

Coláiste Bríde



Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

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A Chairde,

We are now into December and the last two months have just flown by. As I reflect on the many activities described in this, the latest edition of the Coláiste Bride newsletter and the many other events that took place in this time, I take great pride in the wonderful school community that we have. The dedication and commitment of all our students and staff to our school is what makes Coláiste Bríde the incredible place that it is. Our recent positive mental health week, 'I am Worth it', highlights the enthusiasm that all members of our school community bring to whatever event or activity that takes place. Whether it was knit-n-natter or drop-n-dance the support and sense of good spirit was a joy to behold. This was a truly fantastic week and its success means that it will become a permanent fixture in our school calendar.

Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal

Latest News

German Language Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Miss Whitty on being awarded the German Language Teacher of the year at the GDI, German Teachers Association of Ireland, national conference in Trinity College. A jury of representatives of the

GDI, the German Embassy and the Goethe-Institut selected Miss Whitty for this prestigious award. For all her past and present students, this national recognition of her excellence in teaching and learning has come as no surprise. From Mocktoberfest to the German Exchange Miss Whitty always strives to instil a love of the German language and culture amongst her students.



Upcoming Events

December 15

Christmas Carol Service

December 15

Christmas Quiz

December 16

Exams start for 2nd to 6th Years

[Click here to view all Christmas Exam timetables.](#)

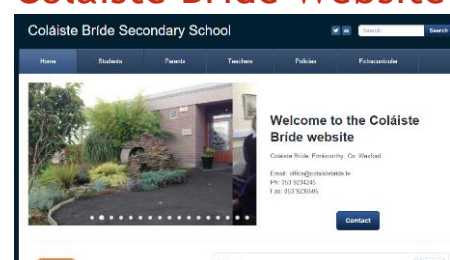
December 22

School closes for Christmas



Our German language assistant, Birgit Landman, putting the finishing touches to the Advent wreath she made for the school.

Coláiste Bríde Website



Click on each picture to open a larger version. Other links throughout this newsletter open more information or pictures on our website.

Religion Department



During October our Sixth Years went to Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre near Blackwater for their retreat. Ballyvaloo was a beautiful setting for what was a wonderful day. In November our Third Years had their retreats with the Mustard Seed group. The religion department also organised November Masses for all year groups in St Senan's church. We would like to thank our Chaplain, Fr. Banville, for facilitating these masses.

Science Week

National Science week took place from the 13th to the 20th of November and another great week was had in Coláiste Bríde enjoying the wonders of

science. Many of the junior science classes got to partake in class quizzes while some of the senior students were fortunate to get a great talk from Patrick Devitt from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). There was

again a 'Question of the day' with one junior and senior student winner and plenty of facts and memes to keep students entertained as they walked the corridors.



Gaisce

Congratulations to sixth year students Katie Gallagher, Jennifer O'Connor, Niamh Crowhurst and Trish Doyle who received their Silver Gaisce Award at a ceremony in UCD. It is a brilliant achievement as they worked hard on this challenge over the last year in their own time. We currently have about 80 students in Transition Year & a number of students in Fifth Year working towards the bronze Gaisce medal.



University Scholarships & Awards

Congratulations to our past pupils who were recently awarded for their outstanding Leaving Cert results by the universities in which they are now studying. Emma Chapman received her award from UL, Cara Burke received her award from DCU and Aoife Fanning received her award from NUIM.



Keep up to date

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Cross Country

Well done to all our athletes who participated in Cross Country on the 30th of November in Good Counsel New Ross. Particular mention to the Mairead Crean, Annalise Crean & Emer O'Shea who brought home medals.



Open Night

Our Open Night took place in October. This is one of the most eagerly awaited events in our school calendar and always lives up to expectation. It is always great to see all the wonderful work and exhibitions on display, whether it is a masterpiece in the art room, a culinary delight in the kitchen, a beautiful song from a music student or the scientific marvels in the labs. As one walks around on the night it is very obvious that our students and teachers have great pride in our school. [Click on this link to see images of our Open Night.](#)



Word of the Week

Our Word of the Week literacy initiative is continuing again this year and is generating a lot of interest from both students and teachers. So far this year we have had words such as apposite, narcissism, repudiate, petrify and veracity. The meaning, origin and synonyms for each word are displayed around the school. [Click on this link to check out the Words of the Week.](#)

Maths Week

In October our students were very engaged with the mathematical challenges and logic problems that our Maths Department devised as part of national Maths Week 2016. Students participated in many enriching Maths-related problem-solving activities and quizzes with Junior & Senior prizes each day. On the final day of Maths Week our First Years thoroughly enjoyed their maths themed quiz. To add some festive cheer why not check out the following [12 days of Christmas maths puzzles.](#)



Social Awareness

Our Transition Year students raised over €1300 for Autism Ireland as part of their Rose Collection.



