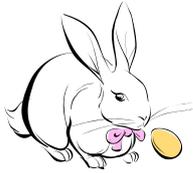




Príomhoide /Principal: Diane Birnie
Príomhoide Tánaisteach / Deputy Principal: Andrew Purcell



PARENTS NEWSLETTER APRIL 2014

EDITED BY COLETTE CLARKE admin.lucancc@ddletb.ie

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings to each and every one of you from Lucan CC. It certainly has been a busy time for our students and staff. We hope you enjoy catching up on all the events taking place in association with our College. Please look at our website to catch up on all other extra-curricular activities. Easter is almost here and we hope that our students use their time valuably preparing for whatever exams are in front of them. It is important to take time to work, rest and play. On our return after the Easter break, we will enter our final term of this academic year. We will have another newsletter during this term.

We would like you to enjoy catching up on our College news. We thank you all for your continued support throughout the year. Many students are enjoying their participation in extra-curricular activities as we provide an all round education at Lucan CC. Enjoy the read. We wish you an enjoyable and safe Easter.

A NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL DIANE BIRNIE

As we prepare for the final term – a short one this year – we welcome the opportunity for students and teachers to have a well earned break over the two week of Easter. This newsletter is packed full of many (but not all) of the activities that have been taking place in our college since the New Year. Thanks to our dedicated team for providing such a wealth of experiences for our students.

Looking ahead to 2014/15 we will have some new **temporary accommodation** in place to support our increased enrolment including an additional Home Economics kitchen, our first custom-built technology room and three general classrooms. All equipment that is installed into this building will be transferred to our new building when it is completed. Please read the Parents Association notice below carefully to see how you can help to support the progress of our new building which promises new and better facilities for your sons and daughters.

After Easter we will be launching a new **online payment system** that will allow parents to pay their voluntary contribution more conveniently and to access receipts and balances for monies paid throughout the school year. This will be initially tested with parents of our current 1st years and all going well will be rolled out for all parents in early May. We will send a text message when the site is up and running.

We look forward to welcoming our new first years for their tour of the school in May and we know that their Gluais leadership team will help them to settle in.

Best of luck to our **examination students** as they make their final preparations for their exams in June. With projects almost completed and orals finishing up, many students know that they already have a certain percentage of the marks guaranteed. As parents you will have the important role of supporting, encouraging and calming your son/daughter as the exams begin. We wish you well in your role at this important time in the life of your child.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION:

As a Parents Association we campaigned for and secured new road markings at the front gate to make the school entrance safer for all. The PA are also expressing concern about the delay in the provision of our school extension with local politicians and candidates and with national school parents. Please support the college by writing to your public representatives and asking for the project to be prioritised by the Department of Education and Skills. A sample letter is included at the end of this newsletter. We will be running a big fund-raiser in October and will be in touch with you later seeking support for this event. Visit our new facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lcc.pa.7> for more information



LITERACY POLICY – POSTCARD CAMPAIGN

Once again as part of our plan to improve student literacy and encourage a love of reading we are launching our summer postcard campaign. Students, parents/guardians, grandparents and teachers/staff members are all invited to write us a postcard from wherever they may be this summer whether at home or abroad whenever they finish reading a book. Tell us where you are, what you read, and what you thought of the book. Only a couple of sentences! Send us one postcard or many. Post it or drop it into the office. Just like last year, we will display the cards received on our literacy tree and have prizes of book vouchers for the most interesting cards received. So drop us a line!

FIRST YEAR NEWS -(a note from Year Head & Team)

Congratulations and well done to all 1st years, who continue to work very well and involve themselves in all aspects of school life. Students deserve a particular commendation for the way in which they regularly adhere to the school uniform code.

A very positive **Parent Teacher meeting** took place on Thursday 20th March and it afforded teachers an opportunity to tell parents how well students are performing and in a few cases how improvements can be made. In most cases, students should simply continue to do what they are doing, but for a small number, a few simple tweaks on organisation, recording of homework and completion of homework, would make a big difference in performance levels.

Students will shortly be focusing on the upcoming **summer assessments** which will be held from the 12th May to 23rd May (in class time). If the results are anything like the Christmas test results, they will be very good. Please encourage your child to get started on a revision programme so that they can feel confident when sitting the assessments.

The year management team will take students to **Avon Rí Adventure Centre** on **Friday 9th May** for their end of year trip. Consent forms and details of trip have been provided to all students.

