

# Transition Year update

Let It Bee...

Mallow Motoring Campus



This year, McEgan College was successful in getting a grant from Cork County Council towards developing a Biodiversity Garden. Since September, students have been doing a lot of planting, taking cuttings, seed saving and learning various ways to propagate plants. Bulbs including Daffodils, Species Tulips, Bluebells, Croci, and Snowdrops have all been planted. Shoots have just started emerging to show promise of a glorious Spring display. All plants chosen will attract many beneficial insect and animal species. Students have chosen a variety of flora to help provide food, shelter and breeding grounds for beneficial insects, birds, and many other small animals. Student have also had the opportunity to take nature walks during the glorious autumnal weather, to identify native Irish trees in the Demesne. Species identified included- Holly, Ash, Oak, Yew, Hawthorn, Crab Apple, Blackthorn, Elder and Hazel. In the spring, it is hoped to create and design bird boxes, bat boxes and to build a bug hotel. Some members of the class are so excited about the bug hotel we may end up with a chain of hotels! There are however a few who are a little less enthused about creepy crawlies! *Ms Burke*

Some school Bank members with Briege Corkery

For the "Cups against Cancer" campaign the Transition year students along with Ms. Angland and Ms. Deirdre O'Sullivan with the Hairdressing students fundraised for all October. The TY's organised a mega raffle for which they got fantastic spot prizes thanks to the generosity of the local businesses in Macroom. Deirdre O'Sullivan the Hairdressing Tutor got spot prizes from local salons, Deirdre also held a "Stylathon" in the training salon where she and her students did styling, cuts and colours all day – all donations from this event went towards the fundraiser too. Between Bernie, Deirdre and all their students they managed to raise an outstanding sum of €2,200. A cheque for €2,000 was given to CUH's Breast Cancer research which was presented to Professor Seamus O'Reilly and Professor Mark Corrigan, both of CUH. The remaining €200 was deposited for "Cups against Cancer" with the Irish Cancer Society. Both Bernie and Deirdre are very grateful for all the support and assistance they got from all the students, staff, parents and all the local businesses as this would just not have been possible without everyone's tremendous support. Also TY's collected for Breast Cancer's "Pink Ribbon" Campaign on October 5<sup>th</sup> where they collected a separate amount of €1,600.

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Green School Committee 18/19



## Green School

### GREEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ms. Angland	Eimear O'Leary 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.
Ms. Lynam & Ms. Corkery	Alli Twomey 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.
Mr. Dennehy	Charlie Kearney 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.
Mr. Paul Lynch	James Creedon LCA 2
Donnacha Spillane 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr.	Natalia Zajac TY
Francesca Tobon Lenci	Robin Kiss TY
Daire Desmond 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr.	Shauna Bradley TY
Sadhbh McCarthy 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr.	Sheena Sheena TY
Nora Kate O'Leary 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr.	Ebon Creedon 5 <sup>th</sup> Yr.
Jade Dineen 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr.	Ellie Murphy-Onsworth
Ella Fitzgerald 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.	Niamh McSweeney 6 <sup>th</sup>
Ricardo 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.	Cathal Healy Ring 6 <sup>th</sup> Yr.

McEgan's Green School Committee are back working hard trying to get our next Green Flag which is on energy conservation. We had an Energy Awareness week in November. A gentleman from the SSEA carried out an initial assessment of McEgan's energy use. Overall we are on track to get our next Green Flag. Again recycling, energy awareness and reducing our carbon footprint is paramount. *Ms. Angland & Mr. Dennehy.*

## Fundraising to date

- \* CUH Breast Cancer Research –TY's & Hairdressers
- \* Pink Ribbon Collection –TY's
- \* SIMON Cork –5th Yr LCVP
- \* Cork/ Kerry Cancer Bus – 6th Yr LCVP
- \* COPE Foundation –TY's
- \* The Mercy Heroes –TY's
- \* Irish Cancer Society – Hairdressers

\*€2,000—Raffle & Stylathon  
\*€1,600  
\* > €1,500  
\*€760,  
\*€668.26  
\*€273.50  
\*€200  
€7,001.76  
**Total so far**

