

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



### Christmas Greetings From CEIST

May you be richly blessed in all you do and may the peace of Christmas be yours.

We would like to wish all in the CEIST community a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas.



## CEIST News



### New CEIST Amalgamated School in Doon, Co. Limerick

Scoil na Tríonóide Naofa, Doon will be the first Voluntary Catholic Secondary School of its kind, opened in over 20 years, being an amalgamation of St. Fintans Christian Brothers School (ERST), St Michael's College, Cappamore (Co. Limerick VEC) and St Joseph's Mercy Secondary School (CEIST).

This is a momentous occasion for CEIST and one which will be celebrated by all in the Catholic Voluntary Sector.

The "Turning of the Sod" for the new school called Scoil na Tríonóide Naofa, took place on the green field site at Doon, Co. Limerick on Tuesday 11th December 2012.

[MORE](#)



## Faith-related Issues



### Joining the Dots

Emerging as a response from educators themselves, **Joining the Dots** provides an opportunity to bring their own spiritualities into conversation with the richness and wisdom of the Christian tradition.

Joining the Dots offers soul time – time and space for reflection and renewal in the busy and challenging work of education.

The following is a recent evaluation from Holy Rosary College, Mountbellew, Co. Galway from their participation in the programme.

[MORE](#)



### Catholic Schools Week 2013

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2013 is: 'Catholic Schools in the Community of Faith: Sharing the Good News'.

Catholic Schools Week 2013 will be mindful of two major issues for the year 2013 (a) Year of Faith and (b) Share the Good News.

The theme of CSW 2013 reflects both. CSW 2013 will begin on Sunday January 27th, 2013 and ends on February 3rd, 2013.

[MORE](#)

### Friendship Week 2012

St Joseph's Mercy Secondary School, Navan, Co. Meath recently held their **Friendship / Anti-Bullying** week in the school.

The First Years had a Cool School Anti-Bullying lesson first class each morning.

Dr Maureen Griffin from Internet Safety for Schools gave a presentation to each Year Group, to Staff and to the Parents.

### LawEd

LawEd is an education and training provider in all aspects of law.

LawEd's mission is to lay bare the misconception around our legal world so that each and every person in our Society has an opportunity and the right to gain a fruitful insight into what exactly makes our Country tick.

[Click here](#) for further information.

**Send us your news!**

CEIST Education Office welcomes profiling of your news for our e-newsletter.

Please share with CEIST your news, events, photo's, etc, to [jwoods@ceist.ie](mailto:jwoods@ceist.ie).

The publication date for our next issue is **Thursday, 31st January, 2013**.

## News from CEIST Schools



### News from Our Lady's Secondary School, Beaumont

Our Lady's Secondary School, Beaumont, Dublin 9 will have some very fond memories of the past year with some great student achievements to report.

Students have excelled in competitions such as **Junior Dragons Den** with one of the companies reaching the TV stage.

Also student wins were achieved in the **Enable Ireland Poster and Civic Awareness** competition.

[MORE](#)



### Presentation Secondary School, Listowel - Green Flag

Presentation Secondary School Listowel played host to Minister Jimmy Deenihan (Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaelic) when he visited the school on Friday, 30th November, 2012 to raise their first Green Flag for Litter and Waste.

Students and Staff were all delighted that he could join them at their flag raising ceremony.

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### Ard Scoil na nDéise, Dungarvan raise funds for Cancer Research

Mrs. Norma O'Driscoll and Mrs. Ina O'Sullivan with the help of the 5th years in Ard Scoil na nDéise, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford ran a very successful Pink Picnic day as part of the Breast cancer awareness month.

It was a fun day and the girls raised €620. Mr. Gordon Watson, the Waterford surgeon who set up the Breast Health clinic in the Regional hospital, came to talk to T.Y. 5th and 6th students and to accept the cheque on behalf of Waterford Surgical Research Association.

T.Y. student Lauren Mulvihill wrote the following account of his talk.