The year management team is continuing to run with the positive discipline **credit awards** (gold star for no bad note). It was impressive to note, at our recent assembly, the number of students in receipt of a certificate in recognition of receiving gold stars for every month to date. A fantastic achievement! We encourage all students to strive for gold stars for the remainder of the year.

Congratulations to Kingsley Okakpu and Adelina Sorokina who performed in the music department concert and to all of the 1st years who participated in the music night. Well done to Ada Bowler and Calum Walsh who both won the U-14 Dublin cup in basketball for Liffey Celtics. Congratulations to Aoife Mahon who was selected for the Dublin U-13 camogie panel.

The team wish to thank all parents for their continued support especially in the weekly checking and signing of journals which is an invaluable link between school and home. We hope all 1st years have a happy Easter and enjoy the well-earned break.



SECOND YEAR NEWS-(a note from Year Head & Team).



Rome Trip: We had a very enjoyable trip to Rome and the Amalfi coast during February mid-term break. In Rome we visited: Cistine Chapel and Vatican Museums, St Peter's Basilica, Colosseum, Forum, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain and Spanish Steps. On the Amalfi coast we visited Amalfi and Ravello in glorious sunshine and high temperatures which encouraged quite a number of our students to go for a swim. We finished our trip with a visit to Pompeii and a walk to the top of Vesuvius. Thanks

to all parents and students for your cooperation with the trip and all the teachers who travelled.

End of year Trip: We are looking forward to our trip to Lilliput Adventure Centre on May 23rd - any outstanding monies can be given to the tutors or Mr Grimes.

Summer Exams: All students have a study plan in place and are focussing on their summer exams so please check your son/daughter's study plan and encourage him/her to make use of it.

THIRD YEAR NEWS-(a note from Year Head & Team).

Well done to our students who completed their oral German/French/Irish exams in March. Students were also busy completing their Home Economics and Music practicals. Other practical exams and presenting of project work are currently taking place before the written phase. Students should be aware of the dates and deadlines for these. Examinations schedules have been distributed in the school and are also available on examinations.ie

We have almost two months until the Junior Certificate exams begin. We want you all to do your best. It is important that all parents monitor and encourage your son/daughter's work very closely over the remaining weeks, as a lot can still be achieved. Checking and signing the school journal on a weekly basis is the best way to monitor your son's/daughter's schoolwork.

Students should enter their exams ready to demonstrate what they know, leave no blank answers and ready to spend the full examination time writing.

Next year comes Transition Year with a host of activities planned to broaden your education and experience!

FOURTH YEAR/TRANSITION YEAR NEWS-(a note from TY Coordinator, Year Head & Team).

It has been another busy few months in Transition Year with many great activities and wonderful achievements.



Ready-or-Not Tot: This programme has just started. In order to provide students with a realistic idea of the demands of parenting, the students are participating in a parenting simulation project as part of his/her Transition Year programme. This project involves caring for our lifelike, electronic parenting manikin for a period of 2 day(s). The manikin cries, coos, burps, and needs its nappy changed periodically throughout the day and night. The student will be responsible for

providing proper care as if this were a real baby. The manikin should be with them at all times. This is a great chance for the students to have a realistic and active parenting role and for those who have already taken the baby simulator has enlightened them to the hard work and sleepless nights some even returning them sooner than planned as they were worn out with the whole experience.

Youth Venture Project: This involved an overnight expedition for many of our students. Trained Leaders from the Youth Venture project and **brave** members of the Teaching staff took their group to The Lough Dan and Glendalough area in the Wicklow Mountains. Specialist equipment for the trip was provided by the youth venture team. They were put into teams and had to use their newly learned navigational skills to race to different checkpoints and complete team-building exercises along the way. Participants had to work as a team, making decisions and showing initiative. Upon reaching the camp site, teams received instruction on how to set up their shelters, cook the main

meal and stay warm. On the following day, withdrawal from camp site, more walking, team-building exercises and transport back to meeting point. Participants were asked to complete an evaluation form following the venture and write a short report to be posted on our website. At the end of the trip there were sore bones and tired feet, but the spirits were still high. It was marvellous to witness the positive attitude of both the students and the teachers involved.



