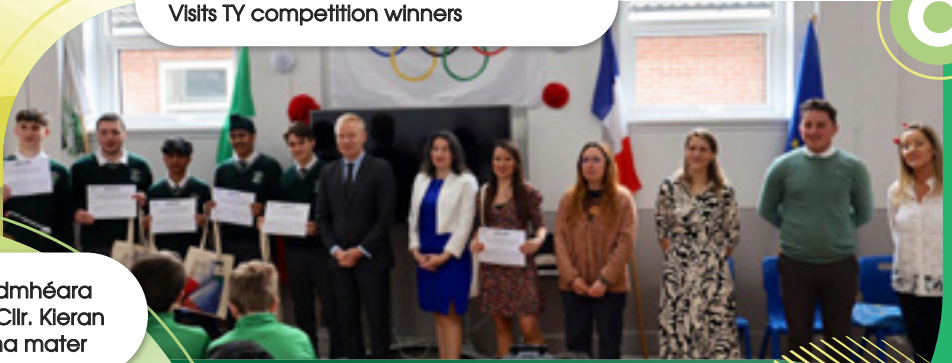




Rí Eolas

Uimhir 50
2023-2024

World Cup Success French Ambassador Visits TY competition winners



CCRí Lord Mayor Ardmhéara Chorcaí, far-scolaire Cllr. Kieran McCarthy, visits alma mater



All-Ireland Finalists Senior Volleyball Team compete in All Ireland Schools Final



Winning Project Joe Nolan (1 ú Bl.) who won the individual category of the Discover Cork Schools' Heritage Competition 2023



Junior Science Success. Our team came second in the recent Thermo Fisher Junior Cycle Science Quiz



A Perfect Score. Franciszek Sobolewski and Breandán Ó Donnchú achieved top marks in the 2023 Leaving Certificate DCG exam. Pictured here with their teacher A Ó Duinnín



Focal ó Bhínse an Phríomhoide

Composing an article such as this for the Rí Eolas is a sure sign that our school year is coming to an end and that planning for the next year should be underway. It prompts me to reflect on the year gone by and to look forward to the coming year.

A true highlight of the year was the fantastic visit to Coláiste Chríost Rí of Mr. Vincent Guérend, the French Ambassador. This visit was prompted by the success of our TY students and teachers who won the AIPLF Ireland competition with their French video entry promoting sport for the upcoming Olympic Games. Congratulations and many thanks to Ms. Déborah Aubert, Ms. Margaret Casey, the French department, TY students and all involved in this wonderful occasion.

This year saw a number of other positive developments. We have welcomed Br Theiva to the staff and chaplaincy team, seen the completion of our new home room, the redevelopment of the Sean Halla, the repurposing of the library into a support hub and the erection of new fences and gates at the front of the school. The provision of a new lunchtime food service has been warmly welcomed by the students. Recently, some members of our school leadership team also volunteered and participated in an EU-funded Erasmus Mobility Programme over Easter. This programme afforded us the chance to evaluate our own school practices, look at what other European schools offer in terms of curriculum and faith development, and identify areas for development within our schools. Central to this was also the development of connections between our network of PBST schools; a very worthwhile endeavour.



Our newly refurbished Sean Halla

Next year will be equally busy. We will see the introduction of a free book rental scheme for all Junior Cycle students; the opening of our second special class, advancement of Senior Cycle Reform, progression of our LCA programme, installation of a new fire safety system, continued progress on our main extension and the refurbishment of our main entrance, offices, and lobby areas.

All these wonderful developments are enhancing our school and the experience of all members of our school community. A successful school is, however, so much more than buildings, furniture, and fittings. During my career as a teacher, I have always had a particular interest in the school timetable. I have been involved in producing timetables for many years, beginning even before the advent of timetabling software. To the outside observer, the school timetable is a very functional thing. It is just a list of classes, teachers and rooms, a sequence of places to be and times to be there.



I have, however, often thought of the timetable as the “pulse” of the school. The timetable provides the beat and the rhythm for each day and for each week. It outlines the school's curriculum, what is available to students and, crucially, how each student can access the curriculum. The timetable reflects the school's ethos, in a very practical way, as the school's ethos guides the decision-making process which shapes each year's timetable. The timetable is a quick and easily accessible indication of the wide range of subject choices available and their different levels; the support of students with additional education needs; how student wellbeing is at the core of timetable planning; whether it adapts to meet the changing needs of the students and the school and most importantly, how it is designed to assist students in achieving academic excellence and to help each student grow and develop fully as a person. The timetable is, without doubt, at the very centre of school life, and yet, without students and staff it is merely a functional, sterile thing. Whilst the timetable provides a framework for the school week, it is the people, and even more crucially the relationships between those people, that really determine just how fulfilling school life is.

In Coláiste Chríost Rí, our relationships are based on respect, and when an issue arises our restorative approach enables us to restore and mend any relationships that have been damaged or strained. A restorative approach does not result in poor discipline or lower standards. In fact, a restorative approach produces much better outcomes in the longer term, as

all members of the school community form much more effective, productive, and respectful relationships, based on a shared understanding of our values and of what the school is striving to achieve.

As is the case with every other school, we are continuously at the receiving end of departmental circulars and guidelines and, as a Catholic school, we are also directed by dogma and doctrine. All of these

are necessary and vitally important to the education of our students. However, in our school, as we seek to develop young men of character, ambition, and judgement, we need also to be very mindful of the heart of our school, our ethos, and our relationships.

Rí Abú

P Mac An Rí

Fáilte Roimh Iver!



Iver is our fully trained Irish Guide Dog who provides support in the areas of wellbeing, mental health resilience and counselling. Iver brings his high energy and affectionate disposition to all tasks, especially in our new TY module where students learn about animal care. Iver is supported by his handlers S Ó Broin, L Ní Sé, and S Ó hAodha - as well as all members of our school community who love to see him on a daily basis.



PME Students 2023-24



(ó chlé:) Hannah Kirwan, Pól Hodnett, Saoirse Bennett, Áine Walsh, Aidan Cregan. (As láthair: Michael O'Neill, Seán Ronayne, Camila Martin, Marc Ó Laoire). This year we also welcomed Marina Ryzhova and Br. Theiventhiran (Theiva) to Críost Rí.

