

LCA TODAY 2025



6A Celebrate Fantastic Year 1 Results!



HCT - Cookery Skills



5A Pop Up Cafe - The Bigger Brew



Erasmus Event



New Subject - Horticulture

Top News

- Criminal Courts of Justice Trip
- Jumpzone Fun
- Meet Our 5th Year Class
- 6th Year Class: Plans for the Future

Welcome to our Newsletter!

The students of both the 5th and 6th Year Leaving Cert Applied Classes would like to welcome you to our LCA Newsletter 2025. In this edition you will find interesting articles about LCA such as our trips, our Work Experience and the different modules that we study throughout the year. You can also read about the tasks that we have completed, and events that we are involved in. We hope reading this newsletter will show what Leaving Cert Applied is all about and that may help you decide if LCA is the right choice for You.

Thank you,

5A and 6A

LCA Newsletter Committee 2025



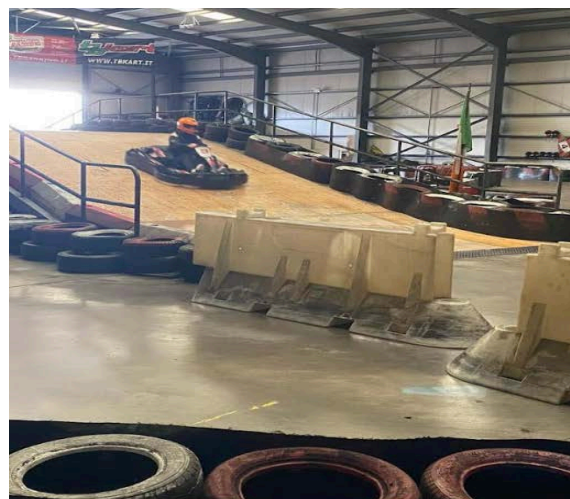
Karting - The Zone



On Thursday, the 27th of March following the Apprenticeship Expo in the Knightsbrook Hotel in County Meath and after our lunch, we headed to **The Zone: Activity Centre** for Go Karting. We spent the next two hours racing around the track. The adrenaline was high, and the **competition** was fierce, making it one of the most enjoyable parts of the day. We all had so much fun speeding around, with plenty of laughs along the way. By the time we finished, everyone was exhausted but happy.

Students practised their timings and then had the chance to compete for best times. Congratulations to Andrew Curran 6A - for the fastest times! Overall, it was a day full of **fun, learning, and teamwork**, making it a very memorable experience.

Isabelle Moran 6A



Apprenticeship Expo

On Thursday, the 27th of March, our two LCA classes set out on an exciting trip to the **Apprenticeship Expo in the Knightsbrook Hotel** in County Meath. The event we were visiting was designed to give us a closer look at the various **apprenticeship opportunities** available to those leaving school.

The Exhibitor list included:

1. **Industry** with an opportunity to meet the employers who are currently recruiting for Apprentices
2. **Education Providers** where students could speak with Colleges running the various Apprenticeship Programme
3. **Apprenticeship** Ireland / SOLAS a chance to engage with those managing Apprenticeships in Ireland.

The hotel hosted several small setups, each representing a different **career path**, allowing us to explore a wide range of possibilities and gain valuable understanding into the diverse paths we could take after graduation. I found this particularly interesting, as it highlighted how many options there are for students, whether they want to continue their education or dive straight into the workforce.

Isabelle Moran 6A



Meet our 5th Year Class



Edin Curtis

I like weight lifting and MMA.

When I finish school I would like to become an electrical engineer, specifically instrumentation.



Emma Harris

I like going to car events and love e36s. I want to get one when I leave school.



Layton Wilson

I love football and like going to see my team Shamrock Rovers on a Friday night.
School Teacher in the future.



Rose Leavy

I love Art and hope to be a Primary School Teacher in the future.



Nicholas Mitchel

I enjoy playing football with Brian Bowens FC.
I am interested in cars and architecture.



Lucy Dowling Talt

I enjoy English class, going for walks and reading. I like to build Lego in my spare time and watch TV series.



