

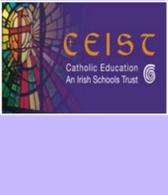


## news from ceist...

01 May 2014

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



**Trustee Support Day for Chairpersons of CEIST School Boards of Management**

In appreciation of the work of our Chairpersons and our commitment to you, we are hosting a seminar for our School Boards of Management Chairpersons. We are very aware of your own busy schedule and commitments and would greatly appreciate if you could make time to be with us.

We see this as an opportunity to appraise yourself and your Board of Management, of current matters and concerns. In addition, it affords you the opportunity to meet with Chairpersons from other CEIST schools and to share ideas and discuss issues relevant to your Board. We are delighted that Dr. Marie Griffin, CEIST CEO Designate will attend the meeting.

This year we will highlight the complimentary but very different roles of Chairperson and Principal and how people in these roles should work in tandem to lead and manage a school. We are delighted to welcome Brendan Forde who has filled both roles, to present and lead a discussion on this topic.

[MORE >](#)

### CEIST News



#### CEIST Schools Contribution to Cycle Against Suicide

The main objective of Cycle Against Suicide is to raise awareness of the considerable help and supports that are available for anyone battling depression, self harm, at risk of suicide or those bereaved by suicide.

This year the Cycle started yesterday, Monday 28th April and will continue until Sunday, May 11th.

On its first day two CEIST schools figured prominently.

[MORE >](#)




### Faith-related Issues



#### Joining The Dots - A Programme of Spiritual Reflection and Renewal for Educators

Joining The Dots offers soul time in the busy and challenging reality that faces teachers today. It is a wonderfully enriching experience for anybody involved in the enterprise of education.

Following the very popular success of Joining The Dots with CEIST schools, Mount St Anne's is delighted to offer it as a weekend summer programme facilitated by Dr. Amalee Meehan.

Click [here](#) to download our programme flyer with further details.




### News from CEIST Schools



#### CEIST Transition Year Students Win Journalism Awards

Congratulations to TY Students, Elayna Keller in [Our Lady's College Greenhills](#) and Kinga Strama who is a TY student in [St Mary's College, Arklow](#), who both won awards for the National Newspapers of Ireland (NNI) Press Pass writing and photography awards.

Ireland's future journalists and photographers gathered in the Convention Centre, Dublin, recently for the National Newspapers of Ireland (NNI) Press Pass writing and photography awards.

About 18,000 transition year students from 300 schools around the country took part in the competition, with the shortlisted students attending the awards ceremony.

[MORE >](#)

#### Master of Arts in Christian Leadership in Education (MACLE)

The MACLE is an innovative postgraduate programme, leading to a professional qualification for school leaders.

It explores key concepts in theology and spirituality as they relate to educational leadership, along with issues of educational policy and management within the context of faith based schools.

The MACLE is a part-time programme over two academic years offered both by Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick and Marino Institute of Education, Dublin.

Click [HERE](#) to download brochure for further details.

#### Senior Management Vacancies in CEIST Schools

We have created a new section on our website called [Management Posts](#), which will be used to inform our audience of Senior Management vacancies that have arisen in our schools.

The website page will display the advertisement as it has appeared in the national press.

#### SNA Group Seminars

SNA group Seminars are being offered in Portlaoise and Limerick on Saturday 10th and 24th May. This seminar is intended to provide participants with an introductory understanding of Autism/Asperger's Syndrome.

Participants will learn the characteristics of ASDs, the importance of understanding sensory processing issues and how communication problems can affect a child with an ASD diagnosis.

Participants will also learn about how structured teaching can be used in the classroom setting to enable a child to learn despite the challenges that autism poses for them.

Click [here](#) for booking form.

#### Developing Parish Seminar 2014

All Hallows College are holding their one day Developing Parish Seminar where they will explore the issues that face us today and to address fundamental questions such as: What role, if any, does Faith have for young people as we attempt to answer these challenging questions and re-imagine who we want to be?

The seminar will be a one day event. Delivery will consist of talks by guest speakers Gerard Gallagher and Ger Brennan.

There will also be a series of workshops led by people who have practical experience in presenting the materials at the local level.

Click [here](#) to download brochure.



#### News from Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir

[Scoil Mhuire](#), Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary have shared some noteworthy achievements from their students.

Emer Walsh (First Year), won the most Innovative Award in the Junior category of the All Ireland Enterprise Awards in Croke Park on the 20/4/2014.

The school also recently won the All Ireland Ladies Schools Junior 'C' Football title and enjoyed great success in Badminton as well!

[MORE >](#)



#### Scoil Mhuire, Trim Triumph at the ESB FEIS CEOL 2014

[Scoil Mhuire, Trim](#), Co. Meath Choir, under the direction of Jane Lynch, is thrilled to have won first prize in the Coir Iarthuaiscoile competition at the Feis Ceoil on April 1st in the RDS. This was the choir's debut at the prestigious festival and was warmly received by both adjudicators and audiences.

With a repertoire ranging from Plain Chant to Benjamin Britten, the choir was delighted to be both highly commended in the Turner Huggard Memorial competition and awarded the highest mark in the Sacred Music competition.

