



## CASTLEKNOCK COLLEGE

### Weekly Bulletin from the Headmaster, Mr Oliver Murphy, to the parents of St Vincent's Castleknock College Friday 06 September 2013

#### Academic News

- We wish all our TY students the best of luck with their Junior Cert results, which will be distributed next Wednesday 11 September.
- I would like to congratulate all of our students for their excellent appearance and behaviour. They have impressed us already. For example, a visiting pastman remarked at how well turned-out, civilised and friendly the students were as they moved about the building from class to class. The students were excellent in their attention and responses at the start-of-year Mass and at a general assembly today.
- Congratulations to St Declan 3 (and their Class Tutor, Ms Corrigan) who were the best readers last year, reading 151 books in LAPC. Also to St Laurence 2 (and their tutor Ms O'Connor) who had the best punctuality and attendance record last year. The students from both classes were treated to an afternoon at the movies. The same will happen this year – so make sure you keep reading and keep on time!
- I am asking families to Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) for half an hour every week. At some moment in the week, turn off the TV, computers and mobiles and everyone in the house drops everything and reads. After a while it'll be something to look forward to.

#### Club News

- There are a number of sports continuing on Tuesday afternoons, after a great start last week:
  - Indoor cricket in the gym (bring runners)
  - Table tennis with our professional coach Tibor Pofok (no gear needed)
  - Tennis – make sure you bring white shoes and a racquet, if you have one
  - Cross country running (in any running gear)

#### Vincetian News

- We would like to congratulate all of the prefects who received their badges today. They are Tadhg Hanlon (Captain), Seán McEntaggart (Vice-captain), Cian McGoldrick (Secretary), Niall O'Riordan, Zaran Butt, Ross Ward, Kealan Daly, Darragh Moran, Cian O'Doherty, Conn Power, Colm Hawkes, Morgan Jenkins, Darragh Scanlon, Mark MacQuillan, Conor Birmingham, and Colm Peelo. We would like to thank the sixty 6<sup>th</sup> year students who applied to be a prefect – and all of whom would have made good prefects. As I said to the 6<sup>th</sup> years, "You are all leaders."
- 'Knock goes to Knock' takes place on Saturday 14 September 2013 and the whole family is welcome to attend. Buses will leave the college - or the family can go there by car.

#### Sports News

- The annual Castleknock rugby blitz was held last Saturday and, as in previous years, was a great success. The morning was enjoyed by over 80 boys from both the college and surrounding primary schools and rugby clubs in the area – especially Coolmine, Barnhall and Ashbourne. A great time was had by all. The players were signed for different 'countries' – and Wales came out on top. But each boy enjoyed it, so everyone was a winner. The standard of rugby that was on display was high – which is very encouraging for the schools and clubs they represent. But more importantly, each went home happy. A special mention to the coaches who made it possible: Kevin McNally and his merry men from Coolmine, the Castleknock College members of the Senior Squad who managed the teams. Well done everybody!

#### Parent News

- **Important information:** The college has recently completed an upgrade of the school website. The site is now live and can be viewed at [www.castleknockcollege.ie](http://www.castleknockcollege.ie) There are a number of new features on the website which may be of benefit to our parents:
  1. Firstly you can now sync your smart phone with the **school calendar** on the website meaning that all important college dates and fixtures will be available automatically stored and updated on your device. You can choose to sync the entire calendar or just calendar for the year your son is currently enrolled in. Paste the following link into the browser of your phone or computer and follow the instructions at the bottom of the page <http://www.castleknockcollege.ie/calendar.html>
  2. Secondly you will notice on the home page, on the right hand side that there is a live **twitter feed** (above Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin). Each morning the school's daily announcements will be tweeted and can be viewed by parents also! Just click on "View Twitter Feed" for the full list. If you have a twitter account you can also follow us @castleknockcoll. <https://twitter.com/castleknockcoll>
  3. Lastly please make sure that you subscribe to the **Headmaster's Bulletin** by entering your e-mail address into the box located under the "Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin" on the home page.
- We would also kindly ask parents to not use the **community entrance** when dropping off and picking up their son from school. All traffic must enter and exit the building via the main school gates.
- A number of boys have also been seen with **chewing gum** on the premises please advise your son that chewing gum is not permitted on the school grounds at any time.
- We would ask that any **sports permission slips** that have not yet been returned please return them as soon as possible.
- The **1<sup>st</sup> year's mother's lunch** will take place on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of September.
- Any student who has yet to bring in their **spare locker key** and the €10 deposit please make sure you have them on Monday.
- We would also like to remind parents that white sports socks are not permitted to be worn with the school uniform. All socks must be either dark grey or black.
- **Body Toning** (a mix aerobic and floor exercises), Thursday 7-8pm in the College PE Hall - contact Rita 01-8213051

- **Yoga** ( a mix of yoga and pilates style exercises), Tuesday 7-8 in the College PE Hall starting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September - contact Rita 01-8213051
- **Classes for Primary school students**
  - Drama classes will take place every Friday at 4.05pm – contact Rita
  - Science club with Mr Gallagher (last Saturday of each month 10am – 11.30am) – contact Rita
  - Spanish classes will take place every Tuesday at 4pm – Contact Rita
  - All classes commence the week beginning the 16<sup>th</sup> of September.
- **Lost Property:** Every Monday morning members of the student council will go to each LAPC class with items of lost property that have been found. Please make sure that your name is written clearly on all of your belongings. This will be the only way that the owners of lost property can be identified.

#### **TY News**

- This year, the Junior Cert results will be given personally to each student, followed by a short prize-giving in the Concert Hall with parents. On the next day, there will be a special day of activities in the College for our TY students. All students must attend, of course.
- An information evening for TY students and their teachers will take place at 7.30 pm next Tuesday 10 September. Students and a parent should attend.
- TY soccer is on Tuesdays and Fridays. There was a good turn-out at the first practice – including three signings from Real Madrid.