

Coláiste Bríde

Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co.Wexford

<http://www.colaistebride.ie> T: 053 923 4245



A Chairde,

I am delighted to introduce the Christmas 2019 edition of the Coláiste Bríde Newsletter. I congratulate our students for their efforts in so many academic, sporting and cultural activities over the last half term. While academic achievement will always be our main focus, it is wonderful that extra-curricular achievement and participation continues to play a huge role in the life of our school. I am delighted that we continue to build on ongoing initiatives in the promotion of Positive Mental Health and Student Wellbeing. These, together with all the other areas that we pursue, help form our young women to be the rounded leaders of tomorrow.

While the Christmas season brings great opportunities for spiritual re-growth and reunions with family and friends, it can also be very challenging for some. At this time our thoughts and prayers are with those who are dealing with loss or anxiety over the health of loved ones.

I wish to sincerely thank the Board of Management, staff, parents and students for being part of a very vibrant, caring community that is our school. Your commitment, support and enthusiasm are what makes our school the wonderful place that it is. By working together, we ensure the very best education for the students we are here to serve.

On behalf of the whole school community I'd like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal



Key dates in the New Year

January 6

School reopens

January 13

5th Year Parent Teacher Meeting

January 15

Transition Year Fashion Show

January 16

Start of 2nd Year Retreats

January 29

2nd Year Parent Teacher Meeting

January 31

St. Brigid's Day Mass

February 4

1st Year Parent Teacher Meeting

February 5

Start of Mock Exams

Latest News

InterCultural Day

A day to unite everyone where friendships were formed, and others were strengthened!! The students and staff of Coláiste Bríde, marked 'International Migrants

Day' in style this year as they celebrated their

annual Intercultural Day

on Wednesday 18th

December. It was a

resounding success with

a huge sense of fun and

an electric atmosphere

on the day. Students

from 25 different

nationalities took the

opportunity to share the

diversity of their different

cultures. There were stalls to

appeal to all the senses as

students showcased beautiful

displays of artefacts,

personal belongings, posters

and flags. Entertainment was



TY Carol Singing



Transition Years singing carols in Wexford for St Patrick's Special School.

Keep up to date



[Follow us on Twitter](#)

students who took to the stage bringing to life their native songs and dance. Students and teachers alike took the opportunity to taste new foods and to learn from engaging with enthusiastic representatives from a wide range of cultural backgrounds. Congratulations must go to all the students, parents and teachers involved in making this such a wonderful event.

Climate Change Committee

Some members of Fifth Year Geography Climate Change Committee who recently

visited St Aidan's Fifth Cass to give them some tips on becoming climate change activists. They also took this opportunity to present some prizes to the young activists of Ms. Dagg's Fifth Class in recognition of the great work they are doing!



'I am WORTH it' Week 2019

Students celebrated 'I am WORTH it' week in school this week as part of their ongoing mental health awareness campaign. They are currently working on the redraft of their 'I am WORTH it' booklet which was

previously distributed to all schools in county Wexford a number of years ago. A big thank you must go to Enniscorthy Credit Union who are financing the reprint of 15,000 new copies of the booklet



which gives contacts and advice on mental health agencies in the area. Activities included Brain Breaks, Knit and Knatter, Board Games, Christmas Movie, Mindful Colouring, Random Raffles, Karaoke, Tree of Thankfulness, Positive Mental Health Talk for Fifth and Sixth Years, Appreciation Station, Humour Fit Mental Health Play, Gingerbread Decoration, Coláiste Kilometer, Intercultural Day, Origami, Make up Demo, Throw-Back Thursday: Guess the Teacher, Pebble Painting, and finally our Carol Service and Christmas Quiz on Friday. It was certainly an action-packed week for both students and teachers. Congratulations to everyone involved in organising this very special week.

School Annual Report



Coláiste Bríde Annual Report

2018 – 2019

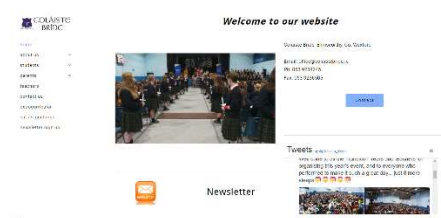
Our Annual Report for 2018 219 can be accessed on our website by [clicking on this link](#).

School Self Evaluation



Our current School Improvement Plan is available on our website and can be accessed by [clicking on this link](#).

Our Website



Our school website www.colaisitebride.ie has a range of information about the school including our Child Protection procedures and school policies.

Christmas Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service got the whole school into the festive spirit. Congratulations to all those involved in the event but a particular mention must go to our choir and the Religion and Music departments. Thank you also to our Chaplain Fr. Paddy Banville for his assistance at this wonderful event.

