



Catholic Education An Irish Schools Trust

news from ceist...

31 August 2010

CEIST is the trustee body for the voluntary secondary schools of the Daughters of Charity, the Presentation Sisters, the Sisters of the Christian Retreat, the Sisters of Mercy and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Feature

CEIST Induction Days for Newly Appointed Principals and Deputy Principals

CEIST invited newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals of CEIST schools to the education office in Maynooth on the 17th and 18th of August 2010.

The main objectives of the induction days were to give the new senior management appointees a stronger understanding of the workings of the Trust and also provide an opportunity to meet staff members within the education office.

The Directors of each of the departments within CEIST used both induction days to give a detailed presentation on the workings of each department and the services they provide to CEIST schools.

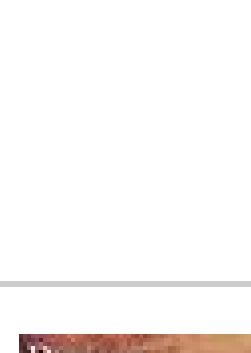
There were twenty four new senior management appointments in CEIST schools for 2010-11. A most enjoyable day was had by all who attended and CEIST staff were very grateful that our new Principals and Deputy Principals allocated us some of their valuable time to attend the induction days.

We offer our best wishes to all of the Principals and Deputy Principals in their new role within the school.

[MORE >](#)



CEIST News



CEIST Fifth Educational Conference 2010

The Fifth Annual CEIST Educational Conference will be held on the 30th September and 1st October 2010 in the Killashee House Hotel, Killashee, Naas, Co. Kildare.

The CEIST Annual Education Conference provides an opportunity for our School Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons of School Boards of Management to network and share ideas and best practice.

We look forward to meeting you over the two days in what we hope we be an enjoyable and informative experience for all.

[MORE >](#)



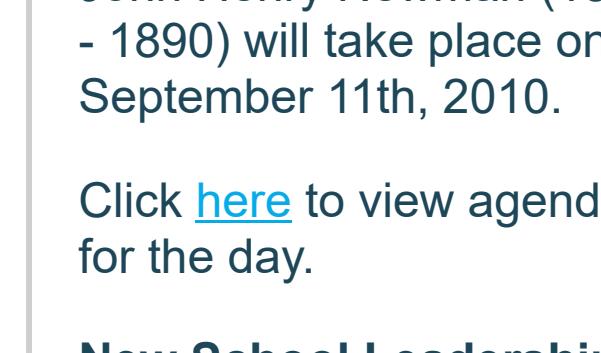
Isn't this interesting



School Retreats



Sisters of Mercy



Continuing Education Courses

The CEIST Faith Development Team have added courses recently to their Continuing Education Course page on the website.

Click [here](#) to view.

October Mission Month 2010

October in the Church calendar is a time to reflect on Mission, as well as to renew our Missionary work for today. The theme for 2010 and the mission month of October is "Together in Mission".

As a Church in Ireland we must always remember that unless we are engaged with those whose needs are the greatest across our World we cannot fully shared the Christian call to "be missionary".

Click [here](#) for more information.

A Day in the Honour of Cardinal John Henry Newman

A day in honour of Cardinal John Henry Newman (1801 - 1890) will take place on September 11th, 2010.

Click [here](#) to view agenda for the day.

New School Leadership and Mentoring Programme, Emmaus Centre

The Emmaus Retreat Centre in Swords Co Dublin is offering a new programme in Leadership Skills for TY, 5th and 6th year students in the 2010-2011 school year.

Click [here](#) for more information on the programme.

Send us your news!

CEIST Education Office welcomes news items for publication each month.

Please send any news items, events, photo's, etc, to info@ceist.ie.

The deadline for the next issue is Wednesday 29th September, 2010.

News from CEIST Schools



News from Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan

Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath have kindly shared with us their recent news and events within the school.

The class of 2010 recently went to Dunboyne Castle Co. Meath for their Debutantes Ball and the school was delighted to hear of the great achievement from student **Tadhg O'Sullivan** scoring 600 points in the Leaving Cert.

[MORE >](#)



Scoil Mhuire Trim Win Digital Projector and Screen!

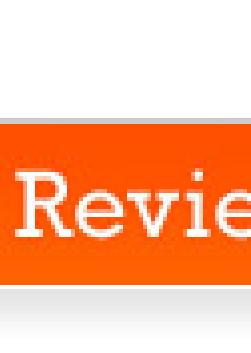
Codex who are one of the suppliers enlisted in the CEIST Schools Co-operative Purchasing Program held a draw recently among all 112 CEIST schools for a new Digital Projector and Floor Standing Screen.

The lucky winner was Scoil Mhuire Secondary School, Trim, Co. Meath, and School Principal, Jackie Maher, was delighted with the win for the school.

Click [here](#) to visit the school website.

[MORE >](#)

School Monthly Profile - St. Joseph's Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland, Co. Kerry.

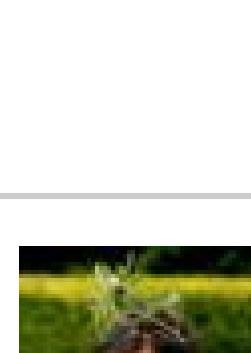


St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castleisland, Co. Kerry, were our school profile for August 2010.

They very kindly shared with us their philosophy and aims of the school along with recent achievements, news and events, etc.

[MORE >](#)

Reflecting CEIST Values



Young Social Innovators Roll Call!



Roll Call

Is your school on young social innovators list for 2010/11?

If you are not one of the 340 YSI affiliated second level schools, please sign up now so your students are part of the largest active citizenship programme in Ireland.

YSI In-service training now also booking:

Cork 11th September
Dublin 18th September
Limerick & Carrick-on-Shannon 26th September

Some 30,000 young people have become social innovators in Ireland through YSI.

