

McEgan College Newsletter Summer 2021



Principal's Address



As another school year draws to a close, a year of living with Covid and mask wearing and washing hands and one-way systems, I would like to wish our whole community a well-deserved summer break. Thank you to all our wonderful students for working with us and keeping our school Covid Free. At times, our school was cold due to some many windows and doors open but working together as a team meant we got there!

To all Leaving Certificate students the very best of luck with your state exams. You are an exceptional talented group of young adults who we will miss much. You had to go through two lockdowns in your final two years, but you are a credit to yourself, your families and to your school. You did not moan or complain you just got on with it. Success always follows hard work; your results will prove that later in the summer.

Our esteemed deputy principal Mrs. Margaret Corkery has decided it's time to retire after thirty six years teaching with the last thirty in McEgan College. She has been the deputy principal in McEgan College for the past eleven years. Everyone who knows Margaret knows she is kind, caring and very loyal. She is a great friend. It has been our great privilege to work with you and we wish you the very best in your new chapter of life.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff, I hope you enjoy the summer break with plenty of sunshine to enjoy.

Le gach dea ghúí,

Patricia Lynam
Principal

TY's FIELD TRIP to the Gearagh

L-R: Sean Healy,
Margaret,
Christopher
O'Donoghue,
Javier Veyrat,
Liva Kreituze &
Kevin Corcoran



Margaret Corkery's last school trip out with students to the stunning Gearagh



The TYs visited the Gearagh recently and were very fortunate to have Kevin Corcoran as their guide for the occasion. Kevin is an expert on the Gearagh Sanctuary and the students were enthralled by his stories and his knowledge of this very special area which is on the town's doorstep.

The weather was kind for the students as Kevin went through the social history of the area, the geographical aspects of the terrain and finally spoke of the eco system which is very important to sustainability of the Gearagh

Kevin has recently launched his new book on the Gearagh and presented a signed copy to Mrs Corkery (Deputy Principal). Once the Library re-opens, the pupils will be able to use this as a resource for their future Biology and Geography projects. They were accompanied on the trip by Ms. Angland & Mr. O'Driscoll also.



AWARDS



Third years receiving their UCC plus awards with Ms. Lynam & Mrs. Corkery

The UCC plus programme

The UCC PLUS+ Programme provides motivational and educational assistance to the students at McEgan College throughout their secondary schooling in order to enhance their ability to progress to higher education. **Ms. Manning** liaises with UCC.



Second years receiving their UCC plus awards with Ms. Manning, Ms. Lynam & Mrs. Corkery

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Well done to Matt Murphy, whose essay 'Lessons from the Pandemic' was chosen to be included in the magazine 'Search IV', a magazine for Religious Education in the Diocese of Cloyne.

Well done to the LCA5 class, who recently ran a non-uniform/movie day for first year students. Students could wear what they wanted, were shown an age appropriate movie of their choice, and were given a treat pack to eat during the movie. Part of their profits were donated to Pieta House, a charity which provides free services to those who are in suicidal distress.



The Leaving Certificate/LCA/Room 22 graduating classes were recently presented with a cake and photo memento to mark their imminent departure from McEgan College. Many thanks to Pat for making such a delicious cake and the very best of luck to all those who will be moving on from McEgan College to pastures new after the Leaving Certificate exams. Best of luck to you all. **Ms. Warren**, Religion



Pat's cake & customised cupcakes



Seamus Murphy, Pat Rehilan & Anika Roberts



JimBob Newell & Jodi Leigh



1st Year girls



Pat Relihan, Grainne Deasy, Tadhg O'Sullivan, Mrs. Corkery, Anika Roberts & Hugh Murray



Second year science students explored the sensory garden with their science teacher Ms Shannon and SNA Marie. The wide variety of herbs, fruit, vegetables and flowers gave students an appreciation for the importance of biodiversity.

The fifth year biology class out litter picking to see first hand the implications of litter on the environment. **Ms. Shannon**



2nd yr science class with Ms. Shannon & Marie O'Riordan at the sensory garden



5th yr biology litter picking



5th yrs. Ecology trip



Third year art students taking advantage of the fine weather



A great day was had by the 2nd & 3rd years at Macroom School of Art. The Students undertook a Cyanotype workshop that was funded by JCSP. These students thoroughly enjoyed the process and produced impressive artwork. **Ms. Brew & Mr. Bracken**



Local artists Denis Reardon & Cormac Shiels gave a very interesting presentation on the Mural they are painting inside the Castle Demesne at the moment. Denis & Cormac gave an insight on the research that was required before they commenced the painting, the TY's were very appreciative of their time to speak to them.

Also McEgan College can be so proud of the TY Team who represented them in the National Final which was held on Friday the 7th of May. The team of Ricardo Belo, Liva Kreituze, Avril O'Dea, Javier Zaragoza & Tyrone Wilmot did their presentation of "Litter Warden" on a ZOOM Conference Call.

With over 5,000 students starting out on the Social Enterprise Competition originally, the Team qualified as one of three finalists. This is truly a amazing achievement for this group of young entrepreneurs and they're to be congratulated on getting so far in the competition.

