

COMERAGH COLLEGE EASTER NEWSLETTER

BT YOUNG SCIENTIST



BT YOUNG SCIENTIST AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION



The BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition is an amazing experience for not only students but teachers and the general public. The students from Comeragh College Science club were given the opportunity to enter this wonderful competition.

Group 1 - Tadhg Sheehan, Aidan McGrath, Jennifer Long (3rd year)

The first teams Project entitled: To Investigate the Reading Habits of the New Generation.

The students felt that social media had impacted their lives and the way they think, so they were interested to see did it affect the books and genres they choose to read compared to previous generations.

Group 2 –Lughaidh McLoughlin, Shannon Blackmore (3rd year) and Timothy Innocent (2nd Year)

The second groups project entitled: The Theorem of Polynomials.

Where the students had worked on developing a faster and more efficient way of calculating polynomial expressions. These students did a series of calculations in order to make their formula work.

This exhibition allows students to grow and develop a real passion for science and the ability for them to think for themselves along with developing a curiosity about the world around them. It also builds their confidence in presenting as they learn how to articulate their ideas as they need to explain their project to judges. This hands on approach to science can benefit students and help them in all areas of their learning and life. This experience was available to our students thanks to our sponsors from Quality Recycling, Derry. Without their help this would not have been possible.

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY



WIT hosted its second Women In Technology event to showcase and promote careers in technology to girls at second level. Special guest of the event was Phil Healy – currently Irelands fastest woman. The event included exhibitions, technology demonstrations and speakers from industry as well as information around the multitude of computing, engineering and physics third level programmes, which act as a gateway to these industries. It is hoped that this event will help second level female students to see the full spectrum of jobs that are available, and to understand that these options are as relevant and achievable for girls as they are for boys.

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APPRENTICE CHEF COMPETITION



The Apprentice Chef programme is designed to bring awareness of culinary arts careers to young second level students across the region and give the best of them the opportunity to cook in a professional kitchen. The process for the Apprentice Chef began in December 2018 when a number TY students visited a workshop in WIT.

The students returned to school inspired and motivated with ideas. They then took part in a school cook off in order to select the two students who would go forward and represent Comeragh College in the Regional Finals in WIT.

Whilst five excellent dishes were presented in the school cook off, Kaylynn Broxson and Alina Urban came out on top and started work on projects to accompany their dishes. They were



required to outline the inspiration for their dishes, along with the nutritional value and their understanding of what 'good mood food' is. Both Alina and Kaylynn tried to use as much locally sourced fresh ingredients as possible.

Due to their hard work, both Kaylynn and Alina were successful in their application to participate in the Regional Finals and were appointed a mentor in the form of Chef Louise Brosnan. They worked on developing and enhancing their dishes and their accompanying

projects in the lead up to the Regional finals by cooking at home, in school and keeping in contact with their mentor. The girls were fortunate enough to have a fantastic mentor who provided them with the necessary advice to improve their dishes.

On March 15th Alina and Kaylynn were lucky to get the experience cooking in the kitchens of WIT, decked out in the supplied chefs' uniforms.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience in a very relaxed environment where the emphasis was on developing skills, learning and most of all enjoying cooking.



The Winning Dishes of the day (above)



The Home Economics Department are very proud of all the students who initially participated, and in particular of Alina and Kaylynn. We have our fingers, forks and knives crossed waiting to hear how they get on in the finals.

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COMERAGH COLLEGE – Music Notes 🎵🎵🎵



Tipperary ETB Schools Talent Show

The Dome, Thurles, Jan 25th.

Our School was well represented by Nicole Vaughan TY who sang “All I want” by Kodakline beautifully and Josh Slater, who danced his 2nd year socks off to “NightCore”



Town Hall Concert - Our School Choir led by Ms O’Dwyer performed for staff, friends and Cllr. Kieran Bourke in the Town Hall



SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE



Comeragh College was proud to support Seachtain na Gaeilge March 1st – 17th 2019 we held several events in the school during this time, including;

- ♣️ Gaelic football matches with Senior and Juniors
- ♣️ Bake Sale
- ♣️ Modern Irish singing and Dancing
- ♣️ Class Table quizzes “As Gaeilge”
- ♣️ County Colour Jersey to school day.

