very positive from both staff and students about this initiative and everyone seems delighted with the

arrival of the book boxes. Thanks again to everyone who donated books to the "Book Drive". They have been put to great use. Remember: Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.

'Dancing at Lughnasa'

We invite you to join us on this magical journey of memory, illusion and dancing. It has been a very exciting two weeks in CCS since word spread of the school's production of 'Dancing at Lughnasa'. The show will take place on Thursday the 7th and Friday the 8th of December. In recent weeks, lots of budding actors lined the corridor to the Aras as they waited eagerly to audition for a part in Brian Friel's award winning drama. Auditions were intense, nerve-racking but truly uplifting. The cast is made up of eight characters. As we are blessed with talent in CCS, the final decision for the cast was not an easy one. We even had to do a recall! Unfortunately, we couldn't give everyone a part but thank you to everyone who auditioned. The auditions were a real eye-opener to the huge talent we have here at CCS.

Congratulations to the students who were cast. Keep an eye out for more details about the play in the coming weeks!

Book in the Bag

Book in the Bag is a new literacy initiative that has been introduced among first year students. Every first year student has been given a novel which they must carry in their school bag every day. Students may read their book at appropriate times

during the school day as well as reading it at home. The aim of this project is to encourage students to read more.

Parents/guardians are asked to support the student's by encouraging them to read their book at home. To date we have had a very positive response to this initiative from parents, staff and students. Thank to everyone who has supported this initiative so far. Between the pages of a book is a lovely place to be; enjoy your reading!

C.C.S. School Choir to perform at Derry Choral Festival!

Much planning and preparation has been going on in the C.C.S. Music Department over the past few weeks in preparation for the Derry Choral Festival which takes place this week between 26th - 29th October.

The school choir will perform on Friday 27th October in St. Colum's Hall, Derry, as part of the post-primary, two-part choir competition. There will be nine secondary school choirs competing in the competition, including choirs from Dublin, Derry, Donegal, and a guest choir from Portugal!

As competitors in the competition, C.C.S. choir students will also take part in the "Big Sing Workshop" on Friday, which promises to be an exciting and educational choral workshop. We wish our school choir the very best of luck for Friday!! Sing out everyone!!

Senior Soccer – The Callum Report(s)

On Thursday evening a few weeks ago, Mr. Cavanagh called upon all the men who would be interested in playing football the year for the seniors. There was a big hole to fill as the vast majority of last year's team is off studying in college, off working in places such as Poundland (Cathal Farren) and others off filling cars with petrol (Dopey Devine). Then some are just lying in bed to dinnertime, getting up, watching daytime TV, telling as many people as he can about his Derry City career, and then back off to bed (former Captain Todd). Part-time footballer Conor Browne is living it up in Galway with his new bird he met at the Carn Cattle Show, treating her to tasty takeaways and long walks along Salthill Bay. James McKinney has gone missing and hasn't been seen since Glengad lost to Illies in the Cup last May. Evan Tweed however has taken his career to the next level; he now has learned to make coffee, where before he could only make tea...He now works in Café Bamba. And then you have Ciaran Jimmy Roe who hasn't been seen since Doc's got a new Deli counter.

The crowd that showed for the trial match wouldn't fill a hole in your tooth never mind fill a hole in your team. Local Rasheeny soccerballer, Nathan McConalogue was one of the standouts (by standout I mean standing out on the sideline beside the rest of the subs). His performance on RTÉ the day before seemed that bit better than his performance during this match. Saying on TV "The Mother would be proud!"...She wouldn't be too proud if she was there on Thursday. The football was not very fancy, although Brendan Doherty (L) did manage to do a few step-overs and put away a few tap-ins. Benny made a staggering 50 cent

transfer to local rivals Rasheeny to join childhood hero Nathan McConalogue in midfield.

Wee Corey McBride didn't show up to this match; we thought he was huffing...It turned out he was the last man in the changing rooms and had difficulty reaching the door handle. One of the other hot newcomers was Aidan Cunningham who hails from Culdaff FC, a player who I brought up through the Youth. I taught him everything. I even taught him how to tie his shoelaces and how to walk. The shortlist of who makes the cut will be released in the coming weeks, so fingers crossed for the likes of Jack Lackin and Thomas O'Brien. It's time to go to Mass on a Sunday and say your Hail Marys at bedtime. So don't be misbehaving in class, do your homework...and don't forget Santa isn't far away either.

