CCK WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

Mid-Term October 2026

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT, OPPORTUNITY AND WELLBEING

At Columba College, wellbeing is woven into all aspects of school life. From sporting success and academic opportunities to trips, teamwork and creative activities, our students continue to demonstrate commitment, resilience, talent and enthusiasm. Here are some of the highlights from September and October!

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

6th Year LCVP Visit to Lidl's Warehouse

Our 6th Year LCVP students enjoyed a behind-the-scenes visit to the Lidl warehouse last week. They gained valuable insights into logistics, supply chain management and the processes involved in getting products from suppliers to stores.
Experiences like this help students connect classroom learning with the world of work, explore future career opportunities and develop their understanding of different industries.



6th Year Higher Level English – Othello Trip

On 29 September, our 6th Year Higher Level English students attended a performance of Shakespeare's Othello at the Mill Theatre.
This experience brought their classroom learning to life and gave students an opportunity to engage with literature through live theatre. Thanks to Ms Murray for organising.





IGC Midlands College & Careers Fair 2026

Delivered by the Institute of Guidance Counsellors in collaboration with TUS Athlone

International Arena, TUS Athlone Campus
8 October 2026

Midlands College and Careers Fair

On October 8th, TY, 5th and 6th Year students attended the IGC Midlands College & Careers Fair at the TUS Athlone Campus on 8 October.
The event provided an opportunity to explore further education options, meet representatives and learn about potential career pathways. Supporting students as they make informed decisions about their futures is an important part of their personal development and wellbeing. Thanks to Ms Coyne for organising the trip.

NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL

It has been a fantastic start to the school year at Columba College, with our students achieving success in sport, learning and extracurricular activities. We are proud of their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to embrace new opportunities. Thank you to our staff, families and wider community for supporting our students' wellbeing and helping them reach their potential.

-Margaret Coady

TY Show at the Curragh Racecourse

Our Transition Year students attended the TY Show at the Curragh Racecourse on 30 September. The event provided an opportunity to explore a range of options and experiences available to young people, helping students broaden their horizons, discover new interests and consider future pathways.
Experiences like this support personal development, encourage curiosity and help students make informed decisions about their futures.



CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS

SPORT, FITNESS AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION



Cross-Country Running - 23rd of September

Our students took part in cross-country running at Belvedere House on 23 September. A special congratulations to Liam, who finished 10th in the Boys 3rd Year and TY category. Well done to Liam and everyone who participated!



Ladies' Camogie - Liz Shaw Memorial Blitz

Our students took part in the Ladies' Camogie Liz Shaw Memorial Blitz, enjoying an opportunity to compete, work together and celebrate their involvement in sport. The girls were very successful in the event making their coach Ms E Scally very proud.

TY Project Padel - Mullingar

Our Transition Year students took part in Project Padel in Mullingar, trying out a new sport while developing their skills, communication and teamwork. Activities like this encourage students to step outside their comfort zones, build confidence and enjoy being active together.





Active Schools - Jersey Day

Jersey Day took place on 25th September as part of our Active Schools initiative. This initiative will be a whole-school focus, with plenty of opportunities for students to get active and involved in a range of fun and exciting sporting events and activities throughout the school year. Thanks to Mr Finn, Ms Dorgan and Ms Rafferty for organising.

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Casey on being selected to represent Ireland at the IFCPF Women's World Cup in the USA. Casey and the Irish team made an impressive start to the competition, securing a 3-0 victory over Colombia.
We are incredibly proud of Casey and wish the team continued success in the tournament!





Congratulations to Madison on her outstanding success at the CRG World Championship, where she secured trophies in multiple categories. Her achievements are a testament to her talent, dedication and commitment. We are very proud to see her representing herself so successfully on the international stage!

We are delighted to celebrate Holly, Izzie, Chloe and their Raharney Camogie Club teammates on their fantastic U16 Shield Final win on 26 September. This is a wonderful achievement, reflecting the hard work and commitment of all involved. Well done to the team on their well-deserved success!





Congratulations to Trevor, Tommy, Daniel, Evan, Lorcan and the Delvin GAA team on their recent victory.
We also extend our congratulations to Karl, the Killucan GAA U16 team and their management on winning their Championship Final. We are delighted to celebrate our students' sporting achievements and wish both teams continued success.



WE ARE PROUD TO SEE OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVING SUCCESS WITH THEIR LOCAL CLUBS. THESE ACHIEVEMENTS HIGHLIGHT THE VALUE OF TEAMWORK, COMMITMENT, PERSEVERANCE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS AND BELONGING

1st Year Bonding Trip – Rock N' Bowl



Our 1st Year students enjoyed a trip to Rock N' Bowl in Mullingar on the 9th of October, providing a fun opportunity to get to know one another, build friendships and develop a sense of belonging as they settle into post-primary school life. The students enjoyed bowling and other activities on the day.
Positive relationships are central to wellbeing, and shared experiences like these help students feel connected to their classmates and school community.

Lunch Time Games Club

Games Club will take place every Wednesday at lunchtime in Room 7.
The club will be ran by students Gracie Mae, Kourtney, Mia and Nadine, and all are welcome to join in the fun! Huge thanks to the girls for showing leadership and organising this weekly event for students.

