

Coláiste Nano Nagle Newsletter



Principal's Message



During this season of giving, let us take time to slow down and enjoy the simple things. We have all been so busy in school these past few weeks but at last we can enjoy that well deserved rest. A break from clocks, bells and rising on dark early mornings for school.

May this wonderful time of the year touch your heart in a very special way. Wishing all students' staff and your families' warm greetings this Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Kind regards,
Marion Cummins, Principal.



Historic visit of Jan O'Sullivan, Minister of Education and Science, to Coláiste Nano Nagle

The renaming of our school officially by Jan O'Sullivan Minister for Education and Science took place in the gym hall on Monday 20th October 2014 at 2.30pm. The Junior SRC/Senior SRC represented our school in a guard of honour to welcome the minister and dignitaries on the day among which were Mrs. Noreen Mc Manus past pupil along with Mrs. Lelia Fitzgerald chairperson of the board of management, Amalee Meehan from CEIST, Ms Greg Ashe, Sr. Angela Leahy former principal and deputy principal, Ms Eileen Egan former chairperson BOM, Ms Betsy McSweeney, Mrs. P Ryan, Ms. Gabrielle Casey, Ms Maura Kitching, Sr. Margaret Mary O'Connell, members of the Parents Council and Parents on the Board of Management. Limerick native Jan O'Sullivan, Minister for Education and Science praised Sexton Street, as a seat of learning with primary, secondary and a PLC college on one campus. She was honoured to be asked to unveil a plaque specially designed detailing Nano Nagle's life and rename the school as Coláiste Nano Nagle.



Jan O'Sullivan,
Lelia Fitzgerald and
Marion Cummins
admiring the new plaque



Optimization Software:
www.balesio.com

Comhghairdeas

Undefeated Debaters!

2014 has been a year that saw the Senior Debating Team of Colaiste Nano Nagle win all of their debates in the Concern National Debating Competition. The team is ably led by Captain Alannah O'Neill (Transition Year), probably one of the youngest Senior Debates Captains in Ireland. She has been competing in debates and public speaking with our school since Second Year. Team members Nuschka Babela, Rachel Constable (both Fifth Year) and Leana Savaljeva (Sixth Year) are likewise by now experienced and confident debaters. Along the way, our school have defeated Laurel Hill Coláiste as well as schools in Kilmallock and Shannon. All debate topics relate to human rights and development. The girls are looking forward to their next debate in January.



*A joyful Staff - Christmas Jumper Day Coláiste Nano Nagle
15th December 2014 - All funds go to SVP*

This event was organised and managed successfully by Mr. C O'Sullivan.



*Mrs M. Ryan, Ms C. O'Reilly & Mrs M. McMahon
Prize winners for the most original jumpers
Well done ladies ye look stunning*

6th Retreat

Our 6th year retreat was our best retreat in the 6 years in school. It took place in our school library. It brought us all together as a group for our last retreat. During the retreat, we spoke of each of our journeys



We would like to thank Sister Colette and Sister Aileen for the opportunity and of for our wonderful liturgy thanks to Father

Optimization Software:
www.balesio.com and Kayleigh McCarthy

Transition Year Retreat

This year, the Transition year class visited the Nano Nagle centre, in Ballygriffin Co. Cork, on a religious retreat. Over the two days, we took part in many different activities, including: visiting a donkey sanctuary where we adopted two donkeys, farming and partaking in a cosmic walk.

However, we think the entire class would agree that the most important part of the experience was the knowledge we gained on the foundress of the Presentation order, Nano Nagle.

Comhghairdeas



Girl Power Across the Globe! Development Education News

Besides our third Intercultural day in October, there has been a lot going on (with more to come) to build on our 'Girl Power Across the Globe' Development Education(DE) theme for 2014-15.

The Senior Debating Team had a very successful 2014, remaining unbeaten in the Concern Debates Competition in 2014. They showed tremendous 'girl power' while arguing passionately on topics related to solving world hunger and poverty.

