



Christmas 2025

COLÁISTE CHRAOBH

ABHANN

Newsletter



Dear Parent/Guardian

It has been a busy first term with much to celebrate, including student achievement, sporting success, and many memorable moments across school life.

We would like to thank parents and guardians for your continued support and partnership with the school. Your encouragement and involvement play a vital role in the success and wellbeing of our students.

As the festive season approaches, we wish you and your family a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed in 2026 and to all the exciting opportunities the year ahead will bring.

Important Upcoming Events

Parent Teacher Student Meetings – On Thursday, 15th January we will host our 2nd Year PTS Meeting and on Tuesday, 27th January we will host our 1st Year PTS Meeting. Please ensure to follow the allocated time slots.

Mock Examinations – 3rd and 6th year students will complete their mock exams from 3rd February to 13th February.

CCA Showstoppers Talent Show – Our annual school talent show will be taking place on 11th March, showcasing our fantastic students. Keep an eye out on the school's socials for information as it will sell fast!

Reminders

New Mobile Phone Policy – CCA's Revised Mobile Phone Policy comes into effect on the 5th of January. All students are required to switch off their phones and to store them in their lockers. The policy has been sent to all parents on the school iClass app.

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Follow us on @ccakilcoole on Facebook, Instagram and X to keep up with the latest news, activities and events.

Student Achievement

6th YEAR MOVEMBER

This year, our 6th Year students took part in Movember. This initiative helps spread awareness for men's mental health.

It was a great group project, with lots of support, terrible moustache attempts, plenty of laughs and lots of awareness.



GAISCE AWARDS

Congratulations to our 5th Year students who received their Gaisce medals and certificates having completed the programme during Transition Year. We are so proud of their achievement.



JUNIOR CYCLE RESULTS

Congratulations to our amazing students who received their Junior Cycle results in October, at a special, student-organised ceremony. Your achievements and personal growth over past three years, reflect the combined efforts of everyone involved – your hard work, self-discipline, persistence, and the many sacrifices made along the way. A huge thank you to the wonderful team of year heads and tutors who have guided and supported you throughout this journey.



Students of the Month

This special CCA initiative has been a focus of our school's approach to promoting the holistic development of each student. The students who received the awards have excelled in all areas of school life during the past months. Well done to all our award winners!



Student Leadership

STUDENT CONGRESS

Our annual Student Congress took place in CCA in November. Our theme was sustainability. Head students Cian Power and Kate O'Boyle, let student discussion. Mr Healy and Rachel Corcoran (Environmental Prefect) shared their knowledge with the students and together the Student Council shared ideas as to how we can improve sustainability in our school. Thank you to Mr Donal Scanlan (Chair of our BOM) for attending our congress. Student voice was certainly in action, as all classes were represented by prefects and deputy prefects.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM PREFECTS

Our Senior Leadership Team Prefects were presented with their badges at a special assembly. Being elected as a student leader is a huge achievement. These students will represent their peers, lead by example and bring our school values – Respect, Excellence, Equality, Care and Community – to life.

PEER MENTOR PUMPKIN CARVING

Our Peer Mentor Senior Leadership Team have once again showcased their creativity with the annual pumpkin carving display, featuring fantastic a creation from each 1st Year class group. A huge well done to all our talented students for their imaginative designs and teamwork.



CCA School Life

CAROL SINGING

On December 9th our 2nd and 5th Year Music Students visited Kilcoole Lodge Nursing Home. Festive cheer was supplied by some of our CCA Music class. Well done to all who shared their time and musical gifts with the residents there.

On December 10th, we held our annual 1st Year Carol Service. Many thanks to the Parents Council for helping Santa provide gifts to each 1st Year and well done to Year Head Mr Maher for a wonderfully organised afternoon.



SIMON HARRIS VISIT

On the 13th of December, Tánaiste Simon Harris visited CCA. The Tánaiste spoke to the school's Prefect Team about social media, cyberbullying, and the importance of listening to young people. In the relaxed intimate setting of the school library, they discussed the need for stronger protections online, an age limit for social media, and how students' voices can help shape better policies.



