



Kerry ETB 1916 Schools Event

Commemorating the Past and Celebrating the Present through Music and the Arts (1916-2016)

By Margaret Godley & Miranda Courname

Over 250 students attended the Kerry Education and Training Board 1916 Commemoration Event on Tuesday April 12th in The Rose Hotel in Tralee.

The event was co-hosted by Kerry Music Education Partnership, a music education initiative led by Kerry ETB, in partnership with Kerry County Council, the Institute of Technology Tralee, Ealain na Gaeltachta, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service and a number of local youth organisations and music educators.

The day-long event opened with a short screening of a section from the Gael Linn film *Mise Éire*, which provided Kerry ETB students with a background to the historical events of the Easter Rising. Students then moved to a number of parallel performance spaces throughout the hotel, to partake in a series of competitions commemorating 1916. Students presented their original work in creative writing, public speaking, film, music composition, drama, poetry and visual art. Categories were judged by a panel of experts, who awarded prizes at junior and senior level. Winning students across the various categories were presented with certificates.

The afternoon Music & Arts Performance Event, which was opened by Kerry County Council Arts Officer, Kate Kennelly, comprised a Celebration of 2016 through performances in musical theatre, traditional music, choral singing, sean nós dance, contemporary dance, original composition and vocal & instrumental ensembles, by students from Castleisland Community College, Causeway Comprehensive, Coláiste Gleann Lí, Coláiste na Ríochta, Coláiste na Sceilge, Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí, Killarney Community College and Killorglin Community College. The Take Note Music project managed by Kerry Music Education Partnership was also represented by students, many of whom had never performed in public before. An audio visual installation, by students from IT Tralee, highlighted the ongoing work of this exciting music education initiative (www.kerrytakenote.ie).

Colm Mc Evoy, CEO of Kerry ETB, opened the event and emphasised that “this is a remarkable time for students in the history of the Irish State. The 1916 Commemoration has provided an opportunity for our students to become immersed in Irish history in a way

that will probably not happen again for another 100 years. Our teachers and students have embraced this experience with enthusiasm, creativity and passion. We in Kerry ETB are immensely proud of the talent and creativity which was on show today and we know they will treasure this experience.”

According to Education Officer, Ann O'Dwyer, “Our students and their teachers are an excellent example of what the 1916 patriots envisioned for a new Ireland in 1916. Our schools pride themselves on being inclusive, caring and innovative, committed to nurturing critical thinking, quality standards and a love of Irish culture and the arts. We have 8 post primary schools throughout the county and today was an opportunity to give expression to the ongoing achievements of the schools. I'm certain that all students participating today will remember this very special occasion long into the future.”

In September 2016, Kerry ETB will host the national ETBI Conference in Killarney, where some of the winners from the event will again perform in front of a national audience of representatives from ETBs across the country.

continued on page 3





Chief Executive Officer



2015/16 has been a very busy and progressive year for Kerry Education and Training Board (Kerry ETB) and this is reflected in this year's newsletter with articles covering all areas of the Education and Training provision across the scheme. Over the past year there have been many highlights and achievements in our Schools and Centres and it is very important as we prepare for the end of the year that we collectively reflect on the year that has passed.

Bliain ghnóthach agus fhorásach a bhí in 2015/16 i mBord Oideachais agus Oiliúna Chiarraí agus tá sé sin le feiceáil sa nuachtlitr. Tá altanna ann faoi gach réimse oibre de chuid an Bhoird. Bhí go leor buaicphointí agus éachtaí déanta inár Scoileanna agus inár nIonaid agus tá sé an-tábhachtach go ndéanfaimis machnamh le chéile ar an mbliain seo agus í anois ag druidim chun deiridh.

A very special feature of this year has been the national and local celebration of the Centenary of 1916. On March 7th our Schools attended the National Flag Presentation Ceremony in Croke Park and on April 12th locally we had the culmination of our celebrations at scheme level with the Kerry ETB 1916 Commemorations Celebrations through Music and the Arts. I wish to thank our Education Officer Ann O'Dwyer for providing the leadership necessary in ensuring that our Students were provided with a collective opportunity to celebrate 1916 and give expression to this celebration through creative writing, public speaking, film, music composition, drama, poetry and visual art. Great credit and thanks is due to all of the members of the Organising Committee and our Partner Organisations for this very successful Event that will live long in the memories of all involved.

The Further Education and Training (FET) provision has experienced a period of very significant change in recent years. In 2014 we had the transfer and integration of the training function into the ETB, during 2014, 2015 and 2016 we have been through a period of transition and we are now entering the transformation phase of this cycle. Over the past 12 months levels of provision has continued to develop and expand and great credit is due to all members of Staff involved in the management and delivery of Courses across the full spectrum of our FET Programme in the County. This summer a Director of Services for FET will be appointed to the scheme and the appointee will be pivotal in leading the team with the future development of FET across the scheme in the years ahead.

Each year plans are drawn up and targets are set for all aspects of the service and during 2015/16 many targets have been achieved, including:

- The inclusion of the new school building for Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí on the School Building Programme and the transfer of the site from Kerry County Council for the new school building.
- The excellent results and achievements of our Students in all the Schools across the scheme which we celebrated on January 15th 2016 with the Annual Student Awards Ceremony.
- The provision of FET Courses to over 12,000 Learners across the County and the successful hosting on May 12th 2016 of the Further Education and Training Fair.
- The relocation of our Head Office to modern new offices at Centrepoint, Tralee.
- The roll out of the All Staff Email across the scheme.

All ETBs are required under legislation to develop a 5-year Development Plan (Strategy Statement). The development of our 5-year Plan will commence later this year. This process will involve extensive consultation with Staff and External Stakeholders as we endeavor to set out the roadmap for the development over the next 5 years. All members of Staff will be kept fully apprised of developments with this process and I look forward to your input into this process.

During the year we had a number of Staff who retired. I extend our collective thanks and appreciation to Colleagues who are retiring. Your departure is a great loss to the Organisation and I wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement. I wish to thank all members of the ETB Board, the Schools and Centres Boards of Management, members of the Parents Forum and Parents Councils for all their support over the year. Across our Schools and Centres all members of Staff work tirelessly to ensure that our Students / Learners reach their potential. I wish to thank each member of Staff for your hard work and dedication to creating an excellent learning environment for our Students / Learners. If you have not visited the new offices in Tralee, you are most welcome to call in at any time. In life it is often said the more things change the more they stay the same and for education and training provision despite the recent period of change the key driver for all of our provision on a daily basis remains as it has been for decades - meeting the needs of our Students / Learners and ensuring that each Student / Learner reaches their potential. A special word of thanks to all our Students and Learners who have participated in our Programmes over the year and I wish all Students preparing for examinations and assessments every success.

Finally, in Kerry ETB we have an excellent Staff Team in our Head Office and I extend my gratitude to Ann O'Dwyer and all the Team for their continued dedication and commitment during 2015/16.

Buíochas ó chroí le gach éinne a bhí páirteach in ullmhú na nuachtlitreach seo. Mo cheol sibh.

Colm Mc Evoy
Chief Executive Officer

Irish Language Officer



Mise Aoife Ní Chonchúir agus is cúis áthais dom é go bhfuil mé fostaithe ag BÓO Chiarraí mar Oifigeach Gaeilge le tamall de mhíonna anuas. This is the first time Kerry ETB has employed an Irish Language Officer and I look forward to exploring the different ways in which the ETB can support and promote the use of Irish across its Schools and Centres and by extension across the wider society in Kerry. Personally and professionally it gives me great satisfaction to be part of an organisation with the reach and resources of the

ETB and utilising those resources for the good of the Irish language. I'm thinking in particular of two areas to focus on, both with different needs.

(i) Gaeltacht Communites: We are privileged in Kerry to have two Gaeltacht areas in our county - Corca Dhuibhne and Uíbh Ráthach. The existing network of Irish speakers in those communities would greatly benefit from access to targeted services to help maintain those communities.



(ii) The Wider Community: We can create networks of speakers in the wider community in County Kerry by increasing the opportunities for using Irish, as well as helping to increase levels of competency in the language.

It is a cultural and social bonus for us in Kerry to have two Gaeltacht communities in our County and we must be cognisant of our responsibility to support those communities. The latest research shows us that the Gaeltacht is in the grip of a linguistic crisis and that if current patterns continue, Irish will cease to be used as a community language within ten years (Ó Giollagáin, 2015). What that means is that if young people aren't using the language socially amongst themselves, that they are then unlikely to raise their own children with Irish when the time comes. It follows then that future generations will be raised as English speakers. The reasons for language shift from the minority language to the dominant language are complex but can be reduced to the simple idea that the more areas in your life that operate in a particular language, the more useful that language is and the more dominant that language becomes in your life. Conversely, when there are less opportunities ('language domains' in linguistic terms) to use a particular language, a lower level of fluency is attained, even by native speakers, making language maintenance difficult. In light of that understanding, Kerry ETB is considering the type of services it delivers in the Gaeltacht and the way in which it delivers them, and I feel that Kerry ETB's involvement in the Gaeltacht can offer a great support to language planning efforts that already exist there. Thinking of the Gaeltacht communities, I would see two types of services that Kerry ETB can provide (i) language-based training (for children, teenagers, schools, adults working through the medium of Irish) and (ii) general community education programmes. If these programmes can be delivered through Irish then the language domains where Irish can be used are increased and the language shift can be challenged.

Meanwhile, outside the Gaeltacht, there is potential throughout the county to increase the use of Irish. I'm thinking in particular of students who attend Gaelscoileanna; of their parents who might like to attend courses so that they can, for example, help their children with their homework; of members of the public who would like to learn Irish out of interest and of those who would like to attend cultural events through Irish. I see potential for the ETB having a role in creating links between students who attend different Irish-medium schools, providing training and support for their teachers and raising standards in literacy in Irish in schools. I was very impressed with the Schools Event commemorating 1916 organised by Kerry ETB. The Commemoration Event showcased the ETB's skills in inspiring people to create and participate and contribute at a high standard. How inspiring it would be to create a similar Schools Event through Irish, utilising the ETB's skills for the benefit of the Irish language in our schools.

Meanwhile, back in Head-Office, a language course for staff has begun. The course is aligned with an official language development framework, Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge, and learners can take an exam at the end of a course of study and gain certification in the language. Also, Kerry ETB has a strong Language Scheme in place - this Scheme is being actively implemented at the moment. Over the coming year I would like to see increased visibility of Irish in Kerry ETB, more opportunities for staff training in Irish and training in language awareness so as to better support Kerry ETB's role in language planning efforts in the County. Kerry ETB staff are welcome to contact me with questions or ideas email: anic@kerryetb.ie. I look forward to hearing from you.

Aoife Ní Chonchúir

continued from front cover

Kerry ETB wishes to warmly congratulate and thank all the students, staff and The Rose Hotel who helped make the day such a success and is very proud of the wonderful creative and artistic talents exhibited by its students.

Commemorating the Past and Celebrating the Present through Music and the Arts (1916-2016)

Category Winners

Visual Art

Junior Category

Painting

Joint 1st: Peadar Toibín, Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí & Esel Acan, Killarney Community College

Joint 2nd: Adela O'Brien, Killorglin Community College & Róisín Wall, Killarney Community College

Drawing

Joint 1st: Lennox Beaujouan, Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí & Leah Ní Sheanacháin, Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí

Senior Category

Painting

1st: Martina Leahy, Coláiste na Ríochta

Joint 2nd: Emma Jane Keenan, Killarney Community College & Francesca Boro, Killarney Community College

Drawing

1st: Jacob Boguslav, Killarney Community College

2nd: Bobby Dowd, Killorglin Community College

Public Speaking

Senior Winner: Ross Brennan, Killarney Community College

Junior Winner: Natalia Skiba, Killarney Community College

Creative Writing

Senior Winner: Aideen Casey, Causeway Comprehensive School

Junior Winner: Sarah Nic Gearailt, Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí

Original Music

Senior Winners: Coláiste Gleann LÍ

Junior Winners: Killarney Community College

Film

Junior Winner: Elaine Murphy, Castleisland Community College

Senior Winner: Eric O'Halloran, Causeway Comprehensive School

Drama

Overall Winners: Mixed Drama Group, Killorglin Community College

Poetry

Junior Winner: Kimberley O'Brien, Killarney Community College

Senior Winner: Dervla Donegan, Coláiste na Sceilge

Music & Arts Performance Event

1st: Causeway Comprehensive School, "The Spirit of Hurling"

2nd: Killarney Community College, Instrumental Ensemble & Sean Nos Dance

3rd: Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí, Choral Group

4th: Coláiste na Ríochta, "Wife and Widow"



Castleisland Community College



Art Craft and Design at Castleisland Community College

It has been a very busy year for the Art, Craft and Design Department. To begin with there has been a number of new disciplines of art and design added into the course including photography, interior design, textiles and Photoshop, which is design software for computers. All these new disciplines give the student a more varied and holistic experience of the art world. It broadens their minds as to what is available to them in the workforce when they leave school. The introduction of Photoshop in particular has been a huge success.

Students love manipulating images and learning how to create posters. We also have a Photoshop and animation lunch time club for students who have a big interest in the area.

The Art Department has won a number of competitions this year. Jennie Bobiles, our 2nd year student won the Kerry ETB Christmas card competition. Jennie's design was used for the official Kerry ETB Christmas card. Our 2nd year students Jennie Bobiles, Joanne Drozd, Patrycia Holewa won a competition run by the Kerry Child and Young Peoples Services Committees (CYPSC) where they designed a poster promoting their #connected #respected campaign.

We also had the great experience of getting through to the regional semi-finals of the Junk Kouture competition. Labhaoise Welmsley along with her design team Brian Loneragan and Kayla Whooley and their Art teacher Pia Thornton travelled up to the Limerick University Concert Hall in March where Labhaoise performed as the 'Wild Atlantic Woman'. Some materials used to create her design included an old Christmas tree, a map of Ireland and an old Christmas wreath. We already have new projects in the pipeline for next year including a Fair Trade themed Art piece for our canteen wall.

The Bond Trader Challenge

On 20th April 2016 students together with their teacher Mrs. O'Hanlon attended 'The Bond Trader Challenge' competition organised by Bank of Ireland in The Brehon Hotel, Killarney. This competition consisted of teaching students a number of different economic concepts such as the laws of supply and demand, the relationship between interest rates and inflation and the importance of economic indicators when buying and selling bonds and shares through a fun interactive game.

It began with an introduction to the world of markets and trading and then how to trade with these bonds and shares based on different sample scenarios. The students had to respond to real market scenarios and make decisions on how to manage their own bond portfolio.

The students were from 5th year and were Johnathan Hillard, Michael Cunningham, Niall Brosnan, Rachel O'Connor and Amy Galway. The competition had 8 different rounds and the students won round 2, they were leading at half time and by the final round were announced the winners out of a total of 14 different teams from around the County. Each student won a mini iPad, the school won a framed signed Munster jersey and also a trophy. As a result students progressed to the National Final in Dublin which was a huge achievement for all of them.



Students who took part in The Bond Traders Challenge

Global Passport Award

Castleisland Community College has been awarded a Diplomatic Passport in recognition for its work in the area of Development education. 'Irish Aid' a branch of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, honoured the school with this award in Thomond Park, Limerick in April of this year. The school ranks among the top 30 schools in the Country and the only Kerry school to merit this achievement.

The world we live in is becoming increasingly globalised and interdependent while levels of inequality are increasing rather than decreasing. Development Education is an exciting and effective way to equip students with skills such as critical thinking and values such as empathy and solidarity that will not only help them with exams but more broadly equip them to contribute effectively to this fast changing world helping them to combat the root causes of poverty, inequality and injustice.

The school was assessed under seven different categories:

- Curricular,
- Extra Curricular,
- Teacher Capacity and Engagement,
- Student Capacity and Engagement,
- School Leadership/Management,
- School Ethos/Policy
- and finally respectful relationships within and beyond the school.

The school has been actively involved in Development Education in all of these areas. The themes that the school has been engaged with are climate change, fair trade and inequality.

The impact of climate change is part of the school curriculum and is addressed in almost all subject areas. The school has extended on this knowledge by being involved in extra curricular programmes that highlight the problem at both local and international level. Transition year students have been engaged with the One Good Idea.

Their Project, Planet Savers, investigates deforestation and the role that every person can play by purchasing FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) paper and wood. The Green School Committee is actively involved with the third green flag based on the theme of water. Students have studied the recent flooding in Ireland over the winter months and the opposite effect of climate change in 3rd world countries when the rainy season is delayed and crops fail.

The annual Christmas shoe box appeal and the Kenyan Education Project educate students on the inequalities that exist between children of the western world and the children of the developing world. Finally Castleisland Community College is a fairtrade school and only purchases fair trade tea and coffee. Well done to all members of the school community.



Students on a visit to UCC

More to Science than Science Week

While Science Week is a great way of promoting Science, the Science Department are busy promoting Science throughout the whole year.

The Science Department were delighted to welcome Trevor Casey and his team from University College Cork (UCC) to the school for a series of workshops with Transition Year, 5th year and 6th year chemistry students in February after a successful Science Week in November 2015. The students were able to avail of an opportunity to use top of the range technological, analytical equipment to link in with their school work on such techniques. It allowed students to engage in a scenario involving forensic science in which they identified an unknown component in a drug at a crime scene and gave them a real taste for the use of chemistry in forensics and crime investigation. The workshops are sponsored by Salters Chemistry who provide funding for workshops throughout the UK and Ireland. As well as that, it also afforded the chemistry students a chance to find out what STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) based courses are available in UCC, as well as promoting the

importance of chemistry and science in society. All the students thoroughly enjoyed the workshops and it helped foster their love of science even more.



Budding Scientists

A team of first year students attended The Salters' Festival of Chemistry 2016 in UCC recently. Four students - Julianne Murphy, Cian Walsh Murphy, Liam O Connor and Siobhan O Donoghue headed off bright and early with Ms. Corridan to UCC where they enjoyed a day in UCC chemistry labs undertaking different tasks with lab technicians from the College. The aim of the festival was to "promote and appreciation of chemistry and related sciences amongst the young". The day ended with a spectacular science magic show which was the hot topic of conversation by the students for the days that followed.