Congratulations to all involved in organising the Christmas Shoebox appeal. There was a great response to this worthy cause.

The collection for the St Vincent DePaul Christmas hampers is now taking place. Ask Miss S. Murphy for a list of suitable items for donation.

TY Craft Fair



The school TY Craft fair took place in November. However, on the 13th of December there will be another craft fair in the Riverside Hotel. This will be a great opportunity to pick up a few stocking fillers for Christmas.

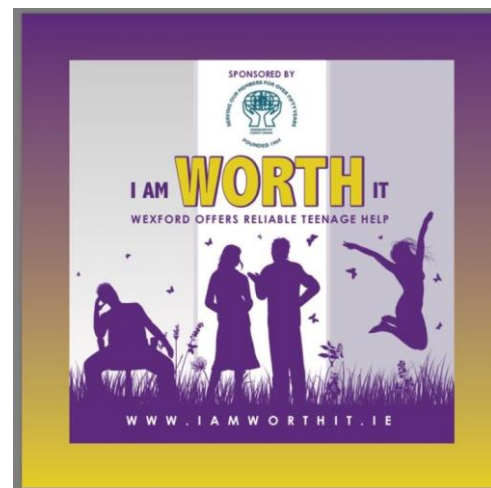


Art Hour

Art Hour takes place every Thursday after school in Art Room 1. When most students and teachers have gone home and the school has gone quiet our art students are busy creating wonderful pieces of art under the direction of Miss Breen. [Click on this link to see more images of Art Hour.](#)



'I am Worth it'



German Language Debating Team

Some of us would dread the thought of debating in English but two students from Sixth Year and two from Transition Year recently represented the school in a German language debate. Although they were unsuccessful, the team of Lystus Ebosele, Kate Hall, Kate Malcolmson and Beth Murphy can be very proud of their performance. Well done too to Miss Whitty and our German language assistant Birgit Landman.



On the 28th of November our positive mental health week, I am Worth it, began. The culmination of the week was the launch of our positive mental health booklet and website on Friday the 2nd of December.

In this edition of our digital newsletter we will look at some of the many daily activities that took place while in next month's edition we will look at the launch in more detail.

Juvenes Translatores

Well done to Kate Hall, Aine Harris, Kate Malcolmson, Weronika Mazurczak and Otilian Namasco who competed in the European Commission 'Juvenes Translatores' translation competition. Our school was one of only ten schools selected in Ireland to take part in this Europe wide competition. The results will be announced in February.



As part of the week's activities our fifth year students, under the guidance of Miss McEvoy, designed a large canvas of a tree. Throughout the 'I am Worth it' week the tree was decorated with the finger prints of all students and staff.



Sport

It was a mixed few weeks for our sports teams. There were wins for both our Senior & Junior Football teams over local rivals St Mary's, New Ross, but having lost their next game both teams bowed out of their competition. Our Junior Camogie team have also finished up for the year but our Senior team are still in the running for a Leinster Quarter Final spot. The Minor Soccer team, shown above, have been flying the flag with distinction having defeated Temple Carrig, Greystones 6:2 and followed that up with a hard fought 3:1 win away to Alexandra College, Dublin.



Ceol le Chéile

Our traditional music group, Ceol le Chéile, recently recorded their 12 minute CD as part of the Gael Linn Siansa competition. This is one of the country's most prestigious competitions for young traditional Irish music and singing groups. The CD consists of variations of jigs, reels, slide, hornpipe and slow air composed by Miss Lyng. We will be hearing a lot more about this extremely talented group in the future.



'I am Worth it'

The activities and events that took place as part of our positive mental health week included knit-n-natter, our worry tree, daily prizes, yoga, drop-n-dance, skipping, one moment meditation, drop-n-talk, a sensory walk and free fruit supplied by Pettitts.



Fruit supplied by Pettitt's SuperValu.



Our lunchtime Sensory Walk group.

TY News

It has been another action-packed month for our Transition Year students. Some of the activities carried out in October & November include Film Week, Community Workshop, assisting teachers in St. Aidan's & St. Senan's primary schools, self defence, UNHCR talk, Autism Ireland collection, Wexford Opera Festival, Positive Mental Health show, yoga, mindfulness, YSPI talk, school lunch hall Craft Fair and they even found time for a week of work experience.



Lunchtime 'knit-n-natter'.



Lunchtime skipping.