Book online: www.youngsocialinnovators.ie
Email: education@youngsocialinnovators.ie
Or call: 01 645 8030

[MORE >](#)

Reviews

Sr. Fidelis Purcell featured on RTE's iWitness programme

A spiritual documentary series portraying stories of belief, prayer, passion and meaningful experiences is shown on RTE Television each night following the late evening news.

Sr. Fidelis Purcell who was previously Principal of Presentation Secondary School Waterford and is now the Chairperson of [Presentation Secondary School Thurles](#), was featured recently on the programme.

Click on 'More' link to access the programme and choose August 18th archive to view documentary on Sr Fidelis.

[MORE >](#)

Rose of Tralee and CEIST Schools Connections!

The CEIST Office would like to congratulate the 2010 International Rose of Tralee winner, Clare Kambamettu.

Clare is a former student at Scoil Mhuire, Athy which in 2007 amalgamated with its near neighbour, Scoil Eoin to form CEIST School, Ardscoil Na Trionóide.

Her mother Breda was a founder member of the Parent Council and the Chairperson of the last BOM of the school.

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CEIST Hold Induction Days for Newly Appointed Principals and Deputy Principals

Wednesday 18th August 2010

CEIST held Induction Days for our recently appointed Principals and Deputy Principals on the 17th and 18th of August 2010.

The induction day provided a great opportunity for the newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals to meet staff in the CEIST Education Office and gain a stronger understanding of the Trust and of the services it provides to the schools.

Each day began with a Prayer Service from our Faith Development team. The CEO of CEIST, Anne Kelleher, then welcomed our guests and gave an overview of CEIST, which was followed by an overview of [Educena](#) by CEO, Liam Bergin.



Pictured above are newly appointed Deputy Principals at the induction day in the

CEIST Education Office with Anne Kelleher, CEO of CEIST, back row LtoR, Ruth Gallen (Presentation Waterford), Danny O'Callaghan (St. Mary's Newport), Anne Dwyer (Presentation Clonmel), Deirdre McEnteggart (St. Vincent's Dundalk) and Patricia Garry (Presentation Warrenmount).

Front Row: Tony Collison (Rockford Manor, Blackrock, Co. Dublin), Anne Kelleher (CEO CEIST), Gillian O'Callaghan (Scoil Carmel, Limerick) and Anna Gibbons, (Caritas College, Ballyfermot, Dublin).

The Directors of the three CEIST departments, Finance, Faith Development and School Support and the ICS Manager, were delighted to have the opportunity to inform the new Principals and Deputy Principals of the workings of each department and the services they each offer to our 112 schools.

We had a very informative Questions and Answers session after the various presentations were completed and the day ended with a Conclusion and Blessing.

A most enjoyable day was had by all who attended and CEIST staff were very grateful that our new Principals and Deputy Principals allocated us some of their valuable time to attend the induction days.



Pictured above at the Principals induction day in the CEIST Education Office, back row, LtoR,

Michael Lane (CEIST), Ned Prendergast (CEIST), Michael O'Loughlin (Pres Clonmel), Gearóid Leen (Scoil Bhríde Tuam), Paul McDonnell (North Presentation, Farranree, Cork), Mary Nihill (Calsactius College, Oranmore), Mary Ryan (Pres Waterford), Geraldine Mulvihill (Our Lady's College, Greenhills, Drogheda), Mike Higgins and John Woods (CEIST).

Front Row: Deirdre Matthews (St. Vincent's, Dundalk), Anne Kelleher (CEO CEIST), Gerardine Kennedy (Sanctua Maria College, Ballyroan), Gwen Brennan (Presentation Warrenmount) and Liam Bergin (CEO Educena).



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The following is the Agenda for both days;

Day 1: Thursday, 30th September 2010

11.30 - 1.00 p.m.	Registration
1.00 p.m.	Lunch
2.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome in Conference HallCEIST Chief Executive Officer, Anne KelleherOpening Prayer and Ard Scoil na Trionóide Choir, Athy
2.30 - 3.30 p.m.	Keynote Address: Fr. Michael Drumm 'The Value of Denominational Education'
3.30 - 4.30 p.m.	Conference Workshops
4.30 p.m.	Tea / Coffee
7.00 p.m.	Sherry Reception / Social Gathering
7.30 p.m.	Conference Dinner

Workshops

1) "Joining the Dots: One Year On". Amalee Meehan, Faith Development Co-ordinator, CEIST, Nora Quane, participant Mercy Mounthawk and Moira Hunter, St Mary's Mallow.

Joining the Dots: Faith, Life, Teachers, Teaching and Theology is a school based programme in theology and spiritual renewal for teachers. There are no fees, no travel and no exams. It involves about 90 minutes one evening a week for six weeks. Teaching can be so life-giving but it can also be draining. Joining the Dots offers soul time - an opportunity to catch your breath, to reflect on your life experience, to ask good questions, and to remember that even if we are tired of looking for God, God never tires looking for us.

Initiated in Mercy Mounthawk by Amalee Meehan and John O'Roarke, the second pilot took place in St Mary's Secondary School, Mallow. In each case, approximately 15 teachers from a host of different subject areas took part. This semester it will run in 2 different schools around the country. Click [here](#) for further details on Joining the Dots, or to read feedback from previous participants.

2) "Special Education Needs Delivery in Challenging Times". Clare Ryan, Principal, St. Leo's College, Carlow.

In the current climate of diminishing resources there remains a moral and professional imperative to support students with SEN. Despite the tardiness of Government to implement EPSEN coupled with the depletion of supports, each school is confronted on a daily basis with students who exhibit a vast spectrum of need. This workshop will explore the CEIST school's capacity to respond in order to ensure positive outcomes for the students in our care. Maximising resources, the deployment of SNA's, supporting the gifted child, the sharing of information, transfer from primary to post-primary, working with parents etc will be considered.

3) "Experiences of using technology for teaching and school administration today". [Sonas Innovation](#).

With 2010/2011 being the school year where technology is brought into the classroom, the next question is what will we do with this?