Ár mBrón



Bernard Martin

On the 11th of January, of this year, Coláiste Chríost Rí lost a great friend of the school and its extended community.

Bernard Martin (Bernárd Ó Máirtín) was the school's first PE teacher at a time when PE, as a subject, was not on the national curriculum. (The Pres. Brothers were ahead of their time).

Bernard, who had a great love for the Irish language, was highly respected by students and teachers alike. He introduced weight training for the hurling and football teams at a time when few, if any, had even considered it. Many agree that during his time in the school, Bernard's input had a considerable influence on fitness levels and helped CCRí become one of the dominant forces in Gaelic football and hurling from the late 60's. His philosophy helped establish an ethos towards training and physical conditioning that carried the teams forward in the following decades.

After his time in Críost Rí Bernard worked in UCC, once again passing on his expert knowledge to all who sought it, many of whom were past pupils of his former workplace.

It was a predictable and fitting tribute to Bernard that so many attended his funeral. Past pupils, GAA stars, former colleagues and school principal, Pádraig Mac An Rí, were all present at St. Patrick's Church, Rochestown, on the 15th, to sympathise with Bernard's loving family and bid farewell to our much-respected former colleague, trainer and friend.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

E Ó Riordáin



Pat Doyle pictured in the back row, fifth from the right.

Also pictured, ó chlé: An Brá Pius, Tadhg Ó Ceallacháin, Seán Ó hAllmhúráin, Bernard Martin, Roibeard Ó hUrdail, Pádraig Ó Dúill, An Brá Fabian, Seán Ó Drisceoil, Seán Ó Sé, Cathal Ó Corcora. Chun tosaigh: An Brá Fanahan, Caoimhín Ó Cuimín, Donncha Ó hAodha, Risteard Toibín, Dinny Lynch.

Pat Doyle

Pat Doyle was a member of that early cohort of wonderful teachers that in the 1960s built Críost Rí's reputation for academic and sporting excellence. Pat joined the staff in 1962 and taught English and Religion. When he left, it was to join the nascent psychology service for schools.

On hearing of Pat's passing his former colleagues and pupils spoke of their sadness and expressed their high regard for him. Peter Rooney was one of his pupils who, as a teacher himself, made his own considerable contribution to education in Críost Rí. Peter spoke of how he owed Pat a huge debt of gratitude. "Without the vital push in the right direction that he gave me at a crucial time, I would never have finished second level. Never mind third level education. If ever a man deserved a place in heaven, it's Pat."

Such is the impact a teacher can have on his pupils. The community of Coláiste Chríost Rí, past and present, extends its sympathy to Pat's wife and family. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

S Ó Scolai



Br. Benildus

Br. Benildus served in many different schools and lived a long and happy life. A true educator, he was held in the highest regard by colleagues, parents and past students. He was always positive and encouraging of people. Noted for staying in touch with past pupils, especially those who were ill or experiencing any kind of difficulty in their lives, Br. Benildus was also a man of deep faith. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Br. Martin Kenneally

Mission Development Work

"Wealth is not always measured in money. We each have time, talent and creativity, all of which are powerful forces for positive change. Share your blessings in whatever form they come and to whatever level you have been blessed"
- Mahatma Gandhi

Development work is always very challenging and for the most part positive and life-changing where it is done with the participation of the people both in its design and implementation. The era of the 'missionaries' going overseas is over and a new generation of local people with great talents and ideas has taken the reins and are steering the work in new directions with an emphasis on meeting the local needs and making the projects sustainable while empowering the beneficiaries to manage and control them for the future.

The Presentation Brothers have been working in Ghana and Nigeria, their West Africa Province – WAP, for almost 60 years. Initially they put all their energies into building schools, bringing education, skills and knowledge to the new generations of people. The old adage 'Education is the key to changing lives' certainly applied and so many of the entrepreneurs, leaders of business, politics and social change attribute their success and ability to forge new horizons for their countries to the education they received from the brothers in the schools they set up in remote rural areas.

The focus today is still mainly on education but with a view to changing society in new and different ways. Everybody knows that women are the backbone of society and the economy throughout Africa. They have been the hewers of wood and drawers of water since time immemorial with little recognition or appreciation of their efforts.



The focus now is to make sure that young girls are treated equally and given opportunities to get education and improve their life chances. Since 2019 the 'Girl Child Project' has been underway. The purpose here is to make sure that girls are sent to school from a young age and that they are encouraged to stay in school until a minimum of Junior High School Certificate JHSC (equivalent of Junior Cert) has been completed.



In remote rural areas there can be pressure on girls to leave school and marry at a young age, some as young as 15 years old. The Presentation Brothers working in collaboration with the Catholic Education Unit in the Navrongo/ Bolgatanga district have pumped huge resources into this project which involves all the communities in the region. The elders in the local communities, the local chiefs, head-teachers in schools and many different role models have been brought on board to make sure that whole communities are educated and made aware that girls must be sent to school and stay in school until they have reached the JHSC.

The budget for the project has been €60,000 per year and it is calculated that 7,000 girls per year have stayed in school as a result. This project involves setting up 'girl clubs' in each school so that they have support and encouragement at all times. Girls have been provided with bicycles to travel to school each day, school uniforms and school books and all the students in each school (boys and girls) are provided with a nutritious cooked meal each day. This feeding programme is vital to the success of all the students as it encourages attendance, takes the pressure off poor parents to provide food for their children and it aids concentration and learning.

Mission Development Work



The figures for the success of this project go far higher than the immediate 7,000 girls who are in school as it also helps the parents and siblings of the girls who benefit with new levels of learning, skill, confidence and achievement. The number of people who benefit 'indirectly' from this project is estimated to be close to 30,000 each year. The 'Girl Child project' and other similar initiatives raise the standards and ambitions of whole communities. As a result of the success of this project, communities are much more open and willing to take initiatives and start new enterprises and projects.

Rural Africa is where the effects of climate change are mostly sharply felt. Each year sees less and less rainfall, droughts and crop failures. To address this huge problem for communities, where subsistence farming is the only means of making a living for 90% of the people, 'Earth Clubs' have been set up to educate and train all the students in simple organic methods that protect the local environment and use new knowledge to make sure that farming continues to be a viable way of life and a source of food for the future.