The school has a very strong "Green Agenda" and has recently applied for their third green flag. It was appropriate then that the Students would research a social enterprise project that would run parallel with their vision and ethos. Litter Control is still a problem not alone in our community but nationally, so a prototype that would be eye-catching was designed and "Litter Warden" was born. **Mr. O'Driscoll, Enterprise Teacher**



Tyrone Wilmot, Avril O'Dea & Ricardo Bello

Eimear O'Leary, Avril O'Dea & Ella Fitzgerald

TY's zip lining



3rd yrs with Ms. Morris & Mr. Devane



JCSP Awards 2021

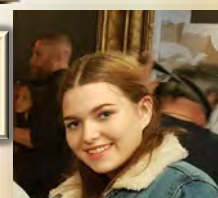
The Junior Cert Class of 2021 of McEgan College received their JCSP Certs. The students were presented with their Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) and their Junior Cert Schools Programme certificates (JCSP) pictured with their tutors

Ms. Morris and Mr. Devane.



Mary Clarke was Student of the Year at McEgan College, Leaving Cert class 2020, ETB Awards.

Emilija Jakovlevaite received over 550 pts in her Leaving Cert, 2020



Jessica



Hugh & Ms. Bourke



Michaela



Felicity



Tadhg



Grainne

LCA Catering Exams

The LCA6 students pictured with their Hotel & Catering teacher Ms Bourke with the dishes he cooked for his Leaving Cert practical exam. **Ms. Bourke**

Fond farewell

Margaret Corkery

END OF
AN ERA
Margaret
Corkery



Michael, Conor &
Margaret Corkery

A Farewell Message

By now you probably have heard that I'm retiring and bidding adieu to McEgan College. Looking back on my career, I'm thankful that I worked in McEgan for the past 30 years, starting in 1991 as a Maths, Biology and Resource teacher and for 16 years as Deputy Principal of the College.

I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to thank the parents, the staff and the community as a whole for the support they have given me over the years.

You the parents of McEgan have been so supportive and warm hearted towards me and all the endeavours in the school and I thank you so much for that and know you will show the same support to my successor. This is a fabulous school and place to work and I know you will continue to support the school as it continues to support you. Also I want to wish the Leaving Cert class "Good Luck" with their upcoming exams and every success to all the students of McEgan. Farewell

Margaret Corkery



Conor receiving a Garda Youth Award in 2013



TY Awards 2017



Debs 2019



PLC Awards 2016, front row Trish & Ted Owens (former CETB CEO), Back: L-R, Margaret, Bernie, Helena O'Halloran & Helena Creedon



Fashion Show 2011



Cllr Patrick Murphy, CETB Chairperson, Conor & Margaret



Margaret, Trish, Pat O'Connell, John Fitzgibbons, & Bernie



UCC Graduation 1983



John Fitzgibbons, Margaret, Michael Creed, Trish & Catherine Kelleher



Conor's Leaving Cert results '16



Margaret, Geraldine, Cáit & Sheila



Some Staff 2009/10



Aine Noonan's wedding



Trish, Michael, Conor, Margaret & Ted Owens



Conor & Declan Sheehan

Patricia Lynam, Principal

A fond farewell to Margaret Corkery Deputy Principal I became principal of McEgan College in April 2012 and the only staff member I had met previously to taking up the position was Margaret when we both worked as HSCL coordinators. Becoming principal and trying to fit / gel with a new staff could have been a very daunting and frightening role (at times it was and more) but Margaret's experience, knowledge and patience meant the transition went relatively smoothly. Her knowledge of the students and their families is invaluable and her ability to recall family histories and their stories shows how immersed in school life Margaret is and always was.

The both of us have worked as senior managers of the school for the past nine years. We have had some good days, some sad days, some challenging days and some memorable days but through all of it we have become very good and loyal friends to each other. Margaret has taught me plenty, she is a great teacher and I am grateful to her but every day is a school day and there is still much to learn.

However, life goes on and we must say goodbye to Margaret. She has over 36 years service with Cork ETB formerly Cork VEC, and she has earned the right to take things a little easier. It is a massive achievement in this day and age to reach such a huge milestone in such a challenging educational role. Congratulations Margaret. I have been my pleasure and honour to work side by side with you. I wish you, Michael, John and Conor a long and happy retirement. Live Life!

Trish Lynam, Principal McEgan College



Brendan O'Brien, Principal

We had heard of Margaret Corkery long before she arrived in McEgan. She was Margaret Kelleher then, I think and if not Michael wasn't too far away.

In any case she was supposed to be a brilliant maths teacher getting brilliant results in honours Maths in the Leaving Cert for her pupils. She did too!