We illustrate two case studies where the experience is illustrated in detail: The first is CEIST school, Scioil Chriost Ri in Portlaoise, where a new school building afforded the opportunity to use new information infrastructure. The Principal of the school, Helen O'Donnell, will join Sonas in the discussion on new information infrastructure for the school.

The second is another CEIST school who has chosen to have an online communications and collaboration system for all staff.

4) "Current Legal Issues". David Ruddy, B.L.

(A) Codes of Behaviour

The National Educational Welfare Guidelines, Section 29 Appeals, Recent Case Law.

(B) Admission and Participation Policies

Section 29 Appeals and recent case law.

(C) Disciplinary Procedures for Teachers and School Principals (Circular 60 / 09)

The objective of the seminar is to give a bird's eye view of recent developments, to facilitate Q & A and discussion.

5) "Risk Management / School Maintenance". (Chairperson BOMs) Allianz plc.

Managing potential risks in a school and implementing preventative maintenance are just some of the responsibilities in the busy role of a School Principal, Deputy Principal and Board of Management. This workshop will provide an overview and helpful tips in how to ensure that your school is operating in a safe environment and will also look at how to implement some preventative maintenance and security measures to avoid unnecessary claim costs and cause serious disruption to school life.

DAY 2: Friday, 1st October 2010

9.15 - 9.30 a.m.	Opening Prayer and Presentation Secondary School Choir, Kildare Town.
9.30 - 11.00 a.m.	Keynote Address: Baroness Nuala O'Loan 'Leadership: begin with the heart'
11.00 a.m.	Tea / Coffee
11.30 - 12.15 p.m.	Fr. Lou Delfra, University of Notre Dame 'Education in the Catholic Voluntary School; A Sacramental Vision'
12.15 - 1.00 p.m.	Conference Workshops (same as day 1)
1.00 p.m.	Conference Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none">Update from EDUCENA on Property Matters, Liam Bergin, CEOOpen ForumClosing Prayer and St. Mary's College Choir, Naas.
1.30 p.m.	Lunch

Keynote Speaker Profiles

Fr. Michael Drumm



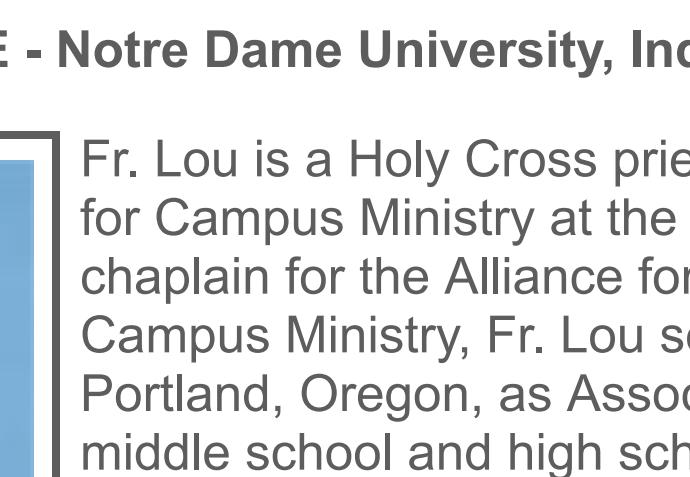
Fr. Michael Drumm has been appointed Chairperson of the recently established Catholic Schools Partnership.

This new body will provide support for all the partners in Catholic schools in a changing Ireland.

Previously a Lecturer in Theology and Director of Mater Dei Institute in Dublin, he has published numerous books and articles on the role of religion in Irish society.

He also works part-time in the parish of Esker, Dublin.

Baroness Nuala O'Loan, DBE



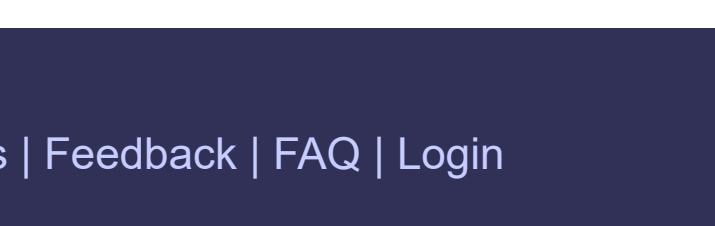
Baroness Nuala O'Loan, DBE, is a noted figure both nationally and internationally. Baroness O'Loan's career has spanned the spectrum of Law, the Policing Authority and the European Commission's Consumers Consultative Council.

As Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland, Baroness O'Loan was courageous in her leadership and was instrumental in the reform of Policing and Law Enforcement.

In 2008, Baroness O'Loan was appointed by the Irish Government as special envoy to Timor-Leste (East Timor).

Baroness O'Loan has a deep sense of spirituality and ethics, which inform her leadership and is the source of inspiration for presentations to audiences all over the world.

Fr. Lou Delfra: Chaplain, ACE - Notre Dame University, Indiana, U.S.A.



Fr. Lou is a Holy Cross priest, ordained in 2004. He directs Biblical Studies for Campus Ministry at the University of Notre Dame and serves as chaplain for the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). Previous to Campus Ministry, Fr. Lou served at Holy Redeemer Parish and School in Portland, Oregon, as Associate Director for the ACE Programme, and as a middle school and high school teacher at a catholic school in Philadelphia.

He received his undergraduate and Master's degrees from the University of Notre Dame, and currently publishes in the fields of religion, literature, teacher education and spirituality.

Fr. Lou resides in Dillon Hall on the Notre Dame campus.

Click [here](#) to download Conference brochure.



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Finance Matters

Thursday 26th August 2010

Annual School Accounts 2009-2010

Just a gentle reminder that schools should now be starting to finalise the annual school accounts for the 2009-2010 academic year. A suggested timetable to assist in this is available in the Members' Area (resources section) of the CEIST website. The deadline for receipt of 2009-2010 school accounts by the Trustees is 1st November 2010.

