

# LC1/LCA1/TY Christmas Newsletter

*It's beginning to look a lot like...* 🎄

## 'Tis the Season 📌

The festive season is once more upon us and on behalf of St. Caimin's and myself I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas with all the best wishes for 2024. The past term has flown by and the student body has been hard at work inside and outside of the classroom with our LC1's and TY's at the heart of much is happening.

Ger Keane - Year Head



## Celebrate Us - Colour Day

The school recently took part in a colours day to show our support for the LGBTQT Community in our school and beyond. It was a very worthwhile initiative and very supported by students and staff alike. Find out how we got on our Instagram page - <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CzeP46-NnPf/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==>



## Sports

The school extra curricular programme has continued at a hectic pace term with our LC1 and TY students to the fore. Our Senior Boys gaelic football team had a great victory in the first round of the Munster competition with a win over Glanmire from Co. Cork on a scoreline of 3-5 to 2-7. Unfortunately we were beaten in the Clare Senior B Final by Spanish Point but we are still in the Munster Quarter Final in January.

Our Senior hurling team were unfortunate in their Munster School's competition as they lost out narrowly to Hazelwood Community College and Ballingarry Presentation Secondary School, both from Co. Limerick.

In the Junior Clare LGFA competition we played Tulla, Rice College, and Colaiste Mhuire winning against Tulla and Rice College while losing out to Colaiste Mhuire. In the Senior competition, the girls lost out to near neighbours St. Patrick's Comprehensive.

In the Camogie Junior rank, the school played a Munster 7 a side blitz in Eire Og, Ennis where the girls competed well and got to a semi-final where they lost to a strong Charleville side.



### LC1 Physics Egg Drop

Students were given limited supplies and were asked to design a structure that would land an egg safely from one storey height. Students were given 3 sheets of newspaper, 1m of string, 1m of sellotape, a scissors and 5 straws. It was a very successful egg drop with 6 groups landing their egg safely.



### School Musical

Our LC1, LCA1, AND TY students have been very busy rehearsing and practicing diligently for the upcoming school musical "Back to the 80's". Some of our students are involved backstage in



the production while others are acting and singing along with painting and decorating. The Musical promises to be a thrilling occasion for everyone involved and the whole school community is eagerly looking forward to supporting the event.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/C016rqwtyZF/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==>

[instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com)



## LC1 History Trip to Dublin

Bringing History Home to Us All

By Chris Jo Gibson and Gia Mirium Gibson

This week the 5th years and 3rd years went for a trip to Dublin to experience the history of Ireland through a different lens. Each of the places we visited highlighted the individual struggles for independence in Ireland. We visited Kilmainham Jail, The Irish Modern Museum of Art, Collins Barracks, The Irish National Museum and The Royal Hospital.

It allowed us to understand the connection between the history of Ireland, past and present. The impact of this struggle is reflected in Irish society even today. We learnt a lot as it gave us a chance to understand the unfavourable struggle of the people in Ireland. We realised that Irish history gave more insights into the reality of the events and rebel movements, unlike what we

studied about the history of India. It was an opportunity to understand the hardships that the people of Ireland had to face during the tough times.

There was a stark resemblance between Irish history and Indian history - how the people were treated, exploited by the British for their selfish gains. The teachers gave more in-depth information when we visited the sites and made the whole experience worthwhile. The trip was one not to miss and it was filled with great memories because we could experience it with our friends.



## Transition Year

Our TY Students continue to break new ground in the different roles and subjects. They have recently produced their own school newsletter under the stewardship of Mr. McDermott and Ms. Hill as well as producing a very engaging podcast page which can be found at <https://www.stcaimins.ie/ty/mediastudies>



## Limerick on Ice

Our year group will soon be showing off their ice skating skills in the arena of Limerick on Ice over the festive season. We have over 140 LC1 and TY students booked for the event on Thursday the 21st of December and all the students are eagerly looking forward to this unique and fun occasion



## Christmas Exams

Our LC1's finished their exams in the middle of December and worked tirelessly throughout the term. Our LCA1's and TY students continue to engage with their continuous assessments and working well towards their tasks and key assignments.



## School Holidays

St. Caimin's School will close for the Christmas holidays with a half-day on Friday the 22nd of December. The school will then re-open on Monday the 8th of January.



## A South African Christmas by Michaela Harden

It was the 24th of December and I had just survived an overnight flight of 12 hours from London to Johannesburg, South Africa. Embarking from the plane I breathed in the warm dry air of home. Passing through the arrival gate amongst the huge crowd, my Granny and Aunty were waiting for us. I ran towards them and flung myself into my Granny's outstretched arms. She smelled just as

she always had, of sweet vanilla. She was kissing my cheeks and kept telling me how happy she was to see me. My heart was soaring.

When we arrived home at my Granny's house, we were in quite a rush. It was Christmas Eve, which meant we were having dinner at my cousin's house. After about three hours we were driving down familiar brown roads with palm trees lining them. It was still light outside as we pulled into their driveway, their dogs barking as my Dad carefully parked up.

We were all gathered around the barbecue. Lamb chops were grilling alongside some boerewors (South African beef sausage), the smell made my mouth water. The dry grass between my toes, the familiar smells and the creaking crickets made me feel at home.

After dinner, which I happily spent at the "kid's table", it was time to open presents. This was the most exciting part of the evening. All my family gathered around and exchanged gifts. There was such a buzz in the room. Although, nothing compared to the feeling I felt when I opened the gift I had received from my uncle. A pink pool noodle. It was long and floppy and needed to be tested immediately.

My cousin's have a natural pool with lily pads boarding it, the perfect place to try out my new floaty. It turned out that my brother, sister and two cousin's had also received a "pool noodle" and were more than happy to join me in the pool. By this time, it was dark outside, leaving us relying on the pool lights but this did not bother us one bit. We were jumping in and out of the pool, playing "Marco Polo" and pretending we were mermaids. The water was so cold but nothing in the world could make us care when we were having so much fun. Not even when the thunder started. Thunder shook the clouds and lightning streaked the sky in electric flashes. I remember watching the electric shock waves in the clouds and feeling amazed. My Uncle was sitting on the chairs beside the pool rambling on about lightning, the distance and how we were "completely safe". And so, we continued to splash about late into the evening.

The next day, Christmas Day, was spent with my Granny and Aunty at their house. We ate outside on the veranda, it being 35 degrees celsius. With bellies full of turkey and minced pies, we basked in each other's company with laughter running around the table. We then spent the rest of the afternoon floating around in my Granny's pool. Soaking up the last moments of Christmas It truly was a South African Christmas to remember.

---

## Wishing you all a very merry Christmas!



### Ger Keane Year Head



**Tara O Loughlin**

Tara is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters