

The MACC

June 2016

Margaret Aylward CC Thatch Road Whitehall Dublin 9

01-8375712

A message from the Principal

As another year comes to a close I would like to thank all our staff for their continued commitment to education and the well-being of students in the school. The growth the students made both academically and personally over the year was clearly evident. The end of year celebrations and graduations were a source of pride for students and their parents / guardians. This year the school has achieved, among many other achievements, a Well Read Award, a second Green Flag, and a Diplomatic Passport under the World Wide Global School Programme. Students participated in many historical events to celebrate 1916, a DCU UniTY programme, sporting events, and a Healthfest. My thanks to all the staff in the school, and parents/guardians, for their work which ensures that students receive the best possible holistic educational experiences during their time in Margaret Aylward Community College. We wish every success to our examination students who are completing their Junior Certificate, Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied. I wish all our staff, students, and parents, a summer filled with friends, family, and lots of restful sunny days.

Teresa Murphy, Principal

Sports News

'Sky Sports Living for Sports' saw twenty pupils from first, second and third year engage in this project. This school-wide programme saw pupils and teachers alike supporting the project members in stepping up to the mark. These wonderful pupils were then invited to a media launch of the project with Sky Sports TV, TV AM, and most importantly, Olympic Gold medallist and five-time world Boxing champion, Katie Taylor. Katelynn Murphy was interviewed by TV AM and this was broadcast on world women's day. A fabulous time was had by all.

The school sports day went without a hitch with the fifth years assisting the Transition Years run the event. In our school ALL pupils participate in sports day and enjoy themselves immensely. All pupils also got a prize for participating.

Medals were won at the Sports and Cultural Council's annual CDETB athletics finals in Santry Stadium. We had a full team and the day was blessed with the best ever weather remembered by those present.

The highly competitive annual sixth year versus teacher Rounders match was played in May. All pupils were out to cheer the pupils on. Each team had two innings, and the opportunity to bat a total of 45 times (for the sake of fairness). The teachers won again. Plans are in place already by the oncoming sixth years to break the teachers' unbeaten record.



NAPD Ceramics Project

Students from Bluebell and Juniper classes participated in a ceramics project funded by NAPD. The project aims to raise awareness about the Syrian refugee crisis.

We are very excited to have been selected to participate in this year's "Sculpture in Context" exhibition at the National Botanic Gardens.



5 LCA Enterprise Task

5LCA ran an Enterprise task on the day of the Easter Holidays. It was an event for the whole school called **"Paddy's Magical Wonderland"**. This was run as a business and the class had to invest money. It involved the class setting up and running stalls selling milkshakes, face painting, nail painting, lucky dip, a treasure hunt and a raffle. It had a St. Patrick's Day theme and everything and everyone were green, white and orange. The day made €200 profit and the LCA class decided to give €100 to a fundraiser that 6LCA were running. The fundraiser was for the nephew of a girl in the class who suffers from Cerebral Palsy. He had to travel to England for an operation to help him walk. With the other €100 the class had a pizza party. The event was a great success. Everyone really enjoyed it and the class learned how to successfully run a business and make a profit.



Our 1916—2016 Celebration

A number of really enjoyable events were organised within the school as part of our centenary celebration of the 1916 Rising. One of the highpoints was the staging by the students and teachers of a play based on the life of Countess Markievicz. The play, an adaptation of **"From Lissadell to Stephen's Green"** was written by Joan Ryan and tells the true story of a group of Irish rebels who tried to free Ireland from English rule during the 1916 Easter Rising. The play was performed to a full house, on April 22nd and was very well received. The newly appointed CEO, Ms. Carol Hanney, was in attendance. The play was a wonderful opportunity to showcase talents in the school and was a very enjoyable experience for all who took part.



New School website

A new website is being developed for the school. The website can be accessed at www.margaretaylwardcc.ie. The website will provide up to date information with regard to school events, policies, scholarships, academic programmes and give visitors a taste of what is on offer in Margaret Aylward CC. Our school newsletters **"The MACC"** and **"Parents Connect"** will also be available on-line. We will run a competition in September to launch the website.

My Account of World Book Day

We held our World Book Day Celebration on the 3rd March. On the day of the event I was super excited. We had gotten so many books from people. Our class dressed up as characters from books and we decorated the Home Economics Room so that it would look nice and colourful. Teachers and other members of staff brought in cakes that we could sell and the girls on the refreshments committee had made lots of different buns.

