# Kishoge Community College Principal’s Report to Parents

**February 2020**

## newly appointed Assistant Principals (AP2)

Congratulations to Rachel Haverty, Brónagh Murphy, Órlagh Geoghegan, Mary Gorman, Ruth Malone, Michael Forrestal appointed as AP2 in January.

School Management team: 1P; 1DP; 15 APs.

Second DP will be appointed in April.

## uniform retendering

A committee of parents, teachers and a member of ETB Procurement Section met in January to design the format of the competition for supply of uniforms 2020-2023.

Five tenders received. Tenders evaluated yesterday. BoM signed off on the committee’s recommendation which will be announced as soon as tenderers have been informed.

## School audit

The school received its first visit from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General on Jan 23rd.

Three auditors spend the day in the school looking in detail at the management of the school’s finances for 2019. The main focuses of the audit were: handling of cash, petty cash payments and procurement. The school spent €500,000 last year and this spending was closely examined.

Written feedback will issue but the oral feedback was very positive. Congrats due to Niamh Canning, school administrator, who looks after the finances.

## School tours

70 TYs and Fifth Years in Paris this month.

Oct. 2020: Senior students of Spanish will have opportunity of travelling to Madrid during mid-term break.

## Senior cycle options

We will soon be parents of Third Years and TYs to make decisions in relation to their son/daughter’s senior cycle education.

**The first deadline is Friday 13th March**. In the case of all students we will need you to indicate your **choice of senior cycle programme**: Transition Year Programme, Leaving Cert Applied Programme or traditional Leaving Cert.)

**The second deadline is Friday 20th March.**  In the case of current TY students and those Third Year students opting for the traditional Leaving Cert in 2020-22, we will need to know your **choice of Leaving Cert subjects.**

To assist students and parents in making these important decisions the school is holding a number of information sessions:

**Weds 26th Feb**. **9.00am:** Information for students.

**Mon 2nd March** **7.15pm:** Information meeting for parents about all three programmes but **focusing on the traditional Leaving Cert.**

**Mon 9th March 7.15pm:** Information meeting for parents focusing on **Transition Year Programme 2020-21.**

**Mon 9th March 8.15pm:** Information meeting **focusing on Leaving Cert Applied Programme** **2020-21**. Parents whose sons/daughters may benefit from LCA will receive a letter inviting them to attend this meeting.

## New Leaving cert subjects

This year the school will be offering Computer Science. Politics and Society, PE, Polish, Lithuanian and Chinese as full Leaving Cert subjects. All available to incoming Fifth years for examination in 2022.

## Policy Development & review

BoM has adopted new *Guidance Policy -* see school website.

Thanks to Paula Piggott and Thereze Dunne.

Child Protection Policy reviewed by BoM at February meeting - see school website.

## Festival of music

Congrats to Ruth, Johannah and students

Kishoge will have two groups of students participating in the concert in the NCH on March 10th.

Tickets €12 will be available through school.

## Science Dept

The Science Department held their 6th Scifest@school competition on Tuesday 28th January. There were over 230 students from 1st year, TY and 5th year showcasing 85 projects. Ten external judges were recruited for our judging panel. We also hosted a primary school science competition for Esker ETNS, Divine Mercy SNS and Lucan East ETNS as well as facilitating class visits from each of these schools to approximately 80 primary school students.

Congrats to Brónagh Murphy and science dept on an amazing achievement.

Thanks to parent Somantha Connolly for judging.

## Poetry club

Poetry club is busy compiling a poetry anthology. The chosen theme is ‘Change’.

## Chess club

Chess team won a recent local tournament in Greenhills School.

## TLP

TLP team is collating exemplar student work to showcase on school website. We want to create a platform to celebrate TeL and iPad usage in Kishoge CC

## Amber flag committee

The Amber Flag committee raised €882.55 for Pieta House on Friday, 31st January.  This money was raised through the non-uniform day and a staff bake sale.

## Leaving Cert applied programme

6A5 recently completed their Session 3 Task interviews in Information Communication Technologies, Social Education and their Practical Achievement Task. The teachers and students put hours of work into each project and all 3 examiners complimented the presentation, work, creativity and interview skills. Some of the projects included an app to help first years navigate the school, a yearbook of all the 6th year students, issues relating to mental health, pottery turning courses, autocad software design and ukelele making with many more interesting projects also present for examination. Special Mention goes to the task leaders Ronan Hickey, Aoife Donohue and Eva Brennan who helped students write up their projects and stayed back after school when students needed support. 6A5 are now heading into their last session and preparing for their mocks.

5A5 recently completed their PE task by arranging a tournament for 2nd years with the aid of their teacher Mary Geoghegan. The day was well received by the 2nd years. 5A5 had their interviews on Tuesday 11th February, the first Leaving Certificate exam for this group.

6A5 and 5A5 also attended the operational supports services workshop on Thursday 13th of February where they were introduced to the various services such as Gardai, ambulance, fire brigade and Army services with a focus on exploring possible career routes with all listed.

## transition year

**Lucan Fundraising - Jan 16th:** A group of TYs that included all of the Gaisce students helped the Parents’ Council to run its first public fundraising event. This took place in Lucan village and by Supervalu and it was a great success. Over €800 was raised to support the school for events such as the inaugural TY Musical.

**TY Bank interviews - Jan 23rd & 24th:** All the TYs were given the opportunity to put their interview skills to the test as they interviewed for a position on the TY school bank. A representative from Bank of Ireland put them through their paces and eventually narrowed down the list to a final five students. The students involved worked extremely well and were very enthusiastic about their roles. They helped both junior and senior cycle students set up bank accounts at lunch time.

**Criminal Courts & Collins Barracks - 30th Jan:**The final group of our TY Law module groups visited the Criminal Courts and Collins Barracks. The day consisted of a talk with a barrister and then students had a chance to act out a mock trial. Afterwards the students visit the different courts in the Criminal Courts of Justice and got to see some real live trials in court. The students also visited Collins Barracks that afternoon.

**TY PEXPO interviews - Jan/Feb:** All TY students worked on their PEXPO projects this term. They worked in groups and picked one of the seven categories related to sport. We had some interesting presentations with good questions posed and some excellent research. The PE department are now making final decisions on which three projects will go through to the PEXPO in DCU in March.

**Basketball Finals - Feb 10th:** All of the TYs were brought to the U16 finals in Tallaght Stadium to support their class mates. Unfortunately, the team were unsuccessful in the semi-final on this occasion. Well done on getting this far and for their trainers Una and Aine for all the work with them.