



cetb

Bord Oideachais agus
Oiliúna Chorcaí
Cork Education and
Training Board

Cork ETB Newsletter

June 2016

(Volume III)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you all to the final edition of the Cork ETB Newsletter for the 2015/2016 academic year. As always, at this time of year, our focus is on our students and learners who are sitting examinations and undergoing assessments during the months of May and June. Many of our students are also making important decisions about how they will progress their education and learning, start or change their careers, or prepare for another year of study in their current school, centre or college. We are proud that, for many of our students and learners, progression will mean enrolling in or returning to one of Cork ETB's Further Education colleges, centres or services, and we look forward to welcoming them in September. In the meantime, I wish each of our students and learners every success in the weeks ahead, and hope that their hard work and dedication over the past year is rewarded.



Mise le meas

TERENCE MACSWINEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Terence MacSwiney Students perform with U2's 'The Edge' at Sistine Chapel

A choir of seven Music Generation Young Ambassadors, including two young singers from Terence MacSwiney Community College, joined U2 guitarist The Edge in making history as they performed live at the Sistine Chapel, Rome, on Saturday, 30th April as part of a conference on regenerative medicine, *Cellular Horizons*.

The ground-breaking performance broke tradition by becoming the first ever by a contemporary artist at the Vatican. Music Generation Students Claudia Sheehan and Nicole Alcock were part of a seven person choir who performed backing vocals to The Edge's performance on acoustic guitar and vocals, including a cover of Leonard Cohen's *If It Be Your Will* as well as versions of U2 songs *Yahweh*, *Ordinary Love* and *Walk On*. The performance was made possible through Music Generation: Ireland's National Music Education Programme.



Within Terence MacSwiney Community College, the Cork City Music Generation programme is rolled out under the title SOUNDOUT and expertly run by the talented Grainne McHale. As Music Generation Young Ambassadors, both Claudia and Nicole are provided with music lessons and voice coaching in their school, as well as valuable opportunities to perform at national and international events each year.



Terence MacSwiney staff representing Ireland and Munster

Terence MacSwiney teachers Joan Healy and Hilary O'Connor are proudly representing Ireland and Munster teams in athletics and hockey this year.

Joan is honoured to have been selected for Irish 4x100m relay team, and is hoping to qualify for the European Championships in Holland and the Olympic Games in Rio De Janeiro. Joan became an International athlete at the age of 14, winning National and International titles for 60m and 100m. The pinnacle of her success was representing Ireland at both European and World Level for the 100m and 4x100m relay, winning a European Bronze Medal in 2009.

Irish and French teacher Hilary has been selected for the Munster Hockey squad and is competing in the Junior Interpros in May. After having to give up hockey due to a recurring injury, and believing she would never play competitive hockey again, last season she was persuaded to give it another go at Blackrock Hockey Club. She has had huge success, winning the Division 1B Munster Cup as well as the Irish Hockey Challenge.

Staff and students alike are very proud of their achievements and will be cheering them on in the coming months.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Enhancing teaching and learning across Cork ETB

Cork ETB is committed to the promotion of quality teaching and learning environments across all of its schools, colleges and centres. One project in particular has been to the fore in enhancing the profile of teaching and learning - namely, Instructional Leadership.

Instructional Leadership, based on the work of renowned Canadian academic Barrie Bennett, is based on the key principle that teacher knowledge about the teaching and learning process is the most powerful predictor of student success and that teacher awareness of instructional practices, as distinct from subject knowledge, is central to the creation of powerful learning environments. Instructional Leadership determines that every action or intervention performed by a teacher can be classified as a skill, tactic or strategy. The instructionally intelligent teacher will invoke various examples of skills, tactics and strategies in the classroom based on awareness of how students learn and how best to respond to the diverse needs of students.

Cork ETB teachers and tutors have engaged enthusiastically with the project. Many have returned to their own local settings following participation in seminars led by Professor Bennett to lead their own colleagues in engaging with the key ideas of the programme and putting them into practice in classroom settings. Numerous DES inspection reports point approvingly to the impact of thinking about instructional practices that has become so evident in schools and colleges. A striking feature of the model is that the project is not subject-focused but enables teachers from different subject or disciplines to talk about teaching and learning.



Adult educators from Cork ETB who graduated from the Instructional Leadership Programme

In recent years, Cork Colleges of Further Education and Youthreach centres have also participated, allowing for the enhancement of teaching and learning in these centres. Furthermore, a cohort of staff from adult education providers, including Back to Education Initiative, Community Education projects and Adult Literacy, have also taken part in a model whereby trained tutors working in various settings in Cork ETB have facilitated a number of days of in-service allowing for teachers/ tutors from the adult education services to graduate from the programme. One cohort from this sector graduated last year while a second cohort is currently engaging in training.

This training entails consideration of the theory underpinning the programme's ideas, and vibrant discussion and sharing of how various skills, tactics and strategies that are discussed at sessions work out when invoked in teaching and learning situations. Examples include how to frame questions effectively so as to ensure student accountability, structuring pair-work and group-work effectively, using graphic organisers, mind mapping and concept mapping, among other ideas. The level of engagement by those involved has placed the adult education service in Cork ETB at an extremely high level in terms of engaging with research into effective pedagogy and we look forward to the continued positive impact of Instructional Leadership across the scheme.

