

News Update October 2016

Ardscoil na Mara

Summerhill Rise, Tramore, Co. Waterford

<http://www.ardscoilnamara.ie> T: 051 395 124



Upcoming Events

21st November
Transition Year students travel to the Theatre Royal for a production of 'Psycho Spaghetti'.

24th November 3rd Year parent teacher meeting.

Teaching and Learning

Our 6th Year students are continuing to sit an assessment in each subject every month. This initiative sees a continuous assessment model take over from a Christmas exam. Each student will see a progression in each subject while teacher feedback each month will allow them to make informed decisions around study and examination levels.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The academic year is passing quickly and as the evenings close in, talk in the corridors turns to Christmas examinations. We would like to take this opportunity to wish the very best of luck to all students sitting exams in the coming weeks.

October was a very busy month for the students of Ardscoil na Mara both inside and outside the classroom. The diversity of activities engaged in by our students illustrates the energy, talent and commitment of students within the school community.

We hope you enjoy taking a few minutes to read about some of the activities that your son or daughter has had the opportunity to engage in during the month of October.

P. Cawley, M. Jefford & A. Leahy

Latest News

Halloween Celebration

Students and staff at Ardscoil na Mara got into the spirit of Halloween on Friday 28/10/2016. A Halloween party was organised for all First Year students to reward them for their behaviour and enthusiastic involvement in the school community.



Fr Michael Toomey gave a presentation on the John Paul II Awards during the month. This initiative allows all senior students to volunteer in social and parish work within the local community.

Students from junior and senior cycle will be attending the Comhairle Na nÓg AGM where they will meet other students and discuss issues and concerns relevant to them and the wider community.

Student Council

The following students have been elected to the student council.

Lauren Brophy and Billy Walsh, 1st Year.

Ava Dineen and Oisín Keating, 2nd Year.

Ava Falconer and Keelan Dunne, 3rd Year.

Caitlin Roche and Patrick Batho, Transition Year.

Laura Halley and Doire Hennessy, 5th Year.

Allie Hanway and Marcin Sypyrin, LCA.

Sadie Mai Rowe and Jack Kelly, 6th Year.

School Open Night

Ardcoil na Mara hosted a very successful Open Night on 26/10/2016. The school was packed with eager 6th class students and their parents. Mr. Cawley addressed the guests, outlining the curriculum and diverse range of activities on offer at Ardcoil na Mara. He also highlighted the caring atmosphere which exists within the school community and detailed the various supports that will be provided to prospective First Year students. The students and their parents were then invited to tour the school, meet the teachers and experience a wide range of classroom activities and experiments. Thank you to all who attended on the night.



Ardcoil FM

Some of our Transition Year students have been successfully broadcasting a new school radio show 'Ardcoil FM', which has been running throughout the month of October. Broadcasting from the stage in the foyer, they have two full time teams consisting of a producer, 3 presenters, 2 sound engineers and a runner. The show goes live every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch time and creates a fantastic atmosphere in the foyer. Each daily show is 35 minutes long and looks at what's making the news and playing songs sourced from requests submitted by students. Well done to all involved.



Members of the Ardcoil FM team in action

Creative Engagement Showcase Exhibition in IMMA

A group of 5th and 6th year students travelled to the Irish Museum of Modern Art in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham to exhibit their art work as part of the Creative Engagement Showcase Exhibition. Our students got the opportunity to speak about their art work and their experience of working with our artist in residence Sharon Fleming. Michael Starrett CEO of the Heritage Council and Paul Byrne, President of the NAPD visited the exhibits in the company of NAPD Director Clive Byrne and Arts and Culture chairperson Mary Hanley. Each year, schools from all over Ireland produce projects in conjunction with a local artist who comes into the school and imparts their skills, knowledge and enthusiasm to the students. This programme strives to encourage creativity, initiative and expression in our students and to complement curricular learning in the arts. Ardscoil na Mara were delighted to welcome back Ceramic Artist, Sharon Fleming, from WY Arts to work with our students. They got the opportunity to learn how to throw a pot on a pottery wheel and also designed and hand built a ceramic piece.



Students Ella Daly, Rebecca Spillane, Mr Dermot Carney NAPD and Miss Driver Art Teacher at the Creative Engagement showcase exhibition at IMMA.