€



McEgan College



## Christmas Newsletter 2018

## Official opening of Room 22

### Some highlights so far this year

- Opening of Room 22
- London School tour
- Maths Week
- Science Week
- Gender Balance in Practical subjects
- Metal work
- Science Buddies
- Computer Coding
- Students' Council
- Green School Committee
- "Let it Bee" Project
- Science Week
- Career Guidance
- College Awareness wk.
- PLC College
- Transition Year
- LCVP
- Home School liaison
- Sports & P.E.
- Fundraising to-date at McEgan

## Principal's Address

Fáilte go heagrán na Nollag do Nuachtliúir 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 2018 draws to a close, I would like to wish all our staff, parents, students and friends a safe and happy Christmas. This year we welcomed a fabulous group of 1<sup>st</sup> years from fourteen different primary schools who have settled well into McEgan College life. We officially opened our new extension Room 22 by Minister Creed and which we very much welcome. The students have a general classroom equipped with a fully fitted kitchen, a sensory room and a bathroom. I am privileged to be a part of a school with highly capable and committed teachers and support staff. One of the critical factors of any successful school is the staff. There has never been a time when being a teacher has been more demanding or challenging. To our teachers and all our staff, thank-you for your energy, passion and enthusiasm. This year we have celebrated many successful school events such as past students Josh Mullen and Edel Shorten receiving third level bursaries from Macroom, Credit Union, over eighty PLC students graduated with their QQI Level 5 and Level 6 awards, success in achieving 5 out of the 9 ETTA awards for Metalwork and Engineering inter-school awards and more success to come hopefully. Thank-you to all the families who continue to promote McEgan College in a positive manner. Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and happy holiday. *Patricia Lynam, Principal*



A new classroom to cater for children with mild to general learning difficulties was completed at McEgan College this year and on November 16<sup>th</sup> it was officially opened by Mr. Michael Creed, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Marine.

Also present were Mr Ted Owens, CEO of CETB, local politicians, clergy, representatives from the Castle Domain and principals from schools within CETB as well as parents of the students being

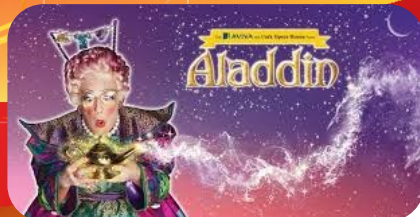
taught in the new classroom. A variety of speakers spoke including Michael Creed, Pat Mc-Kelvey, Director of Schools CETB, the principal of the school but one of the most inspiring was that given by Eoghain O'Sullivan, a student from the classroom. Traditional music was provided by a group of students while Donnacha Spillane a first year student sang a

local song: 'The Bould Thady Quill'. A sumptuous meal in the new classroom with dishes having been prepared by students under the watchful eye of Ms. Hazel Bourke, head of the new classroom as well as dishes prepared by Hazel herself and other teachers. Everyone who attended was impressed by the new classroom and spoke highly of the resources it provides for the students.





# Merry Christmas



It is with great anticipation that the students, staff and myself are looking forward to ending the Christmas term on a high note. We are off to see the panto, **Aladdin**, in the Cork Opera House. The excitement of a production jam packed with live music, comedy capers and magical special effects seems too much to pass up! We also have time on the way for a spot of Christmas shopping and a chance to soak up all the Christmas atmosphere and decorations in Mahon Point. It is indeed my first panto ever! So I'm looking forward to *A Whole New World* of Adventures on a magic carpet ride..... **Joanne O Regan (Music Teacher)**

## LCVP, 5th Years, Christmas '18



As part of the LCVP Enterprise Project, the 5th years nominated the Simon Community as their preferred Charity for 2018. Homelessness is a major problem in Ireland and Niamh Quain from Simon who visited the school in November, underlined the importance of fundraising to their organisation. In Cork alone, Simon's budget is over seven million euro of which the Government subsidise the Charity for only two million of that. So the gap is significant. A number of fundraising events most notably with the switching of the Town Lights in Macroom and the students own Christmas Market in the school were extremely well supported. The LCVP group would like to thank all those who helped in any way, be with baking, the raffles, posters etc., as it does make a difference. So far they have raised €1,500 and rising **Mr. O' Driscoll, LCVP**

