

Scoil Aireagail Newsletter



Christmas 2021

Principal Shane Fallon's Christmas Message 2021

As we enter our second Christmas period in this pandemic, I want to commend firstly the resilience and positivity of our students here in Scoil Aireagail. From the beginning of this crisis, they have done everything asked of them, and more. The safety measures here in the school, which we are all now so familiar with, have been met with such an admirable level of compliance amongst our students. They have helped make possible a learning environment where we can all go about our daily business in a respectful, caring and collegial atmosphere. If there is one thing COVID-19 has reminded us of it is the inherent nature of our young people to look out for each other, be aware of the stress and concerns of others and recognise how important it will always be to use words and gestures of support.

I want to thank the parents and guardians for instilling these values in your sons and daughters. Never before in our recent history has it been so important to support each other, as we all continue to go on with our lives with the worry of this virus never far from our thoughts. We will all remain hopeful that the world of science and medicine will continue to serve us well as vaccine and booster programmes proceed.

Thanks to all the staff at Scoil Aireagail for their commitment to the health, safety, wellbeing and education of the young people in our care. Teachers, Special Needs Assistants, administrative and ancillary staff have all remained steadfast in helping to protect students and each other while providing the service that our students deserve.

I wish all in our school community a peaceful, restful and safe Christmas and every good fortune in the New Year.

Thank you,
Shane Fallon.

Scoil Aireagail/KCETB Student of the Years 2021 Award. Congratulations to Cillian McEvoy who was presented with the KCETB Student of the Year 2021. Every year KCETB presents one student from each of the ETB schools with the title of 'Student of the Year'. The criteria for selection is based on a mixture of academic performance, endeavor, participation/contribution to school life, positive attitude, and work ethic- all of which Cillian showed in abundance during his time in Scoil Aireagail. We wish Cillian the very best for the future, both in his studies in WIT Business and in his future career.



Senior Hurling Our Senior hurlers have had a great run so far this year with some excellent performances along the way. They finished second in their group, meaning they have a Leinster quarter final to look forward to after Christmas versus Clonaslee College from Laois. A great effort has been put in by this group, the best of luck in the New Year. Thanks to manager Mr. K. Walsh and Mr. Murphy for all his help with our hurling team.



1 Yellow English students create a mural about Poetic Techniques 1 Yellow have been busy learning about Poetic Techniques in Mr. Mackey's English class recently. Their hard work and new found knowledge culminating in a poster project. This project has now been turned into a mural for all students to enjoy in the corridors.



Pride week Our art students hung posters to celebrate Pride week back in November and to raise awareness of anti-bullying and LGBTI+. Thanks to Ms. Dalton for organising.



Second Year students organise Christmas boxes for Team Hope Second year students who were involved in building Christmas boxes for Team Hope. Well done to all involved in ensuring children in need get the opportunity to have Christmas this year. Thanks to Ms. Leahy for organising.



Find us on
www.scoilairagail.ie
&
Instagram
[scoil_aireagail](https://www.instagram.com/scoil_aireagail)

Scoil Aireagail Music #TuesdaytunesEvery
Tuesday our music students have been treating us to their fantastic musical uploads on the Scoil Aireagail Music Youtube channel.

5th Year student wins 3rd place in The Irish World Dancing Championships 2021

Congratulations to one of our 5th Year students who last month came 3rd in The World Irish Dancing Championships in Killarney. She has danced all over the country and qualified for the worlds in Killarney through the Munster Championships. Last Friday she came 3rd in her solo slip jig, a huge achievement considering there was 108 competitors in her category, some had travelled as far away as America for the competition.



1 Orange mark International Human Rights Day Students from 1 Orange made posters in CSPE class to mark International Human Rights Day on December 10th.



"Bebras Computational Thinking Tasks for Secondary Schools" Webinar 2nd year students watched a webinar "Bebras Computational Thinking Tasks for Secondary Schools" organised by Maynooth University this week organised by Ms. Phelan during maths class.



Science Week Activities Our 1st year students enjoyed lots of fun science activities. They enjoyed a Science Week Table Quiz at the beginning of the week.

1st Years also enjoyed a fantastic show "Dr Ken's Spectacular Circus Science Show". Thanks to Ms. Carroll for organising.



Senior Art students exhibit paintings 5th year Art students curated an exhibition in the hall of Scoil Aireagail of their finished paintings to the themes of 'Identity' and 'Reflections'. Thanks to Ms. Dalton for organising.



Student council members take part in Comhairle na N'og Members of Scoil Aireagail Student Council took part in a Zoom meeting with other schools in Kilkenny as part of Comhairle na N'og on Thursday November 4th. Thanks to Ms. Phelan for organising.



Maths Week-Design a Bookmark Competition Ty Students took part in "making a bookmark" competition as part of maths week. Thanks to Ms. Phelan for organising.



Tháinig fear an phoist go dtí na daltaí Gaeilge Bhí daltaí Gaeilge na dara bliana ar bís inniu nuair a tháinig fear an phoist lena litreacha óna gcairde pinn nua. Scríobh na daltaí litreacha chuig daltaí i scoil eile ag insint dóibh faoi saol na scoile i Scoil Aireagail. Bhí siad an-sásta nuair a bhfuair gach duine freagra agus tá siad ag trúth le bheith i dteagmháil leo as Gaeilge agus iad ag feabhsú a scileanna scríbhneoireachta i rith na scoilbliana.