DAVIS COLLEGE

World Vex Robotics Championship, Kentucky, USA

Davis College students, who won the National Vex Robotics championships at CIT earlier this year, were rewarded with the opportunity to represent Ireland last month at the World Vex Robotics Championships in Kentucky, USA. This trip was the college's third such event in four years, following earlier competitions in Los Angeles in 2013 and 2014. Davis College Mallow competed among the top 1,100 international teams and cemented their place as one of the leading centres for robotics in the Irish post-primary sector. The VEX programme is designed to nurture curious and scientific minds by enabling students to construct robots to compete with other robots in performing various tasks in a match setting. The students involved performed very creditably in the competition. They gained practical experience in computer coding, engineering and construction and also developed such important 'soft skills' as team work, co-operation, planning and project management.



The Davis College Vex Robotics Team proudly represents Ireland at the World Championships in Kentucky, USA.

COLÁISTE POBAIL BHEANNTRAÍ

FAI Schools International Player of the Year

Leaving Cert student Connor Ellis was recently awarded the Football Association of Ireland's Schools International Player of the Year Award after making an outstanding contribution to the Republic of Ireland's successful Centenary Shield campaign. Connor was presented with his award on the 20th of March as part of the annual FAI Awards which were held at the RTÉ studios in Donnybrook, Dublin.

As well as representing his country, Connor has been a stalwart of Coláiste Pobail Bheanntaí soccer since the school's opening in 2011. His confidence, passion and dedication provided inspiration for younger teams and has played a vital role in the development of school soccer in a very short space of time.



Connor Ellis, winner of the FAI Schools International Player of the Year Award pictured with Mr. Donal McGrath, Coláiste Pobail Bheanntaí

1916 COMMEMORATION CELEBRATIONS

Cork ETB School of Music - Aiseirí Concert

A special evening of music and commemorations was held on St. Patrick's Day at the Cork Opera House, presented by Cork ETB with Cork County Council and Cork City Council.

AISEIRÍ 1916 was a two hour musical production that poignantly remembered Cork's 1916 story in Rebel song, visuals and verse. The narrative honoured the Men of Ireland, Mná na hÉireann and the Irish children who lost their lives in the Rising and was an authentic, moving and fitting tribute. It included soloists Mary Hegarty and Joe Corbett, alongside Cork's finest raconteurs, Seán McNally, Patrick Cregan and Sadhbh Barrett Coakley. They were joined by The Lee Singers and Fianna Chorcaí and accompanied by the Cork ETB Youth Orchestra.



Youthreach Ballincollig

Students Niamh McEvoy and Oisín Delea were honoured to be amongst 6,000 students at the National Flag presentation ceremony at Croke Park. On Proclamation Day, students and staff raised the Tricolour and read the Proclamation aloud in English and Irish.

Students' 1916 project participation and passion continues with their 1916 rap song 'Come This Far' qualifying for the final of Song for 16 which will be held in May at the National Concert Hall in Dublin.



Coláiste Daibhéid

Bhí ócáid den scoth ag Coláiste Daibhéid ar Lá an Fhorógra. Léigh daltaí sinsireacha an Forógra ar chéimeanna Halla na Cathrach ar maidin tar éis don Ard-Mhéara, Chris Ó Laoire, fáilte a chur roimh phobal na scoile ina iomlán. Bhí Tadhg Mac Eoin i láthair mar aoi speisialta againn. Dhein daltaí agus múinteoirí na scoile mórshiúil trí shráideanna na cathrach ar ais chun na scoile. Bhí Brat na hÉireann, Brat na Poblachta agus Brat na

Scoile chun tosaigh, mar aon le Píobaire ag seinm don ócáid ar fad. Iompraíodh aimneacha na bpáistí ar fad a maraíodh le linn an Éirí Amach ag daltaí na tarna bliana. Ardaíodh na Bratanna go léir ar scoil ag meánlae agus cuireadh an dráma nua-scríte ag Alan Tittley, 'An Filleadh', ar stáitse sa scoil san iarnóin. Cuireadh críoch le himeachtaí an lae le céilí uile-scoile.



ROSSA COLLEGE AMALGAMATION



The old vocational school in Skibbereen which was replaced by Rossa College

A Brief History of Vocational Education in Skibbereen

In 2016 the staff and students of Rossa College will amalgamate with the other schools in the town to form Skibbereen Community School and will bring with them a strong vocational influence. Rossa College will retain some of its teachers and will be developed as a centre to provide Further Education and Training for the West Cork area.

There is a long history of technical/vocational education in the Skibbereen region but early provision was quite disjointed being driven by individuals rather than any central organisation. Schools teaching crochet, embroidery and weaving sprang up from time to time in the latter half of the 1800s but most struggled financially and closed within a few years.

The first coordinated attempt at Technical Instruction came from Bishop Denis Kelly in 1901. Under his direction Skibbereen became the first Cork town to formally provide Technical instruction. Supported by the council, state grants and local donations, Timiri came to Skibbereen teaching evening classes in Woodwork and Building Construction. Evening classes were preferable as they allowed tradesmen to continue with their work during the day. By 1913 the curriculum had expanded to include Drawing, Metalwork, Art, Building Construction, Carpentry and Joinery and Commerce. No proper premises had yet been secured.

