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3 Chraobh na hÉireann do Choláiste Chroí Mhuire

Monday 15th May 2017



B'iad [Coláiste Chroí Mhuire](#) an taon scoil sa tír ar bronnadh an phríomhdhuais orthu i dtrí chatagóir éagsúil i gcrabhb na hÉireann don Fhéile Scoilrámaíochta a bhí ar siúl sa Mhuilleán gCearr an tseachtain seo caite.

D'éirí le lucht idirbhliana na scoile a gcatagóir féin, Comórtas 11, a thabhairt leo chomh maith le an ngradam don Léiriú is Fearr ar Nuadráma don dráma 'Ceann Scribe'.

Bronnadh mórdhuais Banaisteoir na Féile ar Róise Nic Dhonnagáin as a cuid aisteoireachta sa dráma – duais a fuair sí sa gcrabhb réigiúnach chomh maith.

Dráma nua scríofa a bhí i gceist le 'Ceann Scribe' a chum an léiritheoir Bróna Ní Uallacháin, múinteoir sa scoil, i dteannta lucht na hdirbhliana.

Bhí na scoláirí iad féin ríméadach aitheantas chomh mór a fháil ar an dráma comhaimseartha a chuir siad le chéile.

Bronnfar na duaiseanna i bPáirc an Chrócaigh ar an gCéadaoin, 17 Bealtaine, ag 1.30in. Comhghairdeachas ó chroí leo ar fad, táimid ar fad thar a bheith bródúil astu.



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Ballysadare Sligo students win EPA The Story of my Stuff competition

Tuesday 13th June 2017

St Marys College, Ballysadare students win EPA The Story of my Stuff



The journey of a pencil from a tree in Brazil to a compost bin in Ireland has won the Environmental Protection Agency's Story of Your Stuff competition for Iga Manulak and Emma Jackson of St Mary's College in Ballysadare, Co Sligo.

The contest asked students to illustrate the life cycle of an everyday object: where it came from, how it was used and where it was going to end up. More than 100 entries were submitted. One of the judges, the photographer and music-video director Christian Tierney, said: "The winning entry is amazing, with some beautiful shots. The story is told in a very creative and inspiring way."

His fellow adjudicator Marcus Stewart, producer of the RTÉ series Eco Eye, said: "The winning video demonstrated brilliant artistry and creativity in delivering the message that all the products we use – even something as simple as a pencil – are sourced from materials all over the world."

"The video promotes the idea that these items should be respected during their full lifecycle and disposal. The film perfectly blends visual artistry with text and music to deliver a perfectly paced film that builds through the life cycle of the forgotten pencil. Iga Manulak and Emma Jackson are natural artists and film-makers."

Their fellow judge Helen Bruen, of the EPA, said they were all bowled over by the research, skill, time and effort that went into each project. "Each entry is a winner if the students who took part learned something from their experience that makes them think a little more carefully about the environment and about how to use and dispose of their stuff in a sustainable way," she said.

Full article and video from Irish Times can be found here:

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/education/sligo-students-win-competition-with-the-story-of-a-pencil-1.3102040>



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Blathnaid (13) is Drogheda's youngest ever Young Innovator Competition winner

Thursday 18th May 2017



Blathnaid Murphy of Our Lady's, Greenhills, the overall winner of the Drogheda Young Innovators (DYI) competition with her company "Daisy's Pawesome Bowties" receives her awards from Geoff Fitzpatrick of Jack Cody's Brewery. Photo: Andy Spearman.

Congratulations to Blathnaid Murphy, Our Lady's Greenhills, Drogheda who was the overall winner of the Drogheda Young Innovators Competition with her company "Daisy's Pawesome Bowties".

Some of Drogheda's brightest secondary school students had the nerve wracking task of pitching their ideas to the judges of the Drogheda Young Innovator (DYI) competition 2017 on Friday last.

The fact that the final took place in the East Coast Bakehouse premises and there was a plentiful supply of delicious biscuits on hand did make their task a bit easier however as the 20 shortlisted projects from the original 100 applications, were reviewed in details by the judges.

The DYI competition was started four years ago to encourage students from the area to develop their sense of curiosity and to come up with bright ideas in one of three categories - Science and Technology, Enterprise/Business or Social Enterprise.

Of course they had to do more than come up with the idea, they also had to develop that idea into a project that they could test, refine, evaluate and, perhaps most importantly of all, communicate its value to the judges.

As the students were told in the entry form: "A good idea badly communicated can remain as your 'secret' – an 'uncut gem'.



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News from Calasanctius College, Oranmore, Galway

Thursday 1st June 2017

April 2017

Calasanctius College Oranmore Book Launch



Calasanctius College, Oranmore, Co. Galway are delighted to announce the launch of a collection of short stories and art work, created by the students, in their fifth edition of 'The Book'.

The evening will include refreshments, music, readings and display of work.

The launch of 'The Book' is a highlight in the Calasanctius College calendar and we would be delighted if you could join us for the evening.

The collection will be launched by Cúirt on Tuesday the 25th of April in the Nano Nagle Hall in Calasanctius College at 7p.m.

RSA - 3 day Road Safety Event in Calasanctius College



Calasanctius College Oranmore Students received a presentation recently on Road Safety from RSA Education Officer, Catherine Flaherty.

They also got a chance to visit the Shuttle bus and roll-over car simulator.

Calasanctius College Students To Visit Shanghai



Pictured above are Calasanctius TY Students looking forward to their Shanghai trip.

May 2017

Calasanctius College - Student of the Year Awards 2017!

Congratulations to the Leaving Certificate students of Calasanctius College pictured below receiving Student of the Year Awards from Principal Cora Ni Loinsigh. All awards were presented at the Calasanctius College Leaving Certificate graduation mass held on Thursday 25th May 2017.



Pictured above: students Rachel Burke, Sean Harkin, Sam McCardle and Emma Greene receiving Calasanctius College "Student of the Year" awards from Principal Cora Ni Loinsigh.

Spirit of Calasanctius Awards

Winners of the Spirit of Calasanctius awards from Calasanctius College, Oranmore, Co. Galway. These students were nominated by their class group for their positive contribution to school life.



First Year Winners



Second Year Winners



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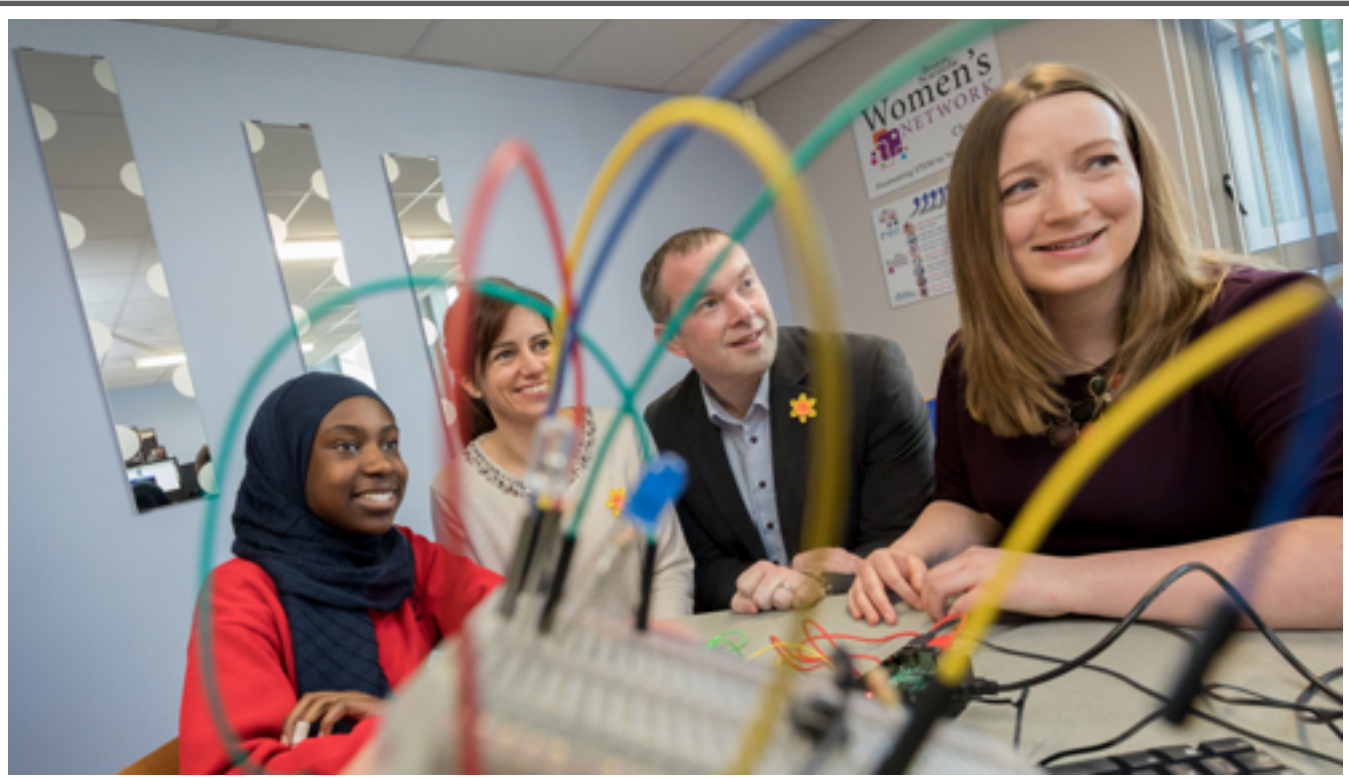


First coding lab for Clonmel sponsored by Boston Scientific

Wednesday 12th April 2017

As one of the initiatives of the Boston Scientific Women's network to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) to young women.

A joint venture was undertaken between the Presentation Secondary School Clonmel and the Women's network.



