

## ANOTHER GREEN FLAG FOR COLAISTE MUIRE



*Mayor Finbarr O'Driscoll surrounded by the Colaiste Muire Green Schools Committee and back left: Principal Mrs Paula Sweeney. Also pictured Birgit O'Driscoll, Ursula Duffy (back right). Mary White (centre).*

There were great celebrations at Colaiste Muire recently when the school raised its 2nd Green Flag.

The school is one of the few 2nd level colleges to obtain this flag for energy awareness and this was achieved by a very strong Green Schools Committee consisting of students, teachers and auxiliary staff.

The committee began with an environmental review of the school to see how efficient it was and then monitoring and evaluation took place to see if the low energy day and energy awareness day were successful. The whole school community were informed and involved, a quiz and a poster competition were held, and 110 entries were received. Teachers integrated environmental issues into their subjects while the Transition Year undertook weekly clean ups. Jack Hackett and Lucas Keating performed a rap of the Green Code to make the students more aware.

Mayor Finbarr O'Driscoll was guest of honour at the flag raising ceremony and he was delighted to return to his Alma Mater.

"Your work should be a template to everyone, I applaud and salute you. You are our future, you give encouragement to us all to respect our environment.", the Mayor told the assembled teachers and pupils.

The Green Schools Committee paid tribute to Principal Mrs Paula Sweeney, the teachers, Mrs Ursula Duffy, Mr Noel Mullen, Birgit O'Driscoll and the Parents Council who all supported their efforts as they worked to achieve the latest flag.

The Committee will not rest on its laurels, plans are underway to achieve another flag, this time for water, so watch this space.

*Mary O'Connor*