However, the highlight of the day was winning the Coir Iarthuaiscoile, in St. Bartholomew's Church, with a powerful rendition of two Irish songs, achieving 90 marks.

[MORE >](#)



#### Mount St Michael, Claremorris Student Wins Texaco Children's Art Competition

Shania McDonagh, who is a student in [Mount St Michael, Claremorris](#) became one of the most successful artists in the 60-year history of the Texaco Children's Art Competition when she was chosen as this year's overall winner.

Known for her extremely detailed portraits, she won first prize in her age category for the past four years, but it was her portrait entitled "Coleman" that finally won her the top prize.

She saw a photograph of the man in the Vanishing Ireland book and drew a close-up facial study in pencil with such detail that it is hard to believe it's not a photograph.

[MORE >](#)



#### News from Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore

Recent news snippets were kindly shared with CEIST from [Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore](#), Co. Offaly.

Twenty students acted as ambassadors of the school when visiting Seton Catholic High School, Chandler, Arizona.

Also the 5th Year Leaving Certificate Applied Class opened an Irish themed restaurant as part of their hotel catering and tourism class.

[MORE >](#)



#### A day in the life of Coláiste Bride, Clondalkin

Coláiste Bride, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin is a stones throw from that busy intersection which those who travel from the south of the country to the capital would know as Newlands Cross.

And just as that piece of our road network is a continuous hive of activity so too is the that school which is in its shadow.

[Coláiste Bride](#) was founded by the Presentation Sisters and is fortunate enough to still have a number of Sisters involved in the school on a day to day basis.

[MORE >](#)



#### Mercy Kilbeggan Student Wins National German Award

Congratulations to Emily O'Brien, Transition Year student of [Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan](#), Co. Westmeath who has attained a much sought after scholarship to Germany in the coming summer.

Emily underwent a rigorous interview on Monday in the Goethe Institute led by Frau Barbara Schmidt, Ms Maria Lorgan, Senior DES German Inspector and Herr Andreas Zinn, Head of the Language Department.

Emily achieved one of the top results in German in the country in her Junior Cert and is now one of only five Irish students to have obtained this scholarship.

[MORE >](#)



#### Presentation Waterford U16 'A' All Ireland Basketball League Champions

Congratulations to [Presentation Secondary School, Waterford](#) who were crowned All-Ireland U 16 'A' Basketball champions in a thrilling game in the National Basketball Arena at the beginning of March.

Having narrowly lost out in the U16 'A' Cup Final to Crescent Comprehensive by a single point two weeks earlier, the Pres girls were more than up for the game against a highly fancied Rathangan panel.

[MORE >](#)



#### Ryan returns to Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney

The staff and students of [Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney](#), Co. Monaghan and indeed of the wider community were delighted to welcome back to school, 5th year student Ryan Callan after a life-threatening incident.

Ryan, a prefect in the school and son of Shelagh & Declan Callan, Broomfield, became the toast of family and friends as he returned to school just over 3 weeks after this serious incident.

[MORE >](#)



#### Commemorative Book Launch and Catherine McAuley Lecture

[St Leo's College](#), Carlow are proud and pleased to announce the launch of our commemorative book reflecting on the enormous contribution made by the Mercy Congregation to Education.

The book entitled **"The Proof of Love is Deed - Following in the Footsteps of Catherine McAuley"** includes a number of personal reflections from a number of high profile contributors.

[MORE >](#)



#### News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvara

Students and Teachers from [Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvara](#), Co. Clare have been very busy of late!

The school has very kindly sent in news snippets to CEIST highlighting recent student achievements such as reaching the finals of ECO-JUNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2014, Comenius visit to Holland, success in literary competitions and a Wheelchair Basketball initiative from TY students.

[MORE >](#)



#### Transition Years in Scoil Christ Ri, Portlaoise Display Their Artistic Side

Congratulations to Alatinium from [Scoil Christ Ri, Portlaoise](#) who are through to Junk Kouture Grand Final on May 2nd.

The team is made up of three TY students - Eireann Brennan, Anna Healy and Laura Buggy. The students winning entry is a dress made of aluminium tins and ring tops from cans.

The girls worked under the supervision of their teacher Ms Jayne Louise Kelly.

[MORE >](#)



#### News from Presentation Secondary School, Currylea, Tuam

[Presentation Secondary School, Currylea](#), Tuam, Co. Galway have kindly shared their following news snippets with CEIST.

A musical recital and art exhibition were held recently in the Synod Hall Tuam, while the Transition Years arranged a fashion show that showcased some of their original designs and millinery skills.

Fifth year art students recently unveiled their modern art gallery in the school. The Marie Quinn Hogan modern art gallery was officially opened by former art teacher, Ms. Marie Quinn Hogan.

[MORE >](#)



#### Presentation Loughboy Win All Ireland Senior 'A' Post Primary Camogie Title

Congratulations to Presentation Secondary School, Loughboy, Co. Kilkenny on winning the All Ireland Senior 'A' Post Primary Camogie Title on March 8th.

[Presentation Secondary School, Loughboy](#) defeated St Mary's Magherafelt on a scoreline of 2-09 to 0-09.