The appetite for knowledge and new skills has grown hugely and to respond to the requests of the parents a 'Women's Organic Farming Project' has been set up beside one of the schools as a test run for rolling this out across all the communities where the Pres Bros work. It is a ground-breaking project as it required the local chiefs to hand over ownership of a parcel of land to the 'women's group'. Up to now women could not own land or property in their own right.



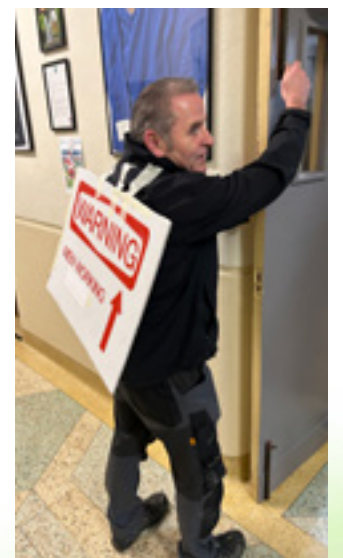
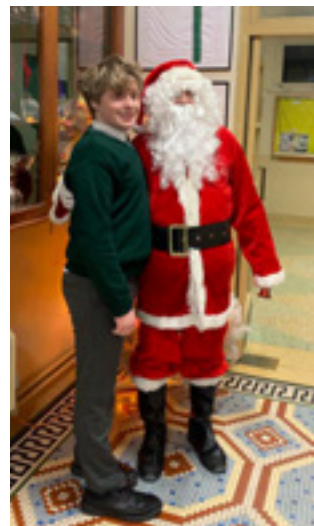
To overcome this obstacle the land is owned by the 'women's group' and not by any individual. In the last few weeks a borehole for water (30 metres deep) has been sunk, the land has been fenced in to prevent animals straying in and destroying the crops and the seeds for 10 different highly nutritious crops have been sown. It has brought energy and vitality with a huge boost of confidence for the future to this community. The total cost for this simple organic farming project, which benefits 250 women and their families, came to €15,000. These costs included the drilling of the borehole, building a pump house and installing the pump as well as the fencing and seeds required for the crops. All the hard digging and labour was provided free by the local women and men who have a pep in their step and are delighted to be taking control of their own lives and futures.

These are a few simple examples of the work in the 'Development Office', which is very rewarding and satisfying. I submit the proposals and reports to funding agencies to get the funds to get these projects off the ground. The people themselves do the real hard work to make them successful and sustainable.

Dáithí Ó hAodha,

Iar-leas príomhoide

Christmas in CCRí



Christmas in CCRí



Creativity at Christmas

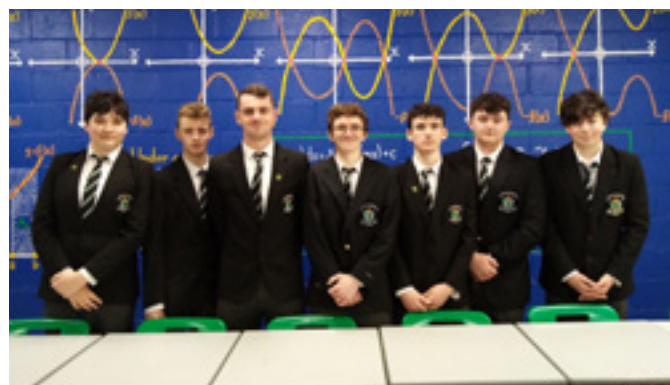


Alexander Beron (5 ú Bl.) receiving his prize for the winning entry in the PBST Christmas Card Art Competition. Presenting the prize is Carmel Murphy (Chairperson, PBST) and Pádraig Mac an Rí (Príomhoide).

Saint Vincent de Paul Annual Events and Collection

Christmas 2023 saw another very successful contribution to Saint Vincent de Paul. The annual raffle and darts competition allied to a very generous food appeal meant that 30 Cork families were able to have a nicer Christmas thanks to the generosity of our students. Thanks to all who helped out in any way.

D Mathúna



Basketball



Second Year Basketball Team



First Year Basketball Team

Athletics



Cross Country Team Members



Josh Ó Mathúna, South Munster Intermediate 200m champion.



The senior cross country team.



Members of the senior and minor cross country team.

Volleyball



Serving success!

It may just be their second year of competitive volleyball but our senior boys team made it all the way to the finals. The team and their coaches, Ms Smith and Ms Burke, travelled to Dublin to play the Senior Boys B Final in December. Unfortunately they were not successful this year but the spike in success of this sport in Críost Rí is growing. The team also made it to the finals of the Schools Beach Volleyball Tournament in April.

C Nic Gabhann



Reunion of Corn Uí Mhuirí Winners of 1997 and 1998



Recently a group of players from both the '97 and '98 winning Corn Uí Mhuirí Squads gathered in the Briar Rose Bar and Restaurant on the Main Douglas Road. It was a really joyous occasion particularly seeing so many past pupils who brought great honour to the school. It was gratifying to see how well they have all done in life but yet still found the time to come back and spend some time with their former teammates and teachers. The school will be forever in their debt for the way in which they contributed to the history and tradition that is unique to Coláiste Chríost Rí.

The following is a brief summary of both campaigns.

On a bright August morning in 1996 three weeks before the end of the summer holidays, the CCRí Senior footballers assembled in Páirc Choilm for their first training session of the season. We had not won a Corn Uí Mhuirí for 8 years, an eternity for a school with our reputation. At the end of the session, it was obvious these players were determined to bring the cup back to CCRí for the 12th time and so end our barren spell.

The players trained really well during September and October and were well primed for our first-round game v Midleton CBS on October 24th. We emerged victorious on a scoreline of 3-16 to 2-5.

Our second-round game v St Colman's Fermoy proved to be a much tougher encounter. We were behind by a point at half time but an improved second half performance ensured victory by 8 points.

On March 2nd 1997 we played the semi – final v St Flannan's in Fenagh. It took a brilliant equalising point scored by our captain Fionán Murray 4 minutes and 48 secs into injury time to level the game and bring the tie to a replay. We won the replay by 5 points and set up a Final meeting with Kerry Kingpins St Brendans, Killarney. We were going for our 12th title, St Brendans their 9th. Our players put on a brilliant display of attacking football to emerge as champions on a scoreline of 2-12 to 0-6.