SENIOR DEBATING

Our senior debate team took part in the first round of the Post Primary Concern Debate competition. They proposed the motion and the feedback from judges says that 'they did an amazing job of convincing use the adjudicators, that we should side with you'.



COLLEGE AWARENESS WEEK

From the 17th to the 21st of November, we celebrated College Awareness Week in CCA. Throughout the week, students attending an array of talks, that presented them with the broad range of career paths available to them after school. Past students came in and shared their college journeys with our senior students.

As part of College Awareness Week, Our 5th Years had a fab day at the Wicklow Careers Fair in Dominican College Wicklow. They got loads of info, attending the careers fairs and catching talks by IADT and the NUIG.

PARENTS' COUNCIL SPONSORED WALK

On the 25th of September, we held our annual Sponsored Walk. Organised by our fantastic Parents' Council, the event was all about coming together to support our students. The sun shone brightly as we strolled along our beautiful coastline catching up with familiar faces, rekindling old connections and making new ones along the way.

Every step taken helps us reinvest directly back into our student body – ensuring even more opportunities and experiences for everyone



Transition Year Highlights

SHOEBOX APPEAL

Over the last couple of weeks, the TY Showbox Appeal Committee have been busy collecting items, wrapping, filling and labelling shoeboxes for the Hope Shoebox Appeal. They were delighted to send 74 shoeboxes to children around the world who will receive them for Christmas. A big thank you to all staff and students who sent in items or helped in any way with the appeal.



BARISTA WORKSHOP

On the 30th of September, TY students took part in a Barista Training Workshop. Many thanks to @dulbin_barista_school who working with our students for the day. Students learned all about the training and career of a barista, how to use coffee making equipment, espresso technique, milk chemistry and texturing techniques.



TRANSITION YEAR BONDING IN BALTINGLASS

On Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th of September, TY students travelled to Baltinglass Outdoor Education and Training Centre for two days of fun activities. They took part in kayaking, wall climbing, abseiling, archery and orienteering. A great two days was had by all. Lots of fun was had and many memories made.

A special thank you to Miss Miley (Year Head), Mr Ryan (TY Coordinator), Ms Doyle, Ms Cummins, Ms Fitzpatrick and Mr Duffy (Tutors), for accompanying our TY students on their bonding trip.



SELF DEFENCE WORKSHOP

On October 16th and 17th, TY students took part in self-defence workshops, learning how to recognise situations and how to react to them. Students covered topics such as understanding body language, conflict, protecting personal space and the law of Ireland.



NFL FLAG FOOTBALL

Our TY groups went head-to-head this term in an exciting American Flag Football Competition. It was a day full of teamwork, competition and fun, with every group giving it their all on the fields. Winners on the day were 4GDY.



MICROSOFT DREAMSPACE

Our Dreamspace Ambassadors began their training with Microsoft. During the training, the students were introduced to the micro:bit app and used the app to become familiar with building. They will complete more workshops and live events throughout the year as well as sharing their knowledge of coding with other year groups.



TY FESTIVE SPIRIT

On the last week of term, our TY's were busy soaking up the festive spirit with a mix of fun, competitive and Christmas-themed activities. From tutor vs tutor relay races, to a fiercely contested dart competition, and some unforgettable moments at karaoke, to a cosy afternoon watching a festive film...the students threw themselves into every challenge!

Sports Teams



Well done to all the teachers who give their time voluntarily to support all the extra-curricular activities in CCA. It is very much appreciated.

All extra-curricular activities are available for viewing on our school's website.

An excellent term of sports took place in various competitions with plenty of success.





Whole School Guidance

Whole School Guidance at CCA - your child's journey ...



Whole School Guidance means that all school personnel, including guidance counsellors have an important role in supporting your child's social, personal, educational and career choices.



Below is a sample of some of the whole school guidance activities students engage in on their journey through CCA

