



Lucan Community College

Christmas Newsletter 2024

Principal's Message



As 2024 draws to a close, we take time to celebrate all that has been accomplished by our school community in the last 12 months. We said farewell to our 2024 graduates who moved on to apprenticeships, further education and employment and we welcomed our new 1st year students who are full of energy and enthusiasm. Caring for over 960 students requires care, hard work and dedication from all of our staff, in their various roles. Thanks to each and every one of you for the wonderful work that you do.

We think of all those connected with our school community who have passed away in the last year and wish love and support for all who have experienced loss.

As the last of the leaves fall from the trees and the bulbs show themselves in preparation for Spring, it is important that we give ourselves permission during the Christmas holidays to put aside the busy school term and to relax, recharge and enjoy the break so that we return in 2025 ready for all that the New Year has to offer. Wishing everyone connected with Lucan CC a very happy Christmas.

Ms. Diane Birnie

Supervised study

Supervised study starts back after Christmas on Monday, January 13th. Registration forms can be collected from Mr. Branagan in H3 and should be returned no later than Thursday, January 9th. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis and the fee is €195.

Discounts are available for multiple siblings doing study.



Launch of our new School App

We have recently launched our own Lucan Community College app. Our app is designed to be a single point for all communication between home and school. The app means we will no longer be sending costly SMS text messages as all communication will be via App notifications.

Parents will be able to view the Term Reports on the new App through the tab for VShare. The Lucan Community College app also allows you to communicate directly with the school. Please let us know of any appointments or absences through our Lucan Community College app. Parents need to ensure that they have the app downloaded to receive all school messages about their child.



6th Year News

A message from Year Head Ms. Casey

Well done to all 6th years who have completed a great term's work. There were some brilliant results in the November Assessments. The mock orals commenced the week of the 9th of December and students prepared very well. Students should use the advice of their teachers now, to improve even more, for the State Exam orals at Easter. Students are encouraged to use the next few weeks to get some revision done for the mocks. Mock practical's are on Wednesday 29th January and the written exams begin on the 31st January for 2 weeks. The very best of luck to all. It's a very busy term for 6th years!!

Mock Correction Payments

Payment for the correction of the mocks can be made on the school payment system. The cost is €125. LCA students should complete their Admin and LCA fee payment which includes the cost of their mock corrections. Payment is due by Monday February 3rd.

Please let us know if there are any issues with payment.

SVP Secret bag collection



Once again, the students, families and friends of Lucan Community College showed their generosity during our annual St. Vincent de Paul collection. We raised a brilliant €1904 through our secret bag collection in school last week and from our Christmas Concert which was held in the school on Wednesday 18th of December. Thank you to the 6th year prefects for helping out with the collection day and concert too.



Dress up day

6th years went all out for their last dress up day in Lucan CC for Halloween. There were some fantastic outfits with lots of thought and effort put into them.



Well done to Jessie in 6th year who raised €50 for SVP as part of a school project which involved making Christmas cards.





Silver Gaisce



Ten of our 6th year students from Lucan Community College received their Silver Gaisce award. Gaisce –The President's Award is Ireland's national youth award and is a self-development programme for young people aged 14-25. This is a fantastic achievement that requires dedication and hard work. Each of the students completed 26 weeks in three different challenge areas as well as a two night and three day adventure journey which took place in Glendalough. Congratulations to all of the awardees Cathal Conway, Aoife O'Regan, Vlad Grosu, Leah Sisk, Erin Cooper, Alannah Carroll, Sarah Heffernan, Lara Peyton, Róisín Duddy and Lillian Wykes.



LCC Christmas door competition

Our annual Christmas door competition took place. It is wonderful to see the effort put into some of the doors. This annual College ritual encourages comradery and teamwork amongst tutor groups as well as a little healthy competition. Check out some of this year's stand out doors.



Raising of the Pride Flag

As part of Stand Up Awareness Week, our DP Ms Malone and our two school captains, Vlad Grosu and Roisin Duddy, were proud to raise the rainbow flag!