## Presentation of cheque to Kerry Cancer Support Group on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 by Leaving Cert LCVP students

Well done to our LCVP 6th year class who presented a cheque to the value of €668.26 to **Kerry Cancer Support Group**. Part of their LCVP course is to work as teams to fundraise or raise awareness of certain charities. After holding a brain storming session, it was agreed to fundraise for this worthy charity. Several fundraising events were held last year such as a 5km Fun Run, a Bake Sale and Non-Uniform Day. Breda and Trish from the charity talked to the class about the vital service it provides. **6th year LCVP**



Cheque presented by Michaela O'Riordan & Niamh McSweeney

## Ms. Warren & Room 17

### The SVP Food Appeal

During the month of December, McEgan College LCA students launched the school's annual Christmas Food Appeal. Both staff and students were encouraged to donate non-perishable food items. The food collected will be donated to the SVP in Macroom, who in turn will distribute it to needy families in the local area. Well done to all involved.



### Shoe Box Appeal

First and second year students were involved in the 'Team Hope' Christmas Shoebox Appeal during the month of November. The Shoe Box appeal was run in conjunction with local TD Aindrias Moynihan, whose office was used as a collection point for local schools to drop off their boxes. These boxes (filled with presents) will be sent to children in the developing world, who would not otherwise be receiving a gift this Christmas. Well done to all the first and second year students who participated!



### Advent Reconciliation Service

The school's annual Reconciliation service took place on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> December in room 17. The school's chaplain, Fr. Joe, along with members of the local clergy visited the school to meet with staff and students in preparation for Christmas. 6<sup>th</sup> year students sang and read during the service. Many thanks to Mr. Sheehan for leading the music for the event.

### International Students

A Christmas party was held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December for departing International Transition Year Students. The party was held in room 17, where students had party food, music and festive fun. Ms. Angland, TY co-ordinator wished our international students well and thanked them for their participation in school life at McEgan College since September. Many thanks to 3rd and 5<sup>th</sup> year students, who helped Ms. Warren decorate the Christmas tree and prepare the room for the party.

**CSPE Projects** – Ms Warren and Mr O'Connor's third year groups are putting in the final preparations for completion of their Action Project. Students met with a local TD and community Garda for this project. Well done to all students for their preparation and participation in the action projects so far!

**Leadership Programme** – TY students are currently partaking in the Foroige Youth Leadership programme for two class periods a week. Through participation in this programme, students are developing their communication, listening and presentation skills, along with team building exercises and classroom based activities. **Ms. Warren**

# Maths Week

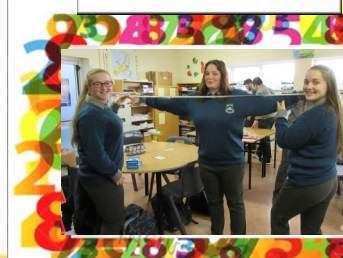
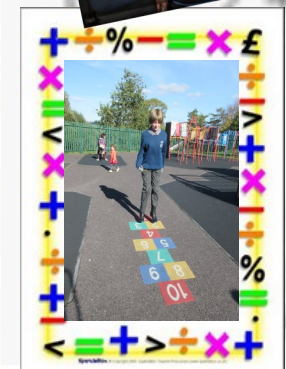


## Coding



Neil Shannon from Populo who gave a workshop on coding to McEgan Pupils during Science Week

What a successful week we had this year for [www.mathsweek.ie](http://www.mathsweek.ie). Students at McEgan participated in activities including Random Act of Mathematics where Transition Year students prepared a range of maths questions to ask students during break time. There were public displays of numeracy as students created mathematical displays around the school. In addition students participated on a maths trail around Macroom as well as played cards, board games and photography for [www.haveyougotmathseyes.com](http://www.haveyougotmathseyes.com). Transition Year measured the height and arm span of a sample of the school's population, to put analyse their data next week regarding the Golden Ratio. All in all a diverse week of numerical activity that was inclusive of all mathematical abilities.