Marie Lawlor a science teacher who is currently undertaking a post graduate certification in 21st century teaching and learning wanted to bring coding to life within the school.



She was inspired by the students from the school Caoimhe Woods and Aoibhin Foley who won the Alexion Award at the young scientist earlier in the year.

Ethel Reynolds Principal & Michael O'Loughlin Deputy Principal were supportive of the project and provided a low usage classroom which is now rejuvenated into the computer science coding lab.

Parents, teachers and students alike all baked to contribute to a huge bake sale held at Boston Scientific in Feb. Over €1400 was raised on a cake sale and a further €1189 was donated by Boston Scientific and the Women's Network.

In addition utilizing the Boston Scientific environmental recycling program the company were able to repurpose some tables and chairs from the plant.



Volunteers from the companies Women's and Young Professional network and school painted the classroom to give it new life and purpose over the midterm. Finally all equipment was purchased and an official opening was held on the 24th of March.

Ethel Reynolds Principal spoke about her delight and the opportunity this new resource provides for their students.

The continual evolution of education requires innovation and creativity to be at the forefront of the skills we equip our young ladies with. Kieran Dunne – HR director of Boston Scientific – spoke about his pleasure that we were able to support such a great initiative.



The engagement and energy from the students makes the effort to bring this project to fruition worthwhile.

He also spoke about the many opportunities for a diverse range of careers from STEM. Brid Hallinan – chairperson of the Boston Scientific Women's network spoke passionately about the need for young women to engage in STEM and to really look at the huge possibilities careers in STEM can provide.

She spoke about the need for diversity in the workplace and the unique perspective women bring to any organization.



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Great Sporting Success for Presentation Secondary School Miltown

Tuesday 9th May 2017

The following news of sporting achievements in Presentation Secondary School, Miltown, Co. Kerry, was kindly shared by school Principal, Kerry Harkin.

We are all so, so proud of our students and staff during their recent sporting successes.

Junior Boys basketball team won the All-Ireland final on Wednesday 3rd May for the second year running !

On the 5th May our Under 16.5 Boys football team won the Munster final and our 1st Year girls won the All-Ireland too !

A Munster and two All-Ireland titles in three days, well done to all involved and a great boost for all in the schooo community.



South Munster Schools Football Champions pictured above.



Junior Boys basketball team All-Ireland Champions



1st Year girls All-Ireland Winners.



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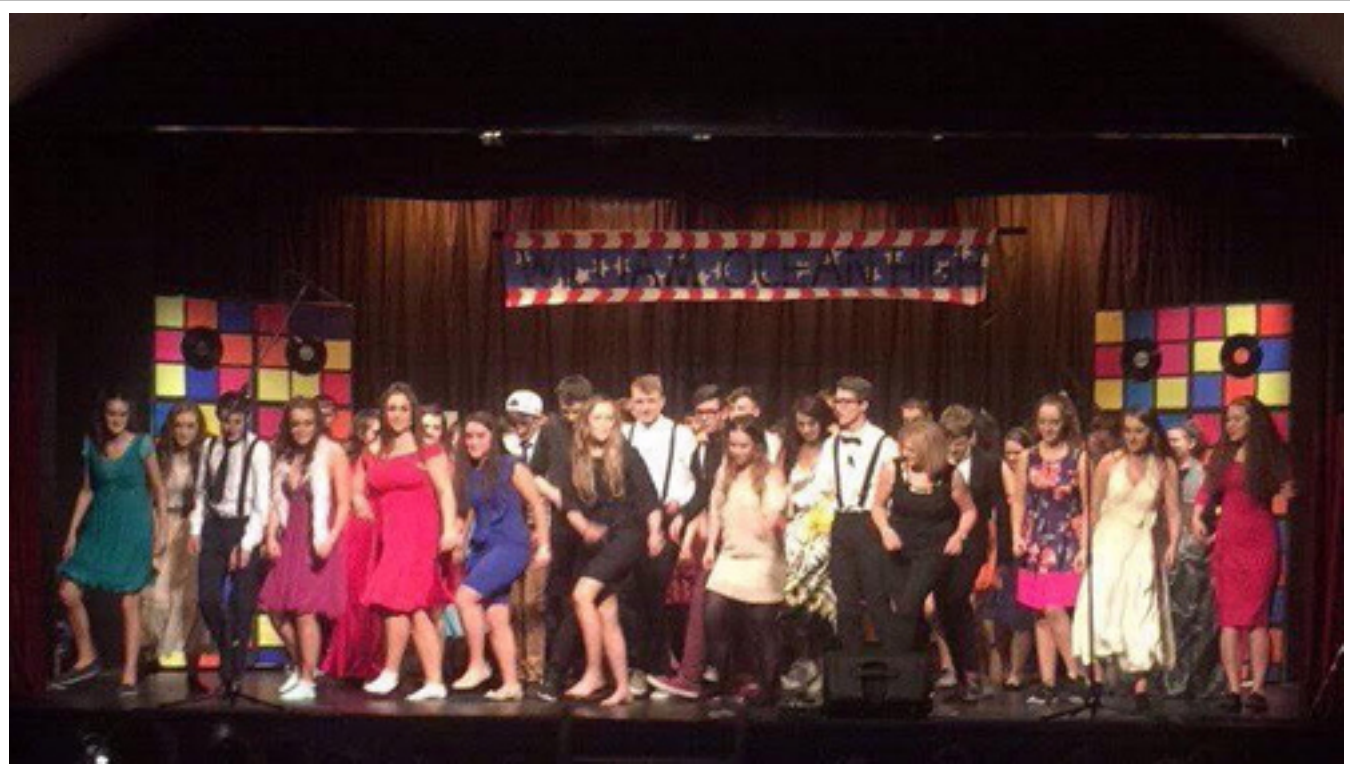
Monthly School Feature

Mount St Michael Secondary School Rosscarbery School Musical

Tuesday 18th April 2017

Mount Saint Michael, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork Transition Year students held a very successful School Musical Back to the 80s to rave reviews and a packed house recently.

Well Done to all especially Drama teacher Edel McGovern 7 Music Teacher Aine Fitzgerald!



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News from Mercy College Sligo

Thursday 1st June 2017

April 2017

The following student news was kindly shared by Mercy College Sligo.

Mercy College Sligo Students Participate in European Debate




Pictured above are the European Parliament Debating Team from Mercy College Sligo. Included are Grace Filan, Mackenzie Ellwood and Hannah Scanlon. Brian Hayes M.E.P. and Charlie Flanagan Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The team represented Croatia in a debate on trade agreement issues.

Pictured above L-R: Gerry Kiely, Head of the European Commission Representation in Ireland; His Excellency Mr Ivan Mašina, Croatian Ambassador; Mairead Lavery of the Irish Farmers Journal (who chaired the debate); Noelle O'Connell, Executive Director of the European Movement Ireland (one of the debate judges); Charlie Flanagan TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade; Brian Hayes M.E.P.

European Soapbox Debate in Sligo Library




Congratulations to Hannah Scanlon, Elisabeth Doyle, Catherine Flanagan and Mackenzie Ellwood who debated on the motion "Europe United in Diversity" at Sligo Library.

They each discussed the motion in a four minute long speech.

The debate was organised by the Sligo European Office and there were 22 participants with very interesting ideas on the motto.

Diplomats in the Classroom




Ambassador James McIntyre visited Mercy College Sligo as part of the Diplomats in the Classroom programme.

He outlined the role of the ambassador and the embassies and spoke of his postings abroad. The workshop was much enjoyed by all participants.

May 2017

European Parliament Ambassador School Award Ceremony



The European Parliament Ambassador School Programme for post-primary schools was launched in Ireland in 2015.

In its second year, schools from across Ireland and throughout the EU took part in this exciting programme which aims to increase awareness of Europe, democracy and political choice among young people.

This year's successful schools received their Ambassador School plaque at an Award Ceremony held at Europe House in Dublin on 12th May which was attended by Lynn Boylan, MEP and Brian Hayes, MEP.

Picture includes Mercy College Sligo group Eadaoin Kinsella, James Temple-Smithson, Head of the European Parliament Office in Ireland., Ms Imelda Harte (Programme Coordinator), Ms Lynn Boylan M.E.P., Ms Colette O Hagan(Principal), Niamh McConnon, Elisabeth Fahy.

Mercy College Sligo Win Debating Competition




Mercy College Sligo recently participated in the Europe Day debate which was held in Sligo County Council Chambers.

Mercy College debated against Sligo Grammar school on the motion "Volunteering makes a difference" and won the competition.

Adjudicators were Councillor Marie Casserly Mayor of Sligo, Catherine Rowse , Volunteering Ireland and Ronnie Gillanders, Sligo Toastmasters.

Matt Carthy MEP spoke on his experience as an MEP and presented the winners Emily Gaine, Mackenzie Ellwood and Hannah Scanlon with their trophy.

Cathaoirleach of Sligo County Council Hubert Keaney welcomed the speakers and chaired the debate.



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News from Presentation College Currylea Tuam

Thursday 1st June 2017

April 2017

The following student news from Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway was kindly shared by school Principal, Neasa Cosgrove.

Pieta House Fundraiser



Well done to the girls from Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam and Mercy Tuam who were at the launch of Tuam Darkness Into Light last Wednesday.

As last year, the students will be helping out with registration before the event and on the night. A great example of our young people helping out in the community. They are pictured above with Leo Moran from the Saw Doctors.

School Musical Students Visit Bord Gáis Theatre



All those involved in our school musical recently went to the Bord Gáis Theatre to see "Blood Brothers".

This is an annual event to say thank you to all who share their talents for the enjoyment of others.

Veronica McCarron School Visit

Veronica McCarron of Britain's Got Talent fame and former teacher in Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan recently came to the school to work with our first year and TY choirs.

A wonderful experience for all learning from the master.



