Coláiste Gleann Lí

Coláiste Gleann Lí Christmas Newsletter 2025

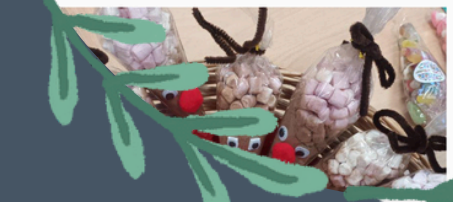












Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna Chiarraí
Kerry Education and Training Board

Christmas Fair & Jumper Day




















CHRISTMAS NEWS LETTER

ISSUE 1 CHRISTMAS 2025

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL & DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

As we come to the end of a busy and productive term, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all members of our school community. This has been a term filled with hard work, growth, and many moments of pride, and none of it would be possible without the dedication of our students, staff, and families.

We are incredibly proud of the effort our students have shown both in their learning and in the way they support one another. Their resilience, enthusiasm, and willingness to take on new challenges continue to inspire us every day.

We would also like to acknowledge our staff, whose commitment and professionalism ensure that our school remains a safe, welcoming, and vibrant place to learn. Their hard work behind the scenes and in the classroom makes an enormous difference.

Finally, thank you to our parents and guardians for your ongoing support. Your partnership is vital, and we truly value the trust you place in us.

As we look ahead to the Christmas break, we hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved rest and time with loved ones. We wish you all a peaceful, joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Principal Charlie O'Doherty
Deputy Principal Caroline Horgan



Coláiste Gleann Lí colaistegleannli

SCHOOL BUSINESS



HOME SCHOOL LIAISON COMMUNITY COORDINATOR (HSCL)

Congratulations to Ciara Stack on securing the position of Home School Liaison Officer at Coláiste Gleann Lí. Ciara can be contacted on 0860787967. Ciara's role will be to act as a bridge between the home, the school, and the local community to improve educational outcomes for our students. Ciara continues to provide support through home visits, parent courses, and community outreach, fostering a partnership to enhance student attendance, participation, and retention in the education system.

JUNIOR CYCLE RESULTS 2025

October 8th was a very special occasion as our Junior Cycle students received their results, joined by proud parents, guardians, families, and staff. The atmosphere was full of excitement, pride, and celebration as students reflected on three years of hard work, dedication, and growth. These results mark not only an academic achievement but also the resilience, creativity, and determination shown by our students throughout their Junior Cycle journey.



Parent/Guardian involvement is very active in Coláiste Gleann Lí through our Parents' Council. It is made up of parents of first year to sixth year students. The school encourages new parents coming in to join the Parents' Council. It is a way to meet parents of the school, be part of the school community, be your child's best advocate, be an active participant in your child's education and get to know the staff. See picture of Parents Council 2025/26 Left to Right: Joey Grob, Derek Rusk, Amanda Morrissey, Joanne Moriarty, Lisa O'Donoghue, Lorraine McLoughlin and Casey Grob.



CHRISTMAS FAIR 2025

On December 4th, Coláiste Gleann Lí was buzzing with festive energy during the Christmas Fair, which was organised and run by our Transition Year students.

The Christmas Fair was buzzing with 15 creative and festive stalls, including:

- **TY lino-printed tote bags, Christmas cards & bracelets**
- **Student Council baked goods**
- **Woodwork Christmas decorations & wooden snowmen**
- **5th Year LCVP hampers**
- **CSPE's large raffle hamper**
- **Business Class Toy Show treat bags, hot chocolate bags & decorative snowmen**
- **Handmade Christmas tree decorations**

We were delighted to welcome around 250 students from St. John's Parochial, Listellick, Tralee Educate Together, CBS Tralee, Moyderwell and Pres Primary.
The choir and musicians helped create a wonderful Christmas atmosphere throughout the event.
A big thank you to some of our sponsors: Bolger Fabrications, INEC Killarney, LIDL, Kelleher's Electrical, The Boathouse Fenit, and Little Rosebuds. The Parents' Council kept everyone warm with hot chocolate, and there was also a delicious bake sale. We were especially delighted to have a visit from Santa, along with Elf on the Shelf and some festive helpers.
A huge thank-you to It's My Party for supplying the fantastic games 🎉
This event was a wonderful JCSP/HSCL joint initiative.

OTHER ACTIVITIES



Library Visits

Thank you to Ms. Leen for arranging all English classes and year groups with their very own library card. Happy reading!. Ms.Sabourin's first english class visited Siamsa Tire to see the musical *West Side Story.*

CSPE Care Packs & Food Drive Campaign

This year, Ms. Sabourin along with her 3rd year CSPE class arranged Care Packs to be sent to St. Joseph's Nursing home, Killorglin. A lovely gesture of kindness. The first year CSPE students also took part in a food drive and all proceeds/donations went to Tralee Soup Kitchen.





Girls Soccer

Our Coláiste Gleann Lí girls took part in an FAI Schools Kerry event in Killarney Celtic — a fantastic day designed to encourage more girls to get involved in soccer! We brought two teams, played six games, and had great fun taking on:

- Killarney Community College
- Presentation Castleisland
- Meán Scoil Nua an Leith Truigh





Boys Football

The boys team took part in a GAA blitz on November 18th in John Mitchel's. The boys battled hard against Tarbert and Castlegregory. Well done to all involved.

