



# Coláiste Éinde

## NEWSLETTER

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### COLÁISTE ÉINDE IS FAST BECOMING A DRAGON'S DEN



Coláiste Éinde is fast becoming a Dragon's Den with the second visit in 12 months from one of the Dragons from the popular TV series. Barry O' Sullivan followed in the footsteps of Bobby Kerr when he talked to the LCVP students last week about the hard work and dedication required to become a successful entrepreneur and business person. He fielded questions from students in an informative and

entertaining Q & A session and no doubt left an indelible mark on their young minds. He went on to talk about his work with the charity COPE and was presented with a cheque for €1,200 by LCVP co-ordinator Mr. Tom Fox. From what the students were saying afterwards, it was obvious that this dragon had breathed fire into the minds of all who attended.

### All Pumped Up!



Michael and Kevin McAndrew were at the launch of this year's Pumped School's Video Awards. The dynamic duo met An Taoiseach Enda Kenny in Dublin during the Halloween break. The boys came second in Ireland with their masterfully crafted 90 second Anti-smoking animation film. Their video can be viewed online at <http://pumped.ie/pastwinners/>.

Michael's other NUIG award winning animation on Astrobiology, which was inspired by his Science teacher Mr. E. Conroy, is being used in a teacher training college in Salt Lake City. The university firmly believe that animations such as Michael's are an excellent way to teach key science concepts in an interesting and engaging manner.

### ELOQUENTLY SAID

Well done to the 4th year student Alice O'Donnell, Ava Kavanagh, & Suzanne Chalecka who competed in the Connacht final of the Business & Professional Women's Association (BPW) public speaking competition in the Ardiluan Hotel recently. The competition was strongly contested by many schools but Alice O'Donnell still managed to win the title of Best Speaker in Connacht. The girls did the college proud in what proved to be a very tough final. Well done to the girls and their coach Ms. Brona Walsh.



### Students Council



Back L-R: Conor Timlin, Josh Smyth, Cian Siggins & tadhg Wagstaff. Front Aoife Ryan, Tadhg Fitzgerald, Michelle Chiperi, Juliette O'Donnell & Lucille Destrade. Absent: Ava Kavanagh & Joe Reichenbach.

The role of the Student Council is an important one which includes:

enhancing communication between students, management, staff and parents, promoting friendship and respect among students, supporting the management staff and the development of the school, representing the views of students on matters of general concern to them.

Well done to this year's council members on their election.



## 'Unbreakable'



The Transition Year group of Coláiste Éinde were privileged to view an advance screening of a documentary entitled 'Unbreakable' that follows the life of adventurer Mark Pollock, an incredible, inspiring and driven man who is blind and paralysed. Mark, who was present at the screening, went blind at 22 but remained positive and focused and fulfilled his life's dreams when he became the first blind person to race to the South Pole. Mark is currently in pursuit of a cure for paralysis. He is using a combination of robotics and Science to try to excite the nerves in his spine back into action. 'Unbreakable' follows the journey of Mark's rehabilitation. The Ty Co-Ordinator Ms. Emma Dalton said that it was an incredible and inspirational experience with Mark being a fantastic motivational guest speaker.

## CERN COLLIDER



Just as children break apart their toys to find out how they work, scientists work to reverse-engineer our universe. The world renowned CERN laboratory is a prime example, a scientist's playground chock-a-block with the fundamentals of physics and technology. A group of 40 students from Colaiste Einde were lucky enough to experience it first hand on a recent school trip to Geneva. After touching down in Switzerland the touring party made a bee line for CERN. They spent the remainder of the day building on what they had previously learned in the classroom by taking in excellent hands-on exhibitions. This left us with a solid grounding in the fundamentals of particle physics. The insight gained by

us as students into the inner workings of the world's premier facility provoked thought among all. It is thought such as this that one feels may spur the inquisitive minds that will fuel the future.

Visits like ours are essential to this. A thoroughly enjoyable and inspiring experience was had by all and hopefully we, and other young people worldwide, will be inspired to continue such incredible scientific advances in understanding and technology. Thanks to the teachers for organising this. Thanks to Dr. Lockett and Mr. Kavanagh for organising this great trip.