5th Year News

A message from Year Head Ms. Clarke

It has been a busy term, and students recently completed their November assessments and are in the process of receiving results. Well done to you for all your hard work and efforts – it is important having these exams to motivate you and get you into a study routine and see how you are getting on in each of your subject areas. It is a time to reflect too on what level you are studying for each of your subjects. Chat with your class teachers and keep communication channels open as they will guide you and help you out.

We have a workshop planned for the new year so this will be a great advantage to you with your learning and building up on your skills to help you study as best you can. Also our 5th year parent teacher meeting will take place in January – this is a wonderful opportunity for us to meet and discuss your progress.

Thanks to your wonderful Tutor Team and our Deputy link – Mr Mc Gowan for all the care and kindness they have shown you so far this term – Thanks to your Parents/Guardians for their continued support and to Ms Mc Manus – our Guidance Counsellor for all her guidance and support. And from me – your Year Head – I think the world of each and every one of you. Thanks for being the wonderful individuals that you are.

LCC International Baking competition

As part of #thinklangauges LCC held an international baking competition. Students got to show off their fabulous baking and creative skills and the judges got to taste some culinary delights. Congratulations to the winners who were Oisín Argand – First Year, Mia Cooke – Third Year, Ciara Glynn and Skaiste Marinskaite fifth year. Thank you to Ms. Walsh and Ms. Cormac for organising.



5th year Parent teacher meeting

The 5th year parent teacher meeting will take place on Thursday, January 16th from 16:00–18:30.

5th year Gluais team

Thank you to the Gluais team for all their hard work, working with our first years this term and for helping out at our annual Lucan cc Santa party too!



A message from your TY Co-ordinator Ms. Higgins

As we come to the end of a busy and productive first term, I want to outline some of the myriad activities that have been undertaken by the Transition Year students over the past few months. It has been a privilege to get to know the students and to see so many of them move from their comfort zones, try new things with an open mind and build skills that will stand to them as they move forward in education and into the wider world. This is just a snapshot of some of the activities taking place. It is important that the students avail themselves of as many opportunities in the coming months to have the best experience and build the best version of themselves.

A message from Year Head Ms. McKelvey

It has been an action packed term for our Transition Year students. Between receiving their much-anticipated Junior Cycle results and attending many talks and workshops from different groups such as Tenderfoot, Develop me, Teagasc, an Architect Group, Think Languages, Forensics and many more. The students have enjoyed many trips such as Causey farm and Berlin but more recently Ice-skating and GoQuest. They even found time to fit in November Exams and some online Modules.

Outside of the classroom many students have been busy partaking in their own various extra curricular activities, fundraising for charities, Enterprise projects, voluntary work and completing a minimum of 2 weeks work experience. You can read about many of these events in further detail in this newsletter. It really has been an exceptionally busy schedule this year!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those people who have made all these events possible such as your teachers, the Tutor team, the TY Coordinator Ms. Higgins and Mr. McGowan and the rest of the Senior Management of the school. Thank you must also go to the Career Guidance counsellor Eileen O'Gara and the various SNAs and caretaking staff, who have had a role to play in helping you over the last few months. Thanks also to all parents and guardians for their continued support for everything we do in the school.

As we approach the much needed Christmas holidays, I hope you will take this opportunity to relax and enjoy some down time with your friends and families. I know I will! Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a healthy and happy 2025.

'You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending'— C.S. Lewis

Get Involved...it's your Transition Year



TY Activities

TY Work Experience

Transition years took part in 2 weeks work experience in October. There was a huge variety of sectors tested out including Education, Food and beverage, Law, Construction and Health Care. Well done to everyone. They gained a new appreciation for the demands of working life and the efforts parents and guardians make on their behalf. The next session is from the 10th -14th February 2025, students need to return their completed forms to Ms Higgins by the 17th of January. A reminder that Garda vetting is required in some work settings and needs to be applied for weeks in advance to ensure it is available for a particular date. Students need to be 16 before vetting can be applied for.