There was such an interest that two trips were organised involving two groups of 25 students supported by Mr O'Connor, Mr Byrne, Ms Phibbs, Inion Ni Choncubhair, Mr O'Gorman, Mr. Mulready and Inion Ni Riain with the assistance of members of the army. It was a great experience for all the students and they showed great team skills throughout the venture. A big thanks to the leaders from the Youth Venture project and the teachers who participated.

Law Trip: Students who studied law as a module before and after Christmas prepared their own trial with the help of their teacher Ms Doyle. Following this the students went into the courts in Dublin and got to sit and witness a trial. All of the students had a great day and enjoyed the experience.

History Trip: The History module students were taken by their teachers to our local library where they were given a talk on the 1913 Lockout. This was a very informative talk and brought the students on a journey through time. We are grateful to the staff at Lucan Library for their facilitation of this event.

Young Social innovators workshop: Class Clarke had the opportunity to be involved in a workshop with the young social innovators looking at various social issues and ways in which they could make a positive contribution to the community in regard to the issues discussed. Members of our student council also had a training workshop with the YSI team.

Tourism Trip: Some of the students from the Tourism class were taken by Ms Gallagher and Mr O'Gorman to Glasnevin Cemetery for a guided tour. These students were given topics related to the cemetery to study, they researched these people from our historical past and returned to give the guided tour to other students. This was a great experience in learning what's involved in being a tour guide. Well done to the students who took part and in particular to Aidan O'Driscoll who was declared best guide.

Work Experience: Two weeks of work experience took place at the end of January and beginning of February. Students braced themselves for the world of work, early starts, late finishes and some had long journeys. We are pleased to say that the reports back from Employers when phoned by members of the staff were very positive. Please make sure that all the relevant paperwork is back with Ms Bean as soon as possible.

Tenderfoot Performance: Congratulations to our six TY students who were chosen for a three week work placement in the Civic Theatre in Tallaght. Congratulations also to Faye Aerole who was chosen as a writer and had two of her works used in the final performances. Twenty students from the college along with Mr O'Connor and Ms Williams went to see the students perform in January. It was a wonderful experience for those involved as they gained experience in stage work and made lots of new friends.

Enterprise Awards: Congratulations to our enterprise group who represented the college in the Enterprise Awards under the guidance of Mr O'Gorman. The students are pictured at their stand which promoted star charts for 'happy healthy kids' and their project raised awareness of the importance of good dental care for children.





Grease: We are in the middle of preparing for this year's musical - it promises to be a fantastic show. There will be performances on **7th, 8th and 9th May**. It is hoped that all Transition Year students and as many parents as possible will attend and students and parents from other years and members of the community are

welcome too. Tickets will go on sale shortly. As you can appreciate a musical is a very expensive undertaking. We would welcome any sponsorship from parents or the community to help us defray the costs. There will be an opportunity to advertise in the programme, or you might like to provide something for the raffle which will be held on each night of the show. Please contact the college office for more details.

Fifth Year Options: Students are very anxious to find out what subjects they have in fifth year. As you can appreciate the process of allocating subjects is complex and time consuming. Mr Purcell will have this information available for students as soon as possible.

Community Work Scheme: We want to recognise the great work being done by students every Thursday as part of our Community Work Scheme. We appreciate the time and effort that many students have put into their voluntary work placements over the year and look forward to reading the comments from the agencies on the evaluation form which should be returned after Easter.

End of year Interviews and Assessment: It is that time of year again and the students should now begin to collate their project work from last term and this term and creatively design their portfolio boxes. They will be interviewed on May 16th the week before their graduation. Students must present their portfolio boxes for this event and be able to discuss their work and contribution to Transition year. Please encourage your child to gather the relevant projects and documents sooner rather than later so there is no disappointment at the graduation when they receive their certificates. They will be awarded a Distinction, Honour, Merit or Pass. If a student does not pass TY they will not be at the Graduation evening on May 20th. We look forward to meeting parents on the night of the graduation, Tuesday 20th May. The graduation committee is being formed and will no doubt present an evening to remember.

We wish all our TY students and their families a very Happy Easter. A special thanks to our Coordinator Ms Williams for all the fantastic and varied activities which have been made available to you.

FIFTH YEAR NEWS- (a note from Year Head & Team):

The Lull before the storm! Teachers and students are working hard getting through their courses, covering as much as possible before 6th Year. We have been getting so much positive feedback from teachers about our 5th year group. The vast majority have really knuckled down and are putting the foundations in place for their Leaving Cert exams. Consultations are ongoing with the Career Guidance teachers following DATS testing to ascertain the courses and roles that students are suited to.