[MORE](#)



### Eureka Secondary School, Kells Participate in PAL World Championships

The **Public Access to Law** girls from Eureka Secondary School, Kells, Co. Meath who were representing Ireland in the World Championships, got a slightly different New York experience to what they were expecting!

Due to the super storm or Hurricane Sandy, their stay in New York was extended, but instead of going on a planned shopping expedition on Monday, they were talking to the national media from their hotel room.

Their story made the Six One News with Brian Dobson, the radio with Evelyn O'Rourke and the printing press.

[MORE](#)



### Presentation Secondary School, Thurles are European Winners!

Presentation Secondary School, Thurles were among 200 school representatives from across Europe that were recently honoured during a high-profile European Award Ceremony for the U4Energy competition.

The Ceremony took place at the Belgian Comic Strip Museum, a landmark building in the heart of Brussels, in front of an audience of high-level European, government representatives, senior figures from the industry and the media.

U4Energy is an EU-wide competition on energy efficiency. The team Generation Green won the 'The Good Idea' competition earlier this year.

[MORE](#)



### Killina Presentation Secondary School mark retirement of Deputy Principal, Carthagna Minnock

The staff and students of Killina Presentation Secondary School, Rahan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly recently marked the retirement of their much-loved Deputy Principal, Carthagna Minnock, who retired recently from the school after many years dedicated service.

The occasion was attended by staff and students, old and new, who wanted to wish Carthagna a happy and fulfilling retirement and say farewell to a colleague and a friend.

[MORE](#)



### St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castleisland production of **Oliver**

The students of Presentation and St. Patrick's Secondary Schools, Castleisland, Co. Kerry staged a very successful production of the musical 'Oliver' over two nights (Wednesday and Thursday, 5th and 6th Dec. last).

The frosty December weather didn't deter eager audiences who travelled in their droves to St. John's Hall, Presentation Secondary to view the uplifting and entertaining 'Oliver', produced by teachers of Presentation School; Ailish O'Connor, Annette Leen and Mairead Lane.

[MORE](#)



### Post Leaving Cert Graduation at Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna

The 15th Post Leaving Cert Graduation took place at Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare on Friday 16th November.

Anne Kelleher CEO CEIST, presented awards in Business, Professional Arts Practice and Supervision in Childcare to 45 Level 6 students.

Mona Hynes (Deputy Principal) presented awards in Business, Community & Health and Childcare to 22 Level 5 students.

[MORE](#)



### St Mary's College, Arklow New Website

Congratulations to St Mary's College, Arklow, Co. Wicklow who have launched a new school website, <http://www.stmarysarklow.ie/>

The website looks fantastic and there are some great features to keep students, parents and the entire school community up to date with all the latest news and events.



- [Introduction](#)
- [Supports Available To You](#)
- [Faith Leadership and Governance Team](#)
- [Retreats and Reflection Days for Students](#)
- [Reflections and Resources for Principals](#)
- [CEIST RE Support Day Resources 2016](#)
- [CEIST Religious Education Resources](#)
- [Joining The Dots](#)
- [CEIST Governance Resources](#)
- [Congregational Feast Days](#)



## Joining The Dots

Amalee Meehan, Faith Leadership and Governance Co-ordinator with CEIST has published *Joining the Dots: A Programme of Spiritual Reflection and Renewal for Educators* (Veritas 2012) on behalf of CEIST.

Emerging as a response from educators themselves, it provides them with an opportunity to bring their own spiritualities into conversation with the richness and wisdom of the Christian tradition.

*Joining the Dots* offers soul time – time and space for reflection and renewal in the busy and challenging work of education.

### Endorsements for Joining the Dots

"Long ago, Plato said that the role of the teacher is to 'turn the soul' of students toward the true, good, and beautiful.' *Joining the Dots* is a great achievement – a very creative resource for educators in the changing, challenging work they do that will help them to nourish their own souls and inevitably, those of their students."

**Thomas H. Groome, Prof. Theology and Religious Education, Boston College.**

"We cannot overestimate the importance of teachers for the flourishing of our Church and our society. *Joining the Dots* is a wonderful and imaginative initiative to support all involved in education in the formation of the next generation in a faith that is lively and hopeful."

