

# ZODIAC

Vol. XXVIII No. 2

November / December 2018

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### December

Friday, 14th

*SCHOOL DRAW* in The Canteen at Lunchtime.

Friday, 21st

School closes at 12.30pm for Christmas Holidays.

### January

Monday, 7th

School Re-Opens.

Wednesday, 9th

First Year Parent/Teacher Meeting 3.45-6.15.

Tuesday, 15th

School Closed for Teacher JCT Training.

Friday, 25th

Annual Prizegiving Ceremony - Aras, 2pm.

Tuesday, 29th

OPEN NIGHT.

### February

Monday, 4th

Junior Cert Irish Oral Exams this week.

Wednesday, 6th

Second Year Parent Teacher Meeting.

Wednesday, 13th

Junior & Leaving Cert. Mock Practical Exams

Friday, 15th

School closes for Mid Term Break.

Monday, 18th

Junior Cert. Oral French and Spanish Exams this week.

Monday, 18th

Leaving Cert. "Mock" Orals in Irish, French and Spanish.

Monday, 25th

School Re-Opens.

Wednesday, 27th

Incoming First Year Transfer Day (9am-12.30pm)

### March

Monday, 4th

"Mock" Examinations for all First, Second, Third, Fifth & Sixth Year Students.

# Principal's Message

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As we draw to the end of another year amid the excitement, hustle and bustle of preparations, I would like to express my appreciation on behalf of the Board of Management to all who have helped our school during the year. If Christmas is a time of giving and receiving, then the school community has had its share of giving and receiving. The efforts of the staff and pupils in supporting those in need has again been huge. Not only our dedicated charities - the Donegal Hospice, Carn Hospice and the Donegal Alzheimer Society - have benefitted, but also a range of other charitable donations have been made.

It has been challenging during the last 9 years to manage the school with reduced budgets and personnel and we are truly grateful to the support we get from the parents, be it through the School Draw which funds our sports teams and extra-curricular activities, or the work of the Central Parents' Committee and local Parents' Committees. The staff have also extended their efforts to fund additional opportunities and facilities for the pupils.

Support is not all about finance - sending your child to school every day, taking an interest in his / her progress, encouraging him / her to work with the teachers is the best support you can give a school.

We remember also that for some of the school community Christmas will be difficult due to the loss of a loved one during the year. We think of our own colleague Liam at this time.

I offer my best wishes to the school community for a happy and peaceful Christmas, and also to our former pupils who are coming back to Inishowen for Christmas.

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh



Paul Fiorentini  
Principal

## Ski Tour 2019

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The final preparations are underway for this year's Ski Tour. We have 83 travelling this year to our fantastic destination - Folgaria in Italy. Students from the school have skied here twice before, in 2008 and 2012. Skiing was excellent on both occasions. There are slopes for every level of ability. A previous occasion did see two (who will remain unnamed) teachers fall several metres down a black slope.

Students are reminded that the final payments are due now on December 14th. Application forms for EHIC (E1 11 cards) are available online or from Room 136. Completed application forms should be returned as soon as possible. There will be a meeting for parents and students two weeks before we depart. Times, flights and hotel information will be released during the parents meeting. The ski gear (jacket and trousers) will be distributed at the end of January. Each student needs their own ski gloves

and ski socks. These can be found in Borderland in Muff or TK Maxx. No other special gear is required. Finally, could all students going sign up to the Google Classroom. This code can be found on the board of Room 136.

## Chaplain

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### **A Christmas Blessing**

May the Blessings of Christmas be with you,  
May the Christ Child light your way,  
May God's holy angels guide you,  
And keep you safe each day.

### **CCS Day of Action**

The school community wishes to thank Mr Danny O'Donnell for organising the Day of Action 2018, to raise funds for local charities: Donegal Alzheimer Society and the Carndonagh/Donegal Hospice. This year the school community raised €3,700. A special thanks to all the first year students - the year group who collected the largest amount of money. We look forward to sponsoring the fundraiser by Mr John Farren in aid of the Carndonagh Hospice ward on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December when the Christmas tree will also be lit.

### **John Paul II Award**

The Transition Years are busy completing their John Paul II Award. They must help out in their parish and community for a set number of weeks. Some students have completed fundraising campaigns for the local primary schools, SVP, the local church and the Cancer Society. Some students even volunteered and helped out when the mission was on in their parish. This is a

great chance for students to become actively involved in their parishes. Ten fifth year students completed the project for the John Paul II Award and will be receiving their award in January. Well done to them. Eimear Smith and Danielle Houghton completed the Papal Cross this year which is a massive achievement. They volunteered in their parish and community for 26 weeks. They then completed a social justice project. Danielle helped co-ordinate the shoe box appeal in school and Eimear helped to organise the annual Day of Action. The girls are excellent ambassadors for their parish, community and school and both are excellent role models. They look forward to receiving their award in January. Well done girls and many thanks to Ms Irene Brennan for her guidance and support.

## Camera Club

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### **Themed competitions and prizes**

Meeting lunchtime in 306A (12.50pm) on Fridays for anyone and everyone interested in photography! Call in for more details or keep an eye out for posters, details and closing dates on the school website.

Nov/Dec theme= Food

Dec/Jan theme= Winter holidays

Jan/Feb theme = Animals

Maximum 3 photos per pupil per competition.

Please include your name, class and a title for your photo(s)!