I would like to give a special mention to our Gluais team who have been great all year. Many thanks for your hard work.

LEAVING CERT. APPLIED (LCA) NEWS: (a note from LCA Coordinator):

Assignments: Class Crean are busy working at finishing up assignments for the final session and working hard on preparation for the upcoming Leaving Certificate exams in June.

Theatre: As part of English and Communications, there was a visit to the Abbey Theatre to see Brendan Behan's "Sive" on Thursday evening 10th April. All looked forward to an enjoyable evening.

Tour Guide: Two students, Daniel Owens and Gareth Farrell along with Transition Year students participated in the Glasnevin Cemetery Tour Guide course. As a follow up the two students took part in a competition to choose who was the best guide. Gareth won 2nd place being pipped at the

post by Aidan O'Driscoll. Congratulations Gareth. While Daniel did not win, his presentation skills were highly commended and it was suggested that he was a natural for the job of tour guide.

German Quiz: Well done to Brian Cooney for helping out the German teachers Ms Carolan and Ms Clarke on their St Patricks Quiz on Friday 14th.

We hear that recent task results are among the best ever achieved by students in the college! Best wishes and keep up all the excellent work on the last leg of your journey in Lucan CC.

SIXTH YEAR NEWS- (a note from Year Head & Team):

6th years are entering the last few precious weeks of study and revision. It is very important that students listen to the advice of teachers on subject levels at this stage. Attendance and punctuality are key factors in successful exam results and students are advised to continue to maintain good practice here.

The two weeks of Easter should be fully utilised in order to do some final preparations on exam papers. Modern language orals finished last week and this week the Irish oral exams and music practicals take place until Friday 11th April. We wish all our students the best of luck. Do your best. Again, lots of practice and revision can be done over Easter. Also Geography and History projects must be completed and signed off this Friday. Leaving Cert Art, Construction Studies and Engineering practicals take place immediately on return after Easter.

This leaves only a few short weeks before 6th year students are finished school! While in many ways it is a stressful time of year for all students, their families and our staff, it is also an exciting time with great camaraderie and solidarity between staff and students. This is especially true in our school and we value this special time with our 6th years very much. The fantastic respect shown annually by the 6th year students towards the staff and school on their final day (Monday 19th May) when students and teachers come together to enjoy a little brunch while listening to some needed words of advice about the exams and the grad night (Wednesday 21st May at 7.30pm to which two family members are invited) is always a time to cherish in the life of our school. Students – please enjoy your last few weeks and appreciate the work and faith that your teachers and your families have shown in you. Best of luck and put in that extra effort.

SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

A wide range of enjoyable activities were organised throughout our Irish week in the college. The first years performed the cup song in the gym, many students did yoga *as gaeilge*, students danced some popular Irish steps and various events kept our students engaged in the Irish language and traditios. Thanks to our Irish department and in particular to Inion Nathalie Ni Rhian and Inion Louise Ni Choncubhair.

MATHS NEWS

Junior Maths: Congrats to Emer Kenny, Aoife Mahon, Lorna Doherty and Jesse Odidison who have qualified for the finals of the Irish Junior Maths Competition. The four girls are all in 1st Year.

Applied Maths Quiz: Congrats to Gavin Pacini, Mark Hanley and James Carron who came third in the recent Dublin schools' applied Maths quiz.

Junior Maths table quiz : Well to done to 3rd year students, Maiss Tazim, Sarah Walsh, Rory Stapleton and Evan Lombard who came 4th out of a total entry of 25 schools in the Junior Maths table quiz which was held in Confey College recently.

JUNIOR DEBATING

Well done to Alex Healy, Darragh Bacon and Gayatri Sangra of 1st year who reached the finals of the Matheson junior debating The Speech competition. Alex and Darragh were selected for the final three places in the competition and received a certificate to mark their achievement. The students were required to submit a video on facebook of themselves orating a famous speech.

TOILET FACILITIES

We ask every student to report any issues with our toilet facilities to the front office immediately so that we can ensure that they remain clean and tidy. It is up to each individual to make sure they leave the toilet area as they would wish to find it. Thanks to our cleaning and maintenance staff who work so hard to keep our school environment safe and clean every day.

