



# Christian Brothers College Monkstown Park

## Newsletter



Edmund Rice Schools Trust

*A positive environment where learning, kindness and gratitude are valued.*

## A message from our new Principal, Mr. Duffy

It is an honour to introduce myself as the new Principal of CBC Monkstown Park. I am immensely privileged and deeply humbled to have been appointed to the position of Principal in this great school.

While the 2018-19 school year marks the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school's location at this site in Monkstown, it also marks the end of an era for the school as Dr Gerry Berry has retired from the profession. Dr Berry, Principal of CBC for the past 9 years and distinguished staff member for the past 33 years, has made an enormous contribution to the life and times of CBC. He has left an indelible imprint on the lives of many students over the years and has played a huge and pivotal role in shaping CBC into what it is today - a vibrant and caring Edmund Rice school which continually seeks to achieve high standards in all that it does. I know that I join with you all in thanking Dr Berry for his years of dedicated service to CBC and we wish him and his family well in the years ahead.



CBC Monkstown will continue to be a school that is the living expression of a long and varied tradition inspired by the life of Christ. It will continue to be a school that emphasises the dignity of the human person as a child of God called to work with others in helping to create an inclusive, values-based and faith community where knowledge is sought and respected. Allied to its strong record of academic achievement CBC will strive to be an authentic community of teaching and learning which places relationships at its core, 'being' above 'doing' and the living presence of Jesus at the centre of all things. Education, I believe, is not about informing people, it's about forming people for others.

I have already witnessed that in striving for academic excellence, along with a varied extra-curricular programme, the students in CBC are continually encouraged to express themselves both academically and individually. To say that CBC is a very busy school is indeed an understatement. Musicals, debating, sport, drama, music, school trips, charitable endeavours, the American Tea Party, Advert Carol Services, Zambia Immersion and many more activities are all aspects of life for our students and parents here in CBC. The generous dedication and time commitment of the teaching staff and special needs assistants in CBC is truly inspirational and most admirable. Without their co-operation, their ongoing willingness to offer their valuable free time and their infectious enthusiasm for the students and the school, our many activities would simply not be possible.

I have also witnessed the immense support of the Parents' Council in the various school activities and I would like to express my gratitude to the Council and to all the parents and students for giving us the tremendous privilege of being part of your lives. The school's Board of Management play a very significant role in the life of CBC and without their time and commitment, the progress attained in recent years would not have been possible. I thank them most sincerely for their ongoing commitment to the school. Last but by no means least, I would like to thank all the staff, Dr Berry, Ms Condon and Mr Murnane for the warm welcome and support they have given me as I take up my new role.

I look forward to learning from every member of our school community and I remain open to your voice and feedback in this process. Please do not hesitate to reach out and contact me to share your wisdom, hopes and concerns as we make this journey together.

Ráth Dé ar an obair.  
Gerry Duffy

## Zambian Immersion Project

The Zambian Immersion Project returned to CBC this year and CBC returned to Zambia in June for the first time since 2015.



The students who had been involved with Charity and Social Placement work in 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Year were instrumental in pushing for a return of the project. With the main stumbling



block being supervision for such an extended trip to Africa, it was very encouraging that we had 8 teachers who were willing to supervise and fundraise to go to Lusaka this year.

By way of the generous contributions of time, money and necessary supplies, the project succeeded in the following areas; bringing clothes for the children in Lusaka; supporting teachers and pupils in Pakechele School; assisting vulnerable orphaned children at the Kondwa Centre; helping the Home Based Care to care for the sick and needy in N'Gombe and supporting the Seko Orphanage for Boys and Girls. Our CBC Immersion Project ably interceded on behalf of needy cases in Lusaka to make the lives of some Zambian adults and children more bearable.



All of the projects that CBC work with are linked and play a vital role in the support of people on the margins of society with no income and many poverty-related problems.

Each time CBC visits Zambia we support areas of development in the different centres that require support. This time the areas we

concentrated on were:



### Developing the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Classes at Pakechele

Since the foundation of Pakechele School in 2008, the need for a deaf teacher and the development of deaf classes was an area we felt that CBC could be instrumental in developing. Since then we have supported the deaf teaching and learning and from one student in 2008 it has grown to 2 classes with 2 teachers and 30 pupils. The deaf pupils are an integral part of the school now and all assemblies and gatherings have signing for the whole school.

### Development of Science Teaching & Learning

The curriculum of Zambia is developing science as part of their higher levels of education and as a group of educators we wanted to support this venture. We allocated part of our funds to developing the equipment for the laboratory while participating in some science lessons to aid with teacher/student training.

### Teaching Classes

The leaders in Zambia feel the participation of the native boys in classroom education is the ultimate encouragement to get a good education and strong bonds are made with our CBC boys and the students there. As part of the support for the school, we painted 4 classrooms that were in very poor condition and we helped to make their learning environment a better place for the students.

