



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.



'CMCO NEWS'

Summer Newsletter 2024

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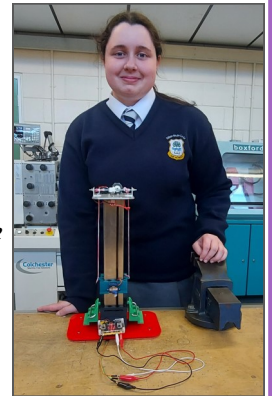
CMCO earns prestigious **European Digital Schools Award**

In March, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. was delighted to be one of thirty three schools in Ireland to be awarded the internationally recognised *Digital Schools Award*. This recognition highlights our commitment to integrating digital technology into education and providing our students with innovative learning opportunities. We are incredibly proud of our dedicated staff and enthusiastic students led by Ms Bergin and Ms Wallace, who have embraced digital learning with such passion and creativity. This digital award is proof that we are ready for the increasing digital demands which will be placed on our students to ensure successful completion to a high standard of state exams and projects.

This award recognises our school's excellence in



Photo shows 6th year Engineering student Lily Defoe who incorporated digital technology using micro:bits into the design of the drop tower ride for her Leaving Certificate Engineering project.



Student Enterprise National Final Champions



Congratulations to Harry Butler & Pádraig O'Halloran on winning the *Best Innovation Award (2nd place)* in the Intermediate Category of the Student Enterprise Programme at the National Finals held in Mullingar. *Photo shows Harry & Pádraig with their mentors Ms Bergin & Ms O'Brien.*

AIMS Choral Festival Success



Congratulations to our amazing School Choir and their teachers, Ms Helen Wallace, Ms Lowth and Ms Geaney, who enjoyed tremendous success at the AIMS Choral Festival in New Ross. They won 1st place in the Senior Cameo competition, tied for 3rd in the Senior Choir competition, and Ben Nolan placed 3rd in his solo competition. *This photo of some choir members radiates success and happiness.*

Cathal & Dylan captain Tipperary Minor Hurling & Football teams



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed is immensely proud to have two of our students, *Cathal O'Reilly* (5th year) and *Dylan Cotter* (TY) captain the Tipperary County Minor Hurling and Football teams in the Electric Ireland Minor GAA Championships this year. Both are exemplary students, their leadership and dedication is truly inspiring and they are outstanding role models.

Dylan, a Thurles Gaels GAA clubman captained the Minor Footballers to victory over Clare in the Munster Minor Championship. Cathal, a member of Holycross-Ballycahill GAA club is captain of the Minor Hurlers and is pictured proudly displaying the winning Munster MHC John Doyle Cup after Tipperary's victory against Clare in the Munster Final.

CMCO school community wish Cathal and the Tipperary Minor Hurling Team and Management the best of luck in the All-Ireland Final against Kilkenny.





Message from Mr Quinn, Principal

Welcome to our *Summer Newsletter*. At the time of going to print our Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate students are just completing their final exams. We wish them the very best of luck in these exams and on their journey forward to college and the world of work.

This year has been such a fast flowing, energetic and fulfilling time for our students on both academic and extracurricular fronts. We hope you enjoy reading about all their achievements and successes. We wish all our students a lovely break over the summer and look forward to welcoming our first years in the new school year. We would like to thank our hardworking staff, Parents Association and Board of Management for their support, vision and dedication. We wish our school community a happy and restful summer!

