



SUMMER NEWSLETTER



CASTLEKNOCK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JUNE 2025

Strong First Season for Senior Ladies Football team in Leinster B Championship

SUCCESS FOR TY AND 5TH YEAR GIRLS AT DCU 7-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



In April, our Transition Year and 5th Year students took part in the DCU 7-a-side Ladies Gaelic Football Competition. This highly competitive event features schools from across Ireland, many of which compete in the A division, while our teams proudly represented the B division.

Despite the tough competition, the girls delivered an outstanding performance, progressing through the group stages and going on to win the Shield Final. It was a fantastic day of sport, teamwork, and determination, and the team gained valuable experience they hope to carry forward into next year's Senior B Championship.

Well done to all involved! The panel on the day included: Freya Cooney, Caoimhe Brady, Saoirse Dolan, Ruby Buckley, Grace O'Grady, Aoife McElduff, Lily Manicle, Aileen Harrington, Ailbhe, Tara Brady, Fia McGrath, Lucy Brady, Molly Burke, and Ava Moffat Geary.

Our Senior Ladies Football team enjoyed an impressive debut season competing in the Leinster B Championship. Although they narrowly missed out on advancing from the group stage due to goal difference, their performance was a major achievement—especially considering the step up in competition and the youth of the squad, with nearly all players returning next year.

Throughout the campaign, the team displayed excellent determination, teamwork, and skill, proving they can hold their own at this higher level. With valuable experience now under their belts, we're excited to see what they can accomplish in next year's championship.



Basketball

This was an incredibly busy sporting year for all here in CCC.

On Wednesday, 9th May, the 2nd year boys basketball team won the Dublin Plate final by 42 points to 30. Their opponents were Marian College. Our starting 5 had a brilliant quarter and opened up a 12 point lead, helped by some excellent shooting from Nathan Peter and Jack Weldon. That lead was made to count as Marian came out strong in the rest of the game, both teams being evenly matched. So, we finished the game with the same margin as the 1st quarter.

Well done to all the boys. They played their hearts out and deserve to be champions.



U16 boys Basketball Dublin Plate Winners



Olympic Handball

The Senior Boys achieved huge success in winning the title of Senior Boys Olympic Handball All Ireland Champions 2025. The team will now represent Ireland in the Olympic Handball tournament Partille Cup this summer in Gothenburg, Sweden. We wish the team and their coaches, Mr Gerve and Mr Bridgeman, the very best of luck!



CCC Senior Boys Olympic Handball Team Senior Boys Olympic Handball All Ireland Champions



Saoirse Dolan, Leah O'Dwyer, Leia Ryan & Mia Brett

Our athletes had a great day at the All Ireland Championships in Mullingar in May.

Luis Blinco claimed a National all Ireland Champion title for the 400m Inter boys with a huge sub of 50s PB 49.76.

The CCC Senior Girls 4 x 300m relay consisting of Leia Ryan, Leah O'Dwyer, Saoirse Dolan and Mia Brett claimed a fantastic Silver and PB of 2.52.47.

Cara Mohan CCC Senior Girls took 4th place in the 3000m in a time of 10.33.91.

Aoife Marron claimed 5th place in the Inter Girls Pole Vault, vaulting 2.35m.

Zoe Malquari took 5th place in the Junior Girls Pole Vault with a height of 2.35m PB

Gaelic and Hurling

The 2nd year boys GAA teams had a very successful year, winning Dublin titles in both Gaelic and Hurling. They defeated Coláiste Éanna in football back in November and Portmarnock in the hurling in May.



Luis Blinco

CCC Student & Staff Basketball Teams

Finally, the staff basketball team achieved their 'Back-to-Back' by defeating students 38 to 29!!! It was a great performance from all! They were fighting for every ball, and should all be very proud of themselves because it's not easy to be on the spotlight in front of such a crowd! (Maybe we should start selling tickets next year?!)

Special thanks to Sheila Cotter for her efforts in controlling such madness in her role as match referee, as well to Christina Clarke and Paul McCorry helping to manage spectators! 'Match Ball' goes to Mr O' Riada who was fantastic!

Let's go next year for the 'Three-Peat'!

