



# The Caimin's Connection

*Keeping you up to date with the latest news in our school community*

TYC (Róisín, Cillian, Nessa, Ben)

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## JC Students Bake the Grade – By Nessa Kennedy

That's a wrap! It's hard to believe the annual Home Economic Cooking Practical exams are over and done with for another year. The JC Home Ec classes of 2024 undertook their state exam on the 11th, 12th, and 15th of April.

The students had 90 minutes to demonstrate their culinary and creative skills by preparing, cooking, and serving their mouth-watering and breathtaking dishes.

The pupils were well and truly prepared as they had been practicing their meals every week both in school and at home. This conveyed their dedication and determination in reaching their ultimate grade. Without a doubt, the examiner was in for a wow factor and stellar presentation from our talented students.



At the end of the exams, I was privileged to get a glimpse into the 3rd year's spectacular and scrumptious dishes. The examiner had many tasty options as a starter these included: a variety of soups, such as tomato, leek and potato soup and vegetable soup.

Once their taste buds had settled, examiners had a feast of varied main courses to choose from. These dishes



ranged from vegetarian options to succulent chicken and protein rich beef meals. Last, but not least, nutritious, and flavourful salads.

There was a lentil curry with rice, chicken and broccoli pasta bake, stuffed chicken with roast potatoes, buttermilk chicken burger, tacos, crispy chilli beef with rice and a chicken goujon salad. Yum, yum! The list goes on!

When it came to cakes and puddings, I wished that I was the examiner! It was clear that the students surpassed themselves with their tantalizing desserts. These included blueberry muffins, mini cheesecakes, chocolate chip cookies, chocolate fudge brownies, yoghurt parfait and fruit skewers. These were all divine! Congrats to the class of 2024 and here's hoping that you all make the grade.



### Club Na Gaeilge - By Róisín Walsh

One St. Caimin's Irish teacher, Ms. Dunne, has started up an Irish club here within the school. The club takes place every Thursday at lunchtime, and it is open to everyone.

The main aim of the club is to encourage people to speak to each other in Irish, and to promote the language in a fun way, but it also gives students a place to go during lunch where they can meet and talk to new people. To encourage conversations in Irish, there are many fun games available in Irish such as bingo, headbands, and snap. There is also Irish music, Irish dancing, and Irish colouring sheets available.

Last Thursday, I went to the Irish club with a few of my friends where we played headbands and snap as Gaeilge. While I was there, I also interviewed Ms. Dunne to find out more about why she set up the club. "I set up the Irish club to promote and encourage Irish in the school, but I also wanted to create a safe place for students to come at lunchtime to relax and to use Irish with one another. It is also a place where students can study or do their homework if they would like. Another reason I decided to create the club is because up until now, I did not do anything to promote Irish around the school, and I wanted to change that.

Overall, I think that the Irish Club is a wonderful opportunity for students to practice their Irish and to make new friends all at once!" Beidh Club na Gaeilge ar siúl gach Déardaoin ag am lóin i seomra céad fiche a h-aon. Buail isteach, labhair Gaeilge, imir cluichí agus déan damhsa. Fáilte roimh chách!

The Irish club will take place every Thursday at lunchtime in room 121. Call in, speak Irish, play games and dance. Everyone is welcome!



### Biodiversity in St. Caimin's

According to the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, "one swallow doth not a summer make". But the arrival of swallows is one of the surest signs that summer is on its way. The barn swallow (or in Irish Fáinleog; scientific name *Hirundo rustica*), arrives in Ireland in April and will stay till September, before flying back to Africa for the winter.

The first Swallows in St Caimin's were spotted on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April this year. They are a little emaciated after their long journey here, but that will change for them after a few days here.



During its brief stay it will be very active, building up food reserves and raising two, three or maybe even four families in this short time!



## Latest News in St. Caimin's



### Clean Sweep at the Senior Clare Chess League

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> was a beautiful day for chess. Alex Lunev, first board, Blathnaid Deasy, second board, Koky Georgiev, third board and Dara Grace, fourth board travelled to St. Anne's Community College, Killaloe to defend their senior title.



