

**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 Annual Education Conference 2013

The Eighth Annual CEIST Education Conference was held in the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath on last Thursday, 26th September, 2013 & Friday, 27th September, 2013.

The theme for this year's conference was **"Year of Faith - Our Faith in Action"**.

There was a great atmosphere at the conference and our Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons availed of the opportunity to network and share best practice with each other.

[MORE](#)



## CEIST News



### Joining the Dots Follow Up Day for Facilitators

Please be advised that the follow-up day for the Joining the Dots Facilitators Programme will take place on **15th October 2013 in Mount St. Anne's, Killenard, Co. Laois**.

This day will focus on those participants who have already attended the initial Facilitators Programme which took place in May and September.

It will provide additional training so that participants will be comfortable facilitating the programme themselves.

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

[MORE](#)



### Training for Members of Parents' Councils

CEIST in conjunction with National Parents Council - PP are organising training for members of Parents' Councils at the following CEIST School locations and times.

The delivery of such a programme it is hoped, will ensure that the members of each Parents' Association will know their responsibilities, their rights and where to obtain all the knowledge required to ensure they can advise fellow Parents / Guardians as the need arises.

[MORE](#)

## Faith-related Issues



### John Paul II Festival at Knock Shrine

This year will see the first festival of its type take place. The John Paul II festival will take place at Knock Shrine on Saturday the 26th of October 2013.

The idea blossomed from the John Paul II awards which thousands of young people in Ireland take part in every year.

The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them.

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## News from CEIST Schools



### Presentation Clonmel students perform tearful musical tribute to their late teacher

Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel students paid an emotional musical tribute to their late teacher on RTE's Big Music Week.

The track, entitled My Hero, was composed in memory of Alice Strain, who taught the pupils from first to third year.

Alice died tragically in April of this year in a car accident.

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### Presentation College Carlow Wins Prestigious Business to Art Awards

Leaders from the corporate and cultural sectors gathered at Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, Dublin on Tuesday, 10th September to celebrate the 2013 Allianz Business to Arts Awards with Arts Minister Jimmy Deenihan presenting ten awards to organisations who have achieved excellence in their collaborations.

Presentation College Carlow and Blaise Smith were delighted to receive the Judges' Special Recognition Award and were also nominated for the Best Commissioning Practice Award.

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### Presentation Galway City, Open School Year with an Interfaith Prayer Service

Presentation Secondary School, Galway City, launched their new School Year with an Interfaith Prayer Service that was held in St. Joseph's Church.

The theme of this celebration was 'Build us a better world, a world of Peace'.

A Presentation of the Continents was a focus of this Service in which students brought forth a Continent which was symbolically placed on a world map which had been designed by students.

[MORE](#)



### News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna

Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare recently celebrated Meroy Day with a school mass in Lisdoonvarna church.

The mass was celebrated by Fr. Cunningham, the local parish priest. The school also kindly shared pictures on our website of Junior Certificate students receiving their certificates.

The School Principal, Mr. John O'Loughlin was delighted with results obtained from the Junior Cert students and congratulated them on their excellent results.

[MORE](#)



### Start of Year School Mass in Our Lady's Castleblayney

The Principal, staff and students in Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan were delighted to welcome Fr Raymond Donnelly who celebrated the opening school mass in St Mary's Parish Church, Castleblayney on 11th September. Fr Raymond who was ordained on 28th July this year and is now CC in Enniskillen, taught in Our Lady's for 5 years before leaving to join the priesthood and commence his studies in Rome.

"Always a very special occasion, where 1st years and new staff members are especially welcomed. It was a great privilege to have Fr Raymond celebrate the opening Mass with us", said Principal Mr McGuill. "We wish him many happy and fulfilling years in his ministry". For his part, Fr Raymond was delighted to be back among friends & former colleagues and in his homily left the 700 strong group of young people with food for thought, delivered in his own inimitable style.

At the end of the celebration, two Leaving Cert students, Darragh McKenna and Cathy Coleman made a presentation to Fr Raymond.

[MORE](#)



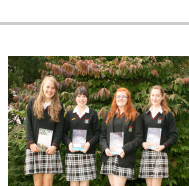
### Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise student wins prestigious Science and Mathematics Award

Congratulations to Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise, student Joanne Parker who has been awarded a Naughton Scholarship 2013 for excellence in Science and Mathematics.

