

## Coláiste Pobail na Mainistreach

Bóthar na Mainistreach, An Pórt Mór, Port Láirge

Príomhpóide: Michelle Jefford  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Colm Rice  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Helen Ní Chonchubhair  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Laura Fitzpatrick

## Abbey Community College

Abbey Road, Ferrybank, Waterford

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22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We hope you are all keeping well. It has been a busy term for Transition Year students, and we would like to congratulate them on their work. Below is an outline of the workshops/activities/guest speakers that the students have had the opportunity of engaging in or will engage in up to the Christmas holidays. We encourage you to keep check on their portfolio where students write an evaluation of each activity.

- SEPTEMBER 13th DUNMORE EAST ADVENTURE CENTRE
- SEPTEMBER 20 & 21ST- PERSONAL SAFETY WORKSHOP
- SEPTEMBER 27TH- CSI FORENSICS WORKSHOP
- OCTOBER 6TH – SELF ESTEEM WORKSHOP
- TRIP TO SECRET VALLEY FARM
- OCT 11TH-22TH WORK EXPERIENCE
- NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> GAISCE TALK
- NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> BIAS/STEM TALK FOR GIRLS
- NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> SCIENCE QUIZ
- APPLICATION FOR WALK IN MY SHOES PROGRAMME
- MINI MED APPLICATION
- NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> NUTRITION & HEALTHY EATING WORKSHOP
- EXHIBITION OF EASTERN WORLD RELIGIONS
- NOVEMBER 19TH- LAW ED WORKSHOP
- NOVEMBER 22ND 25TH CLASS RETREATS
- NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> -VISIONEERS WORKSHOP
- ONLINE BUNDLE-COMPUTER SKILLS, DRIVING SKILLS, & HOSPITALITY SKILLS
- DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> TY COMEDY SHOW THEATRE ROYAL
- DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAMME
- DECEMBER - WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP
- TRIP TO BLACKROCK PLANETARIUM, CORK
- CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE BISCUIT PUDDING WORKSHOP
- CHRISTMAS DECORATION MAKING WORKSHOP
- ALL MONDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES- bowling, kangoo jumps, martial arts, fitdance.

As you are aware our students will be having their scheduled terminal exams as part of Assessment Zone 1 next week. TY students have exams in Irish, English and Maths and have ongoing assessments in their other subjects and will receive a report on VSWARE at Christmas. They will receive a credit, result and comment for each subject that they have completed since September. It is very important that students are keeping up to date with all their work in all their subject areas, completing tasks on a nightly basis and meeting their deadlines.

Please see outline of credits below:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Assessment Details</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
<b>Core Subjects</b>	10 credits per subject (entire year)	150 credits
<b>Subject Sampling Modules</b>	2.5/5 credits per subject (per split/half year)	75 credits
<b>ePortfolio</b>	Content, presentation, writing skills, work experience report	75 credits
<b>Interview</b>	Interview, content, presentation, reflection	40 credits
<b>Extra-Curricular Participation</b>	School Activities <u>outside</u> school hours	20 credits
<b>School Community Participation</b>	School groups, committees, choir	20 credits
<b>Attendance &amp; Punctuality</b>	90% min.	20 credits

**Total: 400 credits**

<b>Participation:</b>	0-49%	0-196
<b>Pass:</b>	50-64%	197-256
<b>Merit:</b>	65-79%	257-316
<b>Distinction:</b>	80-100%	317-400

Students are responsible for inputting information and reflections on their educational experiences in the TY programme. This is facilitated during their weekly ePortfolio class and is to be completed at home. Within each students ePortfolio there are sections on academic work, educational and cultural visits, guest speaker and workshops, work experience and weekly reflections to be completed by each student on a weekly basis.

I have organised an online bundle for TY students which will be rolled out this week in Personal Development class and this will be continued in ePortfolio class. PLEASE REMIND STUDENTS TO BRING HEADPHONES TO SCHOOL. The courses will comprise of approx. 60 hours of online courses in Computers, Hospitality and Driving skills which will promote independent learning of students, as the courses can be accessed on any device from home and school. Each course is certified. This will be a great learning tool for the students in areas that will interest and benefit them. It will certainly enhance their future careers, job opportunities and driving skills.

TY students will be participating in these courses next week in class and are encouraged to access them from home also. ALL MODULES ARE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. STUDENTS CAN WORK IN CLASS AND INDEPENDENTLY ON EACH MODULE. **We recommend that each student engages in at least 3-4 hours a week from home.**

During the week of the exams students will get an opportunity to engage with the online bundle. The price of the online courses and workshop are included in the TY fee and is subsidised by the school. They will also engage in Christmas wreath making, Christmas Chocolate biscuit pudding and Christmas decoration workshops. They will be allowed to bring home their creations.

**Please ensure that all students are present in school from Monday to Thursday.**

**TY students will have no school on Friday December 3<sup>rd</sup> but we encourage them to access their online bundle as well as keep up to date with their ePortfolio.**

**Please be mindful that the second work experience placement will take place from February 7<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2022. It is vital that each student has secured their placement on return to school after the Christmas holidays as the employers' details will have to be inputted. I would strongly encourage that students start actively seeking a placement as soon as possible.**

I'm delighted with the uptake of students who have signed up for Gaisce. This is a fantastic initiative which is recognised internationally and will last well beyond Transition Year. We wish the students the very best as they undertake this initiative.

We would like to wish you all a safe end to 2021 and hope that 2022 will bring hope and wellness to us all.

Kind Regards,

**Anne Marie Doherty**

Programme Coordinator.

**Brendan Cahill**

TY Year Head.