[MORE >](#)



#### Reflecting CEIST Values



#### 'Light The Way' - A Night To Remember!

Approximately 1,000 people participated in the 'Light The Way' candlelit procession and positive mental health event in Carrick on Suir on Friday 28 March to promote awareness and raise funds for the Donal Walsh #LiveLife Foundation, Pkita House and Aware.

Organised by Transition Year students of Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir the event captured the imagination of the whole community and Carrick was a sight to behold with candle-bearers converging on St. Nicholas' Church from a number of starting points on the outskirts of the town.

[MORE >](#)



#### Technical Tips



#### ICT issues for schools: Windows XP and T4 subjects

[PDST Technology in Education](#) has issued a one-page advice note on Windows XP/Office 2003, and which is now on their website.

Click [here](#) to view.



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- Monthly School Feature**



## Cycle Against Suicide comes to CEIST Schools

Wednesday 30th April 2014

Cycle Against Suicide is an initiative started by Irish entrepreneur, Jim Breen, as a result of his appearance on RTE's The Secret Millionaire programme.

The main objective of the Cycle is to raise awareness of the considerable help and supports that are available for anyone battling depression, self harm, at risk of suicide or those bereaved by suicide.

This year the Cycle started yesterday, Monday 28th April and will continue until Sunday, May 11th. On its first day two CEIST schools figured prominently.

Starting off from Dublin yesterday morning the cyclists stopped off in St. Mary's College, Naas before setting off for St. Leo's College Carlow – a journey of 52KM's.

A member of the CEIST team was present in St. Mary's Naas to receive the cyclists and see first hand the great efforts the school community went to for the event.

There were two themes of the day – firstly "it's ok not to be ok" and secondly "you're lovely, you're loveable and you're loved".

At a reception in the school the cyclists were given a heroes welcome and a number of local celebrities spoke at the event.

As you can see from the photos below orange was the colour of today and there were plenty of brightness and smiles all around.

We would like to compliment both St. Mary's College, Naas and St. Leo's College, Carlow on their great work yesterday as well as those members of our other schools who participated in the cycle including Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin, St Mary's Secondary School, Macroom (Thursday 1st May) and St Brigid's Secondary School, Killarney (Friday 2nd May) that we are aware of and possibly many more!

### Photos



Members of the student council managing the gates at St Mary's College, Naas.



Pictured above are St Mary's College, Naas School Principal, Rita McCabe on left with Board of Management member, Sr Brigid along with one of the celebrity speakers for the day.



The cyclists enter the school gates in St Mary's Naas on their first stop from Dublin. After cycling 42 km refreshments in St Mary's were well deserved!!



The students of St Mary's line the avenue of the school as they prepare to welcome the cyclists.



St Leo's College Carlow participate in Cycle Against Suicide.



Pictured above are participants from St Leo's College Carlow in Cycle Against Suicide.

### Videos



[St. Leo's Carlow Cycle Against Suicide 2014](#) from [Niamh Smith](#) on [Vimeo](#).



[St Marys Happy Dance Only](#) from [Allyn Quigley](#) on [Vimeo](#).

# News & Events

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## CEIST Transition Year Students Excel in Press Pass Journalism Awards

Thursday 3rd April 2014

Congratulations to TY Students, Elayna Keller in Our Lady's College Greenhills and Kinga Strama who is a TY student in St Mary's Arklow who both won awards for the National Newspapers of Ireland (NNI) Press Pass writing and photography awards.

Ireland's future journalists and photographers gathered in the Convention Centre, Dublin, yesterday for the National Newspapers of Ireland (NNI) Press Pass writing and photography awards.

About 18,000 transition year students from 300 schools around the country took part in the competition, with the shortlisted students attending the awards ceremony.

Introducing the event, NNI chairman Matt Dempsey told the audience that reading a newspaper is an educational experience, no matter what age you are.

"Newspapers play a vital role in critical thinking skills," said Mr Dempsey.

"Press Pass is an opportunity for students to debate current affairs, discover a variety of texts and become more critical of what they read and how they write."

The official speaker at the awards ceremony was film producer and educator David Puttnam.

Quoting New York Times journalist Tom Friedman, Lord Puttnam said life is no longer about having average skills, doing an average job and earning an average lifestyle.



Pictured above the overall winner of the NNI Press Pass competition, TY student Elayna Keller from Our Lady's College in Greenhills, Drogheda. (photo courtesy of Irish Times).

### 'Above average'

"Everyone needs to find their own extra or special something that makes them stand out," he said. "The very fact that you award winners are here today already has established the fact that you are clearly not just above average, but wish to be above average."

Minister for Education Ruairi Quinn, who also attended the event, congratulated the prize winners. "We need people like you who want to report on the world and understand why the world it is the way it is," said Mr Quinn.

"Don't take our democracy for granted. There are many countries where news is simply not available or where you can't articulate your own interpretation of events," Mr Quinn added.

The overall winner of the NNI Press Pass competition was **Elayna Keller** from [Our Lady's College in Greenhills](#), Drogheda, who wrote an article entitled "Kids can be cruel".