Staff entries are a separate competition.

Email [cameraclub@carndonaghcs.ie](mailto:cameraclub@carndonaghcs.ie)

## TD and Minister Visit CCS

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On Monday 26th November our local T.D. Charlie Mc Conalogue visited the school and gave a very informative talk to the students from the Politics & Society class, ( CCS is offering the new Politics & Society Leaving Cert Programme. ) on the law-making process. He outlined the different stages a bill goes through in both houses of the Oireachtas until it eventually becomes an Act / Law. He gave the students a very real insight into the process and the obstacles a bill may face in the process. He also talked to the students about Social Contracts and students had the opportunity to put their questions to him.

On Monday 10th December the Minister for Education & Skills, Joe Mc Hugh T.D. visited the school. He met with members of the Board of Management, members of the Student Council and Prefects and discussed the development needs of the school. He was presented with a copy of *The Last of the Name* and a hand-woven scarf made especially for him by Anne McGonigle of Glendowen Crafts. He took a tour of the school and was amazed at the extent of the campus.

Afterwards he met with and talked to the 5th Year Politics & Society class, the Prefects and the Student Council. The students had an opportunity to put their questions to Minister McHugh. The Minister was probably anticipating a heated debate (or even a roasting!) However, the pupils took a different approach to proceedings, turning the discussion into something of an Irish Language appreciation meeting. Minister McHugh recounted his experience of becoming Minister of State for Gaeltacht Affairs in 2014, an unusual move for a non-Irish

speaker. But through trial and error, perseverance and good old Donegal "thranness" he found his feet with the language, impressing the pupils with his cúpla focal and the enthusiasm with which he spoke. Time ran out on the discussion, but Minister McHugh would have been more than happy to keep the chat going and promised the pupils he'd be back.

The CCS pupils once again demonstrated that they have well-considered views and opinions which they are well able to communicate.

## MS Readathon

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Congratulations to the pupils of classes 1E and 1F who recently took part in the MS Readathon. The two classes raised the huge figure of €821 between them. They read almost 200 books in total which is a brilliant achievement. Well done to all involved. Prizes will be delivered to the school in early 2019.

## TY News

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### **Ireland v Northern Ireland (Soccer Friendly)**

On the 15th of November 45 students and 5 staff members travelled to Dublin for what turned out to be Martin O'Neill and Roy Keane's last home game in charge. As is now tradition, a stop in Blanchardstown Shopping Centre for lunch preceded the match. However, a new tradition of visiting Krispy Kreme also took place as orders from Inishowen increased the market value of the company for the 2nd time this year! The game was a bit

of a bore draw apart from two fantastic saves from Darren Randolph in the Irish goal.

The long journey home was made all the better by the poor choice of music from one nameless teacher, Mr H. Some sleepy heads were glad to be on the way to bed when we arrived home at 3am! The students were an absolute credit to the school and their families as they listened to all instructions to and from the game, passing the away support on both occasions. Well done all and thanks to all the staff who helped make this happen.

## **Global Issues**

Transition Year students have been engaging in a series of talks with Patsy Toland on *Global Issues* that affect our lives today and into the future. The Tuesday morning talks have introduced students to the state of the planet and what we can do as individuals and as communities to reduce the impact of development.

Climate change is driven by transport, increase in cattle numbers, electricity generation from fossil fuels, and also by the destruction of forests for short-term agricultural production. We can take action on individual and community levels by changing our food consumption (less meat and dairy); planting trees (always good anywhere on the planet) and by reducing our personal transport (walk more and fly less).

The issue of plastic waste was a focus for the talks and knowledge was shared about the state of our seas and fish life, soil pollution, exporting our waste and the wasteful habit of one-use water bottles. The recent ban on plastic waste imports by

China has left Ireland (the worst EU plastic waste producer) with a serious issue in dealing with the waste plastic.

A number of students were keen to tackle this issue on a school basis and are hoping to investigate the possibility of the school becoming a plastic free zone!

The talks finished with a look at fashion and our addiction to new clothes. Patsy mentioned that fashion stores now add to or change their fashion stock up to 50 times a year! The link to cotton growing and water waste in many developing countries was an issue and further links to Monsanto and genetically modified seeds and plants as well as over-use of the pesticide - Roundup - was highlighted. With a population rise from 3 billion people on our planet in 1960 to 7.7 billion people today, the pressure to protect the planet, the poverty stricken and the future for our teenagers has become ever more necessary.

Let's hope we see action from this year's TY students to help highlight and reduce the problems.

## **TYA Tourism Trip 2018/19**

*By Emma, Conor and Caoimhe*

We left school at 11:30am on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November to visit Malin Head for our tourism module.

### **Tour of Malin Head**

En route we picked up our Malin Head tour guide, Mr Ali Farren the Malin Head Community Centre manager. Ali was a fantastic and very knowledgeable guide whose enthusiasm for 'All Things Malin Head' was very evident.

However, at the 'top' some students had bother holding onto their enthusiasm as they were being blown away. A little piece of advice - bring a coat, don't wear a skirt and tie up your hair!

Ali gave us a brief history of the local weather station. It's one of the oldest in the country and will soon be going automated - ending 125 years of being a manned station. Reaching the peak of Malin Head's beautiful landscape, the views were breathtaking and we could see why Star Wars picked here to film.

