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Tuesday, May 12, 2026 LetterKenny Live

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Loreto student's stunning success

Alan Foley

A student from Loreto Letterkenny has been named as the European Winner of The Earth Prize 2026.

Arya Sathesh, 18, is sitting the Leaving Cert in the coming weeks and is studying Maths, English, Biology with Ms Margaret O'Reilly, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Science and is considering doing Biotechnology or Genetic Engineering at third level.

However, her success with Eco Perge, a solution to tackle the growing crisis of microplastic pollution, means those plans might be held for a year, as she follows her dream

following her win.

"Me and my friend, Nida, we were studying computer science because it's a new course and there's a lot to study and we don't know," Arya tells DonegalLive of when the news came through of her win. "We were trying to figure things out. And then all of a sudden, I randomly checked my email.

"I went to the email tab because it was open. And then all of a sudden, I was there and I was so excited. And I told her and she was really happy. And that's how we found out. I even took a screenshot and I kept it in my gallery and then I showed my parents. They were all so happy. My mum and dad are so excited."

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'I hope that it makes a real difference'



Arya Sathesh is a sixth-year student at Loreto in Letterkenny



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