The team were a bit apprehensive when they saw the ability in the room, but any nerves dissipated as they settled in during the pre-emptive rounds. These rounds don't count but are used to establish correct understanding and

application of the rules. When St. Caimin's won every one of these, confidence began to improve. The competition is always run on a strict clock. Playing great chess is one thing, but you must remember you can lose if you run out of time. Five minutes a player means each game has the potential to last ten tense minutes. Caimin's had great matches, some games were brilliantly strategic, some were over very quickly



for the opposition and some games went right down to the last few seconds.

St. Caimin's did not drop any games and left it impossible for any of the opposition teams to catch their leads. Congratulations and well done to all students involved and thanks to Ms. McDonnell for organising the outing. Best of luck in future competitions.



## Latest News in St. Caimin's



### U17 Football vs Mt. Sion – By Cillian Foley

On Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, the St. Caimin's boys u17 Gaelic football team lined out to play their quarter final match of the Munster football championship. They played Mt. Sion C.B.S. Secondary school, and it was held in a neutral venue in Mitchelstown.

The team was already in high spirits when they stepped off the bus at their venue to be greeted with a sunny and warm spring day. After a short walk of the pitch to get a feel for the conditions of the day, the lads began to get prepared for the upcoming match. Being a championship format, a loss meant being knocked out of the tournament straight away. This simply added to the pressure that was already looming.

After a brief chat in the dressing room, the players headed out for their warmup on the pitch. Here they began not only to physically prepare for the match, but mentally get in the right headspace. After about a half hour warm up, the ref blew the whistle to start the match. From the off, Mt. Sion looked threatening. After winning the toss up to start the match, and a quick move forward up the pitch, Caimin's were lucky to escape with possession of the ball and an even score

line. After this small initial scare however, Caimin's took complete control of the match. From winning their own kickouts, to winning the opposition kickouts, Caimin's were the better team in almost every aspect. Despite taking 10-15 minutes to finally capitalise on their relentless pressure and score a point from play, once they got that score on the board there was no looking back. Slotting over just under 10 points, along with a well-deserved goal, before the half was up.

After returning to the field of play for the second half, Caimin's showed no mercy. Outmanoeuvring and outplaying Mt. Sion at every turn, not letting up for even a second. Point after point was taken by the Caimin's forward line, twisting the sword already imbedded in Mr Sion's side. Beautiful moves from the St. Caimin's side along with their superb finishing led to what can only be described as utter domination.

As the ref blew the final whistle of the match, St. Caimin's had been victorious, with a mammoth score line of 2-14 to no score. An impeccable display from the entire team. Next on the agenda for the team is the semi-final in the weeks to come.



## Senior Camogie Semi Final - By Róisín Walsh

On Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, our senior camogie team travelled to Tulla where they faced St Joseph's of Tulla in the semifinal round of the championship.

After a quick warmup and team talk, the girls were ready to take on St Joseph's. The match got off to a great start with Sarah McEvoy scoring the first point of the game, but Tulla was quick to respond with a point of their own just minutes later. As the first half continued, both sides fought hard for every ball with points being scored one after the other for both teams. Some brilliant scores from Kate Kennedy and free taker Gráinne McMahon meant that the sides were level at half-time.

After a well-deserved break, the girls were ready to get back out onto the pitch to continue their fight for a place in the final. Once the second half began, it was impossible to predict who was going to win as the scoreline remained close with both teams fighting for every ball. With just a few minutes to go, Aoibhe O'Leary scored a fantastic goal for Caimin's to put us in the lead.



Unfortunately, Tulla retaliated quickly with a goal of their own to put them in front by just one point. In the last minute of the match, Tulla managed to score one more point which put them ahead by two. After one last puck of the ball, the ref blew the final whistle to end this extremely exciting and intense match.



The final score was St Joseph's - 3:10 St Caimin's- 2:11. The girls put in so much effort and never gave up at any stage, so they should all be very proud of themselves. Well done to both the team and management on a brilliant performance!



# Latest News in St. Caimin's

## Junior Camogie – By Ben Moloney

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2024, St. Caimin's Junior camogie teams lined out to play a blitz in Éire Óg GAA pitches. For the first time in the school's history, two Junior camogie teams were able to line out in their respective competitions.

