# Kishoge Community College Principal’s Report to Parents

**25th October 2018**

## enrolment

2014-15: 53 students enrolled

2015-16: 170 students enrolled

2016-17: 330 students enrolled

2017-18: 500 students enrolled

2018-19: 675 students enrolled

Staff: 47 teaching; 10 SNA; 6 auxiliary

## junior cert 2018

Junior Cert results received by our second cohort of students on Wednesday 12th Sept.

Strong performances in English, Irish, French, Science, Woodwork, Art, Home Economics, Music and Coding.

## English inspection report published June 2018

Congratulations to the English Dept. on a very positive report. Report records that *‘the quality of teaching and learning was generally very good in the lessons observed. There were instances of excellent practice in some of those lessons’.*

**Board of Management Response**

**Area 1 Observations on the content of the inspection report**

The Board is very happy with the report. We believe that it affirms the excellent quality of teaching and learning delivered by the English Department.

Please see report on school website.

## school closures staff CPD

New Junior Cycle: As preschool calendar - Cluster training December 4th. JCT Day 4 24th January. School closed to students on both days.

## First Year 2020

Enrolment for 2020 opened 17th September and closes on 30th November.

## first Year Welcome night

First Year Welcome Night took place on Weds 26th. Thanks to parents for assistance on the night.

## Extra curricular clubs & activities

Thanks to all involved in the following:

Fitness club: Alison, Rosie, Nicole

Greenschools: Brónagh, Shauna

Science Club: Alison, Sarah

Tag Rugby: Michael F

Badminton: Bláithín

Volleyball Deborah, Anne Marie

Club Gaeilge: Ciara

Choir: Ruth, Niamh

Debating: Patricia, Hannah

Maths club: Maths dept

Book-to-Film club: Eva

Boys’ & Girls soccer: Liam, Enda, Rosie

Pride club: Liam

Basketball: Rachel, Mary, Áine, Úna

Camera Club: Philip

Running club: Rosie, John

Junior Drama club: Ciara

Senior Drama Club: Ciara

Games club: Mary G

Board games club: Orlagh, Mary, Claire

English club: Ciara

Gaelic Football: Anne Marie, Dan, Clíona

Film club: Niall

Futsol: Rosie

## iPads and eBooks

A lot of issues with the ordering and delivery of iPads this year. We’re very unhappy with Wriggle service.

School personnel have been working on it on a daily basis.

We will sit down with Wriggle to plan for next year.

## Drama

Junior Drama Club are working on improving their skills, for 'interschools improvisation' which is currently in-planning. Both Junior and Senior Drama are working on duologues for drama exams, and preparations for Kishoge Spring Show.

## Irish and English clubs

Irish and English Club are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays to support students with homework difficulties in these areas. Invitations have been sent to parents of students who find English challenging. Attendance is high at English club, and it has facilitated a decrease in no-homework issues.

## Wellread Award

The English Dept. will be registering Kishoge for the Wellread National Award. Niall F and Orlagh G to draft an action plan and set up a formal committee. The goal is to develop a strong culture of reading across the school. A literacy committee will be set up which will include teachers from other subjects to work towards achieving the award. More to follow- a copy of the plan will be shared once drafted.

## choir

Choir are currently practicing for ‘Festival of Music’ auditions.

## pe dept

The PE Department has entered the school into the Irish Life School Fitness Challenge. Which kicked off this week, every student in the school will complete the bleep test by the end of the week and then engage in a 6-week fitness programme. We will measure the students’ fitness again at the end of the 6 weeks and see how the students have progressed. This will be compared nationally to students in over 100 schools.

## open night

Open Night 2018 takes place on Thursday 15th November.

## coding dept

Two Kishoge Students accepted into BTYS competition, Jordan Ahern TY student and Liyana Muhammad Tariq Zafri, 5th year student. Their coding project aims to aid the hearing impaired by making a "Smart Home" system. Congrats to Micheál.

## science dept

A first year group has been accepted to this year's BT Young Scientist competition. Sophianne Connolly, Japnitt Singh and Aqlan Ardy are creating an app about bee diversity in Ireland in an effort to raise awareness about the plight facing bees and encourage people to take action to increase their numbers. Congrats to Mary Gorman and Nicole.

## Globe

GLOBE is sponsored by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Department of State. Internationally, GLOBE trains and accredits teachers to work with their students towards monitoring local air quality, temperature and barometric air pressure. Daily records are taken and submitted to a NASA world recording database. This initiative is supported here in Ireland by An Taisce.

Philip has become an accredited member and has undergone Globe's training.

Our next development will be the establishment of a Kishoge weather station on campus. Subsequent training of student volunteers would then occur.

## space week 2018

16 students (ranging from 2nd to 5th year) attended the launch of Space Week 2018 at Dublin City University (DCU) on Thursday, October 4th.

Over 850 second level students were in attendance which also coincided with the launch of the European Space Agency's CanSat competition. Kishoge expects to have three teams participate in the forthcoming competition.

Our students were treated to a keynote address from Prof. Matt Taylor who led the Rossetta spacecraft expedition which landed a probe (Philae) on a moving comet 540 million km from earth. Inspiring stuff thus!

The trip was organised by Philip Devereux (Engineering).

## art dept

The arts and crafts club is up and running every Monday after school.

**Educational Art Trips:**

**TY art trips**

**Russborough House**

All TY students visited Russborough House and Parklands situated in Blessington, Co. Wicklow. They attended a guided tour where they discovered fascinating stories about the occupants of the house and the beauty of the architecture and collections. This was followed by a photographic exhibition and getting lost in a maze. After lunch the students visited the ‘Birds of Prey centre’ where they met Hawks, Falcons, Eagles and Owls from all around the world, they even got to hold some. The day ended with an Autumn walk around the grounds.

**The Lighthouse Cinema (Peter McVerry)**

Our TY students had the fantastic opportunity of visiting The Lighthouse Cinema, Smithfield. This was part of the Opening Doors Film Festival, where our students got to learn about all of the work the Peter McVerry Trust do. After the Lighthouse Cinema we visited DIT Grangegorman. DIT is on the cusp of a big transformation. There will eventually be one centralised DIT campus at Grangegorman. Currently Art, Design, Photography and Social Sciences has re-located to their new campus. Grangegorman kindly arranged a guided tour for our students.

**5th year Art trip**

**The Botanical Gardens (Sculpture in Context Exhibition)**

All of our 5th year art students, both leaving cert art and LCA art visited the Botanical gardens this week to attend the ‘Sculpture in Context Exhibition’. Students got a guided tour of all of the Sculptures around the grounds. They couldn’t have got a better day with clear blue skies. A beautiful Autumns day, captured on camera.

## maths week

Last week the Maths department ran a variety of activities for Maths Week in the school including:

* On each day there was a maths puzzle challenge.
* Cryptography puzzle challenge.
* Escape room
* Geoshape activity
* Maths eyes poster competition
* Drop everything and suduko
* Maths trail
* Spaghetti challenge