U19 Basketball Success



U19 Boys Basketball team won the All Ireland in Dublin in January 2016. They played a school with 1,500 students from Derry. Great credit to Maurice Casey, their coach and the entire team. It was an amazing achievement.

Causeway Community College

Ceremony for the Commemoration and Celebration of 1916 and Proclamation Day in Causeway Comprehensive School

On Tuesday 15th March 2016, Staff and Students held a commemoration service for the 1916 Rising as well as honouring our National Flag during Proclamation Day.



All Staff and Students gathered in the School Sports Hall to honour and remember important historical figures such as Thomas Francis Meagher and the men and women of the 1916 Rising. The School's Chaplain & head of the History Department was MC for this special event. This event was also attended by Mr. John Brassil (former Chairperson of the Board of Management) and newly elected TD for Kerry.

During the service, Principal, Mr. Cathal Fitzgerald spoke about the history, meaning and value of our national Flag as well as the historical importance of the Easter Rising.

A number of Students along with their teacher Ms Fionnuala O'Sullivan had travelled to Dublin on March 7th to receive our new Flag and flag stand. They officially presented this flag to the school during this event. This was followed by Students and Staff singing our national anthem. Students also performed

a bespoke artistic dance piece which was a collaboration of the Music and PE Department. Senior cycle students read out the 1916 Proclamation in both English and Irish. Finally, a number of students performed a poetry piece of WB Yeats poem "Easter 1916". The Music Department performed a number of pieces to match the occasion while the School's Art Department showcased a commemoration wall of 1916 Rising & its leaders.

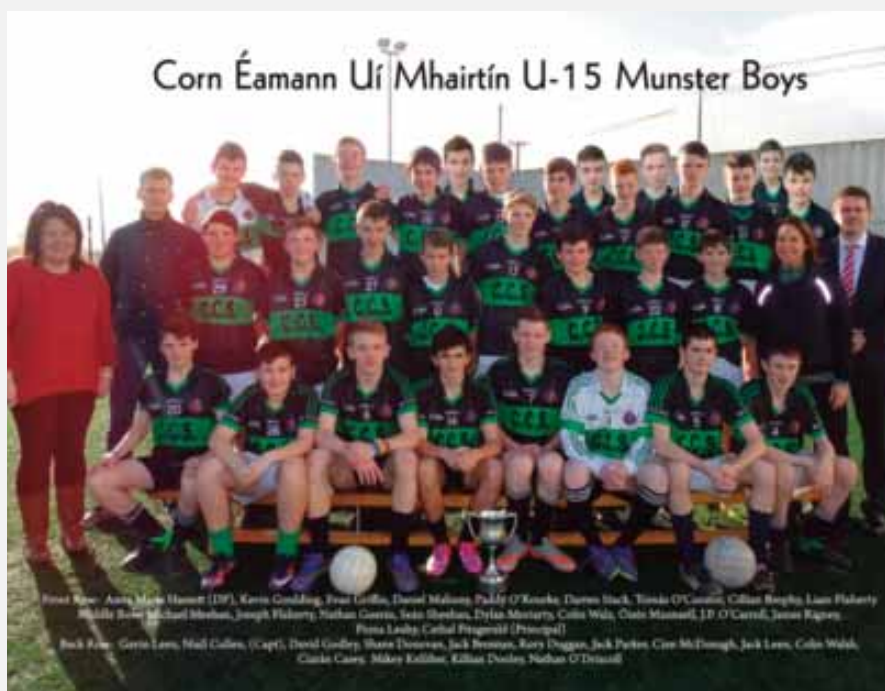


Causeway Comprehensive Munster Boys U15 Champions

On the 16th December 2015 Causeway U15 boys won the Munster C football Championship. The final was played in Coolard pitch Ballydonoghue against St. Joseph's Ballybunion.

Causeway enjoyed a spell of supremacy during the first 5 minutes shooting 1-1 without reply. The goal coming from Ciaran Casey. Ciaran managing to hit the net in all 6 games played in the Munster Championship. St Joseph's battled back to make it level after 10 minutes. Scores from Nathan O Driscoll, Colin Waltz and Colin Walsh left Causeway 1-5 to 1-3 ahead at the interval. Causeway rallied again in the second half putting serious pressure on the St. Joseph's defence but not able to make it count on the score board. After hitting the post 4 times St. Joseph's countered down the field to score a goal of their own and make the scores level once again. Any hopes of a St. Joseph's revival were dashed when Causeway hit the net twice in the last 8 minutes with goals from Nathan O Driscoll and Colin Walsh. To close out the game 3-8 to 2-4 winners.

A special mention has to be made to all of the Causeway defenders who kept a very talented attacking Ballybunion side, very quiet throughout the game. Captain Niall Cullen accepted the cup on behalf of his teammates.



Causeway: Tomas O Connor, Liam Flaherty, Niall Cullen, Oisín Maunsell, Sean Sheehan, Daniel O Mahony, Jack Parker, Colin Waltz, Paddy O Rourke, Ciaran Casey, Cian McDonagh, Rory Duggan, Colin Walsh, Darren Stack and Nathan O Driscoll.

Congratulations to Matt Tyrkiel and Solas O'Halloran

During Science Week, the winners of the Reel-LIFE SCIENCE 2015 were announced. The 2015 secondary school competition saw Causeway Comprehensive School, improve on last year's third place finish by claiming the CÚRAM-sponsored €1,000 first prize, with a video entitled 'The Mystery of Light'. With guidance from Science teacher Bridget Buckley, the filmmakers, Fifth Year students Solas O'Halloran and Matt Tyrkiel, were hailed as "engaging hosts" by Cmdr. Hadfield, while he described their video as being "cool, clearly explained" and "dramatically filmed".



"The Star" tries to make young stars in Causeway

In October Kieran Donaghy aka "The Star" called to Causeway Comprehensive School to give a lunchtime training session to our boys and girls basketball teams. Kieran spoke to the young players about his love for basketball (even more than football). This was followed by intensive training sessions with both teams. There was great excitement as a real "Star" had called to our Sports hall and took a training session. Principal, Cathal Fitzgerald was delighted to see Kieran and spoke of how both he and Kieran used to play together for St Brendan in the good old days when Kieran was starting out!!



Coláiste Gleann Lí

Coláiste Gleann Lí held a massive commemorative ceremony to honour the patriots of the 1916 Easter Rising on Wednesday 16 March. The event was commemorated by all students and the spirit of co-operation and inclusivity, across the multicultural population, lived out the sentiment and vision of the 100-year-old proclamation. It was a very colourful and entertaining celebration with food, artistic backdrops, rap songs and orations prepared and presented by the Students on the day. Students led the ceremony in song and many recited their own poetry which they penned to mark the occasion. Special guests included: storyteller Gabriel Fitzmaurice and a range of traditional musicians. The event was a complete success and highlighted the outstanding commitment of Students and Staff to marking the historic event appropriately.



Coláiste Gleann Lí entered the 2016 EA Robot Games Ireland

In May excitement was building as our second year students perfected their robots for entry into the '2016 EA Robot Games Ireland'. Our second year students prepared two robots for battle, under the watchful eye of their teacher Mr. O'Sullivan. The two robots, named MARS and JaM competed to dominate a circular platform at the games which were held in Dublin in May.

MARS (the red bot) was designed by students Melanie Smith, Aislinn Quirke, Rachel Dunne and Snjezana Herbsts and the other robot named JaM was created by John Bailey and Michael Laleye. We hope both the robots and their makers enjoyed participating in the event.



Male and Female Coláiste Gleann Lí Students Scoop Top Engineering Awards

Two talented Coláiste Gleann Lí students scooped highly sought after accolades for their Junior and Leaving Certificate Engineering projects. Paul McCarthy, Tralee received the honour for his higher level Junior Certificate Engineering project. Zahra Al Saedi received an award for her Leaving Certificate ordinary level project. The awards were sponsored by the Institute of Technology, Tralee on behalf of the 'Engineering Technology Teachers' Association' (ETTA). The projects were judged by Mr Brendan O'Donnell, Head of Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) at the Institute of Technology Tralee, who commended the students on their engineering abilities.



Teacher at the school, Michael O'Sullivan congratulated his students saying "These students worked extremely diligently to bring their projects to fruition; they produced expertly crafted pieces and are very deserving winners. Coláiste Gleann Lí has forged a reputation for excellence in engineering". ETTA promotes the subjects of Engineering, Design & Communication Graphics and Technology at second level and awards excellence displayed by learners. The winning Students receive an engraved plaque.



Coláiste Gleann Lí- flying the flags for Anti-Bullying and Positive Mental Health Promotion

Coláiste Gleann Lí has become the first school in Kerry and one of only 5 Post-Primary Schools nationally to be presented with the ISPCC's 'Anti-Bullying' flag. The accolade is presented in recognition of the school community's commitment to strengthening their preventative and proactive approach to bullying. The prestigious flag was raised by Kerry player and School Mentor Darren O'Sullivan on the 8th of February last to the applause of the students and staff of the Post-Primary School.

The 'Anti-bullying Flag' is an honour bestowed on schools that have made concrete efforts to ensure the implementation of an evidence-informed approach to the management and prevention of bullying. The flag is awarded to schools and clubs that not only fully implement the ISPCC's Shield Campaign but fulfill six additional criteria, such as: completing the ISPCC Shield My School of Anti-Bullying Toolkit; ensuring a dedicated Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator is assigned within the school; installing the ISPCC 'Stand Up' Report (online) Tool to their web page; as well as a range of cross-curricular events and activities. One of the

At the official launch, the ISPCC's Sinead McKee commended the staff and students of Coláiste Gleann Lí for their continuous efforts to prevent and combat bullying in the school. She explained that "All too often within the ISPCC we see the damage and impact bullying can have on a young person's self-esteem and confidence. The experience of bullying can prevent a young person from reaching their full potential in childhood and can have long lasting negative effects into adulthood. The ISPCC are extremely proud of Coláiste Gleann Lí for taking a preventative and evidence informed approach to bullying. They are now leading the way in the Kingdom, as shining examples on working that extra mile towards the Flag"

The Anti-Bullying flag was raised in tandem with a recently awarded 'Amber Flag' for positive mental health promotion. The Amber Flag was presented to the school for its relentless work on bringing about a cultural change in the promotion of positive mental health within the school context. This initiative was co-ordinated by Kerry ETB's Ms. Niamh Mulligan.

The school's characteristic spirit has been commended for promoting mental and physical health and for breaking down barriers to inclusion by combatting racism, bullying and isolation. Many of the speakers at the launch commented on the positive feeling they got on entering the school.

Youth and Community Engagement Worker with Jigsaw Kerry, Donagh Hennebry captured the sentiment when he commented on the 'warm, welcoming and open atmosphere that captured him' when he first came to speak with students a number of years ago. The relationship with agencies, such as Jigsaw has proved invaluable to realizing the school's objective to lead the way in creating a positive learning environment.



most noticeable visual reminders of the school's proactive approach to positive mental health is the large Anti-Bullying wall that greets you as you enter the main corridor. This wall was created by the Students and is regularly updated with information and supports available to Students.



Sports Capital Programme Grants

Coláiste Gleann Lí Post-Primary School, was the biggest Kerry benefactor in the Sports Capital programme grants earlier this year. It also had the honour of being the only school-based application that received a grant in the county. The Clash-based school received €90,000 to build a changing room and associated facilities for its existing onsite astro turf pitch. The announcement was welcomed by Students, Staff and Management as an endorsement of a school 'on the rise' in Tralee town.





Coláiste na Ríochta

Well done to our Spanish Exchange Student Cristobel who received the runner up award for the Kerry ETB Christmas card competition. Coláiste na Ríochta is delighted to say we have now won awards for two consecutive years in relation to this competition! We have many talented Students in our school. Well done to our art teacher Ms. Sugrue.



Eva Enright, Deputy Principal, Cristobel Montes Moreno, Colm Mc Evoy, CEO, Kerry ETB & Marian Sugrue, Teacher

Congratulations to our Under 15 basketball team who made it through to the South West Munster Regional Play-offs, well done lads!!!!

Well done to our second year Students who did a fantastic job performing their Christmas play 'A Christmas Carol'. They were outstanding & we are all very proud of the hard work and dedication they put into it. Thanks to all the Staff who supported with props.

5th year Students visited the SSE power plant as part of their LCV enterprise to explore how energy is produced in renewable and sustainable ways, and to discover how energy is used to power homes in Ireland. It was an Educational and interesting day for all.



Theresa O'Brien with 5th & 6th year students

A snap shot of some of the amazing work our Leaving Cert Students have been producing this year in art class!



Students enjoying the Science Week demonstrations. They had the opportunity to be involved in exciting experiments as well as testing their scientific knowledge in a quiz. Well done to all involved.



Well done to all Staff, Parents and Students who donated presents for our shoe-box Christmas donation. No doubt lots of less fortunate children around the world were very grateful to receive them on Christmas day.



Kieran O'Connor, Mark Fealey, Paddy Duggan, Amy O'Connor & Cristobel Montes Moreno

KERRY EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD NEWSLETTER

www.kerryetb.ie



BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA CHIARRAÍ
KERRY EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD



Some of our Junior Cycle students heading off to Cappanalea Outdoor Education & Training Centre for two days. Cappanalea focuses on personal development through the medium of adventure sports including Kayaking, Sailing, Rock Climbing and much more. It was a thrilling, exciting and educational trip for all.



Congratulations to Listowel town from all at Coláiste na Ríochta in winning 'Best Small Town Category' in the Tidy Towns Ireland competition. The Committee's dedication and professionalism was evident during the time in which they gave our School lots of fantastic advice during our green flag process, which is flying high out-side our School today.



5th and 6th year Students enjoyed their geography field trip to Killarney National Park and Torc Waterfall where they completed a variety of active tasks such as measuring the depth of rivers and taking plenty of water home in their wellies in the process! It was a fantastic and educative day for all.

Coláiste na Ríochta remembered 1916 on 16th March. Numerous events ran in the school.

VTOS students were busy making pancakes for the staff and students of North Kerry College and Coláiste na Ríochta.



VTOS students putting some of the finishing touches to their 1916 Commemoration Lapel Pin for the launch day on 16th March. The Lapel Pin comes in a displayed box with a miniature Proclamation scroll attached. All proceeds from the sales will be going to local charities.



Mags Molyneaux, Bill O'Connor, Breda O'Connell & Mary Ellen Quinn



Barbara Wajdzik, Ania Rashidova & Bill O'Connor

Coláiste na Ríochta/North Kerry College of Further Education (NKCCE) build links with Kerry Group

It can be acknowledged that Kerry Group is an enormous asset for the North Kerry area. Stephen Goulding, Principal, met with Denis Collins, Manager of Kerry Group in Listowel to secure work placements and site visits at the plant to maximise learning for Students taking Agricultural and Business subjects in both the Post Primary and FE sector. Mr Collins is delighted to become involved with both Schools and also spoke about the possibility of NKCCE facilitating the upskilling of some workers currently employed at the plant.



Coláiste na Sceilge

At a recent talk in UCC a biochemistry undergraduate spoke to our TY and Fifth Year Students about the importance of getting involved, getting to know themselves better and consequently being in a better position to make the right choices about their futures. As the photos show many of our students are doing just that, we just need to do more of it. We are very thankful to Kerry ETB for providing many of these opportunities for our Students and giving us the freedom to explore others.



Apprentice Chefs Food Glorious Food



Tourism with Business Outing



CnS Radio DJs ready to go



Niall Quinlan Poetry Aloud Finalist

Valentine's Day Poetry Winners



Garda Youth Achievement Winner



SVP Christmas Jumper Day, Class Bríd students



Basketball Silver Medallists



BT Young Scientist Participants



Christmas Choral Service



Rugby Blitzers



Talk on O'Connell Mmrl. Church, TYs.



School Exchange to Uden, Holland



U 16s at the All-Ireland Play Offs



Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí

Coiste Gaeilge 2015/16



Infón Ní Artaigh agus an Coiste Gaeilge. Bunaíodh an Coiste Gaeilge arís i mbliana don dara bhliain i ndiaidh a chéile. Ba é aidhm an Choiste Gaeilge ná an Ghaeilge a spreagadh ar fud na scoile. Bhíomar ag obair go dian, díograiseach i mbliana (mar is eol daoibh.). Tá triúr duine dhéag ar an gCoiste i mbliana, duine ó gach rang. Bíonn cruinnithe ag an gCoiste uair sa tseachtain chun imeachtaí éagsúla a eagrú.

Brat Sláinte Intinne

I mbliana cuireadh feachtas ar siúl chun an Brat Sláinte Intinne a fháil don scoil. An sprioc a bhí leis an bhfeachtas seo ná sláinte agus folláine mheabhrach a chur chun cinn do chách sa scoil trí imeachtaí a eagrú. Le linn na bliana bhí aoichainteoirí istigh agus ceardlanna ar siúl sa scoil. Ceann dos na príomh imeachtaí a bhí ann ná Seachtain Sláinte Intinne agus bhí imeachtaí, aoichainteoirí agus ceardlanna éagsúla ar fáil do dhaltaí na scoile.



Ar an 9 Bealtaine, d'éirigh 50 dalta ó bl.3,4, 5 agus 6 agus múinteoirí luath maidin Shathairn chun páirt a ghlacadh sa rith Darkness into Light i dTrá Lí. Bhí an mhaidin ag gach duine ar son sár chúis.

Bhí lá don scoth ag daltaí a chabhraigh leis an bhfeachtas ar an 13 Bealtaine, nuair a bhronn an aoí speisialta Alan Quinlan an brat Shláinte Intinne ar an scoil don obair atá a dhéanamh. Táimid ag súil lena thuilleadh a dhéanamh an bhliain seo chugainn chun Sláinte Intinne folláine a spreagadh.

Scléip

Bliain iontach againn maidir le Scléip i mbliana. Shroich cúig achta Craobh na hÉireann in Amharclann an Clasach i gCluain Tarbh. Bhí damhsa cruthaitheach den chéad scoth le Marnie, Aoife agus Cáit ó Bl 1, Danica ó 2Y agus Emer ó 4Y. Dhein muintir 1X jab do-chreidte lena Gaeilge de 'Fan Liom' le Riptide - Méabh, Aoife, Grace Ní Ghuiní, Grace Ní Chonchúir, Ciara, Leah agus Tom a bhí i mbun siamsaíochta agus bhíodar an-phroifisiúnta.