This year our Christmas Raffle is raising funds for the Hope Foundation. Hope works to empower children and families among the poor of Kolkata (Calcutta) in India. Of course, three of our teachers, Ms Gaughen, Mr O'Sullivan and Mr Carmody will travel to India in March; they will be visiting Hope Projects there as well as building partnerships with two Indian Loreto schools.

Recently, many of our students have sent letters to those who share our 'Girl Power' dream. Letters were thoughtfully written to girls and boys in the Indian Loreto Schools to be visited by our own teachers. Some students have also written to Malala Yousafzai, girls' rights champion and Nobel Prize Winner. We eagerly await the replies!

In late September, as part of the environmental awareness element of DE, our Transition Years travelled by train with Mr Carmody to Dublin. We visited Dublin Zoo and had a talk on the role of well-run zoos in saving endangered animal species. We also went to Irish Aid HQ and experienced a workshop on world hunger solutions.

In January 2015, a full-time professional writer from Poetry Ireland, Paula Leyden, originally from Kenya, will come and conduct a six-week creative writing project with many of our Fifth Years. She will work with them to show the power of girls and teenagers to stand up for human rights through their own writing. Other visiting speakers continue to come and address DE themes. Recently, Doras Luimní carried out a workshop with TY and Senior students on the theme of the problem of Human Trafficking as a form of human slavery, especially as it affects girls.

Our teachers here in our school continue to work quietly but brilliantly on DE in their own subject areas. For example, Ms Ahern is always creating environmental awareness through her "Green Schools" and Junk Kouture projects; Ms Leahy in Business has worked on Fairtrade with her Second Years; Ms Fitzsimons and Ms Fogarty of the Home Economics Department are producing food dishes from across the globe; Ms Healy is giving linguistic confidence to our many new student arrivals from all over the world. In fact, all our teachers are teaching the value of Global Girl Power and the lessons of DE!



Comhghairdeas

Intercultural Day at Colaiste Nano Nagle

Wednesday 22 October marked our third Intercultural Day at Colaiste Nano Nagle. The Day is part of a larger Development Education project (funded by WorldWise Global Schools/Irish Aid). The theme this year is : GIRL POWER ACROSS THE GLOBE, focusing especially on education as a human right for all girls around the world. We are also looking at environmental awareness and Fairtrade.

The day opened with a varied array of stands in the school gym, representing the almost thirty countries with which the school is linked (either through students' origins or teachers' connections); also represented were Doras Luimni, Eco-UNESCO and Fairtrade Limerick. Throughout the day students had the opportunity to explore aspects of all the various countries. A huge choice of international cuisine from Thailand to the Middle East and from Malaysia to Poland was there to sample. Posters were big and bold. There were big flags flying high across the gym to represent each country. Especially delightful were the native costumes stylishly worn by many of our students from countries across the world.

In the afternoon our school community was treated to 90 minutes of music, song, rap and dance. Most of this was provided by our own students. We also had a number of invited guests to perform: Jamie Hartigan, the Limerickman recently a star of RTE's *The Voice of Ireland* performed a rap that encourages self-belief; Elena from Limerick's Russian community sang a lovely, funny Russian folk song; children from Limerick's Latvian community were back again this year to put on a wonderful display of dance from their own country.

The entire school community and the children who visited from our neighbouring Presentation Primary School had a day to remember. Mr. Carmody told the students that we had well and truly celebrated our diversity as a school that is surely a rainbow of nations. We had reflected on the importance of education as a human right, especially for the 66 million children in 66 different countries who are denied the right to education (a very topical issue in the light of the Nobel Peace Prize to the 15-year-old Malala Yousafzai from Pakistan so while having great fun!

We are so grateful to Mr. Carmody for your continued support of development education in our school.



