



MCS... An active Health Promoting School

Health Promoting Schools coordinators Ms Patrice Smyth and Ms Michelle Delaney are now in the process of applying for formal recognition for our work in health promotion since 2013.

Work in the area of health promotion since 2013 has included:

- **Couch to 5k initiative.** This walk involved on average 200 students and a large number of staff completing a 3K walk during lunchtime two days per week.
- **Weekly cycles** on our local greenway.
- **Mental health and bullying talks** for all year groups.
- **Health seminars** on physical and mental health.
- **Promotion of a healthy lifestyle** all around our school and inside our classrooms.
- **SPHE team** continuously delivering workshops to students on areas such as phone safety, healthy eating, physical

health, smoking and alcohol.

- **Relationships and sexuality** talks for all First Year students.

The co-ordinators and members of the committee are working hard to document all the work that is ongoing in Moate Community School. Our dedicated committee includes students, staff and parents. If you are interested in joining this exciting team please don't hesitate in contacting Ms Delaney or Ms Smyth.

First Year students enjoy Tayto Park

A record number of First Year students have entered the doors of MCS this year. They have settled in very well and our school would like to welcome them all.

The transition from primary to secondary school is a huge one and can be a difficult one. In order to aid this transition First Year students and their Tutors and Yearhead went on a "bonding day" to Tayto Park in Ashbourne, Co. Meath on Friday, September 16th.

All students had access to all the

rides open on the day and very quickly the adventurous souls were separated from those not so adventurous ones!! Students enjoyed rollercoaster rides and a stroll around the park in the autumn sun. Students got a chance to mix with all class groups and new friendships were formed and old ones cemented.

A most enjoyable day was had by all and teachers involved commented on the excellent cooperation given by students on the day.



First Year students taking time out at Tayto Park.

NEW TEACHERS IN MOATE COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Clodagh Kelly
I.T.



Diarmuid Lenehan
Maths and Applied Maths



Elizabeth Conway
I.T.



Eoin Manning
Religion & English



Michael Costello
Career Guidance

BT YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Congratulations to the following students whose projects have been selected for the BT Young Scientists exhibition in January 2017:

Ronan Murphy and Gerard O'Reilly with their project *"Can plants lead the way to unleaded soil?"*; Lorna Boland with her project *"Can bees be the answer?"*; Nicole Murray and Jenny Fox with *"Growing plants for nutrition in space"*; Jessica Okpeaye *"The wonders of red palm oil"*.

Five other projects were submitted but unfortunately did not succeed in getting through to the Exhibition. Seán O'Flaherty,

Tina Geoghegan & Nicholas Hamm – *Investigating the effectiveness of over the counter medicines with other medicines and food*. Euan McDonnell – *A replacement for the electric fencing in farming pastures*. Rian Rasmussen – *An investigation into the Efficiency and Environmental Impact on various Irish energy sources*. Cian Fanning & Joe Ennis - *An investigation of Supertasks and the problems associated with them*. Fiona Broderick – *Water*. Well done to all students and teachers involved and best of luck in the preparations for the exhibition!



TY students who proposed projects for BT Young Scientists.

Back: Jessica Okpeaye, Gerard Carroll, Cian Fanning, Sean O'Flaherty, Rian Rasmussen, Nicholas Hamm. Front: Lorna Boland, Jenny Fox, Nicole Murray, Fiona Broderick, Tina Geoghegan, Euan McDonnell. Absent from photo: Ronan Murphy and Joe Ennis.

TY STUDENTS TACKLE THE COURSE AT BAY SPORTS

On Friday, the 16th of September, TY students headed on an outing to Bay Sports, Athlone. On arrival, students were fitted with wetsuits and life jackets, and then split into three groups. The days events involved kayaking, stand up paddling and team building exercises. Following this students participated in Dragon Boating and later came the highlight of the day - Ireland's largest inflatable water park!! Students climbed the different obstacles to reach one of the many slides and then plunged into the cold lake water. It was an exhilarating experience.



Ben O'Brien and his crew.



TY students on the water at Hodson Bay.

SENIOR ART STUDENTS TRAVEL TO NEWGRANGE

On Tuesday the 14th of September both 5th and 6th Year art students visited Newgrange in Co. Meath. With beautiful weather the students were able to explore both the interpretive centre and the monument itself.

Over 5,000 years ago the people of the Boyne valley built this monument. Its size and sophistication had never been seen up to this point in Europe. Newgrange together with the two other great passage tombs of Bru na Boinne and Knowth and Dowth, is one of the greatest achievements in Irish history.



The students got to see a simulation of the light from the winter solstice on December 21st where for 17 minutes the sunlight enters the roof box over the entrance and lights up the chamber.