Joanne (Leaving Certificate 2013) is the first student from a Co. Laois school to be awarded by the Naughton Foundation.

The Naughton Foundation Scholarships are a scheme of bursaries introduced to promote the study of the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) at third level.

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### News from Presentation Secondary School, Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway

Four students from Presentation Secondary School, Currylea, Co. Galway were awarded a highly commended certificate in the Poetry Ireland 21st national Poetry Competition awards, which took place recently in Cavan.

The students, now 5th years took part in the competition in transition year.

Well done to Sarah Garret, Sarah Marty, Niamh Treanor and Emily McNamara on this great achievement.

[MORE](#)

## Reflecting CEIST Values



### Presentation Sisters Challenge to Change Project 2013-2014

The Presentation Sisters Challenge to Change project highlights issues of justice, human rights, interculturalism and sustainability.

To download the Outline Project Plan [click here](#)

Wondering what topic to choose? Check out this selection of Themes and Activities for possible ideas - [click here](#)

Click [here](#) to download Challenge to Change 2012-2013 Book (please note **7Mb** in size).



### Young Social Innovators (YSI)

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 ACTION Programme, which encourages young people to choose a social issue they feel passionately about, research it and take innovative action to benefit their communities.

[MORE](#)



### Inaugural Cycle Against Suicide STUDENT LEADERS' CONGRESS

The 2014 Congress is aimed at promoting positive mental health, help-seeking behaviour in young people and our message that it's ok not to feel ok and its more than ok to ask for help.

If your school would like to join us for this very special event in Dublin please follow the link below and complete the form to register a TY group to participate on Thursday, January 16th, 2014 (11-3pm). Places are limited so please apply NOW to ensure that your students don't miss out.

<http://www.cycleagainsuicide.com/student-leaders-congress/>

[MORE](#)

## Reviews



### FÉILTE, World Teachers' Day 2013

In 2013, in celebration of World Teachers' Day, the Teaching Council will host **FÉILTE**, the Festival of Education in Learning and Teaching Excellence, at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Dublin on Saturday, 5 October.

FÉILTE will promote and celebrate innovation in teaching by showcasing the work of teachers who are involved in innovative learning projects.

The day will offer a canvas on which teachers can paint the story of their own innovative professional practice. It will offer a learning space for all in which they can explore, discuss and celebrate the work of a teacher.

Click [here](#) to download programme.



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## CEIST Annual Education Conference 2013 - Review

Tuesday 1st October 2013

The Eighth [Annual CEIST Education Conference](#) was held in the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath on last Thursday, 26th September, 2013 & Friday, 27th September, 2013.

The theme for this year's conference was ***"Year of Faith - Our Faith in Action"***.

The CEIST Team were greatly encouraged with the number of School Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons of our Boards of Management who attended this year's conference.

There was a great atmosphere present at the conference and our Principals, Deputy Principals and Chairpersons availed of the opportunity to network and share best practice with each other. We received very positive feedback again from the four workshops. Mr David Cameron our keynote speaker gave an enlightening speech on the afternoon of the first day of the conference. Millet and Matthews Solicitors proved very popular on the second day where they provided an interactive session on the topic of ***compliance with pertinent legal obligations for schools***.



The Chairperson of the CEIST Board of Directors, Mr Bernard Keeley, made four presentations to Principals who have recently retired from their respective schools.

The Principals who received a gift from CEIST in recognition of their outstanding service to their schools included **Mr Liam Rainey**, Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana, **Sr Brid Biggane**, St Mary's Secondary School, Mallow, (pictured on right), **Ms Sheila McManamly**, Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore and **Michael Nolan**, Presentation Secondary School, Killina, Rahan, Co. Offaly.



CEIST would like to very much thank our keynote speakers and workshop presenters for their time, energy and enthusiasm given to the conference.

We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to the three excellent school choirs who participated at the conference.

The three schools who performed at this years conference were **Mercy Secondary School, Sligo, Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore, Co. Offaly and Presentation Secondary School, Killina, Rahan, Co. Offaly.**

The three choirs sang beautifully and really impressed everybody at the conference and were a credit to their schools.

CEIST are also very grateful to the many exhibitors that displayed their products and indeed this year so great was the demand for exhibitor space that we unfortunately could not accommodate all requests.



