

# Coláiste Bríde

Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co.Wexford

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## Upcoming Events

**November 13**

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

**November 26**

Start of "I am Worth it" Week  
Positive Mental Health Week

**November 28**

3<sup>rd</sup> Year Parent Teacher Meeting

A Chairde,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the first newsletter of the academic year 2018/2019. At our opening of year Mass we welcomed one hundred and thirty five first years and five new teachers into our school community. Each and everyone one of you have added something unique and special to our school and I look forward to watching you grow and develop in the years ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again extend congratulations to our students who received their Junior Cert results in September. The students did exceptionally well and deserve to be very proud of themselves. Well done too to the teachers and parents who helped our pupils every step of the way.

Coláiste Bríde is an extremely vibrant and dynamic school where there is a huge amount of activity occurring on any given day. It is important to acknowledge that this involves a huge amount of work, dedication and commitment from both our students and staff, whether that is in the classroom, out on the pitch, student council, clubs or any of the other activities that take place to make our school the wonderful place that it is.

Finally, I wish all members of our school community every happiness and success for the rest of the school year.

Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal

## Social Awareness



Our Transition Years collected €1,136.35 for Autism Ireland.



Transition Years also collected €1,653 for Down Syndrome Ireland.

## Latest News

### German Ambassador & German Exchange

On the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018, all students of German at Coláiste Bríde, had the privilege of meeting with Germany's ambassador to Ireland, her Excellency Frau Deike Potzel. The Ambassador visited Coláiste Bríde as part of the ten-year anniversary celebration of our Student Language and Cultural Exchange with Gymnasium Bruckmühl, near Munich in southern Bavaria, Germany. With the motto "Enriching Minds and Connecting Hearts" as our theme, Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal of Coláiste Bríde, struck the key note of the day with a warm welcome auf Deutsch to Frau



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Potzel and Frau Lück. She also welcomed our German Exchange students and their teachers to the Model County, and specifically to Enniscorthy and our school. Ms O’Sullivan then addressed the immense effort and consistent hard work put in by the Exchange leaders in both schools, Maria Whitty-Sexton in Ireland and Christian Buxot in Germany, to build and maintain links between our students and staff over the past ten years. She also acknowledged the enthusiasm and impeccable behaviour of our participating students and the vital support of their parents over the ten years of this remarkable cultural experience.

Current Sixth Year, Kathlyn McVeigh, spoke glowingly, and fluently auf Deutsch, of her time on the Exchange. She highlighted the value of the enduring friendships she made during that time and reminded her fellow students that this connection between our schools through language and culture has inspired her to work hard to pursue a career in international



relationships. After the celebrations concluded in the Sports Hall, Frau Potzel then accompanied this year’s exchange partners to lunch in the Activity Room, after which she was entertained by a wonderfully energetic Irish dancing performance and our annual “Moktoberfest”. [Click on this link to read the full article.](#)

## Opening of Year & Mercy Day Mass

A beautiful Mass was held last month to celebrate the start of the new school year and to welcome our incoming First Years to our school community. It was also an opportunity for our school community to celebrate 160 years of Mercy Education in Enniscorthy. We would like to thank Fr. Banville for guiding us through the spiritual journey during the past school year, and, look forward to his involvement for the coming year. Our students were also very thankful that, to extend the celebrations, Fr. Banville granted all students a night without any homework! Huge thanks must also go to the Music Department for displaying their exceptional talent on the day, and, the Religion Department for organising this wonderful mass.

## Irish Dancing

Over the summer four of our students were crowned World Champions in their respective Irish dancing competitions at the Cumann Rince Naisiunta World Open Championships which were held in the prestigious INEC in Killarney, Co Kerry.

As these students have regularly performed at school events it is no surprise to see them win trophies at the highest level. We are eagerly looking forward to seeing these world champions perform in school again. Congratulations to the extremely talented Ciara Byrne, Emma Murphy, Erin Fortune, and Amy Long on your wonderful achievements.



## Sport in Coláiste Bríde

During this term training takes place for the sports below. See the sports noticeboard for updates

### Camogie:



Tuesday: Junior/Senior  
Wednesday: 1<sup>st</sup> Year

### Soccer:



Monday: Minor/Junior/Senior  
Friday: First Years

### Basketball:



Basketball  
Ireland

Wednesday: Junior

### Football:



Thursday: Senior/Junior

### Hockey:



Friday: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Years  
Wednesday: Fun Hockey

### Dry Rowing:



ROWING  
IRELAND

Monday: All years welcome

## Move it Mondays



Every Monday lunchtime Move it Monday activities will take place in the Sports Hall.

## Retreats

Over the past number of weeks many of our students have attended their annual spiritual retreats. At the very start of the year our TYs had their retreat with Mir Retreat. Our Sixth Years also attended their retreats with Mustard Seed in Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre. In the next few weeks our first years will have their retreats with a former Coláiste Bríde teacher, Sister Elizabeth Breen, of the Sisters of Mercy. During November our Third Years will also have their retreats.

## Sport

It has been an extremely busy few weeks on the sporting front with teams training and competing in basketball, camogie, football, hockey, soccer and swimming. Well done to our Senior Football team who followed up their victory over FCJ Bunclody by defeating St Mary's New Ross. Our junior camogie team had great wins over Our Lady of Lourdes and Gorey CS. Unfortunately, our Junior Football team lost their opening match. Our Senior Soccer team had a great win, 8-3, over Palmerstown CC. Very well done also to Holly Furlong 2B & Abi Cullen 1E who represented Coláiste Bríde at the Senior Schools Championships in the National Aquatic Centre. Both girls swam great swims finishing just outside podium times. Abi came 4th in 100 Fly, 5th in 200 IM & 4th in 400 Free. Holly came 4th in 100Back, 5th in 100 Free & 9th in 400 Free. Well done girls.



## Gaisce

Congratulations to Amy Long, Aoife Devereaux, Ashley Bolger, Aine O'Neil, and Caitlyn Stamp who received their Silver Gaisce Award in the Helix DCU. The Silver Award is a brilliant achievement. Very well done girls. We have over thirty students who will cycle the Waterford Greenway later this year as part of their work towards the Gaisce bronze medal.



## Academic Excellence



Congratulations to Ailbhe Harrington who received recognition of her outstanding Junior Cert Business Studies result at a recent ceremony in IT Waterford.

## Transition Year News

Our Transition Years have had an extremely busy few weeks. The following activities have taken place for our Transition Years: Mini-Company, Junk Kouture, retreats, First Aid Course, Manual Handling Course, Food Safety Course, Fire Safety Course, team teaching in St. Aidan's Primary School, Junk Kouture Auditions, Downs Syndrome Talk and Collection, Financial Literacy talk, Online safety & life skills talk, Yoga module, Student Enterprise Talk, Bonding Day at the Surf Shack, Autism Talk & collection, Self Defence Day, "Out of the Comfort Zone", Lourdes Talk, St. Vincent de Paul collection, the Tom Crean Experience in The Gaiety Theatre, Wexford Opera to see "Bernstein a la carte", Hallowe'en Make-up competition and a trip to Loftus Hall and Hook Lighthouse.



## Book Club



Our first book club meeting of the year took place last week. The book discussed was *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis which the club scored 8 out of 10.