



Special Points of Interest:

- *A warm welcome to our new 1st years students*
- *McEgan`s Got Talent*
- *Gaeilgathon `14*
- *JCSP literacy initiatives*
- *Fundraising*
- *Park Run*
- *Sports Updates*



Science lab gets a welcome visitor

Principal`s Message

Fáilte go heagrán na Nollag do Nuachtlitir Coláiste Mac Aogáin. Tá siúl agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as a bheith ag léamh faoin raon agus éagsúlacht d'imeachtaí a bhíonn ar siúl sa scoil fhuinniúil seo. As 2014 draws to a close I would like to wish all our staff, students and parents a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year. Thanks to all who continue to work so hard thus ensuring the highest of educational standards in our college. Since our last newsletter our College has been busy with a multiplicity of academic and extra-curricular activities, various field trips, guest speakers, talent show, chaplaincy events,

preparation for orals exams and entry in Transition Year competitions. We encourage all our students to do their very best always and to participate in all of our extra-curricular activities of interest to them. I hope you enjoy reading our Christmas `14 newsletter. Go raibh maith agaibh.

Patricia Lynam
Principal



Students from St. Colman's who recently had a taster session of science at the college



Justin Coleman and Denisa Kearney performing "Alleluia"



First years so far

These past few months have been busy ones for our new First Year students at McEgan College, between talks, events outside and within the school. In September, we went on a trip to Muckross Park in Killarney where the students had a chance to get to know each other properly, and bond. They have frequently participated in in-school events such as Hot Chocolate at lunch time to reward good behaviour; Soccer Club and Computer Club.



Sheila Mc O'Leary, Kirsty Hickey and Shauna Spillane in Muckross House



1st yrs outside Muckross House

Ciorcal Comhrá, a conversation circle as *Gaeilge*, has been a hit with several of our First Year students, not in least due to the *Tae agus Briosaí!* They recently got involved in catering for a *Cake Sale* to raise funds for *Gaeilge24* (13th Feb), and did a great job of promoting *Gaeilge* throughout the school on the day.

They have been on a *Science Walk* to study the characteristics of *Living Things*, and have been on two trips to *Cork* - one to an *Anti-Bullying* workshop, and the other to *CIT* for *Science week*, where they observed lots of interesting experiments.

More recently, they've been on a combined *English and Art* trip to the *Gearagh*, where *Ted Cooke* gave fascinating information about the history and flora and fauna of the area.

McEgan College recently invited 6th Class students from several nearby schools, to join us for a trial day. Our First Year students, themselves being settled and experienced by now, were excellent guides and helpers in subject areas of *Music*, *Science*, *Home Economics*, *Woodwork* and *Metalwork*.

On 4th December several of the First Years will be taking part in the school *Talent Show*, and they are going on a big outing to *Dublin* on 18th of December to see the show '*Elf*' in the *Bord Gáis Energy Theatre*.

Ms. Lillian O` Mahony (Class tutor)



MCEGAN NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS 14

Boys Senior Football

McEgan College Senior Footballers were beaten at the quarter final stage of the Cork County Championship and the Munster Championship. After wins over Cobh Community School, Ennis Community College and Killorglin Community School, McEgan College went down to Nagle Community School and Ballingarry Community school in Cork and Munster Championships respectively. This is a very talented and committed side and had it not been for unfortunately timed injuries could well have progressed further in these competitions. Our Under 16 footballers will be in action over the coming weeks so we hope that our younger students have better luck than their senior counterparts. Well done to all players and coaches alike.

5k Fun Run

This year the students of McEgan College took part in a 5km fun run as part of a healthy schools initiative. Maximum participation from students and staff was achieved and a great day was had by all. The Junior Cycle students ran on Wednesday the 24th of September and the Senior students ran on Friday the 26th. We will hope to retest the students later in the year as part of McEgan College Health week. The run organised by the Macroom Leisure Centre and Mr Daniel Twomey (PE Teacher) is an annual event and a highlight of the academic calendar. It is hoped that students will obtain better times when retested in the spring but the emphasis is definitely on fun and participation as opposed to competition. For the whole school to complete a timed 5km run is a fantastic achievement for the college, it was a thoroughly enjoyable experience.