PROTEST AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

Comeragh College Students joined 1000’s of others in the global strike for climate change action strike which took place in numerous locations across the world on Friday, 15 March. These strikes were held by school children of all ages in up to 30 different countries inspired by 16 year old Greta Thunberg. This strike is to entice policy makers globally to declare International Emergency on Climate Crisis and is a crucial step in transitioning our planet to a safer future for the younger generations.



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COMERAGH COLLEGE – MODEL UNITED NATIONS



Last year, 2018, Model United Nations was introduced to the Comeragh College by Ms. O' Toole and Ms. Smith as part of our extra-curricular activities. **Model United Nations**, also known as **Model UN** or **MUN**, is an educational/academic activity in which students can learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the **United Nations**.

Students research global issues in the world and work together as delegates of countries and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to resolve these issues. Schools from all over Ireland attend the conference and this year there were schools from Germany, Spain, Portugal and Ghana in attendance. The beauty of MUN is that it is a student led event – all aspects of the conference are organised and run by students.

This year, transition year and 5th year students from Comeragh College took part in Davis College Model United Nations in Cork from the 21st to the 25th of January. This involved taking part in a four-day assembly of delegates in Cork City Hall.

Our delegates explored issues over the course of the four days that included the question of promoting safe working conditions, ensuring the rehabilitation of drug users into society, reduction of pollution in oceans, protection of user data online, prevention of domestic violence and the prevention of desertification, to name a few.

Our first and second year students also have an opportunity to represent the school as honourable delegates in Davis College Junior MUN. Last May junior delegates explored issues that included the question of gun control, animal rights and child obesity and look forward to attending this year's conference.



MUN events allow students to develop their knowledge in global issues and allows them to generate the knowledge and skills to debate, discuss, amend, resolve and lobby with fellow delegates on important world issues.

Comeragh College MUN has grown from just twelve students in 2018 to over thirty students of TY and 5th year in 2019. Over the course of the year, students attend MUN meetings after school in which they discuss pressing world issues and generate resolutions to help solve these issues. The meetings allow students to work collaboratively with each other and gain a better understanding of the world.

We wish these students every success in their future MUN endeavors.

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COMERAGH COLLEGE SPORTS NEWS

TY Events - TYs attended an annual Wheelchair Basketball tournament held in Neptune Stadium Cork on Thursday 7th February in association with Wheelchair Basketball Ireland. Twenty TY students from Comeragh College took part on the day. Comeragh College reached semi-final against Boherbue and after normal time scores were level. To determine the winner a shoot out took place and we were beaten by one basket. Well done to all participants and many thanks to the organisers of this event.

First & Second Year Girls Basketball - The first- & second-year girls basketball teams began their league campaign with an away match to Waterpark. First year narrowly lost out but a great performance by the second-year girls gave them a first win in C Grade Basketball. In the following weeks the girls played Abbey Community College, St. Brigids Callan & Ardscoil na Mara. While they had no further wins both teams performed well in each game and there is a lot to build on for next year. Well done to all the players.



First & Second Year Boys Basketball - The first & second year boys basketball teams began their league campaign with an away game to Colaiste Cois Suir. An excellent performance saw both team come away with victories.

1st Year boys went on to play Abbey Community College to who they narrowly lost out to. Final game for the first years was an away game to St Pauls Community College. Great team performance resulted in a well deserved win for the boys on the day.



2nd Year boys second game was to Abbey Community College which was a nail-biting affair. After normal time the teams were level which resulted in extra time. Great grit and determination saw the boys hold their nerve and win the game by a single point. Next game for the 2nd Year was Dungarvan College. Another great performance saw the team record their third win in a row. Last game was an away game to St. Pauls Community College. Once again the boys found themselves in a tightly contested game. The boys fought hard after a poor start to get within 1 point of St Pauls, however time was not on our side and when the final whistle went St Pauls held onto the win by the narrowest of margins. Both 1st & 2nd Year boys team now await semi-final draws which will continue after the mid-term. Well done to both teams and keep up the hard work going forward to the semi-finals.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1st & 2nd yr Camogie team playing a Blitz in Roscrea – April 4th against ETB schools – Good luck Girls
1st yr Hurling – Blitz in WIT Arena – 28th March - Best of luck lads

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First Year Boys Football

Well done to the first year boys football team who played extremely well in a Blitz in Cahir recently against Killenaule, Clonmel and Cahir. Lenny Murray played a great game in goals, Byron Beukes was very successful in his first outing as full back and Eoin Barry must get a mention for playing excellently throughout the Blitz.



