

Coláiste Bríde



Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

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Dear All,

As we commence a new academic year I am delighted to welcome everyone back to Coláiste Bríde. I extend a special welcome to those students new to the school, as well as their parents and guardians. Already our first years seem to be settling in very well and are making new friendships, as well as coming to terms with the demands and opportunities of secondary school.

Our recent Leaving and Junior certificate results point to the talents of our students, as well as the hard work and support of our teachers. Although we are sad to see them leave us, it is a source of great pride to see our class of 2016 do so well and move on to the next stage of their education and training.

The new year brings new challenges but my message to our students is to move forward confidently and to make the most of their time here. In Coláiste Bríde, students, teachers and parents work together to help our young people realise their potential. Let's use the many gifts we have to make our dreams become a reality. I look forward to a very successful year and assure you of our continued best efforts on behalf of our students.

Go n-éiri an t-ádh libh don bhliain ata romhainn amach.

Tom Sheridan

Important Dates

October 10th & 11th
Sixth Year Retreat

October 20th
Open Night

October 25th
School Walk

October 31st
Mid-Term Break

November 7th
School Reopens after
Mid-Term

Latest News

German Exchange

For many years, students of German in Coláiste Bríde have been hosting students from our partner school, Gymnasium Bruckmühl in southern Bavaria. In September a group of 43 German students and 3 teachers visited our school and stayed with families of our students.

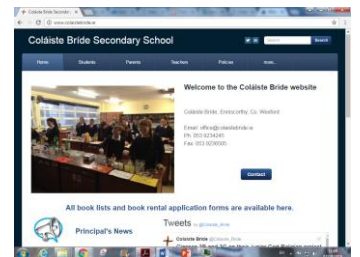
Our visitors enjoyed a varied programme which included sightseeing in Dublin city centre, kayaking on the River Slaney and sand surfing in Curracloe.

Also included in the itinerary for the week was: a trip to Kilkenny which included a guided tour of the Dunmore Caves; a visit to the National Heritage Park and Johnstown Castle; bowling and cinema; and an Irish Night, provided by Celtic Roots. Departure day was marked on both sides by lots of warm hugs and tears as the new German friends left for a trip to Glendalough on their way back to Dublin airport. The German leg of the exchange programme takes place at the start of December and the Coláiste Bríde girls are already looking forward to seeing their German friends again.



Coláiste Bríde Website

www.colaistebride.ie



Click on links throughout this newsletter to find more information or pictures on our website.

Click on pictures to view a larger version on our website.

Opening of Year & Mercy Day Mass

In the last week of September we celebrated our opening of school year and Mercy Day mass. It was also both an opportunity for our school community to welcome our new chaplain and for Father Banville to introduce himself to us. The religion and music departments deserve huge credit for organising this wonderful occasion. It must be stated that the absolute silence and engagement of all students and teachers for Father Banville's mindfulness exercise made this a particularly memorable occasion.



Junior Cert Results

Congratulations to all our students who received their Junior Cert results in September. The staff of Coláiste Bríde are very proud of all our students who received their results. Junior Cert results day is a very happy day for students, their families and the school as the students are rewarded for all their hard work and efforts during the last three years. A special mention for Asia Fresilli, Lystus Ebosele and Molly Jordan who received awards from Waterford Institute of Technology in recognition of their outstanding results in Junior Cert Business Studies.



First Year Retreats



At the end of September the first year retreats began. Thank you to past teacher of Coláiste Bríde Sister Elizabeth Breen of the Sisters of Mercy for facilitating these extremely enjoyable and spiritual days for our students. All first year classes will have attended their retreat by the 11th of October.

School Walk

The Coláiste Bríde School Sponsored Walk will take place the week leading into the Mid-term break in October. All money raised goes towards the cost of transport for extra-curricular school activities. Without the funds raised from the school walk it would be very difficult for the school to compete in the broad range of extra-curricular activities that takes place, from debating to basketball to camogie. We would be most grateful for your support.