New School Camogie Club

A Camogie club has recently started in the school due to demand from students who are playing Camogie with local clubs Tuam and Sylane.



Best of luck to all involved.

May 2017

CEIST Award - Presentation College Tuam 2017

Congratulations to Clodagh Browne (Leaving Cert. Student) winner of this year's CEIST award at Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway.



Clodagh Browne (Leaving Cert. Student) pictured here with Principal of Neasa Cosgrove

News from Presentation Secondary School

Waterford

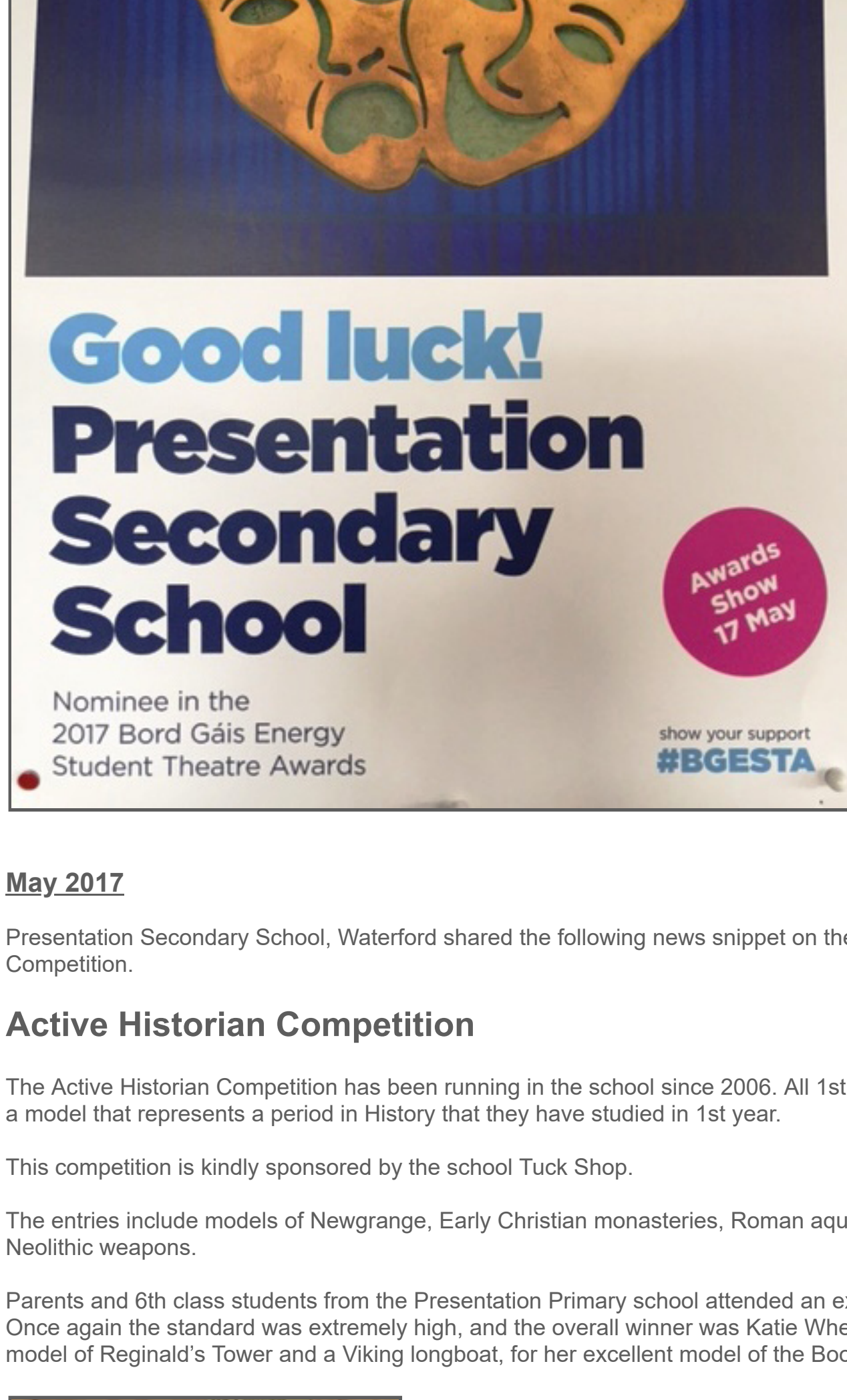
Thursday 1st June 2017

April 2017

Presentation Secondary School Waterford shortlisted for Bord Gais Student Theatre Awards

Congratulations to students in Presentation Secondary School, Cannon Street, Waterford who have been shortlisted for the Bord Gais Student Theatre Awards.

The awards will take place on May 17th for our Transition Year 2016 production of the Lion King Junior.



May 2017

Presentation Secondary School, Waterford shared the following news snippet on their recent Active Historian Competition.

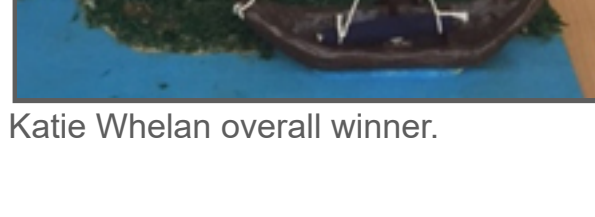
Active Historian Competition

The Active Historian Competition has been running in the school since 2006. All 1st years are asked to make a model that represents a period in History that they have studied in 1st year.

This competition is kindly sponsored by the school Tuck Shop.

The entries include models of Newgrange, Early Christian monasteries, Roman aqueducts, dolmens, Neolithic weapons.

Parents and 6th class students from the Presentation Primary school attended an exhibition of the entries. Once again the standard was extremely high, and the overall winner was Katie Whelan for her wonderful model of Reginald's Tower and a Viking longboat, for her excellent model of the Book of Kells.



Katie Whelan overall winner.



Zara McEvoy who was awarded 2nd place.



Leah Keane who was awarded 3rd place.

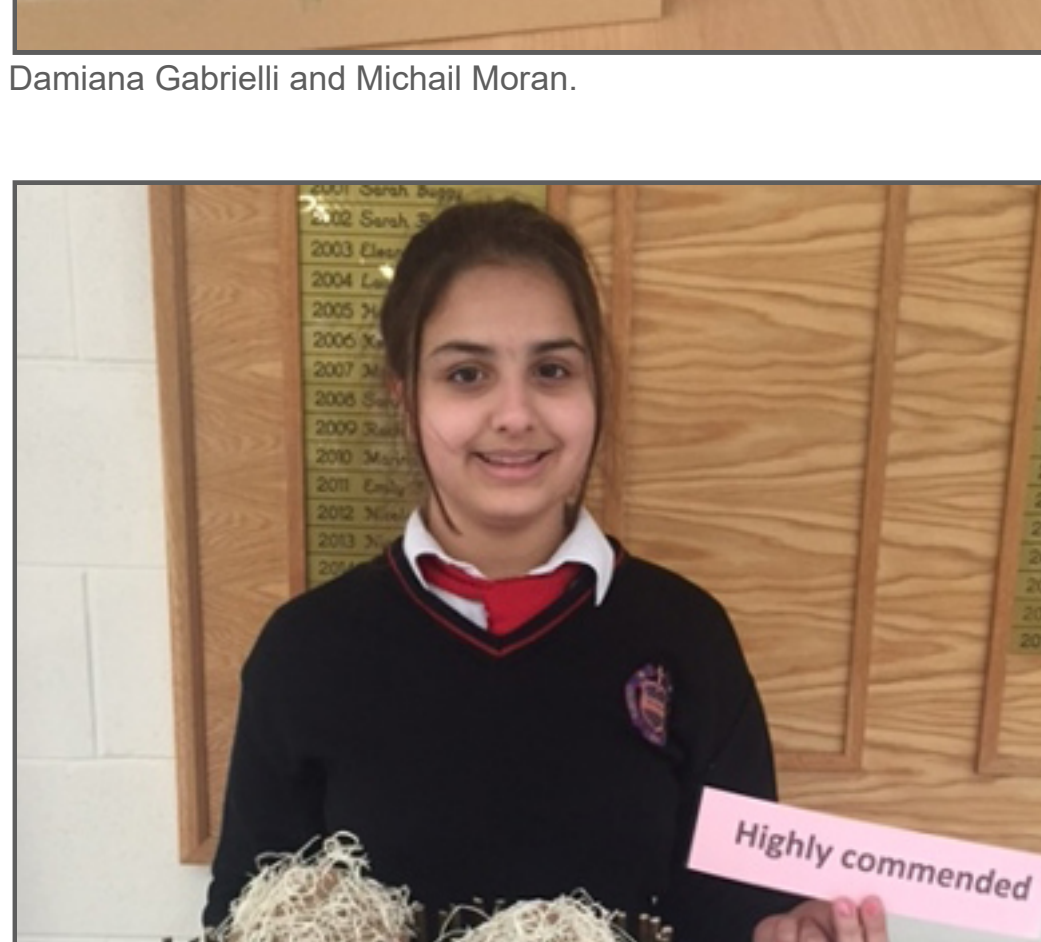
Highly Commended Awards



Emma Clarke and Ciara Kirby.



Damiana Gabriell and Michail Moran.