I really enjoyed selling the books. We charged the students less than we charged the teachers for the books. If people didn't have money we gave them the book. The important thing was to get people reading and recycle the books.

The classes, teachers and parents had great fun buying books, cakes, tea and coffee. It was a brilliant experience for everyone. We raised €160 to be split between the Well-Read Steering Committee and the Green Schools Committee and we recycled over four hundred books.

At the end of the day we gave the first years a choice to take any of the leftover books as they had been the best for buying. We tidied everything up and thanked all of the classes who had come. Then we took some books for ourselves.

If I could I would do this project and day all over again.

Chloe McCourt 2 Bluebell



Eirgrid Partnership

The 5LCA class have worked alongside the team at Eirgrid since September. They have completed a number of sessions including Mock Interviews, Communication Skills, CV's and more. This has allowed them to learn essential skills from some talented business people. The class performed exceptionally throughout the course and will hopefully move onto more successful work placements in 6th Year.



Margaret Aylward CC - Football News

This year has been an exciting year for the Margaret Aylward CC Football Team as we've had some very talented new players join the team. The girls worked hard in training every Wednesday from 1 to 2 o'clock. The junior students were mentored and coached by an outstanding group of senior students who have been on the team over the last number of years. The coaching effort was led by Chloe Whelan who took home the honour of being this year's **Player of the Year**. She also led the 6th year team when presenting Mr. Leonard with an amazing framed jersey with his name printed on the back. This year's team has grown immensely over the last few months and we would love to see more students join us when we return in September.

"Future is Food" Programme

Chef Sarah O'Leary from 'The Slice of Cake' restaurant mentored the Transition Year food studies students while they developed a vegetable crisp product with their Home Economics teacher, Ms. Dockery. Sarah volunteered on the 'Future is Food' programme which is supported by an Bórd Bia and the Taste Council. Sarah is pictured here with Transition Year students, Tammy Delaney and Niamh Doyle.



Healthfest 2016

Margaret Aylward Transition Year students attended **Healthfest 2016** with around 3000 other TY students from all over Ireland on 26th April. Healthfest which is a fun-filled informative event was held in the Citywest Hotel. The event featured some of Ireland's top experts in health and nutrition. Guest speakers, including Paul Henry from 'Operation Transformation', recommended 60 minutes of fast-paced exercise per day. Nora Ni Fhlannagáin who is the Irish Rugby Football Union performance nutritionist gave advice on how to fuel your body for sport. Her key message was 'Carbs to go, Protein to grow'. Other speakers included Caroline O'Donovan from the National Dairy Council, Paula Mee, nutritionist and Brendan Courtney, broadcaster and designer. The students enjoyed an informative and fun day out.



TYs at Dublin Zoo

The TY class 2016 enjoyed a fun day at Dublin Zoo on 23rd May. The sun shone and a great day was had by all. Dublin Zoo is a great venue to visit.



LCA Photography Module

Students from 5LCA had fun learning about photography, Flemish paintings and dressing up. This was part of the Arts elective module which forms part of the LCA programme in our school.



Raven - Creative Writing Group

The creative writing group, who met with visiting writer in residence, Raven, finished their year long course. Three students and our principal, Ms. Murphy, were invited to the official launch of **'We Write What We Like'** in the National Library of Ireland. The students read one of their group poems and were presented with a magazine that included work from every school who had worked with Raven on the '1916 Revolution' theme.

Fighting Words

The T.Y. class along with Ms. Moore, Ms. McHugh and Ms. Leahy, went to a workshop in 'Fighting Words'. Fighting Words was set up by the Irish writer Roddy Doyle to promote creative writing in schools, and as an artistic outlet for young people. While there the students worked on several stories and then shared them with the group. All students are invited to attend Fighting Words on Wednesday afternoons and Saturdays to work on creative writing projects as part of their 'Write Club'. They offer free summer camps in July and August, and try to encourage all young people to join in. For more information go to their web page <http://www.fightingwords.ie>

FIGHTING WORDS
THE WRITE TO RIGHT

Maggie's Magazine

The TY class published our annual creative writing magazine **'Maggie's Magazine'** in May. The magazine is a compilation of poems, short stories and articles from students throughout the school. We held a competition to design the front cover of the magazine, Tammy Delaney, a TY student, won the competition by designing a beautiful cover in keeping with the theme of **'Summer'**. All members of the school community are encouraged to contribute to the magazine. In the past students have been accepted into college because they have been 'published' and they have gained valuable experience making a magazine as part of a team.