### CEIST Conference 2013 Workshops

1) **"When Suicide Occurs: How to provide Supportive & Effective Responses"**, **Ciaran Austin, Director of Services, Console.**

This workshop focused on the common emotions experienced and reactions to suicide, from the perspective of communities and groups. As leaders in our school communities, we are often tasked with acknowledging such traumatic events and providing safe and therapeutic environments for those directly affected. Our responses have the potential to promote healing and helpful practices and at the same time, identify others who may be at risk of harm or suicide. The workshop included practical guidance on immediate considerations and on providing longer-term support for those who may be vulnerable.

Ciarán Austin is the Director of Services for Console, the National Suicide Charity ([www.console.ie](http://www.console.ie)).

2) **"Teacher Religious Identity and the School Community"**, **Rev, Dr. John-Paul Sheridan.**

When promoting and nourishing the particular religious ethos of a CEIST school, it is preferable when the entire teaching staff is 'singing from the same hymn-sheet'. However, this is often not the case. John-Paul's research is into the religious identity of primary school student teachers, and this workshop presented some of his findings as they might apply to young teachers in our schools. It also discussed some of the theories of teacher religious identity. Finally he outlined some of the responses regarding the personal beliefs and values of student teachers. This workshop will have particular relevance in the context of creating an understanding of the school ethos, where this identity either supports or comes into conflict with this work.

John-Paul is a priest of the Diocese of Ferns and Diocesan Advisor for Primary School Catechetics.

3) **"There's Never a Right Time to Fundraise"**, **Sr. Canice Hanrahan, RSM**

There's Never a Right Time to Fundraise – there's only now! In this Workshop Canice Hanrahan shared her experience of successfully raising funds for two major schools projects. She outlined the importance of having a viable project, being totally convinced of its value and benefits, bringing others on board, the importance of planning, goal-setting, record keeping and review.

Nobody can go it alone in the task of successful fundraising - volunteers are critical; so too is communication. Fundraising is offering and inviting many people to be part of something that could not be done by any one person acting alone. The successful outcome brings a sense of pride in achievement.

Statistics show that in the USA giving has increased annually since 1971, slowing only in 1987, 2008 and 2009. Giving is resilient even in the toughest times. In Ireland we are very generous givers to a variety of worthy causes. The affluent years were not necessarily our most generous ones and we got very accustomed to having so much provided - perhaps the mood now is more of a self-help one, so maybe there is after all a good time to fundraise!

There was time given in this workshop for lots of interaction and sharing.

4) **"The Management of Information Technology to Support 21st Century Teaching and Learning"**, **Seamus Ryan, H2 Learning, Marie-Therese Kilmartin, School Principal, Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin and Sarah-Jayne Carey, ICT Co-ordinator, Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin.**

Seamus Ryan has been a leader and innovator in the use of technology to support 21st Century Learning in Post Primary Education in Ireland over the past 15 years. He has been a Teacher, Deputy Principal, Principal (Dunshaughlin Community College) and Education Officer with County Meath VEC and most recently working as an advisor to schools and the Department of Education and Skills. During his time as Education Officer he designed and implemented a centrally managed IT infrastructure for all the schools in Meath VEC. This project took advantage of recent developments in "Cloud" technology, server architecture, print management and power management systems. Seamus believes that individual schools can also use these systems very effectively to save costs and improve the reliability of their IT systems. Since February 2012 Seamus has been working as a consultant with "H2 Learning". This work includes helping individual schools, The Department of Education and Skills, NAPD (National Association of Principals and Deputies) as well as advising ICT service suppliers to the educational sector.

Coláiste Bríde Secondary School, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin has been one of the leading CEIST schools in integrating technology into teaching and learning. School Principal, Marie-Therese Kilmartin and ICT Co-ordinator, Sarah-Jayne Carey shared some of their experiences to date and provide practical tips for the management of technology in the school. Topics discussed included, Essential Local IT Infrastructure, Using "Free" Cloud Services, Managing School IT Systems, Classroom of the Future and Devices for Students. The workshop was an interactive one where the sharing of best practices by schools was discussed openly.

### Feedback from the Conference

The general consensus from the evaluation feedback was that the Sheraton Hotel was again an ideal venue because of its central location and top class services provided by the hotel. The majority of attendees are in favour of keeping the two day format.