**Timothy Radcliffe, OP,**

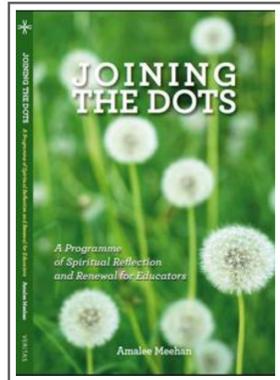
"This book is very timely and very rich - it offers an opportunity to step outside the normal challenges of school and work, to those whose lives are spent in constant interaction with others and about others. It could facilitate a deep experience of the calling to be a Christian in community today. It could enrich and embolden those who take the journey. It could reinvigorate the tired, refresh the weary, open the eyes to joy and wonder. It is an opportunity to walk on the sacred ground of your life and other lives. Through grace each participant who volunteers for the journey will surely be led gently into a closer relationship with God."

**Baroness Nuala O'Loan, DBE,**

d) Our Christian faith teaches that God speaks to us. But how can we hear God's word? Amalee Meehan's work does just this; it helps us to tune in our minds and hearts in a deeper way. This is particularly important for teachers in Catholic schools. As educators, we need spiritual nourishment if we are ever to hear the same music that Jesus heard or to see in human existence the miracle that he saw.

**Fr Michael Drumm, Chairperson of Catholic Schools Partnership.**

Click [HERE](#) if you wish to purchase the book on Amazon or [HERE](#) for purchasing from Veritas.



## Joining the Dots: A Programme of Spiritual Reflection and Renewal for Educators

This course is an invitation to all of you, every teacher of every subject area, to explore your faith and your own spirituality and connect it to your life, especially your work life. It involves 90 minutes one evening a week for five weeks. As a school based programme there are no fees, no travel and no exams. It involves only your time and enthusiasm!



*Joining the Dots* concluded its first pilot run in Mercy Mounthawk, Tralee, on November 30th 2009. 15 teachers from a host of different subject areas took part. The programme was facilitated by Amalee Meehan, CEIST and John O'Roarke, Principal of Mercy Mounthawk.

The second pilot run took place during March-April 2010 in St Mary's Secondary School, Mallow where 14 teachers participated. It has since run in Coláiste na Toirbhirte, Bandon, St Mary's Secondary School, Nenagh and Christ King Girls Secondary School, Cork.

Through connecting how God is revealed with the deep desires of the human heart, it hopes to deepen participants' own faith, praxis and relationships – with God, with themselves, and with others - especially in the context of the school community.

**In a confidential survey, 100% of participants said that *Joining the Dots* enhanced their understanding of Christian faith and their own spirituality.**

### What the participants said (Mercy Mounthawk) . . .

**In answer to the question "what have you found most helpful about the programme so far?" participants answered:**

- "The opportunity to think at ease about myself in the light of my faith. My faith was nurtured and strengthened throughout these seven weeks. I needed this guided time more than I knew."
- "Time out to reflect is essential. I felt that it was 'my' time in this week. It has given me a focus on my work here in school for 6 weeks – and I really want to keep that focus going."
- "I really found the programme helpful in looking and reflecting on my own spirituality. The programme gave me a greater appreciation of scripture. I found myself asking myself so many real questions."
- "Finding the spiritual side of myself, looking at my relationship with God and relating this to students that I teach. I reflected a lot."
- "The reflection process – accessing self through reflection action. Raising questions of faith/spirituality and allowing them space in my hectic life. Honest engagement of the whole group in the process."
- "It helped and pushed me to think about myself, God, and how I relate to others, [things] that I would normally not think about or ask myself."
- "To take the opportunity to mediate and reflect on what we're about as teachers. Also, to discuss this with others in the group. A great opportunity for openness and sharing with colleagues."



*"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"*

Mary Oliver

### What the participants said (St Mary's, Mallow) . . .

"I really enjoyed the time for spiritual reflection with other people, the combination of intellectual rigour and the experiential, and the prayerful relaxation."

"The atmosphere was very relaxed and friendly."