Garvin McDevitt

I enjoy training MMA.
When I finish LCA, I hope to go into an apprenticeship.



Danny Mahon

I enjoy the sport of boxing. When I leave school, I hope to complete an apprenticeship.



Jade Power

I enjoy English class and in my spare time I enjoy shopping, going out with my friends and listening to music. When I leave school, I hope to be a Beauty Therapist.



Grace O' Connell

I love shopping and when I leave school, I want to become a nurse.



Alex Curtin

I chose to do LCA and leave LCE because I feel like it is a better way of learning for me and I will be more productive in LCA. I also felt like LCE was too stressful for me and I needed a more peaceful way of learning.

LCA Parents Coffee Morning

We held our LCA Parents Coffee Morning on the **20th of September 2024**. It was organised to provide **information** for parents about the programme and how they can best support their son or daughter to achieve in LCA. I really enjoyed the event because it was very informative. I found the session to be quite helpful in understanding more about the LCA Curriculum.

Refreshments were prepared and served by the students. There were also **examples of work** from the students from Art, Graphics and Construction and other subjects on display. Parents then sat down and listened to a presentation all about LCA. Teachers said a few words about each of their subjects. Two 6th year students Alan Winders and Eleanor Bartholomew also spoke a few words to the parents. Alan spoke a few words about **Attendance** and **Work experience**. Eleanor then spoke about our **Tasks** and **Key Assignments** that we do throughout the year. Ms Mills then explained how the credits and continuous assessment works.

For next year's 5th-year LCA students, I'd definitely say that this is something to look forward to. The event was a great way to meet the other 6th year LCA students and for our parents to meet all our teachers and our Coordinator Ms Mills in a nice setting where we are being praised and encouraged to be our best. It's a wonderful opportunity to gain **insight into the program** from those who are already further along in their LCA journey.

Emma Harris 5A



Chat and Connect

On September the 23rd, I attended a Chat and Connect event as part of our **Religion** class. It was a laid-back gathering where people got to meet and talk in a relaxed setting and share some **refreshments** together. The conversations flowed easily, and everyone was open to **sharing ideas and experiences** of 5th year so far.

I got an opportunity to connect with some students from other 5th year classes, and we had some interesting discussions. It felt nice to be in a space where everyone was **engaged and welcoming**.

It was a good experience overall.

Nicolas Mitchell 5A



Hotel, Catering and Tourism

Coffee Shop Visit



In Hotel , Tourism and Catering as part of one of our tasks we have to try different take out food from different types of places, like coffee shops, restaurants etc. Our teacher Ms O'Malley took us to Little Brew Cafe and bought us all an iced coffee or whatever coffee we really wanted.

I had so much fun doing this because

A. I love coffee!

B. We got to go get the coffee during school time AND for free!

Overall, we all had fun doing this and it helped us answer all the Cafe questions in our HCT booklet.

Lucy Dowling Talt 5A

Halloween Raffle

Our Lady's Children's Hospital



In our Religion class we decided as part of a Faith in Action project to organise a Halloween raffle event to raise funds for Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin. We chose this cause as we all felt it was very worthy. The prize was a festive hamper filled with sweets and decorations which we would design and create. Participants then purchased tickets to support a good cause.

I enjoyed the event because it was a fun way to contribute to charity while also getting into the Halloween spirit. It was interesting to see how everyone came together for a meaningful cause, and it helped create a positive atmosphere. The experience was both enjoyable and useful, as it combined festive fun with philanthropy.

Through this event, I learned that I really enjoy participating in charitable activities, especially when they involve the community and a bit of creativity. If I were to talk to next year's 5A about it, I would say that it's a great opportunity to help those in need while enjoying a bit of Halloween fun with friends.

I discovered that I find satisfaction in giving back to others, especially when it's done in a festive and communal setting. It was a reminder of the importance of combining enjoyment with meaningful actions. We raised €325 for Our Lady's Children Hospital.