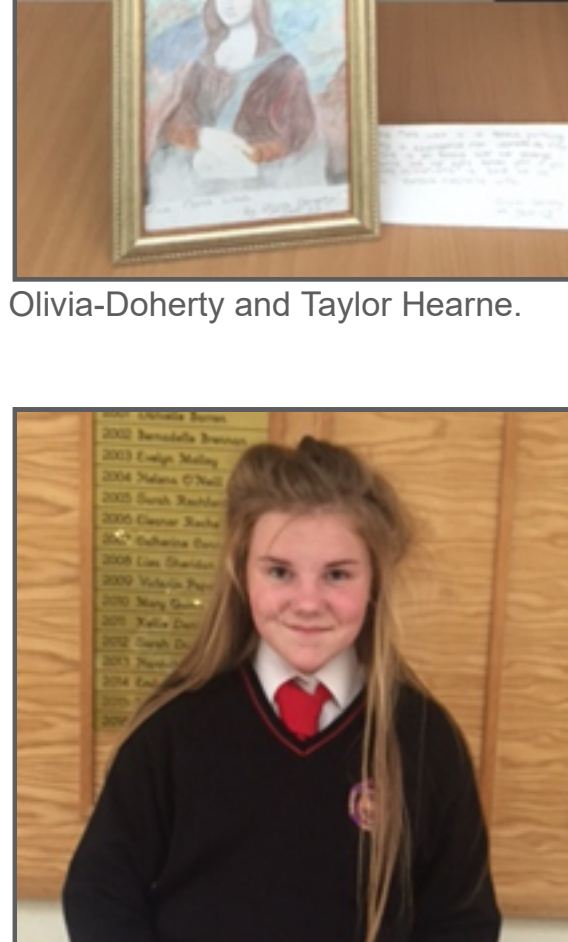
Herika Guimaraes.



Molly Mai Flynn and Pamela Phelan.



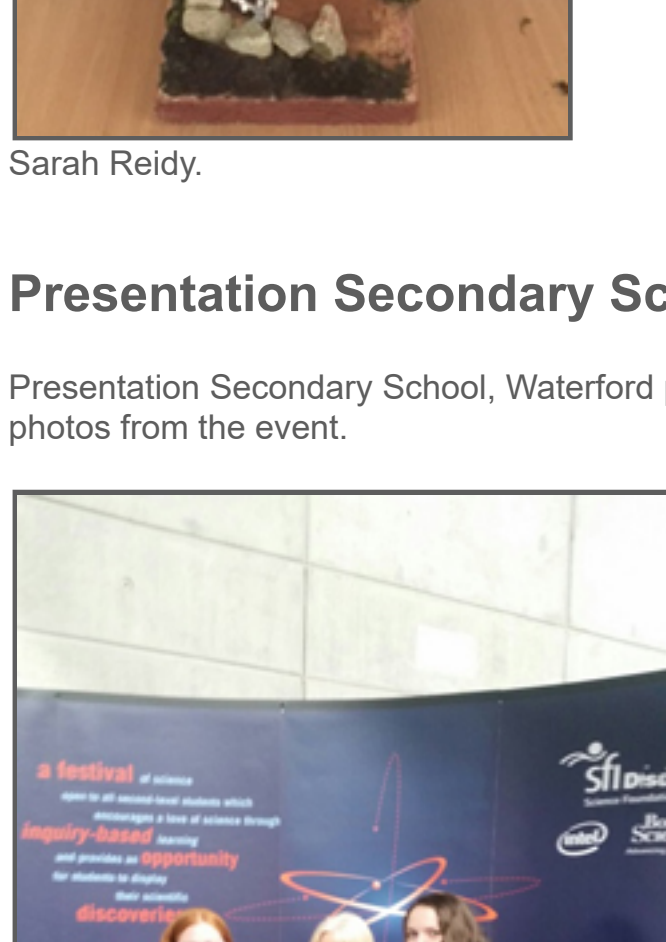
Olivia Doherty and Taylor Hearne.



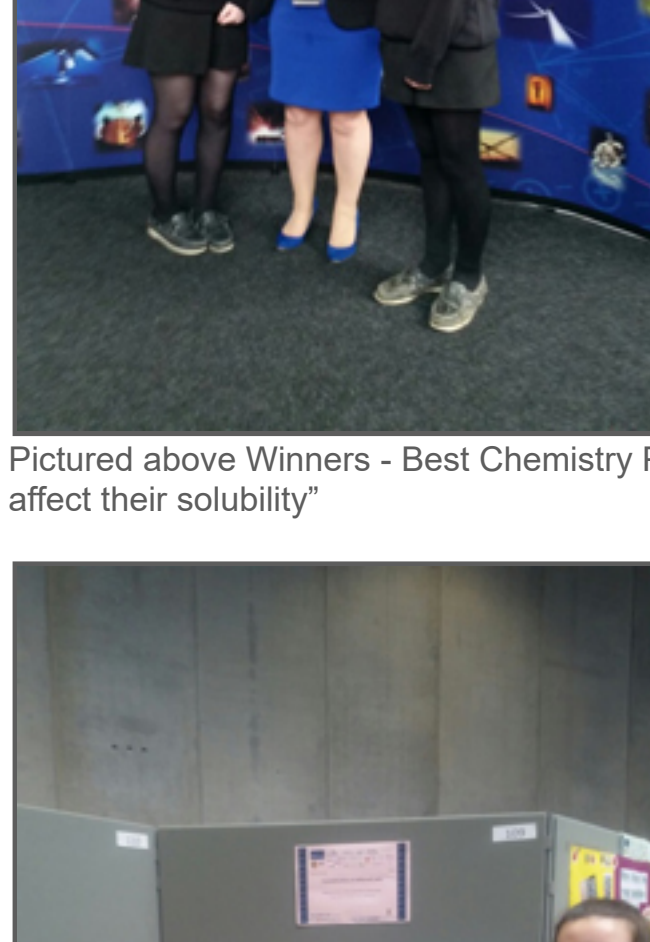
Sarah Reidy.

Presentation Secondary School SciFest

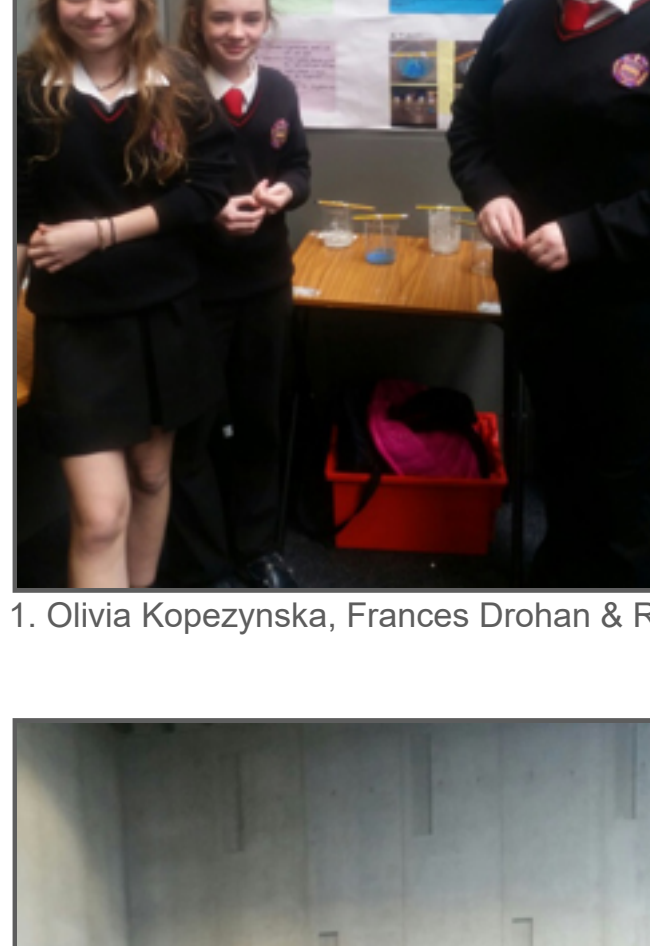
Presentation Secondary School, Waterford participated in SciFest this year and have kindly shared news and photos from the event.



Pictured above Winners - Best Chemistry Project- Aoife Nolan and Niamh Buck "Does the structure of fats affect their solubility"



1. Olivia Kopezynska, Frances Drohan & Rebecca Cummins "How different salts crystalize?"



2. Lily McGrath, Ava & Ella Murphy: "The chemistry of carbonation (fizzing)"



3. Eeman Fatima, Ana Maria Grigoras & Orla Rothwell "Milk and vinegar make plastic?"



4. Holly Meagher, Zoe Frampton & Shauna Hennessy "Enzymes in detergents"



5. Sophie Holohan & Laura Sullivan "How temperature affects magnets"



6. Ginty Stackauskaite, Niamh Sullivan & Pippa Hennessy "Which fruit give the best DNA"



7. Almiira Shabani, Sophie Griffith & Kayla Dam Walsh "Supertasters"

June 2017

Presentation Secondary School Summer Newsletter 2017

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As the 2017/18 school year draws to a close I would like to thank all of our parents for their continued support of the school. I would also like to wish our Junior and Leaving Certificate students the very best as they face into the State exams. I am sure that all of the hard work will pay off.

Our students have achieved many great things this year both academic and sporting. The school's strong commitment to the community has remained through our continued involvement with St. Vincent de Paul, Waterford Chamber of Commerce and Green Schools to mention but a few. This year Second and Fifth Year students took part in Sci-Fest at Waterford Institute of Technology with Mr. Lynch. This was our first time entering the competition and we were delighted that all of the groups excelled with our Fifth Year Group winning the Chemistry award. We hope to build on this success in science.

I hope that you will enjoy reading about some of the events and initiatives that our students have been involved in since January. Now as we enjoy the summer break I'm sure all of our students will stay safe and we look forward to welcoming our new First Years as the class of 2017/18 graduate.

Adrian Gibbs

Full news letter can be found [here](#)



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News from Presentation Secondary School, Ballingarry

Thursday 1st June 2017

Shocking Images of Syrian Children Inspire 1st year Student To Give Up Her Mobile!

Well done to Carmel Norton, 1st year student, Presentation Secondary School Ballingarry, Co. Tipperary, who was so moved by the horrific images of suffering Syrian children that she volunteered to put her phone in the school safe for a period of two weeks.