Dhein an Idirbhliain leagan Gaolúinne de 'Footloose' - clasac ó na 80aidí agus ambaiste! ach go raibh snas orthu idir amhránaíocht, rince agus éadaí, fiche duine díobh ag canadh agus gluaiseacht in éineacht. Táimid ag fanacht ar na glaonna ó Bhroadway!



Agus ar deireadh an drama. Chum Bean D'Altúin drama i gcuimhne ar imeachta 1916. Sé rud a bhí ann ná meascán de thriail agus choiste cróinéara inar chroscheistíodh Ruairí Mac Easmainn, Séamus Ó Conghaile agus Tomás Ó Cléirigh agus an Bhancúnta Markievicz. Bhuarad Craobh na hÉireann agus é tuillte acu. Ag aisteoireacht bhí Euan Ó Beoláin, Cian Ó Cianáin, Ciarán Ó Nualláin Taidhg, Máire Ní Threantaigh, Seán Ó hAinle, Jeaic Mac Guineá agus Carrie Ní Dhubhlainn.

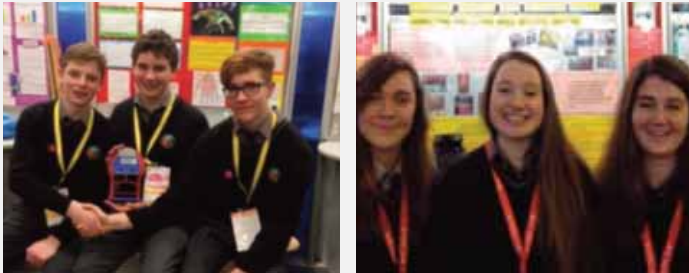
An Bhruiséal & Birmingham

Tugadh cuireadh do Ghaelcholáistí agus iarbhunscoileanna lán-Ghaeilge i gCúige Mumhan beirt dhalta Idirbhliana agus múinteoir a chur go dtí Parlaimint na h-Eorpa sa Bhruiséal. Freisin tugadh cuireadh do dhaltai dul go Birmingham chuig Gallipoli 100. Dhá thuras iontacha a bhí ann agus bhaineadar fíor taitneamh as.



Eolaí Óg & SciFest 2015/16

Ghlac Jeaic MacGineá, Pádraig Mac Ionnrachtaigh agus Seán Ó Gealbháin, Bliain 4, san Eolaí Óg san RDS i mBaile Átha Cliath. In a dtionscnamh, á treorú ag Infón Ní Dheargáin, bhíodar ag déanamh idirdhealú idir neart ghreama an déagóir agus an cumas acadúla agus fisiciúla atá acu. Fuair said ardmholadh ó na moltóirí agus, freisin, chuadar faoi agallaimh le Eoin McDermott ó 2FM agus Radio na Gaeltachta. D'fhreastail daltaí Bliain 4 in iomlán ar na hEolaí Óg ar an Aoine, agus mar is gnáth bhaineadar an-taitneamh as an dtaithí.



Ghlac grúpa eile do dhaltai páirt i gcomórtas 'Scifest' i mbliana. Leis an tionscnamh 'Fuinneamh tonnta gan creimniú cósta', chuaigh Janine Ní Chonchúir, Lorraine de Nais agus Ursula Ní Mhochóir, Bliain 5, suas go dtí Marino College Bhaile Átha Cliath don chraobh 'Scifest na hÉireann'. Bhuadar duais 'Excellence in STEM' thuas ann. Bhaineadar an tairbhe as an nglacadh páirte & táthar ag súil go ndéanfaidh siad a thuilleadh forbairt ar a dtionscnamh.

Spórt sa Ghaelcholáiste 2015/16

Iománaíocht sa Ghaelcholáiste

Ghlac 3 fhoireann difriúil (faoi 15, faoi 16.5 agus sinsear) páirt i gCraobh na Mumhan i mbliana, ach faraor chiall siad sa chéad bhabhta ach ní ansin ach leath an scéal. Sa trí chás d'imir siad i gcoinne foirne ó Luimneach agus Tiobraid Árann agus chuir siad sár taispeántas isteach i ngach cluiche. Nílid ró fhada ón gcaighdeán in aon chor agus beidh bua go luath.



Ghlac na buachaillí i mbliain a haon páirt i dá blitz go dtí seo, agus táim thar a bheith sásta a rá gur bhuaigh siad an dhá cheann. D'imir siad i gcoinne Cnoc an tSeabhaic, An Fhaiche agus Ráth Mhór. Dhein na daltaí sár-iarracht ag traenáil gach Céadaoin ag am lóin agus tá sé soiléir go bhfuil sé ag obair dóibh. Mar fhocail scoir, tá an Máistir Ó Murchú an-bhuíoch as ucht an iarracht a dhein gach dalta ar son na scoile maidir le h-Iománaíocht. Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí.

Foireann Peile Bliain 1 & Sóisir na gcaillíní

D'éirigh le foireann bliain a haon cluiche ceannais an chontae a shroichint ag tús mí Bealtaine. Bhuaigh siad roinnt maith cluiche i rith na bliana agus thugadar taispeántaí iontacha i gcónaí. Bhí an cluiche ceannais acu in aghaidh Coláiste na Sceilge ach faraor níor éirigh leo ar an lá.

Ghlac na cailíní faoi 16 páirt i gcomórtas an Chontae freisin. Chuireadar sár taispeántas ar siúl ach bhí mí-ádh orthu ag an deireadh in aghaidh Cill Orglan. Tríd is tríd bhíomar an bhródúil as ár gcaillíní i mbliana agus cinnte má leanann siad orthu buaifadh siad rud fiúntach sar i bhfad.



Cispheil sa Ghaelcholáiste

Cailíní BI 1

Thosaigh foireann na gcaillíní BI 1 amach ar an mbóthar go luath i ndiaidh na Nollag. Thaispeántaíodar go dtí Ceann Toirc, Cill Airne agus Coláiste Íde sa Daingean. Bhuadar na cluichí sraithe ar fad a bhí acu i gcoinne na bhfoirne thuasluaite agus foirne eile ó Mheánscoil na Toirbhirte Lios Tuathail agus Cill Orglan. Chuaigh an fhoireann ar aghaidh agus bhuadar craobh réigiúin an iardheiscirt i mBaile an Bhuinneánaigh le sár taispeántaí i gcoinne foirne ón gClár. Ar aghaidh leo ansin go dtí babhtaí cáilithe uile Éire ins An Trá Mhór i gCo. Phort Láirge. Bhí 3 chluiche dian acu ansan i gcoinne foirne ó Chorcaigh, Phort Láirge agus Cill Dara ach b'iad cailíní an Ghaelcholáiste a bhí rathúil agus anois cluiche leathcheannais na hÉireann sroichte acu. Imríodh an cluiche seo, i gcoinne foirne ó Choláiste na Trócaire, Sligeach, sa Láthair Náisiúnta Chispheile dTamhlacht. Bhí ana lá againn. Bhuadar a gcluiche leathcheannais gan stró ach faraor, i ndiaidh sár thaispeántas buadh orthu sa chluiche ceannais i gcoinne foirne ón gClár le 6 pointe.



Cailíní BI 2

Cosúil le BI 1 bhí ana-bhliain ar fad ag cailíní BI 2. Ar an mbóthar go luath i ndiaidh na Nollag bhuadar na cluichí sraithe ar fad a bhí acu i gcoinne Ceann Toirc, Coláiste Pobail Chill Airne, Coláiste Íde, Meánscoil na Toirbhirte Lios Tuathail agus Cill Orglan. I mBaile an Bhuinneánaigh bhuaigh cailíní an Ghaelcholáiste ar Choláiste Íde sa Chraobh. Bhí na babhtaí cáilithe uile Éire bainte amach acu i mBaile Átha Cliath. Turas thar oíche eile! Bhuadar an 3 chluiche a bhí acu agus cosúil le BI 1 bhí cluiche leathcheannais na hÉireann bainte amach acu. Bhuaigh na cailíní na cluichí leathcheannais i gcoinne Meánscoil an tSeanchaisleán ó Co. Na Mí le 3 phointe agus lucht tacaíochta láidir ón nGaelcholáiste laistiar dóibh. Faraor, bhuaileadar le foireann a bhí beagáinín níos láidre ná iad sa chraobh agus níor éirigh leo ach thugadar sár taispeántas mar sin féin. Thaispeáin na foirne ar fad an-sporaid agus díograis i rith na bliana agus ba cheart go mbeidís ana-bhródúil astu agus an slí gur dhearnadar iad fhéin agus an scoil a chur chun cinn ar fud na tíre i rith na bliana. Ní hé seo an deireadh...ní hé ach an tús! Beidh lá eile againn! Maith sibh!



Buachaillí BI 1

Bhí lámh in uachtar ag buachaillí BI 1 i réigiúin an iardheiscirt chomh maith. Bhuadar i gcoinne foirne éagsúla ó Luimneach, an Chlár, Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne, Cill Orglan agus Tairbeart ina measc. Ina mbabhtaí cáilithe uile Éire, a bhí ar siúl i dTrá Lí, bhí bua ag na leids ar fhoirne ó Bhaile Átha Cliath, Chorcaigh agus Tiobraid Árann. Ar an mbóthar arís, suas leo ar fad chuig An Láthair Náisiúnta Chispheile i dTamhlacht. D'éirigh leis na buachaillí a gcluiche leathcheannais a bhuaigh i gcoinne foirne Pipers Hill ó Chill Dara agus beidh an cluiche cheannais ar siúl go luath. Go n-éirí leo!





Killarney Community College

Green Flag for Killarney Community College

Inspiration, motivation and determination were acknowledged as Killarney Community College celebrated their first Green Flag for Litter and Waste. On Friday 23rd October, a ceremony was held in the School which was attended by Special guests from the local community as well as members of the Parents Council and the schools Board of Management. These included; Mr. Killian Young and Ms. Deidre Twomey (Bank of Ireland, Killarney), Mr. Michael Gleeson (Deputy Mayor of Killarney), Ms. Kate O'Leary and Mr. Johnny Maguire (Killarney Chamber of Commerce) and Mr. Micheál O'Coileáin (Kerry County Council). Michael Gleeson commended the Green Schools Committee and their Co-ordinator Ms. Martina Hegarty and the wider School community on their success and their contribution in making Killarney the clean welcoming thriving town that it is. Student Andrew Brosnan said "this is the first step in our School becoming as environmentally efficient as possible, this will inspire us to build on our success". It was a momentous occasion in the School and a positive experience for the whole School community. According to Green Schools Co-ordinator Ms. Martina Hegarty "this is a great day for the Committee who initiated, preserved and worked hard everyday to reach the goal that they had set, plans are underway to achieve our Energy Flag, the teamwork shown already will be the key to our success".



Front L-R: Adam Carey, Adam O'Connell, Namejs Balodis, Dawid Boleslawski, Ellen Clifford, Caitlin Brosnan and Esel Acun. **Back L-R:** Michael Ahern, Philippa Ball, Principal Fiona O'Brien, Micheál O'Coileáin, Mr. Michael Gleeson, Luke Coffey, Sarah O'Sullivan, Mutaz Alumusawi, David Murrell Musgrave, Chloe Hood, Syeda Ali, Mr. Killian Young, Natalia Alekseyenko, Ms. Kate O'Leary, Leo Wheldon, Andrew Brosnan, Robert Giles, and Mr. Johnny McGuire.

House System

A systemic approach to prevent Bullying

In 2013, Killarney Community College introduced a house system to the School. The purpose of the house system is to encourage full participation in School activities by all Students. It enhances pupil teacher relationships as members of each house, work together to gain valuable points. It also plays a key part in the Schools Anti Bullying strategy as senior Students watch out for younger members and therefore it supports the Schools positive code of behaviour. The School is divided up into 5 vertical groups (The Celts, The Titans, The

Vikings, The Gaels and The Spartans) with a house head and an assistant house head leading the group. There are Students from all year groups in each house and all teachers and School Management are also part of a house. Each house has Junior and Senior Captains who play a vital role in organising events and liaising with the students in their house. Every house has its own identity with its own name, motto, colour and song.



Other benefits to the House System: *Improves Student leadership skills, *Creates unity and respect, *Develops friendships between year groups, *Fosters healthy competition amongst the houses.



Two house events have taken place to date; 9th October 2015, we saw the first Killarney Community College whole School house event kick off - The 5km fun walk/run! In order to gain points for your house the Students had to dress up in their house colours, they also needed to walk/run or wear a costume, or for even more points run/walk while wearing fancy dress. On 23rd October 2015, the second house event took place. It was a pumpkin competition which encourage students to carve or decorate a pumpkin in order to win points for their houses. An amazing array of carved/decorated pumpkins were produced by the Students. There are up to 5 whole school events during the year in which each Student can earn points for their house in whole school activities. At the end of the year the house with the greatest number of points wins the title, the cup and the prize money, to be spent on a whole house fun activity. In the past two years the Viking's have won the House Competition but this year the competition will be fierce for the cup and title!



SciFest Success

TY Students scooped the BioPharmaChem Ireland Best Overall Chemistry Project.

More than 150 students from Schools all over Kerry exhibited over 60 projects at SciFest @IT Tralee on Thursday 5th May. SciFest gives Students an opportunity to develop their interest in STEM and inquiry-based approaches to learning, while developing their creative and problem solving skills and learning to work in a team.

Two teams from Transition Year in Killarney Community College were chosen in January to represent the School in Tralee. They were the winners of the SciFest@School competition organised by their teacher Geraldine Horan. One of these projects called 'Abolish Nail Polish!', went on to receive the BioPharmaChem Ireland Chemistry Award for best overall Chemistry project. Well done to Lauren O'Sullivan, Amy O'Sullivan and Robyn Sheehan. Congratulations is also due to the Carmel Looney, Victoria Funes and Nikola Papikovel for the their project, "Thinking Musically".



Apprentice Chef Mark Doe

Well Done to Robyn Sheehan in Transition Year who reached the final in the Mark Doe Cookery Competition "The Apprentice Chef".



Bank of Ireland Enterprise Town Expo

On Friday 15th April some of our first and Transition Year Students got to meet Rachel Allen who visited their enterprise stand at the EXPO.





Killorglin Community College

Killorglin Community College has taken on a new lease of life over recent years and has embraced change in a positive manner. With its core values built around the pillars of Courtesy, Loyalty, Learning and Responsibility the school has reinvented itself and the manner in which it delivers its education. Now, as the School grows in numbers annually, it continues to provide a top class education to all of its Students.

As a School we compete and win at national level in educational competitions such as the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition, SciFest, Student Enterprise Awards, Poetry Aloud, LearnStorm, Apps4Gaps, Sentinus Big Bang Fair, CoderDojo Coolest Projects, ITLG Young Innovators and many more.



Student of the Year

We are honoured to have been chosen as one of only nineteen schools in the Country to pilot a new short course in Coding for the new Junior Cycle. Of course, it's not just Coding that we excel at, our Students are achieving in all subjects and at all levels. We have a strong relationship with the Institute of Technology Tralee, University of Limerick and University College Cork as they are the main destinations of our Students. We have a strong tradition of business and entrepreneurship in the School with many of our past pupils doing exceptionally well in the private sector.

Our current crop of Students continue this tradition and develop their many skills through curricular and extra-curricular activities. The Bank of Ireland School Bank, Student Enterprise Awards, Young Entrepreneur, TRIZ, LCVP and Business in the Community programmes all allow the Students to put their theoretical knowledge into practice. This, in turn, helps them to develop and fine tune the many skills and attributes that assist them in taking their subjects to higher level for their Leaving Certificate.



Coding



CSPE Action Project



Students at the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition

At Killorglin Community College we are different - and we know it! We strive to keep our teaching methodologies up to date and we are not afraid to embrace anything that improves learning for our Students. The community atmosphere and mutual respect that exists, between Staff and Students within our School, is unique and cannot be replicated without years of hard work and culture change.

We look after all of our Students and they all reach well above their potential. They leave our care with an excellent education, prepared for life, independent learners/(thinkers) and well rounded young men and women. We look forward to continuing this into the future.

Thank you too to all those Parents who have entrusted their children with us over the years, particularly recently. Without your support and co-operation we would not be where we are today.



Gaisce Awards 2016



Scifest award winners 2016



Student Enterprise Award Winners



Presentation of tops



Kerry ETB Student Awards 2015

Over 200 people attended the Kerry Education and Training Board Annual Student Awards event which was held in the Institute of Technology Tralee, North Campus, Dromtacker, Tralee, on Friday 15th January 2016. The guest of honour, Ruth O'Reilly is a Tralee native and a major figure in women's rugby both in Connacht and Ireland. She was one of the Irish women's rugby team who won the Six Nations last year. Ruth presented the awards to 58 exceptional students on the night.

Colm Mc Evoy, CEO, Kerry ETB emphasised that "This is one of the most important annual events for all involved in Kerry ETB. It is an opportunity for the organisation to celebrate and highlight the achievements of students in Kerry ETB Schools and in Youthreach Centres which Kerry ETB provides in partnership with the Kerry Diocesan Youth Service (KDYS) in Tralee, Killarney and Listowel".

Colm stressed that "the awards presented are very reflective of these core values and the organisation's holistic approach to education provision. Two new awards were introduced this year "Transition Year Award" which encourages and motivates Students to make the most of their Transition Year Experience and a "Peer Mentor Award" which acknowledges the contribution of Senior Cycle Students to the integration of First Year Students into our schools."

3,179 students attend Kerry ETB post primary schools and 120 participants attend Youthreach Centres. Kerry ETB is very proud of our Schools and Centres

which provide a comprehensive education for all Students. Over the last 7 years through the Kerry ETB Developing Schools Enriching Learning initiative, Kerry ETB Schools have put huge additional efforts into improving the quality of teaching and learning and pastoral care.

