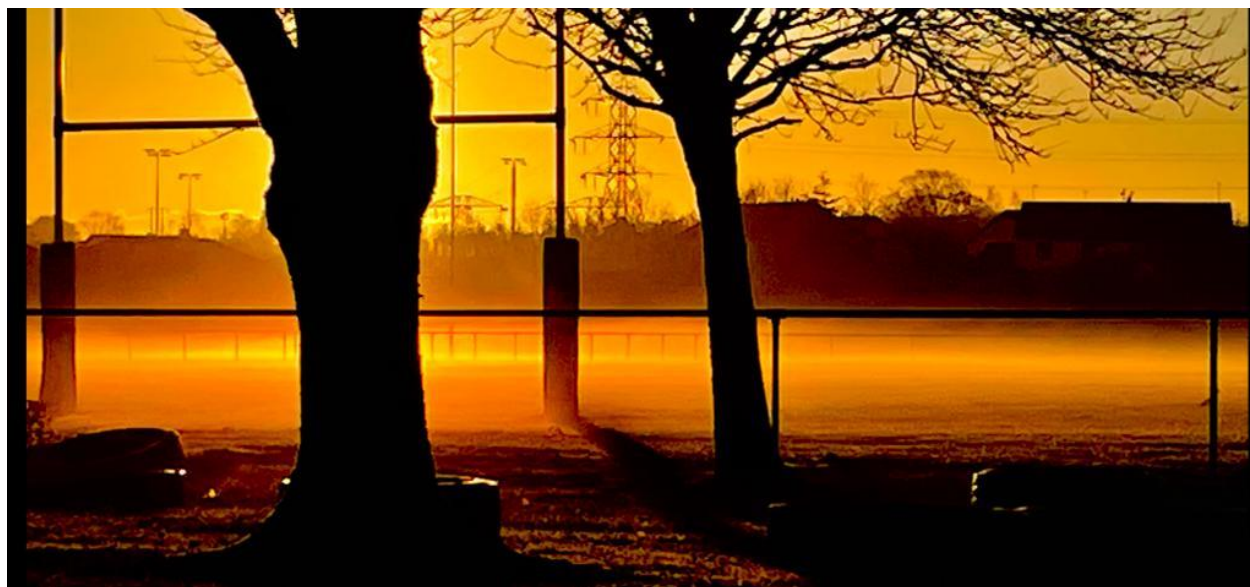




A.M.D.G.

CRESCENT COLLEGE COMPREHENSIVE S.J.



December 2021

Dear Parents

As we end a very enjoyable and busy first term in Crescent, here are some updates.

Men and Women for Others

“Live simply, share generously” these are the words of Fr. Peter McVerry SJ when he spoke to Tommy Tiernan in April of this year. Fr. McVerry’s message of giving comes from the gospel, but he is also very much influenced by the Jesuit tradition to which he is a part of. Every Friday morning before school starts we as a school community come together for morning prayer in the chapel, we finish our service with the Prayer of St Ignatius, there is a line in the prayer which says, “to give and not to count the cost”, the line reminds us of our social responsibility to help those who are less fortunate than us. As part of our Jesuit ethos the school embarks on many different fundraising activities throughout the year.

St. Gabriel’s School and Centre

On the 29 September, all the transition year students took part in the Cook Medical Mini Marathon for St. Gabriel’s School and Centre. The school cares for and educates children with multiple physical disabilities. It provides a range of clinical therapies and interventions for up to 600 children and teens with disabilities. This year, the transition year students raised €12,148, which is a substantial amount of money. St. Gabriel’s school is extremely grateful to everyone involved in this fundraiser.

Limerick Suicide Watch

On the 14 October, former rugby player and band member of Hermitage Green, Barry Murphy came to talk to our transition year students about his time on the TV show Ultimate Hell week and his career so far in sport and music. Barry was joined by a representative of the Limerick Suicide Watch, which were his chosen charity if he won the show. The representative spoke to the students about their experience when volunteering to patrol the three bridges in Limerick and how they talk to people who may feel suicidal. The transition year students raised an impressive €1,000 for Limerick Suicide Watch, all money raised goes toward funding training, safety equipment and the day-to-day operations of the group.

Enable Ireland

Santa Hat and Christmas Jumper Day took place on the 9 December for Enable Ireland. The students and staff got into the festive spirit to help raise money for a great cause. Over €1,000 was raised for Enable Ireland which is based at Quinn's Cross in Mungret. The centre works with adults who primarily have physical disabilities and they provide a day service, transport, and rehabilitative training service for their service users.