Emma Harris 5A



Art Exhibition



On the 3rd of December we showcased our **Julian Opie style Self Portraits** at our Art Exhibition. We worked on producing our art pieces for a number of weeks. We then organised and held a very successful Art Exhibition for our teachers, school staff, students, and parents. We also prepared refreshments to serve, decorated the room, created a playlist and a programme booklet with information about each artist. Everyone who attended the event congratulated us and enjoyed the experience.



Art Exhibition Staff Reviews

- ★ *"Fantastic displays of art - I loved how each student left something symbolic beside their piece. Lovely to chat to everyone too - a great atmosphere! Well done to all!"*
- ★ *"The fact that the art captured how all the students look but also imitated the style of your chosen artist Opie was really impressive. I also got to learn more about the guys that I wouldn't have known! Well done to all involved."*
- ★ *"The style of the paintings was very engaging, I loved the use of colours and the shaping of the faces. It was also lovely that the students made a link between the art and their lives."*

Layton Wilson 5A



Domestic Violence Speakers

In 6th year as part of our Social Education class we complete a Contemporary Issue Task. This task involves researching a contemporary issue of our choice and carrying out an action.

For my task on Domestic Violence I decided on a speaker from **Teach Tearmainn** for my action as I thought that students were more likely to listen to someone outside of school rather than their classmates or a member of staff. I then decided that I would want the speaker to talk to both of the LCA classes in my school. I had made a questionnaire for the class to do before the speakers had started talking. They both introduced themselves before starting going through their powerpoint they had prepared. They talked about **healthy and unhealthy relationships**, technological Abuse, other forms of domestic violence, what their organisation is and how long it had been running for. This was very valuable information for students as they will now know the clear differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships and **where to find help** if they find themselves in an unhealthy relationship.

Kaitlyn McDonald 6A



KWWSPCA Fundraiser

In 6th year as part of our Social Education class we complete a **Contemporary Issue Task**. This task involves researching a contemporary issue of our choice and carrying out an action.

6th year student Isabelle Moran chose the topic of **Animal Welfare** as her research topic. For her action on Animal Cruelty she created two Christmas themed hampers to **raffle**. She created one for students that included some selection boxes and sweets while the teacher's one included chocolate, whiteboard markers and wine. Both were beautifully decorated by Isabelle with help from Rose Leavy from 5th year LCA. Isabelle raised €93.50. Isabelle also decided to bring in two **speakers from the KWWSPCA**. They talked about what their organisation does and how they helped animals find new homes. The speakers also brought in 2 dogs which were extremely friendly.



Leaving Cert Applied Peer to Peer Induction Sessions

These Peer Induction Sessions involved our 6th Year LCA class showing our new 5th Year LCA class all the tasks they were involved in and what they had to do to complete the tasks to make sure they know what they are going to be doing in LCA. Sixth Year students explained how to carry out tasks and what happens in the Task interviews. Students had Task Booklets with them to show work and answer any questions they might have.

They also spoke about the importance of attendance, work experience and key assignment deadlines in LCA. The 5th year students felt better informed after this session on how to be successful in LCA.

Megan Conway 6A



Jump Zone Liffey Valley

We started out our day on the 26th September with a visit to Jump Zone in Liffey Valley where great fun was had by all. Jump Zone is an indoor **trampoline sports park** that gives participants the opportunity to **exercise** and enjoy yourself.

When we arrived at Liffey Valley we had time to get something to eat and then we went to the Jump zone area, We got different coloured socks with grips on the bottom to prevent slipping on the trampolines, We then watched an instructive and informative documentary on safety guidelines. After we watched the video we were brought over to the dodgeball zone and we played dodgeball. After about fifteen minutes we moved onto the main trampoline area with loads of different types of trampolines. Then we moved onto the **obstacle course** for another fifteen minutes and we ended our trip by jumping into a giant air bag before leaving.

Everyone really enjoyed their time at Jump Zone as it was not only a healthy activity but loads of fun at the same time.