‘Ní Neart go Cur Le Chéile’ - ‘Together We Stand’

Denis Quinn, Principal



Class of 2024

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. staff, students and whole school community wish our Class of 2024 good health, happiness and the very best of luck in whatever paths you pursue after the Leaving Cert Established & Leaving Cert Applied Exams. #bestwishes

Pi Day 2024 Quiz

Well done to our 3rd year students who joined 724 other teams from 244 schools to compete in the IMTA Pi Quiz on the International Day of Mathematics (March 14th). Three teams guided by our dedicated Maths teachers, prepared diligently for the event. Special recognition to one of our teams - Annie, Lewie, Tomás and James who finished in 5th place. #rathassaothar #etbethos #excellenceineducation



Jigsaw One Good School Gold Award

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. is proud to have achieved the *Jigsaw One Good School Gold Award*, becoming one of only eleven schools in Tipperary and the first in Thurles to receive this prestigious honour. This award benefits our entire school community, including parents, students and staff. Special thanks to the wellbeing team, led by Mr Stapleton, for guiding us on this journey. #care #equality #respect #community



Photo shows Wellbeing team members Ms Wallace, Ms Ryan, Darren Britton, Mary Keogh, Mr Stapleton & Mr Kinane proudly displaying our One Good School award

Wellread Initiative

As part of our Wellread Licence renewal, we ran a *Shelfie Quiz* for students and staff. Photos of book shelves belonging to staff members were compiled into a Google form and shared. Prizes were awarded to Sophie Croke (3rd year), Enda Wickham (5th year) and Ms Forde who each guessed the correct answers in the fastest time. Thanks to Mr Hayes and Ms Mary C Ryan for running an engaging and fun whole school initiative. #etbethos



First Lego League

In February, six TY students represented Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. in the *First Lego League* Masterpiece Challenge in UCD.



Sophie Maher, Caoimhe Carroll, Tiana Ryan, Conor Brett, Martin Kiely and Jeffrey Myles, guided by Ms Conroy and Ms O'Brien worked as a team to build and code their Spike Prime Lego Robot. They also presented an innovation project. The students thoroughly enjoyed experiencing STEM subjects in practical and fun ways.

*#excellenceineducation
#STEM
#rathassaothar*



Equestrian Team Success

Our Equestrian Team successfully qualified to compete in their debut *All Ireland Interschools Equestrian Final* event at CoilÍg Equestrian Centre in April. Team members (*Ben Nolan, Camilla Kerwick, Mya Dunne and Max Doyle*) completed clear rounds qualifying them for the jump off with an impressive time and no faults. The team secured 4th place in the novice team results on the day and 7th in the overall Interschools Equestrian league. Emma O’Connell also competed with the team throughout the league. Well done to horse and rider, not forgetting the continued support from their parents/guardians. *#etbethos*



Green Flag Award

In May, CMCO proudly achieved the *Green Flag Award for Litter and Waste*. Congratulations to Aoife Mulcaire, Harry Butler, Ms Meagher and Mr Hayes who represented us at the awards ceremony in Kilkenny. The Green Committee has done outstanding work over the past two years, and we are setting our sights on the *Energy Flag*. Watch this space!



brAIIn_waves Finalists



Congratulations to 3rd year Coding students Mikus Sturmanis, Alex Ryan & Krystian Karejwo who represented Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. in the *RTE Learn Microsoft Dream Space: brAIIn_waves National Competition*. Selected as one of five finalists in Ireland, they presented their project Open-SDETENN in Microsoft Dream Space campus in Leopardstown. Their project aims to make self-driving technology more accessible and affordable through open-source development. Thanks to their mentor Ms Bergin for her guidance and support. *#excellenceineducation*

Biology visit

Senior Cycle Biology students, along with teachers Ms D Ryan and Ms E Carey enjoyed an educational visit to Traas’ Apple Farm. They observed key biology processes integral to the Leaving Certificate curriculum.



Deputy Principal’s Address

As another school year draws to a close, I want to extend my thanks and congratulations to our parents, students and teachers. Together, a commitment to excellence in education is what defines our school community.

A special thank you goes to the sub-committee of the Parents' Association for their invaluable contributions to shaping school policy. Their insights are instrumental in ensuring our school thrives and is compliant in delivering on Department of Education requirements.

