



news from ceist...

31 August 2012

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 Seventh Annual Education Conference 2012

The Seventh Annual CEIST Education Conference will be held in the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath on Thursday, 27th September and Friday, 28th September, 2012.

The theme for this year's conference is "Many Desks - One Table".

The CEIST Annual Education Conference provides an opportunity for our School Principals, Deputy Principals and Schools Boards of Management Chairpersons to network and share ideas and best practice. It is also crucial to our efforts to underline the mutual understandings and shared ties that bind us together and create community amongst CEIST schools.

The first CEIST Education Conference was held at the Hodson Bay Hotel in Athlone in 2006 and we are delighted to note that it has gone from strength to strength each year with last year holding our biggest attendance to date.

We like to involve our schools as much as possible and this year we have three school choirs performing at the conference, which always greatly adds to the occasion.

We are delighted to have as keynote speakers, Professor Bart McGettrick, Dean of Education at Liverpool Hope University and Bishop Brendan Kelly, Bishop of Achonry, former President of Our Lady's College, Gort (1980 - 1986) and Chairman of the Council for Education of the Irish Episcopal Conference.

A number of very attractive workshops has been organised over the two day conference, which we hope our Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons will find both informative and enjoyable.

Please book early with the CEIST office to secure your hotel accomodation for the conference.

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CEIST News

CEIST Induction Day for Principals and Deputy Principals

CEIST held an Induction Day for our newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals on the 14th of August 2012.

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.

It also afforded the opportunity to create networks with other newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals within other CEIST schools.

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Leaving Certificate 2012

CEIST would like to congratulate and say "well done" to the students of 2012 who received their Leaving Certificate results. These results mark the end of many years of commitment and hard work on behalf of the students of our CEIST schools.

Of course, none of this could happen without the motivation and dedication of teachers and their contribution to school life, not just academic, which is appreciated and highly valued.

CEIST congratulates all students who took the exam and wish them every success in their further studies and future life.

Diploma in Catholic Education

Despite the fact that approximately 57% of post-primary schools in Ireland are under Catholic patronage, there is currently no programme dedicated to training post-primary teachers to work in Catholic schools.

The Diploma in Catholic Education offered by St. Patrick's College, Maynooth is an initiative undertaken in partnership with the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Click [here](#) to download brochure for more information on this initiative.

Induction Day for New Teachers of Religious Education (PDST)

This course introduces the Junior Certificate Religious Education syllabus and explores both content and suitable teaching approaches to select areas of the course. Substitution cover will be provided for a limited number of course participants (25) so early booking is advised.

This induction course targets the needs of teachers of teachers who are new to Junior Certificate Religious Education, those who are returning to teach RE as an exam subject, and those for whom Religious Education is not part of their third level specialism.

Click [here](#) for further information.

CROI NUA, a new Programme of Spirituality

All Hallows College are holding an Information Evening about CROI NUA, a new programme of spirituality.

Venue: **All Hallows College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9**

Date: **Wednesday 5 September from 7.30 - 9.30pm.**

This Information Evening will be presented by the Programme developers, Hilary Musgrave (Celtic Spirit) and Monica Brown (Emmaus Productions Ireland)

Hilary and Monica will demonstrate aspects of the CROI NUA Programme and discuss its objectives and relevancy for our people in these times. The evening will conclude with a Prayer Ritual from the Programme.

Click [here](#) for further information.

Killina Presentation Secondary School Deputy Principal Appointment

The Board of Management of Killina Presentation Secondary School, Rahan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly invites applications for the post of Deputy Principal to take effect from 5th November 2012.

Click [here](#) to download job advertisement for further information.

Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders

From the evening of **Tuesday 16th July until the afternoon of Friday 19th July 2013**, students from Mercy Secondary Schools will travel to Mercy International Centre in Dublin, Ireland.

These Mercy pilgrims will undertake their journey in the light of the story of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy.

Click [here](#) to download flyer.

Mercy International Good Cup of Tea

Between 24 September and 12 December (the Season of Mercy), Mercy groups throughout the world are invited to join an international 'Good Cup of Tea' event.

By supporting this event, you are helping Mercy International Association to keep the founding spirit of Catherine alive today.