*James Flaus - Leaving Cert Student.*

## HEAVENLY VOICES



The first ever performance by Spideóg, Galway's combined schools' choir, took place in St Nicholas Cathedral on the 20th of October, under the direction of Coláiste Éinde's

past pupil, Lisa Seary and included a wonderful group of singers from Coláiste Éinde. The concert, entitled 'Songs, Tunes and Words', was played to a packed church and was a very inspiring and moving experience for choir and audience alike. It was a free event, hosted by The Manuela Riedo Foundation. A Leaving Cert pupil, John Tierney (inset picture), played a key role in the concert, singing solos and duets and leading the grand finale, performed by all the musicians and the choir together. A fantastic night of musical entertainment.



*John Tierney*

## THE BARDS AMONGST US



Poetry Aloud is a poetry speaking competition organised by the National Library of Ireland and Poetry Ireland. Students are expected to learn a series of poems both prescribed and of their own choice and perform them in front of a large audience and three judges. The standard is extremely high with over 1,500 contestants attending from all around the country.

This year two students from Coláiste Éinde, Anna Fitzgerald and Cian Siggins made it through to the semi-finals held in Dublin where they both gave masterful performances. The competition was very strong and although Anna

did not make it through she was highly commended. Cian however impressed the judges hugely and earned himself a place in the finals on the 5th December to be held in the National Library of Ireland in Dublin. Cian is no stranger to success in this competition being the outright winner last year in the junior section.

To add to his successes this year Cian was also honoured to be invited to record the Tom Kettle poem 'To My Daughter Betty' for the National Library's new World War 1 exhibition where his voice rings clear and proud on audio while visitors watch the visual displays.

*Well done Cian and best of luck in the final.*

# Oscars Night, Coláiste Éinde's 1<sup>st</sup> Academy Awards!



The inaugural Coláiste Éinde Oscars Night was a roaring success. It provided an opportunity to celebrate the creativity of some truly talented TY

and JCSP students produced under the expert eye of Mr. Vinnie O'Sullivan. Principal D. Quinn praised the assembled students and presented certificates and prizes. The process ran very smoothly thanks to the administrative skills of Mr. D. Fahey and Mrs. D. King, all conducted under the witty compering of Master of Ceremonies, Mr. M. O'Domhnaill. Everyone agreed that it was a very entertaining evening.

## Success at Film Fleadh!

Following the success of our inaugural Oscars Night, four Coláiste Éinde films were screened in the Town Hall Theatre as part of the Junior Film Fleadh and all were extremely well

received by the audience. Mr. D. Fahey was delighted as the winning film "A Tale From St. Endas" showcases twenty two individual superbly talented students. The film will be screened at the Galway Film Fleadh in June 2015.

## THE DARE

In summer 2013 Darren Kilbane went to a camp for film making where he received the lead role for the movie entitled "The Dare". The film was nominated for the Junior Galway Film Fleadh and recently was awarded 'Best Drama' out of 10 other short films. 'The Dare' will now be shown in the Official 2014 Galway Film Fleadh in July. Hollywood awaits Darren!



## HEALTHY LIVING & MENTAL HEALTH WEEK.

The week of 6th - 10th of October saw Coláiste Éinde embrace all things healthy with a huge range of activities organised. Each break time saw various healthy foods & activities being offered for free to promote a healthy lifestyle both in body and mind. Large groups of students attended each activity which is testament to the success of this very important and topical matter.



L\_R: *Destiny Ar, Owen Osengale, Shona Murphy & John Ugwu enjoying the Hip-Hop session during Healthy Living Week in Coláiste Éinde recently.*

Activities on offer ranged from Mindfulness sessions, Hip-Hop dancing, céilí dancing, the 'Plank Challenge, jujitsu lessons, dodge ball to name but a few. All of 1st years took part in the 1 Mile sprint challenge around the school grounds with amazing times being recorded. To quench your thirst students could also

avail of freshly squeezed juices or smoothies at the Juice Bar. Well done to all who took part and to the organising committee of: Rose Ann Ní Chéidigh, Yulando Uí Dhomhnaill, Barbara Hannon, Maurice Callanan & Ann McGreevy.