Carmel then invited students and staff to sponsor her and following this wonderful sacrifice Carmel has raised €259.00 which she will donate to The Red Cross for their work in Syria.

Carmel was supported by her class who organised a "Crazy Hair Day."

On that day students and staff coloured their hair, wore wigs and ribbons all to raise money for the children of Syria.

In total the fundraising event raised €550.70.

Well done to all involved and to Ms. Norton for coordinating the event.



Presentation Ballingarry Celebrates National Poetry Day

"Today is P is for Poetry," the opening line of Tony Curtis poem as recited by the first years as students, staff, parents all gathered with special guest and past pupil Dr.Catriona Cutterbuck to celebrate National Poetry Day.

The theme of this year is "Poetry Connects" and as the entire school community came together for an hour, poems which told many stories or recounted events in History were spoken and each poem connected the gathering with another time, another place.



Olga O'Meara delivered a moving tribute to John Montague who died earlier this year while Maria McGrath read "Translations" by Eilean Ni Chuilleanain in memory of those who died in the Magdalene laundries. This gathering which was organised by Ms. Teresa Regan also celebrated Presentation Ballingarry's close association with Poetry Ireland.

Since 2009 Presentation Ballingarry has had a Poet/Writer in Residence working with the Transition Year class and each year the students have published a collection of their work.



For the past two years students have been challenged, yet have thoroughly enjoyed working with Paula Leyden.

Paula has published The Butterfly Heart and The Sleeping Baobab Tree. Both books have achieved huge acclaim. Through creative writing Paula explored the global problems faced by refugees.

The students were given a chance to engage imaginatively with the issue, and work creatively in a range of genres, including poetry, prose, drama, film.



Ms. Cahill launched the compilation of their work which also included items on conservation. For the second year students also included some interviews with some of the local senior citizens.

Guest Speaker, Dr. Catriona Clutterbuck shared how poetry helps us renew our sense of the scope and intricacy and possibility of the world we live in and share, and that this happens through the sound of the words in a poem (along with its form more generally), being indivisible from its meaning.

Former staff member Carmel O' Brien read one of her own poems while poems in Irish and French were also spoken.

This was a very enjoyable morning which concluded with Ms. Regan reading Martin Dyar's poem Death of the PostOffice.

Click [here](#) to view more photos from the day.

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News from St Brigid's Secondary School Killarney

Thursday 1st June 2017

April 2017

St Brigid's Secondary School Killarney School Regatta Winners!

The students of St Brigid's Secondary School, Killarney, took to the water and had two successful crews in The Schools' Regatta.

The Junior 14 coxed crew and the u-23 coxed quad won The Schools' Regatta in O'Brien's Bridge on Sunday 23rd April.

The Junior 14 crew comprises of Kate Rudden, Sarah O'Leary, Ellen Farndon and Laura Looney. The crew was coxed by Leona Browne.

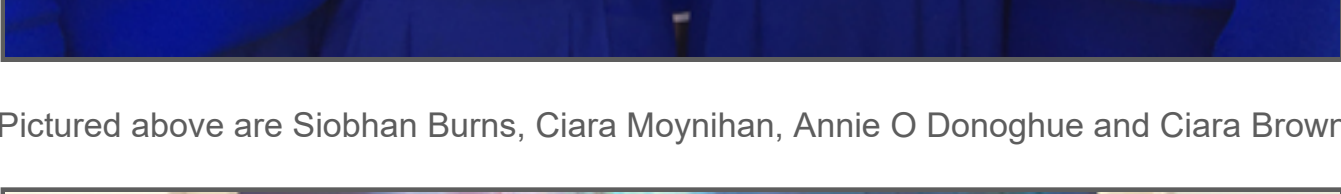
The U-23 crew was made up of Siobhan Burns, Clara Moynihan, Annie O'Donoghue and Ciara Browne. Almost 500 crews from over 70 schools across the country competed in 12th Irish Schools Regatta on Sunday 23rd April.

The event took place at O'Briens Bridge on the border of Limerick and Clare.

The Schools Regatta is run over a four-lane, 1,500 metre buoyed course with races for Junior 14s up to Under 23s.

The 2017 entry was at an all time high – a new record of 494 crews competed from all four provinces. Perhaps the surge in interest in rowing can be attributed to the O'Donovan brothers' Olympic Silver Medal in 2016.

Well done to the girls on their wonderful achievement.



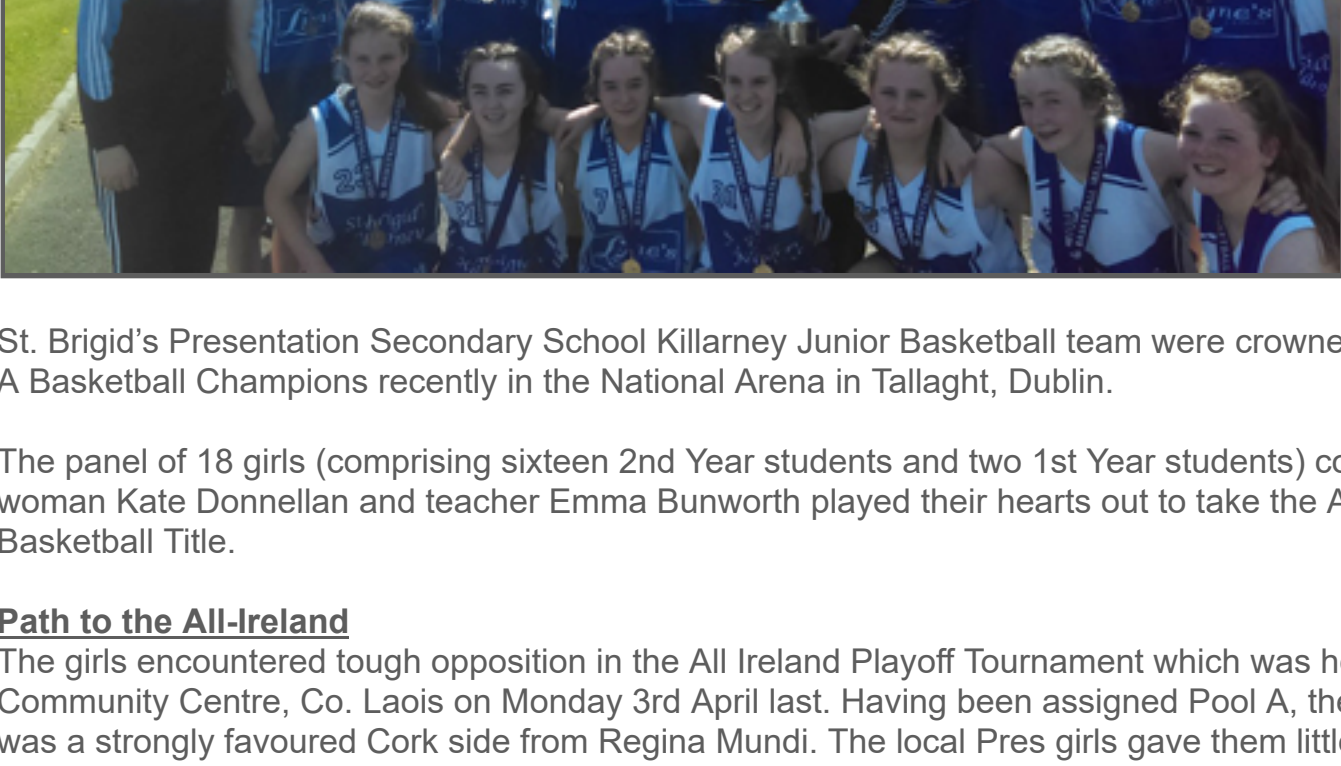
Pictured above are Siobhan Burns, Clara Moynihan, Annie O Donoghue and Ciara Browne.



Kate Rudden, Sarah Rudden, Ellen Farndon and Laura Looney.

May 2017

St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School Killarney are All-Ireland Junior A Basketball Champions!



St. Brigid's Presentation Secondary School Killarney Junior Basketball team were crowned All-Ireland Junior A Basketball Champions recently in the National Arena in Tallaght, Dublin.

The panel of 18 girls (comprising sixteen 2nd Year students and two 1st Year students) coached by local woman Kate Donnellan and teacher Emma Bunworth played their hearts out to take the All Ireland Junior A Basketball Title.

Path to the All-Ireland
The girls encountered tough opposition in the All Ireland Playoff Tournament which was held in Clonsilla Community Centre, Co. Laois on Monday 3rd April last. Having been assigned Pool A, their first opposition was a strongly favoured Cork side from Regina Mundi. The local Pres girls gave them little advantage scoring a whopping 49 to Cork's 19. Their second game was against local Clonsilla and they won on a score line of 30 to 25. St. Brigid's encountered Coláiste Enda, Galway in their final match and won convincingly by 32 to 24.

Having qualified for the All Ireland Semi-finals in the National Arena yesterday, the Pres girls were determined to make up for last year as they lost out narrowly to Scoil Chríost Rí Portlaoise in the First Year Final. They have to face their biggest fear when they were drawn to play old rivals Portlaoise in the Semi-final.

It was a huge task but the girls left no stone unturned as they showed unbelievable skills and sheer determination to ensure that Scoil Chríost Rí were never going to get the upperhand. Tara Murphy opened the score with a well taken shot and Julie Delaney and Lyselle O'Shea added baskets within a minute. Despite Portlaoise calling the first timeout, the Pres girls continued to score and were 10-7 ahead at the end of the first quarter. The expert advice from team coach Kate Donnellan worked wonders as the Pres girls pulled away from Portlaoise in the second quarter leaving a gap 22-9!

Ava Sheehan opened the scoreboard in the third quarter followed by a well taken shot from Ava Doherty. Julie Delaney and Lyselle O'Shea (pictured on right with the cup) added more baskets with little reply from the Portlaoise side. The score at the end of the 3rd quarter was Pres 36 to Portlaoise's 19. The final quarter was very intense as was expected because the Portlaoise girls wanted to make history winning back to back titles yet the Pres girls had another agenda.