Click [here](#) to download brochure.

Competition

Win a WiFi Network Worth €10,000 for your School!

Net Communications in partnership with Ruckus Wireless, is excited to bring this great opportunity to primary and secondary schools in Ireland. The prize includes;

- Net Communications Site Survey and Installation
- Ruckus Wireless Zone Director 1112 with 1 Year Premium Support
- Ruckus Wireless Access Points (APs) with Wall Brackets and 1 Year Software Support (Maximum of 10 APs)
- Ruckus Wireless Switch with 1 Year Premium Support

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Faith-related Issues

Sr Margaret Casey New Congregational Leader

Earning the trust of a few can be hard to achieve and so earning the trust of a worldwide religious order is a considerable feat.

This is exactly what Longford's Sr. Margaret Casey has achieved.

Recently, she was elected Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Mercy, a congregation which has 2,282 members living and working in nine countries worldwide.

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Prayers for the beginning of a new school year

The following are prayers for the beginning of a new school year prepared by the CEIST team, which we hope you will find useful.

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News from CEIST Schools

St. Joseph's Secondary School, Rush launch new school App

Minister for Social Protection, Joan Burton TD recently took time out of her busy schedule to visit St. Joseph's Secondary School in Rush, Co Dublin.

Minister Burton inspired students when she launched the new school App.

Following the launch of the App, Minister Burton presented Maria Leonard (parent) with a Jubilee Bird in recognition of her commitment to the students of St Joseph's.

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Irish Church Music Association's Summer School

Ten members of the Schola from **St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan, Co. Meath** attended this year's Irish Church Music Association Summer School, in Maynooth participating in a wide range of events throughout the week.

This residential course in sacred music has attracted an increasing number of young people each year, and it was refreshing to see over two hundred people, from all walks of life and parts of the country, of all ages, come together to sing and learn new music for use in liturgy.

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Mercy College Coolock Newsletter

Mercy College Coolock, Dublin, compilation of school newsletters on their school website is most impressive indeed.

All of the newsletters can be found easily and it is possible to save or print from hovering over the graphic icons.

The electronic storage is a great way to reduce costs and also being environmentally friendly.

[MORE >](#)

Presentation Tralee Student receives 9 A1's in Leaving Certificate

Presentation Secondary School, Tralee, student **Caoimhe Normile** was lying in on the morning of the Leaving Certificate results unaware that her Leaving Certificate results were causing a bit of stir.

One of only three 9 A1 students in the country, Caoimhe was quite shocked after school Principal Sheila Pontillo handed her the results.

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Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan Graduation Ball 2012

Monday 30th July 2012 heralded an evening of splendour and fashion for Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath, Class of 2012 as they headed off in 007 James Bond style to Dunboyne Castle for their Graduation Ball.

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Reflecting CEIST Values

Young Social Innovators

Young Social Innovators are inviting schools to take part in their Social Innovation Programme.

Since 2001, more than 40,000 young people have participated in YSI's Social Innovation Programme, which encourages young people to choose a social issue they feel passionately about, research it and take innovative action to benefit their communities.

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Technical Tips

ICT Policies

A number of CEIST Schools have shared their ICT Policies in our private CEIST members area, which is open to Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons of CEIST schools.

We encourage the sharing of best practice and would be very grateful for any sharing of such policies to generate feedback and ideas amongst our CEIST community. Please e-mail jwoods@ceist.ie if you would like to share a policy on our members area.

The following is an ICT policy Google document shared out by Donal O'Mahony, who is inviting collaboration on compilation of an ICT and Social Media policy.

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CEIST Seventh Annual Education Conference 2012

Tuesday 7th August 2012

The Seventh Annual CEIST Education Conference will be held in the [Sheraton Athlone Hotel](#), Athlone, Co. Westmeath on Thursday, 27th September, 2011 & Friday, 28th September, 2012. The theme for this year's conference is **"Many Desks - One Table"**.