CCC Student & Staff Basketball Teams



Celebrating Diversity at CCC: A Look Back at Our First Multicultural Day



Castleknock Community College recently hosted its first-ever Multicultural Day, organised by the Student Council. The event showcased the diverse cultures within our school community, with stalls representing countries from around the world. Staff and students had the chance to experience traditional foods, languages, music and clothing and famous landmarks from around the world. The day fostered curiosity, respect and a deeper understanding of the cultures that make our school community so unique. A huge thank you to the Student Council for organising such an enriching event, and to all the students and their families who contributed their time, energy and culture, making this vibrant celebration a success.



Celebrating Diversity at CCC: A Look Back at Our First Multicultural Day



China

Winners of Best Stall



CCC Students Fundraise for Daffodil Day

A group of senior students from Castleknock Community College recently took part in a fundraising event for the Irish Cancer Society on Daffodil Day at Blanchardstown Shopping Centre.

The students volunteered their time and made a positive contribution to the day's efforts, helping to raise much needed funds of the charity's important work. Their energy and enthusiasm encouraged shoppers to contribute generously and was a great example of active citizenship. A huge well done and thank you to all the students involved who gave their time and represented the school so well.



Students fundraising on Daffodil Day

DDLETB Chess Tournament Winners

This year, the Castleknock Community College chess team competed in the Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board (DDLETB) chess tournament. After winning their heat in January, the team progressed to the finals, which took place in the DDLETB head office. After some hard-fought games, the CCC chess team were successful in taking the overall title, out of 25 total teams who competed. Congratulations to all who took part!



Movie Afternoon

LC2 LCVP students ran a very successful movie afternoon event for all 1st years. Students were responsible for all aspects of this event from contacting the charity to designing marketing posters and collection and accounting of funds. This event raised almost €1000 for The Irish Cancer Society.





Languages Week

We were delighted to celebrate our **First Languages Week** in the college from March 20th to 27th, a vibrant celebration of multilingualism, cultural diversity, and the power of languages. The week was packed with engaging activities across all year groups, designed to spark curiosity, promote inclusivity, and showcase the value of learning and using different languages in everyday life.

The aim of First Languages Week was to celebrate the diverse linguistic backgrounds of our students, foster global awareness, and highlight the benefits of multilingualism – from improving communication and understanding to boosting employability and fostering connections across cultures.

Here’s a snapshot of the exciting activities that took place:



· TY students got hands-on with a **BACHATA DANCE WORKSHOP** with Ms. Traynor and Ms. Glynn.



· First years were introduced to **CHINESE LEARNING** basic greetings and cultural facts. They also learned about Chinese New Year and created origami snakes to mark the Year of the Snake. Some students also learn some sign language and the Macarena which caused huge excitement.

MFL BAKE OFF!



· LC1 students stretched their linguistic muscles by translating sample texts from the Juvenes Translatores competition, organised by the European Commission. They also got creative with **BLITZ POEMS** in Spanish and explored subtitling by adding captions to an episode of Friends—a real-world application of language skills!

· LC2 students enjoyed a relaxed **“TEA AND TALK IN MFL”** lunch event, practicing oral exam skills over tea and treats as well as learning Gen-Z Spanish slang such as “verano de brat”.



LC1s also took part in a **SPANISH “SPEED-DATING”** conversation session with our language assistant, Melyann—an energetic way to build confidence in spoken Spanish!

· Across the school, we hosted a **LANGUAGE TRIVIA QUIZ** where students tested their knowledge of languages and cultures from around the globe.

· Third years had a blast practicing the past tense in their **“CHATTERBOX”** games, bringing grammar to life in a fun and interactive way.



· Staff got involved too, with an international coffee morning, featuring foods from around the world—a lovely way to celebrate our diverse school community.

· A student language survey revealed that 38% of our students speak another language at home. When asked why they enjoy learning languages, top reasons included travel opportunities, employability, and the joy of connecting with people and cultures.

A huge thank you to all our students for their enthusiasm and to the language team, particularly Ms. McDonnell, for organising and leading so many of these enriching activities.

Our first **LANGUAGES WEEK** was a powerful reminder that language learning is not just about vocabulary and grammar—it’s about expression, identity, and connection. We look forward to continuing to support and celebrate our students’ linguistic journeys throughout the year!