"[*Joining the Dots* had] a lovely, respectful approach. Very good time management, facilitation and clear content, with a lovely blend of literature, theology and art. Thank you so much."

In answer to the question "what did you find most helpful about the programme?" participants answered:

- "Gathering as a searching community as distinct from a professional body."
- "The mystery of how God is at work in each person is very evident and heartening."
- "Time out to reflect and ponder the many questions I have wanted to explore for so long."
- "Talking to colleagues at a different level, so much deeper than "shop" talk."
- "I was glad of the opportunity to hear and read Scripture portrayed in a most enjoyable way. It has jogged my belief in God."
- "Having the opportunity to reflect on my spirituality and give myself space to think about me and where I'm going."

### What the participants said (Holy Rosary College, Mountbellew) . . .

Click [HERE](#) to view evaluation from Holy Rosary College, Mountbellew.

#### Course Outline

- Spirituality and life's journey: living life with meaning
- Being a reflective teacher: Jesus as teacher
- *Imago Dei*: Who am I and Whose Am I - and whose are those kids!
- Jesus - the face of God
- Connecting the dots: what this means for me, for us & for our school

Contact: Amalee Meehan, CEIST  
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Tel: 086-1704714



# News & Events

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## Catholic Schools Week 2013

Friday 25th January 2013



## Catholic Schools Week 2013

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2013 is: '*Catholic Schools in the Community of Faith: Sharing the Good News*'.

Catholic Schools Week 2013 will be mindful of two major issues for the year 2013 (a) Year of Faith and (b) Share the Good News. The theme of CSW 2013 reflects both. CSW 2013 will begin on Sunday January 27th 2013 and end on February 3rd 2013.

Please download the CSW 2013 Brochure [HERE](#) (pdf).

The Year of Faith, declared by Pope Benedict XVI, is an opportunity for Catholic schools to recommit themselves to strengthening and celebrating their Catholic identity.

The Year of Faith began on 11th October, 2012, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council and the 20th anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and will end on 24th November, 2013, the feast of Christ the King. This time will provide Catholics locally and throughout the world an opportunity to celebrate, deepen and share the richness of their Catholic faith.

CSW 2013 offers all associated with Catholic schools in Ireland the opportunity to reflect on the role and work of the school in the light of three rich resources for our faith namely: the teaching of the Second Vatican Council, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Share the Good News, the National Directory for Catechesis in Ireland.

During CSW 2013 Catholic schools are invited to celebrate and experience the joy and happiness of being part of a developing, loving and caring community.

CSW 2013 will firstly encourage schools to take time in prayer giving thanks for the gift of faith and praying for growth in faith.

Secondly during the week schools will be encouraged to reflect on the witness of the Christian life that is available to us in the lives of those around us and in the lives of the saints that we celebrate during CSW 2013 (Monday 28 January – St. Thomas Aquinas, Thursday 31 January – St John Bosco, Friday 1 February – St Brigid).

Finally we will be encouraged to look to Christ because faith has its starting and finishing points in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The launch of CSW2013 will take place in Roscommon on Monday 21st January 2013. The Catholic schools of the town will come together to celebrate in prayer and reflection as the Catholic community in Ireland look forward to Catholic Schools Week which will begin the following Sunday.

Resources have been prepared to assist schools, homes, Boards of Management and parishes celebrate the crucial work of nurturing the faith of pupils in Catholic schools especially during the Year of Faith.

An important element of the CSW 2013 will be prayer time at liturgy and in quiet times of reflection. Resources have been prepared to encourage pupils to appreciate the witness of Grandparents to the faith and the witness of the saints whose feasts are celebrated during the week.

Pupils will be called again to look to Christ as the pattern of life for all who call themselves Christian and Catholic.