CREATIVITY AND SCHOOL SPIRIT

Beauty and the Beast – School Musical



Excitement is building as our school musical, Beauty and the Beast, has officially been cast and rehearsals are now underway!
Taking part in a school musical gives students opportunities to develop creativity, confidence, teamwork and self-expression. We look forward to seeing the cast and crew bring this production to life and will share further updates as preparations continue.

TY Debating Competition



Our TY debating team took part in an online debate against Athlone Community College on Tuesday, 13th October. Our students proposed the motion, "A fair society should not have billionaires." We are awaiting confirmation of the result and look forward to our next debate against CBS Mullingar after the midterm break.
Many thanks to Ms Murray for organising this opportunity for our students!

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Celebrating Junior Cycle Results



Congratulations to all our students who received their Junior Cycle results. This is an important milestone and an opportunity to recognise the hard work, perseverance and progress of each student.
We are proud of our students and encourage them to celebrate their achievements and approach the next stage of their educational journey with confidence.

ENRICHING LEARNING EXPERIENCES

French Language Assistant



We are delighted to welcome Emma, our French language assistant, to the school. Emma will work with our students during French classes, helping them develop their language skills while gaining an authentic insight into French language and culture. We look forward to the wonderful learning opportunities this experience will provide for our students.



National Ploughing Championships

On Wednesday, 16th September, students from various year groups attended the National Ploughing Championships in Screggan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. Students enjoyed exploring the wide range of stands and exhibitions showcasing agriculture, horticulture and a variety of other industries and enterprises. It was a great opportunity to learn about different sectors and experience this major national event.

School Library

Our school library has recently been transformed thanks to the generous support of Sorca Clarke TD, who donated funds towards the project. The Wellbeing Committee was eager to have a wellbeing space for students and felt the library would be the best room to improve . A special thank you also goes to SNA´s Liz and Alan and teachers, Mr Reilly and Ms Clarke for their hard work in putting up new shelves, painting and decorating the space.



The library is now fully operational and offers students access to over 1,400 books. Students can borrow and return books using their iPads, and the library app is currently being rolled out. All students should have the app installed before Christmas.
We hope the new library will inspire a lifelong love of reading among our students.

Webinar For Parents - Online Safety

The workshop is suitable for parents with children of all ages and it is held live, on Zoom with an experienced Barnardos trainer.

Cost: Free
Duration: 45 Minutes
Wednesday 11th November @ 7pm
Wednesday 25th November @ 12pm

More Information and the link to register is: Barnardos Free Online Safety Programme For Parents



HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS CONTEST

Our Student Council organised a fantastic Halloween costume competition, with plenty of creativity and spooky spirit on display! Many brilliant costumes took to the catwalk, making it a difficult task to choose the winners. The Student Council members voted to select the student winners, while the whole student body had the opportunity to vote for their favourite staff costumes.

Student Costumes

Congratulations to our student winners:
Caelan as Mrs Brown, who took first place, followed by Hanna and Ross as Starfire and Robin in second place. Third place went to a Alex dressed as a very spooky spider. Best Group Costume went to a group of 1st year students dressed as babies! Below is a small selection of costumes on the day.

















Staff Costumes

















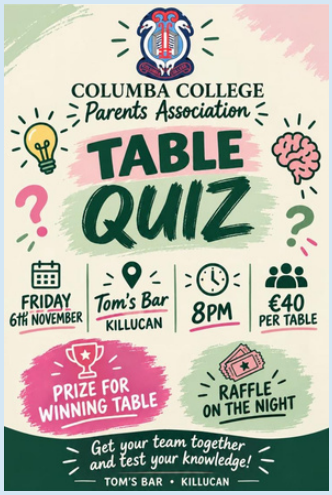


MARK YOUR CALENDAR

9 - 13 November	6 November	11 & 25 November	22 December
Anti-Bullying Week	Parents Association Quiz Night	Barnados Online Safety - Free Webinar	Parents Association Christmas Raffle

Parents Association

Annual Quiz Night



The Parents' Association Quiz Night will take place on November 6th in Tom's Bar at 8PM. It promises to be a great evening of fun, friendly competition and community spirit.

We encourage parents, staff and friends of the school to come along, test their general knowledge and support the Parents' Association. All proceeds will go towards supporting our students and school.

Christmas Raffle - December 22nd

The Parents Association is seeking sponsored prizes for our annual Christmas raffle, which will take place on Monday, 22nd December, the last day of school before the Christmas holidays. This is always an enjoyable event for our students and a wonderful way to spread some festive cheer.

All proceeds from the raffle go directly towards supporting our students and the school. If you or your business would like to donate a prize, please contact the school office, who will be happy to put you in touch with the Parents Association.

We greatly appreciate your generosity and continued support!

Check out our social media sites
on Instagram: (columba_college_killucan)
and Facebook: (Columba College)

AS WE COME TO THE MIDTERM, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL PARENTS AND GUARDIANS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND COOPERATION. YOUR INVOLVEMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT ARE GREATLY VALUED AND CONTRIBUTE SO MUCH TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

WE WISH ALL OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES A SAFE, RELAXING AND ENJOYABLE HALLOWEEN BREAK AND LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING EVERYONE BACK AFTER THE HOLIDAYS!