

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

Principal's Address

It has been an extraordinary and very challenging year for all in our school community. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all our teachers in navigating the challenges of teaching in such a restricted Covid environment and for managing the demands of changing to remote learning for the second term followed by our return to full school. They did a fantastic job given the trying circumstances. We could not have managed to come through this year without the support of you parents. Your awareness of the seriousness of the situation the school was facing along with your total willingness to prioritise the safety of our students and staff by keeping your children out of school, if they displayed any signs of covid symptoms, was simply essential to keeping the school open. Your willingness to communicate honestly with the school and respond quickly if asked by the school were huge factors in us getting to the year end. I would like to thank Ms. Lennon, Ms. O'Connor and Ms. Kennedy on your behalf and wish them well in their retirement. We will be so sad to lose them as they were three wonderful teachers whose commitment and dedication to our students and school extended over 5 decades. That is some legacy to leave a school and we will always be so grateful to them for their immeasurable contribution to the life of our school. I wish all our students a carefree and happy summer where they can return to sports and some sense of normal living. It has been tough on them living through the lockdowns and having so much taken away from them. I would like to wish you all a very happy Summer and express my thanks again to you for your support throughout this year.

Mr. B. Daly, Principal



FCJ Bunclody

Summer Newsletter



Awards Day Wednesday 26th May 2021

Academic & Non-Academic Awards

Ag. Science: Katelynn Cowman

Art (L.C) Ealaigh Ciocan

Art (J.C): Hannah Lynam Pedoe, Emma Murphy, Eileen Rigley

Chemistry: Oisin O’Ceallaigh

Construction Studies: Emer Byrne, Paul Doran, Brian Murphy

DCG: Troy Kinch Randell

Engineering (L.C.): Aaron Smyth

Home Economics: Olivia Brywczynska

Music: Muireann Deegan

Physics: Emer Byrne

Technical Graphics: Tom Tully, Jimmy Carroll

Technology (J.C.): Niamh Donohoe

Attendance Award: Darragh Bolger, Aoife Dunne, Barry Nolan, Daire O’Gorman,

Laurence Perry, Kyle Plunkett, Troy Kinch Randell, Molly Kearns

Pat Connaughton Arts Award: Alannah Wilson

Endeavour Award: Aoife Carroll, Ciara Ashton

Outstanding Contribution to Student Life: Ben Holmes, Ciara Doyle

Sports Awards

Basketball: Katie Breen Sherlock

Senior Camogie Player of the year: Yvonne Kelly

Footballer of the year: Ciaran Regan

Senior Hurler of the year: Oisin O’Ceallaigh

Senior Ladies Football: Lisa Kelly

Special Sports Award: Nora Mcginty

Sports Endeavour Award: Aine Redmond

Sports Personality: Matthew Ging

Good Fellowship Award



The Good Fellowship Award is the most prestigious award and the greatest honour that the school can bestow on a 6th year student. The winner joins a select group of past pupils who have been worthy recipients of this award over the years. The outstanding display of personal qualities and support for school values have added to the integrity of this award. The winner is chosen by their fellow 6th year students and staff. They are asked to vote for someone who has leadership qualities, good interpersonal skills, school involvement and moral courage.

Good Fellowship Award Winner 2021: **Sarah Doyle**

The Marie Madeleine Medal

Truth Justice and Respect



A Prestigious new award for a **Junior Cycle** student. This new award will debut at the 2021 Awards Day ceremony.

It is not an academic award but one which recognises the core values of our FCJ ethos as displayed and practised by our students.

It is an award that seeks to recognise and acknowledge achievements in the area of companionship, compassion, kindness and leadership in our junior students.



Marie Madeleine Award Winner:
Grainne Lambert

Pictured with:

Ms. C. Grufferty and Mr. B. Daly, Principal

Academic & Non-Academic Awards



Alannah Wilson



Aoife Carroll



Ben Holmes



Oisín O'Ceallaigh



Aaron Smyth



Olivia Brywczynska



Brian Murphy



Troy Kinch Randell



Emer Byrne



Paul Doran



Muireann Deegan



Katelynn Cowman



Laura Ciocan



Yvonne Kelly



Katie Breen Sherlock



Ciara Doyle



Ciara Ashton



Green School News Update



This year, FCJ is applying for our Green Schools Water Flag. The Green School's Committee has compiled some interesting facts and tips about water which we would like to share with you.