The first prize winners in the competition were:

- News – James Healy from St Joseph's Secondary School, Drogheda, Louth.
- Features – Emily O'Grady, from Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom, Co Limerick.
- Comment & Opinion – Connell McHugh, Athlone Community College, Athlone, Co Westmeath .
- Sports – Niamh Hetherington, Dunshaughlin Community College, Co Meath.
- Photography – **Kinga Strama**, [St Mary's College, Arklow](#), Co Wicklow.

CEIST congratulates Elayna and Kinga and their teachers on this wonderful achievement.

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## News from Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir

Tuesday 29th April 2014

Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir has shared the following noteworthy student achievements with CEIST.

### Most Innovative Award

Scoil Mhuire is pleased to announce that 1st year student, Emer Walsh, (pictured on right) won the most Innovative Award in the Junior category of the All Ireland Enterprise Awards in Croke Park on the 2/04/2104.

EmerScreamer's is a business that makes high quality hand crafted personalised cards with some very exciting expansion ideas for the future.



### All Ireland Ladies Junior Football Champions

Congratulations to Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir ladies on winning the All Ireland Junior Football 'C' Post Primary Schools Title.

The final was played in Crettyard, Co. Laois on the 12th April and Scoil Mhuire played great football on the day to beat Gallen CS, Ferbane, Co. Offaly.

Well done to all involved on this fantastic achievement.



Pictured above a jubilant Scoil Mhuire team and coach after winning the All Ireland Junior Football Championship.

### Badminton

Scoil Mhuire's under-16 and under-19 Badminton teams excelled this year. The under 14s and under 16s were crowned county champions in January, defeating all other schools in Tipperary and qualifying for the Munster Finals in Limerick. Our under 19 team was unlucky to lose to a strong Loreto Clonmel team in the county final but was delighted to represent Tipperary at the Munster Finals when the Loreto girls were unable to travel.

The Munster Finals were held in the University of Limerick Arena on January 30th 2014 and despite very strong competition the U-16 and U-19 Scoil Mhuire teams emerged victorious.

The honour of representing Munster on All-Ireland Finals day in Gormanston College on Wednesday 19th March was a marvellous experience for both teams. Following an opening parade of colour, competition commenced.

The Under 16 team defeated the Leinster champions St. Mary's Naas and Ulster Champions Cookstown before their final match against Sacred Heart Secondary School, Westport, representing Connacht. Despite playing valiantly, Scoil Mhuire was defeated in this final match but all involved were very happy to receive their runners-up medals from the President of Badminton Ireland.

**Under-16 Team:** Aoife Walsh (c), Aoife Roche, Margaret Purcell, Triona Walsh.

The Under 19 team's fortunes were similar. Having defeated the Connacht and Ulster champions in their two opening matches, they came up against the might of the Leinster champions – Loreto Kilkenny. Scoil Mhuire was unlucky to lose all four singles games but battled bravely to win the two doubles matches, ensuring a runner-up position for Scoil Mhuire at the senior grade.

**Under-19 Team:** Deirdre Purcell (c), Róisín Crowley, Ellie Hogan, Laura Dillon-Dunphy.



Pictured above are the Scoil Mhuire players from the U16 and U19 Badminton teams.



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## Scoil Mhuire, Trim Triumph at the ESB FEIS CEOIL 2014

Friday 4th April 2014



Pictured above are the Scoil Mhuire, Trim Choir who won the ESB FEIS CEOIL 2014

Scoil Mhuire, Trim, Co. Meath Choir, under the direction of Jane Lynch, is thrilled to have won first prize in the C oir IarbhunSCOILE competition at the Feis Ceoil on April 1st in the RDS.

This was the choir's debut at the prestigious festival and was warmly received by both adjudicators and audiences.

With a repertoire ranging from Plain Chant to Benjamin Britten, the choir was delighted to be both highly commended in the Turner Huggard Memorial competition and awarded the highest mark in the Sacred Music competition.

However, the highlight of the day was winning the C oir IarbhunSCOILE, in St. Bartholomew's Church, with a powerful rendition of two Irish songs, achieving 90 marks.

The choir felt very privileged also to qualify for the ESB Choir of the Year Competition.

The school made the front page of the Irish Times on the morning after their great win.



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## Mount St Michael, Claremorris Student Wins Texaco Children's Art Competition

Thursday 17th April 2014



Shania McDonagh (16) became one of the most successful artists in the 60-year history of the Texaco Children's Art Competition when she was chosen as this year's overall winner.

Known for her extremely detailed portraits, she won first prize in her age category for the past four years, but it was her portrait entitled "Coleman" that finally won her the top prize.

She saw a photograph of the man in the Vanishing Ireland book and drew a close-up facial study in pencil with such detail that it is hard to believe it's not a photograph.

Judging panel chairman Prof Declan McGonagle, director of the National College of Art & Design, said her work has established her "as one of the most talented artists of her generation, and one whose skill could see her become one of Ireland's foremost portrait artists of the future".

Ms McDonagh, who attends [Mount St Michael Secondary School](#) in Claremorris, Co Mayo, said it took her about one month to finish the work. She will be presented with her €1,500 first-prize at the prize giving ceremony in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham next month along with the 125 other winners.