Health and Safety in Schools

Health and Safety is a legal requirement as well as being an important aspect of good corporate governance. Poor safety and health may lead to expensive compensation claims and involve criminal prosecutions of the school, its Management and Staff.

The Safety Statement makes clear how the safety of employees, students, parents, visitors and other persons is organized in a safe learning environment.

The Trustees require that all Boards of Management have in place a professionally prepared Safety Statement and Risk Assessment and that these are updated to reflect changes, legal, environmental and structural.

As we commence a new year it is a good time to ensure that your school is legally compliant. To this end there is a checklist available to assist you. Please print out the checklist entitled "Policies and Arrangements for Health and Safety in Schools" and complete the form. You should sign and date the form and retain on file and ensure that corrective action has been taken where necessary. The checklist is available in the Members' Area (resources section) of the CEIST website.

Pupil Personal Accident Insurance – 30% Discount available when arranged on-line with Allianz

Allianz is offering an increased discount of 30% on renewal of the Pupil Personal Accident Insurance from this September when the renewal is arranged on-line via the website www.allianz.ie/schools. This option saves on administration costs and is a much more efficient method to renew your policy. The benefits of the scheme include:

- Comprehensive insurance cover with options available.
- No time limit on which claims can be made.
- Medical and dental expense benefits have separate limits of €30,000.
- Allianz has partnered with Vhi Swiftcare clinics for treatment of accidents.

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Staff Prayer for the Beginning of the New School Year 2010

Wednesday 14th July 2010

The Faith Development Team in CEIST have prepared the following staff prayer for celebrating the beginning of the new school year 2010. Click [here](#) to download the staff prayer.

Staff Prayer for the Beginning of the New School Year

August 2010

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year
 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'
 And he replied,
 'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God
 That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!'

Minnie Louise Harkins 1875-1957

Leader:

This morning we begin our new school year.

We meet as a staff, sharing news with friends and colleagues; welcoming new faces; knowing that refreshed after our summer break we are now moving forward together into another academic year of teaching and learning; of challenges; of joys and sometimes of difficulties.

We place this year in God's hands, and pray that in all that we do we will support each other in leading our students on their journey in life, not only in academic learning, but in developing themselves, their gifts, their talents, their deeper selves.

In order to do this well we must take care of ourselves; of our own spiritual well being.

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Reader 1:

Teaching, like any truly human activity, emerges from one's inwardness, for better or worse. As I teach, I project the condition of my soul onto my students, my subject and our way of being together. The entanglements I experience in the classroom are often no more or less than the convolutions of my inner life. Viewed from this angle, teaching holds a mirror to the soul. If I am willing to look in that mirror and not run from what I see, I have a chance to gain self-knowledge – and knowing myself is as crucial to good teaching as knowing my students and my subject.

'The Courage to Teach' - Parker J. Palmer: (p.2)

Leader:

Jesus knew the value of taking "time out" and there are many examples in the Gospels of him making space in his life, and in the lives of his apostles, to refresh and renew their spirits to enable them to be available to others.

Reader 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. And he said to them, "Come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while" for there were so many coming and going that there was no time for them even to eat.

Mark 6:20-31.

Leader: We pray today:

(each prayer to be read by a different voice)

That, in the words of Dorothy Suller, we may not be, "robbed of our depth by the frenetic stuff".

That we may always give our inner selves space, time and quiet.

That we may be able to meet and greet each of our students with openness and acceptance.

That we will always have time to be aware of the needs of our colleagues and be supportive of each other during the busy days of this school year.

That as a school community we will become ever more aware of the Gospel values which inform our ethos – not only in theory, but in a very real way, growing together in faith, in hope and in the love of God and of those we encounter each day.

Ár nAthair

Leader:

Lord, accept the work of this day and of this school year. Be with us in all we do, in all we say; in the good days and in those days which challenge us. We trust ourselves to you and ask that your Holy Spirit will be with each of us throughout this year. Amen.



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News from Mercy Secondary Kilbeggan

Monday 23rd August 2010

Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath have kindly shared with us the following recent news and events within the school.

Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan Debutantes Ball

Last Monday 16th August 2010, Dublin Road, Kilbeggan was transformed into a Parisienne catwalk as the Class of 2010 headed off to Dunboyne Castle Co. Meath for their Debutantes Ball.



Pictured above Conall Ennis and Kelly Ann Mealiffe off to the Mercy Kilbeggan Debs Ball. Pictured on right, Orla Daly, Conor Kavanagh, Mark Geoghan, Amy Grehan, Shauna McKeon and Karen Ravenhill singing in the rain as they head off to the Mercy Kilbeggan Debs Ball.

Every hairdresser, barber, beautician, tailor, dressmaker and family member breathed a sigh of relief as the immaculately dressed students headed off on the buses for their big night.

What happened over the next twelve hours is unknown, but all participants returned home safely to Kilbeggan the next morning, and by all accounts had a wonderful time. Many thanks to the Grad Committee, the Parents Council and Dunboyne Castle for all the work they put into organising this event.

Leaving Cert Results 2010

There was a mixture of great joy, satisfaction and as always some disappointment on Wednesday 18th August as the Class of 2010 received their Leaving Cert Results.



Pictured above Tadhg O'Sullivan after scoring 600 points with his father John (far left), Mother Hazel, Sister Aisling and Garrett Farrell, School Principal.

It heralded the climax of many years of hard work undertaken by the students, their teachers and their families across many different circumstances. Congratulations to all students who sat the Leaving Cert Exam, and in particular to Tadhg O'Sullivan who scored the Leaving Cert maximum of 600 points.



Pictured above are Mark Jones, Pauric Ennis and Edward Fitzgerald after their Leaving Cert Results.

Congratulations also to all the teachers and the families of the students for their commitment, work and patience over the past number of years.

Click [here](#) to view the school website.



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Presentation College Athenry Make History!