### **Wild Strands Caife**

We then hopped on the bus to return to the Malin Head Community Centre, to cure our hunger with some veg and seaweed broth and a chocolate brownie. Wild Strands Caife, is a creative and quirky café in which all the cooking is done in a wood oven with seafood, particularly seaweed, being a core ingredient in the dishes...even in the chocolate brownies (which were AMAZING!) The centre is owned by William McElhinney. William is a true seaweed specialist and has become known as 'The Seaweed Man' of the wild strands. William then gave us a very informative talk on seaweed, he talked about how you identify seaweed and how it is dried, and he also told us about the benefits of seaweed. William uses all local, organic and seasonal ingredients.

### **Junk Kouture**

This year is proving to be a busy one for the Transition Year and 5<sup>th</sup> Year designers for the very popular Junk Kouture competition. Junk Kouture inspires students to use everyday junk materials to create striking works of wearable art. Regional finals are being held on the 1<sup>st</sup> March in the Millennium Forum in Derry. Best of luck to all.

## **Bank of Ireland Financial Wellness Week at Carndonagh Community School**

Financial Wellness Week took place from Monday 12th of November until Friday 16th of November. During this week, with the help of Mrs. Farren, Lucia McCauley Bank of Ireland Youth Co-Ordinator delivered talks to 2nd years right up to Leaving Cert students on the importance of Financial Wellness and underpinning Financial Independence. Talks covered a range of different areas, from Savings, Budgeting, CV and Interview Skills, and reading a payslip just to name a few things covered. During the week Bank of Ireland School Bank was also set up. This consisted of six Transition Year students. These students went through an application process and an interview. This facility enabled students to open a bank account at school. The students ran the school bank themselves. They advertised via social media, posters, flyers and by presenting the information to different year groups.

The School Bank team this year consisted of:

Branch Manager: Aoife Smyth

Sales Manager: Joshua Downey

Marketing Manager: William O'Canain

Operations: Athena McLaughlin

Digi Advisor: Kirsty Gallagher and Callum Doherty

Another fantastic Bank of Ireland School Bank held at Carndonagh Community School; looking forward to next year!

## **TY "Sleep In"**

Well Done to The TY "Sleep In". The students collected €155 for the North West Simon Community.

## **Lifford Courthouse**

3 TY groups have visited Lifford Courthouse and got to experience life in a cell. Set in real Dungeon Cells beneath the Old Courthouse, the group were all sentenced to death for a crime they didn't commit and locked in a jail cell. With only 60 minutes to escape, the group had to work together to find clues in the room and solve a series of puzzles to save the team. Teamwork was the key on the day. The students were also given a tour of the cells and Patrick gave an insight into what life was like for the prisoners over 200 years ago. There were some tasty treats on offer and was I surprised that very few of the students were brave enough to sample what was on offer.

## **Work Experience**

The TY students were on their first Work Placement from Monday 19th-Friday 23rd Nov. Work experience is an opportunity to introduce young people to the reality of working life as well as other important skills: Verbal Communication, teamwork, initiative/ self-motivation, planning & organising, time management. I'm sure the TYs have gained and will continue to gain some valuable skills which they can apply to their TY year and future endeavours.

## **Future Leaders Programme**

The "Future Leaders Transition Year Programme" is a joint initiative from the GAA and the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST). It is a cross-curricular programme comprising of a series of modules designed to encourage maturity, initiative, responsibility and leadership skills in pupils. The Programme gives pupils the knowledge and skills to support all roles required in the effective staging of Gaelic Games. As part of the programme pupils are challenged to

organise and run a *GAA Super Games Blitz* or set up a *Super Games Centre* for younger students and/or support coaching of younger players in their school or community. All students are participating in this programme are all gaining valuable skills and will receive a *Certificate* on completion.

### **TY Annual Craft Fayre**

Knock, Knock...Who's there? Ya...Ya Who?...Yahoo! I'm just as pleased to see you! The constant door knocking and favours have finally paid off. The TYs had their annual *Craft Fayre* on Friday last. It was a bustling hive of activity offering authentic baking alongside a mix of hand-crafted goods and products. The hot chocolate and crepes proved very popular. The day was a huge success and well done to all involved. The *Enterprise* teachers will have to start thinking for next year!!!!!!

### **Literacy Programme**

TYB completed a 5-week literacy programme with the 4<sup>th</sup> class boys in *St. Patrick's Boys' School*. Both groups enjoyed the programme and the boys will visit the school soon to showcase their own "rap" song. TYC are now working with the 5<sup>th</sup> class girls' school. The girls visited the school last Wednesday and delivered a very impressive piece of creative writing. Imagination, humour and emotion were in abundance. Plus, well done to the girls who told their own stories with confidence and conviction.

### **TY Blog - [ccsty.blogspot.com](http://ccsty.blogspot.com)**

Updates posted on a regular basis. TY students need to keep up to date.

## **Christmas Jumper and Christmas Movie**

TYF are organising a Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December. TYD are organising a Christmas Movie Day for all 2<sup>nd</sup> years on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. More information to follow on both.

## **The Aldi Foróige Junior Baking Competition**

The Aldi Foróige Junior Baking Competition offers young people a chance to showcase their baking skills and be in with a chance to have their cake sold in Aldi stores nationwide. The first stage of the competition was held at county level. There was one winner per county. There were four regional finals in July - South, West, East and Midlands. Two winners from each region then qualified to compete in the semi-finals at the National Ploughing Championships in September 2018.