## Science Buddies



The 5th class students of St. Joseph's Macroom get Science lesson from McEgan College 1<sup>st</sup> year students on Wednesday Oct 3rd.



Mc Egan College were delighted to welcome the 5th class girls from St. Joseph's, with their teacher Ms. Niamh Kelleher, resource teacher Ms. Elaine Murphy to our science laboratory. This year 9 parents from both student groups participated and learned some great 'kitchen science'.

'Science Buddies' is a CIT lead STEM programme where 1<sup>st</sup> year secondary students teach primary school students to perform a number of simple science experiments. All students got an opportunity to be real scientists, developing their experimental and interpersonal skills.

It was inspiring to see the excitement and feel the enthusiasm in the laboratory when students, parents and teachers came to work and learn together. Thank you to all involved in this fantastic event. **Ms. McAdam & Ms. Shannon, Science Teachers**



## Student Council

The role of the Student Council at McEgan College is to represent the student body and provide pupils with an open forum to discuss students issues.

Each year group votes in two members at the start of the academic year. One male and one female student are voted in a democratic manner. This year, three international students were also voted onto the council, to represent the voice for our visiting students. At Junior Cert level, the voting takes place during the CSPE Class. Aoife Galvin (6<sup>th</sup> Year) is the current Chairperson with Jackie Lucey (6<sup>th</sup> Year) serving as Secretary, and both pupils are looking forward to a productive year, in their important roles, within the council.

The Student Council meet two or three times a month to discuss issues that are concerning students. The Student Council have an important role to play in new rules and policies that are implemented in the school. In the past the Student Council have been responsible for:

- Changing the food and beverages in the canteen
- Dealing with locker problems
- Introducing a drinkable water fountain for pupils in the assembly area

- Consulting with management on changes to uniform
- Assisting In the first year Induction Day
- Attending and assisting in the Open Evening for the incoming first years
- Involvement in the Green School Committee
- Consulting with the Principal on changes in policies and the introduction of new policies
- For the past few years, McEgan College Student Council representatives have attended Comhairle Na Nóg in Cork City along with many other secondary school representatives. The Student Council is a very active and important organisation at McEgan College. On occasion, the Chairperson along with the secretary arranges to meet with management to discuss areas of concern. This is a formal meeting and the pupils' viewpoints are listened to and taken seriously. Where possible, solutions are sought. The aim of The Student Council at McEgan College is to give students a voice in promoting positive change within the school. **Ms. Condon**



## School tour

McEgan College School Tour 2018

McEgan College students recently enjoyed another action-packed school tour in London. During the three day stay students were delighted with a tour of the Harry Potter studio in Leavesden just outside London. Fans of the film series were speechless when they saw the magic of the Harry Potter universe appear before them. The itinerary for day two involved a bus tour of London, a boat trip on the Thames, a spin in the London eye and after dinner on the strand, a trip to the theatre to see 'Wicked'. The final day of the tour included a visit to the world-famous Madam Tussauds wax museum and a quick visit to the Victoria and Albert museum before returning home. **Ms. O' Mahony, Mr. O'Connor & Mr. Sheehan**



London's Eye & Buckingham Palace

## Junk Kouture Competition

As part of transition year, we are doing a competition called Junk Kouture. Junk Kouture is where you take recycled items and use them to create a fashion piece and then you enter it into the competition where you go up against other schools all over the country. Our team consists of Sheena, Jennifer, Emma and Amélie, our dress is made up of the following recycled items that we collected ourselves, recycled CDs, newspaper, straws and a recycled net. The theme we have chosen for our dress is colour mania. Our dress has the CDs cut up and glued onto the top of the dress to create a sort of shine effect, kind of like a disco ball. On the skirt we are going to spray paint the black net with a clear sparkle silver spray paint so it has a glittery effect on it, then stick on the back of the dress on the net, newspaper spray painted with a chrome copper colour and then the clear sparkle silver colour as a short train. The shoes then are going to have straws decorating the heels and little CD fragments covering the rest of it.