Andrew Curran 6A



Horticulture

Horticulture is a new subject that has been introduced into LCA in CPC in 2024- 2025. In this class we learn about **fruit and vegetables** you can grow and how to grow them organically. We also learn about different types of **soil, flowers and trees**. We have a new Polytunnel in our school where we go out to plant our flowers and we are going to start planting potatoes and onions for the Home Economics classes to use.

We are also growing a herb garden and that will also link in with HCT and everything is all organic. This class is very enjoyable because you get to be outside in the **fresh air** instead of sitting in a classroom for an hour and you get to learn a lot in this class that can also be beneficial for home if you want to plant your own flowers or grow your own fruit and veg. We are very thankful to Ms Lamont for looking after the polytunnel and teaching us this subject.

Megan Conway 6A



Our Polytunnel



Lunch in Fallons



Both our 5th and 6th year Leaving Cert Applied classes enjoyed a lovely lunch in Fallon's on Thursday 21st of November, 2024. Students enjoyed three choices of main course followed by a lovely dessert.

They were then given a tour of the kitchen and an insight into the running of a busy restaurant.

Our LCA classes study the Hotel, Catering and Tourism Industry with their teacher Ms Mairead O Malley. This opportunity gave them a unique insight into the food service industry.

We were also delighted to gather together to celebrate the fantastic results our 6th year students received recently.

SNA's Amy Mulligan and Paula O Connor also joined us for this lovely lunch and we are always very thankful for their continued dedication to and support of our students.

A lovely time was had by all!

Jamie Crowe 6A



Trip to the Criminal Courts of Justice



Our 5th and 6th Year Leaving Cert Applied students had a fantastic trip to the **Criminal Courts of Justice** on the 3rd of March. As part of their **Social Education** course students in LCA study the **Irish Legal System**.

When students arrived at the Courts they were greeted by our appointed **Barrister** and shown to courtroom 11. He then explained in detail to our students all about the **courts system** and the workings of the courts. Students then had the opportunity to sit into several **court sessions** and watch the proceedings with great interest.



Erasmus Day of Celebration



Our LCA students were delighted to be part of the Erasmus Day celebrations on Monday 14th October 2024. They had the opportunity to listen to a very lively **debate** on the topic of “*Is it Beneficial to be an EU Citizen?*” which took place under the supervision of the current Ceann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann, Seán Ó Fearghail TD.

Following on from the debate, our students engaged in a **drama workshop**, facilitated by volunteers from the Erasmus European Solidarity Corps.

We were delighted to welcome Serena from Italy, Marta from Spain, Tuana from Turkey and Makis from Greece. It was also an occasion to welcome German teachers, Lutz and Luise from St Ursula Schule.

The event finished up with students, staff members and invited guests coming together to enjoy a feast of **International food** prepared by students and their families. 6A students Danielle and Isabelle prepared traditional spanish dishes for this feast.



Meet Our 6th Year Leaving Cert Applied Class 2025

Plans for the Future

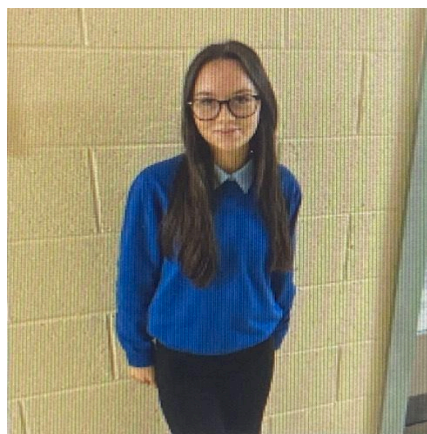


Andrew Curran

Andrew hopes to do an Electrical Apprenticeship or a Carpentry Apprenticeship when he leaves school.