SENIORS DEBATE TOPICS OF CONCERN

Students from our Senior Debating Team were delighted to participate in the Concern Debating Workshop held in the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone on Wednesday, October 5th. The long running debate competition held annually by Concern is now so popular that not all schools are afforded the opportunity to take part.

6th Year students Nia Murray, Owen Cuskelly and Chloe McMahon and Transition Year Deborah Fakeye joined students from the Westmeath and Roscommon region for the day in preparation for the upcoming heats of the competition. The students had an opportunity to speak out on topics as diverse as selfies to the French burkini ban.

In a society where adults often complain that teenagers don't care enough about issues not concerning them, it is heartening to see adolescents so passionate about current affairs and making a difference.

MCS take on Mercy Convent, Kilbeggan on Thursday, October 27th.

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY 2016

All language students united this year at MCS to provide what was truly a wonderful celebration of cultures. Spanish, French, and Irish students worked hard to provide a rich tapestry of culture in the form of posters, banners, flags and music. Language, art, history, geography and festivals, were just a few of the many cultural aspects promoted in this celebration. Students prepared traditional cuisine for all to sample and enjoy. The Irish department entertained us all with some lively traditional Irish music. The day was a wonderful success and a clear indication that cultural awareness is thriving at MCS.



Deborah, Emer, Lorna and Rachel help out!

Geography Field Trip

The 2017 Leaving Certificate class participated in a field trip that took them to the river valley site at Ballykeeran. The focus of the trip centred on the impact of transportation and deposition on the formation of a fluvial feature. Key investigative techniques were employed to investigate the impact of these processes on the formation of a meander on the Breensford River. Fifty seven pupils actively engaged in data sampling, recording and analysis on the day. These activities are a critical part of our geography curriculum and further develop an appreciation and awareness of the geological and natural features within our locality. The emphasis on team work and cooperative learning was equally important. Especially when considering incidence of loss of balance! Although the weather was initially a challenge, it improved in the afternoon and proved to be a very productive day.

The venue continues to be a perfect site for key exploration and our continued thanks to John for the use of the facilities at Athlone Lough Ree East Camping & Caravan Park.

Right: Jordan Nugent and Sinead Fagan on the Geography Field Trip.



SWIM SUCCESS

Bryan Scully, a 16 year old student in Moate CS competed in the Division 1 All-Ireland swimming competition in July 2016. Bryan was victorious in two races bringing home the gold medals in the 4 x 100m freestyle and the 4 x 50m freestyle. Bryan was the youngest member in the team and made the 50m final alongside Shane Ryan, an Olympic qualifier.

Following this, in October 2016 at the Castlebar Gala, Bryan also won gold in the 100m breaststroke in the men's final. Bryan was awarded gym membership for the year 2016/2017 and is currently the captain of the Athlone Swim Club. Congratulations to Bryan on all of his achievements.



MCS GRADUATION 2016



Caroline Al-Salibi, Pamela Kowalska and Nikola Kowalska.



Eoin Heavin, Roisin Muldoon and Mr Lowry.



Joe Daly Lowry and Lauren Allen.

CONCERN REPRESENTATIVE VISITS MCS STUDENTS

Recently Sorcha Grisewood (Concern Ireland Schools and Youth Fundraising Officer) visited MCS and provided an Information Workshop on the work that the Concern organisation carry out. Sorcha discussed the work they do and where the organisation carry out their work, she mentioned that the recent tragedy in Haiti meant that Concern was one of the first organisations on the ground in terms of providing aid. The students were introduced then to the concept of hunger with the shocking statistic that 1 in 7 people in our world are considered hungry. Concern educate communities in up-to-date farming techniques, they provide communities with crops, seeds and tools, and reduce vulnerability to droughts and enable communities to have better access to water. Sorcha reminded the pupils' that Concern are still as active in Syria as they were this time last year, they support Syrian refugees by providing clean water and hygiene kits. Sorcha finished by encouraging the students and teachers of MCS to take part in the National Concern Fast on Nov. 24th this year and to explore www.concern.net



Mr. Lowry, Ms. Prendergast, Sorcha Grisewood and Ms. Neilan pictured with students after Concern talk.

SENIOR BOYS FOOTBALL

MCS VS. ROCHFORTBRIDGE

MCS seniors recently went on the road for the first time this year. The rain had eased off but the surface was greasy for the players so a tough physical game was expected. Moate started the stronger, led by Sean Farrell, who had scored 3 points before Rochfortbridge registered a score of their own. The home side got the difference back to one point before Sean Pettit struck for a goal to give Moate a solid advantage. Rochfortbridge pointed again before Moate hit a purple patch, Pettit getting 1-1 and Sean Clinton also chipping in with a point. Rochfortbridge popped over a point and Ben Cox did the same as Moate went in at the half seven points up, 2-6 to 0-5 the score.