TY trip to Berlin

In mid November, some of our Transition Year students had the chance to jet off to Berlin in our 'Hybrid' German exchange. This exchange has been taking place since 1991 with Gymnasium Münchberg. The students met up with their German exchange partners and got to partake in a range of activities. Some of these included visiting the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag Building, and Checkpoint Charlie. The students also got to sample the local cuisine such as Currywurst and Schnitzel. In the evenings there was often an Irish/German singsong as well as some sporting contests. The students also got to visit the Irish embassy and meet Ambassador Amy Collins. Thank you to Ms. Clarke, Ms. McKelvey and Ms. Cormac for accompanying the students and organising the trip.



Think Languages Workshop

The TYs participated in workshops as part of our #ThinkLanguages week to celebrate all the languages spoken in our school community. They learned Polish, practiced German Zungenbrecher, learned some Irish Sign Language, played la pétanque, created some artwork and had some international snacks.

Royal College of Surgeons

The MiniMed programme will be delivered online in school in February 2025, students have already expressed their interest in this brilliant series of live workshops in areas of Medicine, Physiotherapy and Pharmacy. Thanks also to Ms. Walsh who arranged for the school to take part in online workshops facilitated by RCSI exploring the science behind our sexual health and wellbeing.



3rd year News

A message from Year Head Ms Gallagher

It has been a pretty busy term for our 3rd years, whether it was their involvement in extra-curricular competitions, such as football, badminton, soccer, camogie or the hockey. There are a large number of 3rd years involved in lunchtime activities like the chess club, the school choir and Maths Hub, so keep it going everyone.

The November Assessments have passed with many students progressing nicely in their exams. If you were not happy with any of your results, use this as an opportunity to learn from your mistakes. These results can be used as a platform to learn from and prepare for the mocks. Keep some study going over your Christmas break, it will really stand to you in the mocks.

I hope everyone has a restful and enjoyable Christmas so that you can hit the ground running on your return to school in the new year. Many thanks to all the SNAs, tutors, Ms Mc Manus our Guidance Counsellor and Mr Brett, our Link Deputy Principal, for all their support this term.

Happy Christmas everyone.

3rd year Study skills workshop



There is a study workshop planned for Tuesday 7th January. The school got this at a reduced price of 8 euro per student. Please pay online if not done so already.

This workshop will help you to find the best type of study style that suits your learning. The benefits of this session include:

- Memory Techniques
- Revision Strategies
- Note Taking
- Time Management Tools
- The Impact of Mobile Technology and Social Media
- Goal Setting and Planning

TIME to
STUDY

Mocks Correction Payment

Payment for the mock corrections can be made on the school payment system. The cost is €100. Please let us know if there are any issues with payment. Payment is due by the 3rd of February.

3rd year Badminton Blitz

A great day playing Badminton for our 3rd year, U16s in Adamstown CC. Well done to Lauren Gaynor and Sophie Kennedy who won in their category and Sam Liu and Sophie who won medals for Spirit of the Competition as selected by players on the day.



TY Activities

Dundrum on Ice

The TYs enjoyed a fabulous trip to Dundrum on ice where they got to show off their skating and at times falling skills!! A great morning was had by all.



Team Building workshops

The Transition Years engaged in a team building workshop and were lucky enough to have international athlete Thomas Barr leading one of the workshops. Engaging in team building encourages communication, leadership skills and boosts self-confidence.



What's coming in 2025 for TY?

There is still so much more to come in 2025 for our TY group including Work Experience 2 which takes place from February 10th-14th.

The TY musical 'Legally Blonde', Gaisce overnight trip to Glendalough, the whole year trip to Carlingford, wall climbing, film workshops and much more.

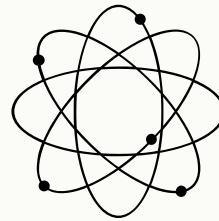
Insta Tour of Dublin

Ms. Dowds accompanied her students on a day trip to Dublin as part of Insta Tours where they got to explore the city and visit the most 'Instagrammable' spots.



Visit to Teagasc

As part of Science Week, the TY students and Ms Higgins visited the Teagasc facility in Ashtown D15 and got to see the variety of scientific innovations and the large variety of research projects going on there and the many employment opportunities in Science.



