



Movember Fund Raiser

Well done to all students and staff who raised funds totalling €2,500 for the Irish Cancer Society of Ireland. The school is proud to collect and donate funds to this wonderful cause and in doing so also honouring the memory of Br. Damien.

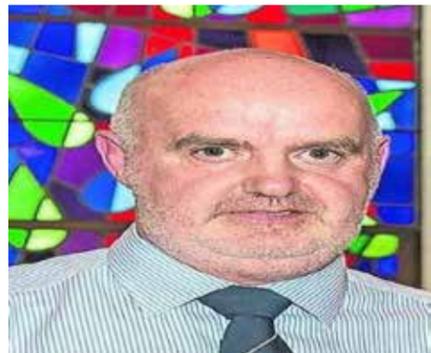
Br. Damien Brennan

On the 3rd of September our school community was informed of the sad loss of our Principal, Br. Damien Brennan. He was an extraordinary man who went above and beyond to help others. His devotion to his pupils in his role as school principal was second to none. He did so much positive work and had plans to do so much more. He did not seek acclaim when carrying out his work. Knowing that another person's life was improved or their burden was lighter was good enough for Damien. He was a motivator, a leader and a source of inspiration to all - the beating heart of our school community. A student recalled Br. Damien's impact on the pupils of the school as follows:

.....from the first day he became our principal everyone had a special bond with him. He would have a question for all of us like how 'did the exams go' or he would ask the farmers 'how are all the animals at home'. He took the time to get to know all of us as individuals. He wanted everyone to be the best version of themselves.....

As a mark of respect for the huge contribution that Damien has made to our school community, 'The Brother Damien Garden' will be officially opened on 23rd March in the school grounds.

Brother Damien's mantra was 'Proud of who we are, what we are and where we come from'. As a school we will continue the good work of Br. Damien and make our school the pride of the community.



Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

MID-TERM 2020 NEWSLETTER

Coláiste Éamann Rís



Foreword - Principal

As your new Principal in Coláiste Éamann Rís I would like to thank each member of our school community for the welcome which I have received and I look forward to working with you. Already we are half ways through this school year and so the end is in sight for our Leaving Certificate students. We wish you well in the many decisions you make in the weeks ahead and we encourage you to strive to achieve results which you will be proud of, as you enter the next phase of your future career. Our first year students have settled in well and are enjoying the experience of new subjects and varied routines. We pride ourselves here in Coláiste Éamann Rís in providing a holistic education for our students, the care and welfare of our students is central to our mission statement and is especially evident in our First Year Forbairt programme.

The Transition Year programme is varied and lively with students participating in Work Experience as well as many valuable activities such as the Waterford Greenway and African Drumming. Sport is key to the extra-curricular schedule here in Coláiste Éamann Rís and we must acknowledge and extend a huge gratitude to all the teachers and mentors who give of their time voluntarily to manage the various teams. Winning two Leinster titles (U 16 Hurling and U 19 Basketball) is a massive achievement for our school and for this we are very proud.

We are so lucky to part of a school community with highly motivated and committed teachers and auxiliary staff. The energy, passion and enthusiasm of our staff come to the fore in Coláiste Éamann Rís in making our school a wonderful place of learning for our students. Not a week goes by that we, as a school community are not celebrating the successes of our students, whether these successes are in the classroom, on the sporting field or in competitions.

You the Parents are central to the success of our school community and the partnership we develop between home and school is key to achieving ongoing success in teaching and learning. We thank you for trusting us with your child's education here in Coláiste Éamann Rís and we thank you for your on-going involvement and support.

Finally we have in our prayers and thoughts Br. Damien Brennan, our former principal, whom sadly passed away on September 3rd 2019. We acknowledge his many years of leadership and dedicated service. We remember his family and friends and we share their deep loss. His cherished motto, Proud of who we are, what we are and where we come from will continue to be central to all we do here in Coláiste Éamann Rís.



Calendar

February – 2020

Wednesday 5th – Mocks
Friday 14th – School closed
Monday 24th – School re- opens

March – 2020

Tuesday 2nd – 2nd year P.T meeting
Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th – school closed
Thursday 26th – TY and 6th P.T meeting

April – 2020

Friday 3rd – Easter Holidays
Monday 20th - School re-opens

May – 2020

Monday 4th – Bank Holiday
Monday 18th – LC Graduation @ 7pm
Monday 25th – Awards Ceremony
Friday 29th – School closed – Summer hols

Welcome:

All new members of staff who are completing their teaching training. We look forward to supporting your training throughout the rest of the academic year.

Best of luck to all Junior & Leaving Cert students in their mock exams. Hard work and revision will improve your academic performance.

Amalgamation – There is on-going meetings between staff of CER and St. Brigid's as both schools will become one in 2022. There is an ongoing effort to find a name that will encapsulate the spirit and values of both educational traditions in Callan



Féinfhorbairt

Our school ran a successful mentoring programme with 1st year students as part of the PDST Forbairt programme for school leadership. Students were randomly selected and each assigned to a teacher who volunteered to act as their 'One Good Adult' for a six-week period. Students had to 'check-in' with the teacher for a brief chat for about their day. The conversation was teacher led at the beginning and developed to become student led over time. This helped students become more confident in school. This helps to create a school where equality was visible. Well done to all involved.