She also won the 16-18 year old category.

### Irish Times Video

Click [here](#) to view Irish Times video of the event.

### Other CEIST School Winners

Congratulations also to the other CEIST school winners as follows;

#### Category B (14-15 years):

**1st:** Diarmuid McKenna, Killina Presentation Secondary School, Tullamore.

#### Category C (12-13 years):

**3rd:** Síobhra O'Reardon Farrell Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin, Dublin



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## News Snippets from Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore

Tuesday 29th April 2014



The following are recent news snippets kindly shared with CEIST from [Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore, Co. Offaly](#).

### Students Visit Chandler in Arizona

Twenty students acted as ambassadors of Sacred Heart Secondary School, Tullamore when they visited Chandler in Arizona.

Chandler is the sister city to Tullamore and Seton Catholic High School is the Sister School of the Sacred Heart.

They spent 7 days experiencing the educational system and the day to day life of Chandler.

The students visited some of the landmarks of the city including the Arizona Science Centre, the San Xavier del Bac Mission and the old Tuscon studios. It was definitely a trip to remember and lifelong friends were made.

### LCA Irish Themed Restaurant

Our 5th Year Leaving Certificate Applied Class opened an Irish themed restaurant as part of their hotel catering and tourism class. The guests for the event were their teachers.

Each student played their unique and individual part in planning preparing cooking and serving food to the highest standard. The restaurant was a huge achievement and congratulations to all involved.

### Transition Year AGM

All the transition Year mini companies held their AGM. The main theme throughout the speeches was that each student learned the vital skills of problem solving and entrepreneurship from their experience of running a company. This of course will be great benefit in the ever-changing economy.

The girls were extremely proud of each other, and the night really showed how much they have grown together and bonded as friends over the year.

### Student Council

Our 2014 Student Council have been selected. The Council are helped by a committee of 43 5th Years who volunteer to help with all the Student Council events undertaken throughout the year. We wish both the members of the Council and Committee success in their undertakings.

### Spring Dance

A Spring Dance was held in the school gym by one of our Young Social Innovators (Y.S.I.) groups. The aim was to recreate an old style dance for both senior citizens and teenagers to enjoy. The hall was decorated and was full of buns, scones and tea.

Music was provided by the SHS Traditional Music Group and Dave Lawlor and his show band. There was a great attendance at the event.

The seniors enjoyed teaching the teenagers how to dance and the teenagers were thrilled to experience old style dance. It was such a success that plans are already being made to hold another one.



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## A day in the life of Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin

Friday 11th April 2014

Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin is a stones throw from that busy intersection which those who travel from the south of the country to the capital would know as Newlands Cross. And just as that piece of our road network is a continuous hive of activity so too is the that school which is in its shadow.

Coláiste Bríde was founded by the Presentation Sisters and is fortunate enough to still have a number of Sisters involved in the school on a day to day basis.

Sr. Gemma McKeivitt and Sr. Angela Dolan help out on staff while Sr. Anne Nevin is on the School Board of Management.

With over 940 pupils the schools increased enrolment is a reflection of the population growth Clondalkin/ Lucan suburbs in recent years. However with a number of other schools in the area there are more reasons than increased population to explain its popularity with families in the area.

The school endeavours to 'keep ahead of the posse' in regards to curriculum and technological innovation. It offers both The Leaving Certificate Established and Applied as well as LCVP.

Junior Cycle students can choose the traditional Junior Certificate or the alternative JCSP. There is also a very popular Transition Year on offer for students with currently 4 classes pursuing the programme.

First Years in Coláiste Bríde get a particular treat. As well as the traditional subjects on offer they also do I.T and Horticulture. The school is very fortunate to have a passionate gardening expert on staff in the form of Pat. Her interest in and knowledge of all things green is contagious and the students are fortunate enough to have the opportunity to put the theory into practice in their own school garden.

Another example of 'active learning' is the very successful face forward initiative. This was an initiative organised by the Art Department in which the local community were invited to nominate a number of local heroes. From the large number of nominations 15 were selected.

The students then used their photography skills to capture images of these heroic natives. These images and their stories will soon adorn the hoarding on the motorway which have been erected recently as the motorway under goes a major reconfiguration. So the next time you travel to Dublin and see these images don't forget you read it here first!

As a Catholic and CEIST school care of pupils is a priority. A very successful Rainbows programme is just one small example of this care put into practice. The school is also very fortunate to an active and committed RE team. Two students and a teacher will soon travel to Lourdes to help out with the local parish pilgrimage.

When one firsts visits Coláiste Bríde on is struck by the brightness of the General Purpose Area (GPA) as well the vibrancy of colours on the wall.

Vibrancy and brightness are also the two adjectives which sum up the school that is Coláiste Bríde.

## School Photos



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## Emily O'Brien of Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan Wins National German Award

Wednesday 2nd April 2014

Congratulations to Emily O'Brien, Transition Year student of Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath who has attained a much sought after scholarship to Germany in the coming summer.

