

## Careers Newsletter November 2017

**Transition Year** students completed their DATs (aptitude tests) in October and the results will be issued after mid-term. The results of these tests can be used as a tool to assist students with their senior cycle subject choices. Each student will receive an explanatory handout with their results - please read through this and if you require further information/clarification email Aideen Connaughton (careers@goreycs.ie) with DATs in the subject line.

All **5<sup>th</sup> Year** students attended a Study Skills, Career Information and Wellbeing workshop on October 26<sup>th</sup>. They each received a handout and parents are encouraged to discuss contents with their son or daughter.

### Dates to note:

- **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** C.A.O. information meeting for parents. School Oratory 6.30-8pm
- **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November:** Zeeko Internet Safety talk for ALL parents in School Oratory, 7.00-8.00 pm, email [careers@goreycs.ie](mailto:careers@goreycs.ie) to secure your place. Please enter Zeeko in the subject line.
- **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November:** **GCS Careers Fair- 7-9pm in the school gym. Over 50 Career Representatives will be in attendance. Meet your future employers and learn from the experts! All 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & TY students welcome.**
- **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January:** HEAR & DARE Information Clinic, Ferrycarrig Hotel Wexford, 2-7 pm
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February:** C.A.O. application deadline.
- **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February:** TY Trip to UCD (all students will attend)
- **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February:** 5<sup>th</sup> Year College Awareness Day
- **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May:** DCU Open Day for TY students (all students will attend)
- **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May:** C.A.O. change of mind facility opens.
- **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July:** Close of C.A.O. change of mind facility.
- **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August:** Leaving Cert results will be issued.

- **Monday 20th August:** Round one offers will be issued by the C.A.O.

### **Summer Schools:**

June 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>: Maynooth Summer School for 5<sup>th</sup> Year Students- book online from now - [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/summerschool](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/summerschool)

June 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>: UCD Summer School for 5<sup>th</sup> Year students- booking open from late February.

**Open Days:** Please see below a list of the main upcoming open days. We would strongly encourage 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years to attend at least 2-3 open days as it will be of great benefit to them when it comes to finalising their CAO applications. In order to make the most of their open day experience students should check the college websites in advance for timetables, maps etc. It is vital that they plan their day. Also please note some colleges are taking bookings for campus accommodation so please check college websites for information.

**Study:** Christmas Exams take place from Nov 27<sup>th</sup>-Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup> year students should be spending at least 3.5 hours doing homework and studying and they should be doing this 6 times per week.

**Attendance:** Full school attendance is absolutely essential as teachers will be working until the day of the Christmas holidays both to complete and revise courses.

**Part time work:** We would strongly advise against students working part-time. Studies have shown that part-time work has a significant negative impact on Leaving Certificate grades. Preparing for the Leaving Certificate is a full time job!

**Lifestyle:** Sleep, Eat, Exercise: The Leaving Cert can be a stressful time for students. Please keep an eye on sleep patterns, diet, lifestyle. We suggest keeping the bedroom a technology free zone at night as it has been proven that sleep patterns are effected by over use of screens, especially in the 2 hours prior to bedtime. If you have any concerns about your son or daughter don't hesitate to contact the school.

**Research:** There are several websites which students can use to conduct career research. The most useful are [cao.ie](http://cao.ie), [qualifax.ie](http://qualifax.ie) and [careersportal.ie](http://careersportal.ie).

**CAO Applications:** We will be assisting 6<sup>th</sup> years with their CAO Applications from December. However they may register from 6<sup>th</sup> November (students applying to medicine should register early so that they can book their HPAT exam). Please note the early application fee is 30 euro (apply by 20<sup>th</sup> January). The fee can be paid by debit/credit card or in a bank using the Bank Giro form (available from CAO) Please note that students do not need to finalise their CAO choices until July 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 except if they are applying for restricted application courses (eg medicine, drama, music). *These courses must be added by February 1<sup>st</sup>.* They can be removed at a later date.

**HEAR & DARE:** Please see [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie) for details of the Higher Education Access Route and the Disability Access Route to Education. Students may be able to gain entry to third level courses on *reduced points* if they qualify for either of these programmes. HEAR is based on economic need and DARE is for students with any type of disability. It is the responsibility of students and parents to ensure all relevant documentation reaches the CAO on time. If you have any queries please see the website for contact details of the relevant University or Institute of technology. **NOT ALL COLLEGES ARE PART OF THE HEAR & DARE SCHEME.** Carlow I.T. have a separate access programme (similar criteria to HEAR and DARE)- closing date February 1<sup>st</sup>. *Strict deadlines apply for the submission of relevant paperwork to accompany the application.*

**Language Exemptions:** If your son or daughter is exempt from Irish or a 3<sup>rd</sup> language and is applying to college they may need to obtain an exemption from the college. It is the students responsibility to inform their Guidance Counsellor of their exemption so that we can assist them in applying to either the NUI or relevant university for the exemption to be recognised.

**Grants:** SUSI (Student Universal Support Ireland) administer grants for all third level and FETAC level 5 courses. Applications to SUSI may be made online at [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie) after Easter (we will notify students and parents when the system opens). Early application is advised.

**Eunicas:** Students who are interested in studying in another EU country (through English) should register with Eunicas.com. Entry requirements can be lower and grants may be available, depending on where the college is located.

### **Open Days:**

4 <sup>th</sup> November:	UCD Open Day
16 <sup>th</sup> November:	IT Carlow Open Day (school attending)
17 <sup>th</sup> November:	IT Carlow (Wexford Campus) open day
18 <sup>th</sup> November:	DCU Open Day
18 <sup>th</sup> November:	Marino Institute of Education (primary teaching)

25 <sup>th</sup> November:	Maynooth University & Pontifical Maynooth (Theology) Dunlaoghaire, IADT
29 <sup>th</sup> November:	National College of Ireland, NCAD
2 <sup>nd</sup> December:	DIT Open Day
9 <sup>th</sup> December:	Trinity College
3 <sup>rd</sup> January:	Royal College of Surgeons (pre-registration necessary)
13 <sup>th</sup> January:	University of Limerick
19 <sup>th</sup> January:	Bray IFE
20 <sup>th</sup> January:	Waterford I.T. Open Day
14 <sup>th</sup> April:	DCU Spring Open Day
28 <sup>th</sup> April:	Maynooth University Spring Open Day
26 <sup>th</sup> June:	DCU Summer Open Day
23 <sup>rd</sup> June:	Maynooth University Summer Open Day

**NB: This is not a complete list- check Qualifax and College websites for more information.** If an open day is being held on a Friday and Saturday (eg Maynooth, DCU, DIT) students are expected to attend on the Saturday.

*If you have any concerns about your son or daughter please do not hesitate to contact the school.*