

# Coláiste Bríde

Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co.Wexford

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A Chairde,

As we approach the Christmas season, I would like to thank all members of our school community for their support over the past half-term. This has been an extremely positive and action-filled time and I hope that the holiday period will provide a much needed rest and an opportunity for re-invigoration at all levels. While the Christmas season brings great opportunities for spiritual re-growth and reunions with family and friends, it can also be very challenging for some. At this time our thoughts and prayers are with those who are dealing with loss or anxiety over the health of loved ones. We wish all families in our school community a Happy, Peaceful and safe Christmas 2018 and look forward to welcoming students back in the New Year.

Kiera O'Sullivan, Principal

## Latest News

### Inter-Culture Day

On the 27<sup>th</sup> November we held our second Inter-Culture Day, a celebration of the cultural diversity that exists within Coláiste Bríde.

Our first event last year was an enormous success, but it is fair to say that this year's celebration was even better. There was a great buzz around the school and an electric atmosphere in our Sports Hall which hosted the event. Students displayed



personal belongings, food, music, traditions, facts, posters, flags and beautiful artefacts from twenty-nine different ethnic groups and nationalities. A significant aspect of the day was how the students and teachers fully embraced the opportunity to taste new food and learn about the different cultures represented in the school. The representatives of each nationality or ethnic group were extremely proud and enthusiastic in how they presented the story of their native or ancestral countries. Congratulations must go to Miss Doocey and all the students and teachers involved in making this such a wonderful event.



## Key dates in January

**January 7**

School reopens

**January 10**

Global Schools Launch

**January 14**

5<sup>th</sup> Year Parent Teacher Meeting

**January 16**

Transition Year Fashion Show

**January 17**

Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Retreats

**January 28**

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Parent Teacher Meeting

**February 1**

St. Brigid's Day

**February 5**

Start of Mock Exams

## TY Carol Singing



Transition Years singing carols in Wexford for St Patrick's Special School.

Keep up to date



[Follow us on Twitter](#)

## St Vincent de Paul Conference

The Fifth Year St Vincent De Paul Conference have been very busy this term. Their main aim is to spread awareness of and compassion to those who may be less fortunate than us. Led by joint presidents, Rachel Doyle and Beth Roche of 5C, the Coláiste Bríde St. Vincent de Paul Conference delivered an interactive lesson on emotional resilience to all First Years during our 'I am Worth it' week. In the run up to Christmas alongside Ms Murphy, they also championed the St. Vincent de Paul food drive to contribute hampers of food for those in need in the local area. Huge thanks to all families, students and teachers who donated food and toiletries to the cause, it was collected by Joan and Orla of the local Enniscorthy St. Vincent de Paul branch during our Carol Service last Friday.

## Junior Camogie

Well done to our Junior Camogie team who followed up their victory over Gorey Community School by beating Abbey C.C Ferrybank on a score line of 2.10 to 0.02. Our girls topped their group with an unbeaten series of games and now qualify for the Junior B Leinster Semi-final. This game will take place in January where they will be face a tough challenge from Borris Vocational School.

## "I am Worth it" Week 2018

At the end of November, we held our third annual "I am WORTH it" positive mental health week. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the anniversary of our booklet and to also continue our work in relation to teenage mental health in Coláiste Bríde. During the week we held a wide range of activities and events for all year groups. A teacher versus students basketball match, resilience workshops, a whole school dance, appreciation stations, were just some of the activities that took place. On the final day we held a fundraiser which involved a Battle of the Brains quiz with students and staff. Before the day finished some of the male teachers were subjected to a little bit of beauty therapy/torture with leg waxing. This was very well received by the students!



## Christmas Carol Service

Our candle lit Christmas Carol Service got the whole school into the festive spirit. Congratulations to all those involved in the event but a particular mention must go to our choir and the Religion and Music departments. Thank you also to our Chaplain Fr. Paddy Banville for his assistance at this wonderful event.



A number of activities took place to celebrate College Awareness Week. To start off the week our staff wore labels with the names of the college they attended. Emer Emily Neenan, Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholar & Trinity College PHD student spoke to our senior students about her career journey in Earth Sciences. We also had students visit both UCD and Carlow IT.

## School Self Evaluation



Our current School Improvement Plan is available on our website and can be accessed by [clicking on this link](#).

## Book Club



Our Book Club met again in December & reviewed *The Weight of Water* by Sarah Crossan. The group enjoyed the book but enjoyed the discussion even more.

## Retreats

Over the past number of weeks a number of religious retreats were held in our school. Our First Years had their retreats with a former Coláiste Bríde teacher, Sister Elizabeth Breen, of the Sisters of Mercy. During November our Third Years also had their retreats with Mustard Seed.

## Christmas Quiz

Our annual Christmas Quiz is one of the most eagerly anticipated events in our school calendar year. This year's edition certainly lived up to all expectations with an eclectic mix of entertainment acts including some extremely talented student acts and some less talented teacher acts! Well done to all the TY students and the teachers who assisted them in organising this wonderful event.

## John Paul II Award

November saw ten of our Fifth Year students receive their John Paul 2 awards in the Riverside Park Hotel. Each of the girls completed the Gold Award which required them to complete 20 hours of parish involvement and 20 hours of social awareness. For their parish involvement the tasks ranged from organising children's masses, playing music at mass, readings and cleaning the church. For their social awareness the girls visited nursing homes, helped with after school homework clubs, volunteered in charity shops and helping in local clubs. It was an enriching experience for all students involved and all of Coláiste Bríde are proud of them for what they have given to the community.



## Transition Year News

Our Transition Years have had an extremely busy few weeks.

The following activities took place for our Transition Years: Work experience, stand-up



comedy show, Yoga Module, College Awareness Week, Hospitality Careers Day, Positive Mental Health Talk, Carlow Campus Open Day visit, UCD visit, Leinster Rugby Match in the RDS, Mini-Company Talk, Battle of the Brains, French and German Film Day, School Craft Fair, Debate; Coláiste Bríde Vs CBS, Junk Kouture, TY Assessment week, Riverside Hotel Student Craft Fair Day, Carol Singing - St. John's Day Care Centre and Hospital, Carol Singing - Fundraiser for St. Patrick's Special Junior School, The Arc Cinema and the Annual School Christmas Quiz.

## Academic Excellence

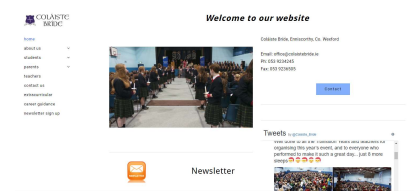


Congratulations to Karen Walsh who was awarded a UCD entrance scholarship in recognition of her outstanding Leaving Cert results.



Congratulations to Orla Healey who was awarded a DCU entrance scholarship in recognition of her outstanding Leaving Cert results.

## Our Website



[www.colaistebride.ie](http://www.colaistebride.ie)