

ST. ANNE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2021

21st December 2021

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THE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Transition Year and Second Year business classes held the annual Christmas Fair on Friday 17th December, promoting student enterprise, providing an opportunity for students and staff to buy gifts and also having a fun day, at the end of term, for the whole school community. The products offer include soap, jewellery, candles, Christmas decorations, Christmas logs, homemade fudge, baked goods, raffles, carnival games etc. this

experience gave the students creative freedom to create their own mini company while also teaching them valuable lessons about budgeting, teamwork, leadership and advertisement. There was also a Christmas jumper day on December 17th raising money for local charities

THE DEBATING TEAM

Our debating team comprises of Sixth year, Fifth year and Transition Year students. They have won a debate and are due to have another. The debate recently won was on the motion of "if school strikes are effective way of getting governments to act on climate change". The students who participated are Tara Mooney, Rian MacFarlane, Yeshuah O'Brien Bayer, Laura Andrews and Ruadh Healy.



GREEN SCHOOLS

A great start to our Green Schools programme this year with a visit from Stephen O Reilly from *An Taisce* "Neat Streets" who met with our Transition Years. He came to support the work our students are doing in leading Green Schools giving a fun insightful talk on how

our students can take action on our environment.



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

St Anne's are involved in many sports like Soccer, Rugby, Hurling, Camogie etc.

Girls Soccer - It is St Anne's first year having girls' soccer team. The team is made up of a Senior and Junior soccer team and are coached by Ms. Carroll. Matches are to begin after Christmas.



Girls Rugby – The girls have had a very successful start to the year with both Junior teams topping their groups in both rounds of the North Munster Schools tournaments remaining undefeated. We also had two Senior teams compete in the tournaments with one ending undefeated and the other coming second. Special mention to Emily Byrne, Rebecca Rogers, Fionnuala O Rahilly and Karen O Mahony who are representing Munster on the U18s girls team. Sarah McNamara, Sophie O Neill, Lauren Dowling, Tuathla Ryan, Siobhan McMahon, Grace Dillon and Mia Hennelly who are all on the Munster U16 development squad.

Boys Rugby - Our rugby team have been granted an amalgamation by Munster Rugby to play with Scarriff Community College in all school rugby competitions. In our first blitz in Coonagh we were unbeaten in five games. Our

U15 boys played St. Munchins in the McCarthy C Cup but were beaten by a last minute try.



Hurling - 1st year Boys hurling won a blitz in St. Flannan's against most of the other Clare hurling schools. U.15 boys hurling are in a Shield final of a Clare school's competition which was played on Thursday nights in Tulla, final is next Monday against St. Caimins from Shannon. Special mention to players from this team include Paul McKeogh, Tom Shanahan, Darragh Rosney and Sam Faherty who are currently on Tipperary and Clare County hurling squads. Both our u.16 and u.18 hurlers were beaten comprehensively in the 2nd round of their respective competitions.



Boys Soccer - Our senior footballers lost narrowly to Spanish Point after a great second half display in a Munster quarter final. Both our 1st and 2nd year boys' soccer teams beat St. Mary's from Newport in the first rounds of the North Munster competition.

Boys Basketball



The senior boys' basketball team had a big win against Ennistymon C.B.S 74 to 29 in the first

round of their regional competition and should qualify automatically for a regional quarter final based on that result.

Camogie - The 1st year competition hasn't started yet but have been preparing well. The 2nd year competition is starting in the New Year. Competing in the Munster Junior Competition was unsuccessful this year, the Juniors will head into the Clare competition in the New Year. The Seniors finished up in the Munster Shield semi-final just before Christmas week. They will continue to train on Thursday mornings and Thursday afternoons.



CULINARY COURSE

Over this term, selected ty students took part in a culinary course with a professional chef learning how to cook safely and effectively in a kitchen.



The students learned how to use blenders, mixers, knives, ovens and hobs. They also learned how to be responsible with cleaning after dealing with raw meat. We are very proud of this group of students and look forward to them competing in the Shannon Region Junior Chef of the Year competition later in the year.



BARISTA COURSE



TY groups participated in a professional City and Guilds Barista training

course on campus at Limerick College of Further Education.

During this course, students learned how to make several specialty coffees, smoothies and acquired other barista skills invaluable for working life.



STUDENT COUNCIL

Each year group has two elected members on the student council. The student council have regular meetings where representative's forward feedback, contributions and ideas for school improvement from the main student body.