The '98 campaign had a different feel to it. We were going in as champions so opposing teams would

work much harder against us. We were ready for any challenge since we had prepared well. The opening game against the North Monastery was played in challenging underfoot conditions but we managed to win this dour encounter on a scoreline of 0-11 to 0-2.

Our second-round game v St Fachtnas of Skibbereen proved to be a really difficult encounter. With time almost up our captain William Cummins dropped a sideline ball into the square, the Skibb fullback dropped the ball and Cathal Mc Carthy goaled to bring us level. The Skibb goalkeeper kicked the ball out and with the referee about to blow for fulltime Barry Murphy pounced on the loose ball and kicked the winning point. We were so relieved to get this victory and move on to the next round.

GAA Update 2023/24

Coláiste Chríost Rí saw another busy and successful year in both Hurling and Football in 2023-24.

The under 14 footballers and hurlers qualified for the semi-final round for the second year in a row. The footballers pulled off wins against Coláiste Pobail Bheanntaí, Glanmire Community College, and a last-minute winning goal from Ryan Crean to beat Mount St. Michael Rosscarbery in a thrilling game.

Our hurlers had a great win against Carrigaline Community College to qualify to the semi-final; great performances by Caidan Morgan, Mattie O'Leary and Darragh Corcoran in the Críost Rí jersey. We hope they can replicate the double victory from last year again.

We started the year with the under 15 Munster B football championship, where we clashed with Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne and came out victorious! Outstanding performances on the day from Morgan Kelleher and Morgan Corkery. Unfortunately, the lads were beaten by eventual winners, St. Michael's Listowel, in a back-and-forth game that could have gone either way. Very impressive performances from David Clarke O'Mahony and Alex O'Herlihy.

The under 15 hurling team competed in difficult conditions against a strong team from St. Caimin's Community College, Shannon. A great display of some very promising young hurlers on the day. Callum McCarthy-O'Donovan and Micheál Fleming-Forde stood out on the day.

The under 16 footballers pulled off a fantastic win against Boherbue Comprehensive School in Glenville.

We played Flannans in the semi-final and this time the players ensured there would be no replay. We won on a scoreline of 2-10 to 1-6 thereby setting up an all-Cork final v our sister school Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh. The final was played in Pairc Uí Rinn. The players gave a very assured performance winning comfortably 3-13 to 3-3. We were champions again winning back-to-back titles which was a great achievement by the players.

M Ó hÉimhín

Adam Quinlivan and Cathal O'Herlihy were central in this comeback win. They lost in the next round to a very strong Mitchelstown CBS team, with a lot to learn for this talented bunch. In hurling, the boys had two very good wins against St Colman's Community College and Carrigaline Community School, eventually losing in the semi-final to Coláiste Treasa Kanturk. A fantastic run was led by Kyle Cronin, Diarmuid O'Donovan and Ryan Deasy. A lot to come from this bunch in the next few years.

The under 17 hurlers played against a strong St. Anne's Killaloe side, while the footballers had a great win against Comeragh College followed by a loss to Gaelcholáiste Mhuire A.G. Big performances this year from Jack Shine, Evan Malone and Trevor Howe.

Our Senior football team had a busy year. Losing out to Hamilton High School in the Simcox cup, a game that was well in the melting pot until the 45th minute. In the Corn Uí Mhuirí, the boys played against Mercy Mounthawk, who reached the All-Ireland final, Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne, a game that was very close to the 50th minute, and Coachford College.

In hurling, the boys came up short against St. Mungret College and Ballincollig Community School. There were big performances this year from James Kennefick, Billy O'Neill, Artjoms Petrovs, Cian O'Sullivan and Colin Molloy. Although it wasn't a successful year in terms of wins, the team did the school proud every time they put on the Críost Rí colours. Well done to all for such determination and skill.

C Ó Meachair

Player Profile - Colin Molloy (6 ú Bl.)

**Name:**

Colin Molloy

Year:

6th Year in Críost Rí

Favourite Sport:

Gaelic Football

Club:

Nemo Rangers

Position:

Full back/Wing Back

Achievements to date:

- Winning a Munster minor football championship with Cork in 2022,
- Reaching a Cork senior county final with Nemo in 2023,
- Winning a féile title with Nemo in 2019.

Experience so far:

I am currently a 6th year student in Coláiste Chríost Rí, getting ready for the leaving cert. As of today, I am proud to say I have played a part in the Corn Uí Mhuirí with CCRÍ over three years which has always been a big part of tradition here. We have been unlucky over the last few years, but there is no doubt we will be back again soon.

I have always loved football from a young age and my local club, Nemo Rangers, has always supported my interest in GAA. I have been part of some great Nemo teams with friends over the years and have benefited from great coaching with Nemo and CCRÍ. I took a big step up by playing adult football in 2023 with Nemo and had a long year, but unfortunately came up short in the county final vs Castlehaven.

I have been playing with Cork since I was minor in 2021/2022, in the year of my minor I won a Munster medal defeating Kerry in the Munster final in Páirc Uí Rinn. For now, I am with the Cork u20 footballers, getting ready for our big season ahead.

Biggest Inspiration:

Billy Morgan.

School Life:

Coláiste Chríost Rí is a special place to my friends and me. I have many special memories of this school, which will last me a lifetime. There is a real and unique sense of belonging in Críost Rí and I will be sad to leave here in May after so many happy years. Sport has played a big part of my life in Críost Rí and our teachers have always supported the student interest in sport. There is a great relationship between students and teachers in this school which I will miss. A special thanks to our coaches, and the teams, who train in all conditions and consistently gave it their all.

What advice would you give to younger students starting out?

Keep the head down and focus on your academics as much as your hobbies. You have to find the balance. I would also say to make the most of every day in Coláiste Chríost Rí as it passes by very fast.

Colin Ó Maolmhuidh (6 ú Bl.)

Soccer

Fundraising Goals!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Bag2School Fundraiser. We once again raised money for our Críost Rí Soccer Teams and Bag2School will donate a further 10% to LauraLynn House.



Well done to Jordan Ikechukwu, who joined Cork City FC U14 Academy this year.