When she arrived from Shull Community College she had a fine colour and a somewhat windswept look from the sea air. She was precariously balanced on top of what appeared to be the highest high heels in Macroom raising the fashion bar

Príomhoidí MacAogáin



to a level that has still not been surpassed. I can't remember what she was put teaching but it became apparent after a very short time that whatever her brilliance as a higher maths teacher her interest was in looking after those pupils in need of the most help. She set up a classroom in the school which was to be a haven for such pupils. She tuned into every known pedagogy to enhance and assist her pupils thereby winning their admiration and gratitude. Neither, indeed did she let down her "brilliant maths students" offering them the best a school could offer. Margaret was a great colleague too supporting staff and management at every turn. She gave generously of her time, to the life of the school outside the classroom and to the school in the community. She was always ready to step forward to help the many extra school activities. One could always be sure of Margaret's support in the complex and demanding world of school management. Little wonder, then, that she subsequently occupied the position of Deputy Principal which I know she undertook with equal zeal and determination.

Guídhim saol sona sásta ort, a Mhairéad agus ar do thaileach. Bain taithneamh as an saoirse anois atá thar a bheith tuillteanach duit. Sláinte is saol chugat.

Brendán Ó Briáin, Íar Phroiomh Oide

Helen Cadogan, Principal

St. Brogan's, Bandon

In June 2003 interviews were held by County Cork VEC who were the management body of McEgan College at the time and Margaret Corkery and I were appointed Acting Principal and Acting Deputy Principal much to our surprise. We both got the fright of our lives!!!

I needn't have worried though because with Margaret as my teammate I had nothing to fear. Margaret and I had known each other as colleagues for the previous eight years and I was thrilled that she was going to work with me. It is no exaggeration to say that as neither of us had any school management experience we were

Helen Cadogan, cntd.

thrown in at the deep end. The learning curve was very very steep.

Margaret was a highly respected maths teacher. She brought the best out in all her students because she cared so much about them and their success. She brought that into her role as Deputy Principal. Margaret prided herself on knowing all the students and their families and on working closely with them. I remember her for her compassion.

Every child that came through the doors was treated with respect and fairness by Margaret. They knew that she has their best interests at heart. Margaret would take the time to get to know every student, their needs, their worries and their potential.

Not only was Margaret kind and compassionate with the students but she was the same with staff. You would often see a member of staff go into her for a chat, to offload their worries and to get advice.

Along with that compassion and insight into others Margaret had an astounding work ethic. She managed to juggle a very demanding job with family life.

I also remember Margaret for her positivity and her can do attitude.



Margaret, Eimear & Helen

We would sit every day and discuss the students, what had to be done next, our plans and the school community. Her advice and support were invaluable. Over the years we developed a close friendship and I asked her to be god-mother to my daughter. She has always been a true friend to me. It was an honour and a privilege to work with Margaret and to get to know her on a personal as well as a professional level.

I am thrilled for her that she can now give some more of her time to herself. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues and the students but I have found that Margaret is a friend for life so she will always be there if you need her.

I wish Margaret, Michael, Conor and John the very best. They will be very glad to see more of her. Margaret has influenced the lives of all in McEgan College every day she has been there first as a teacher and then as Deputy Principal since 2003. I wish her and her family all the best.

Congratulations on an exemplary career, you've been a true stalwart at McEgan College. You led by example with your professionalism and unique rapport with students, staff and parents. Thank you for all your help and guidance through my teaching career. Wishing you a wonderful retirement of happiness and enjoyment with Michael, Conor and John. *Tim Dennehy*

Dear Margaret, You have been a constant rock in McEgan College for so many years. You have always been there for me with a listening ear and a comforting word and of course your trademark glamorous style. I will miss you very much next year and after. Enjoy your well-earned retirement. Warm wishes, *Miriam Murphy*

Margaret, Thank you for everything the last number of years. You were always so helpful and supportive to me and will be sorely missed in McEgan college. Best of luck in your retirement, *Brian Devane*

"Margaret has always been there with a listening ear and no problem has ever been too big or too small. She will be greatly missed, by staff and students alike, for her kindness and understanding. McEgan won't be the same without her but she truly deserves this time now to relax and enjoy a happy and wonderful retirement with Michael and the boys" Kind regards, *Helen Cronin*

Margaret has always been so supportive and kind to me. I will miss her greatly. Ever professional and consistent in her role as DP. Her door was always open and that was very appreciated by staff and pupils alike. Her sense of style in ever manner was to be admired! The very best of luck in your next adventure Margaret. *Helena Creedon*

Although we have only worked together for a few years, you have been a great guide and support to me. Your warm and caring nature is what I will remember most. You are always there for each and every staff member. Wishing you a future filled with all the nice things in life! Lots of Love, *Claire Shannon*

Congratulations on your retirement Margaret. You've accomplished so much over your career, and we're all going to miss your guidance, support, and positive attitude here in McEgan College. Enjoy this new chapter of your life, and I wish you all the best! *Karen Kissane*

Your door was always open for students and staff alike, and no matter what the issue was, you would do your best to sort it out. It was a pleasure to work with you and I wish you a happy and healthy retirement. *Deirdre Cronin*

