

Muinín Catalyst Sustainable STEAM Newsletter

March 2023



Welcome to our Spring newsletter!

We have been busy working with Transition Year learners on their Health & Wellbeing trail, and finished our Tech Tasters series with young people in [Maine Valley Family Resource Centre](#). We were also delighted to be featured as Kerry Changemakers as part of the [Stories of Change](#) project, highlighting people, organisations and businesses committed to climate change awareness, education and habit changing.

We presented at a number of conferences, including [Sustainable Innovation UK](#), and shared our work and place-based STEAM learning resources with UCD Earth Institute, [The Irish Sustainability School Network](#) and BA Education, University of Limerick.

To find out more about the programme and how to access the resources, please visit our [Resources page](#).

An Opportunity to Reflect

Trainee teachers spend a great deal of time on reflection. How and why a lesson went well or not so well, what could be done to improve learning outcomes and experiences for the students in the classroom, and action steps to take.

[Read](#)

Tech Tasters 2

After completion of Phase 1 in June 2022, read more about our consistent programme starting Sept–Dec for ages 12+ with a small group of 15 young people. Tech Tasters 2 developed STEAM skills, confidence and competence in young people.

[Read](#)

Stories of Change

Over the summer we were thrilled to be identified as one of a number of change makers in Kerry as part of the Stories of Change project created by LK Howells.

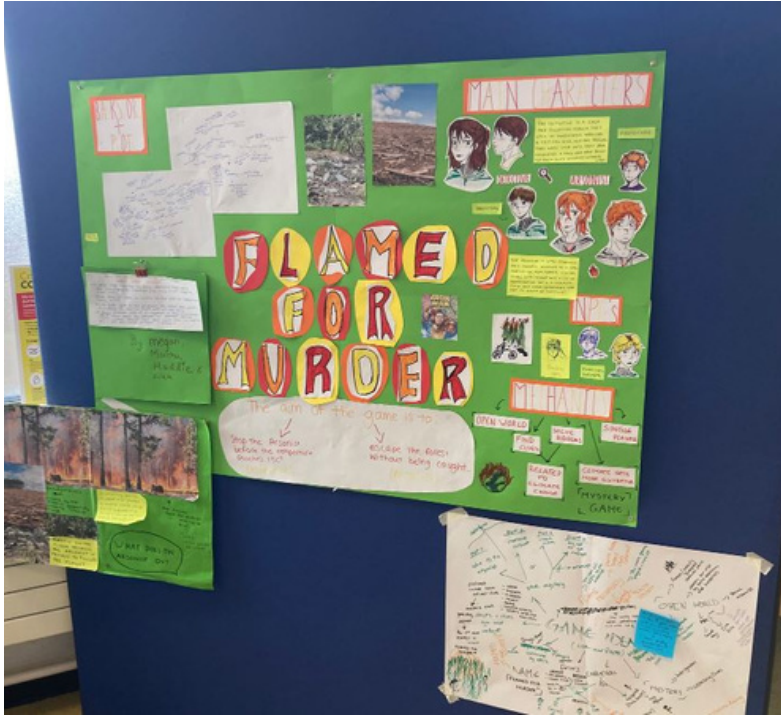
Find out how our resources help learners to see the world differently.

[Read](#)

Health and Wellbeing Trail

It has been a busy year for some of the TY learners at Coláiste na Sceilge. We have been working with a new group of TY learners to develop different nodes, or pause points, on their proposed 1km Health and Well-being trail.

[Read](#)



AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT: SECOND-LEVEL LEARNINGS AND THEIR APPLICATION TO THIRD-LEVEL EDUCATION

Trainee teachers spend a great deal of time on reflection. How and why a lesson went well or not so well, what could be done to improve learning outcomes and experiences for the students in the classroom, and action steps to take. As individuals get further and further away from those training years, they tend to take less and less time for reflective practice. Learning how to become a more effective educator by learning from our environment is an important tool to enrich learning opportunities and experiences.

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DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION: TECH TASTERS 2

In June 2022 we worked with Maine Valley Family Resource Centre and Maker Meet on a series of Taster workshops, with a view to a longer-term programme using our Media Resources to develop STEAM skills, confidence and competence in young people.

In Phase 1, we offered introductions to Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, 3D printing, Circuits and wearables, Green Screen and creating Avatars.

Based on the initial responses and the facilitators' feedback, a consistent programme starting Sept–Dec for ages 12+ was suggested ideally with a small group of up to 15 young people.

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Latest News

- Earth Institute presentation to recruit third-level STEM expertise for our curriculum resources
- Presentation to BA Education Undergrads, University of Limerick
- Micro-session with Irish Sustainable Schools Network
- Sustainable UK - Marine Plastic Waste module as part of MARplas, CCE Climate Change Engage
- Portugal - 17th Annual Design Principles Conference, Muinín Catalyst Sustainable STEAM and Climate Change Engage, Designing for Resilience with 15 - 17 year olds
- Featured Monthly Resource - [Engineering for Good](#), 'What is our waste'.



STORIES OF CHANGE: HOW EDUCATION CAN MAKE US SEE THE WORLD DIFFEENTLY

Over the summer we were thrilled to be identified as one of a number of change makers in Kerry as part of the Stories of Change project created by LK Howells. LK has a background in environmental education and youth empowerment programmes, designing and delivering programmes that engage with climate change and social justice for organisations such as Bristol University, with ECO UNESCO, Concern Worldwide and as an An Taisce Climate Ambassador. Find out how our resources help learners to see the world differently.

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UPDATE ON COLÁISTE NA SCEILGE TRANSITION YEAR TRAIL

It has been a busy year for some of the Transition Year learners at Coláiste na Sceilge. We have been working with a new group of TY learners to develop different nodes, or pause points, on their proposed 1KM Health and Wellbeing trail since September.

Incorporating Geography and Enterprise, learners have been using circular design thinking to develop different node ideas, some of which will be built by the end of the school year. From September to December, the groups had classes, which focused on ideation, creating good ideas from bad ideas, using SWOT analysis, and empathy profiles to begin to understand how to design products or services for different communities.

In March they presented their ideas to an external panel and will be installing nodes after Easter

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In our next issue

[Subscribe](#) to our newsletters and media channels to see exciting content and developments. In our next newsletter we will have updates on:

- Conference participation
- Developing our Virtual Reality Platform
- New resources and features on our extended team



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