U16 Soccer Team



U17 Soccer Team

Educational Travel



Drawing Inspiration



Our first year graphics class, along with teachers Mr Dineen and Mr Herlihy, were invited to visit Stryker in Carrigtwohill this year. The boys experienced a tour of the company's largest facility outside of the US and its operation, in what was a thoroughly enjoyable day.

L'ambassadeur de France visite le CCRÍ



(ó chl ): Lutfor Rahman, Vuk Maglov, Nemanja Milivojevic, Lluís Closa Martínez, Tejas Veer Singh Channi.



En ce mois de mars, à peine avons-nous fini de f ter l'Irlande avec le Seachtain na Gaeilge que nous c l brions la francophonie et notre belle langue fran aise. La venue de Monsieur l'Ambassadeur de France en Irlande et de la pr sidente de l'AIFLF (Association Irlandaise des Professeurs de Langue Fran aise)  tait un peu notre cerise sur le g teau en cette magnifique journ e de printemps!

Monsieur Vincent Gu rend et Madame Val rie David-McGonnell  taient pr sents pour r compenser 5 des gar ons dont nous sommes si fiers: Lluís Closa Mart nez, Vuk Maglov, Nemanja Milivojevic, Lutfor Rahman et Tejas Veer. Tout comme les 5 anneaux du drapeau olympique, ces jeunes hommes venus du monde entier sont unis, sportifs et talentueux.

La vid o qu'ils ont cr e pour rappeler l'importance du sport rassemblait toutes les valeurs auxquelles ils sont attach s. Chaque jour, nos  l ves s'efforcent de combiner leurs aptitudes sportives et acad miques. Ils r pondent pr sent d s qu'il s'agit de donner le meilleur d'eux-m mes, plus vite, plus haut, plus fort ... ensemble.

En plus d'un jeu d'acteur digne de celui de Jean Dujardin, le lexique utilis  et leur prononciation  taient impeccables. L'aide et les pr cieux conseils de notre fabuleuse assistante de fran ais, Ena VIDONI, ont sans aucun doute une part dans la victoire. Venant du Nord-Est de la France, elle a accompagn  ces  l ves de TY ainsi que tous nos  l ves du lyc e depuis le mois d'octobre. J'en profite pour la remercier de cette ann e fantastique pass e   nos c t s et je lui souhaite une bonne continuation dans le monde de l'enseignement.

La c r monie de r compenses a rassembl  tous les  l ves de 1st year ainsi que les  l ves du lyc e  tudiant le fran ais. Le Seanhalla s' tait par  des couleurs de la France, tout comme Madame Casey, tout de bleu, blanc et rouge v tue. Notre ma tresse de c r monie a accueilli les vainqueurs au micro, ainsi qu'Ena, moi-m me et enfin Monsieur l'Ambassadeur qui a exprim  sa joie de voir le fran ais aussi bien repr sent  au sein de notre  cole. Puis nous avons eu la chance et le plaisir d' couter Vuk qui a repris la chanson Voil  de Barbara Pravi. Joshia Mac Cionnaith-Limansag a lui merveilleusement entonn  Aux Champs-Elys es de Joe Dassin en s'accompagnant   la guitare. Avant la remise de prix, le public n'a pu s'emp cher de taper du pied en entendant Monsieur Maher jouer de la fl te traversi re. M me si les festivit s sont loin de s'arr ter cette ann e puisque nous aurons le bonheur de regarder de pr s ou de loin les Jeux Olympiques et Paralympiques organis s cet  t  par la ville de Paris, cette journ e du 21 mars 2024 remporta un franc succ s et elle marquera notre  cole   l' gard de son attachement   la langue fran aise... pour mon plus grand bonheur!

D borah Aubert
Professeure de Fran ais

Erasmus Mobility to Salerno

This Spring leadership representatives from all eight PBST schools and the Trust were afforded the opportunity to take part in an EU-funded and organised Erasmus Programme to Salerno, Italy.

The purpose of this trip was to explore faith-based education in a context different from our own, in an effort to gain new ideas and further develop connections between other PBST and EU schools. Increased integration and the building of staff connections across schools in the PBST network was also a very successful result of this Erasmus programme.



While the focus of our Erasmus was on the challenges and opportunities that face faith-based education, there was also scope to examine issues common to education across the globe such as inclusion, catering for pupils with additional needs, appreciating diversity, and the teaching of religion in a modern, increasingly secular, society.

Throughout the week, the PBST delegation attended classes that covered a range of topics and featured many guest speakers from the Italian education network in Salerno. A highlight for the group was the opportunity to meet with the Archbishop of Salerno, Andrea Bellandi, who travelled from Florence to meet the group and discuss faith and education.

It was reassuring to see that many best-practice education methodologies used in PBST schools are also in use across the EU. The dedication and passion of teachers in both countries was also clear to see. Although religious education is structured and taught very differently in both Irish and Italian contexts, faith development and engagement are a common goal. We look forward to future Erasmus programmes that offer development opportunities in this area.

S Ó Luinneacháin



Knock Shrine Rosary Rally



A group of students from Coláiste Chríost Rí attended the Knock Shrine Rosary Rally on Saturday 3rd June 2023. The students had a spiritually enriching and uplifting experience in Ireland's International Marian and Eucharistic Shrine. We began our day in Knock by visiting Our Lord Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. I truly believe Our Lord blessed us and filled us with His grace during the ten minutes we spent in His gentle and loving presence. Next we went to the Apparition Chapel and spent some time reflecting. Afterwards we bought some souvenirs and went to the Holy Water fountains. We also met a young priest who very kindly gave us a blessing. After lunch we went to the Chapel of Reconciliation, where the boys received the sacrament.

Bishop Oliver Doeme's speech in the Basilica really highlighted that devotion to Our Heavenly Mother Mary is powerful. He spoke about the vision he had of Our Lord handing him Rosary beads. The Rosary has become such a special part of life in our school since it was introduced in September 2022. We now have three Rosary groups in the school.

Filled with the Lord's grace we went to the Basilica for Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Eamon Martin. Archbishop Martin gave a compelling homily encouraging us to be Christ bearers in the world. After Holy Mass there was exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. On the bus journey home the students led the Rosary. I asked them about their favourite part of the day; one student said,





"Confession and the Holy Water fonts". When he gave this response the people on the bus gave him a round of applause. Other highlights for the students included Holy Mass, Adoration and Bishop Doeme's talk.