According to Education Officer, Ann O'Dwyer, "This awards event celebrates both academic achievement and also awards personal growth and leadership development which is strongly emphasised in each School and Youthreach Centre."

Paul Lucey, husband, and the family of the late Kathleen Lucey, a former Irish Teacher of Tralee Community College, have kindly commissioned a special award for Oral Irish in Kathleen's memory. This is now an annual award for the Student who achieves the highest results in the Optional Oral Irish in the Junior Certificate.

Jim Finucane, Cathaoirleach, Kerry ETB, highlighted "our Student leadership award which is designed to recognise and encourage the very significant leadership role played by our Students in our Student Councils. The Students nominated for this award are chosen by their own peers for their loyalty and commitment in their role on the Student Council".

Jim Finucane as Cathaoirleach of Kerry ETB presented the Gold Medal Awards for best overall Academic Achievement to Alexander Mantel, Killarney Community College, who achieved 600 points in his Leaving Certificate in 2015. Alexander is currently taking a Gap year.

Kerry ETB wishes to warmly congratulate and thank all the Students who received awards for their courage and commitment. School and Youthreach Centre Management, teachers, resource workers and Parents/Guardians also deserve our appreciation for their enormous contribution to education.



Kerry ETB Student Awards 2015



Kerry ETB Christmas Card Art Competition

Kerry ETB ran its annual Christmas card competition which is open to all Students in the eight Kerry ETB Schools. One of the rules of the competition is to include the Kerry ETB logo (the tree of life) in the design of the card. Kerry ETB would like to thank all the Students who took part and congratulate the winners and their Art Teachers:

Overall Winner:

Jeannie Bobiles, 2nd Year Student, Castleisland Community College

Runners up:

Amelia Ginisole, Coláiste na Ríochta

Hazel Riordan, Killarney Community College

Cristobel Montes Moreno, Coláiste na Ríochta

Kerry ETB would also like to thank Kingdom Printers who kindly sponsored the publishing of the card and Harvey Norman's who kindly sponsored the 10" Tablet for the overall winner. Each runner up received a €30 One4all Gift Card.



Jeannie Bobiles Christmas Card winner



Christmas Card Winners

Physical Education 2015/2016 Kerry ETB Schools

Kerry ETB Physical Education Community of Practice formed in 2007, comprises of Physical Education teachers from Kerry ETB schools and centres. The PE teachers meet 6 times a year, after school in Head Office, Tralee.

The purpose is four fold:

1. To co-ordinate the PE Programme for all ETB schools in Kerry;
2. To design and implement Rich Tasks Events and the Easter Wilderness Experience
3. To share resources and strive for excellence
4. And for continuous professional development (CPD) in Physical Education.

The Physical Education Programme follows Department of Education and Skills Curricula and Guidelines. The PE teachers are continuously up skilling and sharing resources to ensure the highest quality Physical Education experience for all Kerry ETB Students. The Department of Education and Skills Inspectorate acknowledged this PE Programme and the work of the Kerry ETB PE Community of Practice in a PE subject Inspection with an overall endorsement of excellence for the teacher concerned.

Rich tasks are culminating events for various activities such as Orienteering, Tag Rugby, Spikeball and Athletics in which Students from all Schools may enter. To be eligible, Students must complete a 6 week module as part of their PE Programme.

First Year Orienteering

On 20th October 2015 the 7th Annual Rich Task Orienteering Event for First Years was held as usual in Ballyseedy Woods, Tralee. Blessed with fair weather, over 469 first years students, from Castleisland Community College, Causeway Comprehensive School, Coláiste Gleann Lí Tralee, Coláiste na Ríochta Listowel, Coláiste na Sceilge, Caherciveen, Killarney Community College, Killorglin Community College and also including Students from Presentation School Tralee and Presentation School Listowel, spent a very enjoyable morning navigating the challenging courses designed by the Cappanalea Outdoor Education & Training Centre team. The Plaque for best overall school went to Coláiste na Sceilge, Caherciveen, with Students from all schools winning individual course prizes. The secondary school prize was won by Presentation School, Listowel.

Second Year Athletics Rich Task

The Athletics Rich Task for Second Years took place at An Ríocht, Castleisland on 20th April 2016. A beautiful, sunny day in fabulous surroundings, it proved to be a wonderful end to our Rich Tasks schedule for the Year. Over 200 students competed in Track and Field Events: sprints and longer distances, Long Jump, High Jump, Shot Putt, Javelin and the very exciting Relay races on what can only be described as a 'pet' day. Well done to Brian O Reilly, Mike Lynch and the well organised 5th Year students from Killarney Community College who rolled out the event.



Third Year Spikeball Rich Task

On 3rd December 2015 over 350 Third Year Students and their PE teachers attended the Spikeball Rich Task in Tralee Regional Sports and Leisure Centre. John Creagh, Coláiste Gleann Lí and Kieran O Callaghan, Kerry College of Further Education, together with the Sports and Recreation PLC Students, Kerry College of Further Education, organised a cracking day's competition for the Students from Castleisland Community College, Causeway Comprehensive School, Coláiste Gleann Lí, Tralee, Coláiste na Ríochta, Listowel, Coláiste na Sceilge, Caherciveen, Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí, Killarney Community College and Killorglin Community College. It was a super day with 59 mixed teams taking part. Many Students and Teachers were wearing Santa hats, Christmas music was playing from loud speakers: the atmosphere was fabulous.

The Senior Cycle Tag Rugby Rich Task

The Senior Cycle Tag Rugby Event was held at Tralee Regional Sports and Leisure Centre on 11th November 2015. Efficiently organised as usual by John Creagh, Coláiste Gleann Lí, Kieran O Callaghan, Kerry College of Further Education, assisted by the Sport and Recreation PLC students Kerry College of Further Education and with the expert help of Ray Gadsden, Community Rugby Officer for West Munster it was another fun and social outing for Senior Cycle Students. Killorglin Community College team went home with the Shield for the third year in a row after fending off stiff competition from teams from the other ETB Schools. Over 200 students participated in this mixed event, competing for the coveted Kerry ETB Tag Rugby Shield.

Easter Wilderness Expedition, Kells to Renard, 7th -11th April 2016

On Monday April 7th 2016, 5 students from Kerry ETB Schools and Youthreach accompanied by Mary Nash and Karl Sloan from Cappanalea Outdoor Education and Training Centre (OETC) and Jeremy Wrenn from Kerry ETB, departed Kells beach to hillwalk and kayak 25 kilometres across South Kerry, camping in the wild and finishing in Renard on Thursday afternoon. The group camped on Cnoc na dTobar on the first night, the next morning climbed Cnoc na dTobar and hiked to the blowhole at Cooscroom where they camped on night 2. Next morning was a hike to Whitestrand, stopping on the way to do some rock climbing on sea cliffs. The group then kayaked to Beginnish, spending the night on the Island before departing by kayak again Thursday morning and finishing in Renard. Great credit was due to Students for their positive attitude in difficult conditions, even when climbing Cnoc na dTobar through a blizzard when visibility was at a minimum.

A special thanks to Donal Dowd and Cappanalea OETC for their preparatory training with students to get them ready and all their hard work in organising and running this unforgettable expedition.

A 4 minute Promotional Video for Kerry ETB Physical Education was made using footage of the Rich Tasks and Easter Wilderness Experience. It was filmed over a calendar year by the students and staff of the ETB National Digital Skills Centre in Monavalley Tralee. Premiered at the Annual Kerry ETB Students Awards Night in January 2016 the video gives an excellent insight into student Rich Task experiences in Orienteering, Athletics, Tag Rugby, Spikeball and also the Easter Wilderness Expedition. It is available to view in all the Kerry ETB schools and on the ETB website.

Special thanks to Brian Nolan Instructor Broadcast Production Skills Monavalley Tralee and Steven Smith (Student) 2015/2016 for all the hard work in the making of this wonderful video.

Sharing Resources: Striving for Excellence.

The Active School Flag (ASF) is a Department of Education and Skills Initiative supported by Healthy Ireland. The award recognises schools that strive to achieve a physically educated and physically active School Community. Coláiste na Sceilge Caherciveen was the first Post Primary school in Kerry to achieve Active School Flag status a few years ago, Coláiste na Ríochta Listowel also reached the standard and received the flag later and Transform Alley is the only Centre in Ireland to gain the Active School Flag. Congratulations to everyone involved in reaching this standard of excellence. Kerry ETB will continue to strive to achieve the Active School Flag in all remaining schools.

Scoil Ghníomhach Fitness Testing for first year Students was undertaken in the 4 Kerry ETB schools hosting 4th Year Health and Leisure Students on their 12 week work experience module. The Schools involved included Castleisland Community College, Causeway Comprehensive School, Coláiste Gleann Lí and Killarney Community College. Lifestyle Questionnaires were also completed by most First Year Students in the participating schools. This study is being undertaken by the Health and Leisure Department, IT Tralee co-ordinated by Dr. Mary Beades to investigate the effects of a school specific intervention on physical fitness, physical activity, nutrition and wellbeing of first year Post Primary Students.

The purpose of the study is to inform the Students in relation to physical fitness, nutrition, physical activity and well-being and to provide them with some recommendations to improve these areas where applicable. It will also update the School regarding any needs for changes in policy with respect to creating a healthy, happy environment for the Students. It is hoped that this study can be extended to all Kerry ETB schools next year and form part of a longitudinal study over a 5 or 6 year period.

Limerick /Clare ETB (LCETB) established a PE Community of Practice (COP) in 2015

using some of Kerry ETBs PE COP work as a model. Gina O Connor co-ordinator of the LCETB PE COP has attended many of our meetings, Rich Tasks and in-services during the year. Following an Orienteering refresher course for PE teachers in LCETB the students subsequently participated in an Orienteering course as part of their PE Programme. On Wednesday 27th April, 500 second year LCETB Students participated in their first Orienteering Rich Task at Curragh Chase Forest Park, Limerick. The event was organised by The Burren OEC and Kilfinane OEC. LCETB acknowledges the help and assistance given to them by Donal Dowd Cappanalea OETC.

An Orienteering Refresher In-service organised in September 2015 jump-started the very busy and productive Kerry ETB PE calendar for the 2015/2016 School year. Donal Dowd, Director of Cappanalea OETC, PDST Associate and member of the PE COP delivered the In-service in Killarney Community College following the first PE Community of Practice meeting of the School year. This in-service was open to all PE teachers in the County and brought teachers up to date with the latest in Orienteering.

On 2/3 October, 2 of our PE COP members, Donal Dowd, Cappanalea and John Creagh, Coláiste Gleann Lí Tralee attended the weekend PEAI Conference in Dundalk. The theme was Health and Wellness and they shared the learning from this Conference with the other PE COP members at the November meeting.



Ciara Fields, Transform Alley Tralee attended a Conference in London given by the PE Geek in October 2015 and delivered an in-service to the PE COP members on using iPads Apps in Physical Education in February 2016. Ciara was invited by the lecturers in IT Tralee to repeat this Presentation to the 3rd year Health and Leisure students. The PE teachers also had the opportunity participate in iPad Webinars, hosted by the PE Geek, throughout the School year.

All Kerry ETB PE teachers were given the opportunity to attend the PEPAYS Ireland Annual Forum 30th May 2016 in IT Tralee. This was an excellent opportunity for teachers to engage with their colleagues from around the Country and abroad and share their knowledge and experiences engage in the latest research. The title of the Forum was 'Charter for Change' and the Key Themes were as follows

- i) Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport as a Fundamental Right for All
- ii) Benefits of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport
- iii) The need for Strategic Vision on Policy Priorities Across all Stakeholders

Let's make a difference

Ann O'Dwyer, Education Officer, Kerry ETB and John Creagh, Coláiste Gleann Lí Tralee each presented from their own perspectives on the Kerry ETB PE Community of Practice 2007-2016. Other presentations and performances included Keith Wood, the former Rugby player and Causeway Comprehensive School Students performed 'The Spirit of Hurling' an exciting dance choreographed by Fiona Leahy, PE teacher. A number of Kerry ETB Students have entered the UMove competition that encouraged them to share their insights on Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport through video, music, dance and other mediums.

The International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport November 2015 (UNESCO United Nations Educational Scientific Cultural Organisation) was revised last year, the first revision since 1978. This is an important document. It is the foundation for everything we do in PE, PA and Sport. It articulates our core values and guides our policies in these important areas.

The Charter comprises of 12 Articles:

(subsections of articles not included below)

Article 1 – The practice of physical education, physical activity and sport is a fundamental right for all

Article 2 – Physical education, physical activity, and sport can yield a wide range of benefits to individuals, communities and society at large

Article 3 - All stakeholders must participate in creating a strategic vision, identifying policy options and priorities

Article 4 – Physical education, physical activity and sport programmes must inspire lifelong participation

Article 5 – All stakeholders must ensure that their activities are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable

Article 6 – Research, evidence and evaluation are indispensable components for the development of physical education, physical activity and sport

Article 7 – Teaching, Coaching and administration of physical education, physical activity and sport must be performed by qualified personnel

Article 8 – Adequate and safe spaces, facilities and equipment are essential to quality physical education, physical activity and sport

Article 9 – Safety and the management of risk are necessary conditions of quality provision

Article 10 - Protection and promotion of the integrity and ethical values of physical education, physical activity and sport must be a constant concern for all

Article 11 – Physical education, physical activity and sport can play an important role in the realisation of development, peace and post-conflict and post-disaster objectives

Article 12 – International co-operation is a prerequisite for enhancing the scope and impact of physical education, physical activity and sport

“Physical education is the most effective means of providing all children and youth with the skills, attitudes, values, knowledge and understanding for lifelong participation in society”

The Declaration of Berlin 2013 -
UNESCO's World Sports Ministers Conference (MINEPS)

The PE teachers are very grateful for the strong support for Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport from the CEO, Colm Mc Evoy, the Education Officer Ann O'Dwyer and the Principals, Deputy Principals and staff in all the ETB Schools.



Kerry ETB DSEL 2015/2016 Report

It was a very productive year again this year with in-service opportunity offered to and availed of by teachers across a range of subjects.

Sincere thanks to PDST, Ciara O'Donnell, Anthony Kilcoyne, Gráinne Dennison and the team for the enormous support given to Kerry ETB in providing CPD of the highest quality again this year to our teachers and leaders.

Thanks also to our Principals and Deputies for covering classes in School to facilitate teachers to attend sessions, and a special thanks to all teachers who made the trip to Tralee often times in bad weather to participate in sessions and share learning.

Home Economics

Gráinne Dennison PDST worked with Home Economics teachers for two sessions, teachers were delighted to come together as a group and share knowledge. Discussions took place on the Third Year Practical exam, hour long classes and the implications there of for making sure the cake came out of the oven after all of the hard work in class. Teachers now have a suggestion that TY Students across the scheme work on a Kerry ETB recipe book. We look forward to many happy hours cooking and Baking - A Kerry ETB Bake-off maybe in future! The feedback was very positive from the sessions; teachers noted that coming together as a group was very helpful and reassuring. They noted that discussions on methodologies, activities and inspections was of great benefit. Thanks to Jeremy Wrenn who uploaded material on to Share Drive where all teachers will be able to access same.

SEN

Gráinne also met SEN teachers in January. Teachers looked at what is working well and challenges in the SEN support and provision currently available in their Schools. Many examples of good practice were shared. Teachers outlined need in terms of CPD, citing updating the SEN Plan in schools and template design for tasks and process throughout the year as priority areas. Gráinne complimented the teachers on the great work being done in SEN Departments in Kerry ETB schools to support students with additional needs.

Transition Year

TY Co-ordinators were brought together for the first time this year. The group were thrilled to meet, Michael O Leary formerly National TY Co-ordinator facilitated the sessions and brought wonderful suggestions to the table. The sharing of knowledge regarding, Promotion, parents meetings, dissemination of information to colleagues and TY Plan was of benefit to all. As a result of the meetings, ordering and purchasing through the Credit card system procedures were put in place and a number of schools have agreed to take on the Foróige Leadership Programme. Teachers attended a training session in May and the programme will be implemented in SPHE/ Religion classes for TY students in autumn 2016. The Foróige Programme is an excellent model to encourage Students to look at themselves and what they might like to do in the future, while developing Leadership skills. TY Co-ordinators requested further sessions on Assessment in TY, The TY Department Plan and promotion of the programme.

Business

Business Teachers met once this year. The group worked on the Subject Department Plan and shared ideas on strategies and methodology. Maura Fehily from PDST had to present without the aid of modern technology as Tralee was without power that day! Teachers were happy with tips on teaching business to a mixed ability class.

Gaeilge

Susan Ormond, PDST, worked with Gaeilge teachers on three occasions this year. Susan worked with Gaeilge teachers, on grammar, ICT in teaching Gaeilge, teaching methodologies and resources and suggestions on writing the Subject Department Plan.

Thanks to Jeremy Wrenn from Head Office who supported the group with uploading the Plan on to their school Microsoft 365 Share Drive. Susan shared some fabulous methodologies with teachers and we were delighted to bring on board, Aoife Ní Chonchúir, Gaeilge Officer for Kerry ETB to our meetings who presented a series of strategies on teaching Gaeilge as a language. Aoife informed us that the model she outlined is applicable across teaching all Modern Foreign languages. It is wonderful to see most of our schools now involved in the Junior Cycle Oral option, which is win, win especially with 40% of the Leaving Cert marks now being given for Oral work.

Thanks to all concerned this year that made this such a success and congratulations to our Student who received the overall Kerry ETB mark and will go on to be presented with a Medal at the Student Awards in January 2017 by the Lucey family in memory of Kathleen Lucey who taught Gaeilge in Tralee Community College for many years.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Claire Matthews and Ellen Barrett, PDST, worked with Modern Foreign Language teachers for two sessions on strategies, resources and as with all training this year the Subject Department Plan. The use of ICT in teaching foreign languages as well as Graphic Organisers proved very popular with our language teachers. Show Me Boards were seen as superb for use in teaching grammar and in checking for understanding. Clare Matthews, PDST, created Blooms Taxonomy Cards were highlighted also as a very useful resource.