In 1925 the Burke family donated a site on North Street to the Technical Education Committee and the first formal 'Ceardscoil' or Technical School opened in 1926. The curriculum expanded further to include Motor Engineering, Irish, Home Economics, English and History as well as the aforementioned technical subjects.

In 1930 the Vocational Education Act was passed and day courses were added but night classes remained popular. The curriculum expanded to include Irish, English, Typewriting, Shorthand, Mechanical Engineering, Cookery and Needlework. In the 1940s the VEC purchased gardens adjacent to the school and this facilitated the introduction of Agricultural Science. By the 1950s space was at a premium and the school had to be extended in 1954 with a second building purchased soon after.

In 1964 Peadar Hayes took over as Principal and oversaw the introduction of free education. Numbers in the school doubled over a few years and the addition of a Secretarial course for post Leaving Certificate students added more pressure for space. It soon became apparent a new building was needed and the VEC purchased a site at Gortnaclohy where Rossa College now stands. Finbarr Williams took over as Principal in the mid-1970s and oversaw the transition to the new building in 1983.

Now, with the impending change due to the amalgamation, Rossa College has come full circle and will once again return to providing exclusively adult education in the tradition of its many predecessors since 1901.

Below: Rossa College shortly after completion in 1983



COLÁISTE STIOFÁIN NAOFA

25 Years of Dance

On Saturday March 5th, Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa hosted 'Destined to Dance', a special event to mark the 25th anniversary of the CSN Dance Course. This took place at the Imperial Hotel, Cork. A warm welcome was extended to past and present students, along with dedicated staff and all associates who contributed to the success of the course from 1990 to 2015. The evening commenced with a 'meet and greet' reception which was followed by a three course meal. Entertainment on the evening included performances from former students Lorcan O'Neill and Inma Pavon accompanied by professional cellist Eimear Reidy, to name a few.



CORK COLLEGE OF COMMERCE

From Cork to Shanghai

The Year of the Monkey has so far been a very lucky one for two of the College of Commerce's business students. Daniel Dekyssky and Kamile Pociute started to learn Chinese in September as part of their Level 5 Business Studies Certificate course. Both were chosen to receive scholarships, to attend a course in Shanghai University for two weeks over Easter financed by the Confucius Institute (attached to UCC). While in Shanghai they immersed themselves in Chinese



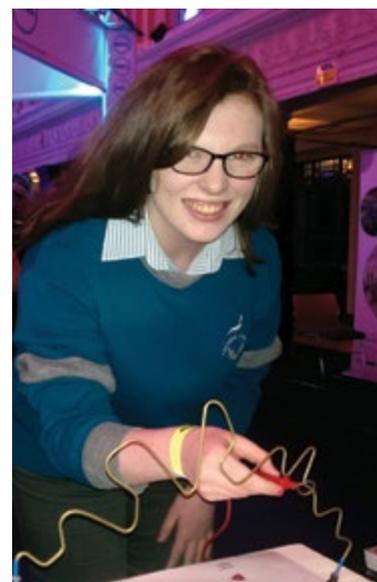
language and culture. They attended classes every morning and practised calligraphy and Tai Chi in the afternoons. They mastered the art of eating with chopsticks, visited many famous sights, and even got to bargain in Chinese in the local market. Both hope to continue studying Chinese next year in UCC.

FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

I WISH Exhibition

Cork ETB participated in the I WISH exhibition in Cork City Hall. This was a city and regional initiative to inspire, encourage and motivate young secondary school female students to pursue careers in STEM. I WISH (Inspiring Women in Stem) 2016 consisted of a conference and interactive exhibitions. The conference also featured workshops, daily keynote and engaging talks by women who are at the top of their field in STEM.

I WISH 2016 doubled its capacity to 2,000 students over a 2 day period, these included students from CETB schools, including Coláiste Choilm students.



Employer Engagement Breakfast

Cork ETB hosted a very successful Employer Engagement Breakfast in the Clarion Hotel on Wednesday 3rd February for the Hospitality sector in Cork city, which was attended by approximately 40 employers. These events provide employers with an opportunity to gain an overview of what Cork ETB can do for them in terms of education and training, as well as allowing Cork ETB to listen to employer views, ensure awareness of skills needed and informing the Education and Training Plan for 2016.



The victorious CSN team

Inaugural Cork ETB Colleges Tournament

The inaugural 8 a-side male Cork ETB Colleges tournament was played in Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa on 16/3/16 in glorious sunshine. 7 Further Education Colleges and Training Centres entered - Cork College of Commerce (2 teams), Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa (2 teams), Cork Training Centre - Rossa Ave (2 teams), Mallow College of Further Education, Kinsale College of Further Education, Cork Training Centre - Mayfield and Cork Training Centre - Mahon competed for the title of inaugural "CORK ETB Champions". There were 15 competitive and feisty matches played in total, with both teams from Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa and teams from both Cork Training Centre (Rossa Avenue) and Kinsale College of FE going through to the semi-finals. CSN and Cork Training Centre (Rossa Avenue) made it to the final with Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa prevailing with a 3-1 win.

COLÁISTE CHOILM



Students Attend Model EU Council Debate in Dublin Castle

Three Coláiste Choilm students attended a model EU Council debate in Dublin Castle on the 1st of March 2016. As part of the debate, the students represented the EU member 'Slovakia'. Con Moran, Donal Òg Coleman and Hugh O Connor (T.Y.) were tasked with the challenge of adopting Slovakia's stance on the very topical issue of 'European Migration' and had to debate whether or not Slovakia has the resources to welcome immigrants into their country.

