Beginning a letter

When you are addressing someone in Irish, their name, more often than not, changes.

For example Pól is the Irish for Paul but when addressing Paul in Irish you should write, A Phóil, a chara.

Unless you are well versed in the language you will not know which names change and how. I would suggest therefore that names are left well alone e.g: Malachy, A Chara, Susan, A chara is fine.

Below are other suggestions on how to address an individual at the beginning of an e-mail/letter;

- Seán, a chara, - Dear Seán
- Seán, a chara liom, - Dear Seán
- Seán, a chara dhil – Dear Seán, loyal friend
- A chairde Gaeil – Dear (GAA) friends
- A chairde go léir – Dear friends
- Seán, a chara, beatha agus sláinte, - Dear Seán, health and well being to you
- Seán, a chara, go raibh maith agat as do ríomhphost/litir – Dear Seán, thanks for your e-mail/letter
- Go raibh maith agat as an litir a sheol tú chugam – Thanks for the letter you sent me
- Bhí áthas orm do litir a fháil – I was delighted to receive your letter
- Is fada an lá ó chonaic mé tú – It's a long time since I saw you
- Ta súil agam go bhfuil Tú agus do theaghlach I mbarr na sláinte – I hope you and your family are in the best of health

Ending a letter

- Is mise le meas – Regards
- Le meas – Respectfully
- Le fíor-mheas – Respectfully (more emphatic)
- Le gach dea-ghuí - With every good wish
- Go raibh maith agat – Thank you
- Go raibh céad maith agat – Thank you (emphatic)
- Beidh mé ag caint leat gan mhoill – I will be speaking to you soon
- Beir bua – Good luck (be victorious)
- Beir bua agus Beannacht- (Be victorious and best wishes)
- Beannachtaí – Blessings/wishes
- Le mór-mheas – With great respect

- Níl a thuilleadh nuachta agam – I have no more news
- Tá súil agam go mbeidh biseach ort roimh i bhfad – Hope you recover soon
- Go dtí go bhfeicfidh mé arís thú – Until I see you again
- Tá mé ag súil le scéal a chluinstin uait gan mhoill – I hope to hear from you soon
- Slán agus beannacht – Goodbye and best wishes
- Le gach beannacht agus buíochas – Best wishes and thanks
- Do sheanchara - Your old friend

CLUB MAÍTH