

# Davitt News



## Excellent Results for Davitt College Students in Junior Certificate 2016

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It was screams of excitement and delight following the Junior Certificate results at Davitt College, Castlebar on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Results were excellent with the vast majority achieving honours in all subjects. "I am delighted with all of our students' excellent results in the Junior Certificate," said Ms. Bernie Rowland, Davitt College Principal. "Our students worked very hard throughout the three years leading up to the Junior Certificate Examination and today they reap the rewards of that hard work. It is a wonderful day and we are very proud of each and every one of them. Ms. Rowland also encouraged the students to enjoy their success and to be sensible and responsible when celebrating. A special word of thanks to all of their dedicated teachers and supportive parents who, collectively, helped today happen," she said. Clearly a very happy Principal as well!



*Pictured (from Left) Angelica Flores, Amanda McGrath, Maeve Tolan and Nicole Sheridan of Davitt College, Castlebar celebrate their excellent Junior Certificate results 2016.*

*Pictured (from Left) Conor High and Robert Senzel of Davitt College, Castlebar are ecstatic after receiving their Junior Certificate results 2016.*

*Coming Soon!*

**Science Week**

**Lots of Experiments, talks and advice!**







## Davitt College Economics Students attend RTÉ Prime Time Budget Special



Pictured are the Davitt College Leaving Certificate Economics class, getting ready to attend the RTÉ Prime Time Budget Special programme on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 with their teacher Ms. Stephanie Kelly. Well done to all!



## Dublin trip for Transition Year Students

Transition Year Students recently enjoyed a trip to Dublin where they enjoyed the Sky-line Tour of Croke Park. The students also visited the Irish Aid & Volunteering Centre where they learned about global issues and the work of Irish Aid in fighting global poverty and hunger. The students really enjoyed the day in Dublin.





## Davitt College Graduates Celebrate Success As They Begin University



*Leaving Certificate students of 2016 at Davitt College, Castlebar. Pictured (from Left) Liam Laffey (B. Sc. in Animal Science, Aberystwyth University, Wales); Molly Rowland (B. Sc. in Science, UCD); Nasmul Uddin (B. Eng. in Biomedical Engineering, DCU); Hannah Duffy (B. A. in Applied Languages, University of Limerick); Claire McDonagh (B. A. in Product Design, I.T. Carlow); Laura O'Donnell (Disability Studies in Early Childcare and Education, Castlebar College of Further Education); Allanah Morris (Bachelor of Music, NUI Maynooth); Ms. Bernie Rowland, Principal, Davitt College; Norah Conlon (Bachelor of Commerce, UCD); Aoife Brody (B. A. in Early Childhood Care, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick); Amy Gibbons (Bachelor of Business, GMIT); Jade Murphy (B. Sc. in Biomedical Science, NUI Galway); Laura Brody (B. Sc. in Genetics & Cell Biology, DCU); Ellen Murphy (Bachelor of Science, Trinity College Dublin); Ms. Bernie Lennon, Career Guidance Teacher.*

A number of Leaving Certificate students of 2016 at Davitt College, Castlebar dropped in to their school recently to say goodbye and thank teachers and staff for their six years of post-primary education. These young men and women are embarking on Third Level courses in universities and training colleges throughout Ireland for the academic year 2016/2017. They are spreading their wings to all four provinces of Ireland – from Trinity College Dublin to University College Cork to N.U.I. Galway to the Aberystwyth University, Wales.

“There is definitely a trend towards the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) this year,” said Bernie Rowland, Davitt College principal. “We offer all four science subjects at Senior Level, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Agricultural Science.” “There has been a steady increase in the uptake of these subjects over the past two/three years and this is evident when you consider the degree programmes students are choosing at Third Level,” she said.