Above: All Ireland Junior B Camogie champions with mentors Hilda Kenneally and Conor Crowley

*Right: Back row: Conor Owens (Teacher), Barbara Nolan (Irish Rep. on EU Council), Dušan Matulay (Slovak Ambassador), John Ryan (Teacher) and Brian Killoran (Chief Executive of the Immigrant Council of Ireland)
Front row: Con Moran, Hugh O Connor and Donal Òg Coleman*



ST. AIDAN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE



All-Ireland victory for St. Aidan's U16 Boys' Basketball

It has been a most memorable year for basketball in St. Aidan's with three teams earning county titles and the U16 Boys' team and the U19 Girls' team making it through to All-Ireland finals. It was the U16 Boys' team who returned victorious from the National Arena this year, beating DLS Waterford 45-41, with superb individual and team performances.

There is a long and proud tradition of basketball in St. Aidan's. Our teams received a warm welcome from the students at our neighbouring primary school, Scoil Oilibheir, where the stars of the future are now setting their eyes on All-Ireland glory.

St Aidan's U16 and U19 Boys' teams and the Girls' U19 team visited our neighbouring Scoil Oilibheir following their county and All-Ireland wins.

GAEOLHOLÁISTE CHARRAIG UÍ LEIGHIN

Mo Chéad Bhliain i nGaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin

Creid nó ná creid, bhí mé fíor-neirbhíseach nuair a thosnaíos i nGaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin ar an 31ú Lúnasa 2015, ach gan amhras ar bith, bhí sceitimíní orm ag an am céanna.

Ceann de na rudaí ba mhó a sheas amach dom i rith na bliana ná na comórtaisí Spikeball. Bhíodar chomh taitneamhach is bhí an-spraoi againn i gCill Dara agus i bPort Laoise. Cé a chreidfeadh gur bhaineamar leath-chraobh na hÉireann amach? Ach bhí a lán eachtraí eile againn le bheith macánta, mar shampla, na turasanna go dtí Zipit agus Funkytown agus Life Sciences. Chomh maith le sin, chuamar go dtí Baile Átha Cliath chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar 1916. Ghlacamar páirt i gcomórtaisí lúthchleasaíochta, san Eolaí Óg, Scifest agus dheineamar an scannán 'Greaimithe' d'Fhéile Scannaíochta Chorcaí. Ina theannta sin, bhíomar ag obair ar shuaitheantas na scoile, agus tá sé nach mór ullamh anois.

Is aoibhinn liom na hábhair difriúla nua atá againn. Ní raibh aon taithí agama ar an gcuid is mó dóibh, ach anois tá, agus taitníonn siad go léir go mór liom.

Sin cuid des na rudaí a thaitin liom ó mo Chéad Bhliain i nGaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin, agus táim lán-chinntte go mbeidh a lá rudaí eile le teacht. Bliain den scoth a bhí agam agus táim ag tnúth go mór leis na blianta atá romham.

Eoghan de Lónra



ADULT LITERARY SERVICE

Cork ETB Celebrates the involvement and commitment of their Volunteer Adult Literacy Tutors

Saturday April 16th was a beautiful spring morning here in Cork. The weather reflected the mood and atmosphere of over one hundred volunteer adult literacy tutors who attended the tutor event in Oriel House run by Cork ETB literacy service. Tutors travelled the length and breadth of the county to attend their now annual celebration of the tremendous work carried out by Cork ETB volunteer tutors.

Speakers included Ger Canning, AEO, Nellie Dervin, adult literacy tutor, who made a heart-warming personal contribution to the morning with her reflections and experience of 'Being a Literacy Tutor', Stephen Plunket from 'U Casadh,' who spoke about an educational project for adults who want to turn their lives around, and Ted Owens CE. Mr. Owens acknowledged and thanked the audience of volunteer literacy tutors for their work and the enormous contribution they make to the literacy service.



Cork ETB Adult Literacy Tutors Angela O'Donnell and Peggy Leahy.



Speakers Stephen Plunket, 'U Casadh' and Nellie Dervin, Adult Literacy Tutor

YOUTHREACH THE GLEN

ETBI General Secretary Michael Moriarty recently paid a visit to the Glen Youthreach to see our centre in operation & to view our new premises, which we moved into in July 2014. The Glen Youthreach was set up in 1986 and in 2007 we became a SENI (Special Education Needs Initiative) Centre. The SENI programme has increased the capacity of the centre to provide for and meet the needs of students on an individual basis. Structures of the SENI include direct 1:1 work with students using the Web-Wheel Model. Staff members are mentors and relationships between staff and students are unequivocally positive. The SENI programme has had a positive impact within the centre for both staff and students.

Through the SENI programme we also employ a psychotherapist & youth-worker on a part-time basis. This compliments the work carried out by existing staff. In 2015, the centre introduced 'Soft Skills' measurement of all students to assess and validate the non-academic development of all students within the centre. The centre's multiagency approach to working with students has been successful in providing extensive supports to all students within the centre in their progression & transition into further education. As a centre we place a huge value not just on our academic success but on the physical & mental wellbeing of our students.