The keynote speakers, Mr David Cameron and Millet and Matthews were very well received as were all the workshop presenters. This year we celebrated mass on the Friday morning of the conference, which many delegates thought was a good idea.

### Conference Photos

Below are a selection of photos from the conference, scroll over images for more details.



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## Facilitate Joining the Dots in Your School - Update and Reviews

Thursday 5th September 2013



Given the emphasis on the distinctiveness of the various education sectors, there is an increasing need to provide for and enrich staff faith development in Catholic schools.

**Joining the Dots** is a school based programme in spiritual reflection and renewal for staff in faith based schools.

It involves approx. 90 minutes one evening a week for five weeks. There are no fees, no travel and no exams!

A CEIST day for prospective facilitators of *Joining the Dots* in the Sheraton Hotel on May 8th 2013 was attended to capacity and received excellent reviews.

### Facilitator Day Reviews

A total of 40 (max) attended. Click [HERE](#) to view some of the feedback received from the participants on the day.

Due to the demand for a re run of the day from those who couldn't make it and for a follow up from those who did, CEIST is offering the following dates:

**September 10th: *Joining the Dots*: Day for Facilitators (re-run)**

**October 15th: Facilitating *Joining the Dots*: A Follow Up**

Early booking is advisable as places are limited to 40 per day. Please contact Siobhan at the CEIST office to book your place at **01-6510350** or [sstopes@ceist.ie](mailto:sstopes@ceist.ie).

#### AGENDA

***Joining the Dots* Day for Facilitators (re-run)**

**September 10th 2013**

9.00 - 10.00 Registration

10.00 - 11.30 *Joining the Dots*: An experience

11.45 - 1.15 The spirituality of *Joining the Dots*

1.15 - 2.00 Lunch

2.00 - 3.30 How to facilitate *Joining the Dots*

**Venue:** Mount St. Anne's Retreat & Conference Centre, Killenard, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Click [here](#) to download flyer.

#### AGENDA

**Facilitating *Joining the Dots*: A Follow Up**

**October 15th 2013**

10.00 - 11.15 *Joining the Dots*: A follow up experience

11.30 - 1.00 Facilitating Weeks 1-3

1.00 - 2.00 Lunch

2.00 - 3.30 Facilitating Weeks 4-5



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## Training for Members of Parents Council - Cancelled

Friday 18th October 2013



Please note that unfortunately NPC-pp Training scheduled for tonight 23rd October in Presentation Secondary School, Sexton Street, Limerick has been postponed.

Please visit [www.npcpp.ie](http://www.npcpp.ie) to find other dates and venues available.



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## John Paul II Festival happening in Knock Shrine

Tuesday 1st October 2013

This year will see the first festival of its type take place. The John Paul II festival will take place in Knock Shrine on Saturday the 26th of October 2013.

The idea blossomed from the John Paul II awards which thousands of young people in Ireland take part in every year.

The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them.

Through the Pope John Paul II Award, young people are enabled to take an active part in the life of their Church, in the life of their community and society and also become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world. It enabled young people to engage at a deep level with Christ, whose body the Church is.

The John Paul II festival hopes to bring all participants and all young people together to celebrate their faith in Irelands National Shrine to Our Lady.

Pope John Paul visited Knock Shrine on the 30th of September 1979. He imparted his Apostolic blessing on the Shrine, then the Pope travelled by 'Popemobile' to the gable wall shrine - the very spot where the Apparition took place 100 years earlier. Here he knelt in private silent prayer, before blessing the shrine and lighting a candle dedicated to the Family Prayer.

Pope John Paul told the people that gathered "Here I am at the goal of my journey to Ireland. He expressed the strong desire he felt to visit Knock the Shrine of Our Lady "With these words, I want to express the immense joy and gratitude that fills my heart today at this place. I would not have wanted it any differently"

What better place to have a festival in his name than a place he held very close in his heart Knock Shrine. The festival is for all young people between the ages of 16-25. Throughout the day there will be talks by Gerard Gallagher Trish O'Brien, and many more. There will also be workshops on miracles, parables, table fellowship and discipleship. Music will be provided by Elation Ministries who will gather on Friday night to host a night of Worship and Praise titled 'Ruah'.

