

Scoil Aireagail Newsletter



Easter 2022

Principal Shane Fallon's Easter Amber Flag Events

Message I'd like to thank all in our school community for your continued support and co-operation throughout this term. Students remain very busy completing CBAs, projects, and assignments - to meet deadlines. Looking forward to a productive and enjoyable final term where all students will be supported in all their endeavours. The very best of luck to our 6th Year students with orals and practical examinations during the Easter period. We wish all a restful and well-deserved Easter break.

Scoil Aireagail support for Ukrainians A wonderful spirit of generosity was evident from all in our Scoil Aireagail school community for our recent collection for the victims of the Ukrainian invasion. A great display of solidarity from all those who donated, gathered packaging, helped sort and box the donations or helped in any other way.

Recently Scoil Aireagail students and staff got to enjoy some events as part of our Amber Flag programme of supporting mental well-being. A whole school walk, mindfulness, yoga, and a healthy eating day were all events that took place throughout Amber Flag week. Food can have a big impact on your mood and making healthier food choices will improve both your physical and mental health. As part of the Healthy eating day our students got to try various healthy foods such as soup, brown bread, seeded bread, smoothies, protein balls, flapjacks, yoghurts, relish and cheese. Well done to all students, especially those who tried new foods.



Devin from Conradh na Gaeilge discussed with the students where they can use Irish, informed them about their language rights, and gave out plenty of prizes too. Thanks to Devin from Conradh na Gaeilge, Our Gaeilge students really enjoyed it.

Scoil Aireagail Turas Gaeltachta 2022

Tá daltaí na hardteiste díreach abhaile tar éis a dturas Gaeltachta i gContae na Gaillimhe. Ar an mbealach thugamar cuairt ar Chontae an Chláir. D'imríomar iománaíocht ar an trá san Leacht agus ar aghaidh go Aillte an Mhothair agus Tuama Poll na Brón. Ansin, Chuamar ar aghaidh go hInis Mór ar bhád farrantóireachta agus Rothaigh muid timpeall an Oileáin ag tabhairt cuairte ar Dún Aonghasa agus áiteanna ársa eile. Sular thugamar abhaile, Shiúlamar timpeall Chathair na Gaillimhe agus ansin Thaispeánamar ár scileanna do chách ag Pure Skill. Beidh cuimhní againn go deo ar an turas iontach seo. Beatha teanga í a labhairt Our Leaving Cert Irish students are just home from their Gaeltacht Trip. On the way, we visited Co. Clare. We played hurling on Lahinch beach and then onto the Cliffs of Moher and Poul nabrone Dolmen. Then, we went onto InisMore on the ferry and cycled around the island visiting Dún Aonghus Fort and other ancient sites. Before we came home, we walked around Galway City and showed off our skills to everyone at PureSkill. We will have memories of this trip forever. The life of a language is to speak it.



Music

#TuesdayTunes Ms. Rowes music students have been entertaining us each week with their #tuesdaytunes uploads. It's wonderful to see such great talent among our students here in Scoil Aireagail. Find them on the Scoil Aireagail Music YouTube page.

Music students perform in Billy's Tearooms

Well Done to the music students who performed in Billy's Tearooms for St. Patrick's Day. It was a fabulous morning of song, music and dance. Many thanks to all at Billy's Tearooms for the warm welcome and refreshments. A video of their performance can be found on Scoil Aireagail Music YouTube page.

Gaeilge

Tháinig Seó Bóthair Chonradh na Gaeilge go Scoil Aireagail

Tháinig Seó Bóthair Chonradh na Gaeilge go Scoil Aireagail. Is ceardlann idirghníomhach í an Seó Bóthair a spreagann daltaí chun smaointeoireacht chriticiúil a dhéanamh maidir lena dtuairimí i leith na teanga. Rinne Devin ó Chonradh na Gaeilge plé leis na daltaí faoi na háiteanna gur féidir leo an Ghaeilge a úsáid, faoina gcearta teanga agus bhí neart duaiseanna dáilte freisin. Míle buíochas do Devin ó Chonradh na Gaeilge. Bhain na daltaí Gaeilge fíor-taitneamh as.