Our DEIS team deserves immense credit. They spearhead key teaching and learning strategies like target grades, Read Write Try, and COPS, fostering an environment where every student reaches their full potential. We're also grateful to our wellbeing team; we are in the early days of implementing initiatives like restorative practice, based on recent school findings. This fosters a positive and inclusive environment for all.

Being part of the TETB network is a huge privilege. The Digital and Attendance Communities of Practice have provided invaluable support and collaboration during this school year. We also extend our gratitude to TUS and MIC for their unwavering support, particularly with the student conference for 5th years in TUS earlier in the year, and MIC for their collaboration with NCSE on our Read Write Try programme.

As summer approaches, I wish you all a well deserved break. Don't forget to check out the summer correspondence for important information at <https://www.cmco.ie/information/summer-correspondence/>.

Enjoy the break, and see you all in August.

Le gach dea-ghuí



Clare Wallace, Deputy Principal

PROGRAMME UPDATES

JCSP

Congratulations to our third year students who graduated from the JCSP programme on Friday 24th of May. Students received their final profiles from the Department of Education and celebrated this milestone with teachers, friends and family. Amy Kennedy, Annie Donnelly and Cormac Ryan were masters of ceremonies on the day and did an excellent job. Maia McCarthy, Megan Byrne, Abbey Butler and Lewie Cavanagh lead the JCSP music class with music throughout the celebration. Enjoy a well earned break after your exams!



AR AGHAIDH LINN & LCVP

This semester, our Ar Aghaidh Linn (LCVP) 5th year students continued working with our partner company H&MV Engineering through our partnership with the Business in the Community (BITCI) programme. It gives students an insight into careers and the future working world as well as improving their soft skills and confidence. It gives industry insights to both students and teachers. In March, our students got an opportunity to talk to H&MV staff members in different fields: Sarah (Marketing), Tommy (Apprentice), Eoin (QS) and Luke (Engineering) at a workshop organised by Linda Hall from Business in the Community. Thanks to Ms Purtil for organising this initiative, Ms Molumby, Ms Bergin and Ms O'Brien (Business Department) and Ms Hickey & Ms Byrne (Careers Department) for supporting this worthwhile education programme. **Photo shows our students displaying their certificates at the closing session.**



LCA

This semester has been exceptionally busy for our 5th and 6th year LCA students, who have been diligently completing tasks and assignments. Our 5th years tackled a Vocational Education task in Hotel, Catering & Tourism by cooking various dishes and in Graphics and Construction by designing educational toys and lamps. Meanwhile, our 6th years focused on their assignments and exam preparations. They also appreciated visits to CIE Apprenticeships, Archerstown TETB, Kildalton Agricultural College and the ETB Construction Skills open days. The semester was capped off with thoroughly enjoyable school tours!



TY

TY International Trip to Belgium

By Elena Zamora

On April 16th, our TY year travelled to Belgium. We left school at 1:30am, took a bus to Dublin Airport, and arrived around 6:30am for our flight. Upon arriving in Belgium, we visited the Atomium in Brussels and then Mini Europe. After lunch, we checked into our hotel and had dinner. The next morning, we went to Bruges, took a canal cruise, visited a chocolate factory, and attended the Menin Gate military ceremony in Ypres. The following day, we visited Asterix Park in France and enjoyed various attractions.

On April 19th, we visited a war museum and the European Parliament before flying back to Ireland, arriving in Thurles at 1:30am. It was a fantastic trip filled with fun and memorable experiences.



Trip to Birr Outdoor Education Centre

By Cody Grogan

On the 19th of March we went on an overnight school trip to Birr Outdoor Education Centre. We left school early and arrived at approximately 9 am. We did "challenges" like sorting tyres in the correct order and then trying to get a soccer ball out of chicken wire with poles. We played floor lava and built a bridge out of blocks. We also went rock climbing. We travelled to the river in Banagher to go canoeing. On our return to the centre in Birr, we did archery and enjoyed some food. Then we watched a movie and went to the dorms for some much needed sleep. The next day we woke up between seven and eight o'clock. We packed our bags and had some breakfast and prepared sandwiches for everyone for later in the day. We got ready for the hike. We went to Glenbarrow Waterfall and the Ridge of Capard in the Slieve Bloom mountains. The hike was around 10 Kms and the views were amazing. The waterfall was really nice as well. After the hike, we went back to school and went home. All together the trip was great fun and I would recommend it to future TY students.