Comhghairdeas



Alannah O'Neill learning how to change a tyre during the TY Driver Education Workshop



TY students during their Halloween bake sale which raised over €120 for the neo-natal unit in the Limerick Maternity hospital - Thanks to everyone who supported



Students with Lisa Watters from the Cook it Programme as students completed the 6 week nutrition and cooking workshop



Sarah from TY pictured with Ger Boyce from the Irish Sign Language Society who taught the girls sign language over 6 weeks



Ms. Madigan as they completed their knitting initiative for the Neo Natal Unit. Well done everyone.



The transition year students, along with their teacher Ms Madigan, made a poster showing the amount of sugar in some popular foods. Very informative and very alarming! Well done girls.

Comhghairdeas



Green School News

On 10th of October, we held our Environmental action day for our third Green Flag for water. Talks were given to all classes on the issue of conserving water and Global awareness of water shortages. We held water games at lunch time for second years. After lunch, the Green Schools Committee completed a sponsored walk for Trocaire in the Peoples Park. The students raised 248 euro for Trocaire. Well done girls. They had studied about a student in Malawi called Enestina. She had to carry fifteen litres of water twice a day from a stream two kilometres from her home. She started carrying water from the age of six which often made her late for school and often too tired to study. Trocaire had installed a water pump in Enestinas village. But they always need more funds for other villages. The Green Committee wanted to raise money for Trocaire so they decided to do a sponsored walk for water. They wanted to carry the water in solidarity with others who carry heavy water every day in Third world countries. They carried water in buckets on their shoulders, a wheel barrow and on their heads. They also handed out water saving tips to passers by. Spin South West arrived and a student, Emma O'Reilly spoke about this walk Live on Spin Radio. On our schools open night we proudly displayed our Green Schools Notice board and past awards for our work. Not missing any opportunity, we also handed potential parents to our school water saving tips handout. We will enter this project into the Young Environment Awards held in Cork in March and in the Mansion House, Dublin in May 2015. Our sincere thanks to Helen Ahern for all her work scaling new heights in our school on the environment schools projects, the green schools initiative.

Why Save Water?

Of all the water in the world, only 3% is fresh water. 1% of water is available for human use. Water is scarce but is also essential for life.

WATER TIPS:

- Turn off the taps when you brush your teeth. Running tap will waste thirteen litres of water.
- Wash vegetables and rinse dishes in a basin rather than under a running tap.
- Shorten showers from 10 minutes to 5 minutes.
- Wash car with bucket and sponge rather than with a hose. Just 30 minutes with a hose will use 500 litres. A bucket will use just 35 litres in total.

- Toilets wastes at least 5,500 litres a year
- For watering the garden/plants
- This will also save energy.
- Flush your toilet cistern. This will reduce water needed for each flush.
- Colouring into your toilet cistern. Don't flush the toilet, but if it appears in the toilet it means your toilet is
- Dishwasher and washing machine.
- Check your water meter in the morning. (Found outside the front gate of your house). If it has a high reading the following morning, this will indicate a leak.



Comhghairdeas

*The TY students demonstrated great initiative in organising a **SPOOKY CAKE SALE** for the Limerick Neo Natal Unit.*

Well done ladies, a very worth while cause. A huge congratulation to Miss Ellen Madigan who co-ordinated this event and whose talents are endless.



PDF
Optimization Software:
www.balesio.com

Science week took place in Coláiste Nano Nagle from the 10th to the 14th of November.

There were many different science activities held including walking on eggs, NERF guns competitions, and the magic moving can trick. The activities were fun as well as being informative. Well done to all involved.



Comhghairdeas



Mrs Mary Ryan Deputy Principal congratulates Fanie Carmody Student of the month - September



Mrs Mary Ryan Deputy Principal congratulates Alannah O'Neill, Student of the month - October



Mrs Mary Ryan congratulates Anthomiet O'Hanya, Student of the month - November





Optimization Software:

