



CBC NEWSLETTER

March 2014

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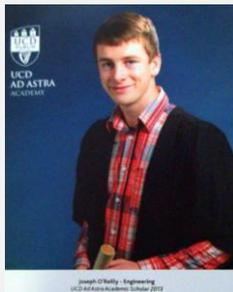
A Message from the Principal

As we leave behind the very wet months of January and February, it is great to welcome the spring sunshine. We also welcome our new school block, a great addition to CBC. We hope to have an open night for all, shortly after Easter.

We wish our Leaving and Junior Certificate students all the best in the orals, some of which have been completed and some which will be taking place in the very near future. The end is in sight and we wish our exam students well in the forthcoming state exams.

Hoping you enjoy our latest newsletter and once again sincere thanks to Ms. Mercier, our librarian, for its publication.

Dr. Gerry Berry



JOSEPH O'REILLY, Ad Astra Academy UCD Scholar

Congratulations to Joseph O'Reilly, Class of 2013, who was awarded an Ad Astra UCD Scholarship after achieving six A1s in his Leaving Certificate. This means that Joseph, among other benefits, receives the support of a dedicated mentor in his chosen study which is Engineering. We wish him all the best in the future.

GAISCE SILVER AWARDS

Congratulations to Eoin Downes, James Maher and Alex White pictured here with Mr. Dooley their President Award Leader. The three fifth years were presented with their Gaisce Silver awards at a ceremony in Trinity College in December 2013.



Eoin Downes, James Maher, Alex White and Mr. Dooley



CHESS CHAMPION

Congratulations to Cian McGovern-Leahy, 3ROD, who won the 2014 Leinster Junior Chess Championship in the U16 and U19 categories. The event took place in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire over the Christmas break. Cian also won the Championship section of the Gonzaga Chess Classic in February.

Don't forget you can play chess and many other board games every Tuesday at lunchtime in G1

Cian McGovern-Leahy

COOKING UP A STORM

The prestigious title of **Euro-toques Young Chef of the Year 2013** was won by our very own past pupil Mark Moriarty, Class of 2010. The theme for the competition was 'Food Memories' and the final took place at Google Ireland's Garage café in Dublin 2 last November. It is a fantastic achievement and we wish Mark all the best in his career.



Past Pupil Mark Moriarty

LENT – Tom Farrell, Chaplain



It has been quite a while since Ash Wednesday has fallen on a school day, so it was positive that our CBC community was able to receive ashes and celebrate the beginning of this Lenten

period together. The distribution of ashes symbolises the turning away from faults and looks towards making a fresh start. This epitomises Lent, a forty-day period where we get ready to renew ourselves by looking at the areas in our lives that need attention and making a commitment to live a better life. This 40 day period culminates with the celebration of Easter, where we focus on the meaning of the Resurrection. Often the question is asked: *what do we do for lent?* Well, there are many things we can do! Similar to the Jewish tradition, we have three specific guidelines to follow during this time:

Pray: Pray in our own time and go to Church to receive the Eucharist

Fast: Give up something that we can do without / Sacrifice

Give Alms: Do good for others / Charity

As a strong community of faith, CBC Monkstown will be incorporating the three guidelines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving throughout the Lenten period. Stay tuned to the CBC website and the chaplaincy notice board for further information on how you can help with our Trócaire and Easter Egg for St. Vincent de Paul initiatives.



Donated Easter Eggs for the St. Vincent de Paul

SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

CBC students Jake Unger, Stephen Murphy, Orson O'Sullivan and Ryan Hayes supporting Rith 2014, the national festival aimed at encouraging the use of the Irish language. Check out www.rith.ie for more details. T-Rex was also out and about, supporting the Irish language at Lá Mór na Gaeilge in February.



Our masked Transition Years are also preparing for Seachtain na Gaeilge, using an original, instrumental composition by Oisín Halpin called 'Insomnia.' The finished product will be on www.gaelgory.ie

MUSIC – All students are welcome to join Mr. Rooney for lunchtime concerts every Friday in the Music Room.



ZAMBIAN IMMERSION PROJECT– Ms. Helen O'Connor

Well done to everyone who applied for the 2015 ZIP. There was huge interest shown with almost fifty students applying this year and the level of commitment shown was fantastic. Interviews took place last week and the successful applicants will be announced on Friday 21st of March. I look forward to working with them.



GUEST SPEAKERS

Our students have great opportunities to meet and learn from a range of guest speakers during the school year. Below are some of our recent visitors.