Margaret it's been great working with her the past nine years nothing was ever too much trouble. Her calm presence and wealth of knowledge and experience was superb and I'll miss her about the school and a long, adventurous and happy retirement to her. Kind regards *Fiona O'Driscoll*

"I am so grateful that I have had the opportunity to work with Margaret before her well-earned retirement. You have been a mentor, a role model and a support and I cannot thank you enough for the help you have given me this past year. I can only say from my short time in McEgan it has been clear from day one why you are held in such high regard by both students and staff. I wish you the best. Enjoy every minute of your retirement. Go n-éirí an bóthar leat. *Aoife O'Connell*

Margaret, just wanted to say Best Wishes to you and that you may have an awesome retirement. I wish both you and Michael much joy and happiness as you begin a new chapter of your lives. Hope you have a long relaxing and fun retirement after your many years of teaching and being Deputy Principal at McEgan College. Remember **"Retirement is when you stop living at work and start working at living."** *Gach dea-ghuá. Cáit Clifford*

To Margaret, Like the song says "You were always there when needed". Best of luck on your retirement, Best Wishes, Sheila Rohan "I would recommend it!"

To Margaret, Best wishes & Good Luck on your next chapter. Thanks for everything, *Marie O'Riordan*



Fiona, Deirdre, Kay, Margaret, Karen, Helen&Sheila

I would like to wish you Margaret the very best life can offer going forward, a huge Thank you from all of my heart for being so professional each day I worked with you and for being there personally as supportive friend. You are a lady of true essence and I was blessed we crossed paths in life. Best Wishes now and always, *Kay Lynch*

Margaret while being an excellent educator and animator was also empathetic to those she met and always ready to listen and encourage when needed. The care of young people and their families was always her first priority. Margaret during her career in Bishop Mc Egan college was a person who reached out willingly to help in every way possible. Bishop Mc Egan college will certainly miss Margaret's presence in the school as well as that wisdom and expertise that she was always so generous in sharing. May Margaret enjoy her retirement and that well deserved break and we will all miss her in the school corridors and beyond. Ad Multos Annos, *Fr. Joe O'Mahony*



Since you are bidding farewell to us,
please know that your legacy
would forever remain deep in our hearts.
Thank you for being a great leader,
friend and a supervisor.

Margaret I would like to wish you the very best as you retire from an aspiring teaching career. For many years you committed your time to educating students, supporting staff and providing a listening ear to parents in need. All of these you did with the upmost of respect and professionalism that was sincerely admired. Your presence as a staff member was very much positively acknowledged throughout your time. From my first day entering McEgan College to my last it was my privilege **to work beside you with chats along the way about fashion, travel and the chickens**!! I wish you a very happy retirement. Enjoy the unlimited weekends and all the adventures it has to offer. All the best *Amy Buckley*

I joined McEgan College in September 2020 and so have only had the pleasure of working with Margaret for the last nine months. In that short space of time however, my experience has been one of welcome and support. Literally Margaret's office door has always been open to me along with every student in the school. Margaret was always easy to approach with my many questions in those early days for which I am very grateful. To a lovely lady, I wish a very happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement. *Colette Dinneen*
SCP Coordinator Bandon/Macroom

As LCA Coordinator I would like to take the opportunity to wish our deputy principal Margaret Corkery the very best on her retirement. Ms Corkery has been a central figure of the LCA teaching team over the past four years in the teaching of Maths to all students in the Leaving Cert Applied Programme. I think all students would agree that she had a great pragmatic approach in applying the teaching of Maths to everyday life. Ms Corkery will be missed for her kindness to both students and staff whom she welcomed with a smile each morning. I would like to thank her for her support and immense contribution to the LCA programme and school as a whole and wish her a well-earned happy and healthy retirement with her family. *Mary B Manning*

My teaching years overlapped those of Margaret's early years, after she first came to Mc Egan College in 1984. From the start, she made her presence felt as an advisor and organiser in many areas, such as pupil resources, parent-teacher meetings and extra-curricular activities. Margaret, having worked under four different Principals in Macroom, built up a great working experience in dealing with the great diversity of situations that exists in most schools today. Her door was always open, to both pupils and teachers and such was her enthusiasm that if you didn't have a problem or topic that needed attention, Margaret would find one for you! She loved Mc Egan College and at 4.00 in the evening I often wondered if she left her office at all, that day, to go home for the night! Margaret, have a great retirement. You have greatly earned it. *Kevin O'Brien*

I was a colleague of Margaret Corkery for many years until my retirement from Bishop McEgan College. Margaret was dedicated to her profession with a great work ethic which always had student welfare to the fore. Margaret was a great teacher and always forthright and firm with any decisions she made. I have great memories from my years teaching at Bishop McEgan College and enjoyed many school tours and chats in the staff room with Margaret. I know that she will be missed greatly by **both students and teacher's** but the time has come for her to retire and take time for herself, Michael and their family. I would like to wish Margaret a long, happy and **healthy retirement. I'm sure she will enjoy many new adventures** with her family and friends as she becomes master of her well-earned free time. Happy Retirement Margaret. Very best wishes from *Christy Keating*

