

# Scoil Aireagail Newsletter



September  
October 2021

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## Acting Principal's message 2021

Welcome back to all our students and staff for this new academic year. There is no doubt we remain in challenging times with this ongoing pandemic. The school community has dealt with these challenges very well. I would like to commend all staff members for their dedicated work and diligence in ensuring that we have delivered quality teaching and learning in a very safe environment. I would like to thank parents for their support of our Covid Response Plan. Key challenges remain such as reduced student locker capacity within the building, as a result of social distancing measures. Thanks to all for your continued co-operation and understanding of all that must be done to keep our community safe. Most of all, I would like to congratulate the students for their excellent cooperation and compliance with the measures put in place. You have been fantastic in your positive, respectful approach in difficult circumstances. As a result there is a very positive atmosphere in the school, where students' wellbeing is paramount and where they are engaged in their learning.

Thankfully, there has been some return to normality with training and competitions resuming in hurling, camogie and soccer. It was heartening to see our students back training in recent days, where students were delighted to be back on the field again.

As a school one of our strengths has been regular and meaningful engagement with parents throughout the school year, where any queries and concerns are dealt with thoroughly and promptly. We miss our traditional Parent/Teacher meetings, Open Days/Nights, Information

Briefings etc. where parents and staff could meet in the school. To help compensate for these cancelled events we have already hosted remote Parent/Teacher meetings using MS Teams, and will continue to do so. I want to thank you for your ongoing participation with these important events, and I encourage parents/guardians to contact the school if there are any issues you wish to discuss. The safety and wellbeing, together with the provision of quality teaching and learning, remains the priorities of Scoil Aireagail. I wish all our school community a successful and enjoyable school year.

**Shane Fallon (Acting Principal)**

**Cairdeas Mentoring** Each year our 6th year Cairdeas group work with our 1st years as mentors to help them ease into their new secondary school experience. Last Friday our Cairdeas team organised some fun activities in the hall for all our 1st years- a great time was had by both the young and older students.

Thanks to the following 6th year students who have completed the Cairdeas training programme for the academic year 2021-2022, Caitlin Lowry, Elizabeth Duffy, Charles Briscoe, James O'Keefe, Donnacha Walsh, Chloe Phelan, Michael Holden, Shane Aylward, Brandon Breen, Darragh Kelly, James O'Shea, Charlotte Davis, Amy Monaghan, Joe Kearney and David Sommers. Thanks also to Ms. O'Callaghan for organising the mentoring programme.



## Congratulations to our new prefects 2021

**6<sup>th</sup> Year:** Erin Slattery & Deon Smith

**5<sup>th</sup> Year:** Katie Fitzpatrick & Jake Power

Thanks to Ms. Phelan for organising the prefect programme.



## Student Council

Student Council had a busy term voting in members, electing officers and deciding on an action plan for the year. Below is a list of the student council members that represent each year group and provide a very important voice to our students here in Scoil Aireagail. Thanks to Ms. Phelan for all her help.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year</b>	Leo Aylward Emma Sutton Duggan
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</b>	Holly Long Cathal Coogan
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year</b>	Ella Brennan Michael Slattery
<b>TY</b>	Michael O'Shea Amy Prendergast
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	Katie Fitzpatrick Orestas Balays
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	Erin Slattery Margaret Mary Murphy Shane Aylward James O'Keefe



## Soccer



### Scoil Aireagail Soccer success

Congratulations to both our Senior Girls and Senior Boys soccer teams who had great success in their first fixtures of the year against Duisk College. The Girls dominated their game winning 6-0. Some fantastic performances all around the field. Special mentions to Marie Culleton who set the pace from the off with an early top corner finish from outside the box, Hannah Pearse and Amy O'Mahoney who both scored brilliant braces. The boys came up against a fiercer opposition which led to some great battles and a hugely competitive game. After an even first half Duisk college took the lead early in the second half. Our Senior boys showed great determination and resilience in the final quarter to battle their way back into the game. After a period of extreme pressure on the Duisk defense Scoil Aireagail finally unlocked the oppositions defense through a fantastic volley from substitute Joseph Aylward. With momentum on their side the boys drove on and Scored another cracker of goal from outside the box this time from Conor Power. With the score at 2-1 the boys held on for the remaining few minute to earn a well deserved win. Well done to everyone involved. It was fantastic to be back out playing matches again. Thanks to Soccer Manager Mr. Mackey.