Conradh na Gaeilge brought their Seó Bóthair to Scoil Aireagail. The Seó Bóthair is an interactive workshop that encourages students to use critical thinking to examine their opinions about the Irish language.

Find us on

www.scoilairagail.ie

&

[Instagram scoil_aireagail](#)

Art

Senior Art Students visit the National Art Gallery Dublin in February. We have also been enjoying seeing our 1st and 5th Year Art students works of art displays around the corridors.



2nd year art students design a school mural displaying positive mental health messages. 2nd year art students completed their school mural this term. Their aim was to brighten up the school yard with a designed mural to reinforce a positive mental health message for the whole school community to appreciate. They selected the steel container by the tennis court as their canvas as they felt this would be an eye-catching location, they brainstormed ideas, and worked as a team to finalise their design and message. The mural is titled 'Be Yourself' and incorporates other messages of 'Reach your goals', 'Shoot for the stars', 'Know your worth' and 'Believe' it is painted in bright colours to reinforce its positive mental health message. Students enjoyed learning about the design process, the execution of an idea and they got to use spray paints.



Scoil Aireagail TY Art students Amber's One Million Stars Ireland project Amber's One Million Stars Ireland project is an inclusive community arts project connecting communities across Ireland in solidarity against domestic abuse and all forms of violence. Scoil Aireagail TY Art students began our project back in November when they learned how to weave the eight-pointed star. Each eight-point star woven represents light, hope and solidarity against domestic, sexual and gender-based violence, promoting our project's eight points of healthy love within relationships. Stars were then curated into our 'Love-heart' installation, which was today hung at the entrance to our school. The idea is to educate this generation to recognise healthy relationships and to spread love and hope for a future free from violence and abuse for all in our community. Similar projects can be seen in Market Cross Kilkenny, the aim is to weave one million stars, Scoil Aireagail students created their art installation with over 300 stars. In addition, guest speakers from Amber House Women's refuge came into the school today and did a workshop with TY students. They spoke about healthy relationships v's abusive and controlling ones, how to recognise the red flags, and where to go for help. A special thanks to Amber House it was informative and educational. In return TY students organised a non-uniform day, all students wore red or pink to school today to celebrate Love and hope for Valentines. All monies raised from our non-uniform day will be donated to Amber House Women's refuge.

TY



TY's marked International Women's Day with Amber Million Star Weaving Project in Market Cross To mark international Women's day our TY students travelled to Market Cross in Kilkenny to add their 8 point weaved stars to the love installation and present a cheque to Amber House women's refuge for €132 that they raised through an non uniform day to raise awareness of gender based violence and abuse in unhealthy relationships. This marked the end of their star weaving project.



Happy International Women's day from all in Scoil Aireagail.

TY's participated in many talks and workshops this term including: A workshop run by the Kilkenny Rape Crisis Centre (KAMA) and a Garda Inspector from the Garda Divisional Protective Services Unit. TY and 5th Year students had a workshop with Ursula Clancy, a Community Information Nurse from the Marie Keating Foundation. She spoke to our students about some the risks associated with cancer and how they can help reduce the risks. Over a number of weeks during February/March, our TY students participated in the **Aware Programme**. This is a life skills programme that is designed to help people learn to better manage the stress of everyday life, recognise, and manage unhelpful thoughts and learn how to live a happier and more confident life. A big thank you to Eileen for facilitating the course. TY students also completed a **First Aid course with Tommy Bawle from Kilkenny Physical Therapy**. They learned valuable lifesaving skills and found all they learned very useful. TY students also took part in a driver education workshop with Woods Driving School. Our students learned valuable skills such as changing a wheel on a car, checking tyres and a mock theory test. Thanks to Jenny Woods for facilitating the workshop. TYs also took part in a **self defence programme run by Personal Safety director Alex Walsh**. The programme is a very valuable one that develops students' personal safety and awareness. Students learned how to assess different situations and the methods on how best to protect themselves if the need arises.



TY Trips

TY Students tour Kilkenny Famine Experience

Our TY students recently took a tour of the Kilkenny Famine Experience in MacDonagh Junction. The students got a stark insight as to what life was like for the people of Ireland during the Great Famine. Students then participated in a Murder Mystery Trail around Kilkenny City, allowing them to visit many of the city's historical sites.