Workshops & TY Experience

By Martin Kiely

Our first was the Upcycling workshop, which highlighted the environmental concerns of fast fashion. My favorite was the CSI Forensics workshop on the assassination of John F. Kennedy, featuring practical activities and interesting conspiracy theories. We also participated in team-building board games which developed cooperation and teamwork. The final workshop was Driving Theory Ed, covering car maintenance, driving basics and a mock theory test. Personally, I used this year to build my confidence, try new things, and step out of my comfort zone. I've learned that the working world is different from school and I intend to make the most of my remaining school years. I've grown in confidence, acquired new skills, and made wonderful friends. Finally, I'd like to thank everyone, especially Ms Conroy and Ms Geaney for organising everything, and Ms Cunneen, Ms Stakelum and Ms Martin for the opportunity to work backstage for the 'School of Rock' musical.

Some updates from the final TY newsletter, published by TY B under the guidance of their English teacher, Ms Mary C Ryan.

My Home

By Pablo Murciano Pozo



Although many Spaniards are from big cities like Madrid, Barcelona, or Seville, I live in a town smaller than Thurles called Llerena, in the Badajoz region near Seville. The main activities here are livestock and agriculture, much like many parts of Ireland. My town has around 6,000 inhabitants, increasing to 8,500 in summer due to tourism. During this time, we have local fairs and festivals, hot days, swimming pools, and card games. One of the most important fairs is the livestock fair in late September, which features an animal exhibition, car and tractor markets, and a leisure area for young people. Unlike Halloween, Christmas and Holy Week are major holidays, especially in Seville, where Holy Week is celebrated with great fervor. The International Livestock Fair of Zafra is particularly notable, drawing national and international attention.





Student Enterprise Finals

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. was delighted to be named **Overall Entrepreneurial School of the Year** at the County Student Enterprise Finals in February.



In the **Intermediate Category**, **Harry Butler and Pdraig O'Halloran (H&P Engineering)** secured **1st place** with their multi-purpose farming tool. They progressed to represent Tipperary at the **National Finals**, achieving fantastic success by winning the **Best Innovation Award (2nd place)**. **Ronan O'Grady (O'Grady Crafts)** earned **2nd place with Special Merit** and also won the **Smart Business Award** and **Dobrinia Prokopenk** received a **Special Merit** for his **Handmade Crafts**. In the **Junior Category**, **Eoin Tarpey** won a **Special Merit (Tapery Crafts)**, and **Eoin Dwyer, Sean Ryan and Fionn Ryan** received the **Innovation Award (3D Way)**. Congratulations to all our budding entrepreneurs! #proud #rathassaothar

Ag. Science Farm Walk & Talk Day

In March, 5th year Agricultural Science and 5LCA students enjoyed an informative Agri Aware Farm Walk and Talk Day at Kildalton Agricultural College, gaining valuable insights into modern farming practices and agricultural education.

#excellenceineducation



Photo shows students **Marty, Mary and Adam** chatting to **Shay Galvin and Jim Mulhall of Agri Aware.**

CMCO Soccer



Our U16 Soccer team played a tough Munster Shield quarter final against Waterpark College, narrowly losing 5-3. Despite the loss, the boys gave their all, showing great sportsmanship and respect. Thanks to Mr Fahy & Mr Hayes for their expertise and time with our soccer teams this year.