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

Booking forms and conference brochure have been distributed to our Schools and Chairs of School Boards of Management. **Please book early to secure accommodation in the Sheraton Hotel.**

The following is the Agenda for both days;

Day 1: Thursday, 27th September 2012

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 Hall.CEIST Chief Executive Officer, Anne KelleherOpening Prayer and Cnoc Mhuire, Granard, Co Longford, Choir.
2.30 - 3.30 p.m.	Keynote Address: Professor Bart McGettrick, Dean of Education at Liverpool Hope University.
3.30 - 4.30 p.m.	Conference Workshops (see below).
4.30 p.m.	Tea / Coffee
7.00 p.m.	Sherry Reception / Social Gathering
7.30 p.m.	Conference Dinner

Conference Workshops

1) **"Faith Competency Interviewing"**. Ned Prendergast, outgoing Director of Faith Development, CEIST.

Since the introduction by JMB of Competency Interviewing for Principal and Deputy Principal posts earlier this year, many Principals and Chairpersons have been anxious to learn more about the initiative and how the new approach can be adapted to interviewing for any teaching post in a school. Ned Prendergast, who is one of the Trainers for the JMB initiative, explores the use of this new approach in the area of faith competency interviewing as it may apply to any teaching post in a faith school.

2) **"The implications and challenges of implementing the revised Junior Cycle curriculum"**. Mr John Hammond, Deputy CEO, NCCA.

The workshop will provide an overview/update on the junior cycle developments and will discuss the implications of the change for planning junior cycle programmes in schools and for learning and teaching in the classroom.

It will be presented by staff leading the junior cycle developments in the NCCA.

3) **"Social Media: The Challenges for Schools"**. Dr Maureen Griffin, UCC.

Social media, while offering many advantages, also presents a number of challenges for schools. Having visited over 120 schools across Ireland, this presentation will outline Irish student's use of social media including social networking such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, online chat facilities and online gaming. The challenges each of these present for schools will be discussed with particular focus on cyber-bullying and sexting. Resources for schools will be outlined and practical advice and tips for dealing with the misuses of technology will be offered.

4) **"Good Accounting and Financial Practices"**. James Hughes, Chartered Accountant.

This workshop will discuss critical matters such as incorporating control over expenditure, the role of the finance sub-committee within the school, the signing of cheques and particularly electronic payments, and general internal controls applicable to all schools.

DAY 2: Friday, 28th September, 2012

9.15 - 9.30 a.m.	Opening Prayer and Holy Rosary College, Mountbellew, Co Galway, Choir.
9.30 - 11.00 a.m.	Keynote Address: Bishop Brendan Kelly, Bishop of Achonry.
11.00 a.m.	Tea / Coffee
11.30 - 12.30 p.m.	Conference Workshops
12.30 p.m.	Conference Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none">Update from EDUCENA on property matters, Liam Bergin, CEO.Open Forum.Closing Prayer and St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan, Choir.
1.30 p.m.	Lunch

Keynote Speaker Profiles

Bishop Brendan Kelly

Bishop Brendan Kelly is the Bishop of Achonry.

Bishop Kelly was ordained a priest in June 1971 for the Galway Diocese. He served as Curate in Kinvara, and then taught at Colaiste Einde (1972-1980) and Our Lady's College, Gort (1980-1986), the latter of which he was subsequently Principal/President until 1995.

Receiving a Sabbatical leave, he served as Chaplain to the L'Arche community at Cuise-la-Motte in France until 1996, whence he returned to Ireland as parish priest of Lisdoonvarna. From 2003 to 2007 he served as parish priest of An Spidéal; he became Vicar General of the Galway diocese in 2005. On 20 November 2007, he was appointed Bishop of Achonry by Pope Benedict XVI.

Bishop Kelly has various Episcopal responsibilities which include: Member of Standing Committee; Advisor on Irish Language to the Council for Liturgy; Member of the Episcopal Commission for Catholic Education and Formation; Chairman of the Council for Education.



Professor Bart McGettrick

Professor Bart McGettrick is Dean of Education at Liverpool Hope University. He is Emeritus Professor of Education and also Dean Emeritus, of the Faculty of Education at the University of Glasgow.

He was originally a teacher of Geography, and became Principal of St Andrew's College for teacher education in Scotland from 1985 to 1999, and first Dean of the Faculty of Education at Glasgow University in 1999. He has been Professor of Education at Glasgow University since 1993, leaving the University in November 2005. He is now Dean of Education and Professor of Educational Development at Liverpool Hope University.