Sincere thanks to teachers and Schools who have become involved in the MFL oral option at Junior Cycle. We now have both French and Spanish being presented for the Oral Option and welcome more Schools to consider the possibility of supporting students to take the oral exam. PDST are happy to do school visits as with all subjects to provide in School support. All details are available on www.pdst.ie

History

Thanks to Sinead O'Sullivan from PDST who worked with History teachers this year. Our colleagues were delighted to meet and discuss the use of IT in teaching and learning History. Graphic Organisers and PDST website proved to be popular resources. Teachers also worked on the Subject Department Plan. It was noted in the evaluations that being made aware of how to copy You Tube Clips to use in class was very helpful. It was timely that our initial meeting of our History teachers came about as we commemorated and celebrated 1916 in Kerry ETB with a gathering of 250 students in The Rose Hotel on April 12th to participate in a Music and Arts Event.



Thanks also to local historian Gerald O'Carroll who attended one of our meetings and presented each School with a poster of the history of Tralee that he had worked on to celebrate the town's 800 year.



Gerald O'Carroll presenting Ann O'Dwyer, EO, with a poster of the History of Tralee

Guidance Counsellors / Principals

Guidance teachers met as a group in November to address areas of concern and outline solutions to progress matters going forward. A Whole School Well-Being Plan was discussed as a piece of work that needed to be done in Schools across the scheme. Thanks to Juanita Lovett from Castleisland Community College who shared her Plan with the group. Following on from the Guidance Counsellors meeting, Principals and Guidance Counsellors came together for a session to look at roles and responsibilities in drawing up a Whole School Well-Being Plan. Thanks to Paul Breslin PDST who facilitated the session. Paul gave suggestions on moving forward and as a consequence of this meeting a sub-group was formed who worked on a policy document to share with all Schools. The template for all Schools to use was circulated at the Principals meeting in May. Thanks to the sub-committee who took the time to work on the plan.

Leadership

Leadership: Principals and Deputies met throughout the year on a number of occasions to address areas of concern and upskill to meet the ever developing needs of those in Senior Management positions in our Schools.

Middle Management, Assistant Principals met in November with Luke Monaghan to discuss Leadership and Management matters. Post Holders noted that it was very valuable to establish links with other APs to learn from their experience. A recommendation was made that the group would meet again to look at roles and responsibilities, template documents and procedures to deal with situations that arise in Schools.

55 Kerry ETB teachers completed the Kerry ETB Middle Management training which was provided by the School Principals and Margaret Godley, SEN Support Teacher.

School Principals and Senior Management attend a series of 6 workshops on Reflective Practice and Joint Collaborative Practice provided by Niamh Mulligan, Ann O'Dwyer and Inspector, Finn O'Murchú.

New Teacher Induction

Kerry ETB was delighted to welcome 33 newly appointed teachers to three in-service sessions this academic year. Thanks to all of our teachers and presenters who took the time to attend the sessions. Topics covered included Restorative Practice by Niamh Mulligan, while Introduction to Microsoft 365 was facilitated by Jeremy Wrenn. Teresa Loneragan, Deputy Principal, Castleisland Community College worked with the group on Active Teaching Methodologies and Madeline Hunter's Lesson Design. Thanks also to our colleagues in the HR and Finance Departments who advised the newly appointed teachers on a number of issues. Feedback from all sessions was very positive.

DEIS Planning in the context of SSE

Principals and School Planners attended an in-service session with Gráinne Dennison, PDST in January where they worked on the Six Step School Self-Evaluation process. Gráinne gave very good guidelines on setting clear, attainable, measureable targets. It was noted as being an excellent session in Evaluations and sincere thanks to Fiona O'Brien and Stella Loughnane, Killarney Community College for sharing their DEIS Plan with all schools.

SNA Training

SNAs met in June 2015 for three days and worked with Niamh Mulligan on Report Writing and Stress Management and Self Care. The sessions with Niamh are always very popular as Niamh has developed a fabulous working relationship with staff in Schools through her own work in Psychotherapy. Niamh has a great understanding of the challenges of the role of SNAs in an ever evolving world in terms of need of Students presenting in our Schools. Dr Catherine Browne, KCFE and IT Tralee, was back also to work with our SNAs at their request. Catherine worked on Medical matters and all SNAs will receive First Aid Certs from QQI shortly.

Maths

Maths teachers met in September, November and February to work with Jeremy Wrenn on using Khan Academy with their Students. Khan Academy is a free interactive website funded by the Bill Gates Foundation featuring video based Maths instruction along with Maths problems to test a Student's knowledge of the material. Students receive points for watching video and solving problems. Kerry ETB Schools participated in the Learnstorm Challenge, which used the Khan Academy platform as the basis of the competition. 2 Coláiste na Sceilge Students finished in the top 10 of an original 30,000 competitors and will receive a scholarship from DCU should they later attend there.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety is now a standard item on the agenda of all Kerry ETB school Board of Management meetings. During the year Kerry ETB and Irish Public Bodies jointly delivered Health and Safety, and Risk Management training to Caretakers, teachers of Woodwork and Metalwork, teachers of Home Economics and Science, and Health and Safety Officers. Training also took place for Caretakers on the safe use of ladders. A OneNote notebook was also set up so that all Health and Safety Officers and Principals can collaborate and view the Health and Safety documents relevant to their School. Jeremy Wrenn is Kerry ETB's representative on the National Safety Management System group which met every two months to draft a comprehensive range of Health and Safety policies to cover the variety of activities and operations within ETBs.



ICT

A wide range of ICT training took place during the year as part of Kerry ETB's Digital Schools Strategy, a five year plan to integrate more technology and our teaching and learning.

The goal of the project is to use cloud based technology to enhance collaboration in the School community and support active learning methodologies, enabling Students to review class content outside of School and ensuring our Students have up-to-date digital skills. Some of our Schools, Killorglin Community College in particular, are very advanced already in this area.

All Kerry ETB teachers now have an official school email address, as well as a range of new tools for working together and working with Students. Kerry ETB have purchased a Microsoft campus licence so Staff can now put Microsoft Office on to devices at home for free, and this option is also available for all our Students. Schools are using shared calendars to keep everyone informed as to what is going on in School, cloud storage to view their files outside of School and Teachers have been introduced to new ways of providing information to Students using OneNote. Schools also have webspaces where each Subject Department can store documents, share knowledge, and disseminate information to Students. A scheme was also put in place to help teachers buy Microsoft Surface devices at a reduced cost and have the cost deducted from their wages over a 12 month period.

Jeremy Wrenn has been working with the 8 second level Schools to help embed these technologies into our work. Each School has had at least one CPD session, with some Schools receiving multiple sessions. School leaders have also received 3 days specific training during the year and 3 lead teachers per School also came together for 3 sessions during the year. Teachers in some Schools are training the other teachers in their School. Subject teachers meetings, where there are representatives from each School, have also received briefings on how these tools can support teaching and learning.

Kerry Music Education Partnership (KMEP)

By Miranda Cournane

Kerry Music Education Partnership (KMEP) is a performance music education partnership initiative for Co. Kerry. The initiative is led by Kerry Education and Training Board in partnership with a number of statutory, voluntary and local agencies including Kerry County Council, the Institute of Technology, Tralee, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service (KDYS), Ealain na Gaeltachta and a number of local music educators and youth organisations.

KMEP oversees the delivery of the Take Note Music Project, the aim of which is to broaden access to affordable, multi-genre music performance and education programmes for children and young people. It is a self-financing project which is made possible thanks to the continued commitment and support of all the project partners. Take Note Programmes for 2015/2016 included a Vocal and Instrumental Tuition Service, a number of Youth Music Mentorship Initiatives and the Kerry Banditz Music Programme.

Vocal and Instrumental Tuition

The Take Note Vocal and Instrumental Tuition programme is currently being piloted in a number of Primary and Post-Primary Schools across the County. Phase 2 of the pilot commenced in September 2015. Participating Kerry ETB Schools included Causeway Comprehensive School, Coláiste Gleann Lí, Tralee, Coláiste na Sceilge, Caherciveen and Killorglin Community College. Tuition took place in small groups and children were facilitated in learning music with their peers.

Over 2015/2016, 170+ pupils participated in ensemble playing and received tuition in areas such as voice, guitar, drum, tin-whistle and recorder. The self-funding initiative also gave employment to local Kerry tutors and musicians who provided programmes of between 8-30 weeks to children and young people. Schools also had the opportunity to host School ensembles to further provide performance opportunities for their students.



Students at Coláiste Gleann Lí preparing for a performance

Youth Music Mentorship Initiatives

Over November and December 2015, composer Kevin Gleeson delivered a mentorship programme to a number of young composers identified during his time as Kerry County Council Composer-in-Residence. The mentorship was co-funded by Kerry County Council Arts Office and the Arts Council. Two talented young Kerry ETB composers, Sarah Finnan (Killarney Community College) and Lorraine de Nais (Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí), were facilitated in recording a CD of their original compositions. The CD was launched at KDYS in Killarney in January 2016.

In February 2016, a Youth Choral Project, also co-funded by Kerry County Council Arts Office and the Arts Council and supported by Kerry Education and Training Board, was launched. The project was led by Slovenian musician and choral director, Anita Lakner. The aim of the mentorship project was to promote higher standards of practice in contemporary and popular music performance and afford young singers the opportunity to receive expert advice and guidance from a choral specialist. The project was hosted at Coláiste Gleann Lí, Tralee and culminated in a public performance in May.

Kerry Banditz Easter Music Programme

Over Easter 2016, Coláiste na Sceilge, Caherciveen was host to a Take Note Kerry Banditz Music Programme, led by Kerry Education and Training Board and funded by the Institute of Technology Tralee. The innovative youth music programme for 12-17 year olds, offered an opportunity for young people to play, write, record and create original music.



The programme was led by singer/song writer John Buggy and co-facilitated by a number of locally-based musicians and music tutors. Over an intensive 20-hour programme, students sampled instrumental playing, wrote their own lyrics and songs and learned about music technology and recording. Original song recordings from the programme can be found on the Kerry Take Note SoundCloud page. Videographies from participants and tutors can also be viewed on the project YouTube page.

Further Details

Queries in relation to the Take Note Music Project can be directed to Miranda Cournane, Project Co-ordinator, at Kerry ETB Head Office on (066) 7121488 or via Email mcournane@kerryetb.ie

Visit our website at www.kerrytakenote.ie



Broadening access to music for children and young people across Co. Kerry



Students at the Kerry Banditz Music Programme



Commemorating the Past and Celebrating the Present through Music and The Arts (1916 - 2016) participants



Adult Literacy and Basic Education

ERASMUS + Mobilities Introduction

Erasmus + funding has provided tutors and staff in the Adult Literacy and Basic Education and Community Education Programmes with opportunities to develop skills and knowledge. To date 12 staff have travelled abroad to take part in mobilities (workshops). Erasmus + provides staff with an opportunity to learn about specific topics such as ICT, Leadership, Motivation in Education, Inter-culturalism while also mixing with and learning from peers from other parts of the Europe. This mixing allows for the sharing of ideas and approaches which hugely benefits Kerry ETB learners. The series of articles below highlight some of the main learning that has taken place in the past 8 months.

Managing Erasmus + Funding

The Kerry ETB Erasmus + Committee was established in January 2015 to develop and manage the Kerry ETB Erasmus + process. This Committee links directly with Leargas who provide the funding for Erasmus + and act as a link between the Committee and the EU Commission.

The application for funding was prepared in March 2014 by Mary Concannon, Elaine Clifford, Mieke Byrne with support from Aoife McCormack and Michelle Anne Houlihan. Kerry ETB received notification in December 2014 that the application was approved. In early January 2015 the Erasmus + Committee met to review the legal and financial obligations for Kerry ETB as well as the opportunities that it presented for staff in both Community Education and Adult Literacy and Basic Education Programmes. The Committee members are Mary Concannon (ALO, Killarney), Michelle Anne Houlihan (CEF), Elaine Clifford (ABE Tutor), Paula Tiller (Tutor Support Tutor), Shivaun Shanahan (AEO) and is chaired by Aoife McCormack (County ALO) and administration is provided by Claire Lucid. Since January 2015 ten meetings have taken place to develop procedures, approve mobilities, share experiences and make decisions.

ERASMUS + Employability

Four Kerry ETB Tutors attended an Erasmus+ event last August in Belfast based around 'Teaching Active Employability Learning'. This trip was one of a series of mobilities available to tutors under the Erasmus+ programme. This mobility focused on teaching employability skills and strategies for integrating a focus on employability learning and personal development into existing adult basic education. The Erasmus+ programme continues throughout 2016 and tutors are planning to attend further mobilities; 'Motivate Me, Motivate My Learner' in June in Sicily, Italy, and 'Learning with Tablets' in July in Graz, Austria.



Erasmus Mobility - Adult Education Management by Deirdre Fitzgerald, Literacy Organiser in Castleisland and Cahersiveen Adult Literacy and Basic Education Centres

Erasmus Mobility - Adult Education Management

by Deirdre Fitzgerald, Literacy Organiser in Castleisland and Cahersiveen Adult Literacy and Basic Education Centres

This mobility was held in Sicily in Italy from the 9th to the 13th of September. The mobility focused on Motivation, Leadership and Inter-culturalism. It was mostly practice and workshop based which gave the participants the opportunity to develop new skills in the company of fellow colleagues from Donegal ETB. In our group activities; there was continual shared learning and best practices exchange in terms of team working, working in a multicultural environment, managing a team, conflict management and leadership skills. Below is an idea of the group work undertaken and a few pictures from the mobility:



Erasmus + Trip to Sicily

A group of ALO/DLEO from both the Kerry and Donegal ETBs went on an Erasmus plus trip to Sicily in September 2015. The objective of the programme was to find new ways of boosting motivation and productivity at work. It was a very safe place for us all to discuss and share our idea. We expressed our concerns and resolved some of our challenges.

This trip gave us all the opportunity to gel more as a group and also to bring back a lot of new and exciting learning materials. It was well worth going on the trip. We studied many topics including Motivation, Multiculturalism, Leadership and professional challenges. We all received certificate at the end of the training.





Family Learning Healthy Eating and Cooking Tri Gaeilge

In the Cahersiveen Adult Literacy and Basic Education Programme some tuition takes place through the medium of Irish. A group of parents were able to do literacy and numeracy through healthy eating and cooking. The programme proved to be a great success, achieving all the aims they set out.

Project Aims:

- Become familiar with the use of basic Irish through cooking & baking
- Looking at nutrition & healthy eating
- Look at nutrition, costs and vocabulary around food
- Understanding & using the Food Pyramid
- Be more aware of learning opportunities to support children's learning at home

Cahersiveen ABE ITABE Group



The ITABE group went to Cobh to visit the Titanic Exhibition. The students researched various places to visit before choosing Cork, such as Dingle and Kenmare, but the students were more adventurous and were interested in visiting Cobh. It is a

beautiful Victorian town. The learners priced around, making sure to get a good discount! The exhibit was very interesting and was surreal to think the fated few boarded the Titanic did so from where we stood many years later. The exhibit had some interactive exhibits at the end with mind boggling facts and figures about the Titanic in relation to the food on board. A fun and interesting day was had by all.

QQI Level 2 Module Quantity and Number

Castleisland ABE presented certificates to 8 learners from our Oilean Beo group in Castleisland ABE who had completed the QQI Level 2 Module Quantity and Number. Their tutor Rosaleen Kennedy carried out many varied exercises to assist with this module, the module enhanced the groups shopping, saving, budgeting, measuring and estimating skills. They played cards and board games. The group guessed how many sweets there were in bowls before counting, dividing and (the best part) eating them. At the end of the course the feedback received was very positive:

- "maths is not such a scary subject after all"
- "we had "great fun"
- "I didn't know I knew so much".

The group are now working towards the Level 2 Setting the Learning Goals & integrating the Non-Verbal Communications module.

Dingle Computer Skills

The world of computers was an unknown place for the eight learners who signed up for a Level 2 Computer Skills Course in Dingle this January. In the months since then, they have gained a huge amount of knowledge and confidence in using this new technology. Together, they have learned about personal computers, laptops and tablets. They are now able to use word processing programmes and how to print their work. They know how to connect to the internet, how to open websites and how to find information online.

In the coming weeks, they are looking forward to learning about email and completing their portfolios. Several of the Students have also expressed an interest in progressing on to higher qualifications. For a group which includes people who were not able to turn on a computer a few short months ago, this represents enormous progress!



Tuismitheoirí ag foghlaim Gaeilge

Feabhas a chur ar a gcuid Gaeilge - b'shin í an aidhm a bhí ag an seachtar tuismitheoir a bhuail le chéile i mbunscoil Abha na Scáil i mí Eanáir. Bhí leanaí óga acu go léir agus theastaigh uathu a bheith in ann cabhrú leo lena obair bhaile. Tá mórán dul chun cinn déanta acu ó shin. Tá siúl siar déanta acu ar an aimsir láithreach agus ar an aimsir chaite, ar uimhreacha agus comhaireamh, cur síos a dhéanamh ar dhaoine, treoracha a thabhairt dóibh agus go leor eile. Caitheann siad go leor ama ag caint agus ag comhrá le chéile as Gaeilge le linn na ranga freisin. Amach anseo, teastaíonn uathu cur lena dtuiscint ar ghramadach na Gaeilge agus lena gcumas an teanga a labhairt. Tá tús maith curtha acu leis an obair sin. Mar is eol do gach éinne, sin leath na hoibre!

'1916 Trail - AONTAS Adult Learners' Festival 2016



L-R: Padraig O'Leary, Catriona Lenihan, Julia O'Sullivan, Dan McCarthy, Mary Concannon, Monica Kolek, Phakaomart O'Connor, Jenny O'Reilly, Eamon Browne

The Adult Learners' Festival 2016 is a nationwide celebration of adult learning. It took place from 22nd February to 26th February 2016. The festival is about celebrating adult learning and the achievements of adult learners; showing the work of Adult Education providers; promoting the work of AONTAS and the Adult Education sector and ensuring that Adult Education is placed firmly on the political agenda.



As part of Adult Learner Festival week, Killarney and Killorglin Adult Literacy & Basic Education Centres held a get together in Killarney on Thursday, 25th February, 2016. The theme for our get together was the Easter Rising 1916 and the title of our event was 'The 1916 Trail'.