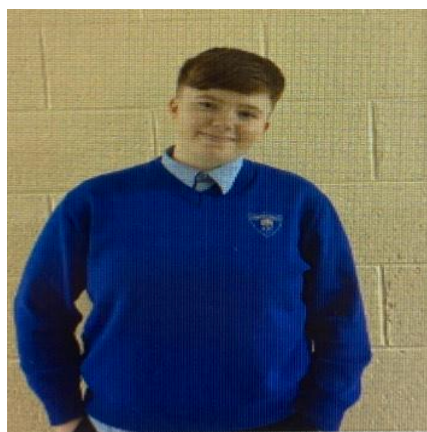
Jamie Crowe

Jamie wants to do a PLC in Veterinary/Animal Care when he leaves school.



Megan Conway

Megan wants to be a SNA when she leaves school.



Saoirse Purdue

Saoirse wants to do a course in barbering when she leaves school



TJ Beresford

TJ wants to do an apprenticeship in plumbing when he finishes school



Alan Winders

When Alan leaves school he wants to be a professional carpenter.



Isabelle Moran

Isabelle wants to work in the Catering Industry



Eleanor Bartholomew

Eleanor wants to work and travel when she leaves school. She hopes to work in the area of Property or Nutrition.



Damia Ruslan

I am hoping to do a PLC course in Beauty Therapy or Business and Digital Marketing when I leave school.



Daniella Nascimento

I would like to travel to places and learn about their different customs. When I leave school I hope to become a flight attendant.



Kaitlyn McDonald

I want to be a SNA when I leave school and work with children in a montessori.

Hotel, Catering and Tourism

6A Preparing for their Cookery Exam!



Our 6A students are busy preparing for the Hotel, Catering and Tourism **Cookery Exam**. Each student will have to prepare and serve two to three courses in a set amount of time.

Students will be examined by an external examiner from the State Examinations Commission. This exam is worth 50% of the students overall grade in HCT.

Students are showing **great skills** and are producing **fabulous dishes** as they practise and prepare for their exam.

Great work!

5A Enterprise Task - Pop up Cafe

The Bigger Brew

On Tuesday 25th of March our 5th Year Leaving Cert Applied Students had a very successful time running their own **Pop Up Cafe - The Bigger Brew!**

The Cafe was extremely busy from the time it opened at 10am until it closed at 2pm! Both students and staff enjoyed the beautifully decorated room and the **delicious menu**.

Well done to all the students who worked so hard today, their teacher Ms McDonnell and Georga Dowling of FoodSchool who has provided support and advice throughout this process.

This was definitely one of the most successful 5th Year LCA Enterprise Tasks to date and there is no doubt that students will receive excellent results for this assessment.

Everyone can be so proud of what they achieved.

Amazing work!



Pop up Cafe - The Bigger Brew



The Bigger Brew MENU	
ESPRESSO	DESSERTS
Americano €3	Rice Crispy Treats €1.50
Cappuccino €3	Cookies €1.50
Latte €3	
Flat White €3	
Iced Latte €3.50	
Tea €2	
HOT FOOD	
Ham Toastie €3.50	
Ham and Cheese Toastie €3.50	
Sausage Roll (4 for) €2.50	



Senior Cycle

Programme and Subject Choice Fair



On Wednesday the 26th of March our Guidance Teachers organised a **Senior Cycle Programme and Subject Choice Fair** for the TY students. Three of our 6A LCA students Eleanor, Kaithlyn and Megan were on hand to answer questions about the **Leaving Cert Applied Programme**.

They also brought along a number of **examples of work** they have completed as part of the programme. They could show students the topics studied and the standard of work completed.

This was very **beneficial** to our Transition Year students who are deciding what programmes and subjects at Leaving Cert they will do.

Clover Hill Prison

On the 26th of September both 5A and 6A went to **Cloverhill Prison** for a guided tour.

In the LCA programme our students complete a **Social Education Course** which includes studying the **Law and the Legal Systems in Ireland**.

This tour was very informative and interesting. We were guided by experienced **Prisoner Officer** Phillip O Rourke. We got to see the inside of a **cell, the exercise yard and the security systems room**. We also learned about what happens when a prisoner arrives in prison and the procedures they are brought through. Philip also spoke about the role of a prison officer and how and where he trained.

We are very thankful to Phillip for this opportunity to see inside a **working prison** and learn about its operations.