Gaeilgathon

On 13th of November 2014, students from Coláiste Mac Aogáin took part in 'Gaeilge24', a Conradh na Gaeilge initiative to raise the profile and awareness of Gaeilge as a spoken language in our community. Students raised money through a cake sale at lunch time and through sponsorship, and this money will be sent to Conradh na Gaeilge.

Last year's funding went towards upgrading Raidió Rí-Rá (Irish Language radio station) studios. It was great to see so much effort from the students and staff, and to hear so much Gaeilge spoken around the school at lunchtime and in classes. Prizes were awarded to the best Gaeilgeoirí in our staff, and in each participating year group. Maith sibh!

Students enjoying feeding the animals at Logan Farm



News from Room 4

We are delighted to welcome Denis Buckley to Room 4 (our Mild to Moderate Unit) to join Eoghan, Hayleigh & Jennifer. Since September, Room 4 students have had a busy term. Students have enjoyed participation in many outings and field trips. One of the pupils' favourite trips was to Logan's Farm in Lissarda, where they really enjoyed the interaction with animals, even being chased by a goat!

Ms. Bourke

Happy Christmas to everyone



Macroom Food Festival Runners-Up Aaron O'Neill and Cáolan Shorten

Religious Education Newsletter Articles 2014/2015

Bothar Sponsored Walk

This Christmas, the 4A2 class took part in a sponsored walk in aid of Bothar. Each student in the class raised €5. All money raised (€100) went towards buying a share of a dairy cow. This cow will be a life saving gift for one family in Africa. Well done to the 4A2 class. 4A1 are hoping to do the same in the New Year with all money raised going to Marymount Hospice.

Advent Reconciliation Service

On Thursday 11th of December, the McEgan College annual reconciliation service took place. Our school chaplain Fr O'Mahony was joined by Fr. Roberts, Fr. Manning and Fr. McCarthy. Firstly, all students attended a group prayer service. After this, students were invited to take part in the sacrament of reconciliation. Many students took advantage of the opportunity to prepare for Christmas in a meaningful way.

SVP Christmas Food Appeal

At the start of December, the school's annual Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Appeal was launched. During the month, students and staff brought in non-perishable food items. These items were then distributed to needy families in the local area by the SVP. Thanks to the LCA2 class who looked after organising this year's appeal.

School Mass

Mc Egan College will hold a School Mass on the 6th January 2015 in St Coleman's at 10.30am. All welcome.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERY ONE



Art Gallery Visit

Transition year students enjoyed a recent trip to the Glucksman gallery in UCC. The students were given a guided tour of the Gallery's latest exhibition *Selective Memory*. The exhibition was about archives and collections that artists had grouped together. Students were asked to record and place their ideas in boxes to add to the collection. Students also learnt about the buildings award winning architecture and took a stroll around the grounds of UCC.

Where`s Mrs. Corkery!!!!

Literacy Initiatives

First year students taking over Mrs. Corkery's office all for reading for pleasure. In November, first and second year students were divided into two teams and competed to read the most words in 4 weeks. Congratulations to the winning team who will be rewarded with a fun afternoon of new books and reading after Christmas!



Third year students were visited again by Cork poet, Gerry McCarthy who is working with them to complete pieces for the West Cork Poetry Project. Gerry was back to give a one day workshop where he helped students to edit poems that they had created last May. These poems will be published along with work from other schools in West Cork later this year. Gerry will be launching a new book of poetry later in the year and has asked to come back to share some of his poems with the students. We're looking forward to that visit!

The annual Festive Breakfast and JCSP Awards for first year students will be held on 16th December and everyone is really looking forward to what is always a wonderful celebration.

Winners of the creative writing competition will be announced after Christmas and the winners will receive a €30 all for one voucher. There is a prize for both Junior and senior students.

Finally, to all our students and everyone who has helped the JCSP team to have such a successful start to the year - thank you!! We look forward to many more exciting projects and initiatives in 2015.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERY ONE

McEgan's Got Talent

McEgan College celebrated their gifted students on 4th December with a hugely entertaining talent show. From Trad groups to readings of original poetry, there was something for everyone to enjoy. BOM chairperson Mr. Connie Foley and teachers Ms. Máire Ni Laoire and Ms. Sarah Buckley had a very difficult job as judges but finally decided to award the overall prize to Transition year student Lily Murphy Ownsworth for her rendition of Vance Joy's *EmmyLou*.