ETBI General Secretary Michael Moriarty visits Youthreach The Glen

As a centre of education we offer Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI) level 3 & 4, Junior Certificate & Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA). Going forward in the academic year 2016-2017 we will be phasing out LCA and developing further our QQI Level programmes. We feel this is important as it creates more independent learning for students whilst easing their progression into further education. Also in 2016 we decided to improve our Literacy and Numeracy strategy by introducing the BKSB Program. This is an online resource in which students are assessed when enrolling in the centre. This creates a comprehensive literacy / numeracy program for students which they can work on throughout the year; independently or under supervision through their mobile phones, tablets or/at home, centre PC's.

One of the highlights of our year so far, has been the first official Cork Youthreach Graduation Ceremony. This was held in November to recognise the excellent academic work achieved by not only our students but Cork Youthreach students in general.

CETB ABLES ADULT LITERACY SERVICE – THE GLEN



Skills for Work and the Irish Defence Forces Collaboration

This February and March CETB ABLES Adult Literacy Service in The Glen, in conjunction with Lillian Buckley from Skills for Work, teamed up with the Irish Defence forces to run a course which enabled soldiers to learn skills for work in civilian life.

The nine soldiers, who worked with tutors Paul McGlynn and Nadine Long over a two week period, explored what to expect when they transition from military to civilian life, set career goals, built CVs and Cover Letters for employers in Civilian life. The

tutors also facilitated mock interviews and the group learned about various interview skills.

The transition from military to civilian life can be a daunting prospect, as our tutors found out when working with the soldiers. This course helped ease the transition for these nine gentlemen and we're hopeful that we can do it for more soldiers; this is why we hope that the relationship that we have fostered with Skills for Work and the Irish Defence Forces continue for years to come.

YOUTHREACH BANDON

Youthreach Bandon's Student Art Trip & Youthreach Bandon Daffodil Day 2016



Youthreach Bandon was proud to raise over €1000 for Daffodil Day



Student Art Trip to Midleton

COLÁISTE POBAIL NAOMH MHUIRE



Coláiste Mhuire students on stage in The Briery Gap Cultural Centre, Macroom.

Students of Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant were crowned overall winners of the 2016 All-Ireland Transition Year Drama Festival. The annual festival, now in its sixteenth year is aimed at encouraging the artistic skills of students during the non-exam year.

The grand final took place on Saturday 27th February in The Briery Gap Cultural Centre, Macroom with schools travelling from as far away as County Donegal. Adjudicators included Michael Twomey and Kevin Hough of RTE. The adjudicators praised the exceptional high standard of the performances and predicted that many of the budding actors would go on to achieve great things in the future.

The students of Coláiste Mhuire wrote, directed and staged their own original play with the help of their English teacher Ms. Laura Hayes and Drama director Mr. Martin Lucey.

CLONAKILTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SENIOR HISTORY TRIP TO DUBLIN

45 students ranging from TY to senior cycle participated on the school's first senior History trip to Dublin, which focused on the 1916 Rising. The students were treated to four tours over two days; a 1916 Rising walking tour, a visit and lecture at Arbour Hill cemetery, the resting place of those executed at Kilmainham Jail, a 1916 themed visit and tour of Croke Park, before culminating with a guided tour with commentary of Glasnevin Cemetery.



The walking tour took the students to the major theatres of the 1916 conflict and brought to life both the tragedies and heroics of those momentous days of Easter. The students were brought to the crypt of Daniel O'Connell, and to many famous graves including, O'Donovan Rossa, Jim Larkin, Maud Gonne, Charles Stewart Parnell, Eamonn De Valera, Arthur Griffith and one of the most popular, Michael Collins.

Left: Sam Kudela's entry in the Junk Kouture competition qualified for the national finals in the 3Arena. Junk Kouture is a competition that requires you to make an outfit from recycled materials.

MARIA IMMACULATA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Geography Fieldtrip

Second year students from Maria Immaculata Community College recently travelled to Wicklow, Dublin and Meath on a 3 Day Geography Fieldtrip. The students visited St. Kevin's round tower in Glendalough, Dublin Castle, Trinity College, National Museum, The Viking Splash and Newgrange in Co. Meath. It was a very hectic, but enjoyable trip. All 54 students were a credit to their school and families displaying exemplary behaviour throughout the three days.



Students at Newgrange

CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF SCHOOLS COMPETITION

Coláiste Treasa and St. Brogan's College Students win Angus Calves

Congratulations to students from Coláiste Treasa and St. Brogan's College who were two of the five winners in the Certified Irish Angus Beef School's Competition, winning five Angus calves for each school. The Certified Irish Angus Beef School Competition offers a unique opportunity for Agricultural Science students, bringing the Beef and Dairy Cattle module of the syllabus to life in a bottom-up, hands-on manner.

Students entered the five stage competition in November and progressed to the final stage of the competition where they presented their ideas to judges in Croke Park. The calves will be presented at the Ploughing Championships in September 2016. The calves will be reared to slaughter over the following 18 months and then slaughtered in one of the ABP or Kepak plants. Students will submit a final report on the experience of rearing their animals and one overall winner will receive a further prize of €2,000. The success of Coláiste Treasa and St. Brogan's follows that of Coláiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire, Buttevant last year in the same competition; students there are currently in the process of rearing their Angus calves.



St. Brogan's College Angus Beef Winners.