Margaret and I have an awful lot in common. We both taught Maths in Mc Egan College and during that time our co-operation was second to none. Margaret was 100% organised with all the solutions to the Honours Maths questions in separate red hard back notebooks which I could always fall back on. Our success rate in exam results was very close to 100%. So now the time has come for Margaret to retire. Like everybody else, I wish you well and when you hand in your set of keys let that be the moment you leave that chapter of your life behind you and take on the many challenges that lie ahead of you. I have seen too many people who have retired and are like a car stuck in gear. You have been there, done that and now move on – **"Cross every bridge you meet and praise every bridge you cross"** Go neirí leat, **SO'L 05/2021**

Margaret, c'était un plaisir de travailler avec toi à Bishop Mc Egan, je te souhaite une très bonne retraite bien méritée dans la région.

Au plaisir de se revoir. Quand j'étais plus jeune, j'étais moyen en maths et je m'y intéresse toujours. Ma formule est

J+Y=B



Students & Staff, May 2021

Josh Mullen & Eleanor Lane 2018

1st Green Flag 2015

McEgan College photo album



Mrs Corkery in Uniform



Margaret, Cáit Clifford & Trish



Trish, Miriam Brew & Margaret



Bernie, Margaret & Helen



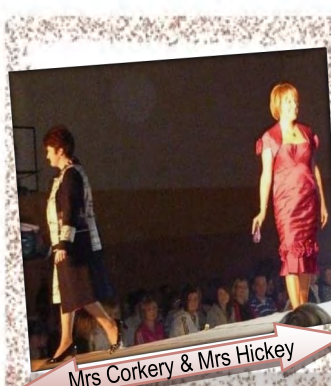
Trish, Elliot Lynch & Margaret,



Nora Naughton, Board of Management



Mrs Claus Corkery



Mrs Corkery & Mrs Hickey



Ms. Morris, Conor, Denise Kelleher, Martin McCarthy, Maxine Brambley



Jack Curtin & Denis O'Halloran Crowley



Margaret, Adrian O' Connor, some Leaving Certs 2019 & Trish Lynam

Thank you Margaret for being a wonderful colleague for over two decades. From the day I arrived in McEgan in 1998, you have always been such a great support to me. Thank you for listening to me, advising me and mentoring me, especially when I was a young teacher many years ago!! You have helped me out on so many occasions in recent years and I will never forget your kindness. I will miss you greatly. Wishing you and Michael a very happy retirement. *Niamh Condon*

Margaret I wish you a happy and long retirement. I know you will be kept busy by Michael with all the jobs he has lined up for you at home. From a personal point of view, it has been a pleasure to work with you over the years. I will miss doing the rolls with you every morning and having a chat about the latest absence excuses. You were always very approachable for both the students and our staff. You will be a big loss to McEgan College. Enjoy the next stage of your life and I wish you and your family the best of luck. *Kevin Clarke*

Margaret, we'll miss you each morning as we pass your office. Your door was always open, you were always there (at your lovely big desk) to support, help and guide us, no matter what the situation. Wishing yourself and Michael every happiness in your retirement. Le grá, *Bairbre Hickey*

I have had the pleasure of working with Margaret for over 15 years in McEgan College. For some of that time, I was also a parent of children in the school. Margaret's professionalism, kindness and dedication of all of the school body is evident in her interactions with colleagues, students and parents. She exemplifies the motto of McEgan 'To care equally for all...' Her sartorial elegance was something that I aspired to, but never achieved myself!! Margaret, you will be missed. *Catherine Kelleher*

Wishing you the very best of good health & happiness as you move forward to the next stage in your journey through life. Knowing you you'll be very busy with the garden & the farm.

This retirement is your new beginning. Will miss you lots in McEgan but I'll be passing the door regularly & dropping in for tea.....*Maureen McAdam*

Well, what can I say only that if ever there was a dedicated staff member who deserves a break, it is surely our wonderful colleague and friend Margaret Corkery. Down through the years her level of support for all staff in their time of need was exemplary and will not be forgotten! Margaret worked tirelessly to make our school environment a better place and embodied the essence of our school motto and ethos. Her connection with the students is most admirable and when they needed a listening ear to unload their woes Margaret's door was always open. This was the same for her colleagues. Wishing you all the best for your retirement Margaret. We know you enjoy every moment with Michael and the boys. We will miss you around the place. Your level of commitment to McEgan will always have a place in our hearts. Best of luck always, *Maire Ni Laoire*

In the nearly 30 years of working with Margaret, I have found her to be an integral part of McEgan school community. I have worked closely with her in some areas within the school and always found her helpful and great to work with. I also have fond memories of social gatherings over the years which Margaret and Michael always attended and of having a laugh outside of the school setting. It will be very strange returning to school in September 2021 and not having Margaret in her office and around the corridors of McEgan. I want to wish Margaret all the best in her retirement and hope that Michael and herself have many years of happiness and health. *Ger O'Sullivan*

I want to wish Margaret a happy and healthy retirement. Don't be a stranger. *Pat Rehilan*

Best of luck in your new adventure. *Lilian O'Mahony*



Best Wishes Margaret on your retirement and thank you for your dedication and hard work during my years at Bishop McEgan. I hope you will enjoy many adventures in this new phase of life and Michael and you will get to check tick many items on the bucket list. I will miss our chats of different family connections and local history.

