



Prize winners

TY's with Ms. Angland & Maeve Power from CUH

LCA's with Mrs. Corkery, Ms. Angland, Ms. Manning along with Michéal Sheridan CEO of The Mercy Charities

The students and staff of McEgan College engage in many different fundraising initiatives since the start of the academic year. Under the supervision of Ms Angland, over €2830 was raised for the **Breast Cancer Research Unit in CUH** by the Transition Year Students. Enormous work was undertaken in raising such an amount, which included a monster raffle, cake sales and a coffee morning. We were very grateful to have Pat Rehilan's fantastic baking for our coffee morning and a fabulous work of art baking to raffle.


A flag day was held for **Cope Foundation** in September and €695 was collected. In October, the Leaving Cert Applied class collected €375 for the **Mercy Hospital Foundation**, which again was generously donated by the people of Macroom.

Thanks for all your support and generosity.


Fundraising to date

* €2,830	* CUH Breast Cancer Research —Transition Years
— Mega Raffle	* COPE Foundation—TY's
* €695	* The Mercy Heroes—TY's
* €375	* SIMON Cork—5th Yr LCV
* €275	
* €500	* Fr. John Keane's community work— TY's
€4,675	

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LCVP students & Ms. Shannon




In November, the Transition Year students held a cake sale and raised €275 for **Cork Simon**. On December 10th the 5th year LCV class with Ms. Shannon students took part in the Macroom Christmas Market. All proceeds from the sale of home baking, holly, second hand toys and the raffle went to Cork Simon.

On December 19th, McEgan will hold its annual Christmas Jumper Day for the homeless and a Christmas Cake raffle will also take place. This will be coordinated by Mr Padraig O Driscoll and all monies raised will be donated to **Fr John Keane** who does tremendous work with this vulnerable sector of society in Cork. As well as generating awareness of these worthy causes, students develop vital skills like team work, organisation, time management and dealing with the public in a mature manner.

Green School

After being awarded our Energy Flag in May, McEgan's Green School Committee are now working hard on our third Green Flag which is on water conservation. The Water theme looks at developing awareness around water conservation and how to effectively manage this important resource in our schools and at home. Paul Lynch has done huge work on conserving water well before we started work on this flag with dual toilet flushes and with the new water filter system Paul advised us to get for the assembly area so students can refill their reusable bottles.



Can we ask all be mindful of which bins you put your waste in please, to ensure we are recycling correctly.

Ms. Angland & Mr. Dennehy.

GREEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ms. Angland	JimBob Newell TY
Ms. Lynam & Ms. Corkery	Aidan McCarthy TY
Mr. Dennehy	Chloe Buckley TY
Mr. Paul Lynch	Cerys Culkin Sullivan TY
Abbie Kavanagh 1 st Yr.	Michaela O'Connor LCA
Abby McCarthy 1 st Yr.	Grainne Deasy LCA
Kate Kelleher 2 nd Yr.	Felicity James LCA
Ben Horgan 2 nd Yr.	Robin Kiss 5 th Yr.
Dylan Sheehan 2 nd Yr.	Sheena Sheena 5 th Yr.
Avril O'Dea 3 rd Yr.	Shauna Bradley 5 th Yr.
Ella Fitzgerald 3 rd Yr.	Analise Roche 6 th Yr.
Alli Twomey 3 rd Yr.	Ebon Creedon 6 th Yr.
Eimear O'Leary 3 rd Yr.	

Merry Christmas!

God's Blessings Be Yours This Christmas! Have a Joy Filled Christmas! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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Christmas

NEWSLETTER

2019

McEgan College



Principal's Address

Mile buíochas do na mic léinn, na tuismitheoirí agus don fhoireann ar fad. Beannachtaí na Nollag oraibh go léir. Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh.

As 2019 draws to a close, I would like to wish all our staff, students and parents a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. A super busy September to December saw us welcome two new first year groups and seven new students from the Riverside Hotel.