It was a very tough quarter with some excellent shots from both sides. Portlaoise continued to reduce the margin and with a minute to go, Portlaoise got two free shots leaving only one basket between the teams 40-38. Pres girl Ava Sheehan was then awarded two shots. Before she took them, team coach Kate Donnellan called timeout. This proved vital! Ava Sheehan stood calmly and with precision scored both. The bell rang and Pres Killarney had beaten old rivals Portlaoise 42-38.

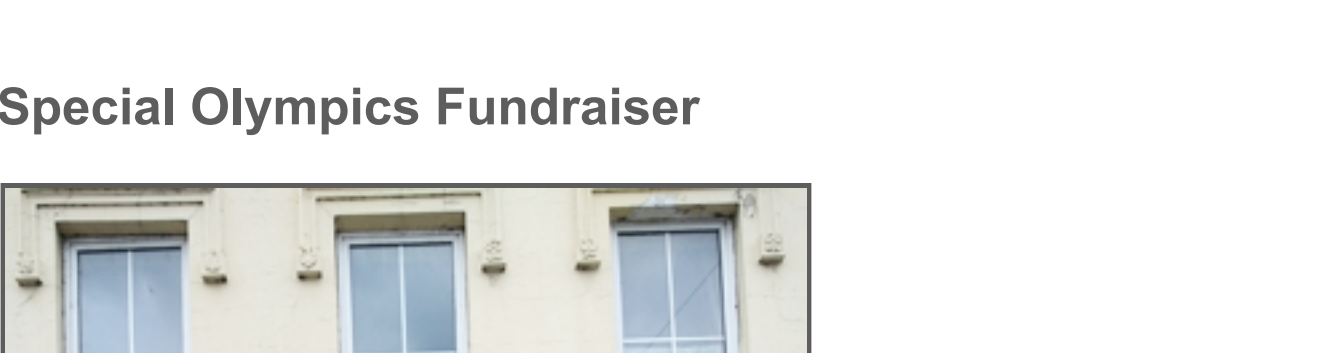
The final followed within the hour and Pres Killarney played Malahide who had earlier seen off Carrigaline Community School, Cork. Deirdre Lyne opened the score for the Killarney girls and it quickly settled the team. Tara Murphy, Julie Delaney, Evie Culloty & Lyselle O'Shea added to the tally and the Pres girls were well ahead at the end of the first quarter leading 16-3.

Ava Doherty scored numerous times in the second quarter to further advance the lead 23-11 going into the third quarter. After half time, Malahide appeared to find their composure and netted a few fine shots to narrow the gap to 27-22 going into the final quarter. Ava Sheehan displayed most accurate skill with two fine baskets to push the Pres girls 31-22 ahead.

Julie Delaney added to the tally before Malahide had any response. They battled hard and tried their best but the Pres girls were superior and well taken shots from Ava Doherty, Ava Sheehan & Jade Potts ensured that the 2017 All-Ireland Junior A Basketball title was coming to the Kingdom. The final score was 37-27. A great result for a great team of girls. As the team coach Kate noted, 'this team is two years in the making'. They were very unlucky last year but their sheer dedication – hard work and training has made it all possible today.

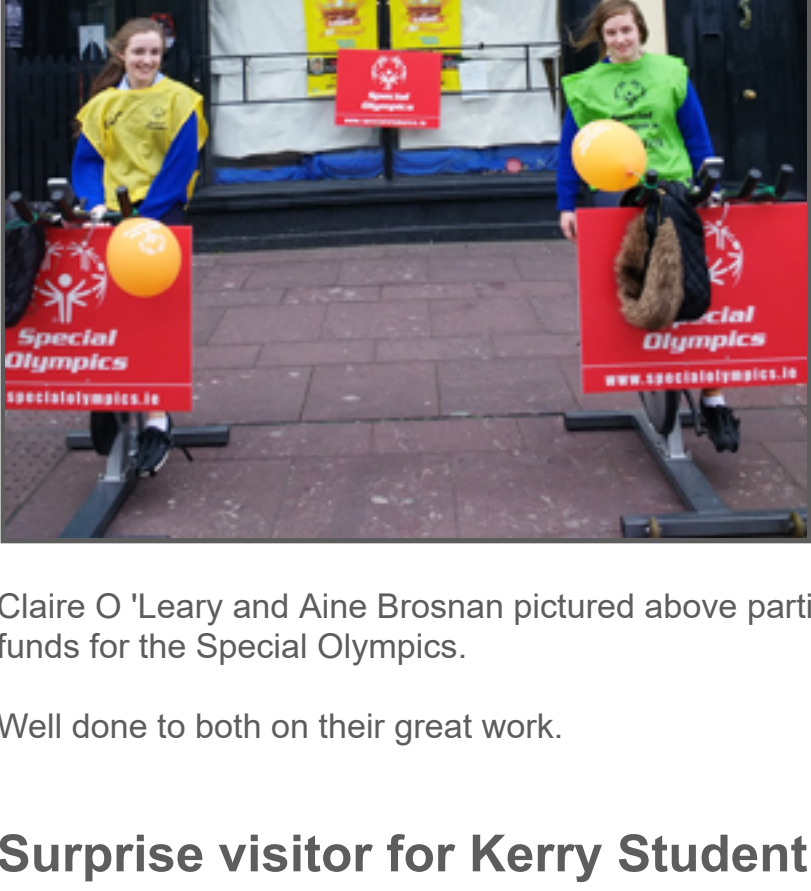
Well done to all of the girls and their coaches and mentors Kate Donnellan & Emma Bunworth.

Team:
Teresa O'Sullivan, Tara Murphy, Lyselle O'Shea, Julie Delaney (captain), Ava Doherty, Ava Sheehan, Jade Potts, Aisling Slack, Evie Culloty, Holly Power, Mairead O Mahony, Deirdre Lyne, Isabelle Murphy, Brid Flynn, Chloe O'Connor, Sarah Fleming, Olivia Goulding, Lauren Horgan.



Pictured above are the winning team and supporters.

Special Olympics Fundraiser



Claire O'Leary and Aine Brosnan pictured above participating in a stationery cycle to raise awareness and funds for the Special Olympics.

Well done to both on their great work.

Surprise visitor for Kerry Student who scooped national essay writing award!



Mick O'Connell presents first place in the 2017 National Life Advocate Awards to Emma Dinneen of St Brigid's Presentation Secondary School.

A KILLARNEY student who won a national essay-writing competition was in for a surprise when legendary Kerry footballer Mick O'Connell turned up to present the award at St Brigid's Presentation Secondary School.

Emma Dinneen, a 6th year pupil at the school, took first place in the 2017 Life Advocate Awards. The annual essay-writing competition aims to encourage research and critical-thinking on human rights and right to life issues.

This year students were asked to discuss the words of Dr Martin Luther King Jnr who said: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter".

Emma's essay drew from science, history and politics to make a case for speaking up for the right to life of the unborn. It was these qualities that made her the 2017 winner.

During the school's annual awards ceremony Mick O'Connell surprised staff and students at St Brigid's when he arrived to present Emma, an avid footballer who plays for Kerry, with her Life Advocate Award.

In his address to over 500 students and staff Mick said Emma had written about a subject in her essay that is very close to his heart.

He said: "I myself have a boy with Down Syndrome. In various countries at the present time in England and Wales, for example, over 90% of children who could be born with the prospect of Down Syndrome are aborted prior to going to full-term. In Denmark they are aiming that no Down Syndrome child will ever be born in that country again. Currently in Iceland a child with Down Syndrome is not to be seen.

"My Down Syndrome boy Diarmuid was born in the 1970s and has been the greatest gift that has ever happened to me. He has brought wonderful delight to my life, even the very thought of him brings happiness to me."

A personal video message of congratulations from Dr Martin Luther King Jnr's niece, Dr Alveda King, was also played for Emma during the presentation.

Dr King said Emma was a worthy winner and a clear advocate for life.

She said: "Her essay was inspiring. I hope she will continue demonstrating her passion and understanding of the importance of the right to life. I wish to congratulate Emma and the staff at St Brigid's Secondary School for their courage and commitment to the cause of human rights".



Life Advocate Award - L-R Kate Gallagher (award organiser), Mick O'Connell, Emma Dinneen (winner), Emma Sisk (award organiser) and Máiread McElligott (Head of RE)



Life Advocate Award - Mick O'Connell and Life Advocate Award winner Emma Dinneen are pictured with award organisers Kate Gallagher (left) and Emma Sisk (right)



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News from St. Josephs Secondary School, Castlebar

Thursday 1st June 2017

May 2017

West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon

The following news was kindly shared by Caroline McGrath of St Joseph's Secondary School, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

The May bank holiday weekend in Castlebar is synonymous with the West of Ireland Women's mini marathon (10K) event.

This year 4 staff members and 83 students took on the challenge.

The event which is hosted by Mayo Sports Partnership also includes a competition, aimed at getting as many teenage girls involved as possible.

The competition is called 'It's for Girls' and the award of a trophy and a €1000 voucher for Achill Adventure centre is presented to the school with the greatest percentage of its school population involved in the 10K.



St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castlebar claimed the title for the second year in a row and Ms Caroline McGrath pictured above accepted the trophy on behalf of the St. Joseph's students.



On the Friday before the mini marathon the school held a non-uniform day and all proceeds from the day were donated to Rock Rose House – a local charity who provides support to those who have cancer.

St. Josephs Secondary School, Castlebar, Students Receive ITS Award

Congratulations to 2nd year science students from St. Josephs Secondary School, Castlebar, Co. Mayo who received an ITS award for educational excellence at Women in ITS Interest Group Seminar in Dublin on Wednesday 26th April 2017.