At the Regional Finals participants were requested to bake in front of the judges and the organisers. Two national semi-finalists were then selected at each regional final - 8 in total. The theme for 2018 was **Lemon Drizzle Cake**. Entrants were asked to bake a loaf shaped, lemon drizzle cake. Congratulations to Elisha Moyne TYE who came third overall in Ireland. I think the TY Co-ordinator should sample the Lemon Drizzle cake!!!!

## **TY Crochet Class**

*By Cathy Myers Bullard - "Chain four, join, and turn." What artful activity relieves stress, inspires creativity, and promotes well-being, all while being fun and functional? The answer: crochet! Ms. Hunter is busy showing the TYs the benefits of learning how to crochet. So far TYC and TYD have crocheted two colourful blankets.*

## **AIB Build A Bank**

The AIB Build a Bank competition has kicked off. Congratulations to all the students that went to the interviews. AIB was very impressed with the high standard. A special congratulations to the 2018/19 Team: Elle Ward, Molly McGonigle, Rhianna Gallagher, Keelan Doherty, Caoimhe Murray and Aisling Doherty.

## **3G Shoebox Appeal**

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We 3G would like to thank you all for the unbelievable support we received from our wonderful school community throughout the course of the Team Hope Shoebox Appeal. We collected 97 shoe boxes in total and they were sent to countries in Eastern Europe. Thank you especially to Mr. Fiorentini for the support and Ellen Simmons and Danielle Houghton for their advice. We would like to thank Ms Noelle Kelly for guiding us through the process. We would also like to thank everyone for all their generous donations to cover the cost of shipping the shoeboxes, and all the people who helped us wrap the shoeboxes. You have all made a difference.

## **Girls GAA**

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### **U16 Girls**

The U16 girls won 2 out of their 3 matches and made it through to the next round of the competition where they met Colaiste Feirste. This was played in Owenbeg on Tuesday 28th Nov. All 28 girls have to be commended for this match as it had to be the worse day to play girls GAA football with the rain and

wind!!!! It got that bad that the match had to be stopped 15 minutes into the 2nd half. At this stage we were losing the match and this was the final result. This was to be the girls' final match as Colaiste Feirste went through. The management would like to thank all the girls for their hard work and commitment all year and are looking forward to seeing all the girls back next year.

## **Senior Girls**

The senior girls played Colaiste Ailigh at home on Tuesday 28th Oct. They played their hearts out but Colaiste Ailigh were too strong for our girls and they came away eventual winners. The girls then had to play Killybegs, but Killybegs were unable to field on the day and CCS were awarded the points. This left our girls on 4 points, but as Colaiste Ailigh and Abbey were on 6 points, this was the end of our season. The management would like to thank all the girls for their hard work and dedication all year and wish the 6th year players the best of luck for the future.

The u14 girls will begin their season in January.

# Guidance News - December 2018

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## **Last Ever Collection - USED Postage Stamps for the Blind**

For the past 6 years, the Guidance Department has organised a special collection of used postage stamps which we send to the Irish Guide Dogs Charity. The Irish Guide Dogs charity gets money for these from stamp collecting companies. However, in 2017, the amount of stamps received was very small - maybe the tradition of sending Christmas cards is becoming a thing of the past. We are going to try again this year for one last time.

Please bring all used stamps to Mr. Harkin in the guidance office after Christmas.

## **SPECIAL OFFER FOR LEAVING CERT STUDENTS**

**SAVE €15 - SAVE €15 - SAVE €15**

Just register for CAO by 20 January 2019 for €30 instead of €45.

### **Important Information for Parents on the HEAR and the DARE Access Programmes**

Students and their parents/guardians who wish to be considered for a place in the ACCESS / HEAR scheme need to apply online on the CAO application website as part of their CAO application. You must register and pay for CAO first, before you can apply for HEAR / DARE.

#### **What are the HEAR and DARE programmes?**

HEAR is a way of getting into college for up to 10% less points and DARE is an access route to college for students with certain health or learning difficulties. Most colleges in the country are involved but Letterkenny IT is not in either scheme. If your son or daughter is only applying to LYIT, please do not waste your time and energy filling in the DEAR/HEAR forms. You will need to read the material on the website below to decide whether your son/daughter is eligible or not. **This short article does not explain this.**

#### **What do parents need to do?**

Parents/guardians must take full responsibility for all aspects of the HEAR / DARE application. Parents/guardians should be aware that their children will

not have all the information that is required to fill in the online HEAR/DARE application form and that parents will have to assist them in the process. We estimate that it could take 30 mins to an hour to fill in the details required - that is if you have all the financial information to hand.

### **What help have students been given?**

Students have been given a link (sent by email) to download a HEAR and a DARE Application Booklet which will guide you through the online form step by step. Alternatively go to [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie) and click **Downloads**.

### **What do I need to send by post?**

Parents/guardians need to be aware that as well as filling in the form online, that a range of information will need to be sent to CAO by 1 April 2019.