Linda O'Riordan

Margaret, I would just like to say that during all your years in Bishop McEgan College, both as a teacher and Deputy Principal, I have always found you to be both very approachable and very supportive. You were the only teacher that had a classroom over the Castle Arch many years ago. "Sound and fair" are the words that I would have heard the most about you from past pupils. I know that in September we will all miss your presence in the school, which has often been like a breath of fresh air around the place. I wish you all the best for the future and I hope you will have a long and happy retirement. *Paul, caretaker*

Margaret, I wish you every blessing and huge enjoyment in your retirement. You have been a huge part of the College and of all of our lives here in McEgan. You will be sorely missed for your kindness, listening ear, discretion and your open door, by students and teachers alike – you leave a legacy hard to fill! Thank you for all you have done, your presence here will be deeply remembered with great fondness. *Joanne O'Regan*



Margaret & some of the class of 2017

Margaret, I will really miss you. You have been such a supportive colleague and so professional. If I ever needed anything or couldn't come in for whatever reason you were always there to answer my call. You and Michael were great company at the Christmas parties. I will miss our conversations about life, politics, and the world in general. Maybe in retirement the roles will be reversed, and you can call me to chat whenever you want or if you have a technology problem I can help with. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, I know you will find plenty of things to keep you busy and remember I won't be retiring any time soon if you ever want to call.

Adrian O'Connor

Mrs Corkery will be remembered for her calm, unflappable manner and her great sense of style! Wishing you many happy years of retirement. *Miriam Brew*

Wishing you all the best and many happy years of gardening and touring around with Michael. Sincere thanks for all your hard work here at McEgan. There are many students past and present that will be very glad to have had you as their teacher and Deputy Principal. *Sarah Rice*

A huge congrats and best wishes Margaret on an amazing career. Thank you most sincerely for being so kind to me over the last 7 years. You will be missed. Enjoy the next stage in your life with your husband and family.

Helena O'Halloran



Margaret possesses a natural innate kindness and empathy which is shown to all that she meets, whether students, parents or staff, which she demonstrates on a daily basis in a practical no nonsense way, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or a small act of caring. The ethos of a school, like any organisation comes from the top down. In McEgan we are lucky to have Mrs. Corkery as part of our management team and her kindness and care of others is reflected in all school life both in and outside the classroom.

Hazel Bourke

Sitting down to write this short piece took the longest time because I found it difficult to imagine McEgan without you. First and foremost, I want to thank you for all the help and guidance that you have given me throughout the years. This is a sentiment that I am certain is echoed by anyone (staff or student) that has been in your company in the school. You have always been ready to help with a smile (no matter how trivial the subject at times!). Your presence and calmness have been massively reassuring for the entire school population. You have been a role model for everyone in the school with your relentless work ethic and grace. Wishing you and the family all the best in your future endeavours. Thank you. *Joe Butler*

Margaret, Changes are often bittersweet, and your departure is just that. You encompassed so many roles.....a leader, a confidante, a role model, mentor, and friend: You are all of these and so much more. Thank you for sharing your talent, experience, wisdom and your time with all of us. You will be missed more than words could say. Best wishes for all that is to come in this next chapter of your life. *Aine Noonan*

Margaret, wishing you well for your upcoming retirement. You have given such dedication and commitment to the staff and students of McEgan College over the last thirty years, and it has been much appreciated by one and all. Thank you for your kindness, understanding and patience, you will be so missed. *Carol Warren*

The Beginning and an End, Michael Healy

An End

An end to a life dictated by time, by the clock, demanding that you be here, that you be there. An end to endless routine, to endless paperwork, to endless patrolling of corridors. An end of students, an end of parents, an end of teachers, an end of teaching. An end of relief. A release.

A Beginning

Awaken to the sound of birdsong, the lowing of cattle approaching milking, the humming of bees gathering nectar. Days of gentle strolling by lanes, by lakes, by seashores. Now work is with plants, with flowers, with nature. Revisiting Eden. Evenings by the fireside, listening to old stories. Days on the telephone chatting and laughing. A familiar song, the smile of neighbors, the welcome of another. Revisiting of friends.

From the moment I stepped inside McEgan for the first time, the respect, support and friendship that Margaret has given to me has been second to none. She must have thought that I was in the wrong building, or even half daft when I entered the school. But Margaret saw that I could be an asset to education and the College and for this, I will always be eternally grateful. Have a long and happy retirement with Michael. God Bless.