SCHOOLS ENTREPRISE PROGRAMME



The Student Enterprise county finals will be held on Thursday the 28th March in LIT Thurles.

We have 3 teams (11 students in total) who have qualified for the county finals.

These students have worked tirelessly in setting up their own businesses and running it efficiently over the last number of weeks.

They have held sale days within the school and have been successful in turning a profit. Also they have produced detailed business plans for their businesses.

The businesses are as follows:

1. Chocolate surprise (Team members- Anna Doyle, Zuzanna Rudzik & Saoirse White)
2. Short treats (Joanne Burke, Niamh Foskin, AJ Diffily & Owen Dunphy)
3. Comeragh College USB's (Paul Guiry, Jake Hanrahan, Anthony Power, Adam Burke)



YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATOR



YSI SPEAKOUT in The Lyrath Estate in Kilkenny with TYs. They won 1st place for the best creative props. Ms O Toole also won "Most Inspiring Guide" as voted by the students. Great achievement for our school.

Another one for the trophy cabinet!



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COMERAGH COLLEGE - WELL DONE TO OUR STUDENTS SECTION

Gaeilge 24 Certs

The students who took part in Gaeilge 24 recently receiving their certificates -“Fuair na daltaí a ghlac páirt sa Ghaeilge 24 a dteastais inniu! Maith sibh!”



JUNIOR CYCLE PROFILE OF ACHIEVEMENTS - JCPA

The JCPA is a new kind of award. It has replaced the Junior Certificate since 2017. The JCPA is awarded by the school to the students. It reports on student achievement across a broad range of areas of learning in junior cycle. The JCPA, alongside other reporting arrangements in junior cycle, will offer parents/guardians a clear, broad picture of their child's learning journey over the three years of junior cycle. The JCPA is a key part of the large scale reform of the Junior Cycle. The objective of this reform is to ensure a more holistic, student-centered, approach to education, whereby all students are given the opportunity to develop a wider range of skills and recognition is given to students' non-academic achievements. Below are our students after receiving their well earned JCPA Awards pictured with their Year Head Ms. Blackmore.



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SPECIAL EVENTS AT COMERAGH COLLEGE



We had a very successful **BAKE SALE** in Comeragh College in March to help raise funds for the school.

A huge effort was made by students and indeed some staff! (notice the very artistic Mr Russell flans!) The big beautiful chocolate cake made by Hannah Bracken in first year was raffled off and won by Ms Quirke who was just finishing up her time with us for her teaching practice.

The tasty event brought in a “sweet” €677 on the day. Well done to all involved.

TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE



The first year CSPE Students along with their teachers Ms Hegarty and Ms Cahill are fundraising to purchase trees that they can plant around our school. They will be here long after all our current students have left us – imagine! A very worthy initiative indeed.



WELLBEING

“We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives”

J.F. Kennedy

What a fantastic initiative for our “Wellbeing” – The whole school body were invited to submit a nomination for a person to whom they would like to present a bouquet of flowers to. This coincided with Valentines Day also.

As you can imagine there were so many deserving nominations, but 12 lucky students were picked and they were presented with bouquets so that they could express their gratitude to the person of their choice.



TRANSITION YEAR NEWS



The TY's have been busy lately;

Hosting a group of students from Argentina, attending a First Aid Workshop, participating in a Wheelchair Basketball match (following on from their successful flag day for the Irish Wheelchair Association), a visit to Cahir Castle and going underground in Mitchelstown Caves. Next month they will be participating in a Driving Course held at the school.

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