UNIFORM:

We appreciate the response of parents and students to the efforts of college staff to ensure that the school uniform is worn to a high standard. As you know this has involved the confiscation of non uniform items including non-school coats and jackets. Please ensure that all confiscated items are collected after a week and that they do not reappear. Our students are often complimented when they are representing the school in the locality or further afield and the high standard of the uniform plays an important part in showing a sense of pride in the college and what it stands for. The Board has appointed a new supplier for our uniform and information will be distributed with booklists and reports in June. The supplier will visit the college at the end of June and in mid-August to allow parents to purchase uniform items on the school premises. Thanks to parents who responded to our uniform survey earlier this year. There was a resounding preference for having a school uniform amongst parents.

LOCKER ACCESS

We ask parents to explain to students that they must go directly to class once the electronic bell has rung. Students can organise their books in the morning before class or within break times but not after the bell has been rung as they should be ready and on time for their next class. *Students are not allowed access to lockers after the bell has rung.*

ARTS WEEK

Arts Week: Well done to all involved in organising this year's Arts Week which took place in February the week before midterm break. It was a great success. All our 1st, 2nd and 5th Year students participated in a range of workshops. On Wednesday we had our dress-up day. This year's theme was "Circus" which led to an influx of students and teachers dressed as clowns, animals, ringmasters and even tubs of popcorn. The student variety show was well attended and there were excellent performances by all the students who participated. Thanks to all involved but especially to Ms McKeever who took on the role as coordinator this year



GLU AIS

A large group of TY students applied for a place on the Gluais team for the coming academic year. They were interviewed by a member of the training team for Gluais who are an independent organisation. Ten students were selected for this role for the coming year and will receive training along with students from other schools in the county over the Easter holidays. They will work with the first year team next year to help our new students make a smooth transition from primary to second level education. The Gluais team for 2014/15 are as follows: Molly McCabe; Keith Finn;

Katie Redmond; Aisling McLaughlin; David Gartlan; Chloe Twamley; Daniel Forde; Katie Oakes; Katie Farrell and Jennifer McMurray.

Well done to our current Gluais team who have worked well throughout the year. You are all a credit to yourselves and the school. Thanks for your commitment and dedication and congratulations on your recent graduation.

FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

Congratulations to Alex Healy and Gayatri Sangra who represented the college at the DDLETB festival of music at the NCH, on Tuesday 4th March. They performed the cup song to a very appreciative audience. Well done to you both and a special word of thanks to your teachers Mr. Kenny and to Ms. Conway for all the preparation and hard work.

MUSIC DEPT.

An entertaining and talented group of students performed in the Music Dept. concert in our college on Wednesday 26th March which was compered by Ms. Bean. This gave our 3rd and 6th year students who are preparing for their Junior and Leaving Cert practical exams as we go to print an excellent opportunity to perform on stage. Thanks to all who attended and for your support. Well done to all our performers, helpers and of course their music teachers Ms Bean and Mr Kenny for all the preparation and hard work.

GERMAN EXCHANGE

Our 22nd German Exchange trip to Gymnasium Münchberg in February proved a resounding success. Our students, accompanied by Mr Duffy and their German teacher Ms Clarke were welcomed warmly by their exchange partners and German teachers. An interesting and entertaining programme was organised. School begins at eight in the morning so it was an early start each day and cities like Nürnberg, Bayreuth, Berlin, were visited alongside Flossenburg Concentration camp and Helmbrechts where students got a chance to weave and add to the longest scarf in the world. Thanks to all involved in making this Exchange programme a wonderful experience. A special thanks to our parents both in Germany and in Ireland for hosting. “Bis wir uns wieder sehen” –“Until we meet again.” We are delighted to have such an interest in next year’s exchange from our 3rd year students and know that next year will be a great success also.



FRENCH TRIP TO PARIS

Forty Transition Year students headed to Paris very early on the morning of March 13th. They got to visit many of the wonderful sites and museums in the French capital while practicing their French. They visited La Tour Eiffel, Notre Dame and Sacre Coeur. The weather was fantastique! A bus around the city was enjoyed by all as was a boat trip on the river Seine. They finished their trip with a visit to Euro Disney where they were busy trying to capture as much of the Disney magic as possible in a day. Congratulations to all the students who were a credit to their school and families. Thanks to the Mr Mulready, Ms Lamont and Ms Cormac for travelling and taking care of our students and special thanks to their French teacher Ms Clifford for her hard work in organising a great trip.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Class Edison enjoyed an educational trip with Ms McCarthy, Ms Coghlan and Ms Gaffney Walker to Newgrange and their interest and enthusiasm was commended by the tour guide and tourists alike.