*Congratulations to Davitt College, Castlebar student Helen Murphy who has been accepted into University College Cork to study Dentistry.*

## CSI Comes to Davitt College!



**Pictured at the Forensic Science Workshop are Ms. Pauline Boyle, Biology and Agricultural Science Teacher; Ms. Martina Kelly, Chemistry and Science Teacher; Mr. Aaron Tonry, Physics Teacher; Mrs. Caitriona O'Donnell, Chemistry Teacher; Ms. Alison Leck, Forensic Scientist and Transition Year students participating in the workshop.**

On October 6<sup>th</sup> 2016, Transition Year students of Davitt College participated in the fourth annual Forensic Science Workshop at Davitt College. The aim of these workshops is to bring classroom science into real-life situations and get more students interested in continuing to study science for Third Level education. The activities provided the students with an exciting opportunity to experience an everyday use of Science in a real world situation. It proved to be an exciting and interactive educational experience, where observation and deductive reasoning combined with the science that students are learning in Davitt College, and are used to solve crimes in the real world.

As part of the workshop, students were presented with a real crime and given all the appropriate information to solve it, such as suspect information; where they were and what they were doing at the time of the crime, their occupations and evidence such as fingerprints. Students then went from station to station trying to match pieces of evidence to each suspect to help solve the crime. Each station had a different topic such as ballistics, where students had to study the amount of GSR (Gun Shot Residue) left on the clothing of each suspect. The students of Davitt College thoroughly enjoyed being put through the analytical stages and having to actively bring their learning to life. This is just a sample of the showcases that the Science Department do each year, with the BT Young Scientist Competition being a pivotal part of the Transition Year Programme.

This day was facilitated by Forensic Scientist, Ms. Alison Leck from Education Interactive, Sydney, Australia.



***Transition Year Students (from left) Seán Hersee and Daniel Murphy examine crime scene evidence during the Forensic Science Workshop at Davitt College. This was just one in a range of Science and Computer experiments which took place during the event.***



## Career Options 2016 at Davitt College, Castlebar



Pictured at the launch of Career Options 2016 were The Davitt College Organising Committee: Back Row (Left to Right) Mr. Denis O'Boyle, Chairman, Education Working Group, Mayo County Development Board ; Cllr Thérèse Ruane, Davitt College Board of Management, ; Lydia Garey, Leaving Certificate Student; Ms. Aine Coyne, Career Guidance Counsellor; Mr. Gary Boyle, Davitt College Board of Management; Ms. Bernie Lennon, Career Guidance Counsellor; Ms. Ruth Carney, Career Options Organising Committee; Mr. Francis Brennan, Mayo County Development Board; Mr. Michael Baynes, Castlebar Chamber of Commerce; Séan Tuffy; Ms. Siobhan Carroll Webb, South East LEADER Partnership Company; Niamh Whyte; Cllr Blackie Gavin, Chairman, Davitt College Board of Management; Ms. Elaine Mortimer, Davitt College Board of Management. Front Row (Left to Right) Ms. Bernie Rowland, Principal, Davitt College; Mr. Diarmuid O'Connor, Young Footballer of the Year 2015 and Mayo Senior GAA Player; Mr. Ger King, Deputy Principal, Davitt College



*Davitt College, Castlebar students Deirbhile Hughes, Nathalie Fundu, Sophie Rawson and Claire McHale proved to be excellent and informative guides at Career Options 2016 Event*



## Welcome to the First Years of Davitt College



**1A Class (Class Tutor Ms. Andrea Silke O'Connor)**



**1B Class (Class Tutor Ms. Elaine Mortimer)**



**1C Class (Class Teacher Mr. Paul Kelly)**





**1F Class (Class Tutor Mr. Dermot McGarry)**



**1G Class (Class Tutor Mr. Dave MacDonnacha)**



**1H Class (Class Tutor Ms. Érin Kilbane)**





## Cheerio's Childline Breakfast!

A number of Transition Year students organised a Cheerio's Childline breakfast morning for First Year students on 18th October 2016. The First Year students donated €2 each to this worthwhile cause.



