

# Parents Bulletin



Week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022



We hope all is well with you and your family. This is your weekly bulletin issued via our website. We will inform you of our achievements plans for the week ahead.

## Dates for Your Diary

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November - No school for students.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December - No school for students.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Holidays.

## Healthy Eating Policy

We remind all parents that school provides a free snack at 10.50am and a free sandwich at 1.10pm. All students should bring an empty bottle as we have filtered water towers for them to drink fresh water.

Our school's Healthy Eating Policy prohibits sugary, salty, fatty foods. Students are NOT allowed take items such as sweets, lollies, crisps, chocolate, and minerals to school. We have asked local shops do stop selling these items to children in the mornings.

This policy is to ensure the best health, wellbeing, concentration and dental hygiene for our young people.

## December Assessments

All students will have exams starting on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Students, Parents / Guardians are advised that students should be studying hard for the coming weeks.

## College Awareness Week 2022

This week is College Awareness Week in school.

- **1<sup>st</sup> years:** Have one week to complete their CAREERS BINGO sheet. First three students to submit their completed form will be awarded house points.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> years:** All second-year students will receive a visit from our senior students to discuss their education path through Coláiste Chú Chulainn and their future plans for Third Level.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> years:** Third years have one week to complete their College Awareness Booklet. First three students to submit their completed booklet will be awarded house points.
- **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years** will have an opportunity to partake in the junior competition.
- **4<sup>th</sup> year, 5<sup>th</sup> year and 6<sup>th</sup> year** students will attend our annual College & Careers Fair on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November from 9.30am-1.00pm.
- **4<sup>th</sup> year, 5<sup>th</sup> year and 6<sup>th</sup> year** students will have an opportunity to partake in the senior competition.

## Junior Cycle Exam Results 2022

Last years 3<sup>rd</sup> year students will receive their Junior Cycle exam results in school on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. Ahead of this Mr McKeever will give students a document with their exam number and PIN allowing them to access their results online from 4pm on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November.





### Diversity Week 2022

- **Diversity Week:** last week was our Diversity Week which was organised by our Student Ambassadors and led by our Cultural Diversity Ambassador Queenie Huang. They were supported by the student council representatives and Ms. Uí Riodal. Specific events included:
  - **Monday:** Launch of the **Art Cultural Diversity Poster competition**
  - **Wednesday: Cultural Attire Day**
  - **Thursday:** Lunchtime **Cultural Diversity Quiz** in the triple room
  - **Friday:** **Cultural Diversity stalls** in the canteen and the Cultural Diversity Soapbox





## Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre of Excellence (AMTCE)

Students from Coláiste Chú Chulainn attended the AMTCE on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November. €11 million has been announced to complete the *Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre of Excellence* (AMTCE) in Dundalk. Details of the Government funding, as well as separate funding for *Dundalk Institute of Technology* (DkIT), were announced at the facility on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. It will be used to finish renovation and expansion works at the site, which provides tech training, upskilling and apprenticeships for the construction, manufacturing, engineering, pharma, and food and drink sectors.

€35 million has been invested to date in the Centre of Excellence, run by the Louth and Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB) at the Xerox Technology Park on the Dublin road.

Speaking at this morning's announcement, Higher Education Minister, *Simon Harris*, confirmed it's the biggest amount of capital funding his department has given out.



## Vaccinations for 1<sup>st</sup> Years

The HSE will be giving vaccinations to 1<sup>st</sup> Years. The vaccinations will be taking place on Monday and Tuesday of this week.

## Deane Leaving Certificate Applied

6 Deane received a 'Record of Credits Awarded' containing the fantastic results from year 1 of the Leaving Cert Applied Programme. Students ensured they maintained 90% attendance as well as completing key assignments, their tasks and a final exam in Gaeilge. Ms McClory along with SNA's and some staff organised a pancake breakfast to celebrate the wonderful achievement. Well, done to all.



## Museum of Childhood Ireland

There was a Zoom presentation on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November to classes Darwin and Curie on the theme of 'Historical Trees' and 'Biodiversity' by Museum of Childhood Ireland. Our students have been selected to be part of this initial project. It has researched the history and environmental benefit of urban trees in Dundalk. The trees in The Demesne dudalk were planted in Lord Roden's time to line the avenue to his home on the site of the old Carroll's factory.