Thanks to all involved in the history workshops which took place last Thursday for first and second years. Students tried on costumes and listened and learned about various historical events. Thanks to Mike Moylan who made these workshops lively and entertaining. Here are some opinions from two students:

Bonnie - 1st Year: *Last Thursday a man called Mike came to explain to us about different periods in history. He showed us replicas of ancient artefacts and called people up to try them on as he explained who used them and what they were used for. He showed us weapons and armour from the Bronze Age, Medieval times, Roman times and a lot of other periods in time. At the end everyone was allowed to look at the artefacts and try them on. I thought it was great fun and interesting because we got to learn about history in a different and enjoyable way.*



Alan - 2nd Year: *On Friday 4th of April, our second year students were treated to a history workshop which cost 3 Euro. A man called Mike took the workshop. He brought in clothes and weapons from different times in history to make a mental timeline in history. He started with the Greeks, showing us clothes and tools from that time. Next were the Romans, where he explained the story of Julius Caesar and Romulus and Remus. He allowed students to try on different types of armour and hold different swords from this time. He then talked about the Vikings and their defence tools such as shields. To finish, students could hold tools, try on clothes and try on armour. It was a good experience and is good for information in History.*

Result: History Workshop a huge success!

EMOTIONAL HEALTH WEEK

Emotional Wellbeing week took place during 24th – 28th March. The aim of the week was to raise awareness around mental health issues and to encourage each student to examine their own coping mechanisms and reach out to speak to someone if they are going through a tough time. The week was a great success and many activities were organised for students. An art competition for junior students, a visit from the group Jigsaw to all 5th year students, daily tips from 6th year prefects over the intercom, a piece of artwork that each student took part in (currently under construction) and class visits and discussions around emotional wellbeing from the guidance counsellors from 2nd to 6th year. Students and staff also made a fantastic contribution to St. Patrick's Mental Health Foundation by taking part in a **Walk in my Shoes** day. A big thanks to the student council for their role in promoting this activity. The total amount of money raised was over €800. Well done everyone!



ART COMPETITION

Congratulations to 2nd Year student Rachel-Louise Fitzpatrick, who was selected from thousands of entries to be one of 75 finalists in the doodle4google art competition. Her submission "Off to See the Unseen" was based on a magical world wide adventure. There were 15 finalists in Rachel's category and the winners were decided by an online vote. Well done to Rachel who was runner-up in her group.

IRISH JUNIOR MINI SUMO COMPETITION

James Carron, Adam Mylod and David Solanke, three 5th year technology students, represented the school last Friday (4th April) in the Irish Junior Mini Sumo Competition. The students were entered in two sections of the competition and they managed to win the overall Robot Design and Programming Award out of 64 entries. Well done to these students for their dedication and thank you to Mr McGowan for supporting the students and to Mr Grimes and Mr Kearns for their help in manufacture and programming of the robots.



GAISCE

29 Transition Year students took to the Wicklow Mountains at the beginning of March to begin their 25km hike as part of their Gaisce award. These students are attempting to complete the Bronzer award and were joined by two fifth year students Jenny Bowler and James Carron who continued walking the following day so as to complete the Silver Gaisce Award. The students arrived at Lough Dan early morning and hiked 13km over the mountains and sliding down slippery slopes before returning to stay overnight in Lough Dan. Following a delicious evening meal they played some games and then after a sound sleep they took off across the mountains, through forests and finally arrived at Glendalough to be picked up by their coach to take them back to collect their bags and home for a long soak/shower. They were blessed with lovely weather and three great guides. An enjoyable time was had by all. Congratulations to these students for a great achievement and hopefully when their other set tasks are completed they will receive their Bronze President medals by the end of the school year. A big thank you to their Gaisce Pals Martina Feeney and Máire Ní Ruaidhrí who coordinate this activity.

GAEILIC FOOTBALL

Our first year Gaelic team has made a fantastic start to their campaign with wins over Coláiste Phadraig, Lucan and Beneavin College, Finglas. The team is now guaranteed qualification to the knock-out stages. They play Coláiste Cois Life in the final group match to decide placings in the group.