Our first years have settled very well into life as a McEgan student. They enjoyed a bonding trip to The Planet in Cork City for bowling followed by shopping in Wilton accompanied by their tutors Ms. Noonan and Mr. Butler.

We welcomed past students on teaching practice this year to our college. Muireann Kelleher, who sat her Leaving Cert in 2014 is teaching Art as part of her PME year 1 with UCC. We also have two past students who are Year 5 in St Angela's College; Marguerite Cronin and Aisling O'Driscoll. Both girls will be with us for ten weeks. Marguerite will teach Home Economics and Business while Aisling will teach Home Economics and RE.






To all our staff and students who organised and ran, so effectively the numerous initiatives and activities during the first half of this academic year, we are extremely proud of you.

Happy Christmas to all and wishing you a safe and peaceful holiday.

Patricia Lynam, Principal

Garda Awards

Some highlights so far this year

-  **Garda Youth awards Amber Flag**
-  **Science Week**
-  **Credit Union Bursary**
-  **Leaving Cert Applied (LCA)**
-  **Open Night Room 22**
-  **Students' Council**
-  **Green Schools**
-  **Home School liaison**
-  **Positive attendance**
-  **Career Guidance**
-  **College Awareness wk.**
-  **PLC College**
-  **Night Classes**
-  **Transition Year Sports & P.E.**
-  **LCVP Computer Coding**
-  **Fundraising to-date at McEgan**





Well done to Sheena Sheehan for being an over-all winner at the West Cork Garda Youth Awards which were held in the Celtic Ross Hotel, Roscarbery where recently Sheena was nominated by her teacher Ms Carol Warren, who attended on the night along with McEgan College Margaret Corkery, Deputy Principal and Sheena's family. Sheena received the award for the tremendous work she has done in her community. In the last year alone, Sheena's sole fundraising efforts have raised over €7,500 in aid of the Tiny Feet Fairy Garden Macroom. Its facilities were enhanced and many families and children in the community have benefited from these improvements. Since a very early age, Sheena has been instrumental in raising funds for Macroom Community Hospital. She has been involved in a card drive, two auctions, a car boot sale, a balloon release – all of which have raised nearly €30,000. As a result, the hospital has been able to purchase much needed equipment, such as hoists for hospital beds. Sheena is a kind, caring, helpful and obliging teenager who always thinks of others before herself. She thoroughly deserved to be recognised for the contribution she has made to her community in such a selfless way. Sheena also raised money for Cork Penny Dinners.

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Merry Christmas

LCA - Leaving Cert Applied



Another productive year of Leaving Cert Applied is under way with tasks, guest speakers, gaining new practical skills and photos above of their recent trip to Cork Penny Dinners. The students also had a workshop recently with Cork Young Film Makers where they made a 3 minute film which will go to competition in the new year. **Ms. Creedon & Ms. Manning**



LCVP students raising money for Cork Simon Community

5th Year McEgan College students took part in the Macroom Christmas Market on Tuesday 10th of December. All proceeds from the sale of home baking, holly and second hand toys and the raffle went to Cork Simon Community. Despite the wet weather, there was a warm Christmas atmosphere and spirits were high as student supported with worthy cause. **Ms. Shannon**



Ms. Warren & Room 17

GARDA YOUTH AWARDS

Again we are very proud of Sheena Sheehan for being an overall winner at the West Cork Garda Youth Awards. Sheena's sole fund-raising efforts have raised over €7,500 in aid of the Tiny Feet Fairy Garden Macroom. Its facilities were enhanced and many families and children in the community have benefited from these improvements. Since a very early age, Sheena helped raising funds for Macroom Community Hospital. She was involved in a card drive, two auctions, a car boot sale, a balloon release – all of which have raised nearly €30,000. As a result, the hospital has been able to purchase much needed equipment, such as hoists for hospital beds. Sheena thoroughly deserved to be recognised for the contribution she has made to her community in such a selfless way.

