

## Coláiste Bríde



Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co.Wexford

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

A Chairde,

I would like to dedicate this Newsletter to every individual who plays their part in creating and sustaining this wonderful school. Our teaching staff are an extremely professional and dedicated team. It is for the students that they work above and beyond and it is from the students that they receive their greatest reward. To my mind that is what makes Coláiste Bríde such a great school. So thank you also to the students. Such a diverse community of individuals makes this a richly rewarding place to be. They never fail to inspire and surprise and their selfless compassion for others is truly heart-warming. I could not give thanks without mentioning our ancillary staff, whether that be the office staff, our SNAs or Pat. They enable the teachers and myself to do our jobs and if we do those well, it is in no small part thanks to them. Finally, I wish to thank you the parents again. You made the decision to send your children to us. You entrusted the future of that most dear to you, to us. You believed in our vision and trusted us to make the decisions that would best serve your child. On behalf of the entire staff of Coláiste Bríde I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal

### Latest News

#### Leinster Champions!



Our Senior Soccer team, coached by Miss Sinnott and Mr Galway, had an unforgettable few weeks in December. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of December they defeated Presentation Wexford by four goals to nil in the Leinster Semi-Final in Ferrycarrig. This was a brilliant team display but was only a taste of what was to come. Almost two weeks later they faced a very talented Scoil Chríost Rí of



### Key Dates in January

**January 8**

School reopens

**January 15**

5<sup>th</sup> Year Parent Teacher Meeting

**January 17**

Transition Year Fashion Show

**January 18**

Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Retreats

**January 23**

French Exchange visit starts

**January 25**

School closed for JC Training

**January 26**

Mass for St. Brigid

**January 29**

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Parent Teacher Meeting

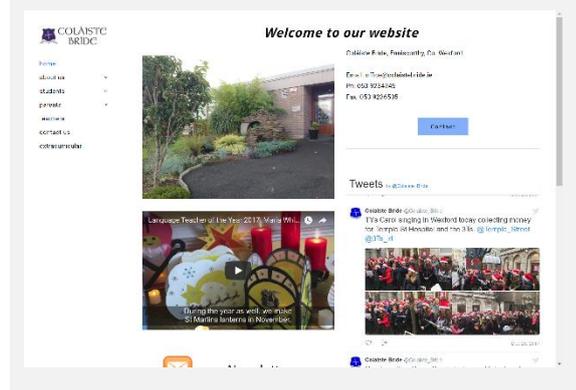
**January 30**

Senior Soccer All Ireland S.-Final

**January 31**

Mock Exams start

### Coláiste Bríde Website



Portlaoise in the Final. Having never beaten Portlaoise our team went into the game as underdogs but produced a truly brilliant performance for a well-deserved victory. The final score was 2:0 and they now go on to face the Ulster champions in the All-Ireland Semi-Final on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January.

## “I am Worth it” Week

At the end of November we had our “I am WORTH it” positive mental health week. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of our booklet and to also continue our work in relation to teenage mental health in Coláiste Bríde.

The week began by presenting each of our first years with a copy of our booklet. During the week we held ‘knit and natter’ classes, where the students sat on bean bags and improved their knitting skills. We also held meditative colouring classes at lunch time. At random times during the school day we dropped everything and danced!! We had a walk and talk lunch activity.

Junior years took part in a body-image workshop. 1<sup>st</sup> year students also took part in a drumming workshop.

On the final day we held a fundraiser for Pieta House which involved a lip sync battle between students and staff. This was very well received by the students! The teachers from the Irish department won the Title Belt!!! We also attempted to break a world record by getting our 668 students to simultaneously walk ten paces with their left shoe on their right foot and vice versa. This sounds easier than you may think!!!

## Junior Achievement Award



When our Student Council began to work on their “I am Worth it” mental health awareness booklet it was not for awards or recognition. However, their great work has been recognised by South East Radio & the Talbot Hotel who presented them with a Junior Achievement Award. This was done live on South East radio during Alan Corcoran’s morning mix show. The students who spoke on the radio were exceptionally composed and articulate. Our school community is immensely proud of those who spoke and all of the members of the Student Council from both this year and last year who have worked on this project.

## 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 entertainment acts including some extremely talented student acts and some less talented teacher acts! Well done to all the TY students and the teachers who assisted them in organising this wonderful event. [Click here for more photos.](#)

## Book Club



Miss Kehoe hosted the last book club meeting of 2017. The book reviewed was *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon which got an enthusiastic 8.5 out of 10

## Shoe Box Appeal



Well done to everyone involved in this year’s Christmas Shoe Box Appeal.

## Pope John Paul II Award



Miss Murphy and our students at the launch of the Pope John Paul II Award in the Ferns Diocese.

Keep up to date

[Follow us on Twitter](#)



## German Language Tour

In December a group of students from 3<sup>rd</sup>, Transition, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year travelled to Munich in Germany. A brilliant trip was had by all with Neuschwanstein Castle, BMW Welt, Munich Christmas Markets and Salzburg being just some of the highlights. Thanks to Ms McConville for organising this wonderful tour. [Photos and a more detailed account written by Izabella Dyl of Transition Year can be accessed by clicking on this link.](#)

## Christmas Carol Service

Our candle lit 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 Art, Religion and Music departments.



## Transition Year News

December is always a busy month. However, it is much busier for a Transition Year student with Craft Fairs, ice skating, the Christmas Quiz and carol singing to be done. In addition to all of this, some of our TYs headed off to Germany and Austria on a school tour from Monday December 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday December 8<sup>th</sup>. While some TYs were in Germany and Austria, the rest went ice skating in Wexford town and showed their teachers how to skate!



On Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup>, TYs took part in the Riverside Hotel Craft Fair. Students from the CBS and Coláiste Bríde joined them for a spell of shopping as well as members of the public. It was a very successful day.

On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> December, the Coláiste Bríde Christmas Quiz took place. The event was organised by the 4<sup>th</sup> years. They organised the questions, the corrections, the prizes, the entertainment, the setup and the clean up of the sports hall. They worked very hard and raised a bit of money for the school along the way.

Before finishing up for the holidays, the girls went carol singing in St. John's Hospital and Day Centre. They entertained the residents and guests for an afternoon and then went to Wexford town to raise some funds for two charities close to their hearts - Temple Street Children's Hospital and the 3Ts. We thank the TYs for all their hard work and we wish them and their families a happy and restful Christmas break. [Click on this link to access our Transition Year News blog where you will find pictures and more detailed articles about this years TYs.](#)

## Gaeilge



Comhghairdeas libh as an éacht a rinne sibh le Gaeilge24! Bhí lá den scoth againn. Ghlac 43 dalta páirt i gColáiste Bríde. Is í aidhm an dúshláin ná daoine óga a spreagadh chun labhairt as Gaeilge amháin ar feadh 24 uair an chloig: sa bhaile, ar scoil, le cairde, sa chlub spóirt srl. Bhí breis is 320 scoil agus 30,000 dalta ag tabhairt faoi ar fud na tíre. Tá súil agam gur bhain na daltaí an-taitneamh agus tairbhe as an lá.

## Scholarships



Congratulations to the students from the sixth year class of 2017 who received entrance scholarships due to their outstanding Leaving Cert results. The recipients were Kate Hall from UL, Dearbhla Doyle from DCU and Emily Boyne, Orla Healy, Fiona Joyce & Valerija Lihareva all from UCD.