Go Quest

The group visited Go Quest in Carrickmines at the start of December and in groups of 4 or 5, they tried to decode unique challenges. Fun and critical thinking all in one! The students had a limited time to solve various challenges, succeed and gain points for their team. Well done to the winners!



Tenderfoot

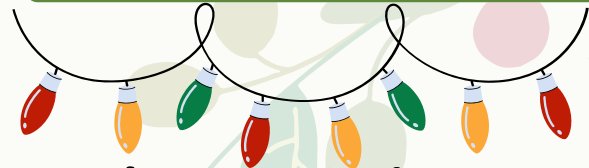
The Civic Theatre in Tallaght run the highly rated Tenderfoot programme which gives students, who may be interested in Drama and related disciplines, an opportunity to engage in a three-week placement which finishes with a staged production. Veronica came to outline the opportunities and all the interested students took part in an excellent workshop before selection. Lucan CC have 5 successful candidates this year and we are also lucky to have also been given places for their Writing Programmes.

2nd Year News

A message from Year Head Mr. Carey

A great term was had by second years. Well done on completing your November assessments. Remember to take all your teachers advice on board for going into 2025. Have a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Congratulations to Serena from class Grandin for winning a reading competition aware run through the EAL team. Thank you to Mr. Callaghan for his support and guidance.



Fundraiser in honour of Saoirse O'Driscoll

LCC held a fundraiser in honour of our late student Saoirse O'Driscoll who passed away in April of congenital heart disease. Her father John and four of his friends Conor, Daragh, Enda and Roger are taking on the World's toughest Row across the Atlantic Ocean between San Sebastian de La Gomera, Spain to the paradise of Nelson's Dockyard, Antigua which is 4800km. The funds raised will be shared between Heart Children Ireland and the Children's Heart Centre at CHI Crumlin, both of which played a vital role in Saoirse's life.



Donations

can be

made

Here



Reading week



Reading week took place last week. During period 4, teacher permitting students got to drop everything and read a book of their choice for one hour. Just some of the benefits of reading include reducing stress levels, improving vocabulary and boosting knowledge and brain power.



1st Year News

A message from your Year Head Ms Cormac

I can't believe that we have already completed four months together in Lucan Community College. It has been a pleasure seeing you all settle in and engage fully in college life!

Well done on completing your first set of exams in LCC. Although there were a few stressful moments, you really engaged well with the process and I'm delighted to see so many of you achieving and trying your best in subjects that are both familiar and brand new to you this year. Thanks to all of you who continue to engage in class and demonstrate great kindness to others in your year group.

Throughout the last four months, so many of you have engaged in extra curricular elements within the school, whether it was basketball, football, a trip for a Gaelige 24 workshop or decorating the Christmas door. Thank you all for your involvement and engagement in these events and hopefully this has made the transition to secondary school easier for you all.

A particular mention to all of the students who took part in the production of Elf. I was so proud to see so many talents showcased on stage and also behind the scenes. I hope you have generated memories and friends for life. It was a great production which involved so many people, thanks to all the parents for your support. A particular thanks to Ms. Nolan and Ms. Molloy who put so much hard work into the production, without whom it would not have taken place.

Thank you also to the 5th year Gluais Team who have been such a support to the First Years so far this year, whether that's checking in with them during pastoral care or supporting them through the Elf production, your help and guidance are always appreciated.

On behalf of your year management team I would like to wish all those in classes Armstrong, Curie, Norris, Maathai, McDaniel and Robinson a well-earned, restful and joyful break.

Neil Armstrong said "I believe every human has a finite number of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine." Enjoy every moment of your break. Wishing you health and happiness in 2025!

First year Drama 'Elf'

Congratulations to everyone involved in the fantastic performance of 'Elf'. The students looked and sounded like professional actors as they told the funny and wholesome tale of Buddy the Elf who arrives to New York to find his father.

All of the cast were amazing as well as the back stage crew who played a blinder organising everyone. A huge congratulations to Nathan King, Class Curie who played the protagonist that is Buddy himself. A mention to both Oisin Argaud and Alannah Hickey who both took on the daunting task of singing a solo. A huge thank you to both Ms Molloy and Ms. Nolan on all their hard-work and dedication putting this show on.