If you are an award coordinator of the John Paul II awards this is an event to consider or indeed if you are someone who is looking for that something different to do with your bank holiday weekend why not come along to this day?

For more information or interview please contact (087) 9880690/ 0876927850/ 0879404299/0874140590  
E-mail: [johnpaul2fest@gmail.com](mailto:johnpaul2fest@gmail.com)  
Find us on Facebook **John Paul II fest.**





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# Presentation Clonmel students perform tearful musical tribute to their late teacher

Friday 4th October 2013

Students from Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, paid an emotional musical tribute to their late teacher on RTÉ's Big Music Week.

The track, entitled My Hero, was composed in memory of Alice Strain, who taught the pupils from first to third year. She died tragically in April of this year in a car accident.

Transition year students from Presentation Secondary School in Clonmel composed the track with help from producer Gavin Ralston and singer-songwriter Luán Parle.

The performance was part of RTÉ's Big Music Week Train, which is travelling across Ireland to 'celebrate Irish music', hosting performances from the likes of Christy Moore and Kodaline.



Presentation Clonmel Pupils on board RTÉ's Big Music Week train (Image Credit: Brian McEvoy).

Alice's sister Vera told TheJournal.ie that family present at the performance found it extremely moving, and that she would have been very proud of the hard work her pupils put into the piece.

"It was a beautiful song with beautiful lyrics and the pupils performed it so well", she said. "Alice's fiancé Pat was completely overwhelmed by the performance, he found it very uplifting.

"One line, which called her an 'angel in the skies' really struck home as I think that's how her whole family sees her, that's she up there looking down on us now".

Click [here](#) to listen to a pre-recorded version of the track below or listen on track below.

thejournal.ie

My Hero by TY Class, Presentation Sec...

8.3K

(Article courtesy of thejournal.ie).



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## Presentation College Carlow Wins Prestigious Business to Art Awards

Monday 16th September 2013

### Allianz Business to Arts Awards 2013

#### 22nd Annual Awards Honour The Power Of Collective Creativity

Leaders from the corporate and cultural sectors gathered at Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, Dublin on Tuesday, 10th September to celebrate the 2013 Allianz Business to Arts Awards with Arts Minister Jimmy Deenihan presenting ten awards to organisations who have achieved excellence in their collaborations.

Among those organisations was Presentation College, Carlow along with artist, Blaise Smith, who had been commissioned by the College to create a series of twenty paintings depicting life in a modern secondary-school in 21st century Ireland.

The series of paintings, "Schoolwork", has already been on exhibition in the Visual Arts Centre in Carlow and in the Crawford Gallery, Cork. One painting from the series is currently on display in the National Portrait Gallery in London.

The Allianz Business to Arts programme builds creative partnerships between the arts and business, so that the creativity of the arts and the acumen of the business community enhance each other and drive world class performance in Ireland.

The 2013 event marked the 12th year of partnership between Allianz and Business to Arts with Bord Gáis Energy, Accenture, Dublin Airport Authority, The Irish Times, Brown Bag Films, Barry's Tea and Brehon Capital Partners among the leading businesses recognised at the prestigious event which was attended by 500 people. The broadcaster, Aine Lawlor was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening and entertainment was provided by the singer Duke Special, the Accenturephonics Choir and the RTE Concert Orchestra.

The Allianz Business to Arts Awards attracted a record 99 entries in 2013 with a value of €7.84m. The awards act as a celebration of successful partnerships and provide a reference point for those looking to develop new ideas and deliver projects which are mutually beneficial.

For the 22nd year the award has been commissioned by Dublin Airport Authority. This year's award sculpture, "Balance", was made by Donnacha Cahill, a Galway-based artist known for his unique metalwork sculptures.

As well as the limited edition sculptures for the successful businesses, bursaries were also presented to artists and arts organisations with the Jim McNaughton / TileStyle €10,000 Artists' Bursary; the Dublin Airport Authority €5,000 Arts Award; and the €5,000 Allianz Community Art Prize.

Presentation College and Blaise Smith were delighted to receive the Judges' Special Recognition Award and were also nominated for the Best Commissioning Practice Award.