## Catholic Schools Week Resources

Gary Abrahamian, Diocesan Advisor, Dublin Archdiocese, has adapted daily resources for use with data projectors and added additional resources on the Good Samaritan, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Aidan of Ferns, St. Brigid etc. You will also find an Inter-Faith service to use in your school on the "Friday" resources page. Click on the link below to assess these supplementary resources:

<http://education.dublindiocese.ie/pcatholic-schools-week-2013-resources/>

## Other Resources

[Post Primary Resources for Catholic Schools Week 2013](#)

[Catholic Schools Week Brochure 2013](#)

[Catholic Schools Week Information](#)



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## News from Our Lady's Secondary School, Beaumont

Tuesday 11th December 2012

Our Lady's Secondary School, Beaumont, Dublin 9 will have some very fond memories of the past year with some great student achievements to report.

### Junior Dragons Den

Our Lady of Mercy College, Beaumont students reached the Junior Dragons Den Final, which was held in the Gibson Hotel on Saturday 8th December.

The students setup companies called **Eco Style** and **Hair Decorer** with Eco style advancing to the TV stage where students will begin filming in January!

**Aine, Kaitlin and Christabel** are all 2nd year business studies students in the secondary school and have worked really hard to date.

They are excellent students and had terrific support from both sets of parents said their delighted teacher, **Ms. Anne Ryan**.

Eco style have actually been selling their products to date at a local market, in the local shopping centre and they had a stand at the Fingal enterprise week.

A great success story and hopefully both companies will become our great entrepreneurs of the future.



Pictured above Aine and Kaitlin with teacher Ms. Anne Ryan at Eco Style stand for Dragons Den.



Christabel and teacher Ms. Anne Ryan at Hair Decorer stand for Dragons Den Final.

### Enable Ireland Poster Competition

Congratulations to **Niamh Whelan**, a Transition Year student in Our Lady of Mercy College, Beaumont who was presented with the prize for being the Dublin winner in the Enable Ireland Poster competition.

Prizes were presented by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mr Naoise Ó Muirí at the Awards ceremony, which was held in Dublin City Hall on December 3rd last.



Pictured above Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mr Naoise Ó Muirí presenting award to student Niamh Whelan.

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## Presentation Secondary School, Listowel - Green Flag

Tuesday 11th December 2012

Presentation Secondary School Listowel played host to Minister Jimmy Deenihan (Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht) when he visited the school on Friday, 30th November, 2012 to raise their first Green Flag for Litter and Waste.

Students and Staff were all delighted that he could join them at their flag raising ceremony.

Also in attendance were Sr. Anne O'Leary and Sr. Julie Watson, representing the Presentation Sisters Leadership Team, Mr. Mike Sheehy, Chairperson the Board of Management, Mr. Christy O'Mahony, Chairperson Parents Council and Member of the Board of Management, Mr. Jimmy Moloney and Mrs. Mary O'Hanlon, representatives of Listowel Tidy Towns Committee.

Also present at the green flag ceremony were Sr. Consolata Bracken, former Principal, Presentation Secondary School, Listowel and Sr. Eileen Leen, retired staff member of Presentation Primary School, Listowel.

Green Flag awards form part of the Green School initiative which is an international environmental education programme offering well defined and planned approaches to schools to incorporate environmental issues into the curriculum and to apply them to the day to day running of the school.

An Taisce set up the Green Schools with local authorities throughout Ireland.

The Green Schools is in operation for 16 years and there are in excess of 90 successful schools in Kerry flying the Green Flag for environmental excellence, most of these however are primary schools and there is great emphasis on encouraging second level schools to join.

Environmental issues are central to the ethos of the Presentation Sisters.

In Ballygriffin, Co Cork, the birthplace of their founder Nano Nagel, the Sisters farm in a sustainable way producing organic crops as well as running a centre which promotes green issues both in a spiritual and practical manner.



Pictured above are Presentation Secondary School, Listowel staff with Minister Deenihan.

On launching the flag, Minister Deenihan praised the school for their great success in minimalising waste within the school, increasing the amount of recyclable waste and the great reduction in waste being disposed in landfill sites.

These sentiments were also expressed by Mr. Michael O'Coilain, Kerry County Council Environmental Officer who inspected the school in March 2012 and awarded them the Green Flag.

Minister Deenihan also commended the students for their involvement in litter picking on a weekly basis within the town and their participation in the April Spring Clean activity.