Coláiste Treasa Angus Beef Winners

COACHFORD COLLEGE



School Tour to Krakow

Coachford College transition year students went on the annual school tour to Krakow in March. A group of 53 students booked on the trip along with 5 teachers for a packed itinerary. Flying from Shannon Airport, the group visited many sights, including a trip to Auschwitz concentration camp and the world famous salt mines. One of the highlights of the tour was a private meeting with a survivor of the holocaust who told the group her story in detail. A great time was had by all.

YOUTHREACH MACROOM

Work Skills Placement Programme

With the support of Ger Canning, AEO, Youthreach Macroom Centre for Education has developed and implemented a new programme titled the Work Skills programme, the core outcome of which is to provide the learner with real skills, knowledge and competencies for progression on to employment and or further education and or training. A new model of work placement was adopted which placed the local employer as a key contributor to programme development in the area of life skills, work based competencies and relevant Certification. Employers in the local community have been extremely supportive of the programme and the success rate in terms of students both obtaining and retaining employment is testament to the successful partnership.



Q CENTRE MALLOW



Intergenerational Project

On 18th December 2015, as part of an Intergenerational Project, adult education students from the Q Centre Mallow and Youthreach students came together to prepare and present hampers to Mallow St Vincent De Paul. Students from both Cork ETB services attended cookery classes over a number of

weeks, and prepared and presented the hampers to Mallow St. Vincent De Paul. The hampers were donated to very deserving families in the Mallow area. This was a perfect event to integrate all students attending the Q Centre and Youthreach, and donate hampers to a very worthy cause.

ST. JOHN'S CENTRAL COLLEGE



Students from St. Johns' Central College travel to the Kingdom to climb Torc Mountain

30 students and teachers from St. Johns' Central College recently took part in a Sponsored climb of Torc Mountain near Killarney for the Donal Walsh Live Life Foundation. This charity was set up in memory of the teenager from Tralee who came to national prominence shortly before he passed away in 2013 after a long battle with cancer. Before commencing the climb, the group met with Donal's father Fionnbar Walsh who thanked the students for their support and read an extract from his sons' essay "Climbing God's Mountain" which he wrote shortly before he passed way.

Students and teachers with Fionnbar Walsh setting off.

Young Designer Competition

A 2nd year student of Fashion Design at St. John's Central College was among five finalists in the Young Designer of the Year Competition. 24 year old Zoe Murphy from Ballincollig designed a dress after being encouraged to enter the competition which attracted over 80 applicants from all over the country. Now her garment will be showcased at shows in Dublin, Belfast and Cork. When she completes her studies at St. Johns', Zoe hopes to do an apprenticeship with a local tailor or dressmaker. Zoe is a former pupil of Coláiste Choilm in Ballincollig.



KINSALE COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

Mentoring in Further Education

Induction for new teachers in the context of a Further Education Setting is as much a pressing need as it is for our colleagues in other settings in the teaching profession. Realising this challenge five of the teaching staff in Kinsale College have become trained Mentors. An Induction phase offers opportunities for new teachers to become habituated to learning from the beginning, and be afforded opportunities to collaborate with their colleagues and engage collectively in the learning profession at a critical phase in their career.



Lynda O Connor, Liz Moynihan Director, Thomas Riedmuller, Liz O Leary and Fran McMorran.

Support is needed to support and guide them through the complexities and demands of all that is Further Education. Establishing a framework for mentoring that is sufficiently flexible to be adapted to the range of contexts found in the FE and Skills sector is of the utmost importance in particular for teachers in their first four to five years in the profession, teachers new to particular FE Setting and teachers who do not have access to a same subject/ Module/ Component in their own institution.

Kinsale College along with its colleagues in the FE setting are hoping to put together a welcome pack that would be useful across the different FE settings and which could be customised to suit each FE setting. It is a first step but a much needed one.

CORK TRAINING CENTRE



Bright Spark

Recently Joseph O' Sullivan from Dunmanway, a Cork Training Centre Electrical Apprentice was awarded for his hard work and academic excellence. Joe achieved 100% in all five of his practical and theory exams as well as 100% attendance. Joe is currently working with the ESB and hopes to be employed on a full-time basis when his apprenticeship is complete.

Awards Ceremony

Cork Training Centre recently held their Bi-Annual Awards Ceremony at the Rochestown Park Hotel. Learners from Full Time Day courses, Contracted Courses, Evening & Local Training initiatives programmes were awarded certificates on the night.



GLANMIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Students Know their Rocket Science!

Adam Murphy, James O' Shaughnessy and Daniel Pogosjan recently represented their county in a nationwide space project, in which teams of second-level students had to design, build and test their mini satellite or "Cansat" which had to fit into a soft drinks can. The Glanmire team were runners up in the national final of the European Space Agency competition in Birr Castle on April 15th. Their Cansat had a very successful launch and guided landing.



Launch of Edison Entrepreneurial Programme

Glanmire Community College held a special two-week event to launch our inaugural Edison Entrepreneurial Programme, which ran from February 29th to March 11th. The aim of this European-led programme is to encourage teachers to use innovative teaching methodologies to bring the classroom alive. The programme also aims to provide opportunities for students to develop their skills in teamwork, creativity, adaptability, risk-taking and convincing, in order to be able to succeed in the ever-changing information age. Our Edison launch, which involved participation by a team of ten teachers and over seventy students, was run by our Transition Year Edison Events Management Committee. The fantastic TY committee planned and oversaw the smooth running of a full schedule of events.