The day at Knock Shrine Rosary Rally was a day we will always remember. Seeing the students engaging with their faith and enjoying all the riches that the Catholic Church has to offer was a joy to witness. It was a real privilege for Ms J Lynch and I to accompany the students to Knock and witness the joy and peace they experienced there. There will be a group of students from Coláiste Chríost Rí travelling to the Knock Rosary Rally on Saturday 1st June.

C Ní Eadhra

Coláiste Chríost Rí Eucharistic Adoration Club



Coláiste Chríost Rí began a very exciting new initiative this year with the introduction of the Eucharistic Adoration group. We are truly indebted to the kindness and generosity of all the Presentation Brothers in Maiville who allow us to use their Oratory for Adoration. A special word of thanks to Br Bede and our Chaplain Br Thieva, without whom this very powerful encounter with the Lord Jesus would not be possible.

I recently surveyed students on their experiences of being in the presence of the Eucharistic Lord Jesus and the following is a sample of their responses; "God is always the answer and He listens to our prayers", "It is peaceful and feels like Heaven", "When I pray to Jesus I feel a peaceful connection to Him and I love the peace that is

felt in those moments", "Jesus is the Prince of Peace, He is loving and forgiving", "I have learned that Jesus is our peace and our love and that He loves everyone", "Jesus is the best Saviour and Friend who cares about you".

It is a real privilege to pray with the students in the presence of the Eucharistic Lord Jesus. It has been a very powerful time of prayer in the gentle and loving presence of Jesus. We pray for the whole school community, our families, the Presentation Brothers, the sick, all those who have died, Our Lady's intentions and peace in the world. Everyone is most welcome to the Eucharistic Adoration group.

C Ní Eadhra

Coláiste Chríost Rí Rosary Groups



It has been an amazing year for the Junior and Senior Rosary groups. Students have felt the presence of God during this special time of prayer in the presence of Jesus and Mary. I surveyed the students on their experiences of the Rosary. Many students responded that they have grown closer to God and can feel His presence during the Rosary. The following are just a few of the responses I received from the survey:

"What I like most about the Rosary is the presence of the Lord".

"The Rosary helps you to get closer to God and if you open your heart to God the peace you will experience is amazing".

"The Rosary Group is a good way to greater involve students, young people and members of staff in their faith. It also gives a time period of relaxation and reflection that would be beneficial to most involved".

"Since I have started saying the Rosary I have gotten so much closer to Jesus".

In October our school was privileged to have a visit from the Our Lady of Fatima pilgrim statue. Staff and students really enjoyed having the statue in Coláiste Chríost Rí. In Fatima in Portugal in May 1917 Our Lady asked three

shepherd children called Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco to "Pray the Rosary every day to obtain peace in the world".

In November we started reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet every second week during the Senior Rosary Group meeting on Monday and the Junior Rosary Group meeting on Friday. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is a very powerful prayer which draws down tremendous graces upon the whole world. Our Lord Jesus Christ gave the Divine Mercy Chaplet to St Faustina, a Polish nun. Our Lord Jesus said the following to St Faustina, "It pleases Me to grant everything souls ask of Me by saying the Chaplet". Jesus also said, "When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one". The Divine Mercy Chaplet can also be prayed for any special intentions or needs. There is no limit to the Lord's love and generosity!

We are very grateful to Mr Michael Sexton, CEO of the Presentation Brothers Schools Trust, who very kindly gifted the school with a beautiful large Rosary. Mr Sexton also visited our Rosary group on a number of occasions. Everyone is most welcome to the three Rosary groups that meet every week.

C Ní Eadhra

Tíreolaíocht sa Choláiste

Students from 5th and 6th year enjoyed engaging with Geography in the outdoor classroom this year with two fieldwork sessions at Garretstown Beach. First year class (Naomh Seosamh) also enjoyed completing experiments and investigating our local soil and rock types as part of the First Year Geography course, pictured outside completing a soil pH test.

S Ó Luinneacháin



Successful New Publication

Many congratulations to S Ó Luinneacháin on the publication of his Geography textbook for Junior Cycle. The book is comprehensive in covering the three years of Junior Cycle and is colourfully illustrated with informative graphics and images. The whole package is immediately attractive and easily accessible to students with due recourse to all levels of ability. This year, its first full year in circulation, has seen it become the market leader in Ireland. Clearly a huge amount of work went into the research and publication of this wonderful text. Coláiste Chríost Rí is proud of your achievement, James.

S Ó Cathaláin
Iar-príomhoide



History Success



Congratulations to Joe Nolan (Naomh Seosamh) who came first place in the Junior Cycle Individual category of the Discover Cork Schools' Heritage competition. Joe completed a fantastic project titled 'Interesting Insights and Horrible Histories around Ireland's First Workhouse'. This was a great achievement, especially considering the competition is entered by dozens of schools across Cork. Well done Joe!

B Ó Ceallaigh

Horticulture 2023-24



Green Schools and Environmental News



Donal O'Leary, composting expert, explaining how best to manage compost.



Students busy gathering leaves for composting last October.

Over the last two years, our focus has been on water conservation. With this initiative, we monitored water usage in the school to ensure there was as little wastage as possible. Previously, we had completed a lot of work in this area by installing new taps and fixing leaks, so our work was mainly aimed at ensuring that all was in order.

Last April, the Green Schools' Committee planted bee friendly flowers and shrubs on the hill of the school field. It is proving difficult to change the flora on this hillside as the consistently poor weather prevented us from following up on our earlier efforts. We knew at the outset that this project would take quite a bit of time and effort to complete and hopefully, after Easter, we can get stuck in and make some more progress.

We are also keeping up our work in waste management. In 2023 we applied successfully for a waste management grant and used the money to buy recycling bins for every room in the school. The message from our Green Schools Committee is that we must drastically cut down on our use of plastic. The committee encourages everyone in the school community to use the recycling bins properly as this will reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfill.



Denis Marcu, Alex Ó hEifearnáin, Lucás Sweetman, Kacper Danowski and Justin Ludovice attaching an air sampling tube to the side of the building.