Under the guidance of music teacher Ms. Joanne O Regan, the show was a fantastic success that showcased the talents of the student body not only in terms of performance but also in their ability to organise the event. A delighted Ms. O Regan was eager to thank everyone involved. "Students were involved in creating a stunning backdrop with Ms Brew. They organised the room and even MC'ed the event. And I just want to say a special thank you to Mr. Martin Clancy for lending us the stage and Peter Lane for organising the sound and to Paul Lynch who coordinated the layout of the room with the TY students".

Much to the delight of everyone, some staff members also decided to show off their talents and give students a taste of what it's like to be a teacher in a hilarious comedy sketch involving some unexpected role reversal!

Congratulations to everyone involved, especially Ms. O Regan who as always kept the show on the road!



Lily Murphy-Ownsworth, Alannah O`Leary, Louise O`Sullivan, Bailey Murphy-Ownsworth and Aaron O`Neill performing for McEgan's Got Talent.

Second year students, Michaela O`Riordan, Niamh McSweeney, Aoife Galvin and Katelynn Coleman performing live on McEgan's Got Talent





Some challenging students on stage!!!!!! Mr. Tim Dennehy, Ms. Mary B Manning, Ms. Edel Mullally, Ms Lilian O`Mahony , Mr. Daniel Twomey and Mr. Peter Cawley



LCA

The LCA 2 group are fast approaching the end of session 3 and are putting the final touches to their key assignments and tasks that they have been working diligently on since September. For their Practical Achievement Task (PAT) students are currently completing projects in Welding, Fund raising for the Irish Guide

dogs, Organising an Event, Cake Decorating, Computer Skills in Farming and Horticulture. Teachers have been impressed by the energy, skill, co-operation and diligence and 'can-do' attitude that the LCA class have demonstrated in the implementing of their various tasks. Well done!

In early February these tasks will be assessed by a visiting examiner.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our LCAs the best of luck in their assessment and interview.

Ms. Bourke



2nd yr Book
Winners
Michaela
O`Riordan,
Erin
McSweeney,
Aoife Galvin,
Katelynn
Coleman,
Niamh
McSweeney,
Shauna
Kelleher, Mary
O`Leary and
Sarah Twomey

Career Guidance Notes

CAO CLOSING DATE: 1st February 2015

Application fee (online or on paper): **€40**

Apply online before 5.15pm on 20th January 2015 and pay just **€25**.

LATE APPLICATION CLOSING DATE: 1st May 2015

Application fee: €50 for online applications, €80 for paper applications

LATEST DATE FOR CHANGE OF MIND: 1st JULY 2015

The change of mind facility is **free of charge**



Some 1st years with their Christmas Trees made in the metalwork room with their teacher

Career Guidance Department

Students are advised to make their C.A.O application before Christmas or soon after, even if they are unsure as to the order of their preferences. Delaying the application can often take the focus off study and important Leaving cert oral/project work. The change of mind facility gives students the opportunity to adapt their application continuously up until July 1st so the advice is to get an application in for the moment and reconsider its content later on.

No matter what year your son/daughter is in, it is never too early to discuss future career aspirations and I would encourage you to do so, as specific subjects for example may be required for certain courses and this is something which cannot be dealt with in 6th year when it is too late! A CAO Information night for 5th and 6th year parents was held on Nov. 24th where Maeve O'Reilly from UCC presented on the night and was available to parents of students who wish to make a HEAR application. Deirdre Creedon from CIT was also in attendance to explain details of the McEgan College links to CIT for third level study. If parents/guardians have any queries on the above, I can be contacted at the school.

Happy Christmas to all,
Ms. Manning.

FYI

As from January 2015 the buses will leave Macroom after 1:15pm on Wednesdays. This is to accommodate St. Mary's and De La Salle who need to increase their class contact time as per Dept Of Education Guidelines



HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERY ONE