**Ms. Muarphy's class**



AMÉLIE

JESSICA

ROLAND

SOPHIA

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## Career Guidance Update

Senior Cycle Students have had visits this term from many third level colleges who spoke to them about the various courses and application procedures. Students attended an exhibition in Kanturk organised by The IRD in Duhallow where representatives from various colleges in Ireland and The UK were available to answer student questions. Some students attended college open days in University college Cork, St Angelas College Sligo, Waterford Institute of Technology, University of Limerick, Cork Institute of Technology and Clonakilty Agricultural College. **Free revision classes provided by UCC** due to the link McEgan College has with the university through the **UCC Plus Programme** have begun in many subjects including Maths, Biology, DCG and Home Ec. There are 100 hours of free tutoring in total on offer for the students across all subjects between here and May. 6<sup>th</sup> year students are also in a position to begin processing CAO applications since November 5<sup>th</sup> and can do so until the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. **College Awareness Week** took place in the school in November and was once again a great success. Past pupils play a very important role in this week and we are very grateful to them in giving of their time to return to the school and share with students their experience of college. Invaluable advice they gave included information on sourcing college accommodation, how to budget your money, how to ensure you choose the right course and what to do if you don't, the importance of applying for the SUSI grant among much more. Senior cycle students in particular found these talks to be very inspirational as they approached their Christmas exams. **Ms. Manning**



Marie O'Leary former pupil of McEgan College returned to talk of her college experience to the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Yr students. Marie is presently in CIT where she is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> year studying

Max Darby has a Level 8 qualification in Digital Humanities and is presently working for Musgraves and completing his PhD in Data Science.

Declan Sheehan first completed a level 5 in Digital media in Coláiste Stiofáin Naofa subsequently transferred to LIT where he is now in his 4<sup>th</sup> year of a Level 8 qualification in Game Art and Design.

Kanturk  
Careers Expo

Muireann Kelleher past  
pupil's Art work showcased  
at CIT, **Art Graduate**

Parents at UCC+ talk

## PLC UPDATE

McEgan College of Further Education has had a very successful and busy first term for the 2018-19 participants in QQI 5 Business Studies; Early Childhood Care & Education; Nursing Studies; Health Service Skills and the Year 2 Hairdressing programme.

All students are now undertaking Work Experience placement in settings relevant to their programmes and the Hairdressing Salon is open to the public each Wednesday from 10am to 3.30pm in Macroom EBusiness Park, Bowl Road, Macroom. Cuts, colours, restyling and blowdry bar, all at very reduced rates. Contact Deirdre at 086 6002219 to make your appointment.

McEgan College prides itself on being of the local community, for the community. Our Adult Education programmes offer participants an opportunity to upskill in the areas of Office Administration / Medical Secretary; Health Care Assistant; Childcare/Creche worker and Hairdressing, all sectors where currently there is a demand for staff and a variety of employment opportunities available. Opportunities to access Business Studies; Nursing Studies; Social Care and Early Childhood Degree programmes in Universities and Institutes of Technology are also possible with a QQI5 qualification from McEgan College. If you have any queries about any of our day programmes for September 2019, please email [info.office@mcegan.ie](mailto:info.office@mcegan.ie) or telephone 026 41076.

### NIGHT CLASSES:

A range of night classes have recently been completed for the Autumn 2018 term. **Creative Cooking for Kids** hosted an energetic group of 20 children; **Cardiopilates** was offered each Monday & Thursday; **Thai Cuisine** classes were very well attended and QQI Level 6 Early Childcare Modules and Level 5 Bookkeeping, Manual & Computerised module enable participants to develop new skills and opportunities for employment and career progression.

We will be advertising Spring 2019 night classes shortly, classes will include a variety of hobby and educational programmes, updates will be posted on our website [www.mcegan.ie](http://www.mcegan.ie)

**Catherine Kelleher, PLC Co-Ordinator**

Hairdressing students from McEgan College participated in an in-house Fantasy Hair Piece Competition on Monday Dec 10<sup>th</sup>. Ciara Wilson proprietor of the successful Salon Shop in Cork City sponsored the trophy for the event. The judging panel consisted of members from industry and education. The judges commended the high standard of the skills displayed by the students. Congratulations to all students and in particular to runner-up Lynsey Keenan and outright winner Serena Randles.