Every October the Committee gathers up the leaves in the yard which are then added to our compost heap, located near the polytunnel. In November 2023, we also took part in the GLOBE Air Quality Survey organised by An Taisce. The purpose was to monitor traffic related air-pollution at schools, at the front and back of the building and compare both. The tubes were left in place for four weeks and the samples were then sent off to be analysed and our results were added to a national database.

Recently we had our Green Flag inspection by Cork City Council. This went very well and we are expecting a favourable response from the organisers. The Green Schools Committee members deserve great praise for all the work they put in every year. There is not enough space to mention them all individually, but their efforts are greatly appreciated and will be celebrated later in the year.

At the time of writing, the UN weather agency has just issued 'red alert' about global warming. This announcement should dominate news all over the world and yet, when I asked students about this, only a couple of them had heard the warning. Over the last twenty years or more we have seen a change in our weather patterns. In that same period, we have experienced more storms, hurricanes and floods than ever before. It is now critical that we heed this alert and do everything in our power to ensure that we pass on a clean and habitable world for future generations.

Éamonn Ó Riordáin

Green Schools Coordinator

Cúrsaí Ceoil



TY students in Críost Rí are introduced to a wide variety of experiences, one of which is music. Students are taught about the history of music and how to play the ukulele, a very versatile instrument. 'Stand By Me' and 'Eleanor Rigby', are among the popular songs that students learn to accompany on the ukulele.

From time to time, we invite professional musicians to the class to gain first-hand insight into the music industry. January last, our featured visitors to music class were Percussionist and Producer, Sam O'Sullivan; and Violinist, singer and song writer, Jessie Kennedy. Sam toured the world with U2 for 36 years, was their studio manager, and was a drum technician with Larry Mullins. Jessie is the musical director of the West Cork History Festival and has recorded numerous albums. Her cover of 'Devils and Dust' by Springsteen featured on the album, 'Ladies Sing The Boss', released by Ace Records. Our guests had students drumming beats and complicated rhythms on a variety of drums from all over the world.

É Ó Riordáin

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024

Bhí an-ceiliúradh againn i mbliana i gColáiste Chríost Rí do Sheachtain na Gaeilge. D'eagraíodh céilithe le Christ the King agus Pres Ballyphehane do bhliain a haon, dó, TY agus a cúig, agus bhain gach dalta an-taitneamh as an ócáid.

Míle buíochas don bhfoireann Meitheal, a chur le chéile tráth na gceist do mhuintir bliain a haon chomh maith le fuíollach uibheacha Cásca ite ag na buaiteoirí. Míle buíochas chomh maith do Mháistir Ó Dubhgáin, Ó Cochláin, Ó Broin, agus Ó Meachair, a d'eagraigh na hócáidí seo. 'Tír gan Teanga, Tír gan Anam'.

C Ó Meachair



Cuairt an Ard mhéara, 5 Nollaig 2023



TY students Luke Thompson and Sam Glancy were welcomed at City Hall recently. The Lord Mayor commended the students on their exceptional work as part of the SHARE committee

This year the entire school community was delighted to welcome iar-scoláire Cllr. Kieran McCarthy, Ard mhéara Chorcaí, to his alma mater on Capwell. In addition to the usual visit of the first citizen to local schools in September, Kieran returned in December of 2023 for a personal visit, acknowledging his achievements, that was very memorable indeed.

A great friend and supporter of the school and no stranger to visiting history classes, the Lord Mayor addressed a captivated crowd of current students, teachers and some of his former teachers, speaking of his time in the school, his career progression and his passion for Cork, its history and all things local.

Pádraig Mac an Rí greeted our distinguished guest and invited him to review a number of prize-winning local history projects completed by Junior Cycle students. Speaking with optimism, the Lord Mayor encouraged all students to strive for personal excellence, to seek out and pursue personal interests, and to care for the most vulnerable in our society, our local community and our planet.

Diarmuid Ó Donnabháin (4 ú Bl.) presented our distinguished guest with a framed photo from our archive, as a reminder of his own time in CCRí. Padraig

Mac an Rí presented a pen and phone holder. This was uniquely fashioned from the wood of an old school desk, created onsite by talented craftsman and Construction Studies teacher Micheál de Faoite. The Lord Mayor reminisced with a number of his former teachers on both visits to Críost Rí this past year and gave so generously of his time in answering many insightful questions from our first year students.

S Ó Luinneacháin



Lord Mayor pictured with some of his former teachers. (ó chlé: T Ó Dálaigh, T de Paor, Cllr. McCarthy, P Ó Maolmhichíl, Br. P Fitzgibbon, D Ó Dubhgáin)



Junior Cycle Science Quiz 2024



Fantastic performance by Prayag Ratheeshbabu, Izaan Faraz and Craig Casey who came 2nd in the Thermo Fisher Junior Cycle Science Quiz. Congratulations also to Tawhid Alam, Dmitrii Dobrovolskii and Dhairya Sharma who came 7th on the night.

After a break of four years the quiz was held again this year in UCC and our students continued the impressive run of Coláiste Chríost Rí attaining 2nd or 3rd place in the last six outings.

A Pyrovolakis

Science Quizzes

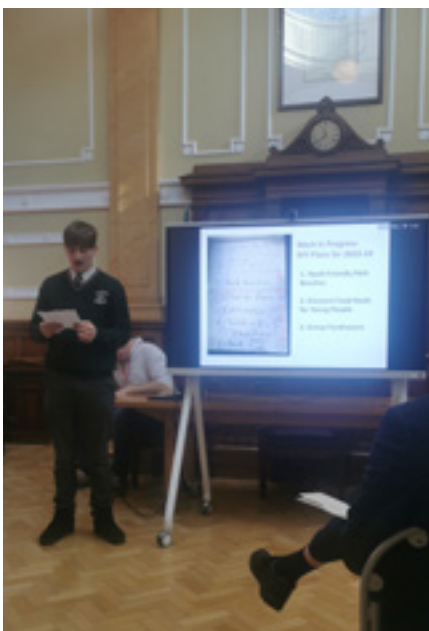


Congratulations to Luis Patrick Miranda who was 'Highly Commended' at the recent Chemistry Olympiad held in DCU. Luis was competing for a place at the International Chemistry Olympiad which will be held in Saudi Arabia this Summer.



