

Coláiste Bríde

Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

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Upcoming Events

October 25
Open Night

October 27
School Closes Midterm

November 6
School Reopens

November 14
6th Year Parent Teacher Meeting

A Chairde,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the first newsletter of the academic year 2017/2018. Coláiste Bríde is an extremely vibrant and dynamic school where there is a huge amount of activity occurring on any given day. The purpose of the newsletter is give you a flavour of some of the activities going on as well as to acknowledge the huge amount of work that our students and staff are involved in whether that be in the classroom, out on the pitch or working together to enhance our school community. We wish to thank them for all this work. We wish you every happiness and success for the year head.

Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal

Latest News

German Language Teacher of the Year

Miss Whitty was recently awarded the 2017 European Language Label

for Language Teacher of the Year at a ceremony in Farmleigh. This prestigious label recognises outstanding achievement in the teaching and learning of languages and recognises outstanding language teachers. Contenders for this award must be nominated by others and must be enthusiastic and inspire their pupils. This title was awarded to Miss Whitty for her



commitment to imaginative and high-quality language teaching and excellent knowledge of her subject. [Click on this link to see a video created by Leargas of Miss Whitty.](#)

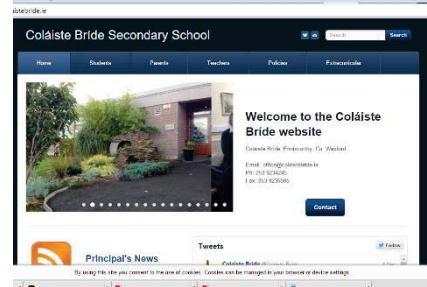
This award follows on from November 2016 when Miss Whitty was named German Teacher of the Year at the German Teachers' Association of Ireland's national conference in Trinity College. Miss Whitty was selected for the distinguished award by a jury of representatives from the German Teachers' Association of Ireland (GDI), the German Embassy and the Goethe Institut.

Athletics



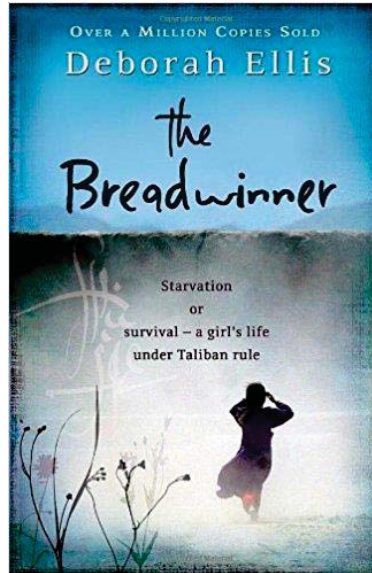
Congratulations to Lystus Ebsole who represented Ireland in the Celtic Games International in July. She placed 2nd in Shot Put throwing a personal best.

Coláiste Bríde Website



One Book One School

Our One Book One School initiative in September aimed to build on the success of the Wellread initiatives from last year, such as The Reading Challenge, World Book Week, author visits and junior book club. The whole school community read the book *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis. It tells the story of a girl in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan who is forced to dress as a boy to help her family survive. Students read a chapter each day in class with their teachers. The project was a wonderful success and really got the whole school talking about reading. An animated film version is due for release in Ireland in the next few months.



Family members are encouraged to read the book too and to get involved in our Wellread initiative throughout the year. On a similar theme to that of the novel, some senior cycle English students have been studying the wider topic of refugees and researching the reasons why people leave their home countries and look for asylum in Europe. [One such student, Tunmise Akinyemi in 5th year, wrote the article at this link combining research data on refugees with her own story of leaving Nigeria to come and live in Ireland.](#)

School Canteen

We are very excited about our new healthy eating hot food canteen that will open after the midterm. The new kitchen is being installed by the School Food Company who will serve hot pasta meals, paninis, wraps, freshly prepared salads, seasonal fruits, bottled water & healthy snacks.



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 1st years to our school community. Our students, as always, were exceptional and should be commended for their participation and behaviour. 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. Huge thanks also to the music department for displaying their exceptional talent on the day and the religion department for organising this wonderful mass.



We are once again taking part in the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. This is an extremely worthy cause and your donations make a real difference to those children who receive a gift at Christmas.

[Click on this link to see suggestions of what gifts to put in your shoebox.](#)



Our Senior Choir under the direction of Mr Connelly and Mr Walsh performing at our Opening of Year Mass.



Keep up to date

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German

September is when we celebrate 'Mockoberfest', the Coláiste Bride version of the German Oktoberfest harvest festival. Our first years joined in the celebrations with Spezi (soft drink) and Bretzeln, as well as a presentation on the customs and traditions associated with this Bavarian festival. A big thanks to the TY students who helped with preparations! The day of German Reunification, Tag der deutschen Einheit, was also celebrated with Germany-themed cookies and a PowerPoint presentation which explained the historical background to the division and reunification of Germany. [Click on this link to see more photos.](#)



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 Declan Browne. In recent weeks our first years had their retreats with Sister Elizabeth Breen of the Sisters of Mercy. Our Sixth Years also attended their retreats which took place in Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre.

Sport

It has been an extremely busy few weeks for our sports team with matches taking place in camogie, soccer and football. Our senior soccer team had a comprehensive victory over Portmarknock CS in the Leinster Cup. Our senior football team had two great wins over Cross & Passion, Kilcullen and St Leo's Carlow and have now qualified for the knock out stages of their competition. It was also great to see our first years lining out for the school for the first time in a recent blitz.



Transition Year News

This year we have over 110 Transition Year students and they have been settling in very well. The massive growth in the number of students opting to do TY is testament to the great work of our TY Coordinator, Miss Whelan, and her team of tutors Miss McConville, Miss Duggan & Miss Kavanagh Osborne. Already brilliant 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. [Click on this link to get update news and photos of the TY Classes of 2017/2018's year.](#)

Swimming



Rioghna Hourihane and Holly Furlong who competed in the Leinster Schools Regionals at the National Aquatic Centre

Sport in Coláiste Bríde

During this term training takes place afterschool for the following sports:

Camogie:



Wednesday: Junior/Senior

Soccer



Monday: First Years
Tuesday: Minor/Junior/Senior

Basketball:



Basketball
Ireland

Tuesday: Junior

Football



Thursday: Senior/Junior