The week culminated in a two-day exhibition which consisted of twenty four exhibits of innovative teaching and learning activities that are an integral part of school life in our school. The exhibition was a huge success, with our students impressing visitors with their knowledge and skills. Following the success of this event, plans are already underway to make this an annual event.



Transition Year students Zoe Littlejohns and Aoife Owens during Edison Week at Glanmire Community College

ST. COLMAN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Spotlight Shines on St. Colman's

The theatrical Gods were definitely smiling in Middleton recently as St. Colman's Theatre Club presented a wonderful production of John B Keane's "The Land". The play was a huge success as it allowed students the opportunity to showcase their superb individual and collective talent. The play was directed by SCP Coordinator Courtney Canning and English teacher Leah O' Connell. Many students involved were part of the School Completion Programme scheme. The creative arts can be a great mechanism to encourage students to come to school as it creates a safe environment for students to express themselves and be listened to. The play afforded students who may not be the most athletic or academic the opportunity to become more involved within the school community. Students who did not want to act were able to get involved in other production elements such as costume, make-up, lighting and sound. The play itself was riveting from start to finish with great acting across the board. The standard was top class with every actor putting in stellar performances.



Dean Fitzgerald (Bull), Alison Duggan (Maimie) and Barra White (Leamy) in "The Land"

SCHULL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Left: Schull Community College Transition Year students in Ehrwald, Austria for their ski trip.

Right: Students from Schull Community College with their exchange partners from Baarnsch Lyceum, a 1,000 pupil school south of Amsterdam, at Mizen Head Bridge, West Cork.



COLÁISTE AN CHRAOIBHÍN



Above: Congratulations to Rebecca Kearney, Coláiste an Chraoibhín, on winning 3rd in The All-Ireland Indoor Championships in Athlone. Rebecca has now been selected for the Irish U18 walking team.

Press Pass Competition Winner

Congratulations to Transition Year student Eoin Hartnett who achieved first place in the opinion category of the National Newspaper of Ireland Press Pass writing competition.

Eoin's essay 'Sport As We Never Knew It', considers the differences between the role of sports in the childhoods of those growing up a generation ago and of those growing up today.



Brian McCrory - President of Irish League of Credit Unions, James McNamara - Member of the Judging Panel, Eoin Hartnett, Coláiste an Chraoibhín, Fermoy - Winner, Vincent Crowley - Chairman News Brands Ireland, Damien English TD, Minister for Skills, Research and Innovation

MCEGAN COLLEGE

Apprentice Chef 2016

TY students Edel Shorten & Ashling Twomey from McEgan College, Macroom, took part in the Cook Off of "The Apprentice Chef" competition 2016, held in the IT Tralee, on the 7th April. Over fifty schools took part in the initiative. The students have been preparing since the New Year under the guidance of teacher Hazel Bourke and mentor Mark Doe of Just Cooking, Killarney. The theme of the competition is 'Good Mood Food' to promote the importance of healthy eating for daily living and wellbeing. Each student's dish had to include 'good mood' food based on seasonality, availability, locally produced and healthy unprocessed ingredients.

Ashling Twomey and Edel Shorten with teacher Ms. Bourke and mentor Mark Doe



IONAD CULTÚRTHA

Tá an Ionad Cultúrtha ag soláthar clár ealaíona don aos óg agus do phobal Mhúscraí trí chéile le tamall de bhlianta anuas – idir ranganna ceoil, ranganna amhránaíochta, ceardlanna ealaíne, cláir oideachais ealaíne sna scoileanna máguaird, scéimeanna cónaitheach, taispeántais ealaíne agus ceolchoirmeacha traidisiúnta agus clasaiceacha. Tá an Ionad Cultúrtha lánach i saol cultúrtha Ghaeltacht Mhúscraí. Is é aidhm an Ionaid na healaíona d'árd-chaighdeán a chur chun cinn agus suim sna healaíona a mhúscailt i measc an phobail. Is é trí mheán na Gaeilge a reachtáiltear na himeachtaí go léir a bhíonn ar siúl san Ionad Cultúrtha.

Imeachtaí ar siúl san Fhómhair 2016:

Ceolchoirm le Greenshine – Mary Green, Noel Shine, Ellie Shine

Comóradh Sheáin Uí Ríordáin (1916-1977), le léiriúcháin, léamh filíochta, nochtadh múrmhaisiú 'Cúl an Tí' le Cormac Sheil agus Dennis Reardon, s.r.l.



CO-OPERATION IRELAND

Co-operation Ireland is the leading peace-building charity on the island of Ireland and works to create opportunities for groups from both sides of the border and from the two main religious communities in Northern Ireland to come together so they can learn about each other's traditions and cultural backgrounds.

Its Cork/Belfast Youth Leadership Programme ran from Sept 2015 to May 2016 and the focus of the project was developing leadership skills in the young people involved and building positive relations across communities in Cork and also on a North South Basis. The 3 groups involved from Cork were Carrignafoy Community College, Cobh, Terence MacSwiney Community College, Holyhill, and Ballyphehane/Bishopstown Foróige Group; their partner group in Northern Ireland were a cross community group from Colin Glen Youth Club and Monkstown Boxing Club.