Leaving Certificate Applied

Once again, the year got off to a positive start with a trip to Airtastic, where students engaged in 'team building' exercises and these were enjoyed by the students in both 5th and 6th year. The competition to win 1st place was a great incentive to work successfully as a team!

We were honoured to be invited to the LCANA Fergal Quinn Awards in Athlone, where four of our students were recognised for exceptional results in their Leaving Certificate.

Rang Naiose students completed a group activity which saw them staging the 'LCA Concert' for their General Education Task in Session 1. The students held auditions, decided on the final schedule of performers, organised the staging of the event and attendance by other students, thereby gaining a lived experience of the kind of work and skills required for this industry. The hard work and commitment put into this process by both the teacher and students this year is to be commended. The event ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all.

On Tuesday March 11th, LCA 2 students visited a Spanish restaurant as part of their Module 1 studies on Social Relationships. They had the opportunity to order food in Spanish and sample a variety of traditional tapas. Patatas bravas were a particular favourite among the group! To finish, everyone enjoyed delicious churros for dessert. ¡Qué rico!

A special thank you to Ms. Dunne and Ms. McDonnell for organising and accompanying students to the restaurant.

Finally to celebrate the amazing work this year both LCA classes visited Dublin Zoo. Rang Bradley also took part in a hike in Howth to mark their last day in CCC.



Fergal Quinn National Awards



Airtastic : Team Building Event



Spanish Restaurant Class Visit



LCA Concert



DDLETB Festival of Music

Every year our Patron, the DDLETB, hosts a collection of the top musical performances from across all schools within the ETB in an evening celebrating all things musical in the DDLETB Festival of Music hosted in the National Concert Hall. This year, our College Choir performed four songs as part of the DDLETB Festival Choir as well as two acts: Sam Monedero & Adam Joyce (LC1) and The Senior Cycle Music Group (LC1 & LC2 Music Students). The evening was a great success and the students gave wonderful performances on the evening, a testament to their hard work and commitment to their music over the course of the year. Well done to all of those involved!



Second Year Trip to Emerald



On Friday 16th May the Second Years took off to Emerald Park for a fun day out. It was a glorious sunny day and great fun was had by all. Highlights included exploring Tír na nÓg – in particular ‘Na Fianna Force’ roller-coaster! Other big attractions favoured by the group were the Cú Chulainn Coaster, the Rotator and the Viking Voyage. Those who didn’t have a head for heights had a great time exploring the World of Raptors and the Zoo. It was a lovely way to celebrate the end of Second Year and many staff and students were already planning a return visit before we had even left the grounds!

LC1 Gaeltacht Trip



In March, 5th year students enjoyed an unforgettable Gaeltacht experience in Connemara. They took part in a variety of activities, including language classes, games, scenic walks, and sightseeing. Each evening, they joined in lively céilís and connected with students from other schools, forming friendships in just a few days. CCC students were highly praised by both the Gaeltacht staff and their Bean an Tí’s for their respectful behaviour and admirable efforts to speak Irish throughout the trip. Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí was well and truly put into practice!



YSI

Ms. McCarthy's Young Social Innovators Group. The group have raised over 1,300 euro for Women's Aid. In addition, they've raised awareness on the dangers of spiking and have been advocates for women's safety.

Ms McCarthy's Young Social Innovators spent the year researching and raising awareness around the issue of drink spiking. They were also advocates for Women's Safety and organised a Bake Sale in the school, successfully raising over €1,300 for Women's Aid.



Ms. McCarthy's Young Social Innovators Group

Debating

Camillia Abdeltawab, 2nd year and Ellie Moore, 1st year, qualified for the national finals of the Matheson Junior Mace Debate. They also won another debating competition run by DCU



Camillia Abdeltawab & Ellie Moore

CCC Maths Club



The Maths Club meets on a weekly basis in the College and this is facilitated by Ms O'Brien and Mr Smith. A number of the students also engaged in Maths competitions over the course of the year and achieved fantastic results!

Peter Brennan received a trophy from the Irish Maths Teachers Association for his performance in the national Maggie Gough competition in October. Four other students from CCC were also recognised internally for their impressive results in the Maggie Gough competition.