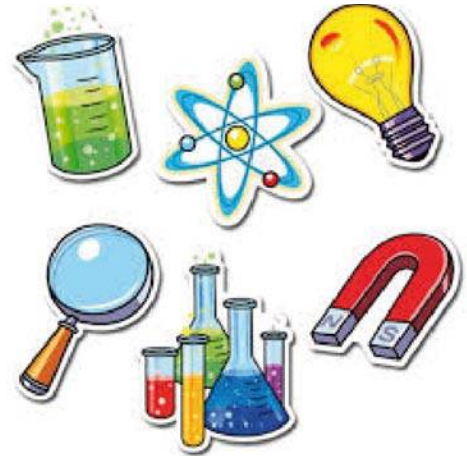
www.balesio.com

Welcome Mr. Brian Downey to the PE department and to Colaiste Nano Nagle and to Mrs Nuala Kilkenny to our staff. May you have fulfilment in your teaching roles here.

*Second Year Business Projects
Reviewing past, present and future businesses on local streets.*

Parents Sizzle at Science

Parents were the superstars of Scintillating Science Shows held recently in Colaiste Nano Nagle (formerly Presentation Secondary School) and Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School.



Megan Stubbins 1st Year and her mum Noelle.

Parents of local students were invited into the vibrant Science Department in Colaiste Nano Nagle to participate in a series of training sessions to facilitate them to learn new skills in experimental science.



Little Einsteins from Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School.



Ms Christine O'Callaghan, Laboratory Technician, provided vital support throughout.

The aim of the project was to encourage parents to become confident in their own ability to teach fun science experiments to their children using everyday materials at home.

With experiments entitled bubble and squeak, smelly balloons, exploding Coca Cola fountains and pocket rocket, who could resist?

1st ... Daly,
Sop ... ox.



An ... daughter filled the laboratory during each
trai ... hers learned a thing or two as well.

Optimization Software:
www.balesio.com

The ... ed out to Our Lady of Lourdes Primary
Sch ... of December where the parents worked
their magic on 150 students to squeals of utter delight. Exploding fire

bubbles, tin cans moving on their own, 7-Up fizz bombs and CSI fingerprinting stole the show.

Fuelled up on this success the parents again held another spectacular session in Colaiste Nano Nagle and invited guests were 1st Year students and pupils from St Johns National School and Presentation Primary School.

6th Class pupils from St Johns National School.



Comments from delighted parents included: "I never thought that Science and School could be so much fun"

Antoinette Kelly Mum of Erica Kelly 3rd Year and Lauren 6th Class, Presentation Primary School



"I am thrilled that I got involved in the Project and can now give my own children a head start in Science".

Last we heard there is as rumour doing the rounds that Richard Branson is trying to buy the secret of their successful Rocket Launch. If only

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OF OUR PARENTS



We would like to thank Ms Antoinette O'Donovan, Home school liaison officer for her exceptional talent in bringing science to life along with all her science team.

Comhghairdeas



1st years helped to decorate a Christmas cake that will be raffled to raise money for the Neo Natal Unit in Limerick



5 LCA on a trip to Bunnratty Castle & Folk Park with Ms Meta Fitzsimons

“Just Friends”

All we'll ever be is Friends,
This I'm still trying to accept.

I'm sorry for the things I've done,
I'm sorry for what was said,
I'm sorry for these words I write,
While lying here in bed.

I wanted you to like me too,
I wanted you to care,
I wanted to belong with you,
I wanted to be a pair.

But you made it fairly clear,

Tame,
A fault,
T me.
S
S grace,
A m too
s ace!



Anonymous

Basketball

It has been a very successful start to the basketball season this year. The senior and second year teams have fought well in their Limerick league matches and hopefully will put what they've learned into victories in the new year.

The first year team captained by Savannah Moran remain undefeated for the season. They have beaten all who have come before them, sometimes in tight battles but they have fought to the end. Last week they beat Gaelcholaiste Luimnigh 26-19 having been down by 1 point going into the last quarter. Fine attacking performances from Savannah Moran, Kamilia Kusiak and Jessica Coffey along with strong defence from Emily Griffin and Pauline Begley ensured our victory. Numbers have been excellent at training and this is showing on court. Well done girls.