ITS Ireland exists to promote the development and deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) for safer, more efficient and more sustainable transport.



Pictured above is Mr John Davis, Chairperson of Executive Governing Board of ITS Ireland presenting the award to Ms. Fionnuala Lynch, Science Teacher, St Joseph's Secondary School, Castlebar along with students Niamh Ward, Manmehak Kaur, Brianna Moran, Ugne Budrecktye, Nicole Bukovska & Lilly Behan.

Our Lady's College Galway – A Get Going...Get Rowing Success Story

Monday 3rd April 2017

The below video is an excellent example of how a school, Our Lady's College Galway, has engaged with Get Going... Get Rowing from the very start in Connacht and grown from strength to strength ever since.

The video is primarily about "Showing Racism the Red Card" as part of a national campaign to stamp out racism, but it also has some great footage of the students rowing. A hugely supportive and cooperative relationship was forged with Galway Rowing Club and, together, both the programme and the club have worked hand in hand with the school to the point of the school now affiliating as a club with Rowing Ireland.

All the girls in the video completed the Get Going... Get Rowing programme, some as TY coaches, others as indoors winners at UL Blitzit and the girls shown rowing at St. Michael's Head are all a product of the "Breakfast Row" project that was initiated last year to engage the girls with the water experience before school on Friday mornings from March to the end of school term. They are now the racing 8+ shown in the video and are competing at Commercial and Neptune Regattas this weekend, 1st & 2nd April.

Our Lady's College is Galway's newest secondary school and is a merger of two great Galway institutions, the Presentation and the Mercy School. Catering for more than 500 girls, the new school's motto is 'Excellence Together'. Both schools were fully engaged from the start with Get Going... Get Rowing in Galway in 2014 and since their recent merger into one school, Our Lady's College Galway, the school has grown from strength to strength in terms of rowing development.

The programme has catered for 1st/2nd and TY years every year for the past 3 years from both schools. The programme was embraced by both schools and both PE Teachers at the time, Michelle Muldoon (Mercy) and Orla Madden (Presentation) were huge enthusiasts of the programme and happily walked the girls down on a weekly basis to NUIG Boat Club for indoor rowing sessions in the hail, rain and snow throughout the school year.

The programme took particular traction since a "Breakfast Morning Row" project was commenced last March to fully engage the girls with the sport of rowing and to set down a clear pathway to joining a club. This meant getting a cohort of girls down to the water before school time on a Friday morning at 7am with the school organising a hot breakfast for the girls once they were off the water just before class time. The Breakfast Row project was instigated by Get Going... Get Rowing's Connacht Development Officer, Jen Cunningham who felt the transition and retention to club would be greatly boosted by this project.

This would not have been possible without the support of the two School Principals at the time (Cliona Ní Neill; Presentation School and Brendan Lydon; Mercy School), and without the support and backing of the local Galway Rowing Club (Rory O'Brien; Captain, Mike Gaffney and Owen Diviney).

The Mercy School was instrumental in agreeing to facilitate this project and the Principal kindly arranged to have breakfast ready from the school canteen and set aside for the girls just before class. Subsequently, the majority of these girls kept the "Breakfast Morning Row" up throughout their Junior Cert Exams that summer and have grown from strength to strength and remain training regularly together as a crew now competing this weekend at Neptune and Commercial Regattas and rowing out of GRC.

Special mention must go to the tireless efforts of Charlotte Bennett who is the Rowing Coordinator in Our Lady's College Galway and who has added extra momentum and endless support to the success of Our Lady's College as the newest rowing school in Galway.

Get Going...Get Rowing co-ordinator in Connacht, Jen Cunningham, says it is the biggest success story coming out of the programme in Connacht to date.

Link to YouTube video

<https://youtu.be/wYmRH4vIH20>



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Presentation Secondary School Tralee National Bank Champions Again!

Tuesday 9th May 2017

We were thrilled two weeks ago to have our AIB Build a Bank team win the All-Ireland Final.

This is the second time in three years that Pres Tralee has won the top prize and last year's team came second.

It's a great tribute to the girls and the two teachers who have put in so much work and effort with them.

The prize of €5000 for the school is also wonderful!

Well done to Sadbh Kilgallen, Michelle Doody, Ciara Boyd, Cara Segal, Rebecca Poutney, Jennifer Hanafin as well as the experienced " Magic Team " teachers Ms. O'Grady and Ms. O'Connor.

Teams will be travelling to the SEAI 'One Good Idea' finals and the Eco-Unesco finals in Dublin over the coming weeks also so it's a busy month on top of exam preparation.



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Sacred Heart Clonakilty Debating Team Capture All Ireland Title!

Tuesday 9th May 2017



[Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty, Co. Cork](#), students won the All-Ireland Concern Debating competition in the Helix, DCU in Dublin on Thursday evening 4th May.

Team members, Laura Walsh, Maebh McCarthy, Natasha Sutton and Caoimhe Ní Sulleabháin defeated CBS Carlow in an eagerly fought contest.

The students from Clonakilty opposed the motion that "The Trump Presidency was a blessing in disguise for Africa".

The team were congratulated by over 80 of their fellow students who travelled to Dublin to watch the final which was also streamed live on Instagram.

Mentors Ms. E. Harte and S.O'Shea were delighted to witness their students deliver and debate the motion with such confidence and sophistication, something that did not go unnoticed with the adjudication panel.

The students now travel to Malawi, Africa as part of their winning prize.

Click [here](#) to view article from the Southern Star on the schools win.



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Scoil Bhríde, Mercy Secondary School Tuam - Climate Justice

Monday 15th May 2017

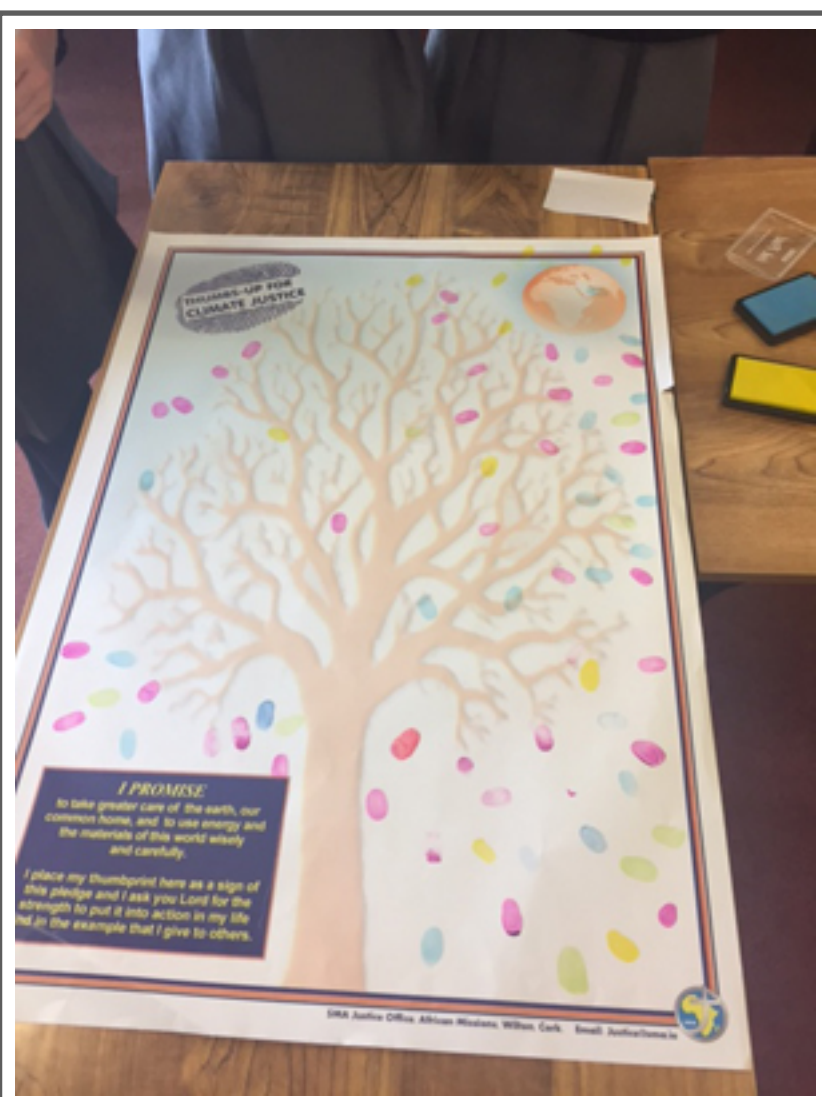
The following news snippet was kindly shared by Claire Kilroy, Deputy Principal, [Scoil Bhríde, Mercy Secondary School Tuam, Co. Galway](#).

On the 8th April twelve 5th year students from Scoil Bhríde, Mercy Secondary School Tuam, Co. Galway, trained in Climate Justice.

On the 10th May they delivered the workshop to our first years.

The aim is to spread the knowledge and make everyone more aware of looking after the environment.

Well done to our 5th years who did an excellent job, once again another brilliant example of student leadership in The Mercy!





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Seinn Concert

Thursday 27th April 2017



Thurles Cathedral was filled with music from choirs all over the diocese of Cashel and Emly.

Five of the school Choirs participating were from CEIST schools in Co. Tipperary.

- Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore
- St Anne's Secondary School, Tipp Town
- Presentation Secondary School, Thurles
- St Mary's Secondary School, Newport
- Presentation Secondary School, Ballingarry

Fabulous liturgical music from all concerned, well done to everyone, you did us proud!!

Presentation Secondary School Ballingarry



A truly enriching experience was enjoyed by students, parents and staff at the Seinn concert in Thurles Cathedral.

Since November our choir of twenty, together with Ms. Teresa Regan have thoroughly enjoyed preparing for this event.

