



Le Chéile Update

Le Chéile Spring Edition 2018

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Spring 2018

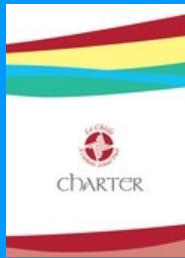
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Words to the Wise

Our Lives begin to
end the day we
become silent about
the things that
matter.

Martin Luther King Jr.



Take Time



Take time to think
It is the source of power.
Take time to read
It is the foundation of
wisdom.
Take time to play
It is the secret of staying
young.
Take time to be quiet
It is the opportunity to
see God.

Welcome back to the new term!



After a long winter of snow, rain and cold we look forward to a late spring and hopefully a warm summer. We're very conscious that schools have been extremely busy with the

implementation of the new Junior Cycle, the Child Protection Guidelines, GDPR and of course, the revised Leadership and Management procedures.

Throughout all that, we try to keep students at the centre of everything we do. They have only one chance at second level education and, in keeping with our traditions we give them every opportunity to reach their full potential. Wellbeing has always been at the heart of what we do and our challenge today is to ensure that bureaucracy and administration don't cloud the wonderful educational vision we have inherited from our founding congregations.

The Le Chéile Conference this year was particularly successful in giving students an opportunity to connect with the congregations. We hope the students have been invited to present a report to your Board of Management or staff? These wonderful students are carrying the flame into the future!

Please note: the revised date for the official opening of Le Chéile Secondary School Tyrrelstown is Monday 14th May at 10.00am. We hope that all our schools will be able to send an adult representative with perhaps the two students who attended the Conference in February.

World Meeting of Families

Schools are encouraged to coordinate and lead a group of student volunteers to help for 2 days during the week of the World Meeting of Families. Would one of your teachers be willing to organise this? Please contact **Madeleine Frissing**—see details below.

Do you know any families living in Dublin who might be interested in hosting a family? If so, please call **Mary Kennedy** (or a member of the team) on 0353 1 567 6800 or e-mail to hostingteam@worldmeeting2018.ie



Volunteer Services Department World Meeting of Families 2018

P: 01 567 6800

volunteer@worldmeeting2018.ie

W: www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer

A: WMOF2018, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe Rd., Dublin 3, Ireland

World Meeting of Families
21-26 August 2018

Previous issues of the Le Chéile Newsletter and other related publications are available on the publications page of the Le Chéile website.



On Easter Sunday we marvelled at the miraculous. The crucified Jesus unexpectedly became the risen Christ. The eternal invaded the transient. The Jesus of Good Friday showed once and for all that God's relationship with each of us transcends the limitations of this life.

Easter is the time when we are given the breathing space to prepare for the real presence. It is a gentle call to slow down and reflect on the bigger picture. Who is the God of the Paschal Mystery for us today? This is a time when more than any other we are aware of the life that makes us live, the expectation of a new beginning, new birth and the accessible divine potential that is all around us. It is a welcome opportunity to savour the energy, joy, and trust of the unique Easter laughter.

Let us carry the message of Easter into this 3rd term of the school year

Lord Jesus, you came among us to show us how to live life to the full. To prepare for that work you went into the desert for forty days.

Help us to see ourselves as we are and not to be afraid to make changes.

Help us to be generous and more like you, Amen.

Le Chéile Day Pay It Forward Day 16th March

Many of our schools came up with new and creative ideas for this year's event and as your stories come in we will update the Pay It Forward Section on our website.

Child Safeguarding

New regulations came into force on 11th March 2018. All schools are now required to have an updated Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk assessment which must be sent to Le Chéile at our dedicated email address, childprotection@lecheiletrust.ie. An oversight report must be presented at each Board of Management meeting and, in the case of any contact with Tusla the secretary to the Board is obliged to give a full report to the Board of Management. All teachers must be aware that mandatory reporting is in place and that they co-report with the designated liaison person. All staff must undertake training from Tusla and PDST. The Board reviews its procedures and reports annually to Le Chéile.

