

LC1, LCA1 AND TY NEWSLETTER

October 27th, 2023



Message From The Year Head

It is hard to believe that it is already mid-term as we head from October into November 2023. The Junior Certificate results have come and gone and the students can now settle back to their respective classes in LC1, TY, and LCA1.

The transition from being junior pupils to being senior students in the school has gone smoothly for the vast majority of students as has the integration of the TY class of last year into our year group. We want to extend a warm welcome to these students and their

parents. We would like to also welcome any other students and parents from Ireland and abroad who have joined our school community for the first time.

My office is Room 131 and I am available to meet any students who need to drop in at any time.

My email address remains gerard.keane@stcaimins.ie.

A reminder to parents that:

- 1) Absent notes need to be uploaded on VSware so that they can be authorised by us.
- 2) If a student is leaving for an appointment or returning to school from an appointment they need to sign out and sign in at reception. It should be also recorded on VSware.
- 3) Full school uniform is important. Having two of each item is encouraged and jackets should be put into lockers or bags when students enter the school building.
- 4) Our mobile policy for phones continues to be "Not seen, Not heard, Not taken".

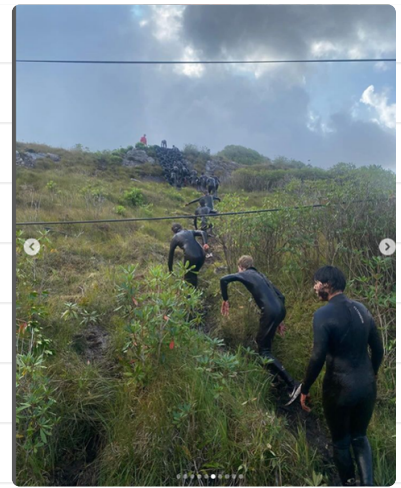
Wishing you all a restful mid-term break.

Take care,
Ger Keane.

TY Trip to Killary Harbour by Kelly Barker

On Monday the 2nd and Tuesday the 3rd of October, all three Transition Year classes went on an activity trip to the Killary Adventure and Activity Centre on the Galway/Mayo border at which the students stayed overnight, and all meals were supplied. The TY Students gathered outside the

gates of the school at 6:40am and departed at 7am. We finally arrived at 10:15am at the Adventure Centre where we were then divided into groups for the educational outdoor activities and given dormitory keys to put our luggage in. At 6pm it was dinner time and at 7pm there were evening team building activities. There was supper at 10:30pm and lights were out in all rooms by 11pm. The next morning the students were woken at 8:30am as breakfast took place at 9am. Rooms had to be cleaned and everything packed away before we left for morning activities. After the activities students went to lunch and departed the centre at 2:15pm. The students arrived back at school at approximately 5:15pm. There



were six people per room at the centre and each room was completed with an ensuite. There were three sets of orange bunk beds in each dorm in order to fit everyone. The food served was delicious and of very high standards. For breakfast there were options of different cereals, fruit and toast. For lunch sandwiches and soup were available and for dinner the students were served spaghetti Bolognese and garlic bread. There was also brownies and ice cream for dessert. For supper that evening we were offered tea and biscuits. There were so many activity options at the adventure centre but the particular ones our school took part in were the high ropes course, the turf challenge and the Gaisce hike challenge. Three teachers joined the students on the trip. They were Ms Beirne, Ms Counihan, and Mr Corry. Phones were not permitted at the centre, so they were surrendered upon arrival. The phones were handed back to the students before departure the next day. Thankfully we were blessed with the weather as it stayed dry whilst doing the outdoor activities and only rained whilst we were inside. Overall, it was a much-enjoyed trip with the majority of students saying they would happily return.



TY Dance Workshop by Holly Quinn

On Tuesday the 19th of September, the three TY classes participated in a dance workshop. Each class enjoyed a two-hour session which included a variety of dancing. Initial fear soon gave way to fun and enjoyment as all students participated eagerly and equally during the course of the lessons. Personally, I found the session most beneficial as it was something new and got me out of my comfort zone. My favourite part of the workshop was when we were divided into groups and had to create a dance routine using the new dance moves we had learned previously. It was a great laugh and some routines turned out to be quite good.

Junior Cert Results

Congratulations to all our students who did so well in the Junior Cycle recently. This cohort of students were part of the highest number to ever sit the Junior Cert exam (over 70,000). Our year group is now split in 3 sections with over 100 in LC1, 72 in TY, and over 10 students in Leaving Cert Applied. Students will now be turning their attention to the Leaving Certificate course and the work that needs to be put in.

Homework and Study

Study Guidelines

Here in St. Caimin's we refer to the last two years of schooling as LC1 and LC2 or LCA1 and LCA2 which reminds us daily that senior students are involved in a two year course. All senior students are expected to focus on their schoolwork and engage actively in class. In addition to this, LC1 students are expected to complete two to three hours of homework per night. Homework comes in many forms- written work, learning, reading, creative design and IT activities. Planning is essential to get the most out of your homework/study time and planners are available from outside Ms O'Loughlin's office near reception. We encourage students to avail of the Grade Tracker/Target Setting pages and Self Evaluation pages in their school journals to help manage their academic journey.

Additional supports and information is also available on our school website: www.saintcaimins.ie

Other News

- The Transition Year students will be attending a series of talks courtesy of the Shannon Chamber of Commerce and their CEO Helen Downes.
 - The TY's recently completed a GAA Foundation Coaching course and are helping to run a 1st Year Hurling League every Monday evening.
 - Our LC1's, LCA's and TY groups are all an integral part of the sporting and cultural fabric in the school as they are currently taking part in the school music preparation as well as Gaelic football, soccer, camogie, and extra curricular activities.
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Careers Trip to UL

Trip to UL

During the month of October, all LC1 students travelled to UL for the IGC Midwest Careers Fair. The careers fair is for Senior Cycle students from Clare, Limerick and Tipperary and it is organised by the Mid-West Branch of the Institute of Guidance Counsellors. During the trip the students entered the exhibition hall which contained numerous stalls. These stalls were set up by;

- Higher Education Institutions such as UL, TUS, TUD, UCD, SETU, WIT, and MTU.
- PLC colleges such as Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board.
- Other organisations such as the Army or the Paramedics.
- Voluntary organisations

These organisations offered students more information through brochures while the colleges offered students prospectuses. Some organisations and colleges even offered added incentives such as jellies or pens. After an hour or so we gathered outside the arena again and headed back to school. The Careers Fair was very informative as it provided the students with a huge amount of information about colleges and organisations. The Fair also displayed to the students the wide range of further career paths available to them. Thanks to Ms Christie, Mr Quealy, and all the teachers who accompanied the students on the day.

LCA Science Class

Our LCA group were in great spirits while carrying out food tests in the lab room this month!



HAVE A HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!



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