Senior Cycle Science Quiz Team busy quizzing in UCC during Science Week

Southside Youth Forum



The Southside Youth Forum is in its sixth year, and once again we are delighted to be facilitating youth lead initiatives in the local community. There was a very positive response amongst our current Transition Year cohort to get involved in these endeavours and Tommy, Cory, Evan, Stephen, Darragh, Colm, Ryan and Sam represented the school superbly.

The focus this year was on supporting local businesses and place making. After several committee meetings with other young people representing schools and youth groups from the local area and staff from Cork City Partnership and Cork City Council it was proposed that we would work with Cork City Council to erect some covered seating areas and work with local shops and restaurants to establish a student discount card.

So far, we have met with and presented our ideas to city councillors for the area, of which include two former Críost Rí boys- Cllr. Dan Boyle and Lord Mayor Cllr. Kieran McCarthy. They were incredibly impressed by the Forum's vision and committed to supporting the plans and contributing funding towards the projects.

At the time of going to press we are finalising a space for the covered seating and hope to have it in place over the coming months. We are campaigning hard for the local shops to get involved with our discount card proposal and thus far the feedback has been extremely positive! Watch this space!

L Ní Sé

Transition Year

Throughout the year our exceptional group of TY students sampled senior cycle subjects ahead of fifth year so that they could make informed subject choices. Students also completed many TY-specific modules aimed at skill and awareness building; in line with the goals and key skills of Senior Cycle. The images included in this edition of the Rí Eolas are just a few snapshots of student work, including: Charitable endeavours, academic competitions, cooking classes, immersive art experiences, outdoor pursuits, sport, engagement with third level institutions, barista training, gym classes, entrepreneurship and so much more.

Thank you to everyone involved in running a progressive programme that continues to evolve each year. The variety and success of the academic and extra-curricular activities available in TY is due to our dedicated and talented staff, who create so many opportunities for the boys.

S Ó Luinneacháin



Transition Year



Transition Year



Transition Year



Meitheal 2023-24



The purpose of the Meitheal Team is to support and help ease our new first years into secondary school life. Throughout the year we hosted events, parties and other activities to help the first year students make friends and become familiar with the school. The Meitheal team help to increase communication

between staff and first year students, help out where possible, and provide support for new students throughout the year. Our job is to make the transition between primary school and secondary school easier.

Throughout the year we developed personally and as a group, learning key skills involved with event planning, communicating, and problem solving to generate solutions when things do not go to plan. From the first day of training in Blackrock we established new





friendships with other young leaders in local schools; friendships and connections that remain with us to this day. We also had the opportunity to collaborate with other schools in our area, for example, organising the 1st Year Ceilí with our neighbours Christ King Secondary School. When asked his thoughts on the Meitheal team, a first year student remarked that:

“The Meitheal team is helpful. I feel like I can talk to any of the members if something is wrong. I think more schools across cork should have a Meitheal team. Me and my friends were inspired to join the Meitheal team when we are in 5th year. Everything was perfect and there was nothing that could be changed. They were helpful making friends”. - Dylan Ryan, 1st year

Overall, being part of the Meitheal team was incredibly rewarding, insightful and it was a great opportunity for us to be part of the programme. We wish the incoming team the very best of luck for the new school year.

Joshua Ó Mairtín (5 ú Bl.)



Class of 2024



6.1

Ar chúl (ó chlé): Micheál Ó Dónaill, Séamus Ó Buachalla, Colín Ó Maolmhuaidh, Artjoms Petrovs, Liam Ó Neill, Aaron Ó Cinnéide.

I lár (ó chlé): Nikolay Ó Loinsigh, Karol Malecki, Eimhín Ó Ceallacháin, Séamus Ciniféic, Fionn McGorry.

Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): Sunil Gautam, Farhan Fahim Alam, Kacper Dudek, Daithí Ó Drisceoil, Seac Ó Máthuna-Ó Maidín.



6.2

Ar chúl (ó chlé): Conchúr Donncha, Stiofán Ó Duinneacha, Pól Simmons, Seán Ó Ceallacháin, Trey Ó Ceallacháin, Lucas Ó Braonáin, Joshia Mac Cionnaith Limansag, Cian Ó Súilleabháin.

I lár (ó chlé): Marcus Ó Tighearnáin, Wiktor Dudek, Conchúr Ó Muirthile, Corey de Brúc, Craig Ó Cathail, Kadlen Ó Geibheannaigh, Justin Barandoc-Ó Cinnéide, Conchúr Ó Briain.

Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): Seán Mac Cárthaigh, Shay Ó Murchú, Filip Wicher, Airidas Kviatkauskas, Adam Ó Loinsigh, Dónal Ó Mistéil, Séamus Houlihan, Luis Patrick Miranda.



6.3

Ar chúl (ó chlé): Emerson Gega, Reece Ó Siócháin, Clinton Ikechukwu, Aaron Ó hÉigeartaigh, Ben Ó Sé-Mac Iomaire, Ben Ó Drisceoil, Norfaris Muhammad Zunaidi, Calum Ó Súilleabháin, Alex Ó Caoinealain.

I lár (ó chlé): Calum Ó Cionnaith, Keelan Ó Tuathaigh, Adam Stachurski, Oisín Mac an Thuile, Séamus Mac Gríogair, Rian Mac Cárthaigh, Kian Ó hÉigheartaigh, Davin Ó Cogáin.

Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): Hubert Dzik, Sandro Shoshiashvili, Kristians Millers, Samuel Kumurkiewicz, Simone Pacifico, Ishac Laidi, Ali Reza Hussaini, Seán Ó Céilleacháir-Ó Mairtín.

As láthair: Dónal de Bhál, Alexander Freimanis, Kacper Nalewajko, Kelly Orobator, Kaelan Ó Miacháin-Ó Sé, Seán Ó Cadhla, Nathan Ó hEachairn, Tadhg Ó hUigín, Lee Ó Murchú, Zachariah Ó Súilleabháin, Seac Kenny Hine, Aaron Ó Briain-Towler, Calum Ó Ceallacháin-Bullman, Gheorge Draga, Ruairí Lally, Roberts Raudovics, Dominik Risteovski.