ATHLETICS

Congratulations to two of our students who participated in March in the All-Ireland Indoor Athletics finals in Athlone. First year student Saoirse Eccles reached the final of the 60 metres race and Karla Burke (2nd Year) came 3rd in the final of the 1500m walk.

BASKETBALL

Congratulations to our senior boys basketball team who received bronze medals at the recent All-Ireland finals. They were unlucky to lose the All-Ireland semi-final to Coláiste na Sceilige. Thanks and well done to Ms. Lamont and her players for their achievements this year.

COUNTING THE STEPS

Well done to all our teachers who have participated in our 6-week “steps” programme. Teachers have worn pedometers in order to monitor their level of activity and reach targets for daily steps taken. This programme is part of our overall initiative to encourage healthy lifestyles among our teachers and students. As part of the programme an all-school walk will take place on April 11th. Special thanks to our PE teachers who have been the main organisers and thanks to our sponsors

Supervalu for providing some fruit for the school to mark the end of the teacher's 'Step-it-out' programme.

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

Evening classes are in full swing and will finish up in May. New classes will begin in September 2014. If you are interested in attending or giving a course, please contact the school. Enquiries to: Jason Carey at 016282077. All welcome.

GOOD LUCK WISHES TO MARIE GRIFFIN

Our Education Officer, Marie Griffin will be moving from Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB in June as she is taking up a position as CEO of CEIST (Catholic Education an Irish Schools Trust). She has contributed so much to our school especially in her role as Acting CEO in recent years and we wish her well in her new position.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR NEWS: So much is happening that space does not allow us to report it all. Please look at the school website-www.lucancc.ie to see photos and reports on all events. **Thanks to all the teachers and parents who have given up their time to help out and support our after-school programme.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon 31 March – Fri 11 April – Leaving Cert Orals and JC & LC Practical exams (languages, music and Home Ec)

Thursday 10 April – LC music practicals; 3rd year Write Up of CSPE and RE projects tbc; 1st year rugby blitz (girls)

Friday 11 April - LC music practicals; 3rd year Write Up of CSPE and RE projects tbc; 1st year Easter Egg hunt (TY Enterprise)

14th – 25 April Easter Holidays & Gluais training during Easter holidays (TY students)

Monday 28 April School reopens

Monday 5 May *Bank Holiday*

Wednesday 7 - 9 May Transition year musical - *Grease*

Monday 12 – Friday 23 May 1st year summer assessment exams (in class time)

Wednesday 14 May Sports Day tbc (1st & 2nd years)

Thursday 15 May Staff Meetings. Classes finish at 3.45pm

Tuesday 20 May TY Graduation Ceremony 7.30pm

Wednesday 21 May Leaving Cert Graduation Ceremony 7.30pm

Thursday 22 - Monday 26 May 2nd & 5th year formal summer exams

Thursday 29 May Classes as normal & Year Group assemblies. Classes finish at 1.10pm

Friday 30 May Last day of school. Students in tutor class at 9.30am.

End of year ceremony (10.30-12.30pm)

Wednesday 4 June 2014 - Junior and Leaving Cert & LCA exams begin. (Good Luck to all)



Sample letter to public representatives or candidates about the delay in our school extension.

April 2014

Dear _____

As a parent of a student in Lucan Community College I wish to draw your attention to the delay in the extension for the college. Since 2007 the school has been promised an extension to manage the increased population in the local area. A gym, library, autism unit and additional practical and general classrooms are planned as part of the new building.

There has always been competition for places in Lucan CC as the school has a very good reputation in the local area based on the excellent results achieved by the students and the dedication of teachers to providing a broad and balanced education for all. Parents of national school children annually apply and wait anxiously in the hope that they will be successful in securing a second level place for their child. The college has an active adult education programme in the evenings and these new facilities would also be available for use by the community.

Teachers run a wide range of subject related and extra-curricular activities and students readily take on leadership roles in the school and community. Parents are encouraged to play their part and attend Parent Teacher meetings, information evenings and school events. This vibrant school community of almost 900 students and 80 staff is based in a building that is almost 30 years old and originally built for 700 students.

We urge you to campaign for the extension and refurbishment project to be urgently prioritised and to ensure that our children have the opportunity to be educated in a school with up to date and modern facilities to match the standard of the educational services provided.

Yours sincerely,

NAME

ADDRESS