JRC

The members of the Junior Representative council are:

1st Year: Sophie Hannan, Lauren Connery & Kamila Kusiak

2nd Year: Rebecca Kiely & Aicha Oyesola

3rd Year: Claire Mullaney, Sophie Hayes & Narden Tarabulsi

FUNCTION OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL:

Listen: The student council listens to what students in the school have to say.

Represent: The student council represents the students and is the voice for their opinions and ideas.

Suggest: The student council suggests ideas and comes up with plans to improve the school environment for students.

The Minister Visits Our School

When the Minister of Education Jan O'Sullivan visited our school we welcomed her and formed a guard of honour. We all stood in a straight line at the door waiting for the arrival of the minister whilst the school waited patiently in the school gym. When she approached us we shook her hand with a smile and told her our name and class. It was a delightful afternoon.

by Lauren Connery and Sophie Hannan

Thanks to Ms Marie Hayes for her inspirational role in guiding our student council - junior and senior





Cór Nano Nagle with Ms Therese Gaughan, Music Teacher.

Christian Prayer Service:

Our Christmas prayer service was held in the school Wednesday 10th December. Our prayer service was led by Ms. C O'Brien & Sr. Colette.

Students from each class participated in readings and carrying to out sacred space symbols reflecting Christmas - crib, Christmas tree, the bible symbolising all the liturgies that will take place in all parishes around Limerick city, candle and advent wreath.

The Gospel of St. Luke was read reminding us of the birth of Jesus, during the Gospel baby Jesus was carried up to the crib by the young child in the school Tara Daly led by the two head girls Aili

Pre

Pres in our school. The story of Nano Nagle's symbols reflecting her life including a relic

Spe Sr. Colette Hourigan & Sr. Angela Lea en to each of them reflecting the dedication they have to the school.

Optimization Software:
www.balesio.com

Opening of the New School Year:

Fr. Chris O'Donnell celebrated a liturgy in September thanking God for a wonderful summer and all returning safe and happy. We welcomed all our new students.

Our theme for this year is faith, hope and love and how we should live with faith, bring hope and show love to each other for the next school year.

Retreats:

Every student will have the opportunity of a Retreat during the year.

Knock:

On the 7th of October our TY & SLCA students were invited to Knock to celebrate a special gathering of young people all over Ireland. We met Bishop Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick in Knock who welcomed us all. A beautiful liturgy was celebrated by the Papal Nuncio of Ireland (the Pope's representative in Ireland) Archbishop Charles Brown. Mickey Harte, Tyrone Football manager spoke to us on the importance of saying the rosary every night. A present was given to all students of a Youcat Book & Rosary Beads.



Mrs. Marion Cummins in her address thanked the Minister Jan O'Sullivan for her commitment to Education and for taking time from her busy schedule to be with us on this special occasion. She also thanked Mrs Noreen and JP Mc Manus for their generous contribution to Colaiste Nano Nagle Bursary Fund. The ceremony concluded in style with the official opening of the newly refurbished kitchen, where all were treated to culinary delights served by our wonderful Home Ec. Students under the watchful eyes of Ms. Meta Fitzsimons & Ms B Fogarty.



Minister Jan O'Sullivan addressing the Staff & Students



Ligita, Ms Eileen Egan, Ms Betsy McSweeney & Liana outside our refurbished kitchen.



Greg Ashe BOM

Amalee Meehan, CEIST



Nano Nagle as a young girl



Mrs Noreen McManus with Ms Marion Cummins



Anastasia Novakova receive 3rd level Bursaries missing from photo was Mariola.



A wood carving of Nano Nagle as a young novice

Mrs Noreen Mc Manus made a special presentation of bursaries to our top leaving certificate students 2014 Anastasia Novakova, Mariola, Ciara Judge. The students were thrilled to receive these generous awards towards their third level studies.

Optimization Software:
www.balesio.com

the event. It was an outstanding were paid to her whose eye for is second to none.

All staff involved were kindly thanked by Mrs. M Cummins.