SIXTH YEAR RETREAT

On Thursday the 3rd of October, McEgan College Leaving Certificate students headed off to Killarney with their teachers Ms. Warren and Mr. Devane on a two day retreat. The action packed days were full of walking, laughing, bonding and reflection. Students thoroughly enjoyed having time to retreat from their daily routine and relax in the picturesque surroundings of Killarney. We wish them all well in what will be a busy year ahead.

SVP FOOD APPEAL

McEgan College's Annual SVP Food Appeal was launched at the beginning of December. Every year, students and staff alike aim to collect as many non-perishable food items as possible. This food is then given to SVP Macroom, who in turn distribute it to needy families in the area over the Christmas period. McEgan College are happy to be associated with this yearly charity initiative.

PARISH MISSION

From the 21st to the 25th October, a parish mission was held in Macroom. As part of the mission, each school in the parish was visited by lay missionary Niall Foley. Niall addressed our students on Thursday 24th in the school's assembly area. He spoke to students about his own background in the area of environmental science and encouraged students to attend the final night of the mission in St. Coleman's Church. He also sang the song 'Blinded by your Grace' by Stormzy and encouraged everyone to participate & sing along.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

The school's annual advent reconciliation service took place on Thursday 19th December. Fr. Joe, the school's chaplain held the service and spoke to students about the true meaning of the Christmas season and how to prepare spiritually for this important time of the year.

ONLINE ANTI-BULLYING CAMPAIGN

First year students recently participated in an anti-bullying poster campaign. Having discussed the prevalent issues associated with online safety in class, students wanted to highlight three main areas for other students in the school. These areas were: reporting and blocking, keeping personal information private and not talking to strangers online. Posters, created by classes 1A1 and 1A2 were put up all over the school in order to raise awareness and hopefully prevent other students from engaging in dangerous online activities. **Ms. Warren**



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

Room 22

McEgan's Amber Flag

In September we were pleased to welcome Sean to the class. We would like to wish Sean a positive and happy learning experience in McEgan College.

The biodiversity garden which we planted last year is maturing and providing a valuable source of food and shelter for many beneficial insects. Students planted Daffodils and Tulips in October which are now beginning to shoot. We are looking forward to seeing their vibrant colours in the Spring.

The class is currently exploring ideas with Ms. Barr as to what they would like to make for their mini company. Lot of interesting ideas are being discussed. Students are confident they will make lots of money. Here's hoping that hard work will pay off.

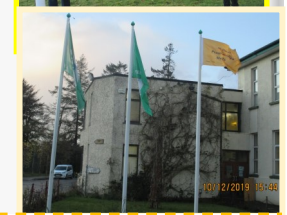
Every Friday, the school is filled with delicious smells from Room 22, as students prepare and cook their own lunch. Dishes such as Homemade Chicken Goujons, Pasta Bolognaise and Stuffed Baked Potatoes have been enjoyed. All students have just finished baking their own traditional Christmas Cake, where they employed their numeracy skills to weigh and shop for ingredients. Everyone is looking forward to icing and decorating the cakes under the guidance of Pat (McEgan's in-house Master Baker!).

Ms. Brew has been working with students on some fabulous creative art and craft projects. We are now running out of wall space to display all the masterpieces!

Students continue to enjoy their weekly swimming lessons at The Castle Hotel with Mackie. The importance of keeping fit is further reinforced by Mr. Devane who takes the class for PE and introduces different sports and outdoor activities.

Ms. Mahony leads the music and singing class. Much to the delight of teachers and SNAs who were treated to a short musical performance to mark Sheila's Retirement Lunch which was hosted by Room 22 Students.

Sheila was a very popular SNA with students providing support and encouragement in a fun way. Sheila was even given a special nickname by one student- "Sheila Westlife"! While Sheila is missed everyone looks forward to Sheila's regular visits. The class gave a warm welcome to Colm who has the unenviable task of filling Sheila's shoes. We wish Colm well in his future at McEgan. **Ms. Bourke**



Congratulations to the Well-being Team in McEgan College who successfully secured the Amber Flag. This flag promotes Positive Mental Health run by Pieta House. Each year the wellbeing team organises a mental health awareness week where everyone is encouraged to look after their mental health. Second years had an eight week session with Jigsaw, guest speakers came to address the student body and TY organised a safer internet day

Science Week

Some 5th year students on their ecology trip to the Killarney National Park on a field trip.