David Florea received a trophy from the Irish Maths Teachers Association for achieving one of the highest scores in the country in the First Year IMTA competition

A team of 3rd year students from CCC, Alan Glennane, Clodagh Sheehan, Anthony Condon and Geetika Agrawal, won the regional Pi quiz maths competition. They then represented the school at the national final where they finished in 4th place.



Peter Brennan



David Florea



Alan Glennane, Clodagh Sheehan, Anthony Condon and Geetika Agrawal

Physics Experiment

CCC took part in the national pitch tar drop experiment run by the school of physics in Trinity college Dublin. A large number of students were involved with this project and a small group represented the college at the shared learning event hosted by TCD's School of Physics





Senior Cycle Geography Trip

Geography Trip to Sorrento

During this year's Easter break, a group of senior students travelled to Sorrento, Italy for a geography trip. They visited the historical sites Herculaneum and Pompeii as well as hiking up Mount Vesuvius, a volcanic crater. They visited an olive farm where they learned about the processes involved in creating olive oil and had the opportunity to taste some of the farm's homemade olive oil which had many variations. They also took a ferry to the island of Capri where they visited the stunning Blue Grotto and saw impressive coastal features such as sea stacks. Both students and staff had an amazing time during this wonderful experience to gain insight into geographical features while also enjoying the cultural activities on offer. We are all looking forward to next year's trip!



Green Schools 2025



This academic year marked Castleknock Community College's first application for the Green Flag under the Litter and Waste theme. The Green Schools Committee, led by Richard Harper, has worked collaboratively across staff, students, and auxiliary teams to instill environmental responsibility and embed sustainability into daily school life.

The Green School Committee is a diverse team formed through voluntary participation and includes 13 members of staff, including teachers and ancillary staff. It also included our 'Energy Elves', who consisted of 2 students from each of the junior year groups.

The following actions were achieved this year:

- Waste contract renegotiated to include green and brown bin collections.
- Established waste segregation systems schoolwide, including composting in staff areas.
- Created visual signage and maps, to guide proper waste disposal.
- Developed student-led recycling routines.
- Organised "Leave No Trace Thursday", a schoolwide waste-awareness initiative.
- Installed and maintained a Green Schools noticeboard and regular intercom reminders.
- Cross-curricular links through Home Economics, Science, and SPHE.
- Discussion of 6 R's (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair, Rethink) integrated into lessons.
- Students involved in data collection, poster design, and project management.



We are delighted to have been awarded our first Flag in May 2025. Fingal County Council has celebrated our flag accomplishment with a gift of €250 euro to put towards our future goals.

Huge congratulations and well done to all those involved!





Photo Gallery



2nd year Boys Dublin Hurling Champions 2025

Back Row: Ben Kearns, Elijah Lea, Josh Horgan, Hugh O'Donovan, Daire Nulty, Tom Cawley, Rory Kane, Niall Corbett, Donnacha Walters
Middle Row: Conor Dempsey (Coach), Darren Martin, Daire Markey, Dylan Turley, Harry Morgan, Darragh Rynne, Cormac Finnerty, Eoghan Whelan, Senan Doyle, Donagh McGonagle, Roin O'Connell
Front Row: Lachlan Finlay, Ollie McPartin, Charlie Foley, Olan Guinn, Sean Meaney, Eoin Murray, Shane O'Brien, Joe Manicé, Gavin Conefrey, David Dempsey



*First Year Boys Gaelic Football Dublin Champions & Leinster Hurling
Champions 2024/25*

Back Row: David Dempsey, Lachlan Finlay, Milo Brogan, Daire Nulty, Hugh O'Donovan, Braiden Smyth, Sean Clarke, Sean Gleeson, Rian Massey,
Middle Row: Gerry Sutton (Coach), Tom Bredin, Daniel Hartie, Morgan McDonnell, John Forde, Connor Mannix, James Nealon, Cian Clohessy,
Michael Hawkshaw, Daragh Brennan, Robert Cooke,
Front Row: Jake Byrne, Luca Curran, Cian McKinley, Max Kelly, Gavin Conefrey, Joe Manicé, Ryan McDonagh, Jake Flanagan, Luke Battigan-Hogan,
Not in photo: Shane O'Donohue (Coach)