Emily hails from Castletown-Geoghegan and is the daughter of Sandra and Enda O'Brien.

Emily underwent a rigorous interview on Monday in the Goethe Institute led by Frau Barbara Schmidt, Ms Maria Lorigan, Senior DES German Inspector and Herr Andreas Zinn, Head of the Language Department.

Emily achieved one of the top results in German in the country in her Junior Cert and is now one of only five Irish students to have obtained this scholarship.

She is also captain of Mercy Kilbeggan's German Debating Team who are set to meet St. Killian's Deutsche Schule in the National Semi Finals of the German Debating competition on Friday.



Pictured above Mercy Kilbeggan TY student Emily O'Brien with her mother Sandra O'Brien and German teacher Ms. Gallen.

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## Presentation Waterford U16 'A' All Ireland Basketball League Champions

Wednesday 2nd April 2014

### Presentation Waterford

#### U16 'A' All-Ireland Basketball League Champions

#### # from C to A-mazing!

Congratulations to the Presentation Secondary School, Waterford who were crowned All-Ireland U 16 'A' Basketball champions in a thrilling game in the National Basketball Arena at the beginning of March.

Having narrowly lost out in the U16 'A' Cup Final to Crescent Comprehensive by a single point two weeks earlier, the Pres girls were more than up for the game against a highly fancied Rathangan panel.



The game started brightly with both teams trading basket for basket. Excellent defence from Stephanie Coldrick and Brianna O'Regan ensured that both teams reached half time with only a single basket separating them.

At the beginning of the 3rd quarter Rathangan upped the tempo and, despite some excellent inside play from Stephanie Coldrick and Jordan Kervick, went into a 4 point lead with only 8 minutes to go.

A 'ferocious' team talk from coach Coady coupled with some excellent steals and finishes from Courtney Healy, Beth Carton and Annie Fanning saw the Pres girls turn a 4 point deficit into a 10 point lead.

With the final whistle approaching the 50 Pres supporters raised the roof of the NBA for one last time drowning out the 350 assembled Rathangan supporters.

As captains Beth Carton and Becky Roche collected the Cup from the President of Basketball Ireland, the players celebrated what was a truly a fantastic performance from an exceptional team.

The final icing on the cake was the MVP award being given to Presentation point guard Annie Fanning.

Days just don't get much bigger or better than this!

### Score Summary

#### All-Ireland U16 'A' League Final 2014

Ard Scoil Rathangan 28 (18)  
(C. Mella 17, S. Byrne 7, M. O'Brien 4)

Presentation Waterford 35  
(S. Coldrick 13, B. O'Regan 13, A. Fanning 9)  
MVP – Annie Fanning (Presentation Waterford)

### Photos



Pictured above are captains Beth Carton and Becky Roche with the cup!



Pictured above are the jubilant coaches Jenny Coady, Siobhan Furlong and Alan Barber.



Pictured above is Annie Fanning receiving her MVP award.



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## Ryan returns to Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney

Monday 14th April 2014

The staff and students of Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan and indeed of the wider community were delighted to welcome back to school, 5th year student Ryan Callan after a life-threatening incident.

Ryan, a prefect in the school and son of Shelagh & Declan Callan, Broomfield, became the toast of family and friends as he returned to school just over 3 weeks after this serious incident.

On Mon 10th March during a PE class Ryan collapsed suddenly and went into sudden cardiac arrest. PE teacher, Mr Enda Tourish immediately proceeded to administer CPR to Ryan while the Emergency Services and his family were contacted.

One of the 3 defibrillators at the school was brought to the scene as Tony Graham, SNA at the school, stepped in to help Mr Tourish, as did a number of Ryan's friends who were on the scene.

As the Emergency Services arrived, the Critical Incident Plan at the school was being put into action.

Over the following days Ryan was in everybody's thoughts and prayers with his year group attending Mass in St Mary's to offer up prayers for his recovery.

Ryan's condition was critical and there were real concerns about his chances of survival, as the chances of surviving a sudden cardiac arrest outside of a hospital environment are as low as 10-15%.

So it was with great relief and to the delight of all, especially his friends that word started to filter through that Ryan was on the mend.

Ryan's medical team at Crumlin Hospital were astounded at the speed and extent of his recovery and have given full credit for this to the speed of Mr Tourish's reaction and the quality of the CPR administered by him.

This incident brought home to all the need to create awareness around the issue of CPR and to highlight the importance of immediate action and intervention.

Shelagh, Ryan's mother has said "We have spoken to the Principal of Our Lady's, Mr Gerard McGuill and have conveyed to him and to all the staff and students, our sincere and heartfelt thanks for all their help, support and kindness in what has been a very traumatic time for all of us.

While each and every one of the people on the scene was outstanding in their contributions, it would be remiss of me not to single out PE teacher, Mr Enda Tourish for mention.

He was the immediate person on the scene, his quick thinking and reaction made a huge contribution to Ryan's recovery and the doctors have left us in no doubt about that! Because of the professional quality of the CPR administered not only did Enda Tourish save his life but he also prevented long term damage & facilitated the speedy recovery which Ryan has made.