Some examples:

- If either Parent/Guardian is working: a P21 for **2017** from the tax office in Letterkenny (NB **NOT** 2018) must be sent in. Tax documents from the wrong year will not be accepted.
- If either Parent/Guardian is self-employed or involved in farming: a 'Notice of Assessment' for **2017** from the tax office must be sent in to CAO. Tax documents from the wrong year will not be accepted.
- If either Parent/Guardian is unemployed or in receipt of a social welfare allowance, then a statement of income for **2017** will be required from the Department of Social Protection in Buncrana. This form can be downloaded from the HEAR / DARE website: [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)
- When posting documents to CAO, for HEAR / DARE you do not need to send the originals, photocopies will suffice.
- Bring your CAO handbook with you to the post office when you are posting the letter and get the post office to stamp one of the four certificates of postage inside the back cover of the CAO handbook.

### **Do you need any more help?**

Guidance Counsellors in the school will, as always assist students with their CAO choices and the CAO application process, but it must be

stressed that they are not in a position to offer assistance with regard to the HEAR Application, due to the large amount of private and financial information required by HEAR. We are not accountants or financial experts.

The senior SEN Coordinator Ms. Marie McLaughlin and individual resource teachers in the school will assist DARE applicants with their application forms.

Further advice and help may possibly be obtained from your Social Protection Local Office in Buncrana (074) 932 0075 or from the Citizens' Information Services Office in the County Council Offices, Malin Road, Carndonagh. Tel: (074) 937 3728.

### **DARE and HEAR Drop-in Advice Clinic Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

There will be a HEAR / DARE Advice Clinic for Parents/Guardians who need help filling in the forms or with finding the supporting documents. It will be held in the Villa Rose Hotel, Main St., Ballybofey on Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 2pm. HEAR /DARE advisers will meet parents / guardians and students on a one-to-one confidential basis and will be able to offer advice on filling in both forms. No booking required. Just turn up at the hotel anytime between 10am and 2pm and bring copies of your details with you.

CAO will also operate a helpline until 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 to assist applicant on making an application to HEAR / DARE. The helpline phone number is: 091 509800, ask for the HEAR/DARE section when you call.

### **Free Self-Help Leaflets**

This link gives FREE access to a range of over 20 Self-Help Guides - <https://www.ntw.nhs.uk/pic/selfhelp/>

These guides cover common mental health issues from anxiety, depression and panic to anger, domestic violence and sleeping problems. They contain useful tips and hints as well as self-help techniques.

Each guide has an introductory video as well as audio versions available to stream. Guides can also be downloaded free of charge to your iPad, phone or tablet for offline reading and can even be printed directly from your device.

There is also an iPad / iPhone / Android App containing all the guides.

The app is called NTW's **Self Help** for iPad / iPhone and Android. The app gives you easy access to the full range of 23 mental health self-help guides. Just search for "**Self Help**" in the Google Play Store or on iTunes.

### **Free eBook for Parents / Guardians / Students: "How to Research Your CAO Options". Free download.**

For any parent/guardian who is unfamiliar with the CAO application process, we can highly recommend this excellent eBook, written simply with both parents and students in mind. It will help parents and students understand the CAO system and help you decide on your CAO choices. It is available to download from Waterford IT at this link:

[https://www.wit.ie/images/uploads/About\\_PDF/How\\_to\\_research\\_your\\_CAO-final.pdf](https://www.wit.ie/images/uploads/About_PDF/How_to_research_your_CAO-final.pdf)

You will need a PDF reader such as Adobe Reader to open the book.

### **College Awareness Week 2018 (CAW)**

We had four very successful CAW events this year in Carndonagh Community School. These took place during the week from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November ... and even into Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>.

1. **Alumni Alma Mater IV** - This is the fourth year of our Alumni Alma Mater project where each teacher's classroom door has a poster with the names and logos of all the colleges they attended. New teachers to the school were issued with posters and any lost or damaged posters were replaced.
2. **Who Went Where in 2018?** This is a large exhibition featuring the photographs and names of the Leaving Cert Class of 2018 who progressed to college - all 131 of them or 80% of the cohort. Details of the courses being studied, and the colleges chosen were also displayed.
3. **LYIT Open Day** - this year's LYIT Open Day happened to fall on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, so this enabled us to include the trip to the Open Day for senior students.
4. **Our final event was on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>. This was a trip to the Maynooth University Open Day** which meant a very early start for the students as the bus departed Carndonagh at 5.30am, to arrive in Maynooth for an 11am start. The students had a fabulous time and arrived home exhausted at 9.30pm - a round trip of 16 hours. That's what it means to be really College Aware!

## **Subject Choice in 2019- Dates for your Dairy**

There will be information evenings for parents/guardians of Third Year and Transition Year students on choosing their Senior Cycle Options as follows:

**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March** - Information Night for **Leaving Cert**. Applied in September 2019.

**Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March** - Information Night for **Transition Year** in September 2019

**Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March** - Information Night for Parents for Choosing Subjects for **Leaving Cert** 2021

Transition Year Students and Third Year students will have career guidance classes on the careers of the future and choosing their senior cycle options during February and March. There will also be subject choice workshops in the Aras during the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Individual appointments for Third Year and Transition Year students will be available from February through till April 2019. Parents and guardians who have questions about the senior cycle choices may also arrange appointments during this time if they wish.

The final date for submitting all applications to TY, Fifth Year LCA or Fifth Year Leaving Cert is **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April** (just before the Easter holidays).