Padraig O'Driscoll

To Margaret, It was my great pleasure working with you over the past few years at McEgan College. I hope you have a very happy retirement and enjoy your new-found freedom! Congratulations and Best wishes. *Deirdre O'Sullivan*

Thanks Margaret for always being so kind and supportive. It was a pleasure to work with you. Wishing you the best in your retirement. We will miss you. Best wishes, *Catherine Barr*

Dear Margaret, As I sit here in Schull, where you started out your teaching career, I am remembering the **many happy times I had with you in McEgan. It's hard** to imagine the school without you and I know that you will be missed by students and teachers. You will also be missed in particular by parents who have had your ongoing support over the years.

From my own perspective, I thank you for all you did for me during my time in McEgan. You were always approachable, kind and supportive. Your ability to remain calm no matter the situation always impressed me, as did your ability to understand where each student was coming from. You always knew when to make allowances and equally, you knew when no nonsense should be taken!!

McEgan is a wonderful school where students are given the very best care. I absolutely loved my time there. You have helped to shape the culture of a very special school and that is a wonderful legacy. I wish you the very best in your retirement and send you, my best wishes and congratulations. *Sarah Buckley*

Wishing you well in your retirement. It was immense pleasure to work with you. Your graciousness towards those you worked with and your ability to bring out the best in staff and students was wonderful. I sincerely hope you have long relaxing retirement and I wish you lots of joyous times with your family. Warmest wishes in days and years ahead,

Carmel Collins

As a long retired member of the McEgan staff (eighteen years) I appreciate this opportunity given to me to congratulate Margaret on her retirement and to wish her many years of happy relaxation. Even if it is a long time since my association with the school and with Margaret there are many warm memories that will never go away. I can remember Margaret Kelleher in the school in the early eighties and then comparing notes with her on several

occasions later after she had joined the staff of Schull Community College. It was afterwards when she came from Schull to join us in Macroom that I got to know her better. Efficiency and dedication at staff meetings. Always a bundle of energy. Purposeful and determined at getting things done. Caring and helpful to all her pupils. Cheerful and smiling when she met you in the corridor bustling along to quell some minor pupil unrest. We exchanged family memories when we got a chance in the staffroom. She was great at organising: pupil events, social events, open days, awards ceremonies and made everything easy for those of us who were helping. Of course a lot of my awareness of her contribution to our school came when I was nearing the end of my time there. After my retirement, in her role as Dept. Examination Secretary and Deputy Principal, she continued to involve me in School Events such as Awards Ceremonies and Examination Supervision. She always made me feel included in the McEgan family and that is what I appreciate above all else. Margaret, have a well deserved and enjoyable retirement with Michael and family.

Sean Shannon 27/05/2021

Thanks for minding me for 2 years. Best wishes for the future, Best Wishes, **Shane O'Riordan**

Congratulations on your retirement. It was a privilege to work with someone of such honesty, integrity and care for one staff and students. Thank you for everything **you've done for me over the years. I very much appreciate it.** Best wishes in your new chapter of life – *Maria Cooper.*



Cáit's retirement May 2018

Dear Margaret, I've really enjoyed working alongside you these past 12 years - it will be hard to imagine the school without you here. You have been such a pillar of the school and the community of Macroom, as well as a supportive colleague. My long lasting memory will be of you with the green roll books and the detention book or investigating suspicious sign outs! I always said that you would have made a great detective! Maybe there's a role for you in An Garda Síochána yet! Wishing you every happiness in your retirement and I send my best wishes to you, Michael, John and Conor. *Elaine Morris*

To me Margaret has been a more than just a colleague down through the years. She has been so supportive, caring and friendly always. We are so lucky as a school to have her with us for this long. She is an integral part of McEgan history and will be missed dearly. Students, teachers and parents have all benefited **from Margaret's wisdom, kind words and good** humour. Margaret was the best dressed member of staff by far! So easy to have a chat with and I will miss her dearly. Wishing you all the best for the future, I know plenty of adventures await for you and Michael. Love, *Edel Mullally*

Mrs Corkery and I were on the Pastoral council and the Bandon Macroom School completion Management committee. Mrs Corkery being a local woman used that information greatly when dealing with our students. She would know the background, grandparents etc. All this was so helpful when putting a plan together for a student. Mrs Corkery never saw her student in isolation but as part of a bigger community, for her education **wasn't just about learning your ABC's but how we encompass our communities and take out parts as well-formed adults.** Whatever assistance students needed Mrs Corkery was there seeking them. She was a compassionate and empathetic leader in the school community. A leader with the students' needs uppermost in her work. I hope that all that wonderful local knowledge can be used for other works during her retirement. *Fr. Gabriel Burke*



Margaret, Patrick & Jennifer

Dear Mrs Corkery, You have no idea the number of lives you have changed for the better. Your constant guidance and wisdom have helped many of us through the years. McEgan College will never have been the same without your constant presence. You have been a role model to so many students through the years and you continue to do so. Your retirement is well deserved, and we hope that you enjoy your newfound time with your loved ones. We will be forever grateful to you, *Student council (Anika Roberts – Chairperson)*

Dear Mrs Corkery, All of us in the Parents Association would like to extend our congratulations to you on your retirement. Although you will be greatly missed we wish you every best wish for the future.