We want to highlight the importance of having a working knowledge of CPR and the critical need for an immediate response. This was so important for Ryan but this could be anybody's son or daughter or family member."

Shelagh also commended the ambulance crew for the speed of their response and their kindness to her.

Principal of Our Lady's, Mr Gerard McGuill spoke of the happiness of the entire school community in welcoming Ryan back.

"It was a traumatic incident and a worrying few days for staff & students but we now have the best possible outcome seeing Ryan return to school. I commend Mr Tourish & Tony Graham for their swift response without which the outcome may not have been as positive. I also want to praise the students who were on the scene for their care and assistance and to thank the teaching & support staff whose reactions in supporting Ryan's family, the students and each other were outstanding. At a very difficult time the true meaning of school as a community was present in Our Lady's. Here in Our Lady's we have long been aware of the importance of Emergency Response training and a large number of our staff have received this training, a practice which will most certainly continue into the future".





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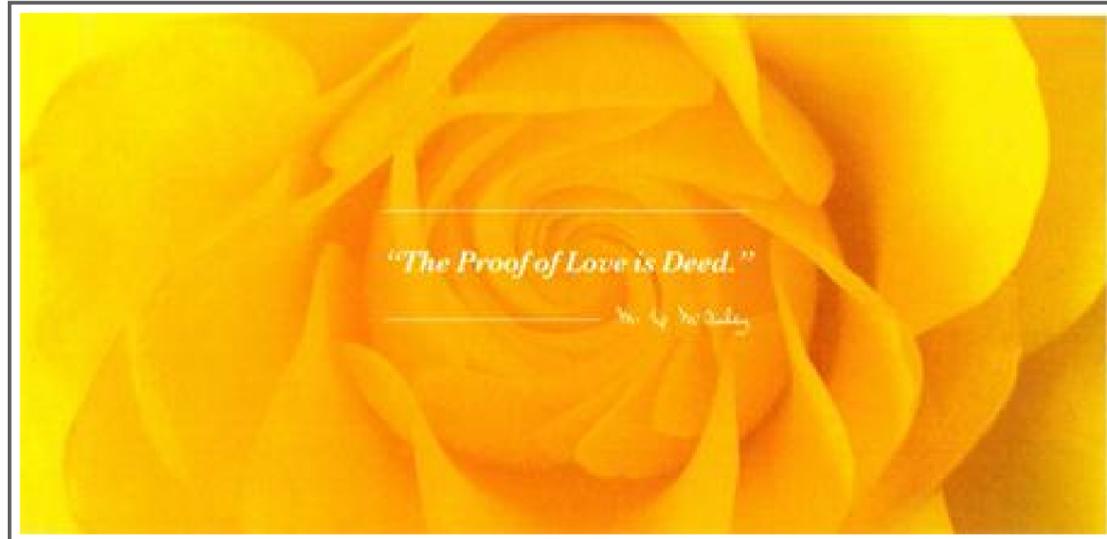
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## Commemorative Book Launch and Catherine McAuley Lecture

Friday 11th April 2014



St. Leo's College, Carlow are proud and pleased to announce the launch of our commemorative book reflecting on the enormous contribution made by the Mercy Congregation to Education.

The book entitled "**The Proof of Love is Deed** - *Following in the Footsteps of Catherine McAuley*" includes a number of personal reflections from a number of high profile contributors including:

**Sheila Carney RSM**                      **Aine Barrins RSM**                      **Mary C Sullivan RSM**  
**Brenda Dolphin RSM**                      **Ann Looney NCCA**                      **David Tuohy SJ**  
**Fr Peter McVerry SJ**                      **Sr Stanislaus Kennedy**                      **Mary Curtis RTE**  
**Teresa McKenna NCAD**

- Olivia O'Leary Journalist and Broadcaster
- Mary Doyle Deputy Secretary General of the Department of Education and Skills
- John Lonergan former Governor of Mountjoy Prison
- Anne Kelleher, who recently retired as Chief Executive Officer of CEIST
- Professor Hannah McGee from the Royal College of Surgeons
- Sheila Smyth German Inspector
- Caoimhin O'Neill President of Carlow College

The book also records the creation of the Commemorative Tapestry.

We are delighted that past pupil Olivia O'Leary has agreed to launch this publication which will take place on May 1st at 7.30p.m.

The launch will be followed by the fifth Catherine McAuley Lecture, delivered by **Alison Miller**, a member of the successful Six Nations Women's Rugby Team.

All are welcome to what promises to be a truly wonderful evening.

RSVP to [invite@stleoscarlow.ie](mailto:invite@stleoscarlow.ie)

Click [here](#) to download flyer.



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## News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna

Wednesday 30th April 2014

The following news snippets and photos were kindly shared by [Mary Immaculate Secondary School](#), Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare.

### Mary Immaculate students advance to finals of ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2014

A group of eleven transition year students from Mary Immaculate Secondary School have made it to the finals of the ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards 2014.

The team were first selected for the ECO DENS, one of which was held in Claregalway. Here they presented their project to a panel of judges. The judging involved a presentation to the judges followed by questioning from the judges. From the 4 ECO Dens held throughout the country 70 projects are chosen to exhibit at the Showcase and Awards Ceremony, which will take place in the Round Room inside The Mansion House, Dawson St., Dublin 2 on Tuesday the 20th of May 2014.