The group visited Killarney Library where Eamon Browne, Librarian, gave a talk regarding the historical records of 1916 in the Killarney and Killorglin area. Eamon showed the group 'The Kerryman' newspaper dating back to April 1st, 1916 using the library's archive facility. The learners enjoyed sharing their local connections with 1916 and stories they were familiar with.



Front L-R: Julia O'Sullivan, Sheila Crowley and Mossie Pierce
Back L-R: Jenny O'Reilly, Donna Baker, Martin O Sullivan, Mary Concannon, Dan McCarthy, Tomás O Sullivan, Elaine Clifford

National Adult Learner Forum - Margaret Scully

The very first National Adult Learner Forum was held on the 26th February 2016 in The Round Room at The Mansion House Dublin. It was an honour to be nominated for this event and I was proud to be the only representative from Co. Kerry. The Mansion House is located on Stephen's Green. It is a beautiful historic building and the home to the Dublin City Lord Mayor. The current Lord Mayor is Criona Ni Dhalaigh. She gave the closing speech.



I walked the twenty minutes it took from the hotel to The Mansion House. It was a beautiful morning. There was a lot of road works the streets were all dug up in preparation for new train lines to be laid. This construction work made finding my way a little difficult. I found most people to be very helpful when asked for directions.

I arrived early at the venue. The organisers of the event were just setting up. We had to register at 9:30. We were treated to Tea/Coffee and pastries before taking our seats at round tables that seated ten people.

What stood out for me?

The various workshops we took part in were very interesting. We got to choose the ones we wanted to participate in. I chose The Auditory (Speaker and discussion) option. We were taken to another room where we listened to a

speaker (Una Buckley). Then we were paired up and had to write a small speech. We were given one minute per person to deliver this speech with a microphone on the podium. I enjoyed the discussion about the different learning styles and really connected with this.



A photo of me taking a photo of various notes - AONTAS Facebook page

Written by Margaret Scully, Adult Learner in Killarney Adult Literacy and Basic Education Centre. Margaret is also a NALA Learner Ambassador.

Adult Literacy Centre Listowel

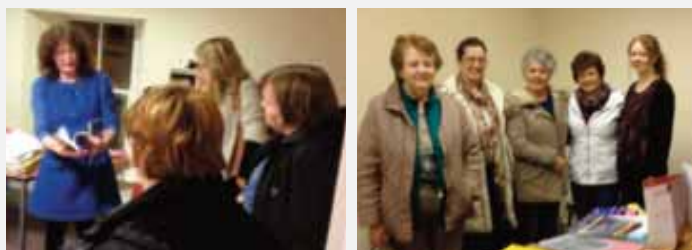
We had many DEIS programmes running in the North Kerry area like Literacy through Gardening, Woodwork & Time for Me.



The main objective of these programmes is the recognition of the vital role of parents and other family members in children's literacy development. They are education programmes which help to develop literacy and numeracy learning in a family context. They build on literacy practices within families or communities and aim to develop literacy skills and confidence across generations.



Five new voluntary tutors joined the Listowel team this year. On Thursday 3rd December we held a resource night whereby all the group tutors picked a topic e.g. spelling or reading and showcased to all, what wonderful resources we have in the centre. The feedback from this night was very positive.



In-service Training for the 'Time for Me' Course

In-service training for the Time for Me course took place at Aras an Phobail, Tralee in May. The training was delivered by Joan Barrett who was one of the tutors who delivered the course for the Adult Literacy and Basic Education service Kerry Education and Training Board.

The Time for Me programme is a course in gentle personal development delivered to groups of women. The course was devised by Patricia Maher in 1999. The intention of the course is to encourage women to take 'Time out for Themselves' and to use that time constructively to reflect on themselves and their life at present in a supportive and comfortable group environment.

Six tutors from around the county attended the training which was held over two sessions. The tutors were asked two questions at the start and end of each session: (1) How they felt about their own personal development? (2) How they felt about delivering a course in personal development? An examination of their responses indicated that the tutors' comfort levels with their own personal development had increased by the end of the workshops and also reflected improved confidence on their part in taking on delivering this course.

The In-service covered the journey of the course since it was devised. Joan Barrett was the main tutor who delivered it over 15 years. She tailored the course to suit the needs of each group she worked with. She introduced some elements which reflected her own training and experiences as a tutor. Joan suggested to the tutors to be flexible in this regard but stressed that it was important to keep to the original thinking of the 1999 programme.

The tutors received a copy of the programme which included an outline for each session, including worksheets to help assist in the planning of each session of the course. The tutors took part, through small group work, in some of the

exercises for participants. This included how to unpack group feedback in the larger group of course participants which might lead to short discussions.

The feedback from the tutors was very positive and they looked forward to delivering the course in the future. Joan wished them well and encouraged them, as tutors of a course in personal development, to continue to be tuned into and to attend to their own personal development needs in the future.

Working for Kerry ETB from 1996-2015 by Joan Barrett

In 1996, Jim Enright the then Adult Education Organiser employed me for the VEC in County Kerry to deliver a parenting course to a group of parents in Dingle. I continued to deliver parenting courses for Community Education at various centres in the county.

In 1999, I was invited to write up a parenting course by Marguerite Brosnan (then County Co-ordinator for Adult Learning Service). The course titled 'The Power of Encouragement' was delivered by me until recently, mainly for the Adult Literacy Service around the county.

In addition to delivering parenting courses, I delivered courses in Assertive Communication as well as in personal awareness, managing stress and health and well-being. I met and worked with hundreds of people over the years. I found the work both enjoyable and very rewarding and felt it was an honour to be part of the personal journey of the many wonderful people - so many of whom were returning to education.

I wish to express my thanks to the administrative staff at all levels for their courtesy, their assistance, their cooperation and unfailing support at all times. I am also very grateful for the opportunity to have worked with the Area Literacy Organisers and with the Community Education Organisers and Facilitators during my nearly 20 years in the role of tutor for Kerry Vocational Education Committee, Kerry Education Service and now Kerry Education and Training Board.

Refugee Resettlement Programme

In December 2015 many families arrived to Kerry as part of a resettlement process managed nationally by the Department of Justice and Equality and locally by Kerry County Council. The families, who are originally from Iraq and Syria are living in Kerry and are participating in Refugee Resettlement Education programmes in Tralee and Killarney. The aim of the programme is to provide English language tuition that is based on their needs to fully participate in life in Kerry. It is expected that more families will arrive later in 2016.

There are three Refugee Resettlement Programme Resource Workers working in Tralee and Killarney delivering the programme.

English for Speakers of Other Languages

There are over 25 part-time classes throughout the county for people who do not speak English as their first language. The classes are delivered by dedicated tutors who provide English language tuition to help improve the learners listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Almost 400 people participate in the classes.

Eligible learners are referred by the Department of Social Protection, Local Employment Service, TIRC and KASI to Kerry ETB for assessment. After assessments learners are invited to take part in tuition at a suitable level.



ESOL learners meet Joan Burton, TD

In December 2015 a number of ESOL learners and their Tutor welcomed Minister Joan Burton, TD to the Tralee Adult Literacy and Basic Education Centre. They were delighted to meet the then Tanaiste who spent a good deal of time with the learners.



Skills for Work Programme

Top Marks for Skills for Work learners!

Learners from the Skills for Work Programme were presented with their QQI Certificates in Internet Skills and Spreadsheets by Adult Education Officer Shivaun Shanahan during a recent awards night held at the Adult Literacy and Basic Education Services Centre in Aras an Phobail Tralee. The success of these learners in achieving accreditation is testament to their commitment and how they recognise and value the opportunity to engage in further education and training in order to consolidate what they know and to develop new skills to do their jobs better.



Skills for Work students proudly receive their certificates at the Adult Literacy and Basic Awards night from Shivaun Shanahan AEO. Also in the picture Ger Ferris Workplace Education Coordinator.

Free courses if you are:

- Over 18 years of age and not in full-time second level education
- In part-time or full time employment
- With work skill needs
- With few, out-dated or no educational qualifications
- Willing to take part on a voluntary basis
- Have a desire to improve
- Have their employer's support

Programmes include: Introduction to Computers, Communications, Basic Maths, and the SPSV preparation course for taxi drivers, Thematic Courses for farmers, vintners and many more. The courses are delivered locally by Kerry ETB and are absolutely free. For more information your local contact is:

Ger Ferris- Workplace Education Coordinator

Lillian Buckley - Skills for Work Regional Coordinator (Tel: 0860487406)

Adult Literacy and Basic Education, Kerry Education and Training Board,
Aras an Phobail, Dean's Lane, Tralee, County Kerry
Tel: 0667124114

Family Literacy through Cookery

A ten week cookery themed Family Literacy course took place in the Presentation National School, Tralee under the Family Literacy programme last term. Twenty five parents participated in the classes and explored traditional local cookery as well as typical dishes from a range of the countries of origin of the parents involved. The parents each demonstrated cooking a favourite dish and the group ended up with a collection of wonderful recipes from around the world! Through the shared experience of cooking, the participants learned about each other's countries of origin and cultures.

QQI Awards Night



On Monday 22nd February, during the Aontas Adult Learners' Festival, we held an Awards Night at Tralee ABE for our students who achieved certification at QQI Levels 2 and 3 during 2015. We were delighted to welcome 38 learners along with their friends and family to celebrate this wonderful achievement. Five learners received a Level 2 Major Award in General Learning and a host of minor awards at level 2 were given out including; Reading, Writing, Personal Decision Making, Setting Learning Goals, Using Technology and Quantity and Number.

There were also some Level 3 certificates awarded on the night; Computer Literacy, Internet Skills, Word Processing and Spreadsheets. The tutors and staff at Tralee ABE were joined by Aoife McCormack, County ALO and Shivaun Shanahan AEO, who presented each award, and celebrated the fantastic achievements of the proud learners.



Tutor Support Kerry ETB

Dyslexia In-Service Training

We were delighted recently to welcome Amy Smyth from the Dyslexia Association to deliver in-service training to 16 Adult Basic Education Tutors. Amy, who herself has dyslexia, talked about how dyslexia affects people, how to identify dyslexia and where to access assessment, accessing suitable resources and materials as well as some tips on teaching and learning strategies. We hope to welcome Amy back in the autumn to demonstrate apps that are useful for teaching and learning with dyslexia.



New Tutor Support Worker

Paula Tiller has been appointed Tutor Support Worker to cover for Isabelle Dumont. Paula will be responsible for supporting both CID tutors and volunteer tutors in Adult Literacy and Basic Education. As well as organising and running Initial Tutor Training for volunteers entering the service, she coordinates delivery of in-service training including modules that lead to the Higher Certificate of Arts in Literacy Development. Paula also produces the

tutor newsletter and designs and updates the www.kerryabetutors.ie website which is currently under redevelopment.

WIT Module Developing Literacies 2

The Adult Literacy and Basic Education Programme once again welcomed Waterford Institute of Technology to deliver the 'Developing Literacies 2' module in the QQI Level 6 'Higher Certificate of Arts in Literacy Development'. The module took place over five days distributed between two blocks. It was exceptionally well attended with 22 tutors taking part.



Kerry ABE represented at NALA's International Literacy Day 2015 conference

Maggie O'Sullivan Graham and Paula Tiller presented a case study at NALA's International Literacy Day 2015 conference on 'Team Teaching and Integrated Courses'. They presented their 'Seven Habits of Highly Effective Learners' a course that they developed, delivered and documented. The presentation and initiative was commended by Fiona Hartley, Executive Director of SOLAS. The link to their team teaching tips is available on the NALA website.



Adult Basic Education Tutors Website

The Kerry ABE Tutors' website is currently being redeveloped. The existing website will remain in place until the new site goes live and it is frequently updated with new material. It provides an excellent resource for all tutors both for integrating literacy and numeracy across other programmes, as well as dedicated adult literacy and basic education teaching.





Back to Education Initiative

by Marianne Marshall

BTEI - the Back To Education Initiative Programme

BTEI - the Back To Education Initiative Programme provides part-time further education programmes for young people and adults. The aim of BTEI is to give people who would like to return to learning the opportunity to update their skills and knowledge in a flexible way. This means that people can combine a return to learning with family and other commitments.

When and where are BTEI Programmes available?

Programmes are offered on a flexible part-time basis. On average each module (class) will run for one or two sessions per week. Classes are offered in the spring term and in the autumn term, in the morning, afternoons, evenings or occasional Saturdays. Classes are offered in several locations around Kerry;

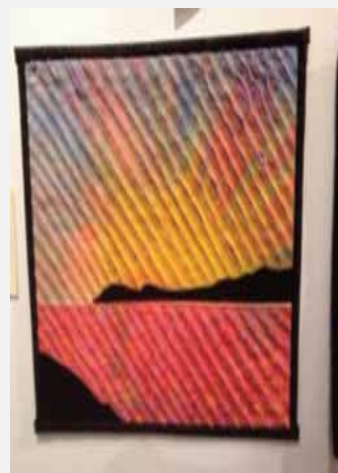
- Our four Adult Education Centres in Causeway, Caherciveen, Kenmare and Waterville
- Killarney Community College and Coláiste na Ríochta, Listowel
- Kerry College of Further Education (formally Tralee Community College, Clash Tralee)
- Community Development Project, Rock St, Tralee
- Dingle - Old Monastery (CBS)
- Ballylongford, Castleisland and Listry Community Centre
- Family Resource Centres in Abbeydorney (Shannon), Ballyheigue, Killorglin, Listowel and Shanakill, Tralee
- Some other smaller locations around Kerry depending on demand.

What will a BTEI Course Cost?

Courses are free for any adult with less than upper second level education. This includes persons in employment, persons who are unwaged and persons in receipt of social welfare payments. Those who have completed Leaving Certificate (or higher) but are in receipt of jobseeker payments or means-tested social welfare benefits, and holders of medical cards, and their dependents are also entitled to free tuition. All others will be charged fees.

The current fee per module is €75.00 for Level 3 and Level 4 and €150.00 for Level 5 and Level 6. Some exceptions may apply to Level 5 Occupational First Aid and some other Level 5 modules as they are delivered in a shorter time and are only €75.00 per module e.g. a cookery modules with only 5 credits.

Anyone who has left full-time education can take part in a course being offered, but priority will be given to those with less than upper second level education.



Quilt Exhibition



Listowel Craft Students Work Level 5



Level 5 Combined Materials Students Quilt



Quilt Exhibition



Listowel Craft Group



Killorglin FRC Computer Group



Lime Grove Killarney Computer Students

Will taking part affect my social welfare entitlement?

In general, you are allowed to take part in BTEI funded programmes for up to 17 hours per week without it affecting your Social Welfare payments. However, on certain payments you are expected to remain eligible for work. You must furnish your social welfare office with details of the course you are attending. It is best to discuss individual circumstances with the social welfare office.

Will I obtain certification for a BTEI course?

All courses offer access to QQI formally FETAC Certification at Level 3 to Level 6 through the National Framework of Qualifications. Flexible approaches will allow you to build up credits over time and achieve recognised qualifications.

What will I get from taking part in a BTEI programme?

Participation on part-time programmes can provide opportunities to:

- continue your learning
- obtain national certification
- develop new skills
- pursue new employment opportunities

Some examples of the programmes offered around the County are:

Childcare - Levels 5 & 6

Healthcare - Level 5

Horticulture - Level 3-5

Computers (ICT) Level 3-5

Business Level 3-5 - Office procedures, Start your own business

Digital Photography Level 3-5

Art, Crafts and Design Levels 3-5

Painting and Drawing Level 3-5

Cookery/Culinary Operations Levels 3-5

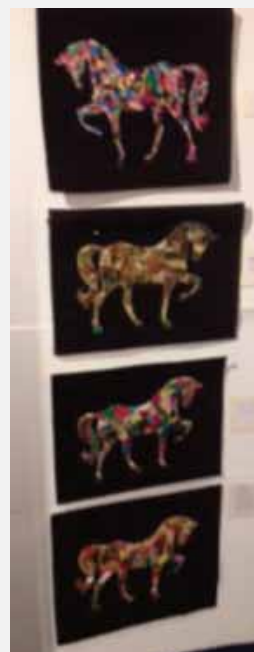
Animal Care Level 5

Woodwork Levels 3-5

Contact Marianne Marshall, BTEI, Co-ordinator, Kerry ETB,
mmarshall@kerryetb.ie, Tel: 066 71 21488



Abbeysdorney Horticulture Group



Quilt Exhibition



Quilt Exhibition in Siamsa Tire Tralee



Abbeysdorney Horticulture Group



Castleisland Computer Group



Community Education

Michelle Anne Houlihan, Community Education Facilitator (CEF)

Kerry Education and Training Board has supported the development of a Community Garden in conjunction with Shannow Family Resource Centre in Abbeydorney. The Community Education Programme and the BTEI Programme have facilitated learners to participate in Horticulture Courses which have resulted in accreditation and also created a core group of people in the community who are interested in wildlife, the environment and the importance of gaining knowledge on growing vegetables and caring for our earth.



Talented Singers and Musicians from Saint John of Gods Kerry Services

Kerry ETB Community Education Programme in conjunction with a group of talented singers and musicians from Saint John of Gods Kerry Services participated in an 8 week Community Music Programme. This project culminated in a show called "The Cowboys Musical Performance". There were a total of 19 participants who sang either solos, duets or group pieces with music of their own choice supported by live instrumental backup and recordings. The many songs included King of the Swingers, performed with great humour, and Hit Me Baby One More Time, which included a dance troupe. To close the show, the group put on a unique and original piece that involved instrumental performances on keyboard, harmonicas, guitar, percussion, and trombone.

Each participant showcased their skills, highlighting the musical interest and range of abilities developed over the term of their programme. This is a great example of the positive outcomes of working in partnership with other organisations.



Congratulations to all involved in a wonderful piece of work and a special thank you to Ruti Lachs who facilitated the group, to Angie and Dom whose hard work insures the project always gets done and there is always enjoyment and learning along the way.

