



*June 2023*

## Principal's Message P.1

## School Tours & Sport P.3

## Other Events P.4



## 'One Book One Read'

Students from 6<sup>th</sup> class in Achill, Ballycroy and Mulranny National schools joined 1<sup>st</sup> Years in Coláiste Pobail Acla in February to discuss Michael Morpurgo's 'Born to Run'. With lively conversation and plenty of goodies, firm friendships were forged. Our 1<sup>st</sup> years cannot wait for the new students to join them in September. Thanks to all the teachers who helped facilitate the activities.



## Raven Kaster Project

We have been working together with the students from Conception Bay South, in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, to restore and relaunch the Raven Kaster. The Raven Kaster is a mini boat that was launched from Canada in November 2018 and washed up on Dookinella Beach in 2019. The Marine Institute in Galway have kindly helped us out throughout the process and their research vessel will help relaunch the boat in September.



## Comórtas Díospóireachta i mBeál an Mhuirtead

Fuair ár bhfoireann díospóireachta sóisearach fáilte mhór nuair a tháinig said ar ais go CPA le corn agus plaiceanna. Bhuaigh Órla Nic Conmara an duais don chainteoir sóisearach is fear sa Chomórtas díospóireachta. Comhghairdeas le gach uile duine a ghlac páirt ann. Ar an bhfoireann bhí Seán Ó Gallachóir, Myles Ó Caoimh, Órla Nic Conmara agus Órla Ní Chathmhaoil.



## Wellbeing Week

A variety of activities took place in March to mark this year's Wellbeing Week. Third year students John O'Hara and Luca Callaghan up cycled an old seat they found outside the school. Thanks to the 2nd Year girls and Ms. Patten who helped make the cushioned seat for the boy's project! Named 'Lig do Scíth' (Chill Out) the seat was unveiled by John, Luca, Deputy Principal, Miss Lavelle, and the school Chaplain, Ms. Shannon. Jenna from the Mayo Mental Health Association spoke to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Year students about minding their own mental health in the run up to exams and beyond. Tara Rafter, The Navigation Coach, spoke to all our students about working towards the life we really want, the power of the thoughts we think and how to get the most out of life. Our 1<sup>st</sup> years went on a retreat to Knock. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year students attended a "worry busters" workshop where they learned study skills, how best to deal with stress and anxiety, and the importance of building resilience in life. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year students also met John O'Shea - humanitarian, and former founder of the charity Goal. His aim is to encourage young people to become social entrepreneurs and to use their gifts, talents, and skills to put pressure on governments to help the poorest in society.

## TY Musical



There were some stellar performances over the course of the 2 nights that kept the crowds entertained, with special mentions for Cian Kilbane (Jack), Sarah O'Malley (Jane) and Micheál McNamara (Tom). Tá muid fíor-bhrodúil as na scoláirí uilig. The students had the added bonus of getting to watch themselves and their performances on the big screen at a special screening at Mayo Movie World in May. The students had a great day that was filled with lots of fun, laughter and popcorn.



In March, our TY's brought drama to Coláiste Acla, Dooega, for their production of 'Disco Inferno'. A musical such as this takes a lot of time, planning and hard work to get to show night. A special thanks goes to the lead teachers involved in the production of the musical, Ms. Callaghan, Ms. O'Malley, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Patten, Ms. Hanley and John Sweeney, for their countless hours planning, practising, and organizing every aspect of the performances. Thank you also to our choreographer Jason Guthrie our school staff and to local businesses who have supported our school musical. Well done to all our students for their roles in helping on and off stage.

## Return of School Tours

### TY tour to Lake Garda and 5<sup>th</sup> Year tour to Barcelona

There was great excitement in the final few weeks off the year as the international school tours returned to the school calendar! Our Transition Year students were the first group to embark on an international tour post Covid. The group travelled to Italy where they made the most of the weather visiting Lake Garda, Juliet's tower in Verona, Venice, and Gardaland theme park. Thanks to Ms. O'Malley, Ms. Callaghan, Ms. Murtagh, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Shannon for accompanying our students on the trip. Our 5<sup>th</sup> Years flew to Barcelona at the end of term to finally take part in their postponed TY Tour. The group visited the Nou Camp, La Sagrada Familia, Park Güell and Port Aventura. They were accompanied by Ms. Lavelle, Mr. Ó Raghallaigh, Mr. Lavelle and Ms. Patten.



## Sport in Coláiste Pobail Acla



**GAA** – Our Senior Footballers were very competitive in the Flanagan Cup Competition but were unfortunately defeated at the semi-final stage by a strong Swinford team. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Year hurlers took part in a blitz at the Centre of Excellence in the New Year. They boys showcased their skills and their marked improvement since they began in September. Thanks also to Vivienne Ní Náidh who has worked with our TY's and 1<sup>st</sup> Years on their Gaelic skills as Gaeilge each Friday throughout the year.