Thursday 22nd July 2010

Presentation College, Athenry has made history by becoming the first school to win the prestigious TCH All-Ireland Schools' Quiz title for a second time following a dramatic final against Hamilton High School, Bandon, Co. Cork at RTE studios in Donnybrook.

The quiz, which is open to all second-level schools in the 32 counties, is sponsored by Co-operation Ireland and organised by Thomas Crosbie Holdings in association with digital radio station RTE Choice. It was hosted by 2FM DJ Ruth Scott.

Athenry won each of their opening rounds in Connacht before winning against Abbey CBS Grammar School, Newry, Co. Down in the quarter-final at Athlone's Little Theatre in mid-May.

In the semi-final they defeated St. Mary's Academy CBS, Carlow before the final showdown with Bandon. After a nail-biting climax featuring a high standard of answering from both teams, the Niall Duddy coached Athenry team eventually emerged victorious by four points.

Team captain Jason Browne was presented with the Andrew Quinlan Memorial Trophy and the quiz champions each received a Nintendo Wii games console and a collection of DVDs. They also won a top-of-the-range Hitachi interactive whiteboard for the school. The panel members were Jason Browne (Captain), Zachary Browne, Liam Coppinger, Gerard Forde, Darragh Murphy and Eoghan Page.

To listen to the final stages of the quiz, click [here](#).



Pictured above (LtoR) Mr. Niall Duddy, Manager, Zachary Browne, Jason Browne, Captain, Liam Coppinger, Darragh Murphy, Mrs Mary Forde, School Principal, Gerard Forde, Mr Gerry Cloonan and Eoghan Page.



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Scoil Mhuire Trim Win Digital Projector and Screen in draw from Codex

Thursday 19th August 2010

Scoil Mhuire, Trim, Co. Meath won a high quality digital projector and floor standing screen valued at over 1,000 euros from our CEIST Schools Co-operative Purchasing Program (CS-COP) Stationery suppliers [Codex](#).

Codex held the draw among all 112 CEIST schools. The Principal of Scoil Mhuire, Ms. Jackie Maher was delighted with the win for the school.

Scoil Mhuire is an all-girls school with 529 pupils at present.



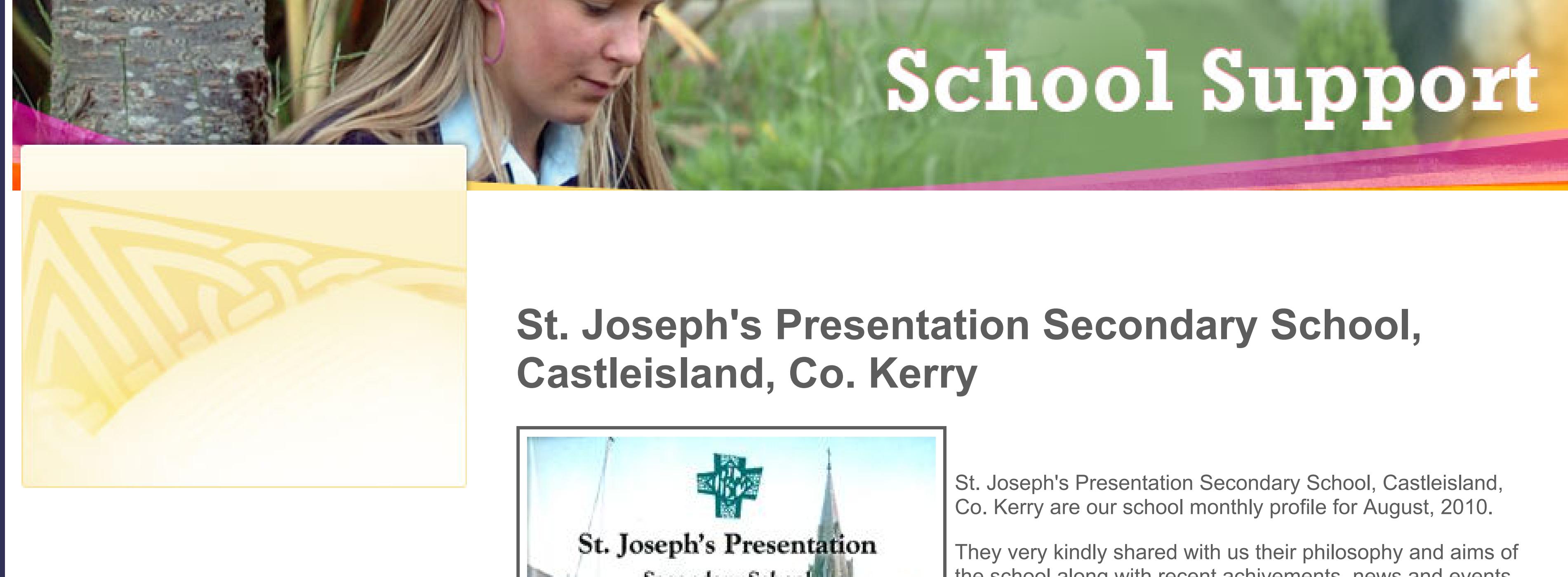
Pictured above (LtoR) Paul Buggy from Codex presenting the digital projector to Jackie Maher (Principal, Scoil Mhuire, Trim), Anne Kelleher (CEIST CEO) and Liam Bergin (Educena CEO).

The objective of the CS-COP program is to promote and encourage collective purchasing across our community in order to avail of economies of scale, with the objective of reducing school operating costs and enabling savings for our schools.

It is anticipated that by availing of the program additional benefits will accrue in terms of reduced administration by ordering on line. Now that the new school year is upon us, this provides our schools with the opportunity to avail of the CS-COP product offering by placing orders with our preferred suppliers.

We wish to congratulate Scoil Mhuire Trim on their prize and thank Codex for their sponsorship, as Ireland's largest Irish owned business in the office products sector.

A dedicated CS-COP section has been added to the CEIST Members Area, click [here](#) to login.



St. Joseph's Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland, Co. Kerry



St. Joseph's Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland, Co. Kerry are our school monthly profile for August, 2010.

