



Newsletter December 2023

As we draw to the end of a very long term, we would like to thank parents for their continued support and extend to all in the College Community every good wish for the coming year.

Christmas Reports

Christmas Reports Please note that you can now download your daughter/son's November Exam Report on the VS Ware platform. Please use your unique username and password to access reports. You can access the reports by clicking the link: <https://castleknockcc.app.vsware.ie>

Information Evenings

Monday 15th January: Information Evening for parents of Incoming First Year Students

Monday 22nd January: Senior Cycle Information Evening for Third Year (online)

New Year Resolution

We would like to thank all parents who have downloaded the VS Ware App and who have been using the App to alert us to student absences. The App is an excellent way to communicate with the College. We would appreciate if all parents could make a New Year Resolution to download the App.

Entrance Scholarships

We congratulate past pupil Caoimhe Sawyer (Leaving Cert Class of 2022) who has been awarded an entrance scholarship to Maynooth University.

Fergal Quinn Awards

We are delighted to announce that Sarah Dallas, Rachel Donoghue, Karl Doyle, Aaron Good and Zara Regan (Class of 2023) have earned the Fergal Quinn Award in recognition of achieving the highest credits for LCA in our region. They will be presented with their awards at a ceremony in Athlone in January. We congratulate our past pupils and wish them every success in the future.

Supervised Study

Third Year, LC1 and LC2 supervised study takes place on Mondays and Thursdays from 16:10-18:10 and Wednesdays from 12:40-2:40. It is hoped that this facility will encourage students to get into a study frame of mind.

Supervised study takes place in room 37 for JC students and room 45 for LC1 and LC2 students.

The fee for supervised study is €135.00 and discounts are applied where a student can only attend one or two evenings per week or where more than one sibling attends study.

Any questions or queries regarding supervised study please contact Ms. Bermingham (3rd year) or Ms.McDonnell (LC1 and LC2)

Vaccinations

On Monday 8th January the College will be facilitating the HSE for the HPV Vaccination Programme for First Year Students.

Awards Evening

We were proud to celebrate student achievement at our annual awards evening in November. Students who excelled academically and in music & sport received awards in recognition of their hard work and commitment. The College Spirit of



the Community Award was presented to Oisín and James Tolan, who ran from Castleknock to Foxford, Mayo, to raise funds for Irish Motor Neuron Disease Association, in memory of their late mother, Elaine Tolan. The College was presented with One Good School Award by Jigsaw on the evening. The One Good School Team, led by Ms. Carmel O'Neill and Ms. Claire Sayers, were delighted to be awarded the gold award.

Jigsaw's One Good School is an initiative which supports the mental health and wellbeing of young people by developing a shared responsibility across the whole school community.

Stand Up Week



The College celebrated Stand-Up Awareness week in early November. The whole school was decorated, and the students engaged in lots of different activities, such as a colours day, a bake sale, a school wide quiz. Well done to everyone involved!

Rainbows



In the new year, staff members will train as facilitators with Rainbows Ireland and will be in a position to deliver the Rainbows programme to students in our school. Rainbows is a national service providing group support for children and young people throughout Ireland experiencing significant change following bereavement, parental separation, and divorce.

Leaving Certificate Applied News

Rang Bradley have been very busy this term. In November they organised and ran the Annual LCA Concert. Auditions were held to narrow down the amazing talent in C.C.C. The concert was a great success and showcased a wide range of our talented students.



Rang Bradley also organised a soccer tournament for First Year Students with proceeds going to the *Make a Wish Foundation*.

LCVP News

Our LC2 LCVP class ran a movie afternoon for 1st year. This raised E400 for The Irish Cancer Society. They also visited Butlers Factory to learn all about the business and production process.

Student Council

It has been a busy term for our Student Council. Having participated in a training programme at the beginning of the year, 'Leading from the Front', run by 'Unleashing Personal Potential', our Student Council kicked off the year with a

review of the school's lunchtime facilities. Building on the work of last year's Council they came up with a new seating arrangement which increased capacity in the canteen and arranged hot water and additional microwaves for students.



Keen to highlight the school's diversity and inclusiveness, the Student Council were responsible for the addition of LGBTQ+ titles to the Literacy Wall. To mark Stand Up Week, they chucked colourful messages at the school's entrance and around the school and hosted a rainbow-themed bake sale as a celebration of diversity in our school.

To support our wider community, the Council ran a 'Stocking Filler Appeal' for St Vincent de Paul. Their hard work promoting the initiative ensured a huge amount of truly lovely gifts and goodies for donated and delivered to our local SVP branch this week.

Castleknock Community College: A Well-Read School

The College has again been successful in securing a Well-Read/Readers for Life Award. The Award will be presented to members of the Library Team at a ceremony in the Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise in April.

We are continuing to turn the library into a welcoming space for all our staff community. There are many new books on the way. The library is open every lunchtime and all members of the school community are welcome to visit.



DDLETB Festival of Music

Congratulations to Vanessa Gillespie & Rachel Hoey (LC2) and Molly Bohannon, Lucy Stack, Yohannes McCann & Lauren Tolan (Second Year) who have been chosen to represent Castleknock Community College in the DDLETB Festival of Music

Berlin to Castleknock



In November we welcomed twenty-five students and two teachers from the Beethoven Gymnasium in Berlin who were visiting the College as part of the Erasmus Programme. Students from fifth year hosted our visitors and participated in a number of activities with them. We look forward making more links with students from Europe in future.



The Great Geography Bake Off

A sample of the cakes baked by our creative students for the Annual Great Geography Off.



Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations to the Winners of our Christmas Card Competition:

1st Sirikarinin Pulluru (Rang Finucane)

2nd Saragh McCagne (Rang Guerin)

3rd Gabriella Dementaviciute (Rang Finucane)



Festive Doors Competition

First, Second and Third Year Classes decorated their classroom doors with sustainable, festive decorations. Their creative designs brightened up the corridors in the lead up to the Christmas Holidays.



Congratulations to the Winners:

First Place: Rang Casey

Second Place: Rang Durrow

Third Place: Rang Guerin

The winning classes will enjoy a Pizza Party.