He has widespread international experience and is a Regent of Bethlehem University, Palestine and is heavily involved in Christian Education in The Holy Land. He undertakes work with the First Nations of Canada, and works on projects in India, Lithuania and other challenging settings overseas.

He is a member of the Scottish Social Services Council, dealing with aspects of Social Work and Social Care.

He is also responsible for setting up the Scottish Forum for Professional Ethics in Scotland, in addition to the Hope Forum for Professional Ethics in Liverpool. He chairs a number of Boards of Governors of schools and other organisations.

He has presented keynote addresses to national and international conferences, and has contributed to congresses, conferences and seminars of international standing in every continent – except Antarctica!



Conference Brochure

Click on below link to download an electronic copy of our conference brochure.

[CEIST Education Conference 2012 Brochure](#)



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CEIST Induction Day

Wednesday 29th August 2012

CEIST held an Induction Day for our newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals on the 14th of August 2012.

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.

It also afforded the opportunity to create networks with other newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals within other CEIST schools.

The day began with a Prayer Service prepared by outgoing Director of Faith Development, Ned Prendergast. 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.

Presentations were given by Michael Lane, Outgoing Director of School Support Services, Bernadette McKeown, CEIST Office Accountant, John Woods, Information and Communications Systems Manager and Ned Prendergast, Outgoing Director of Faith Development.

The presenters were delighted to have the opportunity to inform the new Principals and Deputy Principals of the services offered by CEIST to our 110 schools. The Induction 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 day. Pictured below are CEIST staff with newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals of CEIST schools.





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Sr Margaret Casey

Wednesday 29th August 2012

Earning the trust of a few can be hard to achieve and so earning the trust of a worldwide religious order is a considerable feat.

This is exactly what Longford's Sr. Margaret Casey has achieved. Recently, she was elected Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Mercy, a congregation which has 2,282 members living and working in nine countries worldwide.

"It came as a surprise to me. I wouldn't have been expecting it but I did feel very honoured and privileged. I also felt very humbled," said Sr Margaret, during an interview with the Longford Leader.

Acknowledging the trying times that her congregation and other religious orders face, Sr Margaret believes she has the experience and support needed to meet those challenges.

"I have experienced people I can ask advice of. I know I also have the prayers of many of the Sisters. Whatever comes our way, we will hopefully get through it," she said.

She continued: "I have previously had the experience of the Ryan Commission and I gave evidence for two institutions at that time. So I do have experience of the pain of all involved.

"Another challenge we face is our diminishing numbers here in Ireland. That is a reality for us."

On entering the order as a young teenager (1967), Sr. Margaret's dream was "to serve and to help people".

"I was attracted to a life of prayer and ministry. And it has been good to me. I have had huge opportunities which I am very grateful for," she said.

Sr Margaret holds a Primary Degree in Commerce from UCC, a Higher Diploma in Education from NUI Maynooth, and a Masters in Social Work from Queen's University, Belfast.

The academic sister has, throughout her ministry, taught in some Longford schools, notably St. Joseph's School, Newtownforbes (until 1985), Lanesboro's Convent Secondary School and Lanesboro Community College (until 1993).

In 2001, Sr Margaret was elected Provincial Leader of the Sisters of Mercy, Western Province, a role she kept until 2007. At this time she moved to Galway city where she ministered as a local leader in St Vincent's Mercy Community.

It wasn't until 2011 that Sr Margaret made the move to Dublin where she now lives in Clondalkin. Since October 2011 she has been the Congregational Treasurer. She will assume her new role as Congregational Leader in October 2012.

Speaking about the highlights of her ministry to date, Sr Margaret said:

"The day I took my vows would be one of them, certainly. I have also special family moments where celebrations took place. The day I was elected Provincial Leader would be another. I also remember fondly days when others were making their vows. It was very enriching and rewarding to share that experience with them."

She continued: "Another great day for us all was when we became a Congregation in 1994 in Tallaght – all 27 congregations united for the first time."

The Sisters of Mercy are involved in a variety of ministries such as care of the poor in rural villages in Africa, education, nursing, care of the homeless, working with AIDS patients, ministry to prisoners and those addicted to alcohol and drugs, and providing complimentary therapies.