TY students climb Brandon Hill Recently out TYs ventured to Brandon Hill in Graiguenamanagh. It was a long hike and not the easiest of tasks so well done to all for reaching the top.



Woodwork

2nd Year Woodwork students designed Kitchen Roll Holders this term.



1st Year Wood Technology students completed latest project - a World War 1 Model Aeroplane.



Well done to all students for the effort and pride they take in their work.

Our 1st Year Wood Technology class have been as busy as ever over past few weeks putting the finishing touches on their model trains. Well done to all for their good work and attention to detail.



Science

3rd Year science were learning about rockets and how they work. They recreated their own models using balloons learning that the fuel (air) in a rocket (balloon) exerts an equal and opposite force, driving it forward.

Ms. Carroll's 1st year science class did research projects on famous scientist and displayed them along the corridors.



Sport

Senior Hurling On Thursday 27th January our Senior hurlers bowed out of the Leinster championship at the Quarter final stage to Clonastee College on a score line of 18 points to 2-7. Our hopes were high heading into the game after some impressive performances in the group stages. However, it was not to be on the day. It was a ferocious battle and our lads fought to the very end, showing great character and determination. Overall, huge progress was made this year. Well done to all involved.



Badminton team win a place on the Kilkenny Team in the Leinster Championships Huge Congratulations to all our U16 badminton players who proudly represented our school in the county championships on Tuesday March 8th. Due to their success both our A and B boys teams represented Kilkenny in the Leinster championships. Our division 3 Boys were triumphant and won the Leinster Championship. Our girls also brought home silverware with our B team securing 2nd place in their division.



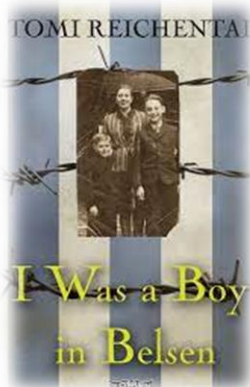
Hurling

Junior Hurling Victory Well done to the Junior Hurling team who together with Grennan College won the Leinster final against a very strong Scoil Mhuire Clane team on a score line of 2-7 to 2-5.



History

Leaving Cert History students have a talk from Tomi Reichental, a Holocaust survivor. On Monday 23rd January Leaving Cert History students accessed a live stream entitled Antisemitism and the Holocaust - A Conversation. This was hosted by Carlow College, St. Patrick's. The conversation was led by Tomi Reichental, a Holocaust survivor. Tomi told students about his experience of growing up as a Jew and his time at Bergen-Belsen Concentration camp. The talk was a fascinating insight into his time in the camp, its liberation, and his life after the War. A powerful speaker who shared his personal story to help students to understand a difficult and emotive topic.



Our Junior Cycle History students recently took a day trip to Dublin visiting the EPIC digital museum & Croke Park museum. A super day out for everyone!



Green Schools

National Spring Clean kicked off this week with a TY litter pick.



ICT

Our 1st Year ICT students have been starting their coding module and are learning how to code animations and games using SCRATCH coding language. This is a great opportunity for students to develop their STEM skills in a fun, creative and interactive way.

Our TY students have been enjoying learning how to create video presentations using POWTOON last term and putting their ICT and creative skills together to create videos explaining business leadership and motivation.

TY students also created their own websites in January using wix.com. Each of their websites took the theme of sustainability and provided information about topics such as Electric Vehicles, Sustainable Farming methods, Sustainable Fashion, and sustainable cafés.



Student Council

Our Student Council committee held a cake sale of homemade treats which raised a fantastic sum of €450 for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Well done to them for all the great effort and work involved to raise such a large sum of money for such a worthy cause.



Key Dates

School re-opens after Easter for all students on Monday April 25th

School Closed Public Holiday Monday May 2nd

1st Year Display of Work Thursday May 5th 3pm-4:30pm

Transition Year Graduation Thursday May 12th 7pm

2022 Student Awards Ceremony Tuesday May 17th

6th Year Graduation Tuesday May 24th

Summer Exams begin Monday 30th May

School closes for the summer Friday 3rd June

State Examinations begin Wednesday June 8th