Did you Know?

- Over 90% of seabirds have plastic in their stomachs.
- 2.2 billion people lack access to safe drinking water.
- Everyday 2 million tonnes of sewage are released into water globally, this equals the weight of 6.8 billion people.
- More people die from contaminated water yearly than from war and other violence.

Let's Save Water - One Drop at a Time

- Fully fill appliances such as the washing machine.
- Keep a jug of water in the fridge to drink.
- Use a basin in the sink to collect water from the tap.
- Water plants early in the morning or late at night so the water won't evaporate.

REMEMBER our Code 'Water is Life'.

If you have any Advice/Support

Please get in touch through the School Office

We Appreciate Your Support



Collecting litter, Caring for our environment

On the afternoon of May 11th, a group of Transition Year students went litter picking in Bunclody town as a part of our work as Green School's Water Ambassadors. We spent time collecting as much litter as we could find throughout the town, splitting into groups to cover the most ground.

Ms. Hughes and Ms. Rooney joined us as we spent the afternoon collecting litter, brightening up the streets of Bunclody! Through litter picking, we as Water Ambassadors aim to prevent any plastic or waste from entering our area's rivers and waterways, and overall, make our planet a cleaner place to live.

This was a part of our Water campaign that we have been carrying out in the school over the last year as a Green School's committee. As well as litter collecting, we have carried out many other activities, including leak tests, plastic bottle bans, putting up water awareness posters throughout the school and attending Green School's training sessions. Through all of this, we are working towards earning the school's Water flag. Overall, as a committee, we want to highlight the importance of water conservation in FCJ.

By the time we had returned to school, we had collected several bags full of litter and had lots of fun as a committee!

(Caoimhe Busher, FCJ Water Ambassador)



TRANSITION YEAR



Transition Year rounded off the year with various workshops in Mountain Biking, Golf Lessons, Cosmology Workshop and Drumming Workshop.



Transition Year Healthy Eating Group

Transition Year Healthy Eating Group reminded us of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle with a powerpoint presentation to the whole school and colourful displays around the school.

Artwork by: Caoimhe Busher, Amy Collier, Ella Whelan, Emma Byrne, Edelle Morrissey, Roisin Morrissey and Jenna Byrne.



Money Smart Challenge

On Wednesday, 25 April two teams of fifth year economics students took part in the Regional Finals of the Bank of Ireland Money Smart Challenge, presented by TV personalities James Patrice and Lottie Ryan. The banking and economics themed quiz consisted of questions about calculating interest rates, naming political figures and general economics knowledge. Due to Covid-19 the quiz took place over zoom and the students answered the questions using an iPad quiz app. While neither team made it through to the final, both teams performed very well and enjoyed the competition. Economics is all about how our money is used. It is a very interesting and enjoyable subject. If you have ever wondered 'Why can't they just print more money?' or 'Where does our money actually go?' economics is the subject for you. Economics is broken into two categories, Microeconomics - what we do with money, and Macroeconomics - how the Government and everyone as a whole uses money. In sixth year there is also a research project worth 20% of the final grade based on a set topic.

End of Year Prayer Service

Our school watched a recording of a Prayer Service to mark the end of the school year on Wednesday 19th May. Here is a blessing from the service:

Reflection: 'Go with God'

Go with God. This is a summer prayer for you.

Take it with you and keep it in your mind and heart.

As you leave school for the summer, and you lay aside textbooks and notebooks and pencils and pens, Go with God, for God goes with you.

As you begin new projects, as you meet and make new friends, Go with God, God will guide you.

As you enjoy the summer sun and the summer's cool blue waters, Be wise and safe. Respect the beauty of the earth as God's gift to you, and go with God, for God has created you.

As you go to quiet places to reflect and to pray, to enjoy the peace, And the beauty of private space and time off, Go with God, for God always goes with you.



**ENJOY
Summer
SAFELY**