

# The MACC

Margaret Aylward C.C. Thatch Road Whitehall Dublin 9

[www.margaretaylwardcc.ie](http://www.margaretaylwardcc.ie)

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## A message from the Principal

As the end of the 2016-17 school year is fast approaching I want to thank everyone sincerely for your support throughout the year. In addition to the teaching and learning happening in our classrooms every day, students also accumulated some very worthy extra-curricular achievements in areas such as fundraising, debating, sport, art exhibitions, and science. Well done to our Transition Year students who excelled at the DCU UniTY Multimedia Awards and also for their participation in a Pop Up Museum which was exhibited in the college. The many achievements of our students are highlighted annually at our Graduation and end of year Award Ceremonies. For parents and guardians who were unable to attend these ceremonies details of all activities are available on our college website [www.margaretaylwardcc.ie](http://www.margaretaylwardcc.ie). My thanks to all the staff in the school, parents and guardians, for their work which ensures that students receive the best possible holistic educational experiences during their time in Margaret Aylward Community College. A special thanks to our librarian Sarah for the wonderful programme of events organised for students in the college library. We wish every success to our examination students who are completing their Junior Certificate, Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied. I wish all parents, students, and college staff an enjoyable and restful summer holiday.

**Teresa Murphy, Principal**

## JCSP Celebration

Ms O' Shea organized a relaxation morning for our third years before their JCSP celebration on Friday. The girls spent a relaxing morning in a sunny Ellenfield Park mixing up yoga, sports and giant bubble blowing. Where else would you get it? A wonderful morning was had by all. The relaxation morning was followed by a presentation of certificates attended by parents and staff. Well done to all involved.



## 1st year trip to the Zoo.

1 Olive went on a field trip to Dublin Zoo as part of the JCSP programme. They enjoyed a tour of the Zoo, while learning about animal conservation. A great day was had by all.



## Active Schools Week

From 8th-12th May an Active Schools Week was organised in MACC. Everyday at 11 and 2.50 students were encouraged to **Drop Everything And Move** for 1 minute of exercise at the start of class. Playing music over the intercom had everyone up and moving.

At lunchtime there was a dance lesson in the lobby where two 5th year students taught the juniors (and some teachers) a dance routine. A group of students went for a lunchtime walk in the park everyday with Ms Boon. Everyone really enjoyed getting out into the fresh air. After doing these activities students were encouraged to fill in a brick on the wall to say how they were feeling. All responses were very positive. Thanks to everyone who participated.



## Transition Year Update

### National Pancake Party.

The Transition Year class did a wonderful job hosting the National Pancake Party for the whole school on the 7th March. Hundreds of pancakes were made in aid of The National Children's Hospital, Tallaght. Many local businesses donated raffle prizes for this worthy cause. Thanks to all for their support.

## Glasnevin Cemetery Tour Guiding Programme

Our lucky TY students were privileged to spend a day at Glasnevin Cemetery learning how to be tour guides. The tour guiding programme is split across two visits: during the **first visit**, students are given a demonstration by one of Glasnevin Cemetery Museum's tour guides on the tourism industry, the golden rules of customer service and the skills needed to research and deliver a tour. All students are then given a topic to research back in the classroom.

When students return for their **second visit** they step into the shoes of the tour guide and present to their class at the grave of a historical figure. Two weeks later the girls returned to present on their chosen topic. Rachel Lawlor excelled and was chosen to represent Margaret Aylward C.C. as part of a final celebration day for all the schools that had participated. Rachel received a certificate to celebrate her success.



## Annual Sports Day

Our wonderful TY students organised and hosted our annual Sports Day—they even arranged the fabulous weather. Students and teachers participated enthusiastically under a sunny sky. Great fun was had by all.

## Healthy Relationships Workshop

As part of their RSE/SPHE studies TY students participated in a workshop facilitated by Anita Conlon from **Accord**. Healthy relationships were the main focus of the workshop and the students enjoyed the discussions with their peers and the information and awareness they acquired during the workshop.

## Our New School website

Our new website is now up and running. The website can be accessed at [www.margaretaylwardcc.ie](http://www.margaretaylwardcc.ie).

The website provides 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 C.C. Our school newsletters "**The MACC**" and "**Parents Connect**" are also be available on-line. You will find a link to our Twitter page and there is also an online application form for school enrolment. **Why not pay us a visit?**





## Eirgrid Partnership

Our 5th year classes 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 girls, along with Ms. Dunleavy, cooked a 'breakfast of champions' as an expression of their gratitude to the Eirgrid team, Sherine and Lynda, and our business community link person, Cliona, on April 6th.