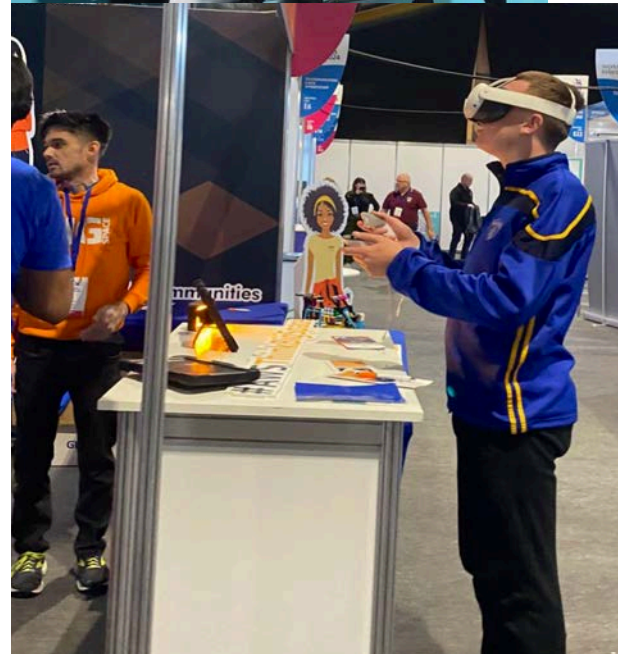
World Skills Exhibition

On the 26th of September students in both LCA classes got the opportunity to visit the **World Skills Exhibition** in the RDS.

Worldskills Ireland is a partnership between enterprise, industry, education, training and government that raises the profile and recognition of **skills and apprenticeships**. A large number of apprenticeship opportunities were on display to our students.

Students could visit stands about mechanics, plumbing, carpentry, accounting, culinary arts and many more areas of study and traineeship. It was eye opening to the students to see just how many varieties of courses are available to them.

Rose Leavy 5A



Contemporary Issue Task

Sexual Harassment



I chose this topic as I really want to bring more **awareness** to it and create a conversation that is usually avoided when speaking about a topic so sensitive. In addition I'd love to use this report as a way to **destigmatize** and change the narrative around sexual harassment and assault, especially when it comes to young women as we're often brought up and conditioned by society to blame ourselves for the actions done by others.

When deciding on my action I knew I wanted to do something that **educated and brought awareness to the topic of sexual assault**. I decided to create a presentation on what I specifically wanted to speak about and deliver the presentation myself to a group of TY students who are going on work experience and getting part time jobs. Overall I am very happy with how my task went.

Eleanor Bartholomew 6A

New LCA Video

The Benefits of LCA - A Students Perspective

We were delighted to share with everyone in March a video created by our Leaving Cert Applied Students about the Benefits of the LCA Programme from a Students Perspective. Students took part in a **panel discussion on the benefits of LCA** and recorded this for a new video about the LCA programme as a positive option for Senior Cycle Students.



Students also assisted in the recording of other key activities and events to demonstrate what they do in the programme every day in school.



Here is a link to access the video:

[LCA Video 2025](#)

Our students hope you will enjoy it.

Well done to all involved!



Ms Mills



Horticulture Trip

Newlands Home and Garden Centre



Our 5th and 6th Year Leaving Cert Applied students enjoyed a visit to **Newlands Home and Garden Centre** on the 3rd of March as part of their Horticulture course.

Students were given a tour of the centre, a **planting demonstration**, and time to plant their own flower arrangements.

Students returned to school with beautiful flowers which they will display and look after in their poly-tunnel.



Thank you to their teacher Ms Lamont for organising this for the students.

A great day was had by all!



Senior Christmas Party Success



Our Sixth Year students were delighted to welcome their grandparents and Seniors from our community to our annual **Seniors Christmas Party** today.

It was a wonderful celebration with delicious treats, teas and coffee, music, bingo and raffle prizes! Even Santa and his elves popped in to spread joy with every guest receiving a gift.

