

Our Geography Trip to Kerry Foods



By Keelin, Lucy & Amy

For our Second Year Geography trip, we visited Kerry Foods factory in Charleville.

When we arrived, we were greeted by two workers who brought us to the Cheestring meeting room where they had prepared free drinks and pastries for us.

We were then split up into our two groups, one group got to tour the factory, while the others were given a presentation about the manufacturing of Kerry

Foods. As we were in group 1, we were first given hi-vis jackets and glasses. We then walked to plant 2 with our instructors where we were given hair nets, shoe covers and a mesh coat.



The instructors brought us to a low risk zone where we viewed the process of cheese string making. We weren't allowed to enter the high risk zones where the strings are out of packaging due to contamination, however we watched through a window and our instructor explained the process to us.

We went on to view robots and machinery that helped package and detected any traces of metal in their food. Our instructor then went on to show us one of the larger robots that packaged their cheese strings using recyclable cardboard, the pallet holding the boxes of cheestrings was then placed onto a revolving disk which wrapped the boxes in plastic, ready to be shipped to the UK and Europe.

After our factory tour, we were brought back to the cheestring meeting room, where we were given a presentation and watched videos on the history

of Kerry Foods, and their international shipping. We learned some interesting facts we wouldn't have known before like, 17 cheestrings are eaten per second. Kerry Foods has a very wide market internationally, they ship to other countries such as France, Spain and the United Kingdom. We learned how Kerry Foods boosts the local economy as it hires and employs many people in the local area. Kerry Foods is in an ideal location for employees, and shipping. It is located in Charleville so it is not too far away from local universities to hire those with Food Science degrees. They are also not too far from airports, such as Shannon or Cork. Charleville is also on a main road, making transport easier.

We all thoroughly enjoyed our day out!