Childline is the only 24-hour listening service which seeks to support and empower children and young people in Ireland. Last year, Childline had conversations with almost 400,000 children and young people who contacted the service for help and advice with wide-ranging serious issues, including abuse, violence, exploitation, addiction and suicide. That is an astounding 1,089 contacts by children a day, on issues that no child should encounter. The total collected was over €150 and this generous contribution will help the many children who contact Childline.

## GREEN SCHOOLS UPDATE

Congratulations to the students who have been selected to join the Davitt College Green Schools Committee. For this year, the committee are looking to reduce water use and be more efficient with water consumption. The committee also hope to ensure our clean school policy continues. The final element of the Green Schools mission is to reduce electricity use. There are three representatives from every first, second and third year class. A large number of Transition Year students

will form the main committee and are proving to be a very enthusiastic group! There are over sixty members in this year's committee which is the largest Green Schools Committee to date.



**Green-Schools**

## Impressive TEN A's for Chloe!

Congratulations to Chloe Bright who received an impressive Ten A's in Higher Level Subjects in her Junior Certificate 2016.







## ***BORD GAIS MUSIC TRIP***

On Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> 2016, over 30 Transition Year and Second Year Music students of Davitt College were treated to a scintillating show at the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, where they attended the hit West End Musical “*The Commitments*”. A special word of thanks to Mr. Mulderrig and Ms. Courtney for accompanying the students to Dublin.



## **Geography Field Trip to Co. Fermanagh 2016**



Pictured are Leaving Certificate Geography students who participated in a field trip to Co. Fermanagh on October 7<sup>th</sup> 2016. Field Studies is an integral part of the Leaving Certificate Geography course and the excursion involved a detailed study of river features and practical experiments. The students were accompanied by their Geography teachers Mr. Brian Murphy and Mr. Paul Kelly.





## *"The elderly are a treasure for our society"* Pope Francis

The students of 4B and 4C celebrated Positive Ageing Week 2016 by visiting the residents in the Sacred Heart Hospital Castlebar. They spent an enjoyable afternoon singing, dancing and talking with the elderly.

Well done to all who participated in this worthwhile event.



## DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING

Davitt College has always been aware of how important it is for students to be able to stand up and speak for themselves. For this reason, Debating has always been an integral part of our school culture. Liam Egan has put an enormous amount of time and effort into coaching students down through the years. Their successes in competitions have been phenomenal.



Our students participate in the following public speaking/ debates:

- Mental Health & Concern Debates
- The Irish Business and Professional Women's Organisation (B.P.W.)
- Literary and Debating Society Schools Debate.
- Soroptomist public speaking competition

Year after year, Davitt College has advanced to the finals of these competitions.

**After School Supervised Study for all students in Davitt College takes place Monday-Thursday, 4pm to 6pm**

*Please contact Ms. Claire Kennedy for details*







## FIRST YEAR TRIP TO ACHILL ADVENTURE CENTRE

Over 130 first year students took part in the annual outdoor adventure activities day held as part of the first year Physical Education program in Achill outdoor adventure centre on Tuesday September 27th 2016. This is traditionally a very successful outing and this year was no exception with every student experiencing a very enjoyable and exciting day. It allows students to mix and get to know each in a social atmosphere. All students took part in surfing, kayaking, climbing and archery. The weather was lovely and a great day was had by all.







# Davitt Sport

The Davitt College Sports Department has been a hive of activity during the first term. All teams are busy training during lunch time and after school. We have an extensive extra-curricular programme which caters for the sporting and leisure needs of the students in Davitt College. The provision of a wide range of extra-curricular activities makes an enormous contribution to the life of the school. The involvement in such activities complements the work that takes place in the classroom and gives the students an opportunity to develop their talents, social skills, and self-confidence and leadership qualities.



**Over twenty Transition Year Students participated in a Gaelic Coaching Course in September 2016.**



**Davitt College First Year Boys Gaelic Team**



**Davitt College First Year Boys Futsal Team**



**Davitt College U16 Girls Basketball Team**



**Davitt College Senior Girls Gaelic Team**



**Davitt College Senior Boys Gaelic Team**



**Davitt College U19 Boys Basketball Team**