Photo Gallery



2nd year Boys Gaelic Football Dublin Champions & Leinster finalists 2025

Back Row: Senan Doyle, Kyle Hughes, Ben Kearns, Josh Horgan, Elijah Lea, Tom Cawley, Donnacha Watters, Niall Corbett.
Middle Row: Conor Dempsey (Coach), Eoghan Whelan, Daire Markey, Dylan Turley, Harry Morgan, Rory Kane, Luke Nolan, Darragh Rynne, Cormac Finnelly, Aidan George, Matthew Monahan.
Front Row: Olise McPartlin, Hugo Turley, Charlie Foley, Olan Quinn, Sean Meaney, Eoin Murray, Darragh Finnigan, Shane O'Brien



Awesome Walls Schools climbing Competition competitors 2025

Back Row: Eileen Kelly (Teacher), Filomena Cosentina, Sofia Galanti, Maggie Venkova, Julia Ifodi
Front Row: Jethan Roche, Rebecca O Grady, Enya Dupont Martinez



Photo Gallery



2nd Year Boys Basketball Dublin Plate Winners 2025

Back Row: Shiela Cotter (Coach), Luca Stefan, Eoghan Whelan, Gagan Anil Kumar, Jack Weldon Dempsey, Conor Foley, Josh Horgan, Rory Kane
Front Row: Eoin Murray, Luke Nolan, Óisín Moore, Darragh Grant, Nathan Peter, Sean Meaney, Shane O'Brien



U16 Boys Basketball Dublin Plate Winners 2025

Back Row: Conor Bridgeman (Coach), Evan Mills, Jack Weldon Dempsey, Conor Savage, Leon Foy Long, Daniel Sulyma, William Fennesy, Abdullah Bhadmus, Andrius Gerve (Coach)
Front Row: Siddhant Rajpal, Chinmay Kumar, João Bacellar De Barros, Diarmuid Timoty, Alex Moran, Nathan Peter, Mark Doyle
Not in photo: Mirco Aszfronie, Zac Cooney

Photo Gallery



Senior Boys Olympic Handball Leinster Champions 2024-25

Back Row: Conor Bridgeman (Coach), Harry McCague, Daniel Khandanian, Ben Finney, Mihail Andreev, Daire Macken, Andrius Gerve (Coach)
Front Row: Ronan Ward, David Sinnott, Jerry Wu, Matteo Serena, Ferdea Ward,
Not in photo: Uganna Mezie, Toby McCarthy, Eoin Behan



Senior Boys Olympic Handball All Ireland Champions 2025

Back Row: Conor Bridgeman (Coach), Cillian Berry, Senan Byrne, Daniel Khandanian, Ben Finney, Flonn Moore, Tom Foley, David Sinnott, Andrius Gerve (Coach)
Front Row: Harry McCague, Ronan Ward, Jerry Wu, Ferdea Ward, Liam Ward, Daire Macken



Photo Gallery



Athletics Team 2024-25

Back Row: Cathal Boyle, Luis Blinco, Sam McMahon, Elrion Oshiokeh, Joshua Masango, Cillian McCabe,
Middle Row: Ms Rice (Coach), Saoirse Dolan, Eily Kildunne, Darcey Peacock, Olivia Dixon, Leah O Callaghan, Keeva Kildunne, Clara Drummond, Elodie Farrell, Sophie Kelly, Reece Peacock, Annaleise O Dwyer, Aoife Marron, Emma Mc Gann, Sorcha Kinwan, Bea O'Brien
Front Row: Daire Macken, Peter Brennan, Oisín Dunne, Leisá Ryan, Mia Brett, Mia Kaczmarek, Emily Ryan, Cara Mohan, Leah O Dwyer, Isla O Dwyer, Zoe Malquori, Salyanne Kinwan, Ronan Ward, Ferdeas Ward, Liam Ward



Minor Girls Athletics - West Leinster Winners 4x100m Relay 2025

Olivia Dixon, Darcey Peacock, Reece Peacock, Emma Mc Gann

Photo Gallery



Senior Boys Athletics Team - West Leinsters Cross Country Team Cup Winners 2025

Back Row: Osin Dunne, Daire Macken, Peter Brennan
Front Row: Ferdoa Ward, Ronan Ward, Liam Ward