Last month the second year Irish students were very excited when the postman came with their letters from their new pen pals. The students wrote letters to students in another school telling them about school life in Scoil Aireagail. They were all very happy to receive a response and are looking forward to staying in contact with them as Gaeilge as they practice their writing skills during the school year. Thanks to Ms. Kelly for organising.



5th Year Ag. Science class enjoy a zoom on "Farming from the Inside Out" Our 5th year Ag. Science and TY students enjoying Science Week watching an interesting zoom on "Farming from the Inside Out" presented by Wexford Science Fest, WIT and Carlow IT. Thanks to Ms. Carroll for organising it with students.



TY students get into the festive spirit with a Christmas wreaths workshop

Our TY students got into the festive spirit with a Christmas wreaths workshop. The students made the wreaths from scratch and even collected all the materials themselves. A massive well done to everyone on creating such wonderful pieces. Also, thank you to our very own Ms Maher and Ms. Naddy for facilitating the workshop.



TY News

TY's trip to Kilkenny Our TYs recently visited the Watergate Theatre to see comedian Ger Casey for the first show of his TY Comedy Tour. His show was both challenging and entertaining on many of the aspects of teenage life. After the show, the students then went for a tour of Kilkenny Castle to learn about some of our local history



TY's Soccer Win Our Transition Year students had an excellent 5-4 win over Kilkenny Youthreach in a recent soccer friendly. It was great to see different people wearing the school jersey and getting the opportunity to represent the school on a sporting field. Everyone had the opportunity to play, and all can be proud of their efforts. Although some of our more experienced players might need to work on their shooting before the next game! Well done to all involved. Thanks to Mr. Walsh for managing the team.



Transition Year Orienteering Trip Our Transition Year students spent last Tuesday morning Orienteering around the Castle Park in Kilkenny. They completed a tricky 4 km course. Competition was close, however our eventual winners were Niamh, Chloe and Amber with some "outside the box" thinking. A great effort was put in by everyone involved. Thanks to Mr. Walsh and Ms. Naddy for organising.



TY Art students Deck the Halls TY Art students hung their new welcome sign over the entrance door with the help of Bobby. Students also got busy decorating the halls with some festive cheer for Christmas.



TY History students investigate their family tree Congratulations to the TY History students for their excellent research assignments on social history. This involved investigation into their family tree as well as carrying out interviews with older family members. Well done for the huge effort they put into the research and presentation of their work.



TYs welcomed physiotherapist Lauren Guilfoyle as part of the GAA Future Leaders programme

Our TY's had an interesting guest speaker this week as part of the GAA Future Leaders programme. Lauren Guilfoyle, who is a physiotherapist, sports psychologist, radio presenter, Littlewoods Ireland ambassador...the list goes on! came to speak to our TY's about her career path to date. Lauren gave an insightful look into the world of sport from a different point of view, highlighting the endless possibilities which our students can pursue. A big thanks to Lauren for giving up her time. @lauren_guilfoyle. Thanks to Mr. Walsh for organising.



TY French students écrit une biographie sur la vie de l'artiste francais Claude Monet La semaine derniere nous avons écrit une biographie sur la vie de l'artiste francais Claude Monet. Congratulations to our TY student who won the poster competition. Thanks to Ms. Leahy for organising.



TY's bake and decorate delicious Christmas Cakes TY Home Economics students finished baking and decorating their Christmas cakes which turned out beautifully.



2nd Year business students participate in a "mock strike" 2nd Year business students participated in a "mock strike" today. They have been learning about industrial disputes and types of industrial action. They also learned about the necessary steps employees must take to make a strike official. To make their strike official a secret ballot was held to vote whether they wanted to proceed with strike action. As the majority of the class voted "yes", the students gave 7 days notice and started working on their picket signs. They selected different Trade Unions and an issue over which to strike. Today they took to the picket line. Thanks to Holly Long who wrote up a Newspaper Report on the event. Well done on all involved.

NEWSFLASH

SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS STRIKE

The streets of Ballyhale areas were crowded as business students from the local secondary school participated in a "mock strike". Throughout the week the business students were taught about the steps it takes to have an official strike. The class held a secret ballot to vote whether they wanted to strike or not strike. As the majority of the class voted "Yes", the students began to make picket signs. The participants used a variety of different trade unions for their signs. For example, SIPTU, TUI and INMO. The class included the name of the trade union, the words "official strike" and their demands on the sign. During their strike, the different groups of business students rotated in turn to picket outside of the school. This "mock strike" taught the class how to have an official strike if they ever are treated unfairly in a workplace in the future.

Reporter-Holly Long

TY Business students create consumer rights information booklets Our TY Business students produced wallet sized information booklets that contained information about what rights consumers have when they purchase goods and services under The Sale of Goods and Supply of Services Act 1980. The booklets displayed both depth of knowledge for consumer law and also great creativity. Well done to all involved.



Key Dates

School re-opens after Christmas for all students on Thursday, 6th January.

1st Year Parent Teacher meeting 4-6pm Thursday 13th January

Pre Leaving and Junior Certificate Exams 7th - 11th February

February Mid Term Break Monday February 21st -Friday Feb 25th