(article and photo courtesy of Longford Leader).





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Prayers for the beginning of a new school year

Wednesday 8th August 2012



The following are prayers for the beginning of a new school year prepared by the CEIST team, which we hope you will find useful.

Reflection for Principals

A short reflection for Principals for the beginning of another year leading people.

[Reflection for Principals](#)

Staff Prayer August 2012

A prayer service for opening staff meeting.

[Prayers for Staff](#)

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Prayer for Students

A prayer service for students for the opening of the academic year.

[A School Parable](#)

Special thanks to Margaret Farrell, Lloyd Bracken and Amalee Meehan for preparation of these resources.



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St Joseph's Secondary School, Rush launch new school App

Tuesday 28th August 2012

The Minister for Social Protection, Joan Burton TD recently took time out of her busy schedule to visit St. Joseph's Secondary School in Rush.

Minister Burton inspired students when she launched the new school App.

The Minister reminded students that Fingal has the youngest population in Ireland and that they needed to be ready to take up jobs especially in ICT and food production.

Following the launch of the App, Minister Burton presented Maria Leonard (parent) with a Jubilee Bird in recognition of her commitment to the students of St Joseph's.

Minister Burton then viewed a selection of the students' art work before it was exhibited in Rush Library.



Pictured above (LtoR) are Jacinta Owens (Dep. Principal), Patricia Hayden (Principal), Minister Joan Burton TD, Jim Kilgariff

(Chairperson BoM), and Stephen Peppard (Fingal County Council).



Pictured above Minister Joan Burton TD viewing some of the excellent student art, with students

Conor Carey and Lauren Carey.

(Photos courtesy of Joe Carr & Associates).

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Irish Church Music Association's Summer School

Friday 3rd August 2012

Ten members of the Schola from **St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan, Co. Meath** attended this year's Irish Church Music Association Summer School, in Maynooth participating in a wide range of events throughout the week.

This residential course in sacred music has attracted an increasing number of young people each year, and it was refreshing to see over two hundred people, from all walks of life and parts of the country, of all ages, come together to sing and learn new music for use in liturgy.



Pictured above the Schola taken place under the Directorship of Marty Haugen.

The course was led by Marty Haugen, one of the most widely-published composers of church music in the United States, whose music has found a home in communities worldwide. His music often features in Irish liturgies.

The ten students (pictured below) from Mercy Secondary School were **Rachel Barrett, Cáit Cregan, Adele Crilly, Eimer Finn, Clodagh Herron-Rice, Brionna Meagher, Caroline Moloney, Gillian Moloney, Lorna O'Dea and Katie White** and were accompanied by teachers **Mr Burke, Mr Feeley and Ms Mhac an tSaoir**.



The packed programme of events included Morning Prayer, Eucharist and Evening Prayer each day, with the girls singing solo several times, and acting as the schola for the verses of We Love this Place, the opening hymn for Thursday's Festive Eucharist.

Conducting and cantor workshops were the most popular with the girls, although they also attended tutorials in Irish language music and Special Choir.

The busy days were broken up with a variety of social events: walks in the beautiful surroundings of St Patrick's College, a table quiz on Wednesday evening, and on Thursday evening the participants joined forces with instrumentalists to sing Vivaldi's Gloria from scratch.

A thoroughly enjoyable week was had by all, tinged with a little sadness as the Schola bid farewell to Clodagh and Caroline, founding Schola members, who now move on to third level education.

The Irish Church Music Association Summer School takes place during the first week of July each year, and is a valuable opportunity for musicians from all parts of the country to meet and sing together, and to recharge their batteries during the summer months.

The association has a special focus on the promotion of works by Irish composers – this year new collections of music were launched by Ian Callanan and Fintan O'Carroll, and the week also afforded a premiere of two new hymns by Meath composer Ephrem Feeley.

The Diocese of Meath was well-represented too, with participants coming from Ashbourne, Ballsgrave, Kilbeggan, Navan, Summerhill, Trim and Tullamore.

For more information, see the website of the Music Department at St Joseph's Secondary School at www.musicatmercy.weebly.com or the Irish Church Music Association's website at www.irishchurchmusicassociation.com.