CMCO Musical News

Photo captures 6th year student **Jack Meaney (Dewey Finn)** beaming with joy as he receives the **Carol Walsh trophy** for Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed's **1st place performance of 'School of Rock'** in the **Cameo Competition at the AIMS Choral Festival.**

And preparations are in full swing for our next musical - **CMCO is turning on the charm with 'Mary Poppins Jr.'** flying onto our stage from **October 9th to 11th 2024!**

Get ready for a spoonful of laughter, a dash of magic & a whole lot of supercalifragilisticexpialidocious fun!



Athletics T & F Championships

Several of our athletes competed in the **Munster Schools Track & Field Championships** in Templemore A.C. with four podium finishes: **Jeffrey Myles** (Silver, Intermediate Hammer Throw), **Luke Thompson** (Bronze, Intermediate Hammer Throw), **Oscar Caffrey** (Bronze, 75m Minor Hurdles) and **Philip Lloyd** (Silver, 1200m Minor Boys Walk). Jeffrey and Luke qualified for the **All-Ireland Schools finals**

and performed admirably. Congrats to **Liam Carroll** who was nominated for **Cross Country Athlete of the Year** and is pictured receiving his award from coach Mr Kinane at our Awards Ceremony. #successthrougheffort





U14 County Gaelic Football Champions



Congrats to our U14 Gaelic Football team on their superb win in the **Rockwell All-County tournament**, clinched by Callum Fennessy's brilliant goal in the final against Clonmel CTI. Thanks to managers Mr Moloney & Mr Ó'Cradóg. #cmcoabú

First Year Girls Basketball



The CMCO first year Girls Basketball team has shown remarkable progress this term. Their dedication and hard work have been evident in their improved skills and teamwork on the court.

Under the guidance of coaches Ms Irwin and Ms Hickey, they have developed a strong sense of unity and determination, leading to several impressive victories. Well done to all team members for their fantastic effort and commitment! #etbethos #rathassaothar

Turas go Corca Dhuibhne



Bhain daltaí na hArdteiste idir taitneamh is tairbhe as turas go dtí an Ríocht Mí na Márta. Ghlac siad go fonnmhar le na himeachtaí éagsúla a bhí ar an gclár acu is an Ghaeilge labhartha ar a dtoil acu.

Bhí ranganna maidine acu is blaiseadh den úrscéal A Thig ná Tit orm agus chaith siad cúpla oíche ag cleachtadh na ríncí tradisiúnta i Halla an Fionntrá. Cheana féin, tá sé beartaithe ag cuid acu fillleadh arís ar Tobar na Gaeilge. #cmcoagobair

ETB Construction Skills Open Day



In March, LCA Graphics and Construction students visited Tipperary Town for an ETB Construction Skills Open Day. They toured the training centre, tried skills like dry-lining, plastering, and retrofitting, and learned how to sign up for ETB courses.

Thanks to Mr Ryan and Mr Spillane for organising the visit.

#excellenceineducation

Art Department news

As part of their visual studies, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. Art students have had a busy semester attending various exhibitions and workshops organised by their teacher Ms Cahill. In January, they explored Gordon Hogan's exhibition 'Exploring View' at the Source Arts Centre. Our 5th years visited the 'Artist in a Shop Window' in the Green Sheep Studio and learned about slab making from LSAD student, Cormac Dixon.



In May, students participated in a Pre-Christian Ireland workshop at the Limerick Hunt Museum and toured exhibitions at the Limerick City Gallery of Art.

Computer Science

Well done to our TY students who participated in the **CSLINC (Computer Science Inclusive Learning Environment)** program with TU Dublin. This online learning environment for Computer Science, tailored to Irish second level students provided modules built on international best practices. Students received certification upon successful completion. Thanks to our teachers Ms Bergin, Ms Molumby, Ms O'Brien, Mr Russell, Ms Conroy and TU Dublin for this valuable experience. #STEM



Congrats to Niall Ryan, one of five Tipperary Young Curators who co-curated the 'Beneath the Paint' art exhibition with IMMA Curator Catherine Marshall at the Tipperary Museum of Hidden History, Clonmel in association with Crinniú na nÓg.