Soccer

First Year Soccer Team: The First Year soccer team made a winning start to their league campaign when they beat Gorey Community School 2-1 in their first match. Goals were scored by Aoife Fortune and Kaitlyn Conroy. They will play three more league matches in the new year.

Minor Soccer

Team: The minor soccer team had two tough games against Dublin opponents in the Leinster



Cup. They beat Alexandra College 3-2 in the last 16 and more recently beat Lucan Community College in the quarter final also by a 3-2 score line to reach the Leinster Cup Semi Final which will be played in the new year.

Senior Soccer Team: The senior soccer team lost the Leinster Cup Semi Final to reigning champions Presentation Kilkenny. Unfortunately, this is the second year running that the senior team have been beaten in the semi-final by their Kilkenny opponents.

Attendance Certificates

First Year Year-Head Mrs. Duggan along with Assistant Year-Head Mr. Connelly and Miss.

O'Sullivan presented attendance certificates to First Years for attendance during the months of September and October.



Certificates were presented for Perfect, Exemplary and Very Good Attendance. Well done to all students who received certificates.

Science Club

This year Coláiste Bríde hosts its brand-new Science Club, a space for exploration, discussions and fun activities beyond the scope of the science curriculum; exploring real research and modern science! Attended by First to Third Year students, so far the club has been in contact with Irish scientist Prof Emma Teeling about her research on bats, and investigated some exciting experiments relating to Optical Illusions, Chemical Reactions, Molecules, Colours and Structural Engineering. The club's activities are featured on the new website jcs-science.ie where there is a dedicated webpage.

Academic Excellence



Congratulations to Lystus Ebosele who was awarded a UCD entrance scholarship in recognition of her outstanding Leaving Cert results.

Public Speaking



Congratulations to Ailbhe Harrington who came in the top two in the regional final of the Soroptimist Ireland Women's Public Speaking Competition. Well done to all our students who competed and a particular mention for Dara Akinyemi who was selected as a reserve.

Science Club



Pope John Paul II Award

November saw a number of our Fifth Year students receive their Pope John Paul II Awards in the cathedral. Each of the girls completed the Gold Award which required them to complete 20 hours of parish involvement and 20 hours of social awareness. For their parish involvement the tasks ranged from organising children's masses, playing music at mass, readings and cleaning the church. For their social awareness the girls visited nursing homes, helped with after school homework clubs, volunteered in charity shops and helping in local clubs. It was an enriching experience for all students involved and all of Coláiste Bríde are proud of them for what they have given to the community.



Geography News

Wexford County Council Air Pollution Talk: Fifth Year geography students attended an Air Pollution talk with local scientist Brendan Cooney in Enniscorthy Library. It was an eye-opening talk for students to learn about air quality monitoring and to find out that Enniscorthy is listed as one of the worst towns in the country for air quality based on their emissions.

Secret Valley Wildlife Park: Transition Year geography students went on a day trip to Secret Valley Wildlife Park in Clonroche where they took part in a Sustainability Workshop and an Ocean Waste obstacle course. It was a very educational, fun and muddy day!

Self Help Africa Speaker: Jim Kirwan from Self Help Africa recently delivered a workshop to Transition Year students about Sustainable Agriculture in Africa. Students learned about the work that is carried out in eight African countries by Self Help Africa on crop production and nutrition to help African families escape hunger and poverty.

Climate Change Awareness: As part of the National Science Week which has strong cross curricular links with climate change, all geography students were shown a three part RTÉ series called 'What Planet Are You On'. The series was based on how households can improve their carbon footprint with regards water, energy, waste and diet. Students took on board many tips to become active citizens at home and in their community and how they can play an important role in the climate crisis.

Transition Year News

Our Transition Years have had an extremely busy few weeks. The following activities took place for our Transition Years: Work experience, Self Help Africa Talk, Digital Leaders Workshops in Croke Park, Secret Valley wildlife Park, Film Making, Kick Boxing, Self Defence, Mauea 'Consent' programme, Taekwondo, Humour Fit Mental Health Play, Mini-Company Talk, School Craft Fair, Junk Kouture, TY Assessment week, Riverside Hotel Student Craft Fair Day, Carol Singing - St. John's Day Care Centre and Hospital, Carol Singing - Fundraiser for St. Patrick's Special Junior School, The Arc Cinema and the Annual School Christmas Quiz.

Christmas Quiz



Our annual Christmas Quiz is one of the most eagerly anticipated events in our school calendar year. This year's edition certainly lived up to all expectations with an eclectic mix of costumes by our Sixth Years! Well done to all the TY students and the teachers who assisted them in organising this wonderful event.

