

# COLÁISTE DE LACY



Update for Parents/Guardians

October 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The past eight weeks have absolutely flown past since we welcomed our students back to school in August. I hope that your son/daughter have settled back in and that they have enjoyed the challenges of learning so far this term. This has been a very busy term and more is yet to come!! This mini-newsletter is to update you regarding progress and to inform you of some upcoming events for your diary (see over). We probably won't have time to publish a Halloween Newsletter this year but we will share all of the wonderful memories from this term in our Newsletter at Christmas.

The moving schedule provided over (Mon 24th—Fri 28th October) is dependent upon the building being handed over to LMETB on time. Everything is on schedule at present and if anything changes then we will of course let you know.

I hope that you find this newsletter/update useful. This is such an exciting time for our school community and I look forward to welcoming you into our new building very soon. I wish to thank you most sincerely for your support, patience and understanding in the past and in advance of the next few weeks.

Le meas, Iníon Corrigan.

*Please note that only staff cars will be allowed to drive onto the educational campus until further notice. This applies to all three schools: Coláiste De Lacy, Gaelscoil na Mí & Ashbourne ETNS. This is for the Health & Safety of our students while the schools become familiar with the site and any potential issues. Parents/guardians & Buses will drop off and collect students from Donaghmore-Ashbourne GAA until further notice.*

## In This Update

- Upcoming events for your diary including PTM's, Information Nights...etc.
- Draft schedule for the Big Move!!
- Enrolment Dates
- Information about the Live-Life talk on Thursday 17th November.

# Upcoming Events 2016

Mon 17th October	Welcome <i>Iníon Spillane</i> (our new Business Studies teacher)
Thurs 20th October	Information Night for 3rd year students and their parents/guardians regarding Transition Year (7:30pm)
Fri 21st October	Students should have all their lockers emptied by this date at the latest. Locks should be brought kept safe by students as they will be reused when lockers are reissued during the first week after midterm. CDL cannot take responsibility for students property left in school during the move
Mon 24th—Fri 28th Oct	See Schedule for the 'Big Move' on page opposite
Fri 28th October	Midterm Break (full school day)
Mon 7th November	School reopens for normal timetabled classes <b><u>Enrolment for 2017 commences (forms will only be accepted from this date)</u></b>
Thurs 10th November	Open Night regarding Enrolment 2017 for 6th class students and their parents/guardians (in the new school at 7pm). Some students will be asked to attend and assist
Tues 15th November	Support Night for parents/guardians of 1st year students. Gary from 'Wriggle' will attend. Parents/Guardians must bring their son/daughters iPad and the unlock code
Thurs 17th November	Talk for 3rd year students by the parents of Donal Walsh (see back page for further information).
Fri 18th November	<b><u>Enrolment 2017 closes at 3pm</u></b> 'Celebratory March' with Gaelscoil na Mí & Ashbourne ETNS..... <b>further details to follow</b>
Tues 22nd November	"Insights into the World of Adolescents" talk in school at 7:30pm. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.
Wed 23rd November	<b><u>3rd Year Parent-Teacher Meeting (4:15—6:45pm, please bring student dialann)</u></b>
Wed 30th November	RSE Workshops for all third year students in school
Tues 1st December	<b><u>2nd Year Parent-Teacher Meeting (4:15—6:45pm, please bring student dialann)</u></b>

# The Big Move



## Draft Schedule for Move to New Building

Mon 24th Oct	Completion Date
Tues 25th Oct	<p>1st &amp; 2nd years help to pack up temporary accommodation</p> <p>3rd year students will attend intensive revision courses in Donaghmore-Ashbourne GAA</p> <p>Normal school day and PE Uniform for all students</p>
We 26th Oct	<p>The Big Move!!</p> <p>1st &amp; 2nd years will have a study day at home.</p> <p>3rd year students will attend a full-day 'Study Skills' seminar in Donaghmore-Ashbourne GAA (normal school hours and normal uniform apply).</p> <p>Any parents/guardians who are available to help on the day of the move, please contact 086-4102507 in advance.</p>
Thurs 27th Oct	<p>3rd &amp; 2nd year students attend school in the new building</p> <p>1st year students will have a study day at home</p>
Fri 28th Oct	<p>All students will attend for school as normal</p> <p>Each Caomhnóir will bring their Clann on a guided tour of the new building</p> <p>Normal timetabled classes will apply</p> <p>There will be a small Halloween party (Fancy Dress) in the afternoon.</p>

## Living Life!

### A talk for third year students and parents/guardians with the parents of Donal Walsh

Donal Walsh, the Kerry teenager who touched so many lives; came to prominence through his writings and subsequent appearances on national TV. Born and raised in county Kerry, Donal was diagnosed with Cancer at the age of 12. Through surgery and treatments, he battled Cancer hard each time it returned. He was the epitome of a growth mindset.....he loved his life! He fundraised tirelessly while battling cancer for St John's Cancer Ward in Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin. As Donal was losing his battle for his life, he wrote and spoke about a message that was so important to him.....he wanted teenagers to live their lives!

Donal's parents: Fionnbar and Elma Walsh, set up the #Livelif foundation in his memory so that his message would continue to be heard. They are visiting Coláiste De Lacy on Thursday 17th November at 2pm to speak to our third year students and any parents that would like to attend. Please just let us know if you would like to hear them speak as we would like to have enough seats out for everyone!



For more information about Donal and the #Livelif foundation, check out donalwalshlivelif.org

RSVP TO 086-4102507

## Mountains

I live in a part of the world that is surrounded by mountains. I can't turn my head without finding a bloody hill or mountain and I suppose those were Gods plans for me. To have me grow up around mountains and grow climbing a few too. And that's exactly what I've done, I may have grown up in body around them but I've fully grown and matured in mind climbing His Mountains. He's had me fight cancer three times, face countless deaths and losses in my life, He's had my childhood dreams taken off me but at the end of the day He's made a man.

I am always called brave, heroic, kind, genuine, honourable and so many other kind compliments but I have to try explain to everyone why I seem to reject them. I have never fought for anyone but myself therefore I cannot be brave or heroic, I've only been kind because my religion has thought me so, what impact could I ever make on the world if I was fake or how could I ever be honourable if I was not honoured to be here.

I am me. There is no other way of putting it, little old Donal Walsh from Tralee, one body, one mind with a few other cobwebs and tales thrown in. I've climbed Gods mountains, faced many struggles for my life and dealt with so much loss. And as much as I'd love to go around to every fool on this planet and open there eyes to the mountains that surround them in life I can't. But maybe if I shout from mine they'll pay attention.

If I start to accept these compliments I'm afraid of what I'll become. Will I be braver than YE? Will I be kinder than YE? More genuine than YE? Or more honourable than YE? Better than YE? No. I can never accept that there is a YE. We are all the same, we are all given one body, one mind. The only difference for me is that I'm looking from the mountain.

*Donal Walsh*