Training will continue every Friday. There's word on the street there's an old friend coming to see us. A man with rippling muscles, a man who can squat two buses, a man who once fought off a bear with just his bare fists, a man who can catch a salmon with his teeth...

I've decided to take a back seat the year and watch on from the sidelines, use my head and not my feet. I'm joining the Management panel along with Mr. Cavanagh and the new horse in the stable, the man who has more Carn underage medals to his name than Conor O'Donnell, the man who's going to be made sing a song on his first bus run, Mr C. Doherty (Conor not Colm)...and finally, the headless horseman..Samuel Todd. I will be Houghton's number 2. So, Johnny Toyne, your day will come son, don't worry.

Player of the year outright betting 2017/18
Nathan McConalogue evens (favourite)
Lackin brothers 5/2
Benoit Assou-Ekotto (Ciaran Jimmyroe) 5/1
Big Corey McBride 14/1
Wee Connor O'Donnell 25/1
Lee 'Keegan' McLaughlin 30/1
Big Daddy Daniel H 100/1
Mikey Friel 101/1
Fionn McClure 101.5/1
Lorcan 'The Pitbull' LOL/1
Jake 'HAHA' Harkin MoreHopeOfTonyHibbert/1
Kieran 'Dishwasher' Farren TooManyReds/1
Christopher Gill DeclanGill/1
Brendan Doherty 50cent/1
Me and Sam 2DerryCityAllStars/1
Ronan McCusker 2/1

The Scoil Mhuire Game

The boys came to school that morning, shaking with the nerves. The calmest man of the bunch was wee Corey McBride who was as calm as a summer's day, only he had one major dilemma that morning when he stepped off the bus...last man and went to open the door to the 1st corridor, he couldn't reach the handle. He was stuck outside the school until the next busload came. There were fears the wee fella had frostbite, so we decided to give him a boiling hot sink and got Fionn to dry him off using a facecloth. We got him sorted anyhow and all men gathered together, but once again we had a problem; we had two Jack McLaughlins and no Nathan McConalogue.

The bus arrived and we did a final headcount...17. We needed 18. There was no Jimmyroe, he was still in class. We feared his devotion to school would result in us having no centre-half, so Mr. Cavanagh requested that the three strongest men go down and forcefully take him out of class. They sent me, Lee and Andrew Murphy. We trailed him by the legs out and got him to the bus, tied him down and got the bus driver to drive as fast as he could to Applegreen Deli to calm Ciaran down.

Scoil Mhuire 3-9 Carndonagh CS

Carn for once started the better team but there were a few major talking points in the first half that maybe Hession and Cade doesn't want told, but we're going to tell them anyways. Mikey tapped in the first goal, that could have been put away by me lying on my deathbed and then Wee Corey saw a shot from his left foot that was heading for the Swilly deflect off the Buncrana defender, storming her into the bottom corner. Hession had a chance to open his account for the school, when he had saw another shot sail over the bar. He just didnt have the shooting boots on today. He hit the floor screaming at one stage, so we called upon new team physios Jack Fildara and Jack Barney to go sort him out. Fildara solved the problem by giving Hession a blow-dry and a skin fade. He was then back to his normal best.

Buncrana looked to get back in the game when they pounced back with two quick goals. One Buncrana fan said "Is that Tiernan Devine back in centre-half?"...No, it was Jake Harkin who couldn't pass a fish supper and like his Clonmany teammate, Oisin Hession, they arent very good at football. Captain Houghton was to blame for all three goals once again today as his spell as Number 1 seems to be coming to an end. He's like

