



# Second Year Christmas newsletter

*Christmas Newsletter 2021*

Hi All and welcome to the 2nd year Christmas Newsletter for 2021! It has been another challenging term for our students but once again they have displayed magnificent fortitude and resilience in the face of adversity. They have achieved many noteworthy achievements and are progressing well as a year group.



## Awards Ceremony!

On the 10th of December the school held an awards ceremony for all second level students. Any student who received more than 75% average in their 1st Year Summer exams received a certificate of Merit while students who achieved an average of over 90% in their exams received a certificate of Distinction.

Mr. Cunningham addressed all of the students and congratulated them on their academic excellence. He urged all of the student cohort to continue to work hard on their studies and to achieve the best that they are capable of.



## 2nd Year Student of the Year!

At the awards ceremony there was a 2nd year student of the Year selected. This award was based on academic results from the first years exams but also relates to the contribution of the chosen student to the social and holistic fabric of the school.

The student chosen to represent the 2nd year group was Michaela Harden. Michaela is an outstanding role model for her fellow students. Along with receiving the highest academic standards, Michaela was also the 1st year student council representative last year, while also volunteering for a number of extra curricular tasks. Well done Michaela!



## Maths Awards

The winner of the Lourda McKeown Cup for the highest Maths scores last year was Luke Molloy. The joint runner-ups for the Maths award were Matthew Repunte and Michaela Harden. Well done to all.

## Student Voice- Lee Maguire

We have had a very productive student council this year. Lee Maguire is the 2nd year representative and council has met a number of times already this year. The council have been very supportive of the LGBTQ+ and diversity week initiative. If anyone has any suggestions or queries make sure to make contact with Lee.

## Classroom Based Assessments (CBA's)

The 2nd year Students will begin their CBA's after Christmas. A lot of the work for these will take place during class time and a timetable for the CBA's was sent out in the last newsletter. We would ask parents to keep an eye of the schedule and encourage the students with these as much as possible.

## Girls Sport

In girls soccer some of our 2nd year girls have been training with the schools senior soccer panel. The standard of training has been very high and the girls have received great support from Mr. Grimes and Ms. Counihan. A Junior Competition will be starting up after Christmas for any girls who are interested.

The Junior and Senior Camogie girls are also having a very successful year. So far, both teams have reached their respective Munster finals with second years playing an important role in both panels. The juniors defeated Causeway from Kerry in their semi final while the seniors defeated Pallaskenry. IN ladies Gaelic Football the Juniors made up a lot of 2nd year girls, are making great strides having already defeated Ennistymon and St. Flannans. Hopes are high that they will continue progress in this competition.

## Boys Sports


The boys U-15 school soccer team are up and running and despite a disappointing 1-0 narrow loss to Tulla are showing great promise and talent for future competitions. This was reflected in the recent FAI inter-county, Kennedy Cup competition. Clare achieved their highest ever finish in the competition when defeating Galway 3-0, in the Kennedy Bowl Final. Four second year boys from St. Caimins were represented on the victorious Clare panel and they were, Kyle McNerney, Kyle Kirby, Shay Waller and Kevin Hanley. Lee Maguire, another 2nd year student was part of the Limerick team that won the Kennedy Cup Plate.

In Gaelic Football the boys U-15 team has been very competitive this year in their Munster and Clare competition. In the Clare competition the lads have already defeated Ennis Community College and Kilkee Community School to make it to the U-15 Clare schools final which will take place after Christmas.

The boys U-15 hurling are also progressing well in the Clare U-15 Winter league. Narrow losses to Ennistymon and Scarriff have been balanced by wins against St. Annes Killaloe and St. Munchins, which have left the team in the Plate final against St. Annes Killaloe







We have included two written pieces from 2nd year students for this edition of the Christmas Newsletter. The first piece entitled 'Christmas Eve' was written by Marco Kokocinsk and the second piece is called 'Memories' by Kylie O' Neill. Both pieces were chosen from an excellent selection given to their teacher Mr. Grimes.

## **'Christmas Eve' by Marco Kokocinsk.**

For my family we celebrate Christmas on Christmas Eve and yes, this means we get our presents on Christmas Eve. (My dad is from Poland and my mom is from Lithuania) But before that we have to set up our tree. We usually start organising that between the end of November and the start of December so that when we put up the first decoration, each of us make a wish. My mom likes to keep Christmas ornaments she gets from people and always puts them on the tree to remember them.

We also make our own gingerbread cookies and decorate them with icing. We give some to our close friends and eat the rest. I really like decorating them, and they taste amazing!

Now, for the big special night. For Christmas eve, we have to make 12 dishes with no meat. They all have to be different and are mainly salads. The main dish is holy bread. The 12 dishes symbolize the 12 Apostles. Its from my moms family and I help my mom make these dished every year.

We eat the 12 dishes on Christmas Eve's Dinner. We all get a piece of the holy bread. then break of a piece off everyone's bread and we wish each other well and eat the bread.

After dinner we usually go to a church and light a candle and pray for our loved ones. When we return, there are presents under the tree, we open our presents and have fun and then we go to sleep after having a wonderful and traditional Christmas Eve.

## **Memories by Kylie O'Neill**

Memories are like snow globes, encapsulated moments often left unforgotten, untouched until they're not and your mind starts spinning like wheels on a bike, thrusting you into a web of pure bliss and utter chaos.

I often have these Snowglobe memories, leaving my mind running, unknowingly in a glass maze. But when Christmas rolls around my mind stops running and takes a break. I just like to sit and stare out the windows at the first sight of snow finally noticing and admiring the intricacies of each snowflake collecting on the ground.

Have a great Christmas and a peaceful and happy New year!