**Ladies Basketball** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year girls have had a great fun with Ms. Shannon playing basketball this year. They practiced in Achill Sound Hall before travelling to Lacken for a day of sport and fun in May. We want to keep everybody involved again next year and all are welcome to come and give it a try!

**Athletics** - Our students competed in a variety of athletic events this term. We brought home several medals in lots of different events from the ETB Sports day in Ballina. Students competed in a variety of events ranging from a 100m sprint, 400m race, relay races, long jump, shot-putt, high jump and javelin.



## Ghradam an Chathaoirligh

Congratulations to our students who were nominated for 'Ghradam an Chathaoirligh' by Mayo County Council in Breeffay House Hotel. The students researched Gaeilg' Acla and published '500 Focal as Acaill' in the lead up to last Christmas. It was fantastic to get recognition for all their efforts at the awards ceremony in Breeffay House Hotel.



## Graduate.ie Quiz Winners

Three 5<sup>th</sup> Year students from Coláiste Pobail Acla spent a few days in Strasbourg learning about the inner workings of the European Union. Lauren McNulty, Réaltín McHugh, and Turlough Mulligan worked with other students from around the country thanks to winning a competition through Graduate.ie. Aisling Duggan (TY) has won a similar competition for next year



## Woodwork Projects

Our woodwork students have been busy this year showcasing their talents. Below is a collage of Leaving Cert projects being submitted for correction this year. Well done to Mr. Shannon and all his classes for their fabulous work throughout the year.



## 5<sup>th</sup> Year LCVF Fundraisers

Ms. Hanley's LCVF classes were involved in fundraisers this year for local causes. 5B raised €270 for the Achill Order of Malta Cadets. 5R hosted a bake sale that raised €360 for Gearóid's Smile. Well done to all involved.



## Heinrich Boll Award

2<sup>nd</sup> Year students Orla Campbell, Orla McNamara, Myles O'Keefe and Seán Gallagher won the essay award with their project: 'What will life in Achill look like for our children and grandchildren?'. The identified how cultural practices might be affecting the ecology and sustainability of our island environment. We are very grateful to the Heinrich Boll Committee for the continuous support of our school and students.



## Chess Tournament

Over 50 of our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year students competed in a Chess tournament this term. Congratulations to Padraic Gallagher (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) who was the overall winner and to Jeremy Faujourn (1<sup>st</sup> Year) who was our runner up. Well done to all who took part in the event.



## Leaving Cert Class of 2023



The Leaving Cert class of 2023 had their Graduation night in CPA on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May. Along with their parents, guardians, friends and family the group reflected on their 6 years in Coláiste Pobail Acla and how their time here has shaped them into the young men and women they are today. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

## Transition Year Partnership

Tá Comhpháirtíocht Idirbhliana bunaithe ag Coláiste Pobail Acla le Scoil Ghramadaí Naomh Iósaef, Domhnach Mór, Co. Thír Eoghain. Ghlac ár scoláirí Idirbhliana páirt i raon imeachtaí cultúrtha, teanga agus spóirt leis na scoláirí a bhí ar cuairt ar feadh trí lá. Ar thuras 2023 chuaigh daltaí Choláiste Pobail Acla go Tír Eoghain. Bain scoláirí TY CPA agus Scoil Iósaef as Tír Eoghain sult as an gcomhpháirtíocht oideachasúil i dTuisceart na hÉireann. Bhí siad i Stormont, chas siad leis an tráchtair spóirt le TG4 Mark Harte, bhí spraoi acu i Todd's Leap, bhí tráthnóna álainn acu i mBéal Feirste agus rinné siad go leor cairde nua.



## Comórtas Clár na gComhlachtaí



Congratulations to both teams from Coláiste Pobail Acla who won prizes at this year's 'Comórtas Clár na gComhlachtaí' in Belmullet.

'RC Jerseys' made up of Cian Kilbane, Ryan McGinty and Fionn English, won the Marketing & Finance award for their football jersey business.



The overall winners were 'Nails by Ciara' a TY company run by Ciara Campbell, Clodagh English, Katie Fitzgerald & Aisling Duggan. The girls went on to take part in the National Final in the University of Galway. Thanks to Ms Moran for all her help and guidance for both teams.

Coláiste Pobail Acla,  
Polranny,  
Achill,  
Co. Mayo

Phone: 09845139

Email: [info@cpacla.ie](mailto:info@cpacla.ie)

Website: [www.colaistepobailacla.ie](http://www.colaistepobailacla.ie)