## Mooney's View!

### Senior Soccer - CCS v Mulroy

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We set off at 10.30am for an 11.30am kick-off in Clonmany. We didn't arrive until 11.00am because someone forgot to bring the gear bag. Anyways, after some sorting we arrived in Clonmany. There was no sign of Mulroy so the kick-off was delayed slightly. Carn needed a good start to show the last game was just a blip. The first effort of the game came from O'Donnell... and yes, you guessed right...he missed and this continued for much of the game (just stick to the passing Conor). With the score at 0-0 and after a string of brilliant saves from the Mulroy keeper, Jake Harkin played a lovely cross field pass to Corey who set Rudden up to make the score 1-0. With Carn now strangely passing well (I think this was down to the fact that Nathan Logue resigned from Carn after his fine performance for Deelee in the previous game) the score was 3-0 at half time with further goals from Rudden and an own-goal that Kieran Farren for some reason thinks he scored (I have no idea why he thinks that).

The return of Logue was confirmed with him chipping it out wide to Wee Corey, who set Jack up at the front post, flicking it into the back of the net. Kieran Farren confirmed the win with a well

taken goal. A lack of concentration from the defence led to Mulroy pulling it back to 5-2 to give Carn something to think about for their next game. Rudden missed his chance for a hat-trick after Jack Fildara played a lovely cross, only for Rudden to head wide with the goal gaping (Sea Rovers return on the cards).

### **Player Ratings:**

Padraig O'Donnell: 6- would have got an 8 or 9 if it wasn't for the two goals. Didn't have to do much apart from that.

Dan McCallion: 6- Literally the only thing he had to do was come on with 10 minutes to go.

Michael Doran: 6- decent performance but made a couple of minor mistakes.

Fionn McClure: 7- Big improvement from last day. Unlucky not to score.

Jake Harkin: 7- a great game from the big man. A couple of tasty tackles as well.

Kieran Farren: 8- Would have got 10 if he hadn't complained about the goal that was **definitely not** scored by him. Great all-round performance.

Nathan Logue: 8- What a signing!

Jack Doherty: 8- a decent midfield performance and capped off his performance with a well taken goal.

Conor O'Donnell: 5- the only man who didn't improve from the last game.

Eoin McLaughlin : 7- decent performance from him. Big improvement from last day.

Mikey Friel: 8- Really good performance from Mikey. Some great passing and some tough tackling. Unlucky to go off injured.

Luke Rudden: 8- Two great goals. Should have got a third.

Pearse Mc Carron: 6- Nearly scored but didn't. (Again!)

Donal Doherty: 6- Good performance. Made some good runs.

Alex McFadden: Couldn't play because he was scared of getting a cold.

Damien Duffy: See Alex McFadden

Jack Fildara: 8- must have been someone who looked like him...

Adam Hatter: 6- decent cameo performance.

Wee Corey: 7- Not his best performance but did the job with 2 assists.

Lee McLaughlin: 7- great overlapping runs; wasn't always found by his teammates though. Surprising considering the amount of shouting he was doing.

Gavin McDaid: 6: Defended well when called upon. (Easily pushed off the ball at times.)

## ¡Adiós al estudiante español!

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We would like to bid a fond farewell to our Spanish student who has been here since September and who is returning home to Madrid next week - Marc Hornos Catala in Transition Year. Marc will not be returning after Christmas. We hope that you had a great experience here learning through the Irish education system, that you learned a lot of English and that you actually got to practice our language too! ¡Buen viaje y que tengas una Feliz Navidad!

## LCA News

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LCA pupils have had a busy term. 5H had a very successful first work experience which included a local mechanics, Supervalu, The Butterbean, Hair and Beauty Salon, Inishowen Co-op, Inishowen Oil, Strand Hotel, Inishowen Engineering and Ashley

Martin. 6H are continuing their Food & Nutrition every Friday afternoon...you might notice the waft of healthy cooking....Pizza, Chilli and Tikka Masala...all made from healthy ingredients. 6H are also taking part in an Empathy Workshop each Thursday. 5H have been chosen to take part in a really exciting initiative called Social Farming Ireland whereby they get to visit a farm one day for 8 weeks...mud never looked so good (better than Key Assignments that's for sure!) Both LCA classes were given a fantastic opportunity last week to visit Ballyliffin Lodge. Mr Keogh, the owner of the hotel gave them a personal tour, getting to see what goes on behind the scenes and getting to ask questions such as "What's the electricity bill like each year?" Apparently A LOT! A big thank you to Ms Harkin & Ms McGoldrick for their organisation, but a special thanks to Caitlin Keogh who had the inside information to get the pupils inside!!!

6H along with Mr. White spent a morning on a farm in Culdaff as part of their Ag Science task...apparently they didn't want to come back to school...not sure why?! In the middle of all these exciting experiences Key assignments are ongoing and after Christmas 5H will undertake their first task while 6H school life becomes very busy with KA, Tasks, Orals and Mock Exams! PHEW! Wishing all LCA pupils and their parents a very Happy Christmas!

## Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP)

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This is a national programme funded by the Department of Education and Skills and the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment. The main focus of the JCSP is the student. It

concentrates on the students' strengths and needs. In doing so it promotes a more positive attitude towards schoolwork, homework and exams. There are currently 25 pupils involved in the Programme and over the school year they will take part in a variety of initiatives including Maths for Fun, Science for Life, Reading for Leisure and numerous field trips.