School Awards 2024

On May 24th, Bean an Tí **Ms Patricia Hickey** and Fear an Tí **Mr Peter Kinane** hosted a memorable awards ceremony in the Dome to celebrate our students' outstanding academic successes, and achievements in both sporting and non-sporting domains. We would like to extend a heartfelt appreciation to the teachers at Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. whose unwavering dedication, guidance and investment of time have played a pivotal role in the accomplishments our students have attained throughout this academic year. Their commitment has resulted in successes at local, county and national levels in various areas. We thank our invited guests for their presence, our parents/guardians for their continued support and our award winning choir for entertaining everyone. Furthermore, we want to express our sincere gratitude to Ms Purtill and her team for their exceptional efforts in organising a wonderful Awards Ceremony. *Comhghairdeas do chuile dhuine a bhuaigh graham ag an ócáid.* #excellenceineducation #care #community #equality #respect #etbethos

Annual Awards



- Principal's Award**Niamh Igoe**
- TUS Tipperary Language**Jack Costello**
- Engineering**John Dwan, Cormac Ryan**
- Construction Studies**Conor O'Sullivan**
- Wood Technology**James Hennessy**
- D.C.G**Lily Defoe**
- Music**Ben Nolan, Abbey Butler**
- Science**Daire Myers**
- Spirit of LCA**John Delaney**
- Gaeilge**Suzanne Ryan, Cormac Ryan**
- Maths**Suzanne Ryan, Maia McCarthy**
- Coding**Mikus Sturmanis, Alex Ryan, Krystian Karejwo**
- Ethos**Michael McCormack, James Woodlock**
- Art**Róisín Ryan, Katie Palmer, Shayne Grace, Ava Killane**
- Healthy Home Chefs**Lily-Mai Campbell, Isobel Davis, James Woodlock**
- Home Economics**Mary Keogh, Ewan Connors**
- Religion**Lily Defoe**
- English**Conor O'Sullivan, Annie Donnelly**
- Entrepreneurial Spirit**Eoin Tarpey**
- TUS Sustainability**Aoife Mulcaire**
- JCSP**All 3rd Year Students**
- Best Leaving Cert 2023**Stephen Healy**
- Best LCA 2023**Leah Donaghy, Bill Bannon**
- Best Junior Cycle 2023**Alva Nuvoloni**



Awards were also presented to the following Student Enterprise winners - **Harry Butler & Padraig O'Halloran; Ronan O'Grady; Dobrinia Prokopenk; Eoin Tarpey; Eoin Dwyer, Seán Ryan & Fionn Ryan**

Student of the Year Awards

- 1st Year**Ava Killane**
- 2nd Year**Cormac Walshe**
- 3rd Year**James Woodlock**
- TY**Martin Kiely**
- International TY**Carmen Mazuelos Gomez**
- 5th Year**Óran Casey**
- 5th Year LCA**Gavin Butler**
- 6th Year**John Dwan**
- 6th Year LCA**Chloe Collins**
- International Student**Alba Hernandez**



Sports Awards

- Junior Rugby**Finn Green**
- Junior Soccer**Seamie Dwan**
- Ladies Soccer**Chloe Collins**
- Camogie**Amy Kennedy**
- Basketball Girls**Amelie Nuvoloni**
- CC Athlete**Liam Carroll**
- Equestrian**Ben Nolan**
- Junior Hurling**Robert Ryan**
- Junior Football**Jack Reddan**
- Senior Hurling**Audie Lohan**
- Senior Football**Michael McCormack, Conor O'Sullivan**



The achievements and successes of the following teams were also acknowledged; **All Ireland U16 D Boys Basketball** champions, **Munster U17 C Hurling** champions, **Munster U19 Boys Basketball South East** and **Munster Cup Finalists**, **County U14 Gaelic Football Champions** and our **Equestrian Team** #rathassaothar #cmcoagobair #successthrougheffort