Plastic recycling campaign - Ms Griffin introduced reusable water bottles to the school. Well done to all students and teachers involved.



Before Christmas our 4th year group were hard at work creating a school calendar as Gaeilge as part of an Irish and Art project with Mr. Delaney and Ms Bibby. The students were brought into Kilkenny city for a day with Ms Bibby as part of an art photography module and took all the photos that are in the calendar today. The 4th years were then busy at work translating the calendar with Mr. Delaney, designing the calendar and contacting the printing companies to find out what the most affordable size and quantity was. Students then invested €15 capital each to raise enough money to print 100 calendars. Dhíolamar na féilire do na daoine timpeall ár gceanntar dúchais agus mar sin de, fuaireamar breis airgid don Nollaig!



Community Spirit

Parents Council: Coláiste Éamann Rís would like to sincerely thank the Parents Council for their valuable contribution to our school this year. The Parents Council have organised many fundraising activities such as the Christmas Raffle and the Bag Pack which was held in the local Super Value. The council is preparing for an Easter Raffle at the moment. Tickets will be sent home with students and will be available to purchase from the school office also. The school would like to thank all businesses who have contributed towards our fundraising endeavours this year.

All- Ireland Success: Congratulations to our former students and teachers who tasted All Ireland Club Success this year with Tullaroan in the Intermediate All Ireland Final after a pulsating game against Fr. O'Neill's of Cork. Best of luck to all involved in their return to the Senior ranks of Kilkenny Hurling this year.

Students received their Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement



Luke Manogue receiving his award for his achievement in the maths/science Olympiad

TY Up to Now: Our TY students partake in work experience every Tuesday in workplaces in Callan and in the county. Thank you to all of the companies for their support and cooperation in the delivery of this element of the TY Programme. Our students have completed modules in Self-Defence, Ju Jitsu and Rugby on top of trips to "Kilkenny on Ice", Castlecomer Discovery Park and our 40km cycle of the Greenway in Waterford. We in Coláiste Éamann Rís are very mindful of our student's mental health. TY students participated in a retreat at Westcourt as well as the "The Harmony" and "Wake UP!". Mr Butler organised a trip to The Gaiety Theatre to see the play "Asking for it!". WIT's open day encouraged TY students to reflection on future career. Students completed the "Matrix" workshop which focuses on learning styles. Mrs Bibby delivered a Photography module, students took part in fundraising initiatives for the Irish Wheelchair Association. This year also marks the successful introduction of the GAA Future Leaders in our TY Programme.

Sports news



Congratulations to our U-16 champions

Coláiste Éamann Rís qualified for the Top Oil under 16 Leinster Schools hurling final following an unbeaten campaign. Knockbeg College would prove to be their sternest test. The Callan CBS men performed heroically throughout the contest particularly James Flynn, Tom Brennan and Adam O Sullivan, and were full value for their 2-12 to 1-6 victory. To cap off a great week of sport in the school, captain Adam O Sullivan dedicated this success to our late principal and friend Br Damien Brennan. Congratulations to all 37 member of the panel.

T. Brennan 0-7, T. Coady 1-0, A. Millea 1-0, B. O' Gorman 0-2, B. Power 0-1, K. Maher 0-1, J. Flynn 0-1



Well done to our under 19 basketball players that had a fantastic win, beating Ballingarry (45 – 33) and Meanscoil Ghatman (44- 22) in two exhilarating games to be crowned South East Leinster Champions. The squad trained hard since September with their coach Ms. O Shea. Team spirit was a defining aspect of this success, Br. Damien would be extremely proud.

Soccer Updates: Well done to all our soccer teams 2019/20 season. Our U-19 team is currently awaiting to play the final of the Carlow Kilkenny competition. U17 and U15 were narrowly beaten in their respective finals. Well done to our 1st years in their competition.

Badminton – U-16 Our under 16's had a tremendous win in the county championships recently where they overcame Ballyhale to be crowned county champions. There was a great mix of youth and experience in this team. Well done all.

Mini-Company 2019/2020

In December we had another successful Christmas market where students from the entire school body sold their products and show cased their entrepreneurial spirit. It was a great success. We were delighted to welcome students from Bunscoil McCauley Rice. Rosie Dunne, the Kilkenny Enterprise Board youth co-ordinator was present to judge the min-companies, selecting those to go forward to the Young Entrepreneurs Competition in March in Lyrath Estate Hotel. **Senior winners** – B. Power and B. Fitzpatrick – Lumper Loop **Intermediate winners** - Julian Korenko and Caleb O' Shea – Pick Pockets Junior category winners - B&B Houses Evan & Mark Srouji & Trolley Pockets: Corey Middleton, Jan Redzikowski, Cathal Tobin & Savy Solutions: Tim Doherty, Shay Delaney, Ryan Donovan-Cooke