We are already looking forward to next year!

Click [here](#) to view more photos from Presentation Secondary School Ballingarry.



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Student Awards - St Josephs Mercy Secondary School

Monday 29th May 2017

Student of the Year Award 2017 St Joseph's Mercy Secondary School

Congratulations to Leaving Certificate Student Lauren Kearney of St Joseph's Mercy Secondary School Navan for receiving the 2017 Student of the Year Award. This award was presented to Lauren by Dr. Marie Griffin of CEIST.



Dr Marie Griffin presenting the 6th Year Student of the Year Award to Lauren Kearney, Helen Nolan Year Head on the right and Audrey Barter BOM Member on the left.

CEIST Award 2017 St Josephs Mercy Secondary School

Congratulations to Leaving Certificate Student Lovely Angeles of St Josephs Mercy Secondary School Navan for receiving the 2017 CEIST Award. The award was presented by Dr. Marie Griffin of CEIST.



Dr Marie Griffin presenting the CEIST award to Leaving Certificate Student Lovely Angeles



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The Harty and Croke Cup - An Unforgettable Journey

Monday 3rd April 2017

The following is an account from School Principal, Patricia Higgins, of [Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore, Co. Tipperary](#) great Hurling journey this year.

As we bask in the warm afterglow of our epic victory over hurling giants, St. Kieran's College at Semple Stadium on March 25th, the scale of the achievement gradually begins to sink in. St. Kieran's arrived in force for the final, their banner proclaiming "21 to 1 – mind the gap".

In truth, they needed to "mind the hunger". In a game that celebrated everything that is noble in sport, Our Lady's demonstrated that tradition, resources, and entitlement count for little when confronted with raw courage, exquisite skill and unwavering self-belief.

After a thrilling hour's hurling that brought players and supporters alike to the brink of exhaustion, the attendance of over 3,000 knew they had witnessed something extraordinary and looked on in rapt admiration as the Croke Cup was presented to the proud Captain, Paddy Cadell.

An unforgettable year began quietly with the predictable routine of training sessions in the school pitch interspersed with challenge games against carefully chosen opponents.

For Mr. Noel Fogarty, in his tenth year as Harty Coach and for Mr. Tom Byrnes, after a busy summer on his farm, the presence of six of Tipp's All Ireland winning minors on the Harty team and, in particular, Brian Mc Grath's decision to return to school must have added an extra note of urgency to the well-worn routine.

For Harty Cup enthusiasts in the school and in the Community, after just short of the biblical forty years wandering in the wilderness, any talk of a return to the Promised Land fell on doubting ears. How many times in the past had we heard that we were "in with a real chance this year"?

The qualifying games against one time greats, St. Flannan's and Bandon High School were tame affairs with neither opposition posing any threat to Our Lady's. Only the prospect of a quarter-final tie with near neighbours, and arch-rivals, Thurles C.B.S. could get the adrenalin flowing.

The outcome of this game was most pleasing from a Templemore point of view. The C.B.S. who looked impressive in their qualifying games were completely outclassed and finished ten points in arrears on a scoreline of 3 -14 to 1-10. The victory over Thurles was a triumph in itself. Of course we still wanted the Harty but at least the old enemy was conquered, and now we really began to believe!

The semi –final against Nenagh C.B.S. at Toomevara on January 28th brought out the crowds who were treated to a full blooded, tense contest made memorable by Andrew Ormond's sixteenth minute goal, some magic touches by Lyndon Fairbrother and the brilliant goalkeeping of Eoin Collins. The final score of 1-15 to 0-14 in favour of Templemore was greeted with relief by the team and their supporters.

The final against Coleman's of Fermoy was played at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick on February 18th. Our cheerleaders, whose growing confidence matched that of their team, were in place early and were in full voice among the crowd of over 8,000 before the ball was thrown in.

It soon became clear that the game would provide some respite for the overwrought nerves of the Templemore parents and supporters. Coleman's were no match for us and the game petered out on a score line of 2-22 to 1-6 with Our Lady's capturing the elusive trophy for the first time in 39 years. Of course we would have loved a tighter game but that did not diminish the joy and relief felt all round as Paddy Cadell lifted the Harty Cup.

An All-Ireland appearance seemed unimportant on Saturday evening when the winning team returned to a rapturous welcome in Templemore. But as the days passed, tension began to grow again in anticipation of a semi-final showdown with Kilkenny C.B.S. one of the top two hurling schools in Kilkenny and Leinster.

They had only been narrowly defeated in the Leinster final by their neighbours, St. Kieran's. The semi- final played at O'Moore Park in Portlaoise was a thrilling contest where the true character of our team was revealed. The C.B.S. played with guts and self-belief, and while the three points that separated the sides in the end probably flattered the challengers, we were relieved to get over the game and make it to the final.

The final itself has been well described in print and other media. It is enough to say that the writers and commentators had to dig deep to find words to convey the full significance of what was achieved in the course of the 2016-2017 Harty and Croke campaigns by a skilful and dedicated group of players led by two passionate and energetic coaches.



Pictured above are the panel and mentors of Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore.

As a school community we are immensely proud of our team's achievement this year. We thank the panel and their managers, Mr. Byrne and Mr. Fogarty for the honour they have brought to the school.

We look forward to building on their success in all areas of school life in the coming years.

We are most grateful for the enthusiastic support we got from our own students and parents, and from the wider community who were behind us on every step of the exciting journey.

All Ireland Final Croke Cup Photos





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Awakening 2017

Tuesday 9th May 2017

A concert took place in Breaffy Arena Castlebar on Thursday night, 4th May organised by the Tuam Youth Ministry with many CEIST schools being involved from the Tuam Archdiocese.

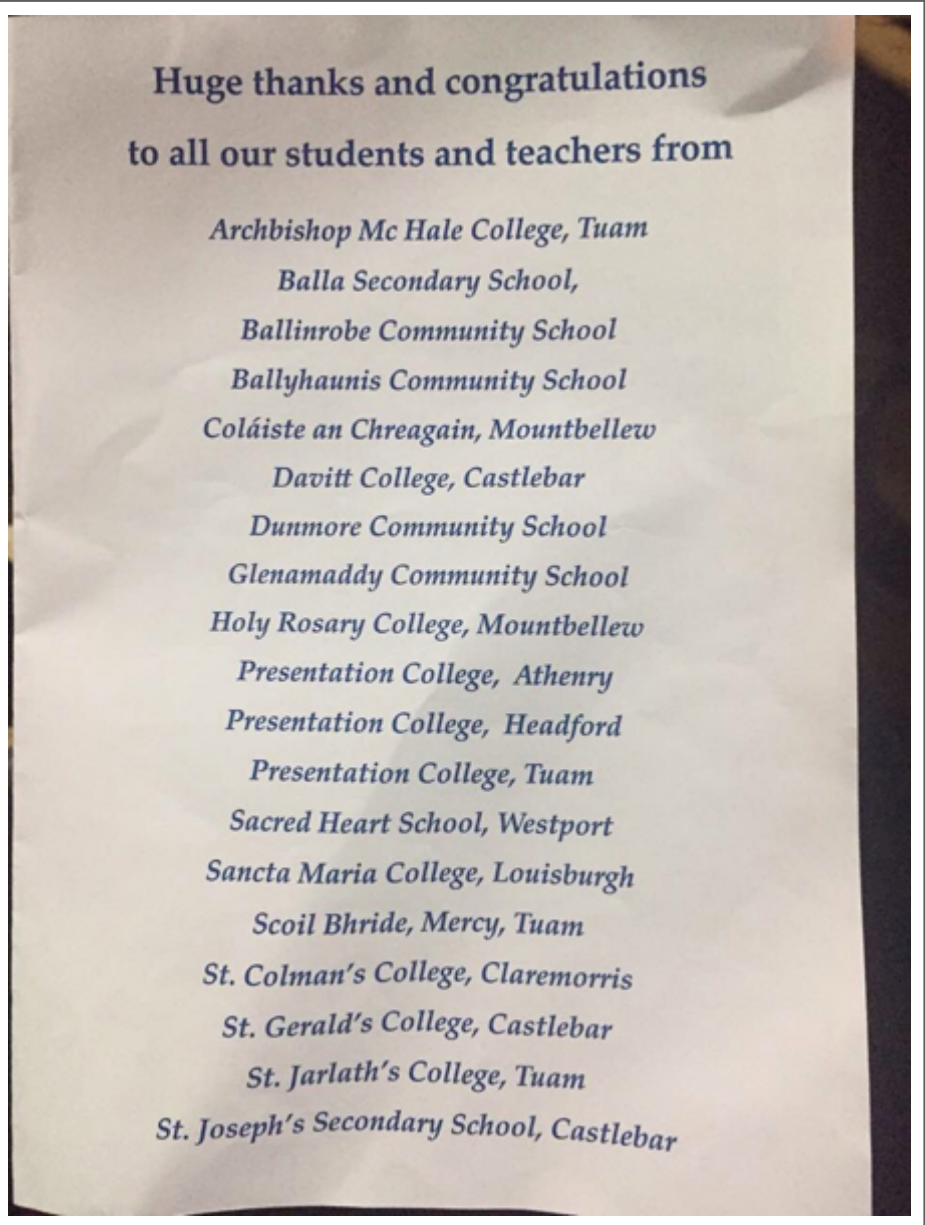
The concert was called "Awakening" and began in the Archdiocese last year with over 300 teenagers coming together on stage to sing Church and contemporary music together at Breaffy Arena, Castlebar.

It was such a huge success, that all involved asked for it to happen all over again this year.

This year over 400 students sang over 20 songs from 19 schools!!

It was a wonderful night and a great example of how fantastic our young people are.

Participating Schools



(Thanks to Neasa Cosgrove, Principal, Presentation Secondary School, Currylea, Tuam for sharing above article and photos).