It was a truly fabulous celebration of **intergenerational community spirit!**

Selection Box Collection for Saint Vincent De Paul

6A student Jamie Crowe as part of his **Contemporary Issues Task** on Poverty in Ireland Today organised a collection of selection boxes to donate to the **Saint Vincent de Paul**.

The selection boxes were donated by students and teachers in the school over a number of weeks in the lead up to Christmas.

He was delighted to be able to donate over **50 selection boxes**. These selection boxes were given to families in need coming up to Christmas.



Selection Box Collection for St Vincent De Paul



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Thousands of Irish families will struggle financially this Christmas.

Please Donate!

Collection box at Reception.

Visitors from Germany - Julia and Christian help out in a HCT Cookery Class



5A students were delighted to welcome **visitors from Germany** Julia and Christian into their Hotel, Catering and Tourism Task.

Students demonstrated their **culinary skills** and both Julia and Christian were also delighted to help out. Students discussed the HCT programme and what students could avail of in Germany that was similar.

Students discussed favourite foods and dishes and exchanged a number of food related ideas.

A great learning experience for all.

Climate Change Task

6A student Danielle chose to do her **Contemporary Issues Task** on Climate Change. She chose this issue because it is something that is currently happening around the world and it **affects everybody's life**. This issue is an important topic for her because it is happening now in **São Paulo and the Amazon, Brazil** which is where she comes from.

For her action she chose to organise a **Civvies day** to raise funds to purchase a **water system for our Polytunnel** and some **trees to plant**. She chose both these actions as she believes it highlights the importance of water and trees.

She hoped this would achieve by getting students' attention to climate change and incentivise them to look after their environment.

Danielle 6A



Contemporary Issue Task - CyberBullying

The reason why I chose cyberbullying as my **Contemporary Issue** is because I feel that people don't realise that it is still a massive problem in today's society. The reason why it is a big problem in today's society is because of all the new kinds of **technology** nowadays that can be used to be **offensive, intimidating, malicious or insulting online to people**.

Another reason why I chose to do cyberbullying as my contemporary issues task is because I know people that have been cyberbullied in the past and would want to know for the future what to do if I witness cyberbullying.

I decided to teach a **first year** class about cyberbullying. The reason why I chose to **teach a class** is because I want to know how many young people of this generation have been affected by cyberbullying. I also want the first year students to know where to seek **help** if they come across cyberbullying and I want them to know how to **prevent** it from happening.

Andrew Curran 6A



Chocolate Garden of Ireland Workshop



Our LCA students enjoyed a wonderful workshop in the **Chocolate Garden of Ireland** today learning all about chocolate and how to work with it.

They also looked at the **business** end of a small Irish food company and listened to Jim Healy talk about the ups and downs of running a business. He also spoke of the effects of recession and Covid on their business.

Lots of **chocolate** was tasted throughout the workshop which everyone thoroughly enjoyed!



Achievements and Awards

Great to **celebrate** our Leaving Cert Applied students **achievements**. This year's students have received numerous **Student of the Month**, **Academic Success** and **Application to Study Awards**. Well done all!



LCA - End of Year Awards 2024

Congratulations to the following students;

- ★ **Andrew Curran** 5A LCA Leisure and Recreation Award
- ★ **Eleanor Bartholomew** 5A LCA Irish Award
- ★ **Eleanor Bartholomew** 5A LCA VPG Task Award
- ★ **Kaitlyn McDonald** 5A LCA Hotel, Catering and Tourism Task Award

We are very **proud** of you!



LCA Awards Board



We were delighted to welcome past Leaving Cert Applied students and LCA Students of the Year back to CPC on the 28th of May 2024 to view the **unveiling of our new LCA Awards Board**. This Awards Board displays the names of the past winners of the Leaving Cert Applied Student of the Year Award and will display the names of future recipients also.

We were delighted also to dedicate our new board to our dear colleague and friend **Maria Barton** who worked tirelessly as an SNA with our LCA students.

We are so very **proud** of our Leaving Cert Applied Programme and of all the students who have completed this programme in our school.