### Photos



Pictured (Left to Right) Siobhan Dowling (Head Girl), Noel O'Neill (Teacher), Blaise Smith (Artist), Damien O'Neill (Allianz), Ray Murray (Principal), Rory Healy (Chairperson, Board of Management), Sharon Murphy (Per Cent For Art Project Manager), Peter Thompson (Head Boy).



Pictured (Left to Right) Siobhan Dowling (Head Girl), Ray Murray (Principal), Noel O'Neill (Teacher), Blaise Smith (Artist), Rory Healy (Chairperson, Board of Management), Sharon Murphy (Per Cent For Art Project Manager), Peter Thompson (Head Boy).



Pictured (Left to Right) Ray Murray (Principal), Jimmy Deenihan, TD (Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht), Blaise Smith (Artist).



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## Presentation Secondary School, Galway City, Open School Year Service

Wednesday 2nd October 2013

Presentation Secondary School, Galway City, launched their new School Year with an Interfaith Prayer Service that was held in St. Joseph's Church.

This Theme of this celebration was '*Build us a better world, a world of Peace*'.

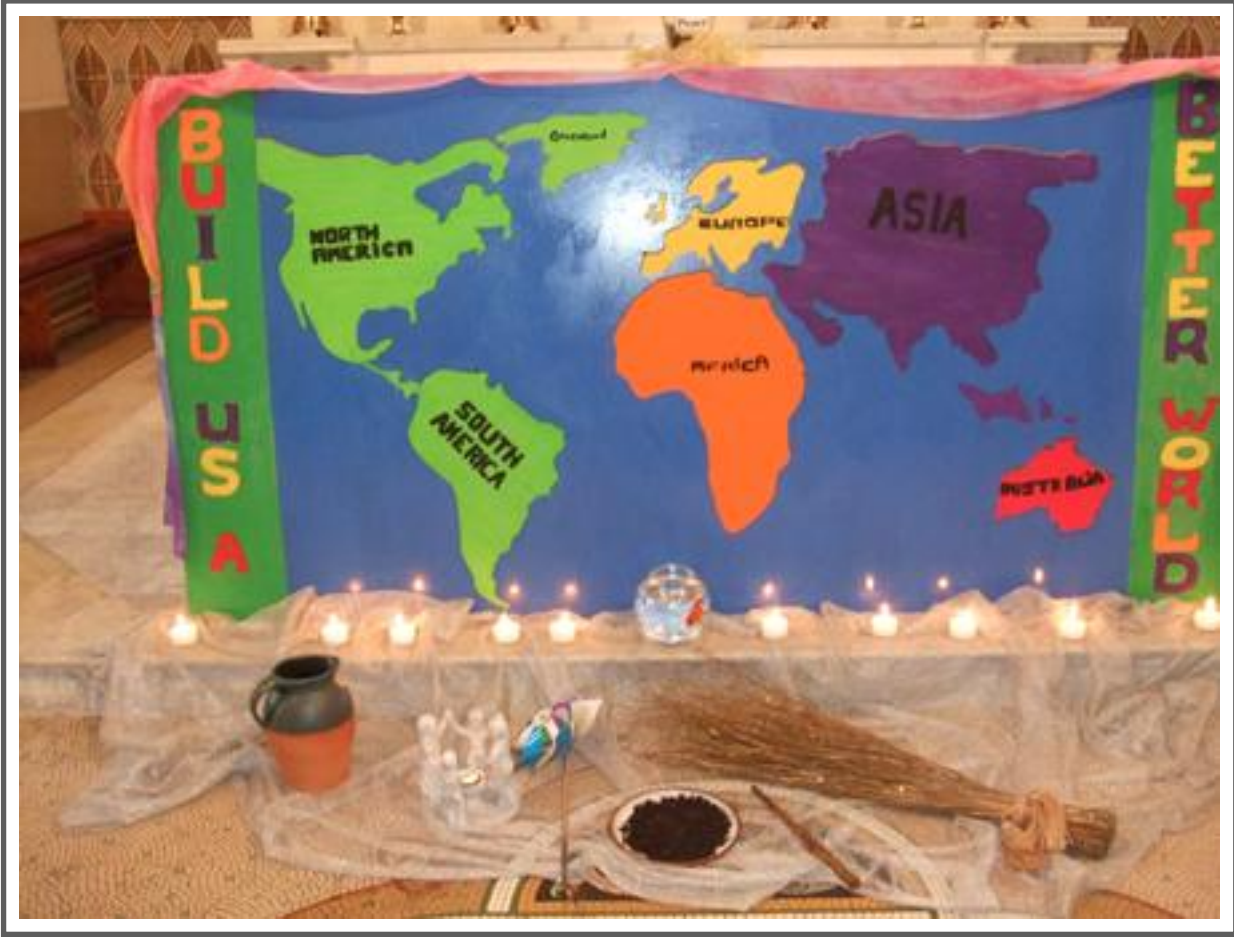
This Service was organized by our RE and Music Department with our Students, Staff, Parents and local Presentation Community in attendance.