Joe Hart - flexible but clean useless. when we were 7-3 up I came on to see the game home, and a magnificent display it was too, being the only keeper in Buncrana to hold a clean sheet; something I'm very proud of. There's strong rumours that Houghton is now 4th choice, leaving me 1st, Jonny Toye 2nd and Oran Raymondo 3rd. Carn regained the lead with quick-fire goals from Jack Doherty, a thunderbolt Free kick from Wee Corey (luckily the wall had more holes than Ballyliffen Golf Course) and a 1st half brace for Mikey. The second half started with O'Donnell making a cheeky run into the box and scoring, but thankfully the linesman stuck up his flag to disallow the goal for we would never heard the end of it. The Management team finally couldn't take any more laughter, so they took Cade off. His replacement was the big superstar Luke Rudden, who looked to be no better but eventually managed to shin one in for a debut goal. Then the moment of truth, the words we'd all been waiting for... "Warm up Benny!". A true predator in front of goal. Smashing them in. Cracking records and cracking ankles! The mobile centre-forward. The best thing to come out of Clonmany since... Eoghan Brennan. Came on and did what he does best - puts the ball into the net. Mikey got his hat-trick when he kicked the ball and the wind carried it into the goal. Wee Corey got his when he turned, ran in between the defender's legs in the box, and tapped her in. Both were then taken off. Jack McLaughlin came on, followed by Jack Mc Laughlin. At this stage Hession was so confused he had to come off (he wouldnt be the sharpest knife in the cupboard!) Fionn moved up the field a bit and yes! You guessed it! His shooting was a shambles. Hes got the aim of a sniper but the power of a Ford Fiesta. When the laughing had died down looking at McClure's shooting, O'Donnell's heading and Jimmyroe thinking he can run with the ball, the decision was made to remove Houghton from the field.

The Buncrana men were not happy as they thought Houghton was their best chance of winning the game. One smart man said "You would be as well with a cone in nets as having Houghton in"...Just in case you missed it up the page, but Houghton conceded 3 goals. At this stage Buncrana knew the game was buried, so they decided to throw on 2 stray dogs. Statistically speaking, they had a better game than Lee and Hession. After nagging the ref, Ciaran Jimmy Roe got the game ended as it had been nearly 2 hours since he swallowed anything solid. He demanded we stopped in Subway where he ordered a couple of Foot-longs, a couple of cookies and a diet coke.

Art Students Visit Glebe Gallery

Fifth Year Art students visited the Glebe Gallery and House in Churchill on Friday, 6th October. The students got a behind the scenes look at the current "Point and Click" exhibition by curator Derek O'Connor. Derek spoke to the students about how artwork is selected for an exhibition and how the artwork is displayed. The students got an insight into artist Derek Hill's life with a guided tour of his home and personal Art Collection. The students got an up-close look at work from artists like Renoir and Picasso. It was a very enjoyable and educational trip for the students and Ms McGee!

Staff (and Friends) v TY GAA Match

The TYs started with a strong side. Shaun McCarron caused trouble for the ageing legs of the teachers. Luke Davy was a standout player in the first half. Sam Bogan played very well for

the teachers and held the ball well. The teachers got off to an early lead. However, as the game continued, they began to drop off the pace as their fitness was tested. Going in at half-time, the TYs looked better despite being quite far behind.

At half-time, I talked to David McGonigle who said "We are unstoppable going forward. However, it's the simple things we're messing up. I think we have a chance to win this game. It's there for the taking!" I asked him, "Are there any leaders in this team?" "Yes...I am!", he said. "I inspire everyone around me." (He was subbed at half-time.) He noted that the standout players in the first half were Robert Mullally, Tony Meehan and Adam McFeely.

As the second half started, the TYs looked better with Shane Owen causing trouble. As a corner-forward, he instantly scored a goal, followed by a point. The supporters behind the goal sang "Shane Owen's on fire...Your defence is petrified!" He continued to cause mayhem. His teammates had this to say..."He's a legend!"..."It's simple math. Give the ball to Shane and he will score." (Meanwhile...) The game ended with the teachers winning; Sam Bogan scored one final goal to add to his tally, ensuring that he walked away with the Top Goalscorer Award. His final goal came from David McGonigle giving the ball away. David really let his team down with that one. (Never mind the fact that the Teachers were leading by about 25 points at that stage...) If the game would have lasted just a little bit longer, there's no doubt in my mind that the TYs would have won. You have to keep in mind that the Teachers couldn't put forward a full team and had to use senior pupils. The TY pupils ran to Shane Owen after the final whistle and lifted him high above their heads, as he is a true force of nature. I asked him for a

few words after the game, but he said he didn't want to talk about it...Hero!