SPORT

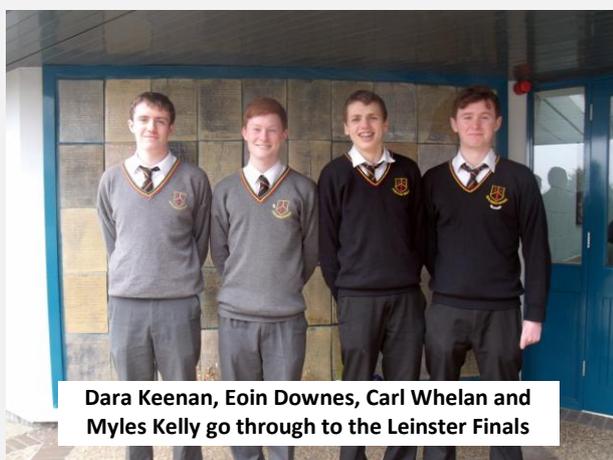


Rugby Update - As the end of the rugby season nears, many thanks are due to all the coaches of all the teams across all six years who have put so much work in during the year. As we look forward to the next year, we are delighted to launch our new preseason training programme for players who will be playing in the senior cycle next year. The programme will focus on overall fitness and wellbeing and will be individually designed for each player to

meet their particular needs, regardless of which team they may be playing with next year. Any student who has not already signed up for the programme, and would like to participate, should contact Mr. O'Neill as soon as possible.

Athletics – The Cross-Country season is over and athletics starts the week of the 24th of March. Our first competition will be the Rice Games, April 9th. Mr. Mullen will be coaching Hammer, Shot Putt and Discus every lunchtime from Monday to Friday

Basketball – A huge congratulations to the CBC Basketball Team on a historic first match and victory against St. Brendan's College, Bray. Well done to all the players and their coach Ms. Woods on a hard-fought win.

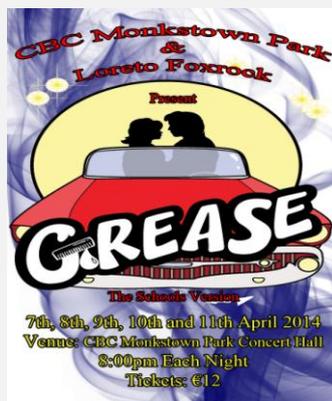


Debating News

This is the time of year when senior and junior cycle students from across the province compete for places in the Leinster finals and once again CBC has achieved great success at both levels. Sixth years Myles Kelly and Carl Whelan and fifth years Eoin Downes and Dara Keenan have qualified for the senior final after fighting through four difficult rounds over the last few months. The final takes place the week beginning March 24th and we look forward to that. Hopefully they will bring the Championship Trophy back to CBC.

At junior level, with one set of quarterfinals over, we have seen third years Bryan Unger, Brian Loakman and Greg Davis qualify for the semifinals, so well done to them.

TRANSITION YEAR



Grease – Monday 7th to Friday 11th at 8pm
Tickets are €12 and available in both schools, CBC and Loreto, from Monday 24th of March every lunchtime.

Rehearsals are in full swing and the leads, dancers and ensembles are putting in hours of work every week to ensure the success of this year's production. Excitement is mounting as the opening night of Monday April 7th draws ever closer. This is a real crowd pleaser so don't forget, you need to be as quick as 'grease' lightning to get your tickets. We hope to see you all there!

Transition Year Highlights

January: TY students started the New Year with two weeks of work experience. Reports back from their placements were very positive in their praise of the students. Mark Shalloe returned to school from his work experience with the IRFU with an invitation to bring his fellow students to an open training session of the Irish rugby team. The students had the opportunity to watch their training routines and to meet some of the players. Well done Mark! As part of the SPHE programme the TY students welcomed Anne Moriarty to the school. Anne facilitated some great workshops on Relationships and Sexuality Education and praised the maturity of our students. Guest speakers included visitors from the ISPCC and The Rape Crisis Centre. The TY lads learned about the work these organisations do and the challenges many people in our society face. Keen as always to help those in need, several students helped with the fundraising campaigns of a number of charities.

February: Lots of TY students took to the Italian Alps and perfected their skiing during the mid-term break. Although many were new to the sport, they were able to master some challenging slopes by the end of the week. They proved themselves to be able sportsmen, pleasant companions and who knows, perhaps there are a few future winter Olympians among them!



Those not attracted to freezing temperatures headed instead to Paris. Here the views were man-made, but no less inspiring as galleries were visited and landmarks remarked upon. A trip to Euro Disney satisfied the thrill seekers.



All of the TY students had the opportunity of attending seminars on the Law in Ireland. Here they explored what constitutes a crime in a variety of situations. They also learned about copyright and privacy law, discovering just how much of their on-line lives may be owned by international corporations.

March: The Sticks and Stones theatre company worked with the students looking at themes of exclusion and inclusion. It was an entertaining way to explore serious issues and develop the social skills that build communities. Bridge is new to our curriculum in TY this year, but you'd never guess it looking at the success of our students. Conor Griffin, Patrick Jennings, Gary Kelly and Tom Wall came second in their group at the All-Ireland Championships this month. The prospect of representing their country looms on the near horizon. Congratulations gentlemen!