## Talent Galore!



Coláiste Éinde has a vast array of talented students in its midst! The bi-annual talent show this year on December 10th is already shaping up to be the best one yet. Out of over thirty acts who auditioned fourteen lucky acts who auditioned fourteen lucky acts who secretly practising and fine tuning their performance in the hope of winning the top prizes in both the Junior and Senior Categories. There will be singers and magicians, drummers and actors all showing off their talents in aid the School Development Fund and the Irish Guide Dogs For The Blind. Frank Downes, the regional organiser, will be in attendance on the night with one of his trainee dogs, and is eagerly looking forward to it. There will be two shows during the day for students and one evening show for family and friends, so be sure to book your ticket early! All information from organisers Ms O'Leary and Mr Purcell. A great nights entertainment for a truly great cause - we look forward to seeing you there!

## Pope John Paul II Awards



The Pope John Paul 2 Awards invites young people to commit themselves to active involvement in both the life and activities of their local Parish and in the service of their community. Thirteen students from Coláiste Éinde, were presented with the Pope John Paul 2 Award at a special ceremony held in the Chapel of St. Mary's College on Tuesday 18th November, 2014. Bishop Martin Drennan was joined by Galway Rose 2014/15, Ms. Nicola Corcoran, to present the students with their medals and certificates. Congratulations to all students concerned and to their teacher and mentor Ms. O'Connor.



## Carnegie Hall



Gordon O'Connor, a supreme flute player, auditioned for the CBOI orchestra two years ago, was accepted and since then has never looked back! In February of this year they toured Ireland and shortly after were saving for the performances in America! They had rehearsals in Dundalk every Sunday for four hours. "It took a lot of dedication but it is worth it when you get to play in one of the most famous concert

halls in the world!" says Gordon.

In America they played three concerts in three different venues. Obviously the most anticipated concert was the one in Carnegie Hall.

During the performance they received TEN standing ovations from the audience. A member of the audience loved their performance so much that they have sponsored another one of their concerts in the Convention Centre in Dublin next month.

Gordon says that "the whole experience has been a once in a lifetime opportunity".



## No Sweat Broken during Read-a-thon!!



The M.S Read-a-thon in Ireland is an annual sponsored read organised by the charity M.S. Ireland, encouraging children & adults to read as many books as possible, and to collect a fixed amount per book from sponsors. The money collected goes to-

wards M.S. Ireland's activities concerning sufferers of multiple sclerosis.

First Year students from Coláiste Éinde took part in the M.S. Read-a-thon which was held from 10th October - 10th November 2014. Organiser Ms. Guilla O'Connor would like to thank all who took part and the final amount will be announced shortly as the monies raised from this worthwhile cause are still coming in!! Read on!!

## Quizzed up!



The 2014 Credit Union Senior Table Quiz team from Coláiste Éinde. L\_R: Owen Oseghale, Tom McHugh, Ciarán Scully, Hannah O'Connor.

The team consisted of Owen Oseghale, Tom McHugh, Ciarán Scully, Hannah O'Connor. The accolade was hotly contested by schools from all over Galway City and county. The victorious team

Coláiste Éinde senior students recently won the Senior title of the Credit Union Schools Table Quiz.

were clear winners after a very impressive performance. Well done to all and to their coach Ms. Melanie Kelly.

## 'Talk It Up'

Well done to Coláiste Éinde junior students who took part in the 'Talk It Up' Debating Competition held at NUIG on Saturday November 8th which was organised by the Literary and Debating Society. Two teams from Coláiste Éinde made it through to the final presided over by Cllr Catherine Connolly. Four students,



Juliette O'Donnell, Jack Sullivan, Tom Dolan, Nicolas Lannegrand and Daniel Shiels-Huemer (inset), were selected to progress to the national finals. Also taking part were, Arthur Kubecka, Cathal Callaghan and Iseult Fitzsimmons. Well done to Mr. Kelly for organising and best of luck to all the students in the final.



## Six Nations Trophy Visit



In early September Conor Galvin from Connacht Rugby brought the 6-Nations trophy into the college. With the sun shining, great excitement was generated on the AstroTurf pitch where many students and Staff got an opportunity to hold the famous trophy and to get their picture taken. Many staunch GAA men including Mr Kevin Johnson & Mr Brian Fahy from Salthill-Knocknacarra were very eager to get hold of the cup!! Although one staff member from Mayo remarked that "it was no Sam Maguire"!!

Both the junior and senior rugby teams from the college enjoyed this experience and no doubt it will spur them on to greater achievements on the pitch next spring.