Maths Week Ireland, October 15th to 23rd 2016

Students and staff at Ardscoil na Mara took an active part in 'Maths Week Ireland 2016' during the month of October. Our Transition Year students, in conjunction with their Maths teachers, developed and managed a number of activities ranging from countdown numbers games to maze activities.



1st yr students enjoying Maths games in Ardscoil na Mara organised by our T.Y students as part of the activities taking place this week in the school for national Maths Week

Transition Year News

4th Year Activities

The 4D class took in the sights of Tramore during the month of October with Dermot Blount of 'Tramore Bike Tours'. The students were taken through a safety briefing on the bicycles and then cycled off into the sunrise.

All Transition Year classes were treated to a drama and choreography workshop during the month. Pat Grant from 'WAMA' put them through their paces, each student took part in a class dance and lots of drama through fun and games.

The Architects in schools program also began this month with 20 Transition Year students participating this year. Devised and delivered by the 'Irish Architecture Foundation', this initiative provides students with first-hand experience of the design process under the guidance of architect Emily Power. She will visit the school for 8 weeks and hopefully inspire some future budding architects.

Transition Year students from Ardscoil na Mara went on a trip to the Great Escape and the Viking Triangle during the month. Students worked in small teams to solve a series of mysteries and puzzles. Participation was excellent and students reported that they really enjoyed the day.



News in Brief

King Lear

A group of 5th Year English students and their teachers travelled to Waterford to see the Royal Shakespeare Company's current production of "King Lear" in the Odeon cinema on Wednesday night, 12th October.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Members of the Peace and Justice Group are working on raising awareness for the shoebox appeal in the school. "This year's Christmas Shoebox Appeal aims to spread the joy of Christmas with children in need in Africa and East Europe. To get involved, pack a shoebox, wrap it and put €4 in the envelope provided in the Team Hope leaflets, then drop it off to SF23 to Ms. Denton before 18/11/2016."

Sports Update

Senior Hurling

In a repeat of last year's final Ardscoil na Mara faced a very strong St Pauls team in St. Saviours GAA grounds at the beginning of October. Ardscoil were missing no fewer than 8 players from last year's starting 15 while St Pauls had almost the same 15 as last year so this was always going to be a tough game. The teams could not be separated after sixty minutes and extra time was required. Ardscoil pulled away during extra time and ran out winners by 9 points. Well done lads!



Girls Rugby

The Ardscoil na Mara girls rugby team travelled to Tipperary to take on Rockwell College in the IRFU GX7s series. The grass was wet and the sky was just clearing up after a rainy morning. Rockwell started the game the better with four first half tries. Early in the second half Caoimhe Coleman scored a great try for Ardscoil na Mara finishing off a well worked team move, Jessica Flynn then went on to score a tremendous try and Tobi Siloko showed her skills scoring two superbly taken tries. The first game saw Rockwell win 7 tries to 4 despite a spirited performance from the Ardscoil girls in the second half.

The second game of the series saw Ardscoil na Mara play the second team from Rockwell College. This time the girls would not be defeated, they showed great determination and skill and were victorious on a score line of 9 tries to 4. Well done to all who participated.

(Article written by Sally Kelly and Jenny McMahon TY students)



News in Brief

Athletics News

Congratulations to Shane Monagle, Ardscoil na Mara who finished 4th in the Munster Athletics Multi Events competition held in Cork on Wednesday the 5th of October. He has qualified for the All Irelands which will be held in Athlone.

Under 14 Gaelic Football

Well done to the boys Under 14 Gaelic football team who were victorious over Dungarvan CBS winning 3-16 to 3-4.

Girls Soccer

Ardscoil na Mara girls soccer teams continue to train after school every Friday. During the month of October our junior team lost out to a very strong Christ the King team in the first round of the Munster Cup while our seniors had a fantastic win over WCFE.

Basketball

Our Under 16 and Under 19 girl's basketball teams made it two out of two wins in the South East league this week with victories over Waterpark.

The Under 16s had a tight game until the last quarter where they stepped up their game to win by 14. Enid Dumevi subbed up from the 2nd Year team to top score for the team and she was on fire in the last quarter to take the game home.

Next up was the under 19 team who played their heart out to build up a very strong lead. Leah Barry controlled the game at point guard and Sarah Smith and Hannah Grimes led on the score board.