**Donations** – Many thanks to all the individuals and companies who donated to the project and also to those who supported our many fund-raising activities in the lead up to this life-changing trip.

**Applications for Zambia Immersion Project 2019 now open**



## Sports Update

### Rugby

The Junior Cup Team beat Kilkenny College in a close game to start their league campaign. It is great to also see the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year B's and C's get off to winning starts. Many thanks to PayPal who will sponsor the JCT this year.

The Senior Team lost their first league game away to Kilkenny College and are looking to bounce back against St. Gerard's and Gonzaga before mid-term. The Seniors will also be involved with the Rugby Rising Festival over the October mid-term in Donnybrook. Information can be found at [www.rugbyrising.ie](http://www.rugbyrising.ie)



We are delighted to announce that the Seniors will be sponsored this year by Tenant Ready, an agent specialising in the letting and management of residential properties in Dublin and Wicklow.

### Athletics



In June, we had great success at the All-Ireland Athletics Championships with Shane Gevero (Third Year) winning the Junior 100m and Sam Vines (Third Year) coming second in the Junior Discus and Shot Put.



### Leinster Rugby U17s

Congratulations to Eoin Quinn and Robbie Browne (both TY) who were selected to represent Leinster U17s during August.



The boys were involved in many training camps, but the highlight of their summer was being selected together in a 31-12 victory over Munster.

### 1st Year Rugby

It's great to witness the enthusiasm of our First Year rugby players.

We can already see that the players are enjoying this environment, which is led by Mr McNestry. Keep up the great work everyone!

### Sporting Success



Congratulations to Ross Clarke (TY) who represented Ireland U16s at hockey during the summer. Ross played in goal during the European Championships.

James Furlong (TY) continues to impress on the soccer pitch. He has been playing with the Irish U17 Soccer Squad and Shamrock Rovers F.C. throughout the year and is hoping to be involved in the European Championships in May 2019.



### 2nd Year Rugby

The 2<sup>nd</sup> years have started their season well with wins over Gonzaga and St. Andrews. More importantly it is great to have two teams turning out for games.



### Cross-Country



Our Cross-Country teams have been performing very well in a number of meets this year. The stand out performance so far was by Igor Gonzalez (Second Year) who finished 5th out of over 200 athletes at the Clonliffe Invitational Cross Country race at Santry.

### Basketball

CBC Basketball is going from strength to strength as the boys improve their team work and performances under the direction of Ms Dempsey.



## Hospice Coffee Morning

Our Hospice Coffee morning in September was a great success. The School's Charity Committee raised over €450. Thanks to all of our sponsors who donated prizes and tasty food for the morning and thanks also to all those who supported the fundraiser. Well done to Calum, Daniel, Jack and Tom of the CBC Charity Committee.



## Debating

It has been a good start to the year for debating teams from both senior and junior cycles. At senior level, Luke Holmes and Jack Palmer won their first round of the Leinster Senior Championships in UCD. At Junior level, our four teams of Andy Cullinan, David Dooley, Leon Reilly, James O'Donoghue, Jack Mullhall, Conor Coveney, Tadhg Mulvey and Charlie Garland O'Connor all won their first rounds in the Leinster Championships. Leon and James also qualified for the final of the Belvedere College Mace Competition at the end of September. We are also delighted that CBC will host the final of the Leinster Junior Mace Championships in March of 2019.

## Transition Year 2018-19



Transition Year students have had a very busy start to term. To date they have been involved in surfing, hiking and canoeing in Connemara. They have also participated in the 'TY Transmission' Radio Workshop; Shout Out LGBT Workshop; a trip to Go Quest Problem Solving Centre; a walk from Greystones over Bray Head to Bray; a rowing workshop on the Liffey at Islandbridge; a life-saving First Aid workshop and hosting a number of guest speakers and being involved in a number of Charity events.



## Leaving Certificate Results

Congratulations to the Leaving Certificate class of 2018 on their fantastic results! We wish the young men well as they start their life as former CBC pupils.

Special mention to Alan Hickey (pictured with his parents and Dr Berry). Alan achieved 8 H1s in his Leaving Certificate results. Alan was one of only six students in the country to receive 8 H1s. A fantastic achievement - Well done Alan! Also, congratulations to all our students who did so well in this year's Junior Certificate.



## Wellbeing in CBC

It is acknowledged that the wellbeing of young people is enhanced when their views and suggestions are sought and there is a meaningful response to them. To date this year our students have participated in Year Group Retreats; engaged in school-wide Wellbeing Surveys; attended talks on Drug Awareness; engaged in Mind Your Mind Week in CBC and hosted Anti-Bullying speakers in the school.

If you would like to include anything in the newsletter, please email [website@cbcmonkstown.ie](mailto:website@cbcmonkstown.ie)