Keep up to date

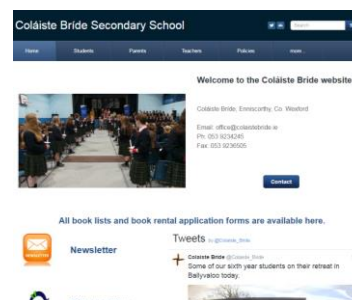
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Library

As part of our ongoing commitment to literacy development in the school, the school library was revamped and relocated over the summer. A new and improved library is now accessible to all students every lunch time, thanks to the assistant librarians from transition year. First years are also enjoying one timetabled reading class in the library each week. Thanks to Pat for all his hard work with the refurbishment over the summer.



Football

The Leinster championship has started for both our Senior and Junior football teams. First up was our senior team who were very unlucky to lose to a talented team from St Joseph's, Navan. However, they certainly made amends in their next fixture when they produced a brilliant team display to beat local rivals St Mary's, New Ross by 11:16 to 2:7. Our junior team have got off to a great start by also defeating New Ross, although in a much closer encounter, 6:8 to 4:12. Next up for our seniors is an away match to Kilcullen, while our juniors face Moate at a neutral venue.



Mocktoberfest

In September our 6th year German students celebrated Mockoberfest not Octoberfest! This celebration is called "Moktoberfest" because instead of beer, the students drink a soft drink called "Spezi". The students also tried out 5 different types of sausage (Bierwurst, Leberkäse, Currywurst, Bratwurst and traditional Bavarian Weißwurst with sweet mustard) and a freshly baked pretzel. The girls also enjoyed some traditional Bavarian brass band music and a presentation informing them all about the origins of the Oktoberfest and how it's celebrated today.



During the German exchange Coláiste Bríde's first years were also treated to a Mocktoberfest celebration hosted by our German visitors.

Sport in Coláiste Bríde

Training takes place afterschool for the following sports:

Monday:



First Year Camogie

Tuesday:



Senior & Junior Camogie

Tuesday:



Basketball

Wednesday:



Senior & Junior Football

Thursday:



Senior & Junior Soccer

This included a traditional Bavarian dance display and Kapellenmusik (traditional Oktoberfest music), Bretzel and Spezi at the “Moktoberfest” celebration where the friendly German students, dressed in traditional costume, chatted with them and served Bretzeln (freshly baked pretzels) and Spezi (a fizzy drink).

TY Photos

Junior Choir

Under the direction of Miss Lyng our Junior choir have been working very hard. At lunch time, Wednesday for second years and Thursday for first year, the girls practice a mixture of religious, folk and pop songs. We eagerly await their first public performance!



At the Ploughing with Henry Sheflin.



Enjoying the muck and rain at the Ploughing.

Transition Year

The 83 Transition Year Students have been settling in very well to an action packed year under the guidance of Ms. Whelan and Ms. Duggan. Mini-company products and services are beginning to emerge and prototypes are in full production.

Junk Kouture dress ideas, styles and materials are also in full swing and we look forward to a very productive year ahead with fun and laughter along the way.

The following list of activities the TY students have been involved in over the month of



September shows just how action-packed it has been: work experience in St. Aidan’s and St. Senan’s Primary Schools; voluntary work with the Enniscorthy Community Workshop; work experience in the 1798 Centre; auditions for modelling for Junk Kouture fashion competition; TY Bonding Day at Gravity; Language Bingo; First Aid course; Down Syndrome Collection Day; the Ploughing Match in Tullamore; a music workshop with Paul Dowling; Down Syndrome Guest Speaker; and; talks by the Wexford Enterprise Centre, Jack and Jill Foundation and Autism Awareness.

Looking forward to an amazing year ahead, Ms. Margo Whelan, TY Coordinator



Some very nervous looking TY’s at Gravity.



TYs enjoying themselves at Gravity.