Sporting news

U19 Boys Soccer

A great win for our U19 boys against our local rivals CBS. Lucan CC 2 goals, Colaiste Phadraig 0. Goals were scored by Jamie Harrington and Kevin Madu. The lads are now through to the Dublin West Semi final. Well done.



Irish Taekwon-Do

Congratulations to the Wade family, Amy, Ryan and Abbie who participated at the ITA National Championships in Limerick. Amy and Abbie both won gold in their category with Ryan taking silver. An outstanding achievement, congratulations.

U19 Boys Basketball

Congratulations to our U19 boys' basketball team, who are now on their way to the East Leinster semifinals! Lucan secured a dominant win over Temple Carrig CC in Greystones, with a final score of 47-20. Standout performances came from 6th-year students Adam Harrington, Bienvenu Kubelo, and Marco Gayubo Kinch. A special mention goes to 3rd-year student Richard Barat-Class Doyle, who stepped up to play at senior level.



Ultimate frisbee competition

Lucan CC's first ever Ultimate Frisbee Team attended a school blitz in the National Indoor Arena with Ms Geraghty. The 5th year students played terrifically and were a credit to themselves. A very memorable day, full of positive teamwork, high spirits and comradery between lots of other schools.



Hockey

It has been a very strong start to the year from the fledgling LCC Junior and Senior Hockey Teams, carrying on from last year with great progression in skill levels and teamwork. We're so lucky to have so many students that are taking on leadership positions within the sport, with different students coaching, umpiring and captaining the teams with the assistance of Mr Branagan. Both teams are in with a shout of progressing from the groups and into the knockouts, a great achievement in itself! Big thank you to all that have helped make this happen'

U18 Irish Ruby Team



Congratulations to Jack Power 5th year who was selected for the U18 Irish Rugby team this year. What an outstanding achievement. Best of luck!



Other news

DDLETB Festival of Music

Congratulations to Eva Norton, Lauren Gaynor, and Sophie Kennedy on their successful auditions for the Festival of Music 2025! This prestigious event will take place on March 4th 2025, at the National Concert Hall, Dublin. Tickets will soon be available for purchase through the National Concert Hall website. Don't miss this incredible celebration of talent!



Annual Christmas Concert

A huge congratulations to everyone involved in the annual Christmas concert! Your incredible performances and effort filled the evening with joy and festive cheer.

A heartfelt thank you to Mr. Murphy for organising the event and preparing the choir. We're also grateful to our school captains for being wonderful MCs and leading the night with style and charm. Well done to all—it was a night to remember!"

Food Basket for SVP

Thank you to First Year class Curie who donated food items as part of their learning in CSPE to SVP. Pictured are class Reps Holly and Gabriel and their Teacher Ms.Hackett.



Nursing home Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone who gave a present to our Nursing Home appeal which saw us deliver over 100 gifts to both Lucan Lodge and Griffeen Nursing home. Thank you to members of Class Yeats for helping to deliver the gifts and to Mr Clancy for organising



Well done to the winners of our Science Week poster competition. Lucia, Emily, Ammarah, Sameerah and Nicole are pictured with their very creative posters when collecting their prizes.



Merry Christmas from all at LucanCC!
Board of Management

Our new board of management has now been formed with Dr Rose Dolan appointed as the new chairperson. Thanks to all members of the outgoing board for their long and dedicated service to the school and congratulations to all newly appointed board members. We wish you the best of luck for your important role supporting the school community in the coming years.

Thank you to the Parents Association



Thank you to the Parents Association who gave all the staff a lovely treat last Friday of some delicious Christmas goodies.

RIP John Dobbs



Lucan Community College was very sad to learn today of the death of John Dobbs who was caretaker in Lucan Vocational School and Lucan Community College for many years before he retired. John was a gentleman in the true sense of the word. He brought a sense of caring and helpfulness to his role. Our thoughts are with his family approaching Christmas time.