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Presentation Tralee Student receives 9 A1's in Leaving Certificate

Friday 17th August 2012

Presentation Secondary School, Tralee, student **CAOIMHE Normile** was lying in on the morning of the Leaving Certificate results unaware that her Leaving Certificate results were causing a bit of stir.

One of only three 9 A1 students in the country, Caoimhe was catching up after "a few late nights" at the Puck Fair.

"I slept in a bit longer than usual," she told the Irish Independent.

But if Caoimhe had a slower than usual start to the day, the pace quickened rapidly after she arrived at Presentation Secondary School, Tralee, Co Kerry.

After principal Sheila Pontillo handed her the results, Caoimhe couldn't believe her eyes.

"I wasn't expecting it at all, I was ecstatic and then I burst out crying," she said.

The 17-year-old from Tarbert now hopes to study medicine at University College Cork (UCC).

Her recipe for success was simple: "I worked over the past two years, but I took breaks as well, which helped me to relax."

"I am at every Munster match in Thomond Park", she said.

Caoimhe, whose father Chris is a vet and whose mother, Jacqueline is a maths and science teacher, spent the day celebrating with family.

Proud father Chris said they were delighted. "She's a great girl. She is not a bookworm; she does her work but still manages to do other stuff. She strikes a good balance."

Her 9A1s were in Irish, english, maths, French, accounting, physics, chemistry, biology and applied maths.

CEIST congratulates Caoimhe and all students who worked so hard to get the best result they possibly could achieve.





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Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan Graduation Ball 2012

Wednesday 22nd August 2012

Monday 30th July 2012 heralded an evening of splendour and fashion for Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath, Class of 2012 as they headed off in 007 James Bond style to Dunboyne Castle for their Graduation Ball.

Daniel Craig, Sean Connery and Co., would have been both shaken and stirred by the sophistication and smoothness on show by their Mercy Kilbeggan male counterparts.

Equally, the glamour of the Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan Bond Girls outshone anything that Ursula Andress, Halle Berry and Co. offered to the silver screen.

In true James Bond fashion the mission was a complete success, and all parties returned home intact.

Congratulations to all students and parents, who worked so hard to make the night so memorable for all.

Photos



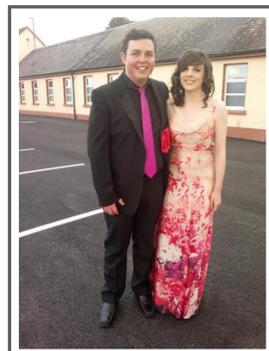
Pictured above are Chloe Roche, Niamh Fallon and Avril Kane.



Pictured above are Chris Gorry and Courtney Hennessy.



Pictured above are David Gaye and Laura Coffey.



Pictured above are Shane Killian and Mary Killian.



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Young Social Innovators (YSI)

Wednesday 2nd October 2013

Young Social Innovators are inviting schools to take part in their Social Innovation ACTION Programme for 2013-14.

Since 2001, more than 40,000 young people have participated in YSI's Social Innovation Programme, which encourages young people to choose a social issue they feel passionately about, research it and take innovative action to benefit their communities.

The programme is suitable for all academic abilities and allows participants to take ownership of their YSI project. With the help and support of a teacher, YSI teams gain life and academic skills, while also engaging in civic action in a meaningful way in their local community.



YSI promotes self-directed youth led learning where the young people choose their social issue and contribute to developing engaged, responsible, informed and skilled citizens.

YSI provides a number of supports and resources for all participants. Supports include:

- Half day In-service training workshops are offered to YSI teachers in September and January
- Resources such as a Young Social Innovator's workbook (revised), support documents and active learning methods
- YSI's Education Team is available to offer support and information
- YSI's website provides active learning methods, a resource library and an administrative area for the programme
- Regional and national events - teams have an opportunity to inform their peers about their YSI projects at regional Speak Outs and at the Annual Showcase
- Teams can choose to apply to the YSI Den which offers projects funds to increase projects' sustainability and impact
- Certification of young people and Guides

Young Social Innovators is a registered charity.

YSI Brochures

[Social Innovation Action Programme](#)

[YSI Programmes Brochure](#)