Minister Deenihan wished the school well in their endeavours in achieving their second flag on Energy Efficiency which they hope to be awarded in 2014.

A traditional group entertained the Minister, invited guests and all the school community with selected tunes.

These students again played a sombre tune for the actual launch of the flag which was very appropriate and moving.

On the Ministers arrival, he was greeted by four members of the Green Schools Committee holding a beautiful banner shown below, which was created by Transition Year students in honour of the occasion under the supervision of their Art Teacher, Ms. Claire O'Riordan.



Sr. Nuala O'Leary, the School Principal praised all those who had worked so hard to achieve the Green Flag.

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## Ard Scoil na nDéise, Dungarvan raise funds for Cancer Research

Wednesday 5th December 2012

Mrs. Norma O'Driscoll and Mrs. Ina O'Sullivan with the help of the 5th years in **Ard Scoil na nDéise, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford** ran a very successful *Pink Picnic day* as part of the Breast cancer awareness month.

It was a fun day and the girls raised €620. Mr. Gordon Watson, the Waterford surgeon who set up the Breast Health clinic in the Regional hospital, came to talk to T.Y. 5th and 6th students and to accept the cheque on behalf of Waterford Surgical Research Association.

T.Y. student Lauren Mulvihill wrote the following account of his talk.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, and every year in the Árd Scoil we organise a "Pink Day" to raise money for breast cancer research where we all wear pink and take part in various happenings around the school.

This October, we managed to raise almost €700 and were visited by Dr. Gordon Watson on Friday 30th of November so we could present him with the cheque.

Dr. Watson gave us a very informative talk on detecting breast cancer and other potential problems. The money is going towards a new programme in Waterford that helps men and women diagnosed with cancer with any effects of their illness such as depression and low self-esteem.

We're all very proud to have been able to help with this as it's a very important programme.



Mr. Gordon Watson, Waterford surgeon and founder of the hospital's Breast Health Clinic, accepts a donation raised by the girls of Ard Scoil na nDéise from their Pink Day Picnic.



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## Eureka Secondary School, Kells Participate in PAL World Championships

Wednesday 5th December 2012

### PAL World Championships in New York

The Public Access to Law girls from Eureka Secondary School, Kells, Co. Meath who were representing Ireland in the World Championships, got a slightly different New York experience to what they were expecting!

Due to the super storm or Hurricane Sandy, their stay in New York was extended, but instead of going on a planned shopping expedition on Monday, they were talking to the national media from their hotel room.

Their story made the Six One News with Brian Dobson, the radio with Evelyn O'Rourke and the printing press.

Thankfully they are all home safe and sound now!

They performed brilliantly in the competition ranking in the top half this year and Niamh Brady got full marks for outstanding witness and won a prize.

Well done to all the girls and their mentors. This is the second year in a row that Eureka Secondary School girls have represented Ireland in the World Championships.





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## Presentation Secondary School, Thurles are European Winners!

Thursday 6th December 2012

Presentation Secondary School, Thurles were among 200 school representatives from across Europe that were recently honoured during a high-profile European Award Ceremony for the U4Energy competition.

The Ceremony took place at the Belgian Comic Strip Museum, a landmark building in the heart of Brussels, in front of an audience of high-level European, government representatives, senior figures from the industry and the media.

U4Energy is an EU-wide competition on energy efficiency. The team Generation Green won the 'The Good Idea' competition earlier this year.

Their project was then selected as one of the final four from 33 countries.

The team representatives Mary Claire Hanafin, Jennifer Mullally and their teacher Ms Olivia O' Brien enjoyed an all-expenses-paid trip to Brussels and were presented with a trophy at the awards ceremony.

While in Brussels, they visited the EU Commission, the Parliamentarium and had a walking tour of the city.

Other members of the team include Shauna O' Flynn, Caroline O' Connor, Lydia O' Toole and Emma Kerwick.