On Monday December 3rd, 20 JCSP pupils from 2nd year along with Ms Farren and Ms Barr went off to Letterkenny to have a day of bonding while completing their first initiative of the year. Each pupil had a book token to spend in Easons as part of their 'Book Review'...they managed to sneak in a cheeky film in the local cinema before returning to school. On Tuesday 18th December we are holding a JCSP Christmas Coffee morning, 11am - 12pm, in the Parents' Room in 405...all parents will receive an invitation in the post so we hope to see you there. Wishing all JCSP pupils and their parents a very Happy Christmas!

## Futsal Girls Take Home All-Ireland Silver

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Congratulations to our 1st year girls futsal team who performed magnificently at the National Futsal Championships to finish Runners-up in Ireland. The girls who were representing Ulster defeated the Leinster champions Colaiste Chiarain from Leixlip, Kildare 3-0. Ellie Long scored an excellent hat-trick and the girls defended resolutely as a team. In their 2nd game they played an excellent St Attracta's Tobercurry team from Sligo who were the Connacht champions. Despite the girls giving everything they had, St Attracta's ran out 3-0 winners. This excellent St Attracta's team would go on to win the tournament, scoring nine goals and conceding none. In our final game we

played the Munster champions, Ursuline SS, from Thurles, Tipperary. We knew we needed a win here to guarantee 2nd place. We got the win after an excellent team performance with goals from Ellie Long, Alanah Brennan and Niamh Devlin. Thurles got a last minute goal to make the final scoreline 3-1.

Whilst the girls were disappointed not to walk away as All Ireland champions, they performed excellently both on and off the pitch and over the coming days and weeks they can reflect on their amazing achievement of being All Ireland runners up in their 1st year in the school. They did the school, their local area and themselves proud and the future of girls football is certainly bright in CCS.

|    | <b>1st year Girls FUTSAL squad All Ireland Finals</b> | <b>03/12/18</b>       |
|----|---|-----------------------|
|    | Name  | Class                 |
| 1  | Samantha McLaughlin                                   | 1C                    |
| 2  | Suzie Lafferty  | 1B                    |
| 3  | Ellie Long  | 1C                    |
| 4  | Ailish Doherty  | 1D                    |
| 5  | Imogen Diver  | 1F                    |
| 6  | Seaneen Crumlsh                                       | 1G                    |
| 7  | Cora McCaul   | 1F                    |
| 8  | Alanah Brennan  | 1E                    |
| 9  | Fiona Doherty   | 1D                    |
| 10 | Aoife McCarron  | 1A                    |
| 11 | Clara Gill  | 1E                    |
| 12 | Niamh Devlin  | 1E                    |
| 13 | Erin McLaughlin                                       | TYE (assistant Coach) |
| 14 | Katelyn McDaid  | TYB (assistant Coach) |

# U18 Rugby - CCS Overwhelm Limavady 36-0

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## *Match Report by Odhrán Cavanagh*

Every time match day comes around, for the previous week Mr. McNally has to listen to constant questions about when it's on, who we're playing, who's playing where, etc, etc. But I still think not telling anyone about the match till 3pm the day before was a drastic measure. Our wingers barely had time to book their hair and nails. We were to play Limavady Grammar School at 2pm the next day. Some of our boys complained about the late kick-off time (dangerously close to their afternoon nap) and others had a Gaelic match and wouldn't be back in time (It turned out it was only McCormick so we didn't worry).

We started out strong with a mixed team of new players and old ones in new positions. Sean O'Neill, Keelan and Pauric made their school debuts while Scott and I moved into 7 and 6 respectively. With these changes, coupled with a rare appearance from "I play Ulster" himself, we entered the first half swinging, playing pack rugby from the offset. Limavady didn't want to know when Stephen ran for the tryline with the backs in tow, offloading to Ronan for an easy try. Ronan was later quoted as saying "Huh?" when asked for comment. The conversion was expertly missed by Mark, which would be a running theme throughout the game.

We continued on hard, a man at every breakdown and a win at every lineout or scrum. And then it happened. A breakdown on the tryline, we all knew it was the moment. Keelan "Only Seen as a Friend" McColgan took the ball from the back of a ruck and

ran like a bull at Limavady's defence. He broke through, he went to put the ball down- and he dropped it. Ah well! It wouldn't be long until Stephen charged elbow first towards a try of his own anyway. It'll happen yet.

As the first half's end drew close and Mark missed another conversion, we were in full swing. At least when the backs weren't playing hot potato with the ball, Aidan and Ronan preferring to chuck it to the side rather than passing. More battling, and just before that half's finish an opening so obvious appeared even Scott knew to take it, earning him a try and a conversion he could actually score. A nice change of pace from the regular. We then retired to the sideline to listen to Mr. McNally's Greatest Pep-Talk Hits, including such favourites as "That's Rugby Boys" and the all-time classic "Forwards Win Games". This got us well prepared for the next half, but in the first few minutes it was clear that Limavady were ready to fight back. It was time to bring out the big guns. James and Pauric came off, with me moving into second row, Anton taking over six and Ethan moving in out the wing. After those two coming on the ref almost called it, but the mangers thought we should wait a little bit more.

Two more tries rolled in, ran under the posts by Sean O'Neill and Stephen to make sure Mark could lob them over. Even then, just about. For the majority of the half we were comfortable enough not to worry, but near the end our defence began to slip slightly; a worrying amount of play was happening in our half. But after more battling from the pack the game turned right around our way again. The backline shipped it out to the wing, Mr. Keyes charging up the side and laying the ball over the line! So focused was Tony on the attack that he failed to notice the ref's whistle

mere seconds before his try. But rumble after rumble brought us inch by inch closer until the unthinkable. The man, the myth, the Carroll himself planted the ball down. After seeing that display the ref put Limavady out of their misery, ending the game 36-0 to CCS. Oh, Mark missed the last conversion by the way. A return to form if ever there was one.