Science Week Summary

TY students delivered a workshop 'How your Body Moves' with 1st and 2nd year students. They demonstrated to students if you don't move your centre of gravity as you move, you will fall over!

5th & 3rd Year Ecology trip

5th years along with 3rd years traveled to Killarney National Park to explore and flora and fauna present. The Deer were the highlight of the excursion along with the wide variety of plants and animals.

National Tree Day (no pictures)

In support of National Tree Day, our TY and 2nd year students planted oak trees. Oak is Ireland's national tree. We look forward to watching these trees grow, as they remove carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas) from the atmosphere and provide a habitat for many organisms.

Science Teachers, **Ms. McAdam & Ms. Shannon**



Natalia, Anika & Sheena



The Student Council is a very important and active organisation at McEgan. The Student Council gives students an opportunity to voice their concerns and opinions. It provides students with an open forum to discuss issues that are effecting the student body. The Student Council plays an active role in policy making and has strong links with school management. The Student Council at McEgan College consists of a representative body, one male and one female student,

The Student Council for the academic year 2019/2020 was voted in September with the help of Ms Warren. Sixth Year Student Emilia Jakovlevaite is the Chairperson and Serhad (6th year) is the Secretary. Best of luck to all those who were successful in being chosen by their peers to represent their views on the Student Council. To date, many changes have taken place, most notably a new filtered water system that is available in the assembly area for all students. We encourage everyone to bring refillable water containers to school every day. We are most grateful to Ms Lynam for purchasing the chilled water filter system for the student body. We look forward to a busy year ahead by giving council members a voice in promoting positive change within McEgan College.

Ms. Condon



Student Council Committee 2019/20



French Tutor: Ms Isabelle O Driscoll, PHD Researcher at UCC, and originally from Montpellier in the South Of France, with Leaving Cert French Students. Emilija Jakovlevaite, Marta Solis, Sharon O'Brien, Mary Clarke and Gabrielle Dollard.

Transition Year



Killarney National Park



Boots Interviews



Mallow Motoring Campus



Raffle Prize Winners



Kenmare Bonding day



Some Activities in TY so far

As part of a TY bonding trip, we headed to Star Outdoors in Kenmare where all the group took part in lots of water activities and land team building exercises. A great day was had by all besides the persistent rain. On another trip we went to the Killarney National Park for an ecology guided tour. The students participated in a range of nature activities such as investigating habitats and wildlife first hand, where we were lucky enough to see some of the wild animals. The students examined habitats; including bogland, woodland and freshwater. The trip also included experiencing Killarney's lakes by a traditional boat trip and through the Gap of Dunloe where we were shown the geology and glacial geography of the area. For a comprehensive educational day on driving and drive safety we went to the Mallow Motoring Campus where the students learnt about safety on the roads, looked under the bonnet, changed a wheel and got to actual drive a car around their purpose built track. McEgan is in its fifth year of working with Boots Pharmacy where we are very fortunate to have many different staff from so many different areas in Boots come work with our TY students from beauticians, to pharmacists, to shop assistants. We will be getting a guided tour of their largest store in Cork in Half moon street on February 4th. The TY's also recently visited the I.T. company TrendMicro in the Model Farm road for an on-line safety workshop. There will be many more trips and educational talks in 2020. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas & Prosperous New Year,

Ms. Angland, TY Co-Ordinator



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 a **Careers 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, 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 French which focused on the oral aspect of the exam and Music. Such revision classes will commence in other subjects including Maths, Biology, DCG, Business and Home Ec in the new year. There are 100 hours of free tutoring in total on offer for the students across all subjects between now and May. 6th year Physics students have also had a revision day in UCC again thanks to our link with The UCC Plus programme. A similar day will take place for Biology students in the new year and **CIT will host Maths revision classes** for our Leaving Cert students also. 6th year students are also in a position to begin processing **CAO applications** since November 5th and can do so until the 1st 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