Tralee Women Interactive Network Group visit Cloughjordan Eco Village

Tralee Women Interactive Network (T.W.I.N) is a wonderful voluntary group in Tralee that grew from the Equality for Women Measure. This group has gone from strength. They organise courses in conjunction with Kerry ETB Community Education Programme and have provided an invaluable forum for women to meet, to participate in personal development, art, health and cultural events.

On a dry brisk Thursday the 3rd of March a group of 15 women from T.W.I.N went to visit the Cloughjordan Eco Village in Tipperary, Ireland's first Eco Village. This active learning experience was opened with a presentation in the old Methodist Hall followed by a guided tour around the Eco Village.

Cloughjordan Eco Village is a registered charity and an internationally known destination for learning about sustainable living. They have a hostel called Django's which can accommodate up to 40 people as well as Cloughjordan's Wood-fired Bakery which produces award winning breads and the WeCreate Green Enterprise Centre which is Ireland's first community-owned FabLab.

During the tour the group learnt about the Sustainable Drainage System which saved the Village from the floods this year and the community heating system which supplies each building with heating and hot water. Soon they hope to have Ireland's largest array of solar collectors once it is fully commissioned. Eco Village residents can grow their own food on the Allotments in the Community farm or they can visit the Coach House where all the produce from the Community farm is distributed.

It truly was an educational experience which made the group think about sustainability, community living and rural regeneration and what they could bring back to our their community in Tralee.



Smart 'Farming' Smartphone Course for Farmers Running in Tralee

"Your Smartphone could be one of the most useful tools on the Farm"

There is a big increase in the number of farmers using Smartphones. Smart phones are becoming more central to people's lives - nearly everything is accessible to your Smartphone nowadays. This programme is a partnership between Tralee CDP and Kerry ETB Community Education Programme



Bridget Flynn Community Education Tutor pictured with the participants of the Smart Farming Course held in Tralee CDP.

This course covers:

Smartphone Basics

- What are Apps?
- How to download Apps and use them?
- Using the Herdwatch App
- Looking at Mart Reports
- Using the Department of Agriculture site on your phone
- And much more.

It is hoped to run this course again in more locations in September - if interested please send in your details to Tralee CDP, Upper Rock Street, Tralee 066 7120877

New Drama Group



This is a new Drama group for Young Adults based in Tralee. This group is facilitated by Padraig Dennehy under the auspices of the Community Education Programme. The group recently performed a play written by a local woman. It was based on three newly married couples honeymooning in Lanzarote. The audience laughed from beginning to end. This is the group's first term together and they are finding their feet on stage. They are enthusiastic, energetic and great actors. Watch this space there is definitely more to come!

O'Connell Centre

On October 15th 2015 members from the Coastguards received their awards in Occupational First Aid QQI Level 5 at the annual Presentation of Certificates at The O'Connell Centre, Caherciveen. The Coastguards were among 55 people from a number of South Kerry community organisations who completed the QQI course delivered through the Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) Programme under the instruction of Kerry ETB tutor Anne Marie Lynch. On the night Pat O'Driscoll thanked Kerry ETB on behalf of the Coastguards for the excellent training they received and the invaluable contribution it has made to their skills.



Pictured from left to right are:
Pat O'Driscoll, James Sugrue, tutor Anne Marie Lynch, John O'Dwyer, Shivaun Shanahan AEO,
Daniel McGillicuddy, Joseph Murphy

The O'Connell Adult Education Centre is delighted to collaborate with The Men's Shed Caherciveen to provide courses of interest to the men. Currently the men are enjoying a cookery course with Kerry ETB tutor John Casey funded through the Community Education Programme. Under John's expert instruction the men are developing their food preparation and cooking methods to prepare everyday healthy meals for themselves and their families. Each week the class focusses on a main meal and a dessert using easily sourced and healthy ingredients. The response to the class has been so positive that the men are already planning more courses from the O'Connell Centre for next term.





Tech Amergin

Tailor's Tale Began in Tralee

One of Ireland's best known tailors, Jude Hughes visited Waterville on 18th February 2016 to share his life story from his early years in Tralee right through his career. Jude was born into St Pat's Navan Dublin in 1941 to an Irish mother and Trinidadian father, he has had an interesting life and recalled his various memories of the county where he spent a significant amount of time.

Jude was abandoned soon after birth and spent time in St. Joseph's Industrial School Tralee first arriving there at the age of eleven. The tailor who operated a successful company at Abbey Street in Dublin recalls sewing numbers onto Kerin's O'Rahillys jerseys the first step in his career before returning to Dublin to work with the likes of Louis Copeland and Gerry Devereux, and in his spare time playing in the Dublin Concert Band.

A documentary based on Jude's personal life - Bleeding Rapid - made by film maker Etain McGuckian was also screened on the night giving people the opportunity to learn more about the tailor and his link to Kerry. "Jude has great connections to the county and we were delighted to welcome him to Tech Amergin", said Susan Walsh.



St. Patrick's Day Street Parade

Community Education Class held in Tech Amergin Waterville.
Tutor Roisin Ni Chionnfhaolaidh.



KDYS Band Project

In October of 2015, Tech Amergin saw the introduction of a new arts project. The KDYS South Kerry Band Project is an initiative to encourage young musicians and singers to come together to share music. The group meet on the last Friday of each month and try out new songs. The target group are young people aged 12-18.

The project is facilitated by KDYS youth leader Anne Daly Murphy and volunteers, Darragh Lynch and Marian O'Neill. The objective is that the more experienced and able musicians and singers support and mentor the less experienced. However, the most important objective is that music is a vehicle for a lot of fun and offers a few hours away from the stresses of teenage life.

Teach le Cheile at Tech Amergin led by Bernie Kennedy

Community Education Project

Our very friendly and diverse group meets to enjoy these sessions and to work at keeping fit. Group members' ages at the moment range from 40 to 89! Most members though are in the fifty to early seventies age group. Bernie stresses that all work at their own pace and sit to watch if needed.

Most of the members of the group at the moment are women, though we have two men who are brave and secure enough to work with the ladies! We would particularly like more male members and they would find that the class is challenging and good fun and certainly increases fitness.

As the session progresses, giving a very thorough work out at an individual's own pace, the movement begins to incorporate some dance. The dancing encourages social interaction as often the dances involve moving around so that everyone dances with everyone else at some point. The last part of the session slows into stretching exercises, again targeting all of the body as we cool down. To end each session we enjoy some social time with refreshments.

This social time involves chatting and frequently planning other outside social events, often through our affiliation with the Active Retirement Organisation of Ireland and the Kerry group "Sean Cháirde's". Short break holidays have been enjoyed by members and their husbands, as have day's outings to hotels for lunch and dancing. Members have also enjoyed theatre visits, walking excursions and a day out by coach at the end of our two terms at the Tech.

Being based at Tech Amergin, members of the group also enjoy specific activities available because of the facilities on offer in the building. An example of this would be the use of the Art room at Christmas for the creation of Christmas wreathes. We have also enjoyed the ability of being able to put down the screen and put out the seating for our own choice of films as well as enjoying the "Silver Screenings" on some Wednesday afternoons. Thoroughly enjoyed was our own video showing a compilation of our activities of the past year.

The hall has also been used by us for "end of term" socials with live music, dancing and refreshments. These have been open to friends and the local community with no entrance charge. In this past year we have been supported in this social provision by a grant from the Wind Farm which has been very welcome and used to great effect.



1916 Easter Rising - Images from the Period, places, People and Documents
Saturday 12th March - Friday 22nd April 2016

1916 Exhibition

The exhibition of over 50 images consisted of photos of South Kerry participants in the 1916 Rising and the subsequent Independence/Civil War, Images from Prison camps, War of Independence, the Treaty and Civil War, along with Documents from the Volunteers, Cumann Na mBán and the IRA. Also in the Cable room was a very comprehensive listing of all the men in the Kerry 3 Brigade, the lists are broken down into Battalions and Company's with the men's full names and addresses, along with all the command structures, Commanding Officers and company ranks, broken down along townlands from Kells Bay to Sneem and all areas in between.

Wellness Workshop

Tech Amergin Community Education & Arts Centre

SOS (Suicide or Survive) is currently running a series of workshops throughout the country which are being offered free of charge to participants, thanks to the funders The National Office of Suicide Prevention, The Iris O'Brien Foundation and Fundraisers. SOS have delivered more than 140 Wellness Workshops throughout the country and in March 2016 a workshop was held in Tech Amergin Waterville. These workshops continue to inspire and enhance the lives of those who have participated in it, and it is our mission to collaborate with communities on the ground to ensure that all members of society have access to this service. A major part of our work is giving people the tools to improve their own mental wellness.



As part of this work SOS has developed the "Wellness Workshop" a one day workshop that aims to help people understand, take charge of and responsibility for their own mental health. The workshops are of benefit to anyone who is interested in mental health and wellness. Workshops are informal and relaxed. They are facilitated by people with both lived life experience of mental health difficulties, and people with experience of working in the mental health area. They combine personal testimony with practical tools and tips that you can use in your everyday life to improve your own wellness. Throughout the day the workshop looked at our thinking process, the wellness continuum, mindfulness, personality traits, and the wheel of change. This is all done in a very interactive non-intrusive and fun way. Areas covered on the day include relaxation and stress management, understanding the relationship between thoughts and emotions, developing a wellness toolkit and daily plan.

KDYS Tralee

My Favourite Subject by Sherban Seif

My favourite subject in LCA is Maths. The reason why I like it is that it keeps one busy and keeps one's brain active. I learn new things every single day. I do topics such as Elections, Tax, Area/Perimeter and many other topics. My Maths teacher provides me with extra support when I need help and when I don't understand something. By doing this, she helps me gain confidence and also to understand more about the topic being taught. We do maths four times a week. I really enjoy maths because it applies to everyday life e.g. while budgeting, paying bills, buying stuff and many more.

I did a task where I designed maths posters. I choose that task because I wanted to help my class learn and understand more about maths because they find it hard. I then kept the posters in class and everyone would look at them when they wanted to. I chose the easiest formulas in order to make it look simple.

Practical Achievement Task by Amy Diggins

As part of a Practical Achievement Task I decided to do a fundraiser for the Kerry to Cork Health Link bus, I decided to do this because I had spoken to the manager and I thought the service was brilliant. I choose the Kerry to Cork Health Link bus, as it works with people who have cancer, the bus travels to Cork every day bringing people for their treatment. They have a certain time slot in the hospital so people don't have to wait long up there they go up and down from Cork every day. The bus is completely free for anyone who needs to avail of the service, and they provide counselling for people availing of the service too. They also have a therapy room so the women can get their nails, hair and make-up done. They also have supports for their families, friends and partners.

For my fundraiser I decided to run an event which involved a pyjamas day, sports in the hall, finger food and watch a movie with sweets. I charged everyone €5 to take part in the event. I also went around to my family and staff in the KDYS to look for donations, the day was a great success and I got to raise loads of awareness about the service. In total I raised €208 for The Kerry to Cork Health Link Bus. Breda was delighted with the funds and also spoke to our group to thank them for what I did. I was really happy with the event.



Transforum Alley



Dance - Get Kerry Moving App

If you would like to try our Dance - Get Kerry Moving- You can download the i-nigma QR & Barcode Scanner App on the iTunes or Play Store. Once you have it on your phone just scan the barcode below for a step by step guide to learn the dance. The dance is suitable for Primary School Teachers and Secondary School PE teachers to use in the classroom when teaching dance.

The Apprentice Chef

Two students, Michal Bajewicz and Tony Hallissey were put forward to take part in The Apprentice Chef in the ITT on April 7th. Both really enjoyed the experience. Well done to Michal who has secured a place in the final with his dish.



Transforum Alley's Mile Challenge 2015 - 2016

Transforum Alley continued with the Mile Challenge this year. We introduced the initiative in order to track learner's progress and the increase in learner's fitness levels. We take part in the challenge on the first Tuesday of every month

along the canal in Tralee where we have marked out a mile route. The focus is on individual participation and personal improvement walking, jogging or running. There is also a competitive element to the challenge in order to get a colour coded wristband for their efforts and there is fierce competition to get the best time currently held by Matthew Beatty with a time of 5.20.



My Running Experience in Transforum Alley Youthreach by Hatim Seif

My name is Hatim Seif. I am hoping to achieve my goal of running a half marathon in Killarney. I started running when I started the QQI Level 4 course in September 2015. When I started I couldn't even run one kilometer without stopping.

We do a running programme as part of the course on Tuesday afternoons. I started to push myself during these sessions. Maaiké and Tony helped me to get better. Ciara helped me to register for the Park Run in Tralee and I completed my first one in 25.30, my best time has been 22.16. I felt tired but I was very happy with my time and I sprinted to the end. My first mile challenge time this year was 7.40 and now my best is 5.26.

I have enjoyed the running programme and I hope to continue running throughout my life.

A Year in Transforum Alley





Active School Flag

The Department of Education and Skills awarded Transforum Alley our second Active Centre Flag. The Active Centre Flag is valid for a period of three years (2015-2018).

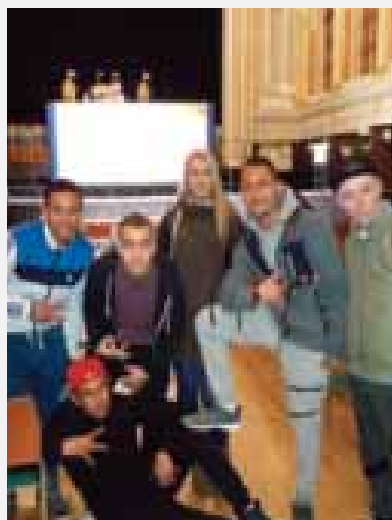


Young Social Innovators 2016

Social Innovators puts an emphasis on creative thinking and action for the well-being of people and society. Six students in Transforum Alley are taking part in the "Young Social Innovators" competition this year. The title of our project is "Health Promotion through Dance". The social issue being addressed is childhood obesity and through the project the students will do the following:

- Learn a dance routine
- Go out to a local primary school and teach the dance to a 4th class group
- Research the area of obesity and children
- Communicate their project through the media (local newspaper/local radio/Facebook)
- Attend a "Speak Out" event where they present their project in front of approximately 300 other students
- Submit a project report of 2,500 words

On March 14th, the students presented their project at a speak out event which took place at Cork City Hall, in front of 300 other students from the Munster area. The students did a fantastic job on stage and were received very well by the audience.



Kerry Adult Guidance Service (KAGS)

Kerry ETB Adult Guidance and Information Service Hosts Third Annual Inter-Organisational Presentations Day - December 2015

Kerry Adult Guidance and Information Service (KAGS) hosted the third Annual Inter-Organisational Presentations Day, inviting representatives from organisations/programmes that work with clients groups similar to the Further and Education and Training target groups of the Kerry ETB. The purpose of the event is to: (1) hear presentations from different organisations/programmes on client trends, needs, and possible recommendations for change; (2) as a collective group, identify and prioritise key recommendations for change; (3) increase staff networking and inter-organisation staff co-operation by offering an event such as this, and; (4) by the recommendations identified on the day, effect positive change to the benefit of the clients we mutually serve.

The first part of the morning involved organisations giving short presentations on the client trends and needs that they are encountering in their work. This then formed a basis for shared learning, group work, feedback and collective recommendations for change.



In tandem with the morning, Councillor Jim Finucane, Chair of Kerry ETB Board, launched KAGS' annual publication "Client Trends, Needs and Recommendations". This publication captured the client trends and needs that KAGS observed over the previous year in the course of its work. The publication included recommendations for change in policy and practice based on issues and trends identified. The publication is shared with the ETB staff, including the Board, and KAGS' network of contacts in other organisations. NOTE: If anyone would like a copy of this publication, please contact us at guidance@kerryetb.ie

The event was well attended. There was representation from Citizens' Information Service, Department of Social Protection, LES, Jobs Club, Employability Kerry, Kerry College of Further Education, Coláiste na Ríochta, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service, Kerry ETB Training Centre, National Learning Network, Society of St. Vincent De Paul, IT Tralee, SHEP, Kerry Regional Drugs Task Force, as well as Kerry ETB Adult Education staff from our Adult Education Centres, Adult Literacy Service, Community Education, VTOS, and KAGS itself.



Group work: Following the presentations, participants were facilitated by Louise Nagle, Career Guidance Counsellor with the Institute of Technology, Tralee, focussing, first in small groups, then collectively, on identifying and prioritising key recommendations for change.

Results: The top five issues identified by the participants of this year's event were:

- 1) Confidence Building - core/basic skills nurtured and enhanced ... "Initial Intervention".
- 2) Earlier intervention in schools for personal development of children/ young people at risk. Focus on core competencies development, guidance and information on accessing services. (Primary & second-level).
- 3) More Level 2, 3 and 4 QQI programmes with assessments, with built-in supports e.g. transport.
- 4) A supported and responsive system that recognises the need for the development and delivery of learner-centred courses.

Key principles:

- Respond to an individual (learners) action plan
 - Integrated
 - Collaboration
 - Holistic
 - Advocacy
 - Equal access
- 5) More support for young people (especially 17 ½ year olds) financial, guidance, learning support, family centred support.

What next? The key issues and recommendations for change identified would be brought back to each organisation attending in order to help effect change. It was unanimously agreed by those in attendance to run the event again next year. Next year's event is already scheduled for 18 November 2016.



Sharon Browne, Angela O'Sullivan, Colm Mc Evoy, Rico Stein and Ann O'Dwyer

Listowel VTOS

Article by Bernie O'Connell

We are a group of mature Students who have returned to education, for some of us, to gain further skills, for others who have been unemployed and unable to find work, to gain experience and new skills which might help in our search for employment. In our Entrepreneurial Class we had to come up with an idea or an event for Easter. We held a team meeting and decided we would do a Commemoration Coin for The 1916 commemorations. We had no money and had to start from scratch. Firstly, we came up with a design that everyone agreed with. We sourced manufactures to make the coins and boxes, and spoke to people who might be able to help us in our endeavour. However, after a period of time we decided we would not be able to continue with the coin as we could not gather enough funds to proceed with this idea. While there had been government funding available, the closing date had passed by the time we started. We didn't give up, we believed in our concept and ourselves, we held another team meeting and it was decided that we would produce a Lapel Pin for the commemorations. We tweaked our design for the Lapel Pin but stayed true to our original design for the coin.