- Paul Shiels, TYA

Pétanque Tournament - European Day of Languages

On Friday the 29th September, several Transition Year students helped to organise a Pétanque competition for the 2nd and 3rd year French students with Ms. Mc Goldrick. The students were divided up into teams of three. Each team played the other teams in different rounds till the two remaining teams played in the final. The aim of the game is to roll the ball as close to the 'jack' (the small ball) as possible. The team who owns the ball closest to the 'jack' wins the round and progresses on to the next round while the other team is knocked out. The winners of the first 2nd year group were Shaun, Brendan and Donna. The next 2nd year group winners were David, Therese and Emmet. The 3rd year group winners were Ciara, Stephen and Christopher. (See school website for the photos.) A round was then played with all the boys competing, and a separate round played with all the girls to determine the two best players. The winners of the best player rounds were Stephen and Tori. All the winners were awarded trophies - presented by special guest, county player Clara McLaughlin. Ms Mc Goldrick would like to thank the school for sponsoring the trophies and to say well done to every student who took part...it was a great day of pétanque!

European Day of Languages @ CCS

On Friday, 29th September, Carndonagh CS celebrated European Day of Languages. The events on the day included...

Breaktime: 10.25- 10.40

- Irish dancing in the Coffee Dock at break time.
- Stickers distributed, representing the languages of all European countries.
- QUIZ based on the countries and languages of the EU. Prizes to be won!!!

Lunchtime: 12.40 - 1.20

- School Canteen has been transformed into a EUROPEAN BISTRO for the day. Sample foods from all over Europe.
- Traditional music in the Canteen
- Students wearing traditional dress.
- Face-painting in the Coffee Dock.

A FUN DAY FOR ALL!!!

First Years are First for Futsal in Inishowen

Both our boys and girls 1st year Futsal teams had an excellent day at the Inishowen Secondary Schools Futsal tournament held at Aileach FC Astro Pitch.

The Carndonagh CS girls were up against Crana College first. Two goals from Emma Devlin and one from Chloe Lacey had them 3-0 up at half time. In the 2nd half Katherine Doherty and Alaina Keogh completed the scoring to ensure a 5-0 victory.

Next up they played against Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana. The girls put in an exceptional performance in this game and Lorinne Green and Alaina Keogh scored two spectacular goals to give the girls a great start. The hardworking Emma Devlin added two more before the break to give the girls a 4-0 lead at half-time. Scoil Mhuire put it up to the girls in the 2nd half but Yasmin Crumlsh was a very calming presence in goals, ensuring they couldn't find a way back into the game. Chloe Lacey popped up with two clinical finishes in the second half to make the final score 6-0 to Carndonagh Community School. This ensured the girls reached the Ulster Futsal finals on November 14th and Mr Conor Doherty and Ms Anita Doherty were delighted with their efforts.

The boys were up next and they watched Crana College and Scoil Mhuire play out an entertaining 1-1 draw in the first game. The Carndonagh CS boys played Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana in their first game and came out with all guns blazing. Kyran Cantwell ran himself to a standstill up front and ended the first half with a hat trick. Adam Duffy finished off an excellent team move at the break. In the 2nd half Carndonagh made use of their strong bench and substitutes Lee Coyle and Aaron Porter scored a brace each before Sean O'Kane rounded off the scoring with an excellently taken half-volley. The final score was 9-0 and it was an excellent team performance with all 10 squad members contributing well.