PLC UPDATE

McEgan College of Further Education has had another busy first term for McEgan College of Further Education. Five QQI L5 PLC courses commenced in September, Business Administration; Early Childcare Studies incorporating Special Needs Assisting; Health Service Skills; Nursing Studies and Hairdressing Year 1. This year, we were delighted to introduce two new modules – Creative Upstyling and Barbering to our Hairdressing programme.

Students on all programmes are now undertaking their work experience placement in a variety of settings relevant to their programmes, Offices and GP Reception areas, Creches and Preschools, Community Hospitals and Nursing Homes and Hairdressing Salons. They are getting on very well and many will be offered employment in the areas that they have worked in.

We have had visits this term from the Mature Students Officers from University College Cork and Cork Institute of Technology and a number of our students are applying to Nursing Degree and Social Care Programmes in these Institutions for September 2020 intake.

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 or telephone 026 41076.

Catherine Kelleher, PLC Co-Ordinator

NIGHT CLASSES:

Last term was busy for Night classes, with QQI level 5 and 6 courses in Childcare, level 5 Communications, Thai Cuisine, and the ever-popular Pilates & Yoga. In Spring 2020, we are offering several childcare courses at QQI level 6, and at QQI level 5 we are offering business, childcare and healthcare modules. Hobby courses will include Pilates & Yoga, Lámh Module One, Digital Photography and Art Therapy. Email: nightclass@mcegan.ie for more information, updates will be posted on our website www.mcegan.ie

Lilian O'Mahony, Night Class Co-Ordinator



Lily Healy studying PE teaching in UL.



Careers Expo Kanturk



Senior students with Caroline Kearney of CIT



Maeve Minihaue of UCC Plus speaking about HEAR applications with parents.



Ms. Angland with the Further Education Stand at Kanturk Exp

Sheila's Retirement



L:R: Marie, Helen, Sheila & Deirdre

It was the end of an era in October with the retirement of our beloved SNA, Sheila Ronan. Sheila has begun a new chapter in her life and will be missed by students and colleagues alike. Sheila began working in McEgan in 2006 and has been a huge part of the school community since. She was always helpful to all our students but will be especially missed by our students in room 22 where she spent many happy times. Sheila was a fantastic asset when it came to horse racing as she could always be relied on for a good tip. Among her other talents were her musicality and her ability to speak Spanish. As always in McEgan, the door is always opened for a visit and a chat and I was delighted to meet Sheila this week. Retirement is suiting her well and she now has the luxury of rising at 9:30! The staff of McEgan would like to wish Sheila all the best on her retirement and she will be greatly missed by both students and staff alike.



Cáit Clifford with her sister Sheila Ronan celebrating her recent retirement at McEgan



Mr. Dennehy & Ms. Murphy visiting Belnamurive National School

Sports at McEgan Rugby

On Dec. 3rd Bishop Mc Egan played in the **Munster Rugby** Emerging Schools blitz in Presentation Brothers Cork pitches. We played 4 games where we successfully won the group we played in, we defeated Blarney, Ballingcollig Community school, drew with Mitchelstown and were defeated by a single point which was by the way of a last minute try - by the hosts- Christian Brothers. We played extremely well and were highly commended by the Munster Rugby coaches – who were present on the day as well- this follows on from a hugely successful coaching programme developed by the Munster Rugby development Department which is running the whole year in Mc Egan College. Some of these Stallworth's have a very bright future ahead of them, with Arron Forde being the top try scorer, and ably assisted by the rest of the panel- well done one and all for representing our school and for the efforts on the day- **Panel** – Captain- Conor O Donovan, Michael Wojick, Olan Cronin, Darragh Buckley, Cian Noonan, Daire Desmond, Donnacha Spillane, Luke Maddigan, Owen Duggan, Gavin Creedon, Tate Mc Keowen, Graham Lynch, Evan Kelleher, Elijah Roberts, Arran Forde, Bobby Murphy, Oisín O Connor



Both teams with Colm O'Carroll.