We have all been behind this from the very beginning and have worked very hard to see our concept grow from being an idea to a finished product. All proceeds are going to charities within the community. We would like to thank all our contributors who believed in us, because without them we wouldn't have succeeded in getting our Lapel Pin to a finished product. To all those who donated money and to all who donated spot prizes, we thank you. We would like to thank the staff and students at Coláiste Na Ríochta and North Kerry College of Further Education who have helped us with all our fundraising efforts, through our Bake Sales, selling Pizza Slices and Pancakes, to buying tickets for our Raffles. These activities helped us to raise funds towards our Lapel Pins. To the staff who have helped us along the way we really appreciated your help and your input and we are very grateful for your belief in us.



To finish, we would like to thank the rest of our team, because without them, we wouldn't be here. To everyone who went looking for contributors, to writing e-mails, making phone calls, and coming up with original ideas for the Lapel Pin project. We have all

worked very hard on this project and feel very proud of ourselves. At times we thought we might not get to a finished product but we kept each other motivated and energised throughout the process. We have learnt how to set up a business from nothing, how to adapt if one idea fails and try another. We hope that we have shown through our efforts that any employer would be lucky to have one of us working for them. Adult Education is much more than academia, it is also the confidence, friendship and self-belief that it brings to people, as a group and through this project, we hope that we have shown how important the VTOS Programme is. As a group of individuals who started this course six months ago, to the Team of VTOS students we became through this project, we are grateful for this opportunity given to us by Listowel VTOS.

Killarney VTOS

Important Educational Events at Killarney VTOS during the Academic Year 2015-2016

The culmination of another successful academic year was marked in Killarney VTOS with our graduation night which was held on 24th September 2015.



GRADUATION NIGHT

Adult Learners receiving their QOI Awards in ICT Skills, Employment Skills and ECDL, presented by Shivaun Shanahan AEO.



PRESENTATION OF LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Adult Learners proudly displaying their Leaving Certificate and ECDL awards, presented by Shivaun Shanahan AEO in September on Graduation Night.



GRADUATION NIGHT

Mary O' Connor imparts some final words of wisdom to some of the Adult Learners on Graduation Night.



OLDER THAN IRELAND FILM SHOWING 23/10/15

Killarney VTOS invited staff and students from all the other VTOS centres within Kerry ETB to a showing of the documentary 'Older than Ireland' at the Cinema Killarney in October. The film tells the story of a hundred years of life as seen through the eyes of 30 Irish centenarians. The director Alex Fegan was present for the event. He answered questions at the end of the film. It was a very enjoyable experience for all.



Students find their creative side in the Art Room of Killarney VTOS.



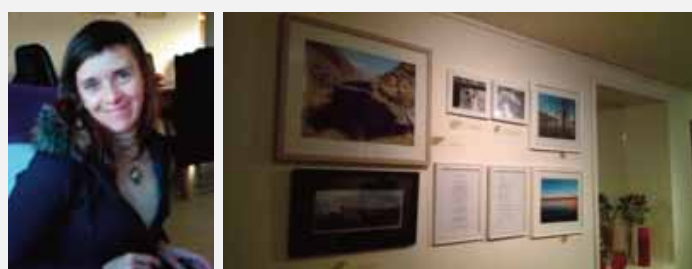
The new Monet? A sample of the artistic talent emerging from Killarney VTOS art class, with Ronnie Moore.

A festive display of light and colour, Christmas 2015 in the Art Room.

Killarney VTOS Student Launches Photo Exhibition

Longina Wentry, a second year student of Killarney VTOS launched her photography exhibition 'Love through the Lens' at Joan Greene's Country Kitchen Café in New Street, Killarney in February 2016.

The exhibition also included poems written by Longina who is originally from Poland and has been living in Kerry for the last eight years. Most of us in Killarney VTOS have been blessed to have been born in Kerry and sometimes we take its beauty for granted so it was very interesting to view the same beauty through the eyes of Longina who has moved here from another country.





Tralee VTOS

Last September VTOS opened its doors to new first year QQI Level 3, 4 & 5 and Leaving Cert students while also welcoming back our second year students. It has been a very busy centre both academically and socially. The following is a sample of what we have achieved, our various Field Trips and what we have taken part in over the course of the academic year to date.

Awards Night

On the 9th September we hosted our Annual Barbeque to mark Awards night. All our students received Certificates, from Shivaun Shanahan AEO, to honour their achievements in the Leaving Certificate, QQI Level 4 and QQI Level 5. Our Student of the Year was Tom Reidy.



Tom Reidy

Joined Killarney VTOS for Trip to Cinema in Killarney in October

Tralee VTOS joined Killarney VTOS for a viewing of "Older Than Ireland" as part of the Kerry Film Festival in Killarney Cinema. This was followed by a very interesting and entertaining Q&A with the Director, Alex Fegan.



VTOS group preparing for our picnic in the rain!!

Visit to Lee Strand - November

Next on our Field Trip agenda was a visit to Lee Strand in Tralee. Our students were given an over view of the workings of the business and marketing of a very well-known local brand. The Gift Bags were greatly appreciated and Mighty Mikey Milk is a constant presence in the Centre since!!



The Day the RBS 6 Nation's Cup called to Tralee VTOS



Some of the Leaving Cert students at Tralee VTOS were delighted when Ruth O'Reilly of the Irish Women's Rugby Team visited with the RBS 6 Nation's Cup.

Learners enjoying a trip to the Wetlands



We paid a visit to the Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre on Wednesday February 3rd, 2016. Eoin guided us around the Interactive Wildlife Exhibition we also went on a guided Nature Boat Tour where we investigated bird hides and viewed the local birdlife. The Wetlands has a 20 metre Viewing and Observation Tower where we were able to see spectacular 360 degree views of Tralee and the surrounding areas. This was followed by a leisurely walk around the lake area with a stop at the Lakeside Café and Bistro.



VTOS Celebrates 1916

To mark the 1916 centenary celebrations in the VTOS Centre, with the help of the students, Bríd has displayed a profile of all 16 of the executed men, throughout the term they have added additional information about the rebel. There is also a very interesting Story Board on display. The students really enjoy reading about this topic which is so current locally and nationally. We are also going to attend the Kerry State Ceremonial Event in Banna Strand.



Our History Teacher Bríd launching the 1916 Celebrations in Tralee VTOS with some of the students.

Disability Awareness Training – Kerry ETB

A Disability Awareness Training workshop took place in Head Office on 3rd and 4th February. The two hour workshops looked at how Disability is understood in society. Participants took part in exercises dealing with what Disability is and how it is defined. Statutory definitions were examined and participants took part in exercises which allowed them to consider their own understanding of disability.

Social, Medical and Charity based understandings were considered and there was a lively discussion about the treatment of disability in the Media. The training workshops were facilitated by Ed O'Connor. Ed would be happy to present a workshop of this kind for any group of Kerry ETB staff who would be interested, he can be contacted at Head Office at eoconnor@kerryetb.ie

Kerry ETB Training Centre

Building on Success - 2015/2016

There has been much progress and targeted investment in the Kerry ETB Training Centre through 2015 and all the signs indicate that this rapid rate of expansion and development is set to continue.

Innovation and change is evident in the increased range of courses and traineeships now being offered as well as the attractive environment now welcoming the first time visitor or giving a sense of pride to the trainee arriving every morning. The visitor now enters a modern building with a unique block of sculpted cut stone at the doorway, carved by the stone cutting apprentices and symbolising the learning, work and skills development happening inside. The reception area offers a welcoming space with an informative mural graphically depicting the courses on offer and suggesting that learning leads somewhere and that the journey can be interesting and rewarding.

Refurbishment and upgrading of classrooms and training workshops is evident throughout the Centre. The growth in the number of apprenticeships and traineeships is even more impressive. The focus on new and much needed traditional apprenticeship courses for a growing economy reflects innovative and practical planning at a time when traditional skills are in short supply.

Kerry ETB Training Centre manager Owen O'Donnell recognises that there is an urgent need for more skilled tradesmen and women. "During the recession we lost a huge amount of skilled workers in all the main trades linked to building and related industries. Many skilled craft workers emigrated. Construction related Apprenticeships ceased due to lack of employer recruitment of apprentices. Plumbing, carpentry, bricklaying, plastering all ceased completely in Kerry, but due to the increase in apprentice registrations by employers we have restarted our apprenticeship programmes in many of the building construction trades. Kerry ETB are pleased to say that there are now seven apprenticeship courses on offer at the Training Centre here in Tralee".

KERRY EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD NEWSLETTER

www.kerryetb.ie



BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA CHIARRAÍ
KERRY EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD



This last year has seen a resurgence in apprenticeships and reflects the importance of implementing a comprehensive skills development strategy for Kerry. Owen emphasises the importance of developing a positive and constructive relationship between employers and the Training Centre as the provider of appropriate training. "We recognise that employers own apprenticeships; it's a contract between the employer and the employee, the apprentice. We aim to match the skills needed with the skills delivered by Kerry ETB and we know that it is vital to manage and develop a good relationship with employers because that will impact on those needing new skills. Our Services to Business Advisor links with the employers and monitors their needs and trainee development and progress at all times".

In 2015 the first carpentry and joinery apprenticeship course in seven years was scheduled for Kerry. When the apprentices complete the course there should be many opportunities for finding work in the building industry. Also in 2015 a new apprenticeship course in stone cutting and stone masonry was launched. This was the first new apprenticeship in Ireland for many years and Kerry ETB will be running all off the Job phases in the Kerry Training Centre. The work of skilled stone cutters and stone masons has always been valued in our homes, heritage sites and public buildings. Today the demand for the craft is evident in conservation and restoration work as well as decorative stone walls that have grown in popularity in urban and rural dwellings.

In 2015 new apprenticeship courses were also added in plumbing and metal fabrication. Again these are areas where the demand for skilled and certified tradesmen are evident. Demand also continues to grow for the other ongoing apprenticeship courses in motor maintenance, fitting and electrical trades. These courses continued successfully during the recent years of recession.

In 2015 the number of apprentices trained at Kerry ETB Training Centre was 230 and is estimated to grow to 288 for 2016. The total number of trainees, apprentices and students who benefited from the training services provided at the Training Centre in 2015 was 2822.

In the last year priority was given to upgrading and refurbishing the Accounting Technician classroom, two new lecture rooms and the new Deciding Your Future classroom. Also workshops were upgraded, including the Fitting Machinery workshop and the Plumbing Apprenticeship workshop. A new state of the art, walk-in Test Centre for any IT based learning courses was developed. Owen O'Donnell is clearly pleased with the changes that are evident, "it is very satisfying for us to have all our apprenticeship facilities, workshops, lecture rooms and IT classrooms upgraded to ensure a quality learning environment for all and to bring the Training Centre up to world class standards".

In contrast to the more traditional courses delivered by the ETB Training Centre in Kerry the Digital Skills Centre is certainly at the cutting edge delivering world class training for the expanding world of film, television and radio. The one year Broadcast Production course received a major upgrade in recent years. New broadcast ready multi-camera studios equipped with the very latest cameras and multiple editing suites were built. As Instructor Brian Nolan explains "the reality now is that industry practitioners can use these facilities here at the ETB Training Centre in Kerry to go 'from script to screen', they can complete a production ready for digital cinema or Television broadcast, and many of our past trainees have done that".

Over the last year as part of an innovative series of Masterclasses in Cinematography called The Dawn Workshops the Training Centre has hosted

international award winning filmmakers and lighting directors to deliver classes for new and emerging film makers in Ireland. The trainees also get involved in the shared learning process. The Dawn Workshops are so called because of the link to the early days of filmmaking in Kerry. "The Dawn" written and directed by Tom Cooper from Killarney in the 30s was the first talkie made in Ireland. The Dawn Workshops have brought top class professionals in film, like Director of Photographer PJ Dillon, whose credits include Game of Thrones, Vikings and Penny Dreadful. Some like Chief Lighting Director Mo Flam worked in The English Patient, Black Swan and the recent Academy Award winning film Spotlight. These masterclasses have made Kerry ETB Training Centre synonymous with best practice in training for filmmakers.

Last year the 43rd World Skills competition, our Skills Olympics, was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil where fourteen Irish craftsmen and women - winners of the national competitions - were now competing for gold in the international arena. Brian Nolan and two of his trainees went to Brazil, having been asked by Skills Ireland to make a television documentary on the World Skills Competition. Another big challenge and learning experience for our trainees Alice Lett and Steve Smith.

Kerry ETB Training Centre's Beauty Therapy department hosted the National Skills Competition for Beauty Therapy in 2014. Tara O Halloran Cronin, instructor in Beauty Therapy, was appointed Chief Examiner by Skills Ireland who organise the National Skills competition. She also travelled to Brazil, as National Expert for Beauty Therapy, to support and advise the Irish champion in Beauty Therapy who was competing in the World Skills.



Radio broadcasting has been another successful traineeship course run in recent years. Now a new state of the art professional radio centre has been completed in the ETB Training Centre with two studios, one for music and the other for discussion programmes. The course is delivered in conjunction with Radio Kerry and, as is the norm with all traineeships, experience in the workplace is part of that. The students are given opportunities to contribute to live and recorded programme production in Radio Kerry. It's a city and guilds course and this year one student, Dan Kearney, was awarded the City and Guilds medal of excellence for his achievement in getting an excellent radio documentary made and broadcast on RTE Radio1 while he successfully completed his course in the Training Centre. A separate Dolby Digital Recording Studio was also completed in 2015 for Digital TV and Film production work.



Many courses at Kerry ETB Training Centre are structured to incorporate transferable skills for the trainee. It is evident from the wide range of courses on offer including evening classes - which had 1031 attending in 2015 - that the link between Information and Digital Technology and communications skills has been recognised in addressing skills shortages at different levels. Existing courses and new courses being developed will also address core skills and personal development. The new Deciding Your Future classroom is now in place and will offer new opportunities for such development.

New Level 4 Engineering night courses in Turning and Milling were started in 2015. These were designed to give people an opportunity to experience and get a feel for the work and help them make progress where it is difficult to get access to the workplace or to access apprenticeship courses.



Recognising and developing sectoral skills linked to our county and region has been given increasing attention in recent years. There is no doubt about the importance of the Tourism sector as an employer in Kerry. So in 2015 the culinary arts, and local and national tour guiding and related skills received attention and successful courses were developed and delivered.

At first a regional and local tour guiding course was set up in Dingle following an approach from community groups in Dingle. This was the first formal tour guiding course in Dingle and it led to full job placement on completion of the course as well as several business start-ups.

Fáilte Ireland requested a similar National Tour Guide course so an old award was reviewed and re-written and delivered by Kerry ETB Training Centre in 2015. This was the first Level 6 National professional Tour Guiding course and was seen as a very successful course. It will be reviewed and continued in 2016. Professional standards are achieved in a range of skill areas and a high standard of knowledge is required in history and heritage as well as appropriate and welcoming communication skills.

As more and more visitors are attracted to our rivers and lakes for angling holidays the Training Centre has responded and plans are in place for angling guiding courses in 2016.

A marine angling course is planned for the Fenit Harbour area and an inland angling guiding course is planned for the lakes and rivers around Killarney. These are important courses which deliver a range of skills in addition to the

local fishing knowledge expected from the ghillies of the past. It is a certified course where customer service training and health and safety are included.



A related course is also planned for 2016. Marine biology and underwater archaeology attract many visitors to spend time exploring beneath the waves. So recreational and commercial scuba diving courses are earmarked for development. The main focus is to train commercial scuba divers and professional standards will be set leading to the international PADI qualification.

As the whole area of quality locally produced food gets increasing attention and best practice in the kitchen features regularly on our TV screens it was decided to focus on that area of skills development in 2015. A course in Food Preparation and Culinary Arts was run in conjunction with Kerry College of Further Education in Tralee where 15 people completed the course and a similar course was run in Dingle. In 2016 a commis chef course will be commenced in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland. It is also planned to develop a certified course for bakers which will be run in 2017.

Kerry ETB Training Centre Manager Owen O'Donnell highlighted the significant deficit in skilled tradesmen and women and has put a major emphasis on rebuilding apprenticeship courses and traineeship courses in 2015. He said, "We are determined to continue this resurgence in apprenticeship courses in 2016 and we will develop training courses for Fibre Installation Technicians which has the largest potential for employment across a range of areas where fibre optic communications are required. Our wind turbine course which was developed in 2015 will continue again in 2016. We will also continue to work with local employers such as Leibherr where our welding apprenticeship courses will continue".



Sean Ó Foghlú Visit

Visit to Kerry ETB by Sean Ó Foghlú, General Secretary Department of Education and Skills (DES)

Sean Ó Foghlú, General Secretary, DES and Peter Baldwin, Assistant General Secretary, visited Kerry ETB on Friday 29th April 2016.

The visit commenced with a tour of Head Office where they met with each Department and got an insight into the operation of the ETB administration and staff had an opportunity to highlight their priorities. They then went to Coláiste Gleann Lí where he met with staff and management and was briefed on the refurbishment plans for the school. They also visited Kerry College of Further Education where they saw the new professional kitchen, the refurbished Beauty and Nursing Departments as well as the open learning centre. They also visited the Kerry ETB Training Centre where they met with management and staff and had a tour of the Centre and were hugely impressed by new developments and courses.

They thanked the CEO Colm Mc Evoy for what they described as a very enlightening experience.

Sean Ó Foghlú, General Secretary, DES and Peter Baldwin, Assistant General Secretary, in Kerry ETB Head Office and in the Kerry ETB Training Centre.



New Head Office Location for the ETB

Kerry Education and Training Board have re-located to new Head office accommodation, you will find us at Centrepoint, John Joe Sheehy Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 P2FE.

This new modern office facility provides much needed additional office accommodation for the ETB.

The location of the new offices directly opposite the Tralee Train and Bus stations is excellent in terms of maximising accessibility to our services for staff and members of the public. We look forward to meeting with you in our new offices in the future.

For information on all our schools/centres/programmes please feel free to contact us any time www.kerryetb.ie

A sincere thank you to all who contributed to the 2016 Kerry ETB newsletter.