Our next event will be the official launch of the informational video in Louth County Museum. Our students have been tasked with composing the hashtag for this project as it is rolled out to other towns in Ireland.



## Sports

Senior Boys Soccer team played our first ever game at Division 1. We drew with Coláist Rís, earning our first ever Division 1 point in the school's history.

U16 Girls Basketball team defeated Beech Hill College, Monaghan. The girls won 38-19 and are through to the regional semi-finals.

U16 Girls GAA team put in great effort against a strong Bush Post Primary. Some excellent scores and skills showcased throughout. A great squad with improvement every week.



U15 Boys Soccer. We defeated Dundalk Grammar. The U15 boys won 3-1. This puts us top of the group with our last game against Ballymakenny next week. Kaylem Hutchinson scored our first before they levelled. Fahd Monney got the last two goals to win it for us. Player of the match was Mal Madine.



1<sup>st</sup> Year Boys GAA Blitz in Darver. The boys beat Dunleer, Bush and Marist. They lost in the final to De La Salle. The whole team was brilliant with some notable performances from Pedro, Kofi Jackson and Niall Coleman. Mr McEneaney, a Kilkenny and Louth player, is our manager.

All of the successes and achievements of our students are down to hard work and preparation. We know that the discipline of being punctual, in uniform and with all homework and class materials present are transferable to the sports field and other aspects of life. We make no secret of the fact that this self-discipline is key to our success. It is achieved through consistent effort from home, the students and school. Together we win and together we make our community, economy, society and world a better place.

*Thomas Sharkey, Principal*

## **Student Enterprise Programme**

Francis Verling on behalf of the Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) is helping our 4<sup>th</sup> Year students to become entrepreneurs and to try their hand at running a business while still in school.

## **Drive Virtual Driving Academy Ltd.**

The 4<sup>th</sup> years will begin the Drive Virtual Driving Academy Ltd. programme from next Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov and this will run until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. Students will be grouped into 3's and assigned a time slot. They are the first company in Ireland to introduce car simulators to teach people of all ages to drive.

## **Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT) Study Skills Courses**

All 6<sup>th</sup> year and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students completed an hour and half study skill session with Dr. Moira Maguire and Michelle Woods from the Centre of Excellence in Learning and Teaching at DKIT.

Students covered areas such as:

- Psychology of learning.
- Mental processes required to study: attention, memory and sense-making.
- Memory: Limits of working memory and chunking information.
- Problem solving.
- Study Strategies - mind maps, blurting, traffic lights, active recall.

DKIT have been visiting our school from 2019 and each year their praise for our students and their engagement increases.

## Rainbows

Programmes started here in the school on Wednesday evening 7:30-8:30. Programmes in separation and bereavement will run every week for 9 weeks until 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Ms Ní Chonluain is one of the facilitators in the separation programme.

The “Introduction to Rainbows for Parents/Guardians” sessions will be available on Zoom - dates below: The sessions are aimed at “Supporting parents, supporting their child/children with a bereavement” and “Supporting parents supporting their child/children at a time of parental separation/divorce”.

The links for these sessions are on the home page on Rainbows Ireland website:

<https://www.rainbowsireland.ie/> The sessions are open to parents on waiting list, currently attending Rainbows or planning/considering sending their child to the programme.

The sessions are below - including those on waiting lists. Parents can contact Peter Rooney on 0877095666 if they would like to query/apply for a programme. Application forms are also available in the office. Completed forms can be posted to Peter at Holy Family Parish, Hoeys Lane, Muirhevnamore, Dundalk, Co Louth A91K761 depending on parents’ preferences.

### Bereavement:

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 10.30 am - 12.00pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December: 10.30am - 12.00pm

### Parental Separation:

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November: 7.30pm - 9.00 pm

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December: 10.00am - 12.00pm



### Home School Community Liaison (HSCL)

Mr Cumiskey is our HSCL officer. His role is to engage with families where a student’s attendance is of concern. He will be meeting Parents/Guardians at our seminars.