Mr. Devane with the basketball team

Girls Soccer

On Friday December 6th, McEgan boys and girls soccer teams travelled to Terence McSwiney Community college to take part in a soccer blitz. The girls played 4 games and won all with some outstanding performances. The boys also played 4, winning 3 and were unfortunate to lose 1. It was a terrific outing and coaches were very proud of both teams

Mr. Devane, PE Teacher

First Year Bonding Trip

As part of McEgan College's First Year Bonding Day, our students went to The Planet, Blackpool on Monday 23rd of September 2019. At The Planet they enjoyed games of Bowling and Laser Tag - all very friendly (and competitive) fun. This was followed by a trip to Wilton Shopping Centre for food and retail therapy. For our new students it was a fun filled day and a great start to life in McEgan. It finished with smiles all round.



First Year's bowling trip at Planet Entertainment

Every Day Counts - The November 20 day Challenge



Tusla ran a nationwide attendance initiative for the 4 weeks of November called "**Every day counts**". The 'Every School Day Counts' campaign aimed to highlight the importance of school attendance with regard to achieving positive educational outcomes for children and young people.

McEgan College are took part in this initiative, so for the month of November there was a whole school focus on attendance. Parents, teachers and tutors were asked to promote good attendance for the 20 days of November. A reward celebration was held for students that were in school for every day of November.

As part of a JCSP initiative, pupils at McEgan College were rewarded with certification and a pizza party for their high level of attendance last year. Pupils were delighted to be treated to a relaxing afternoon and a well earned break from their studies. Denis O Mahony, Maya O Mahony and John O Riordan received certificates from TUSLA for their full attendance in school last year. This initiative is supported by the Home School Liaison Officer, Mr Clarke, who provides a key role between home and school life. McEgan College is very fortunate to have such a service in the school.

Kevin Clarke, Home School Community Liaison officer

Positive attendance Awards



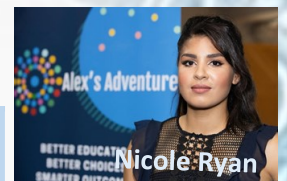
Room 2

During college awareness week Ms Murphy invited a past pupil of McEgan College to our school to speak about his pathway to becoming an Architect and lecturing in CIT. Dr James Pittam spoke to all years groups about the importance of following your passion and never giving up. He told pupils how he did not come from a privileged background and that he found secondary school very difficult and hated coming to school. He explained to pupils how he found math very difficult during school but once he was more mature and reached college as a mature student his favourite subject was Maths. Dr James Pittam stressed to students to never give up and to not see your family history or financial situation as a barrier to education. Dr James Pittam is an uncle to Molly Kelleher in first year. **Ms. Murphy**

Alex's Adventures Drug Awareness Workshop



Nicole Ryan from Alex's Adventure visited McEgan College in November to deliver a drug awareness workshop. Alex's Adventure is the drug education program that's built around students. It is designed to help post primary students learn more about substance misuse and the real life effect that their choices relating to drugs & alcohol can have. Nicole spoke to all the senior cycle classes about the dangers of drugs and alcohol facing them in their everyday lives. The students really engaged with Nicole and found the workshop very interesting and worthwhile.



Credit Union Bursary Winner

Mrs Margaret Corkery (Deputy Principal) with Aoife Galvin (past Leaving Cert Student) who was awarded a Bursary from Macroom Credit Union



'The 2019 Generation Apprenticeship competition'

TY pupils along with Ms Murphy made a 'A' out of various recycled materials. This was done in conjunction with The 2019 Generation Apprenticeship competition.



The girls in their Junk Kouture recycled outfits



Molly Kelleher & Francesca Lecci