Data Protection—GDPR

New regulations come into force on 25th May this year. The JMB are providing training courses for schools and we encourage full participation. The new regulations require teachers, and all staff to be mindful of the rights of all to privacy in relation to data which is held about them. Five useful tips have been shared:-

1. Get familiar with GDPR
2. Ensure your work email passwords are strong and secure
3. When using your own technology (phones, iPads, PCs etc) ensure it is password protected and adequately encrypted
4. Ensure all work laptops and PCs have adequate encryption, antivirus, malware and other protections
5. Teachers should not rely on using USB sticks, unless encrypted

Middle Leaders

Congratulations to all the teachers who attended the Middle Leaders courses held in Dublin & Galway this year. Once again both venues were oversubscribed. The project work was of a very high standard and some of the themes explored were, peer mentoring, the use of KWL revision sheets, whole school wellbeing and teacher induction. At the recent final night in Dublin six project teams presented their work. This was followed by a number of themed round table discussions on various aspects of leadership. The evening concluded with an excellent input from Ms. Mary Nihill, director of the Centre for School Leadership. This year the course was aligned to the *Looking At Our Schools* and the *Digital Strategy* documents. There was also an excellent module on developing characteristic spirit and ethos. Thank you to our school Principals and Deputy Principals who mentored groups in their schools. We are looking forward to continuing our very interesting discussions on leadership at the Galway presentation night, 25th April. **If you are interested in applying for next years course please keep an eye on your school notice board, our website and newsletters.**

Principals, Deputies and Board Members if you have not received a copy of the Le Chéile Handbook or Contacts Book, please contact the Le Cheile Office

We welcome your suggestions for next year—our 10th Anniversary Conference





St. Mary's Killester Cycle Against Suicide Ambassadors

In January our school St. Mary's Holy Faith, Killester attended the annual Student Leaders Congress in the 3arena which is organised by Cycle Against Suicide. Cycle Against Suicide promotes mental health - the message that ;"IT'S OK NOT TO FEEL OK; AND IT 'S ABSOLUTELY OK TO ASK FOR HELP". As our school is an Ambassadors' School we were very privileged to attend this event along with our principal Ms. Evelyn Mc. Loughlin. We all had a brilliant day filled with dancing, singing and we took away some amazing messages shared by the inspiring speakers such as "Be Here Tomorrow" Kevin Hines. The congress was attended by 7,000 students from all over Ireland including many from Le Chéile schools like our neighbours Manor House and De La Salle Raheny. It was very inspiring to see so many young people committed to the message of Cycle Against Suicide. Our School's Go Orange day was on the 9th of February and this day helped us spread this fantastic message throughout our whole school, so that they can experience a small bit of what we felt throughout our memorable and inspirational day at the congress.



Aoibhe Conway (Student)

Cór Clainne San Lughaidh St Louis High School, Rathmines

To mark the beginning of Catholic Schools Week we hosted our first Cór Clainne, whilst also embracing the message of the forthcoming world meeting of families which will be held in Ireland in August 2018. The St Louis ethos is centred on creating a strong sense of community and family – Ut Sint Unum (That we may be one). It was our aim to celebrate the family through the beauty of music. All First Years were requested to invite a relative to join them for a collective choral experience. They, along with their guests, came together in Cuisle, our Arts and Cultural Centre to rehearse two choral pieces. We had great fun and the newly-formed choir learned What A Beautiful World and Count on Me by Bruno Mars. We all enjoyed refreshments together at the interval and returned to Cuisle to fine tune the songs before making a recording. Thank you to our instrumentalists from other year groups who shared their talents and especially to the Music dept of Ms Kehoe, Ms Duggan and Ms Madden who ensured the success of this event.

C McDonough (Principal)



Coming up..... Chaplains Gathering

We would like to invite all our school chaplains to our annual seminar for chaplains in the Avila Retreat Centre, Donnybrook on Wednesday 19th April. It will feature workshops on ideas for retreats and the 'Ministry of Hope'.

Important Dates:

	Inform Le Chéile if School Board of Management is changing next October
18th April	Chaplains Gathering 10.00am - 4pm Avila Retreat Centre
25th April	Middle Leaders West (6/6) 5.00 –8.00pm Galway, Final Session and Presentation of Certificates, Principals invited
19th June	Principals, Chairpersons and Deputy Principals Seminar in Mullingar

Calendar and Handbook for 2018 /19

We are currently compiling our calendar for 2018/19. If you know of any events that may influence our schedule please tell us. This Calendar will include our training events, meetings and important dates and will be included in our handbook, on our website and distributed by e-mail.

Is your school celebrating any special anniversary or event this year?? Do tell us and share your story. If you have any news items or pictures that you would like to see on our website please send them in!