Athletics: Leinster & West Leinster Senior Girls 4x300m Relay Winners & All-Ireland Silver Medalists 2025

Saoirse Dolan, Leah O Dwyer, Mia Brett, Lela Ryan, Cara Mohan



Photo Gallery



Regional Pi Quiz Winner 2024-25

Frank Smith (Teacher), Alan Glennano, Anthony Condon, Clodagh Sheehan, Geetika Agrawal, Jean O'Brien (Teacher)



Maggie Gough Maths Competition Winners 2024

Frank Smith (Teacher), Rachel Smyth, Rose Leydon, Peter Brennan, Adrika Ashwathi, Shion Orr, Jean O'Brien (Teacher)



Photo Gallery



IMTA Maths Competition Winners 2024-2025

Back Row: Frank Smith (Teacher), Rose Loydon, Rachel Smyth, Peter Brennan, Adrika Ashevath, Jean O'Brien (Teacher)
Front Row: David Florea, Vickie Zhang, Shion Orr, Aoife Marron



National Junior Mace Debating Finalists 2024-25

Jean O'Brien (Teacher), Camillia Abdeltzawab, Ellie Moore, Katie Havel (Teacher)



Photo Gallery



DDLETB Interschools Chess Tournament Winners 2024-25

Michael Friel (Teacher) Nicolas Pasich, Carrara Ronith Shankar, Jacopo Panunzio, Ada Marsh



TY Young Social Innovators National Finalists 2025

Back Row: Sinead McCarthy (Teacher), Fia McGrath, Molly Bourke, Lizzie Coughlin, Kate Donoghue, Aisling Digari, Clara McGrath, Zoe Byrne
Front Row: Lucy Brady, Yixin Chen, Vivian Zhang, Alexandra Collins, Duibheasa MacDonagh, Raffaella Laroca



School Calendar 2025-2026

FIRST TERM

School Year Begins on Thursday, 21st August 2025

College Closed: Friday 26th September 2025

College Closed: Monday, 13th October 2025 (Oide Cluster Training Day, venues tbc)

Parent Teacher Meeting, 3rd Year, Tuesday, 14th October, 2025 (break 3.45-4.15pm) 4.15-6.45pm

Midterm Break: Monday 27th October-Friday 31st October 2025

Parent Teacher Meeting, LC2 & LCA2, Tuesday, 4th November 2025, 4.15-6.15 pm

Parent Teacher Meeting, 2nd Year, Tuesday 11th November, 2025, (break 3.45-4.15pm) 4.15-6.45pm

College Closed: Friday, 14th November 2025 (Oide Child Protection PLE in school)

House Exams: Friday 21st November – Friday 28th November 2025

College Closed: Monday, 1st December 2025

First Term Ends: Friday, 19th December 2025

Christmas Holidays: Monday 22nd December-Friday 2nd January 2026

SECOND TERM

Term commences Monday, 5th January, 2026

Parent Teacher Meeting, LC1 & LCA1, Tuesday, 13th January 2026, 4.15-6.15pm

College Closed: Tuesday, 20th January 2026 (Oide Senior Cycle PLE in school)

Parent Teacher Meeting, 1st Year, Tuesday, 27th January 2026, (break 3.45-4.15pm), 4.15-6.45pm

College Closed: Monday, 2nd February 2026

Mock Exams: Tuesday, 3rd February- Friday 13th February 2026

Midterm Break: Monday 16th February- Friday 20th February 2026

College Closed: Monday & Tuesday 16th & 17th March, 2026

Second Term Ends: Friday, 27th March 2026

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April, 2026

THIRD TERM

Term commences Monday, 13th April, 2026

College Closed: Monday, 4th May 2026

House Exams: Thursday, 21st May – Friday 29th May 2026

Third Term Ends: Friday, 29th May 2026

State Examinations: Wednesday, 3rd June 2026

National Book Scheme

WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ALL PARENTS AND GUARDIANS THAT ALL BOOKS AND STATIONERY AS LISTED ON THE BOOKLIST WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL UNDER THE NATIONAL BOOK SCHEME. THERE IS NO NEED TO PURCHASE BOOKS.