

Microbe MAGIC



Hello

ISSUE TWO 2004

Please circulate to your friends

We are so excited to be bringing you our second edition of Microbe Magic. You can log onto our website (www.microbemagic.com) and enjoy many more activities and competitions. We would love to hear from you, so please send us your comments and opinions.

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Did you know: There are 1000 times as many bacteria in our gut than there are stars in the milky way.



Science Week is November 7th to the 14th. Lots of activities are being organised for the week in your area. Log on to www.science.ie for a complete listing.

Win a €20 token – Complete the sentence "Bacteria are good for you because" in ten words or less ONLINE at www.microbemagic.com

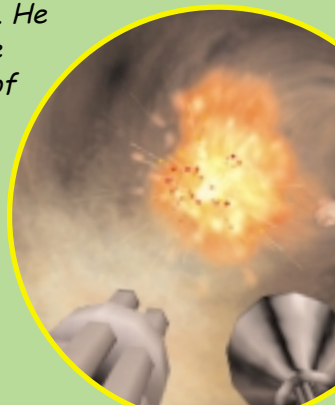


Video game designer, Rory Mullane and student, Rosie Shanahan playing GUT Reaction video game

GUT Reaction THE VIDEO GAME

FREE

Do you want to know how to make computer games for a living? Well for Rory Mullane it involved a degree in physics and a Masters in multimedia. He made the game GUT REACTION. He said making it involved an awful lot of maths! In the game you are in the gut and you have 3 different types of guns. A pistol, a mini-gun and a rocket launcher. You have to kill all the bad bacteria before they attack you. You must suck in the good bacteria to get ammo. I have played it and think it's excellent!



Rory was interviewed by Daragh Hill (12) Christ the King Girls National School

The Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre is a research centre funded by Science Foundation Ireland and is a partnership between University College Cork, Teagasc (Moorepark) and Industry.



Competition Time

Here's your chance to win an amazing prize for you and your school! The winner of this competition will get a box full of goodies for your lab. It will include beakers, test tubes, plastic syringes, pipettes and reagents to carry out some cool experiments. Imagine the possibilities and fun you could have!

All you have to do is write a poem about anything to do with science. The winning poem will be posted on the Microbe Magic website (www.microbemagic.com) and in the next edition of our newsletter.

Entry: Before 28th Jan 2005 to apc@ucc.ie or to the address below.

The Scientist

By

Chelsie Lee Millard, Age 10

Lonely in a room as dark as an empty space,
 A person explores new experiments,
 Bubbles pop as smoke moves quietly through the air like a ghost.
 Machines buzzing,
 The freaky person laughs like a hyena,
 Finding new things out.
 Spiky hair, stiff as bones.
 Glasses black on the dirty, sweaty face.
 White gown to finish the dorky person off.
 Electricity sparks fly,
 The person creates new textures.
 Days passed
 The person has made the most magnificent potion,
 Which makes human into slimy fish.
 So scary no one dare to enter the mysterious person's lab.



A-Z of the gut

The Bowel is the small and large intestines where digestion of food is completed

Cells are the building blocks of all organisms. Cells may exist as single units (e.g. bacteria) or multiple units (e.g. plants and animals).

Cancer occurs when cells grow too fast, resulting in the growth of tumours.



Congratulations to Scoil Eoin Ballincollig, winners of the APC Microbe Magic Gut Wordsearch Competition, pictured here being presented with a digital camera for their school.



Healthy Living Tips

Now that you're back at school after your long Summer break and Winter is looming ahead it is important to keep yourself fit and healthy, so you can fight off colds and other illnesses. Here are some tips:

- ★ Always have breakfast before you step out the door, it's the most important meal of the day
- ★ Try to get at least 20 minutes of physical activity everyday
- ★ Pack some healthy options in your lunchbox, save the treats for the weekend
- ★ A probiotic yoghurt everyday will keep the good bacteria in your gut healthy and strong.

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