The 2nd game was against Crana College and the boys knew that a draw or a win would take them through to the Ulster Finals. Carndonagh had a frustrating start to the second half with the Crana College keeper pulling off some excellent saves and their defence frustrating Carndonagh's attacks. Carndonagh were

quite sloppy in the first few minutes and an excellent Crana College move ended with an excellent effort crashing off the Carndonagh post. This seemed to wake the Carn CS boys up and the boys scored 4 goals in 4 minutes; a cheeky flick by Kyran Cantwell from a cross was the pick of the bunch. Adam Duffy scored two goals and Lee Coyle got the other to ensure a 4-0 lead at the break. In the second half Crana College began to tire and Carndonagh again showed their strength in depth as they began to dominate proceedings. Substitutes Ryan McLaughlin x2, Sean O'Donnell, Lee Coyle and Aaron Porter got in on the goals. In a rare foray forward Jamie McKinney rounded off the scoring to make it a 10-0 victory. The scoreline doesn't reflect the excellent effort Crana College put in for long periods of the game. It was an excellent squad performance reflected in the fact that every member of the squad played and 8 out of the 9 outfield players got on the scoresheet. Mr Conor Doherty and Ms Anita Doherty were delighted with the teams' performances, as well as their behaviour on and off the pitch, and eagerly await the Ulster Finals in November.

Our Journey so far with Health Promoting Schools

What Is HPS?

Health Promoting School (HPS) is about giving school an extra focus on health. It encourages teachers, students, parents and guardians to look at how schools can promote health and wellbeing.

What theme was chosen? Why?

The theme we chose was improving our school toilet facilities. We chose this theme because the toilets needed an upgrade and it was one of the main issues that students felt needed to be prioritised.

What our HPS achievements are to date?

All toilets in the main building of the school and the gym were upgraded e.g painted walls, new locks, new tiles, flush posters, new hand dryers, soap and hot water. The eating area was also expanded, e.g new tables and benches, leaving space to enjoy lunch.

What are plans are for the future?

We plan to sustain the current toilet upgrades by affirming the new 1st years of the work that was done in the past year.

- Showing students the PowerPoint on hygiene in SPHE classes.
- Encouraging the students to respect our new toilet and eating facilities.

We also hope to upgrade the toilets in the Maths Building, 4th Unit and the 5th Unit in the near future.

Geoffrey the Tortoise on Tour!

Geoffrey the Tortoise had a fantastic summer visiting many locations around Inishowen. Over the summer months he has grown considerably, weighing-in at an impressive 80 grams! Geoffrey is available to meet any new First Years at lunchtime

on Tuesdays in Room 317. The little guy has really come out of his shell these past few months...

Junior Cert Results Day 2017

Junior Cert Results Day in CCS was a little more remarkable than usual in 2017. Word filtered through on Wednesday morning that RTÉ's Eileen Magnier was in the area and intended to make an appearance. The result was a prime-time slot on the Six One News. Several pupils were interviewed and spoke very well, with Nathan McConalogue's 15 minutes of fame completely used up! Pupils commended teachers and Principal Fiorentini offered congratulations and good luck to all new Seniors.

Oisín Bowyer's Ethiopian Adventure (Projects Abroad)

It was July 1st that I set off from Dublin Airport full of excitement and I must admit some apprehension! Not afraid of the prospect of the mission itself but simply venturing off into the completely unknown; but it's okay as it's adventure I thrive off!

Having received so much support in fundraising from family, friends and the school community here in CCS, I had all my finances in order for the trip. I was going to spend two amazing yet tough weeks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia volunteering with the beautiful orphans in the Sele Enat Mahiber Orphanage. I was one in a group of five that were to work together with a NGO called 'Projects Abroad.' We arrived in Ethiopia at an ungodly

hour of the morning! On our way to the orphanage where we would be staying we were shocked as we saw people lying on the streets, wrapped up and sleeping. This atmosphere was absolutely breathtaking as everything was completely different; the smells, noises, dogs barking everywhere and the conditions some people were sleeping in. It was extremely hard to hold our tears in! After settling in with my wonderful host family it was time for my first day's work at the orphanage. I hadn't even set foot in the place, only to be greeted by crowds of smiling, happy kids who shouted 'welcome' and 'ferenji' (a derogatory/friendly term for a foreigner).

On the very first day we met Projects Abroad staff members Hanna and Haile (our driver) who took us on a tour of Addis Ababa. It was unbelievable how friendly everyone was; everyone said 'Hello' when we walked past them. We went for a spin through the two five-star hotels which made the disparity between the rich and the poor very clear. What made it even more unusual was that outside these fancy hotels were homeless people lying on the grass, face down, sleeping.