Pictured above is teacher Olivia O'Brien, Presentation Secondary School, Thurles, Co Tipperary with her 5th year students Mary Claire Hanafin and Jennifer Mullally receiving their trophy and certificate at the prestigious awards ceremony in the Belgian Comic Strip Centre, Brussels.



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## Killina Presentation Secondary School mark retirement of Deputy Principal, Carthagena Minnock

Thursday 13th December 2012

The staff and students of Killina Presentation Secondary School recently marked the retirement of their much-loved Deputy Principal, Carthagena Minnock, who retired recently from the school after many years dedicated service.

The occasion was attended by staff and students, old and new, who wanted to wish Carthagena a happy and fulfilling retirement and say farewell to a colleague and a friend.

Her presence on the corridors of Killina Presentation Secondary School will be sadly missed by all members of the school community.

CEIST wishes Carthagena best wishes for a very happy retirement and thanks her for the many years of committed service to the school.

### Photos



Pictured above Ursula Corcoran, Tony Minnock, Sr Oliver Wrafter and Carthagena Minnock.



Pictured above Carthagena receives a leather bound album from Ciaran Drea and Grace Molloy.



Patrick Dunican presenting flowers to Carthagena.



Pictured above with Carthagena are students Patrick Dunican, Jennie Clarke, Ciaran Drea and Grace Molloy.



Student Jennie Clarke presenting gift to Carthagena.

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## St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castleisland production of 'Oliver'

Thursday 13th December 2012

The students of Presentation and St. Patrick's Secondary Schools, Castleisland, Co. Kerry staged a very successful production of the musical 'Oliver' over two nights (Wednesday and Thursday, 5th and 6th Dec. last).

The frosty December weather didn't deter eager audiences who travelled in their droves to St. John's Hall, Presentation Secondary to view the uplifting and entertaining 'Oliver', produced by teachers of Presentation School; Ailish O'Connor, Annette Leen and Mairead Lane.

There were also two matinees for all primary schools in the locality who sang along to the toe tapping tunes of 'Consider Yourself', 'I'll do anything' and 'It's a fine life'. A total of 1200 people attended the show over the four uplifting performances with standing ovations on each occasion.



The cast really enjoyed performing in this wonderful show which showcased a wealth of acting, singing and dancing talent of mainly 1st and 2nd year students from both schools.

Stellar performances by Statia Pederson (Nancy), Grace Murphy and Jack Flynn (Oliver), Orla O'Connor (Fagan), Katie Flynn (Widow Corney/Mrs. Bumble) and Jack Walsh (Dodger), provided gripping entertainment for the audience and Paddy Flynn as a menacing Bill Sikes, kept everyone on the edge of their seats.

Michelle Beazley and Rosalyn Gravork were

the narrators and Fiona Carey was MC on both nights.

Well done also to the orphans and the pickpockets and all the cast, back stage and musicians who ensured that it was indeed a professional and unforgettable production.

Principals Ms. Eileen Kennelly of Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland and Mr. Denis Donovan of St. Patrick's Secondary School acknowledged and congratulated all concerned.





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## Post Leaving Cert Graduation at Mary Immaculate Secondary School

Wednesday 12th December 2012

The 15th Post Leaving Cert Graduation took place at Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare on Friday 16th November.

Anne Kelleher CEO CEIST, presented awards in Business, Professional Arts Practice and Supervision in Childcare to 45 Level 6 students.

Mona Hynes (Deputy Principal) presented awards in Business, Community & Health and Childcare to 22 Level 5 students.

There were 7 minor awards presented also, recipients of these are currently working towards their full awards.

In the 15 years of PLC in Mary Immaculate over 2,000 certificates have been awarded. Principal John O'Loughlin, Marian O'Callaghan (Co-ordinator) and Teresa Conneely praised the students for their commitment and efforts in achieving their awards.

The value of following a FETAC Course in Mary Immaculate was highlighted by the fact that over 10% of students are now in Third Level Education and approximately 70% are currently employed.

Three students Laura Burke, Clare Gallagher and Ruairi Murdiff outlined their positive experiences of returning to education and the welcoming atmosphere at Mary Immaculate.