Thirty-five young people came together on a cross border exchange on the 22nd- 24th April in Cork. The exchange started with a Lord Mayor's reception on the first evening. The following day involved a workshop held by Cork Sports partnership, which used sports as a tool to bring people together, followed by a visit to the Glen Resource centre where they had the opportunity to participate in a series of sports challenges. On the Sunday participants explored the culture of Cork and looked at the connections that exist between Belfast and Cork, including a visit to Cobh heritage centre which gave young people an insight into the Titanic connection in Cobh, tying together the two cities. The exchange ended with a short evaluation/ reflection session to reflect on the learning from the weekend.



MUSIC GENERATION CORK CITY



The Holy Cross N.S. Brass Ensemble pictured with Lord Mayor Cllr. Chris O'Leary. Cork Academy of Music in partnership with Music Generation Cork City. Photo by Clare Keogh

HEAD OFFICE

Appointments

The following Appointments have been made in recent months:

Further Education and Training Area Coordinator	Michael Crowley
Further Education and Training Area Coordinator	Rónán Ó'Caomh
Further Education and Training Area Coordinator	Philomena Heffernan
Further Education and Training Area Coordinator	Nuala White Finn
Principal Carrigtwohill Community College	Lorna Dundon
Deputy Principal Carrigtwohill Community College	Tadhg Long

Garda Vetting

Significant changes to Garda Vetting were introduced on 29th April 2016, with the commencement of The Vetting Act. Statutory vetting arrangements under the Act will, in addition to checking for criminal offences, also include a check for any relevant "soft information" (information other than criminal convictions held by An Garda Síochána that leads to a bona-fide belief that a person poses a threat to children or vulnerable persons). Section 12 of the Vetting Act places statutory obligations on employers to obtain a vetting disclosure from the Bureau prior to the employment, contract, permission or placement of a person to undertake relevant work or activities with children or vulnerable adults. The Garda Vetting Unit has been renamed the National Vetting Bureau, and the term Vetting now replaces "Garda Vetting". The Act also provides for retrospect vetting of employees who have not previously been vetted by December 2017. All employees should familiarise themselves with the new Vetting Arrangements and procedures which are available on the Cork ETB website.

Risk Management

On 5th May, a risk management conference was hosted by Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Company on behalf of Cork ETB in Rochestown Park Hotel. 58 staff from Cork ETB attended including of School/Further Education College Principals, Youthreach Co-Ordinators, Adult Education Organisers, Managers from the Training Centre, Head Office Management and Health/safety reps from schools/colleges.

The agenda included governance and governing for success, legislative requirements for compliance with Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, ETB Safety Management Systems, managing engineering plant and equipment, statutory independent inspections, and managing serious incidents.

Buildings

Cork ETB is in receipt of Planning to proceed with a major extension to Clonakilty Community College. The budget for this project is €8.5m. There are also various different projects underway in St. Mary's Community College, Buttevant, Davis College, Mallow, Glanmire Community College, St. Colman's Community College, Middleton, Carrigtwohill Community College, Carrigaline Education Campus and Coláiste an Chraoibhin, Fermoy. These projects amount to over €75m.

In addition to the above there are 12 other less major projects at various different stages of Planning & Construction.

Quality Assurance Update

The QA Team have been busy over the past couple of months organising two training events for teachers and tutors on QQI Assessment Procedures and a Quality Assurance Briefing to all centres. 56 teachers and tutors attended the levels 4-6 Assessment training on March 9th and 32 tutors attended the Level 1-3 Assessment Training on April 14th. The feedback from the training was very positive and we hope to run the training again next years for new teachers and tutors. The main support requested by those who attended the training was subject specific support meetings and the sharing of resources. The QA Team is planning to start facilitating this process on a phased basis from September. If any tutor or teacher would like to get involved for a particular subject area please contact QA@corketb.ie.

At the QA Briefing to centres on April 18th a new Governance Structure for Quality Assurance was introduced by John Fitzgibbons. Learners and other stakeholders are at the centre of the new system. The Quality Assurance Steering Group provides oversight and governance for the Cork ETB Quality Assurance System. The Programme Approval Committee is responsible for programme and curriculum development, validation and approval. The FET Strategy Group oversees all Further Education and Training and related activities and those responsible for implementing Quality Assurance policies and procedures include all staff from centre managers and Principals to teachers, administrators and support staff.

A new system for managing CETB programmes was introduced by Nuala Glanton and guidelines were issued to centres. Carol Quinlan introduced new assessment templates which were developed following an audit of the good practice that is currently in place across our centres.

While we are still awaiting the final QQI Guidelines on Quality Assurance, a consultation took place with the centre managers, principles and QA representatives as to what their priorities were for a new Quality Assurance Policy. They said that they want the new policy to be achievable, attainable and realistic. They would like it to be learner-centred, clear, accessible and easy to implement. They would like it monitored at centre and CETB level and they would like more communication with ease of access to standardised, up to date information.

Also at the briefing Liam Burke gave an update on PLSS (Programme Learner Support System) to centres. The aim of PLSS is to provide a shared system to support SOLAS, ETB and DSP business processes and facilitate the systematic and timely access to the data within Further Education and Training (FET) provision. A new website which will list all further education and training course available in the country: FETCH (Further Education and Training Course Hub) is now available at www.fetchcourses.ie

If anyone has any queries about Quality Assurance or would like to be involved in future consultations please email

QA@corketb.ie

