

# Third Year Newsletter

April, 2022

## Message from Year Head

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and cooperation this term.

It has been a very busy and challenging term for our students. The Mock Exams were the first formal, structured exams completed by the students and were an invaluable learning experience. The majority of the papers are now back and all students are encouraged to reflect on these and identify areas which need additional attention. In addition to this students will be given focused revision tasks to complete over the Easter break. Please encourage your son/daughter to complete these tasks.

The Parent/Teacher meeting last month went well with a very high turn out of parents. Unfortunately I was very busy on the night and missed a number of you. I am available by phone every Thursday, 9:00-9:40 and 2:40-3:20. Appointments can also be made via the main office if you have a more serious matter which needs to be addressed in person.

This term was also decision making time with regards to Senior Cycle Options. I know there was a huge turn out at the Senior Options Information Meeting. Ms Glendon-Gary and Ms Christie also met all the students on a one to one to discuss their senior cycle options and presentations on subject options were given to all classes. This process is now complete and all option lines are available to be viewed in my office or on VSWare. Thanks to all involved who made this process run smoothly.

Finally, this Easter break is a great opportunity to recharge the batteries and catch up on some well needed downtime. This rest and relaxation, combined with some focused revision, will set the students up for a busy final term.

Again I want to wish you and yours a restful Easter Break.

Regards,

Siobhan



## Environmental Club and Shannon Tidy Towns

Our students have been very busy working with the local Tidy Towns Group to enhance the landscape of the school and future proof our environment. On the 15th and the 31st of March many members of our Environmental Club here in the school planted a few hundred trees in the green space near the school basketball courts. This event was organised in conjunction with Shannon Tidy Towns Committee . The students and local environmental activists stuck on their wellies and got their gardening thinking caps on. Together they planted hundreds of trees.



At first it seemed a complex task with the various amount of detail involved in lining out the trees and even the technique of doing the actual planting. As time went on they found their groove as they planted tree after tree around the perimeter fence. Everyone enjoyed the experience of tree planting and were eager to continue the task on a second day. A third date for planting is also planned third. This is a community project and we thank the support and guidance given to our students by the Shannon Tidy Towns Committee. Well done to Josh, Aryan, Blake, Darragh and all the other students involved.



## An Gaisce- The President's Bronze Medal Challenge

Mr Nolan and Ms Guinnane are supporting our students on their quest to earn the Gaisce Bronze Medal. This internationally recognised award, rewards the effort young people make

throughout the country to enhance their own personal and sporting skills and their commitment to their community. They also undertake a group adventure trip as part of this award programme. Our third year students are pursuing this award as part of their St Vincent de Paul activities.

As part of the award the students climbed the highest "mountain" in Clare, Moylussa, with the Transition Year students on Tuesday March 29th . Some students had climbed the "mountain" before so they knew the challenge which lay ahead of them.

The students made a few stops on their way to the summit. The last 100ft were the most challenging. There were steep hills everywhere. When they finally got to the top of the hill and saw the wooden planks everyone let out a sigh of relief. They had climbed Clare's tallest peak, all 1748 feet of it!!

The Gaisce Award Programme aims to build promote personal development, well being and community involvement. Congratulations to the third year students who are already on this journey. We welcome as many students as possible to engage with the award framework in September. More details will be available in the "Back to School" pack in August/September.

## Junior Cycle Examinations 2022

The Junior Cycle Examinations begin officially on Wednesday, June 8th and run until Monday, June 20th.

All students are expected to be in their designated seats at least thirty minutes before their first exam.

During the exams teachers and management will be around the school to ensure any and all issues which may arise will be dealt with as calmly and as quickly as possible.

School transport will run during the exam period.

In the run up to the exams it is important that all students eat and sleep well and get plenty of fresh air and exercise. If you have any further questions please get in touch.

Please follow the link and identify the dates your son/daughter will be attending for exams.

<https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-EX-5598564.pdf>



The image shows the official Junior Cycle Examination Timetable 2022. It is a table with columns for the date (JUNE), subject, and time. The subjects listed include English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Physical Education, Music, and Art. The times are listed in 15-minute intervals.

JUNE	SUBJECT	TIME
WEDNESDAY 8	English	9:00 - 11:00
THURSDAY 9	Mathematics	9:00 - 11:00
FRIDAY 10	Science	9:00 - 11:00
MONDAY 13	History	9:00 - 11:00
TUESDAY 14	Geography	9:00 - 11:00
WEDNESDAY 15	Physical Education	9:00 - 11:00
THURSDAY 16	Music	9:00 - 11:00
FRIDAY 17	Art	9:00 - 11:00
MONDAY 20	English	9:00 - 11:00

## The Principal's Comment

The school website has many documents and pages that parents might find useful. In the documents section you will see several documents that are developed to help students learn effectively, keep students safe, enforce out rules consistently and fairly and help provide the best possible learning environment. Recently a number of policies went through the various stages of review and were ratified by the Board of Management. One that is of extreme



importance to us it the recently ratified Policy on Countering Bullying Behaviour. The policy aims develop a positive school culture and climate and to ensure effective treatment for reported cases of bullying. If you have a few minutes, it would be well worth the read

<https://www.saintcaimins.ie/policies>

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

April 9th : Easter Break begins.

April 25th : Return after the Easter Break.

May 2nd : Bank Holiday.

June 3rd : Last day of timetabled classes.

June 8th : Junior Certificate Examinations begin.

June 20th : Final day of Junior Certificate Examinations.

## Library Revamp

We are busy planning the restocking and relaunching of our school library in September 2023. With this in mind we would like to ask parents and students to review the books in you home and consider donating any suitable novels, in good condition, to the school library. Authors who are in high demand include;

Frank Cottrell Boyce

John Green

Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton

Jenny Han

Jeff Kinney

Karen McManus

Sarah J Mass

J.K. Rowling

David Walliams

## After School Study

After school study continues each afternoon in the school. All details and booking forms are available on the school [website](#).

Easter study is also available. Again, all the details are available at the following [link](#).

If you continue to study at home remember these simple steps to ensure effective study habits:

Fill out a study timetable

List your SMART targets (Specific, measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timed.)

Remove all distractions from your study area

Make sure you are comfortable; sitting on an upright chair if possible

Leave the mobile phone switched off or outside the door

Study in 40/45 minute blocks, taking short breaks in between study periods  
Vary your study techniques; key words, exam papers, reading and reviewing etc  
Reward your self when your work is done