All students received certificates for their participation on the programme. The girls surprised their guests with gifts of chocolates and personalised cards after the meal. It was a fun, emotional and very successful wrap up to a wonderful and beneficial programme. We look forward to working with Eirgrid again next year.

## LCA Hotel and Catering Module

The 5LCA and 6LCA classes are taking Hotel Catering and Tourism as an elective module this year. As one of the Key Assignments each year group separately hosted an Italian lunch for staff members in May. The students prepared and served a wonderful three course lunch followed by coffee. Both occasions were very special and a lovely addition to the day. Well done to the girls, Ms. Dunleavy and Ms. Dockery for all their hard work. A big **Grazie** from all the staff. We're looking forward to next year already.



## School Choir

Congratulations once again to the dedicated members of the school choir who provided music for the Opening of the School Year Ceremony, the Carol Service, the Easter Ceremony and the Sixth Year Graduation. These students have given generously of their time and their talents and all who heard them were impressed by the beautiful sound they created. Thank you also to guitarists Nicole Keane Flood, Amy Knight and Leah McHale, and violinist Casey Fagan, for providing accompaniment and instrumental support."



## 5LCA Enterprise Task —PINK LADIES DAY

Our **Pink Ladies Day** was a great success. The 5 LCA class did a fabulous job in organising the event. They planned and organised a non-uniform day for all students and they were encouraged to wear pink on the day in support of **Breast Cancer Awareness**. First and second year students also enjoyed a movie day and a pizza party. A pop-up shop with snacks and refreshments was open for all students. The event was very well run and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Congratulations to the 5 LCA who succeeded in raising **€300** for Breast Cancer research.



## Full Attendance Treat

A bowling trip to ALSAA for students with full attendance from Christmas to Easter took place in May. Well done girls. Thumbs up for full attendance!!

## 6th Year Graduation Ceremony

The Sixth Year students finished their time with us with their Graduation Ceremony, on Wednesday 24th May, in the company of their parents, guests and teachers. All of the girls have now secured a place on a Post Leaving Certificate Course in one of the Colleges of Education, or have applied for a college place through the CAO. They have also been busy applying for their SUSI grants. We wish them well in their Leaving Cert exams, and then to enjoy the summer holidays, before their next chapter begins.



## JCSP Library News

As well as all 1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> years having at least one library class for reading, research or numeracy, the library hosted a wide range of events and visitors throughout the year.

From a maths magician to a crocodile, rap workshops, a music video, author visits, a French theatre troupe, a filmmaking workshop, Interschools debating, a French penpal programme with Marino College s, Twin Reads programme with Larkhill and Holy Spirit primary schools, crazy hair parties, book breakfasts, and reading challenges for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years with pizza party rewards in between! A really busy few months.

**Busy lunchtimes** - hosting or providing books for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, TY and senior bookclubs, Comhrá & Cáca club. CDETB 'We Write What We Like' writer's group facilitated by writer Kevin McDermott & Ms Leahy with a workshop at Poetry Ireland and a showcase of group work at the National Library. World Book Day - organised by our 2<sup>nd</sup> year CSPE group. Much dressing up and book selling involved!

**The BoB Project** with Ms Nangle our Library/HSEL Books in Boxes project. Book deliveries & Valentine's Day book brunch.

**TY/Culture Connect** - with DCC and local museums to explore ideas around identity and pop culture. theatre maker Veronica Dyas, Ms Moore & Sandra worked with the TY group in the library to create art, and poetry works which were then combined with two other schools to create a pop-up museum in the lobby.

**Accelerated Reader Programme** - an online programme to help students enjoy reading more and improve reading ages, will be implemented in September. All 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> years have been tested to gauge current reading levels.

**Dave's Jungle** - iguanas, crocodiles, scorpions and tarantulas visited the library on our 6<sup>th</sup> year graduation day and were seen by all juniors, most seniors and our parent group!

**Summer Awards** - certs and prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> years for participation in the above initiatives and reading challenges.

**Summer Reading Programme** - 25 students have signed up to participate in reading over the summer. Each has been given a booklet and all students who complete it will have a reward in September.

**Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing everyone again in September!**



## Visit to Ombudsman for Children

Our 1st years also visited office of The Ombudsman for Children's recently. They learned about children's rights and met Niall Muldoon the Ombudsman for Children. It was a very informative visit and was enjoyed by all.