CLARE CARE – CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Fifth Year LCVP class organised Christmas food hampers to be donated to ClareCare Killaloe. These hampers were created from the donations from staff and student of St. Anne's and generous donations from Queally's

Supervalu Killaloe. A total of 12 hampers were doanted to ClareCare Killaloe which will be distributed to families in need this Christmas.



CAROL SINGING

A wonderful group of music students went carol singing on Wednesday 15th of December. this group of talented singers and instrumentalists entertained residents at Clare Care who were enjoying their Christmas party. Then they travelled over by bus to Raheen to entertain the resident there. The student's preformed Christmas songs led by Ms. Ryan.



BIODIVERSITY

On the 24th of November, the biodiversity TY group planted bulbs received from President Michael D. Higgins. The plants we used were muscari airmemeniacum, which can also be called grape hyanitch. These are particularly good plants to locate in the school, as they are an excellent source of nectar. This attract butterflies and bees. we used soil beds in different locations around the school, putting the bulbs 2 inches down in the soil and 2 inches

away from each other. These should begin to show little sprouts in 6-8weeks and in the future can grow to 20 cm tall. A big thank you to the president for making it possible for us to do this as part of his Gaisce Bulbs for Bee's initiative.



KILLALOE CATHEDRAL TOUR

On the 9th of November, a group of 11 TY students went to St Flannan's cathedral with the school chaplain Ms. Torpey. They got a tour of the cathedral to familiarise themselves with it in the hope they will tour guides themselves in the near future. They learned pieces of information about the history of the building and got leaflets about the cathedral, they hope to learn more in the coming weeks.



SCHOOL DIGITAL CHAMPIONS



The school digital champion program is a government initiative which aims to motivate, encourage and support schools in embracing digital technology. The program involves second

level students completing a project using their skills and technology to make a difference either to their school/home, the wider community or in a local business. Transition year students, Emily Byrne, Poppy McNamara, Rebecca Rodgers and Alice Walsh are representing St Anne's in this program. They are working together to create a TY blog documenting everything the students throughout the year, trips, courses etc. In the New Year, the students will be involved in a variety of workshops and site visits including google. This is the fifth year the school has been involved in this very worthwhile program.

micro plastics'. This project is a re-entry of a previous project they competed with in 2020 they won a 'highly commended' award and following this success they re-entered an improved version for 2022. Jack and Eoin are exploring if rising oceans temperatures could have an effect on micro plastic pollution.

All the duo had to say was "we couldn't have done it without Ms. Hogan's help, she's gone above and beyond to help us and make this as amazing as possible".

WELLNESS WEEK

Wellness Week was a great success with students and staff enjoying lots of activities to boost their wellbeing which culminated in a fancy dress day for Halloween. Money raised amounted to €650 and will be donated to Killaloe Ballina Family Resource Centre. All second year students took a Mindful Walk with Pius Murray in Ballycuggeran. Youth Wellbeing Ambassadors working with Student Council to achieve our second Amber Flag from Pieta. Survey of students with regard to Wellbeing in school to inform our SIP and Wellbeing Wheel resource being launched to ensure every student experiences wellbeing in every subject.

BT YOUNG SCIENTIST



The dynamic duo Jack Fairfield and Eoin Gilmartin are headed to the BT Young Scientist Exhibition with their exciting project: "An Investigation into the effect of water temperature on the Degradation of plastics into



PAST PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Shane Walsh, Nathan Miller, Adam Fogarty and Kathryn Kavanagh, Class of 2021, achieved maximum points, 625, in this year's Leaving Cert.



Finn McGeever, Class of 2019, has had an incredible year. As part of the Irish 4x200m Freestyle relay team he travelled to Beijing to the Olympic Games. Since then, the team have broken the Irish Record at the World Champions in Abu Dhabi.



Maeve Óg O'Leary, Class of 2018, has also had a very successful year. Not only did she make her Munster Rugby Senior Debut, in which they won the Interprovincial, she also lined out for Ireland in this year's Autumn Internationals. Maeve Óg continued her success by travelling with the Irish 7's team to Dubai.



Moya Ryan, Class of 2017, has been taking the world of badminton by storm. She won the National Doubles competition in Dublin this year. Her current World Tour Rank is 39th for Women's Doubles. Moya also competed in the World Championship in Spain with her doubles partner.



Ciara Hayes, Class of 2016, was awarded the prestigious Veterinary Ireland Medal which is given for the highest overall marks in UCD Veterinary. Ciara is currently working in Avondale Vets in Arklow.



Thanks to the following students who helped put this newsletter together. Poppy McNamara, Emily Byrne, Clara Blake, Sarah McEvoy, Alana McKeogh, Alice Walsh, Rebecca Rogers and Beatrice Meehan.