They very kindly shared with us their philosophy and aims of the school along with recent achievements, news and events, etc.

Mission Statement: St. Joseph's Presentation School is a Christian community, based on Nano Nagle's vision of bringing God's love to all people and is dedicated to an all round Christian education, based on Gospel values.

Mutual respect is the corner-stone of our philosophy.

Parents, pupils, staff and management all have an important role to play in school life at St. Joseph's.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Religious Education

Religious Education plays an integral part in promoting the Christian Ethos. We believe that whole person development is the best way to develop mature, happy and successful Christians. School retreats are held annually.

Social concern is actively promoted. We have been successful in harnessing the energy and generosity of our students and of the community in order to raise money for deserving causes, such as St. Vincent de Paul, The Day Care Centre, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, "Enable Ireland" (Christy Browne Centre, Tralee), Children's Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Trócaire, Chernobyl Children and Concern.

Learning Support/Special Needs

With a greater understanding of learning difficulties prevalent today, we are glad to be able to facilitate those who are experiencing such difficulties. We provide both group and individual tuition.

Techniques used include circle time, shared reading, role-play and group discussion. Learning Support addresses the special needs of students in the areas of reading, comprehension, word recognition, phonic skills, digraphs, vowel sounds and maths.

L.C.V.P

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme was introduced into the school several years ago with great success thus far. To the students who opt for it, L.C.V.P. provides an extra Leaving Certificate subject which is now recognised, in terms of points, by Institutes of Technology and Universities.

L.C.V.P. offers an activity based subject, which gives the students a look at the world of work and, more importantly, gives them a confidence in their own abilities as individuals. Students are encouraged to organise activities and events themselves, while learning about the practical realities of work.

All L.C.V.P. students go on work experience. This benefits them greatly as they get first hand experience of the work place. Students also visit local businesses to investigate how these enterprises are run.

Team work and co-operation form an integral part of the programme. Activities of L.C.V.P. classes in the past have included production of a school magazine, table quizzes, an activity day, and various other fundraising events. Monies raised from these activities are donated to various charitable organisations.

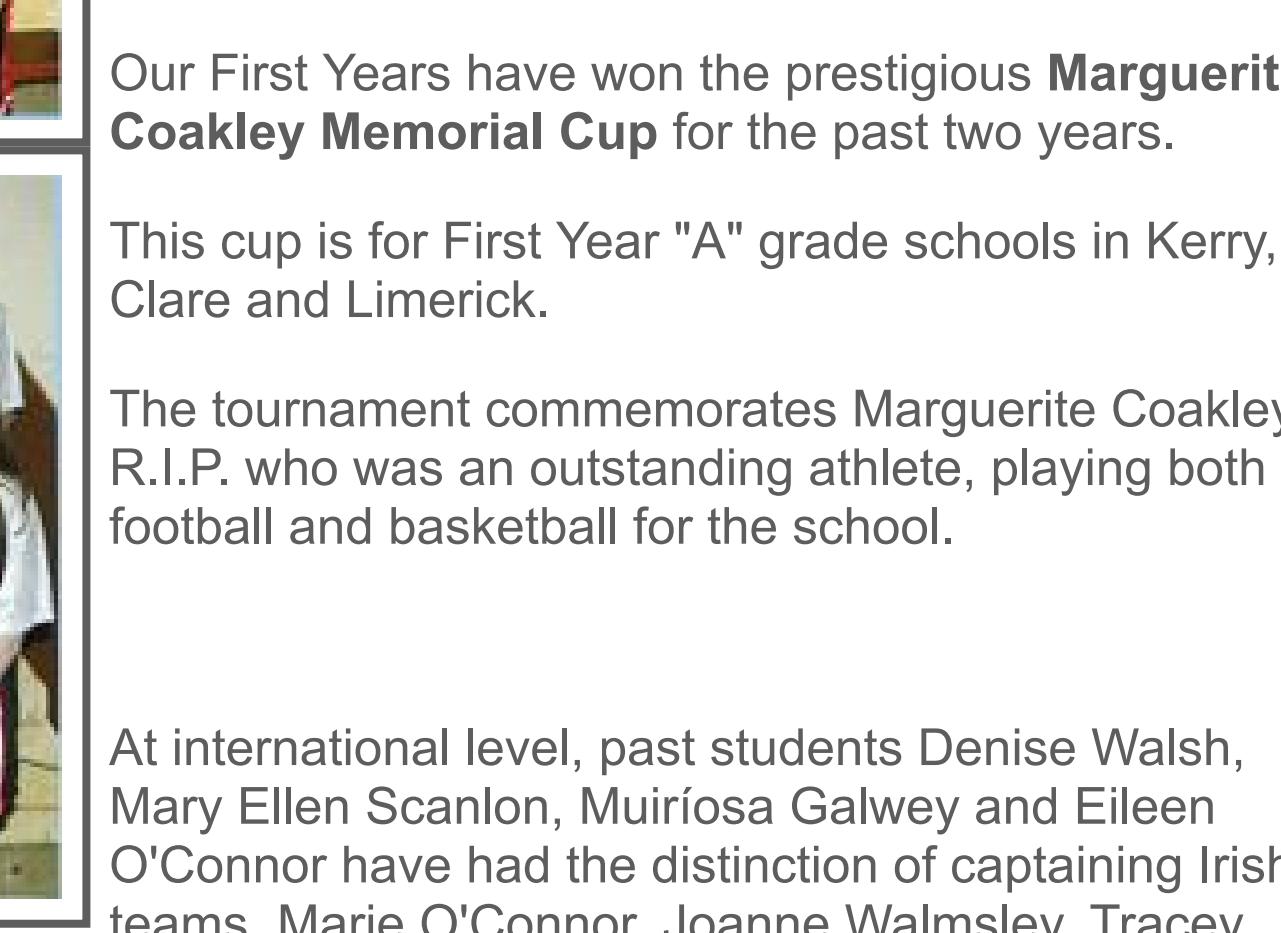
Information Technology

The school has a fully equipped and up-to-date Computer Laboratory. Computers are linked together within a network. The lab is also equipped with printers, scanner, L.C.D. and has internet, broadband and e-mail facilities. These facilities are being extended in order to provide a text and e-mail messaging service to parents and guardians.

