

Open Night:

The Banagher College Open Night took place on Thursday October 19th. On the night, we welcomed sixth class pupils from the local National Schools, along with their parents/guardians, to come and visit our fabulous school. Well done to all of our staff members for the huge effort in showcasing our wonderful facilities. Application closes on Friday November 10th 2023. For further information, please visit our website www.bccns.ie or email admin@bccns.ie

Pilgrimage to Lourdes:

Each year our fifth year students apply for the opportunity to go to Lourdes as part of the Oblate Youth Service. The students are chosen in May and travel in September as Leaving Certs. This year Allie Butler, Méabh Nolan, Conal Kirwan and Martin Mannion were chosen to represent our school on what was the Oblate's 140th Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

The students took part in preparing the wards and bedrooms, unpacking and moving equipment in the Accueil (hospital) and engaged enthusiastically in the training sessions provided to receive the Guests. They worked hard and were up very early each morning. Out there, each day is long and challenging and there are lots of religious activities to attend. Most importantly, they understood the importance of putting the Guests first and provided them with a high standard of care. It is the young peoples' kind words, laughter and fun that makes the Pilgrimage a holiday for the Guests and respite from their illness.

When the students returned, it was wonderful to hear about their experiences and to witness their joy and genuine love for the time they had just shared together. They particularly focused on the people they met, the stories, the Guests shared and the bonds made with their fellow OYS from other schools. It meant so much to them and they got so much out of it. They addressed the whole school community in St Rynagh's Church during our beginning of the school year Mass, and our staff and students were moved by the strength of their words.

We were delighted to receive a letter from Val Ryan the Assistant Director of Nursing with the Oblate Lourdes Pilgrimage saying how wonderful our students were, how confident and calm they were, how they never complained and always had a smile on their faces. She also said that on the way home to Dublin, she asked some of the Guests what the best part of the week was and everyone of them said " the young people". That says it all.

We are very proud of you Allie, Méabh, Conal and Martin. Thank you and all of our students who apply each year, you really do make a difference.

Comhairle Na nÓg:

On Tuesday October 17th , Fifteen Banagher College students attended the Offaly Comhairle Na nÓg annual Youth Consultation in The Tullamore Court Hotel. Comhairle Na nÓg is a youth council for people aged between 13-17 , who come together to talk and bring change

to issues in their local area for young people. They work alongside the local County Council and represent the youth in Offaly. The Youth Consultation consisted of guest speakers from Offaly County Council, ODEN (Offaly Disability Equality Network) and others. During the day, students learned about what Comhairle has been doing over the past year and discussed their issues that they would like Comhairle to work on over the coming year. Over the last year, Comhairle Na nÓg has been working on the topic of disability. They had partnered with ODEN to raise awareness about the topic. Comhairle also partnered with Offaly Libraries, to create a bookmark and to advertise books with disabled characters. They worked with ODEN to implement workshops in schools and have also been creating a Podcast that is set to be released soon. Comhairle is a great way for students and young peoples' voices to get heard and to help their voices make a change. The Banagher College students who attended were : Emily Cormican, Hannah Kenny, Rachel Kenny, Ava Daly, Ailís Malone, Saoirse Feeney, Oisín Darcy, Tiffany Chen, Cameron O'Sullivan, Jack Marshall, Aoife Moylan, Katelyn Boyd, Áine Coldrick, Michael O'Dwyer and Áine Reilly.

Senior Camogie:

Following their first round win over Coláiste Naomh Cormac ,our Senior Camogie team played host to Mountrath C.S. in round 2 on Tuesday October 17th. Mountrath arrived short some of their regulars but the Banagher girls showed no mercy as they raced into an early lead thanks to goals from Niamh Sheehy and Fianait Dooley to lead 2-11 to 1-3 at half time. After the break, Banagher continued to work hard and were rewarded with further goals from Holly Sexton and Niamh Sheehy along with some impressive points by Fianait Dooley and Allie Butler. In defence, Emily Corcoran, Gráinne Kennedy and Tara Moran were in dominant form leaving Banagher College ahead 4-20 to 1-5 for a finish. Banagher have a remaining senior group game against Scoil Mhuire Trim (Away) on Wednesday Oct 25th .

Banagher College Team: Sophie James, Méabh Nolan, Tara Moran, Hannah Kilkenny, Emily Corcoran, Gráinne Kennedy, Niamh Daly, Aoife Byrne ,Allie Butler(0-3), Fianait Dooley(1-8),Amy Sullivan, Anna McDermott(0-1),Taylor Mahon(0-2),Niamh Sheehy(2-4,0-3frees),Amy Kenny(0-2).

Subs used: Sibéal McMahon, Holly Sexton(1-0) ,Ali Wynne Grania Connaughton and Eva Larkin.

Second Year Boys Football:

Our second year boys travelled to Mullingar on Friday October 13th to play St Finain's College Mullingar. First half goals from Liam Mulhare and Diarmuid Darcy followed by another green flag after the break by Darragh Duffy, a volley off his right foot, drove Banagher College on to a 3-6 to 2-7 win to see them qualify for a quarter final. Banagher College Team: Oisín Egan, Éanna Mahon, P J Dolan, Mark Daly, Adam Daly, Colm Boylan, Robert Wynne, Sean Devery(0-2,0-1f), Hugh Claffey, Charlie Flaherty, James Slevin (0-3), Iarla Sheahan (0-1), Darragh Duffy (1-0), Diarmuid Darcy (1-0), Liam Mulhare (1-0). Subs Used: Niall Daly and Tahir Devery

Junior Ladies Football:

Our Junior Ladies Footballers have had two outings so far this year in the Leinster D Championship. On Wednesday September 27th, they hosted a strong Gallen C.S side who overcame the Banagher girls comfortably. On Wednesday October 18th, the Banagher College Juniors travelled to Tullamore College to face the girls in blue. After trailing at half time, Banagher put in a good effort after the interval but were unable to overcome the deficit. A second half move which saw Emily Corcoran take up position in goal with Sorcha Troy joining the forwards to score 1-2 proved very beneficial to the cause. Their third game will be against Sacred Heart Tullamore before Hallowe'en. For their first game, these girls had to contend with Storm Agnes while Storm Babet was in full flow for their second game. Hopefully the weather will be kinder henceforth!

Junior Team & Subs v Tullamore College Panel: Sorcha Troy(1-2), Lauren Mongan, Lauren Kenny, Rebecca Moran, Aoibhe Clarke, Niamh Daly, Anna McDermott, Aoife Moylan, Emily Corcoran, Emma Scully, Chloe Kennedy, Holly Sexton(1-4),Danni Turley, Bláithín Corrigan, Jennifer Boylan .Subs: Caitlin Cooney, Hannah Kilkenny, Grace O Connor, Ciara Kirwan, Gráinne Boyd and Abbey Woods(0-1).

Maths Week:

Our First Year Students were very busy during Maths Week last week with each class fully participating in their Class Maths Quiz. The 1A Winners were Daniel Devery Kearns, Eoghan Reilly, Colm Boylan and Iarla Sheahan. The 1B winners were Cian Barry, Samina, Udojie, Amelia Veznaver and Viktorija Nowik. The 1C winners were Annie Mulhare, Lily Mitchell, Tom Lyons and Éanna Mahon. The 1D Winners were Caitlin Donnelly, Charlie Flaherty, Makatendeka Magaya, Dean Murray and Callum Griffin.