The Jesuit Refugee Service

We had a very successful pyjama appeal this year for those living in Direct Provision in Limerick. The Jesuits have a strong history helping those seeking asylum. The Jesuit Refugee Service was founded by Fr. Pedro Arrupe SJ, the man who coined the phrase 'men and women for others'. We would like to thank all the families who donated gifts through the appeal, to Limerick Textile and Embroidery Limited for three boxes of Hoodies and to the Burkley family for their annual donation which ensures that we can buy any item we are short.

Jigsaw

On the 16 December, Crescent College played St. Munchin's College in a charity cup game in honour of Dudley Herbert and Sean Connelly. While the result did not go in our favour we raised over €3,000 for Jigsaw, this charity offers mental health advice and support to young people across Ireland.

St. Edmund's Secondary School in Zambia

Finally, the school would like to acknowledge the great endeavour shown by fifth year student Maria Campbell who mobilised students, parishioners, family, and friends in Limerick during the summer to take part in a fundraising walk of 12,532km, the distance from St. John's Castle Limerick to St. Edmund's Secondary School in Zambia. Maria raised over €20,000, to fund the purchase and installation of a solar panel system for the school in Muchenje Chibombo District in Zambia. The school is immensely proud of Maria, her dedication to the service of others is truly inspiring.

I would like to thank all the students, families and staff who donated and helped organised these events throughout the year. A lot of the charities that we work with are part of our community partners, in fifth year our students will do a three-day placement in these centres and see first-hand the great work that they do.

Transition Year Musical

Well done to all our T.Y. students who were involved in our brilliant school musical this year featuring pieces from Mamma Mia, Chicago and High School Musical. The skills that all our students from set design to the singing and dancing are fantastic life skills. Credit to Lisa Bennett Quaid and Roisin Lavery for all their time and effort in what was a great project.

Christmas Mass & Prayer

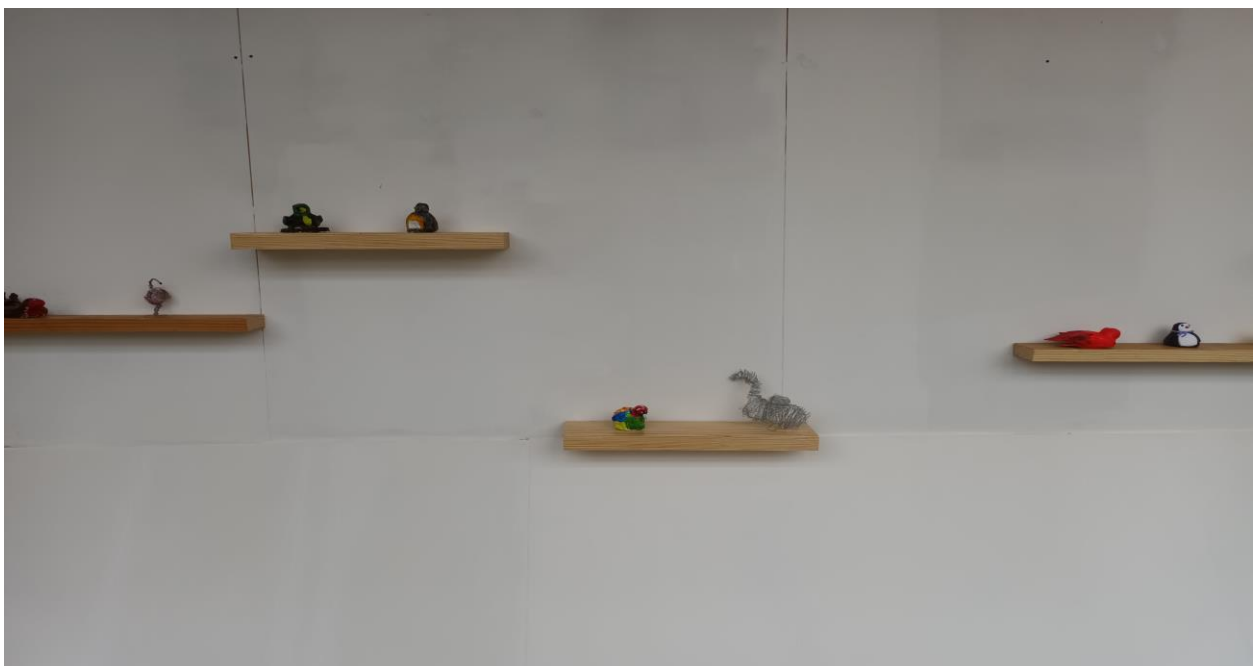
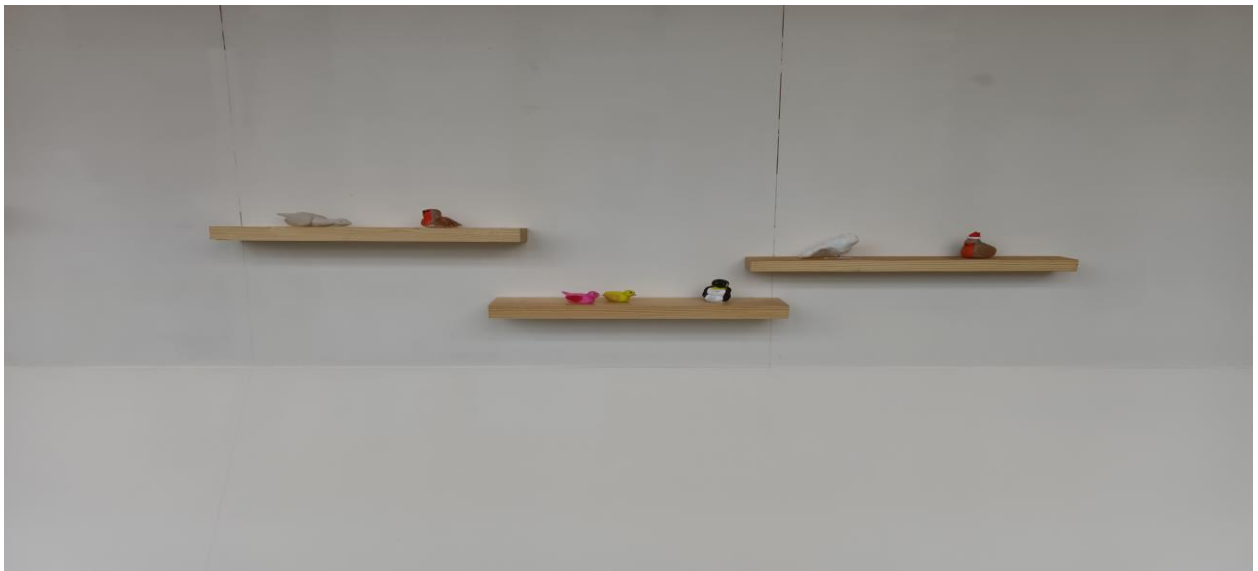
Unfortunately, there will be no school Christmas Mass due to Covid restrictions which don't allow us to gather as normal in the Central Area. Parish churches will be providing Christmas Masses. If it's not possible to gather for Mass, it is recommended to gather around the family crib for family prayer time and carols.