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STUDENT COUNCIL 2025



The Student Council is a group of students elected by you—our fellow classmates—to represent your voices, ideas, and concerns. We work closely with teachers and school leaders to make sure the student body is heard, and to help create a school environment that is positive, inclusive, and supportive. Looking forward to a great year ahead.
Student Council Members 2025-2026

First Year: Clodagh Hunt, Violet Grob & Anna Bierak
Second Year: Fahad Mehmood, Ciarán Moriarty & Tiegan Beer
Third Year: Leon Butt, Finn Fitzgerald & Eva Nimzuk
TY: Eve O Sullivan, Will McGrath & Danny McGrath Hennessey
Fifth Year: Marharyta Kravtsova, Amina Nawaz & Ivie Osazuwa
Sixth Year: Joanne White O Brien, Dylan Alder & Corey O'Brien

OTHER ACTIVITIES

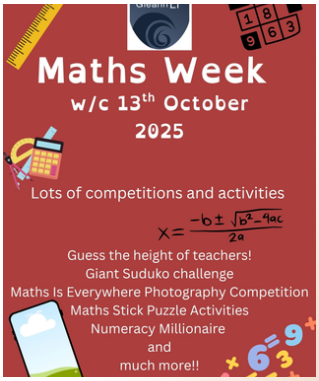
Halloween Storywriting Competition

Thank you to Ms. Leen for organising a creative writing competition with her second year English class.



Bin it Workshop

This year, we are proud to announce that Coláiste Gleann Lí is working on the theme of Litter & Waste and we are in year one of a three year process of working towards the Green Flag Award. First years attended a fun and interactive 'Bin it' workshop. During Science week, the Green Schools Committee attended a hands on Biodiversity workshop held in Tralee Bay Wetlands.



Maths Week 2025

Maths Week ran from October 13th-17th and Ms. Doody along with the Teaching & Learning team lined up of plenty of Maths activities. This is building on the tremendous work done by the Maths Department last year during Maths Week.

Second year Drama

Mr.Kelleher's second year English class had a dramatic time starting film studies this month - they acted out a scene from 'The Wizard of Oz' and are busy learning about stage directions and camera angles.



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TRANSITION YEAR SWAP DAY

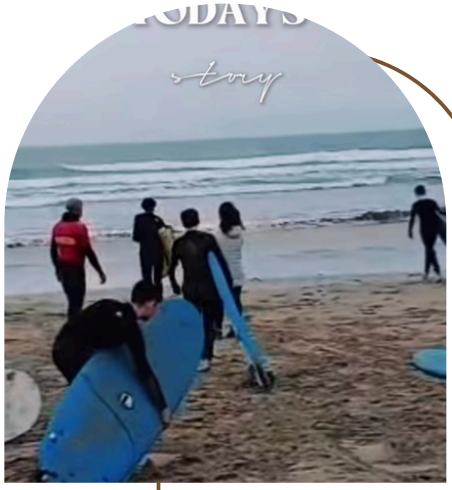
TY students organised and ran a ReLove Swap Shop event, encouraging the whole school to rethink fashion through sustainability and creativity. Students brought in pre-loved clothing and exchanged items using a simple token system, promoting recycling and mindful consumption. The atmosphere was fantastic, with plenty of excitement as students found new pieces to upcycle or style for the ReLove Fashion competition, which several of our students are now entering.

TY ACTIVITIES

Transition year has seen a great start to the year, with plenty of outdoor activities and trips

Surfing

TY students spent Tuesday, 30th of October, enjoying a morning of surfing with Kingdom Waves in Banna, learning new skills and having fun in the waves.



Star Outdoor Education

On 11th September, students took part in two action-packed days of team-building activities in Kenmare. They enjoyed kayaking, the aquapark, splat ball, the gauntlet obstacle course, archery, and crazy golf. Accommodation was in tents, and despite the very wet weather, spirits remained high throughout the adventure.



Greenway Walk

On September 5th, TY students took the local link bus out to Fenit. Students explored evrything Fenit had to offer on a warm day in September before embarking on their walk back to school using the Greenway

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)

STEM Passport Inclusion is designed specifically for TY girls, aiming to encourage and support young women in pursuing careers in STEM. Delivered in collaboration with MTU, the sessions take place at the RDI Hub in Killorglin.





AFTERSCHOOL & LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Supervised study and homework club has commenced for all year groups, Monday through to Friday. The programme is designed to provide students with additional time and support to complete homework, review class materials and strengthen their learning. We believe it will build strong study habits and improve overall academic performance. We ask that you as parents encourage your son/daughter to attend the programme. There is also a variety of lunchtime and after-school clubs now up and running, including a school magazine.

TY ACTIVITIES

The transition years closed out 2025 the same way they started: with plenty of engaging, hands-on activities and valuable learning experiences along the way.

Baking Club

Transition year students set up a Baking club open to the school community whereby students could come together each Tuesday after school and bake delicious Christmas treats in the lead up to Christmas.



Christmas Dinner

On December 5th, TY students welcomed their parents and guardians into the school, where they prepared and served a delicious Christmas dinner. The event embraced the festive spirit while giving students an opportunity to showcase their impressive culinary skills. It was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all. A big thank-you to Ms. Caoimhe Donovan for her wonderful coordination of this fabulous event.



TY Spikeball

Transition year students organsied and ran the annual Spikeball Rich Task event where over 78 teams took part and over 400 participants from seven ETB schools.









Mock Interviews

On November 11th, Transition Year students took part in mock interviews hosted by Cara Credit Union. In preparation, they created their CVs and practiced potential interview questions. It was a valuable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

TY Christmas Dinner



















CORE VALUES

Coláiste Gleann Lí is a state, co-educational, multi-denominational school underpinned by the core values of: Excellence in Education. Respect, Equality, Care and Community. These core values are embedded in everything we do in the school.

Student Activity Day







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