Your love for teaching, your sensitivity for those who needed help, your pleasant and helpful manner always, excellent teaching capabilities and your commitment to passing on the highest standards to your pupils are among your finest qualities. We appreciate the time and effort that you've put into the teaching profession for the last 36 years. We join the pupils and members of the staff in wishing you a blissful retirement! *McEgan Parents Association*



Margaret, Bernie, MaryB & students

Dear Margaret, It is hard to believe that you are actually retiring and leaving us as we always thought **"Ah she will stay another year", but I am so happy for you and Michael to start enjoying your well-deserved retirement.** I will very much miss my great colleague and dear friend. From the day I walked into McEgan 16 years ago, you were always so supportive and fair to everyone, both students and staff alike. Your wisdom and guidance helped us to strive to be the best we could, as did your true dedication and commitment. You always portrayed the utmost professionalism even during tough times of your own. During my own illness you always kept in touch with me and very much supported me through that tough time, which I very much appreciated and I hope I did return that favour when you needed it. I sincerely wish you and Michael all the very best for this exciting **new chapter in ye're lives. Enjoy doing all the exciting things on ye're vast "To do list" at ye're leisure and I look forward to seeing your spectacular garden on Diarmuid Gavin's show!!**

You should be very proud of the outstanding work you have done at McEgan, for the special person you are and the difference you have made to so, so many. Wishing my dear friend a wonderful retirement, and wishing you, Michael, John and Conor every health and happiness for the future.

Love and warmest wishes, *Bernie Angland x*





Last Gaurd of Honour at McEgan



Long time colleagues,
Margaret & Bairbre

Both Margaret & Tadgh are embarking on a
new chapter in life



Cian O'Riordan presents a farewell gift to Margaret
on behalf of the students at McEgan College



A FOND
FAREWELL



Updates: It was another busy year though different in the Guidance Department. This year we had virtual speakers from third level colleges which included Institutes of Technologies, Universities and Post leaving Cert Colleges. Due to the pandemic, students were unable to visit college campuses which was a huge loss. Fingers crossed visits to campuses will be up and running next year.

UCC Plus Tutoring Hours: Because of our links with UCC, 6th year students had additional tutoring hours available in Higher level subjects. This additional tutoring continues to be invaluable in preparation for the leaving cert exams.

Exam Classes: Best of luck to all in the Junior and Leaving Certificate exams.

C.A.O Updates: The 1st of February was the deadline for applying through the C.A.O for college courses in Institutes of Technologies and various Universities. Students applying through the C.A.O can however get a chance to make changes to their application if they so wish up until July 1st online free of charge.

Applications for PLC Colleges: McEgan College, St. Johns College, Colaiste Stiofain Naofa and The College of Commerce are still accepting applications for courses. Congratulations to our 6th Year students who have already received offers of courses in some of these colleges. **QQI Business Level 5 & 6, Health Care Services and Nursing Level 5 are available at McEgan College of Further Educations www.mcegan.ie at Adult Education or at 026-41076.**

SUSI Grant Application: Reminder that this application can only be done online. The deadline is July 11th 2019 for new applications. Students should refer to www.susi.ie for more information.

Pieta Fundraiser: A non uniform day was held in May as part of McEgans commitment to raising funds for the great services provided by Pieta. A total of €330 was raised. Thanks to all students and their parents for their support.



Members of the **Amber Flag team**, pictured with Ms Manning (Guidance Counsellor) having received the schools most recent Amber Flag from Pieta in 2020

Its with a heavy heart we bid farewell to the LCA class of 2021. They were a fantastic group to work with despite all the challenges they faced due to the pandemic. Their outstanding commitment to online learning is worth mentioning ensuring they met the required 90% attendance which is a compulsory element of the Leaving Cert Applied programme. Thankfully due to lifting of some restrictions, the students enjoyed a day out in Killarney on May 17th with the LCA Coordinator Ms Manning and Ms Bourke to wrap up the two years together. We wish them every good luck in their futures. We look forward to welcoming our current 5th year rroup back in September for another year of hard work.

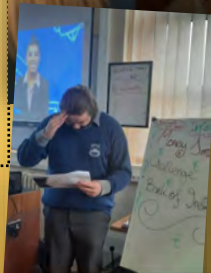
Ms. Manning

Business Studies

5th Year Business students took part in the Bank of Ireland's Money Smart Competition in April competing against students from schools all over the country. The Money Smarts Challenge is a virtual national secondary school competition that combines financial literacy education with a fun challenge. Question's surrounded topics like investment, income and expenditure, fraud and online safety. The MC's were well known James Patrice and Lottie Ryan, adding fun to the day! **Ms. Creedon**



5th yr
Business
Class



After returning after lockdown in March, to mark the occasion we asked Mr. Cool to call during lunch-break where students and staff enjoyed some free ice cream, popcorn and slushies. The sun came out and everyone relaxed in the peaceful and safe environment of the school grounds. The happiness and smiling was infectious; it was just a pity the bell went and we had to return to class.



1st Yrs Zip lining