### Player Scores:

Caolan Whoriskey: 4/10 Gutted he missed Geography

Sean Carroll: 7/10 Scored a try, still celebrating

Keelan McGolgan: 8/10 So close yet so far

Diarmuid McCarron: 6/10 Nice carries

James Kelly: 5/10 Sure ye don't even need thumbs like

Odhran Cavanagh: 6/10 At home at last

Mark Scott: 8/10 Turnover god...Haven't seen him since the match

Stephen Kelly: 4/10 Promised a chicken box for the appearance, promised 2 for a hat-trick, but just fell short

Daire Porter: 8/10 Like a ginger Conor Murray

Sean O'Neill: 5/10 Darragh who?

Tony Keyes: 6/10 Just a few seconds more

Jason Lynch: 6/10 Bunde Lynch

Ronan Kelly: 1/10 Go to training

Pauric O'Donnell: 4/10 Played well in nets

Aidan Cunningham: 6/10 Butterfingers 2.0

Anton McLaughlin: 10/10 Super Sub

Ethan Harkin: 6/10 Good to have you back

Brian McNally: 7/10 Quality Mr. Spencer impression

Paul McCallion: €&/10 It was raining

Darragh McCormick: -10/10 Traitor

Adam McGonagle: 0/10 Can't live up to Ethan

Tony Meehan: ?/? Who even are you

# Sraith Pictiúr Seó

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On the 16th of November nearly 100 6th year students gathered in the Áras to the much awaited Sraith Pictiúr Seó. They witnessed the dreaded 20 picture sequences like never before! The show was full of humor and fun with some students even strutting their stuff on stage! Afterwards they practiced the Irish conversation with great hints and tips provided. Overall the students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and felt it helped them a lot in preparation for the Irish Oral.

## CCS Pupils Take on The Top Table

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On Monday 12th November twenty-three senior students, mostly from the 5th year Politics class, travelled to Dublin where they visited the Dáil and participated in the audience of the Claire Byrne Live show. The group was also accompanied by one of our local County Councillors, Martin Mc Dermott. As it turned out, the Claire Byrne Live show was a Brexit special. Claire Byrne was hosting the Nolan show in Belfast and Stephen Nolan was hosting the Claire Byrne show in Dublin.

The students observed the heated debates that took place between the politicians and though several students submitted questions, Katie Durey from 6th year was given the opportunity to ask her question live on air, challenging Jim Allister on his party's position regarding Brexit. The following day the students received an invitation from the BBC and Stephen Nolan, inviting them to participate in the audience of The Top Table show in Belfast.

On Wednesday 21st November the students travelled to the show where again they observed yet another heated debate. This time it was Ódhran Cavanagh and Keith Watson who had the opportunity to put their questions forward.

The students have gained valuable insights not only into Politics and Society but also into the intricacies of working on live TV. Both RTE and the BBC commended our pupils on their willingness to participate in the debate.

## Súile Na nÓg Annual Junior Certificate Exhibition

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Congratulations to the students whose work has been selected by the Donegal branch of the Art Teachers Association of Ireland for the Annual Súile Na nÓg Exhibition at the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny. Special congratulations to Laura Doherty whose Junior Cert Art project was selected as the winning Higher Level Project.

The exhibition of work is a fantastic way of showing off the amazing talents the students possess, and a great way to recognise the tremendous effort and hard work the students have put in all year long. The exhibition is open to the public, runs until Saturday 24th November and features work from Junior Cert and Leaving Cert students from throughout the county.

# Gaisce President's Award 2018

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Congratulations to our Fifth and Sixth year students who recently received their certificates, medals and pins for achieving their Bronze Gaisce Award. The Gaisce Award, which means 'great achievement' in Irish is a self-development programme for all young people between the ages of 15-25. All of the students pictured above with TY coordinator Ms Farren and Gaisce President Award Leader (PAL) Mr McGee, achieved their award by completing four key challenge areas. These included volunteering in their communities, learning a new personal skill, getting involved in physical activity and completing a 2-day Adventure Journey.

If any TY, Fifth or Sixth Year student would like to get more information on how to complete the Gaisce Award, go to [www.gaisce.ie](http://www.gaisce.ie) or speak to Mr McGee at school.

## Derryveagh Crystal Schools' Golf Championship

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In a changed knockout format, CCS were paired with local rivals, Crana College. The BunCrana team enjoyed home advantage in the first leg, played in perfect golfing conditions at Northwest Golf Club, BunCrana. Jack Duffy secured the individual prize for Crana College with a magnificent 4 under par round. However, great credit must go to the CCS boys who battled away to win the overall team score for the day. Martin O'Connor, Ryan Collins and Cormac Monagle all scoring well on an unfamiliar course.

The return leg was played in very challenging conditions at Ballyliffin Golf Club. The CCS boys certainly made most of home advantage, winning both the individual and team prizes. Martin O'Connor secured the individual honours with a brilliant 32 points in near gale force playing conditions. Ryan Collins won second with a very respectable 29 points. Cormac Monagle ensured a clean sweep for the CCS team when he posted the final score to ensure passage into the next round for CCS.