The school offers the European Computer Driving Licence (E.C.D.L.) course to students.

This course provides a platform from which the student gains a significant level of practical skill and confidence in using the computer, while maintaining standards that are internationally recognised. Consequently, this provides excellent preparation for future study within the area of information technology and indeed is useful in many areas of work in modern society.

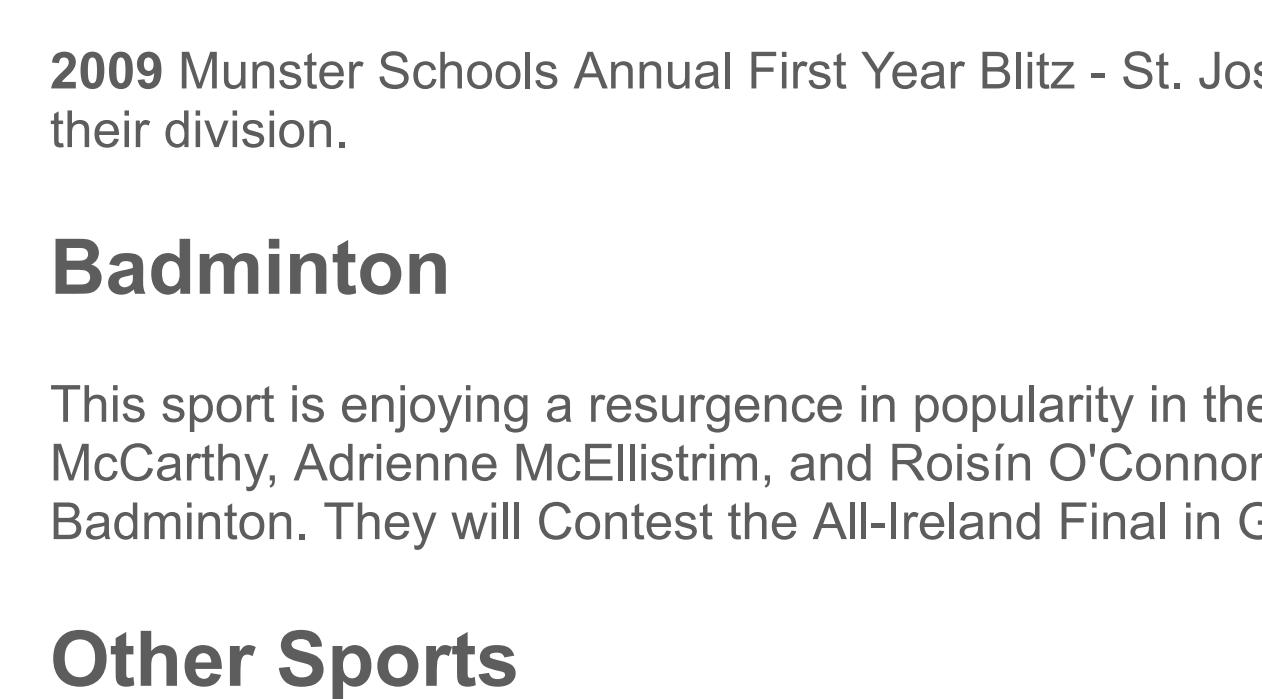
An Acceptable Use Policy (A.U.P.), covering the safe use of internet, is in operation in the school. Parents/Guardians and students are requested to agree in writing to abide by this policy.



Sport

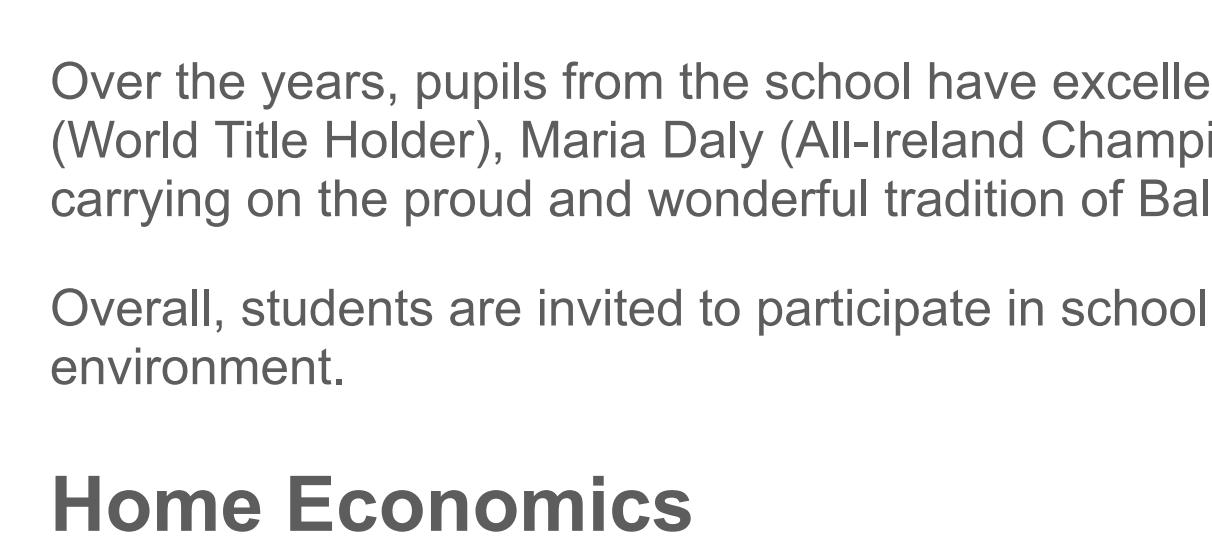
Sport plays a vital role in the school curriculum. The school is involved in ladies football, athletics, badminton, handball and, of course, basketball. Taking part in sport is seen as a valuable learning activity. Students learn in a variety of ways and have many different skills and qualities. These can come to the fore in sport, managed in an educational environment, where the emphasis is on participation and enjoyment. We find that when the athletes focus on excellence in their performance, the results take care of themselves.