Special thanks were also given to Clare Gallagher Tommy Moloney, Ruairi Murdiff and Melyssa Mac Gillivray who gave invaluable support and encouragement as Mentors to their fellow students throughout the year.

The school also had a very successful Art Exhibition under the direction of Olivia O'Dwyer (Professional Arts Teacher).

Mary Immaculate is currently running the new FETAC Level 5 and Level 6 awards in Early Childhood Education and Play. Anyone interested in returning to education on a part-time or fulltime basis should without hesitation contact the school on **065-7074266** or email [lisdoon@iol.ie](mailto:lisdoon@iol.ie).

Also, 35 fifth year students were presented with their Minor awards in Communications and Occupational First Aid by the Principal John O'Loughlin.

John was wholesome in his praise of the students and their tutors on their achievements during their Transition Year Programme.

### PLC Ceremony Photos



Pictured above Anne Kelleher, CEO CEIST, presents award to Siobhan O'Flaherty.



School Principal John O'Loughlin pictured with award recipient Carmel Finn.



Pictured above are Fifth Year students who received FETAC awards.



Level Six award winners are pictured above with Anne Kelleher, John O'Loughlin, Mona Hynes, Marian O'Callaghan and Teresa Conneely.

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## History in the Making! Scoil na Trionóide Naofa New School Building Commences

Friday 14th December 2012

Following the announcement by Ruairí Quinn, T.D., Minister for Education and Skills on 12th November 2012, eight schools in seven different counties are to commence construction under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model with immediate effect.

CEIST is most grateful to the Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn, T.D., together with his predecessors in the Department of Education and Skills for authorising this project to proceed to construction stage, as a result of which a new Catholic Voluntary Secondary School is being created in Doon, Co. Limerick under the Trusteeship of CEIST.

Scoil na Trionóide Naofa, Doon will be the first Voluntary Catholic Secondary School of its kind, opened in over 20 years, being an amalgamation of St. Fintans Christian Brothers School (ERST), St Michael's College, Cappamore (Co. Limerick VEC) and St Joseph's Mercy Secondary School (CEIST).

This is a momentous occasion for CEIST and one which will be celebrated by all in the Catholic Voluntary Sector.

The "Turning of the Sod" for the new school called **Scoil na Trionóide Naofa**, took place on the green field site at Doon, Co. Limerick on Tuesday 11th December 2012.

The construction company BAM have commenced building works on a 15 acre site donated by the Mercy Congregation, at Liscaugh, Doon, Co. Limerick.

Scoil na Trionóide Naofa will cater for 850 pupils and the building work is expected to be completed by 2014. This is a particularly significant event for CEIST and for the Principals, staffs, students and the parents of the three existing secondary schools, St. Joseph's, St. Fintan's and St. Michael's College.

CEIST expresses its appreciation to all those who have brought this Project to fruition, including the staff, past and present of St. Joseph's, St. Fintan's and St. Michael's College and the current Principals, John Kinsella, Eddie Bourke and Michael O'Connor.

Our special thanks to the Mercy Congregational Leaders; past and present Boards of Management Chairpersons, Members and CEO of Co. Limerick VEC.

The realisation of this new school could not have occurred without the vision and commitment of CEIST, the Edmund Rice Schools Trust and Co. Limerick VEC. The Trustees commend the local community in playing an active role on the amalgamation Steering Committee and Boards of Management, and also acknowledge the great generosity of the local GAA GFC.

We look forward to seeing the completion of the new building and to welcoming students to a new state-of-the-art facility in Spring 2014.

## Photos



Pictured above Anne Kelleher, CEO CEIST, turning the sod on new school building with representatives from the Mercy Congregation, 3 amalgamating schools, and the local community.



Anne Kelleher CEO CEIST pictured above with BAM Management and construction staff.



Sr Anne Doyle, Mercy Congregation South Central Provincial Leadership team, Naas, Co. Kildare, Anne Kelleher CEIST CEO and Sr Kieran, Mercy Congregation Doon.



Building commences on green field site for Scoil na Trionóide Naofa, Doon, due for completion Spring 2014.