Back at the orphanage the children were all so friendly and lovable, I couldn't believe it. Despite what was going on around them they couldn't help but smile. The first day we arrived the children all ran up to us asking us the same questions - 'What's your name?', 'Where are you from?' and 'What age are you?' They were so interested in us and they were amazed by my white skin and curly hair. From that day onward the children amazingly remembered our names and every time they saw us they'd shout to us to come and play with them. As there were five of us, two of us went to work with the younger group, two to work with the older kids.

Our primary objectives there were to increase levels of basic literacy and numeracy whilst encouraging good personal hygiene. Each night we would devise different games and activities suitable to their ages and abilities. Anything from nursery rhymes to creating a 'Japanese wish tree'; we had to be resourceful with the little we had. Imagination is key! For example, one day I went to the market and bulk bought toothbrushes and toothpaste for the kids. With these we would teach them how to brush their teeth properly, and now that they each had their own toothbrush and paste they could make it a daily routine.

Another day we received donations of new toilet blocks and sinks that were unwanted at a nearby building project. I along with two other lads set about ripping out the completely inadequate existing toilets in order to clean, retile and install the newly donated facilities. Leaving long term improvements like this and painting the special needs room gave me a great feeling of accomplishment.

I found it is often the simplest things that have the most profound effect. Sometimes a simple embrace or kiss or even reading a story in English touches them in ways you never thought possible. They have a deep want as all children do to be loved and cared for, but unfortunately due to their circumstances they don't have that mother/father figure. All they have is each other, the nannies and us volunteers. This was perhaps the most difficult thing for me to see as I know personally here we have everything we could ever possibly need or want and we don't give a second thought to most things. It's only when you see what it could be like to grow up in a society

where you are unwanted and unsupported that your eyes are opened.

On the flip side, it is heartening to know that some of them will be successfully adopted abroad (mostly to the US). Due to some cases of abuse of Ethiopian orphans in the US, the adoption process has been totally frozen. No more new adoption cases may be put through the courts. It's sad to see the kids again victims of corruption, greed and bureaucracy. Every day with the kids I made my best effort to make a difference. Even through it was only small and hardly scraped the surface, I left happy knowing that I had done something and left my mark, knowing that someday soon I would return again.

I personally enjoyed spending time with the older kids the most and I grew very attached to one in particular - Kirubel, a twelve-year-old boy. We both share the same dreams and hopes and he had a huge interest in Irish footballers and can even recount stories from our very own Roy Keane! I found it extremely difficult to say goodbye to him when we left, as he shouted, 'come back Irish' with tears rolling down his little face.

Overall, they were the best two weeks of my life (and that's not a cliché, seriously)! I learnt so much about the world and myself; the memories will stay with me forever. Be grateful for what you have and love those around you because at the end of the day we're here for a short time not a long one! If you feel like you'd like to do something similar I strongly encourage you to do so. You'll thank yourself after!

Leaving Cert Results Day 2017

Leaving Cert. results day in Carndonagh Community School began with the admin staff collecting the results from the Post Office at 9am on a damp Wednesday morning. However the smiles and general contentment with the results among the pupils who called to collect their result soon brightened up the day.

With 195 pupils sitting the Leaving Cert and 15 sitting the Leaving Cert. Applied, this was one of our biggest year groups for some time. I am delighted to see so many of our pupils realise their ambitions, getting the points to proceed to the next stage of their careers. It is a tremendous achievement for the huge majority of pupils who enrolled 5/6 years ago to have stayed the course and successfully negotiated their Leaving Cert. which is one of the great rites of passage in Ireland. The attendance of so many of their teachers today in school reflects the relationship our teachers have with their pupils. We are grateful to their parents and their teachers for encouraging and supporting them over the 5/6 years.

As usual we had the full range of achievements - those who needed several honours or several passes to move on to the next stage. Our highest score was 613 points with a dozen pupils achieving 500 points or higher. I was really pleased to talk with one of our pupils who has mapped out his career in the fishing industry, as this is still a big part of the Inishowen heritage. Our best wishes to all our Leaving Certs. Celebrate your achievements, look out for one another and take care of yourselves wherever you go. - *Paul Fiorentini*