One Good School Project

Crescent has decided to join this project which has been designed by Jigsaw and will develop a whole school approach to supporting mental health in our young students in our school. It will be a collaborative approach with a one good school team including staff, parents and students to contribute to our plan. I will give more information in due course.

Student Sculpture

There has been a number of student sculpture and design projects that have taken place during this term. Students created bird sculptures which they had to design in the image of their own personality. A second display entitled 'There's a Creature...' has been displayed in the central area. Students created their own creatures from mixed media. Each creature is made from where it lives. A creature delicate and quiet may be from a sewing box, made from fabric stitched. A creature strong and may be created from a tool box. Again, it is brilliant to see the creative and exciting sculptures displayed throughout the school.



Extra-Curricular

It has been a season so far of huge participation and it is great to see all our teams back in action. Sport is a vital outlet for students to learn and commit to new skills. The ultimate success is the involvement not just results. Here are some of the highlights so far:

- Girls and Boys U.16 teams have qualified for All Ireland Finals.
- Senior & Junior Hockey teams are unbeaten and topped their qualifying groups.
- Senior & Junior Rugby Teams reached City Finals with the senior team retaining their City Cup by defeating Ard Scoil Ris.
- McCarthy Cup Rugby reached a Munster Final.
- Our First Year Hurlers reached a local final.
- Senior Soccer into the last 16 draw of the Munster Cup.
- Our Camogie girls have a North Munster Final to look forward to.
- Numerous Blitzes and Hours of Fun!!

Thanks to all our teachers and volunteer coaches for their time.



Chess Club

Chess club has been a great success during this term and will continue on Thursday lunch breaks from 12.35 – 1.55pm.

Return to School

School resumes on Thursday January 2022 with Lectio Brevis from 9.30am to 12pm.

Happy Christmas
Diarmuid

**‘Christmas is Joy, Religious Joy, an inner Joy of Light and Peace’
– Pope Francis**