The first match kicked off at 10:45 with St. Caimin's Sky-Blue team playing against St. Anne's Secondary School Killaloe in their quarter final match. The tournament was run on a blitz format, so it was fifteen minutes a half, with a five-minute half-time interval. Straight away from the first whistle, Caimin's immediately took the upper hand. Only two minutes in, number 15 Kate Monaghan opened the scoring with a brilliant point from open play. Caimin's continued to push on throughout the rest of the first half, with points from Sarah Keane, Kate Monaghan getting another point in the score sheet, and goals from Caoimhe Liddane, Eva Considine and Kate Monaghan once again. Overall, Caimin's dominated the first half, going into the interval with a score of 3-3 to no score.

Caimin's went into the second half with the upper hand but didn't allow themselves to become complacent. After soaking up some early pressure from Killaloe including a fantastic save

by goalkeeper Abi O'Gorman, Caimin's got back onto the score sheet once again, scoring 1-2 from open play. They closed out the match brilliantly ending with a score of 4-5 to no score. a superb display from the young camogie players.

St. Caimin's Navy camogie team lined out at 12 pm for their semi-final match versus St. Joseph's Secondary School Tulla. From the first whistle, the St. Caimin's Camogie team were off to the races. Within a matter of minutes, Caimin's had already put a score on the board with a superb point from play. This strong start to the match was then followed by what can only be described as a lesson in Camogie. The Caimin's team held no prisoners, not letting off the pressure. Tulla was simply overwhelmed by their superb skills. Caimin's went from strength to strength in the first half adding more and more to their score tally.

After retiring to the field of play after the half time interval, Caimin's showed absolutely no signs of slowing down. Two quick points off the get go, followed by an excellently taken goal by Sarah McEvoy, Caimin's were in complete control of the match. While Tulla put up a valiant effort, they were no match for our girls' incredible displays of talent, with the match finally ending with a score line of 2-8 to 0-2. This qualifies the girls for the junior A Camogie County Final, a fantastic match to look forward to!

## Soccer Finals – By Cillian Foley

This week, the Caimin's junior and senior boys' soccer teams lined out for their respective Munster finals. A sunny day set the scene for a great day of soccer action at the new UL Astro turf soccer fields. On this particular day, both the junior and senior teams were playing the same opponent, The Crescent Comprehensive School in Limerick.

The senior boys match started on a less than ideal note. From the first whistle, Crescent Comp showed their superb footballing abilities and fluid movement around the pitch. After a matter of minutes, their striker broke through the Caimin's defence line and slotted the ball in the back of the net to give them a one nil lead. Unfortunately for the Caimin's side, Crescent Comp never let took the foot off the gas. Although the lads got a few very close chances, including very narrowly putting one wide of the post, they just couldn't convert. Their opposition in the other hand, were able to convert their chances, leading them to score two more goals in the first half, giving them a 3-0 lead at half time. After coming back out to the pitch after the half time interval, the Caimin's boys showed tremendous heart. Despite the deficit, they soldiered onwards, playing with passion and pride for their school. Despite this, the Caimin's side couldn't quite get through the

Crescent Comps defence, and in the dying minutes of the match, they conceded one final goal. The match finished 4-0 to Crescent Comprehensive School.

The first years gave an even mightier effort. Off the first whistle, both sides were in a deadlock. Neither team could break through the others defence. The ball went up and down the pitch with superb defensive displays being put on at either end. Unfortunately, it was eventually Crescent Comp who broke through first and scored a well taken goal just before half time. The boys didn't let that deter their spirits, however. After coming out strong in the second half, Caimin's eventually broke down the opponent's defence and scored an equaliser halfway through the second half. The game once again became completely even. Both teams keeping the other at bay, and that's how it stayed all the way through the second half, through extra time, until it came down to penalties. Penalty after penalty was taken, goal after goal, with two tremendous saves in the middle- one from each teams' keeper, the Caimin's boys narrowly lost out 12-11 on penalties.

A heartbreaking way to lose but an incredible display by them entire team and they put up an extraordinary fight.