## TY News

Despite Covid-19 restrictions our TY students have had a busy and active term with their coordinator Ms. Naddy organizing so many great activities and workshops for them to get involved in. Big thanks to Ms. Naddy for working so hard to help students get maximum benefit from their Transition year experience.

**TY students hike in the Comeragh mountains** Our TY students recently visited Coumshingaun Lake and Mahon Falls. It was a great opportunity to soak up the last of the summer sun and visit some local attractions.



**TY students enjoy teamwork activities in Ballyhass Lakes Mallow** This year's Transition Year induction trip was to Ballyhass Lakes Adventure centre in Mallow. Our students participated in team building activities, the aqua park, the zip line and the leap of faith. Well done to all, especially those that conquered their fears.



**TY students hike up Slievenamon** Our TY students recently braved the elements on a hike of Slievenamon. It was not an easy task but our students gave it their all and everyone reached the top. A massive well done to all our students.

## Music

**#Tuesdaytunes** Every week our Ms. Rowe and our music students record a piece of music for their #Tuesdaytunes sessions. All the recordings are available to view on the Scoil Aireagail Music Dept YouTube page. Subscribe by clicking

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR-APlwthJuK3qbgQ-sImEZA/featured>

**TY students get active during a Segway workshop** We recently had <http://@emovement.ie> into Scoil Aireagail to do a Segway's workshop with our TYs. The students really enjoyed showing off their skills on the Segway's. A big thank you to E-movement for facilitating the workshop.



**TY students participate in a CPR and defibrillator course** TYs recently participated in a CPR and defibrillator course facilitated by the National Ambulance Service. Our TYs learned some valuable lifesaving skills. A big thank you to local Garda Janet Gough for helping organise the course and to the @nationalambulance service for providing their time and services,



**TY Pumpkin Carvings create a spooktacular atmosphere in the canteen** Ty Art and Home Economics classes got into the Halloween spirit by carving pumpkins this week. Now on display in the student canteen. Thanks to Ms. Dalton and Ms. Naddy.





## JUNIOR CYCLE

Here in Scoil Aireagail we aim to embed the key skills of Junior cycle into our classes. Here are just a selection of what our Junior Cycle students have been involved in classes over this term.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Art students 3D clay sculptures demonstrate imagination and creativity** Thanks to Ms. Dalton for facilitating



**1<sup>st</sup> years become trainee archaeologists and dig for artefacts**

1<sup>st</sup> Year trainee archaeologists chipping away today during a Cookie Excavation. They carefully removed the artefacts (choc chips) from the soil (cookie crumb). Thanks to Ms. Drea for organising this with students.



**1<sup>st</sup> year Scientists get creative with plant and animal cells** 1 Orange were busy making models of plant and animal cells over the last few weeks. They did a great job. 1 Yellow also did lovely cell projects. Some lovely ideas. Lots of hard work done by both classes! Thanks to Ms. Carroll for her help with students.



**1<sup>st</sup> Year Subject Taster Programme** Our first year students are completing their taster programme this term where they get to try out different subjects for four weeks before choosing to go on to study them at Junior Cycle. They compete tasters in French/Engineering. Art/Business/Tech Graphics, Home Ec/Woodwork.

**Les étudiants préparent des tartes aux pommes** La cuisine. Nous faisons les tartes aux pommes. As part of our French class transition years have learned about recipes and cooking in various countries. Today we made apple tarts in class. Merci Mme Naddy and Mme Leahy.



**Positive behaviour awards** Congratulations to the following students for being awarded a certificate and canteen voucher for their great effort and involvement in extra curricular activities this term.

**1<sup>st</sup> Year** Kaelum Kinehan & Grace Fitzpatrick  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Year** Holly Long & Erin Walsh

**2 Gold Science students Gathering, interpreting and representing data creatively** 2 Gold class were making science relevant and made The Periodic Table in class to put on display. They added everyday uses for the first 20 elements. Thanks to Ms. Carroll.



**3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year House Exams** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year students were busy this week completing house exams. This will be their last set of exams before their mock exams 7<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> February so it will leave them plenty of time to complete coursework and assignments.

## Key Dates

**School re-opens after Midterm for all students on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> November.**

**School Closed Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

**Christmas Exams 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Years 30<sup>th</sup> November - 3<sup>rd</sup> December**