The game finished 2-10 to 1-7 as Moate ran out winners despite an unconvincing finish to the game. However the win makes it two victories in two matches in the league for the defending champions. **Team:** Jordan Nugent, Cathal Byrne, Luke Gavin-Mangan, Charlie Parker, Kieran Hartnett, Paul Gorman, Ciaran Kelly, Daniel Heavin (0-1), Sean Clinton (0-1), Lorcan Daly, David Fleming, Jack Bradbury-Hughes, Sean Farrell (0-3),

Sean Pettit (2-3), Ben Cox (0-2). **Subs:** David Mullins for Hartnett, Liam O'Neill for Gorman, Cameron Monaghan for Bradbury-Hughes.

MCS VS. ST. MEL'S, LONGFORD

On Wednesday the 5th of October, Moate set out to contest their first league game of the year. As they won the league last year expectations were high and Moate were looking to impress in front of a home crowd. After an exciting closely contested game of football, Moate ran out winners on a scoreline of 4-13 to 3-11. A solid victory, but tougher tests lie ahead for the team. The next league game is away to Rochfortbridge.

Team: Jordan Nugent, Liam O'Neill, Luke Gavin-Mangan, Charlie Parker, Kieran Hartnett, Paul Gorman, Ciaran Kelly, Daniel Heavin, Sean Clinton, Ben Cox, David Fleming (1-1, 1f), Harry Cornally (0-1), Sean Farrell (0-1), Robert Forde (2-4, 2f), Sean Pettit (1-5, 1f). **Subs:** David Mullins for Kelly, Cathal Byrne (0-1) for O'Neill, Pdraig Nestor for Cox, Jack Bradbury-Hughes for Cornally, Lorcan Daly for Forde (black card).



GOLF

David Fleming (6), Jack Bradbury Hughes (5), and Peter O'Kelly Lynch narrowly missed out on qualification to the Leinster strokeplay finals recently. Qualification for this event took place in Naas at Craddockstown Golf Club and despite some brilliant scoring from our boys they missed out by a couple of shots. The next event for our Senior golfers is the inter schools match play, where they will be joined by Sean Clinton (7) to make up a four man team to compete against Mullingar CBS, Killina and Clara.



Moate CS Golfers: Jack Bradbury Hughes, David Fleming and Jack O'Kelly Lynch.

Senior Girls just fall short of toppling All-Ireland A Champions

LIDL SENIOR A POST PRIMARY SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Our Senior Ladies Football team kicked off their championship season competing in the Senior A grade this year following on from their Senior B Leinster victory last year. Their debut game was against Coláiste Iosagáin of Dublin. Kitted out in the new Lidl jerseys, our ladies faced the Irish speaking school from Dublin.

Moate CS had home advantage. The game proved to be a very exciting and close

encounter but unfortunately despite great play and 100 percent effort it was not to be Moate's day.

Final Score:

5:6 MCS to 1:19 Coláiste Iosagáin.

Team: Therese Robbins, Emma Kelly, Ann Marie Moran, Nicola McCormack, Niamh Palmer, Therese Geoghegan, Ciara Heavin, Amy Gavin-Mangan, Roisin Ennis, Mary Harkin, Leanne Slevin, Tara Hughes, Maria O'Donoghue, Chloe Butler & Emma Collins.



Kicking off the year with a great win!!

The MCS Under 16 girls team kicked off the year winning their first match against St. Mary's, New Ross, Co. Wexford. The game took place on Wednesday the 12th of October in Stradbally. Moate started strongly scoring 1-2 in the opening minutes of the game. The Moate girls continued to work very hard and the half time score read Moate 3-10 New Ross 1-6. This tally included great scores from Hazel Hughes, Leah Quigley, Aoife Dalton, Ailbhe Sheridan and Sinéad Robbins.

Moate continued their excellent support play in the second half and created numerous opportunities for the forward line to generate scores. Wing forward Maria O'Donoghue scored two excellent points from play, followed by a point each from midfielders Áine

Gaynor and Roisin Ennis. Aoife Dalton, scored again, shooting for the top left corner followed by a goal by Maria O'Donoghue. Moate got a penalty approaching full time, and yet again Aoife Dalton added a goal to the scoreboard.

Two more points came from Leah Quigley and Ailbhe Sheridan before the final whistle. New Ross did not add to their score of 1-6 in the second half leaving the full time score at 6-16 to 1-6.

Panel: Fiona Fox, Clodagh McCormack, Anne Marie Moran, Emily McCabe, Therese Robbins, Therese Geoghegan, Emma Kelly, Roisin Ennis, Áine Gaynor,



Marie O'Donoghue, Leah Quigley, Sinead Robbins, Hazel Hughes, Aoife Dalton, Ailbhe Sheridan, Lauren Claffey, Orla Robbins, Rachel Butler, Ruth Martin, Hannah Lynam, Maria Farrell.