Basketball



St. Joseph's has a proud tradition in Irish Schools Basketball having been National Champions at 'A' level fifteen times since 1994, making St. Joseph's one of the most successful schools in Irish Basketball.

In 2007 the school's U16 team won the All-Ireland League and Cup double. In 2008 and 2009 school teams also reached National Finals.



Our First Years have won the prestigious Marguerite Coakley Memorial Cup for the past two years.

This cup is for First Year "A" grade schools in Kerry, Clare and Limerick.

The tournament commemorates Marguerite Coakley R.I.P. who was an outstanding athlete, playing both football and basketball for the school.

At international level, past students Denise Walsh, Mary Ellen Scanlon, Muiris O'Galway and Eileen O'Connor have had the distinction of captaining Irish teams. Marie O'Connor, Joanne Walsmley, Tracey Hartnett, Réidín O'Loughlin, Tara Brosnan, Jennifer O'Connor, Noelle Scanlon, Miriam Leane and current student Louise O'Connor (2010), to name but a few, have also represented their country.

Ladies Football

Ladies Football (Peil Gael na mBan) is very popular in the school and teams from St. Joseph's have had great success as the following brief role of honour shows.

2004 Junior "C" Kerry and Munster Champions, All-Ireland finalists.

2005 Junior "B" Kerry, Munster and All-Ireland Champions.

2006 Junior "A" Kerry, Munster and All-Ireland Finalists.

2008 Senior "B" Kerry, Munster and All-Ireland Champions.

2009 Munster Schools Annual First Year Blitz - St. Joseph's entered two teams and both won silver medals in their division.

Badminton

This sport is enjoying a resurgence in popularity in the school. In 2010 our u-14 team (Lorna Mallon, Grace McCarthy, Adrienne McEllistrim, and Roisin O'Connor) won the County and Munster titles in Schools Badminton. They will Contest the All-Ireland Final in Gormanstown Co. Meath.

Other Sports

Over the years, pupils from the school have excelled in handball with ex-pupils such as Sharon Twomey (World Title Holder), Maria Daly (All-Ireland Champion), Sharon Daly and the Griffin sisters Fiona and Ciara carrying on the proud and wonderful tradition of Ballymac handball.

Overall, students are invited to participate in school sport in a well-organised and safe educational environment.

Home Economics

In Junior Certificate, Home Economics includes both practical work and theory. Pupils work in pairs in practical cookery classes. Each pupil undertakes an individual project, choosing from a wide variety of topics such as Childcare, Craftwork or Textiles. Practical work makes up at least half of class time and it includes food preparation, practical needlework, interior design and consumer research projects. Pupils also enter National and European competitions in Consumer and Health related topics. The practical element of this course makes it very rewarding and enjoyable.

Senior Cycle Home Economics also includes both practical work and theory. The new course is focussed on up-to-date nutritional guidelines and food technology. Pupils may also undertake individual projects on topics such as Social Science, Fashion - Textiles and Interior Design.



ART

In Art, students experiment with drawing, printing and clay modelling. Clay modelling provides students with an opportunity to design and produce an attractive product and makes them aware of the marketing potential of their creative ability.

Leaving Certificate students visit the National Gallery and National Museum in Dublin.



Music and Drama

Music and Drama play an important part in school life at St. Joseph's. Lessons in piano, flute and voice can be arranged for Leaving and Junior Certificate students.

Our choir comes together for school functions and has performed at Christmas and Easter in the Parish Church.

The choir is accompanied by students of the school on keyboard, organ, flute and violin.



St. Joseph's Musical and Dramatic Society has staged the musicals Oliver, The Sound of Music, Annie and A Christmas Carol with great success. Participation in these productions has allowed students to learn about and make use of the stage, lighting and sound facilities available in the school.

Parents' Association

The school has an active and very supportive Parents' Association. It organises an annual flag-day and has held a number of very successful concerts - "Memorable Melodies" - involving students of St. Joseph's and the Kerry Choral Union. The funds raised have helped the school to up-grade computer facilities and to purchase other educational resources. The work and help of parents and the support of the local community is greatly appreciated.

Click [here](#) to view our school page on St. Joseph's Secondary School.



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Rose of Tralee CEIST School Connections!

Friday 27th August 2010

The CEIST Office would like to congratulate the 2010 International Rose of Tralee winner, Clare Kambamettu. Clare is a former student at Scoil Mhuire, Athy which in 2007 amalgamated with its near neighbour, Scoil Eoin to form CEIST School, [Ardscoil Na Trionóide](#).

Her mother Breda was a founder member of the Parent Council and the Chairperson of the last BOM of the school.

On being contacted by the CEIST office Clare recalled with great fondness her time in Scoil Mhuire and recalled those formative years as a time of great personal growth and development.

She reflected on the friends she made and the excellent quality of teaching and learning and the guidance received helped to keep her grounded during the whirlwind week that is the Rose of Tralee.

Clare was delighted to have received good wishes from so many of her former school friends and reflected upon how the friendships formed during her time in Scoil Mhuire still endure.

She has, in the ensuing years, drawn upon the values inspired in the students in the former Mercy school and feels that they have contributed enormously towards making her the person she is today.

All in the CEIST Education Office wish Clare well during her reign as Rose of Tralee.

Click [here](#) to view Irish Times article on Clare's win.

Also congratulations to Veronica Hunt who was the Kerry rose. Veronica is on the staff in CEIST school [Mercy Mounthawk, Tralee](#), and indeed she profiled the school and Mercy foundation in a very positive way during her interview on the show.