A Presentation of the Continents was a focus of this Service in which students brought forth a Continent which was symbolically placed on a world map which had been designed by students.

It was a most moving ceremony. Many thanks to Ms Kennedy, Mr Mc Guinness, Ms Stokes and all students who were involved.

It was a fitting manner to launch our new school Year.

### Photos



Pictured above the completed world map.



Pictured above Ms Kennedy, Chelsey,Ruth, Jordana, Millie Ceatlain, Sr Helen, Ms Stokes,back row Ms Ni Neill, Mr Murphy, Mr Mc Guinness.



Pictured above Polina, Louise,Olaide, Kate, Bruna and Karla.



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## News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna

Thursday 3rd October 2013

### Mary Immaculate Celebrates Mercy Day

Mary Immaculate Secondary School celebrated Mercy Day with a school mass held in Lisdoonvarna church.

The mass was celebrated by Fr. Cunningham, the local parish priest.

A choir and musicians from the school enhanced the celebration by their musical contributions.

Mr. John O'Loughlin, School Principal, welcomed all the staff and students to the mass and wished them all the best in the coming year.



### Excellent Junior Cert Results

Principal John O'Loughlin and all the staff of Mary immaculate secondary School congratulated the Junior Certificate class of 2013 on their excellent results.

We wish them all the best in their future studies.



Junior Cert, John Kelly, Student of the Year with his Junior Cert Results.



A happy Tomás Cullinan after receiving his Junior Cert results.



Kanjana Sriwany pictured with her Junior Cert Results.

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## Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise student wins prestigious Science and Mathematics Award

Monday 23rd September 2013



Congratulations to Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise, student **Joanne Parker** who has been awarded a **Naughton Scholarship 2013 for excellence in Science and Mathematics**.

Joanne (Leaving Certificate 2013) is the first student from a Co. Laois school to be awarded by the Naughton Foundation.

She is studying technology in NUI Maynooth.

The Naughton Foundation Scholarships are a scheme of bursaries introduced to promote the study of the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) at third level.

Joanne was presented with her award by the Minister for Education & Skills, Ruairi Quinn T.D., at a reception on Saturday 21st September in the Science Gallery, Trinity College, Dublin.



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## News from Presentation Secondary School, Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway

Thursday 19th September 2013

Four students from Presentation Secondary School, Currylea, Co. Galway will be awarded a highly commended certificate in the Poetry Ireland 21st national Poetry Competition awards taking place in Cavan on Sunday next.

The students, now 5th years took part in the competition in transition year.

Well done to Sarah Garret, Sarah Marty, Niamh Treanor and Emily McNamara on this great achievement.



Pictured above are Sarah Garret, Sarah Marty, Niamh Treanor and Emily McNamara.

### Junior Certificate High Achiever

Congratulations to Presentation Secondary School, Currylea student, **Eirene Cullinane** pictured below who received the amazing total of 11 A's in her Junior Cert!





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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](#)



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#### Events

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E-News

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## Inaugural Cycle Against Suicide STUDENT LEADERS' CONGRESS.

Wednesday 25th September 2013



Due to the AMAZING reaction to our schools' events in 2013 we are delighted to announce the inaugural Cycle Against Suicide STUDENT LEADERS' CONGRESS.

The 2014 Congress is aimed at promoting positive mental health, help-seeking behaviour in young people and our message that it's ok not to feel ok and its more than ok to ask for help.

If your school would like to join us for this very special event in Dublin please follow the link below and complete the form to register a TY group to participate on Thursday, January 16th, 2014 (11-3pm).

Places are limited so please apply NOW to ensure that your students don't miss out.

<http://www.cycleagainsuicide.com/student-leaders-congress/>