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## Gender Balance in practical subjects



FRANCESCA  
TOBON LENCI



My name is Francesca and I am originally from Columbia. I moved to Ireland two years ago and I love it here. I really want to continue studying Metalwork next year.

I learnt so much and had so much fun doing all the projects. We started with the Keyring where we learnt all the basic skills. The coat hanger was next which I have on the kitchen door at home. The pumpkin was next which turned out better than I thought. The snowman was the most recent project and turned out to be my favourite.

When Mr. Dennehy told us to design a snowperson and to be as creative as possible, I decided that a snow cat is a unique and original idea. My project was very different to everyone else's. I got a really good feeling when I completed the project and saw how well it turned out.

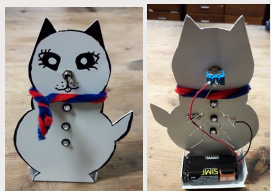
I have experience with robotics in my last school. This really helped me when I was wiring the snow cat and trying to get the lights working.

Metalwork is the best subject in my opinion and I am very sad that we are not continuing it after Christmas but will be starting the subject again in second year.

The one thing that I love about Metalwork is that you get to use your creativity while learning.

No matter if you're a girl or boy everyone has the right and ability to follow their dreams.

Francesca's  
metalwork  
project



Halloween  
Projects



Christmas  
Metalwork  
projects



## Sports at McEgan

### 1<sup>st</sup> year trip to the Glen Resource centre

Early September our first year group set off on their first trip with McEgan College. The group travelled to the Glen Resource Centre in Cork for a day of fun and challenges. The first activity was a high ropes course and many of the students overcame initial nerves to get to the top. The next activity required the students to work together in teams and was a great way of getting the class to communicate with each other and get to know each other better. After lunch, the students played circle tag and dodgeball. Mr. Devane briefly joined in but quickly showed his age and was eliminated within seconds. After the essential stopping at the shop on the way home, all the class arrived safe and well back at McEgan college, exhausted after their first trip away with the school.

### Rugby Training

The school are delighted to say that numbers at our rugby trainings are continuing to blossom. With 2 coaches from Munster rugby academy leading the trainings, our young stars are in good hands. The school will be entering competitions early next year and we are very confident that we will have success in our outings.

### Basketball Training

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year girls are continuing with basketball training every Wednesday. Paul Keohane from Neptune Basketball club is taking the girls who are performing very well. It is hoped that these girls will fly the flag for basketball in McEgan in future years. Mr. Devane, PE Teacher



Gymnastics  
class at  
McEgan



### Pizza and Ice Cream party - Attendance Initiative

A joint HSCL/JCSP attendance initiative was run from mid-term to Christmas. All Junior Cycle students that had full attendance during this term were invited to a free Pizza and Ice Cream party at lunchtime. This initiative was designed to reward those students with good attendance and encourage others to improve their attendance.

Kevin Clarke, Home School Community Liaison officer

### Run the Club-FAI/Cork City

A joint FAI/Cork City program called Run the Club will start in January with our TY students. This program has been created by industry professionals and provides skills and knowledge needed to work within the sports industry in a variety of business fields. It delivers employability skills, fosters entrepreneurship and the activities undertaken will support TY students to develop confidence, interview skills and motivation. that Cork City/FAIwe are now a Gaisce Challenge Partner. The 'Run the Club' programme fits both the Personal Skill and Community Involvement challenge areas for the Bronze award.

### MACBETH

Leaving cert students enjoyed an entertaining and original performance of 'Macbeth' by the cyclone rep company. Cyclone rep have been adapting Shakespeare's plays for junior and leaving cert students for some time now and have always been very student friendly and accessible. This year's production was no exception and even the windy and wet weather didn't dampen our student's enthusiasm.

### COMPUTER CLUB

Monday lunchtime students can relax and enjoy the company of likeminded friends in computer club in room 6. Computer club gives students who are more interested in technology, the opportunity to relax and indulge in their favourite past time. Sometimes that involves frenetic Pokémon battles while other students develop their own websites or use creative processes to make interesting desktop wallpaper. Whatever your interest computer club is a safe friendly place to relax with friends or even work on projects using our state of the art computer facilities.