In a statement ECO-UNESCO said that "the judges were so impressed this year by the quality and range of projects and want to express their congratulations on all your amazing work."

The Lisdoonvarna project set out:

- To develop a comprehensive programme for primary schools on the following topics:
  - Litter/Littering
  - Groundwater and Groundwater Pollution
- To be trained to deliver our programmes to primary school classes.
- To make primary school students aware of the issue of Litter/Littering and Groundwater Pollution.
- To design two board games that tests the knowledge of primary school students on these particular subjects.



Pictured above are some of the team members at the ECO-DEN.

They are now looking forward to exhibiting their project in Dublin. They are grateful for the assistance they have got in developing this resource from Dr. Eamon Doyle, Sonja O'Brien and a number of primary teachers.



Pictured above are students from Mary Immaculate with Dr. Eamon Doyle.



Pictured above are students working with Sonja O'Brien.

### Comenius visit to Holland - EASTER 2014

The final stage of this year's Comenius Project took place in the city of Hoorn in the Netherlands from the 8th to the 12th of April. Ten students of Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna travelled to Tabor College in Holland to complete this European Schools project.

The accompanying teachers were Maggie Garrihy and Shane Slattery and the project is coordinated by Mr. John Sims. The visitors were hosted by Dutch families for the duration of their stay. The group had the benefit of home cooking and hospitality which provided a unique opportunity to sample local culture and places of interest.

Co-operating with both Italian and Dutch schools proved very fruitful. The students worked on developing a tourist trail which can be used as a smart phone or tablet computer APP. It is targeted at teenagers who come to visit the North Clare area.



By providing information and recommendations on the most interesting and fun places to visit, students devise "fun things to see and do" for people of their own age group.

The project entitled "RICH IN CREATIVITY, POOR IN RESOURCES" marked the culmination of yet another successful Comenius Project. The students who travelled to Holland were: Suchadar White, Ashley Garrihy, Deirdre and Stephen O'Connell, Rowan Johnson, Barry Fitzgerald, Ciarán Johnston, Charlie Morahan, Austin Moloney and Crebhan Hughes.

### TY Wheelchair Basketball Programme



This programme was run in Mary Immaculate Secondary School on Thursday 10th April 2014. 13 students participated in the workshop which was run by Mr. Paul Ryan who is the IWA Sports Munster Development Officer.

Wheelchair basketball is a fantastic sport from an inclusive point of view. It develops players with a wide range of physical disabilities to take part in this fast competitive game with their friends using custom built sports specific chairs.

Why get involved?

- This is a fun and inclusive sport, and TY students learn first-hand that their peers with a disability can also take part in and benefit from playing team sports.
- The programme immerses students in a disability sport and provides an authentic inclusion experience.
- There is also an opportunity for TY teams to play "Mainstream" Junior Wheelchair Basketball teams around Munster.

How the program works:

Day 1: School Introduction (Thursday 10th April)  
 IWA Sports Munster Development Officer Paul Ryan, bring sportschairs for TY participants to play in their school sportshall. Morning session: introducing the game, skills & drills.  
 Afternoon session: blitz matches played- select schools team to represent at county final blitz.

Day 2: County Final (Tuesday 6th May – not confirmed yet)  
 School teams play each other, and one team qualifies to represent their county at the TY Munster Wheelchair Basketball Final.

Day 3: Munster Final.  
 All County Champion teams play a blitz format to arrive at the eventual Munster Champions.

### Mary Immaculate students shine in literary competitions

Congratulations and well done to Róisín O' Donoghue (2nd Yr.) and Jane O'Loughlin (1st Yr.) who respectively received 3rd place and highly commended in the Junior Section of the Clare Champion Short Story Competition.

Both girls were part of a strong entry submission from students of Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna. All students worked extremely hard, each coming up with very original ideas and then editing, honing and polishing their efforts to perfection. Due to the high level of entry from schools all over Clare not everyone could be placed. However, in terms of effort and participation everyone was a winner and as a school we are extremely proud of their achievements.

Róisín who received 3rd place used the bad storms of last winter as a source of inspiration. She wrote a beautifully descriptive story told from three different perspectives, all ultimately combining to provide a happy ending.

Jane used WWII as a basis for a poignant and sweet love story between an Irish country girl and a German pilot who crash landed in a field close to her father's farm.

Both stories not only reflect ability but also are proof of hard work, commitment, great qualities in students so young. This can only auger well for the future.

Further congratulations are extended to Neasa McCormack and Ava Flanagan from Transition Year, who were shortlisted for a Poetry Slam Regional Competition held in the Black Box, Galway on April 8th. Both put on strong performances with Neasa being one of three successful competitors.

Neasa wrote and performed a poem called "Seasons" which was up against very strong competition from schools in Clare, Limerick, Galway and Mayo.

Her poem and performance commanded huge applause on the day. Neasa now goes forward to an All-Ireland Final in the RTE studios in Dublin, where she will be recorded as a radio performer.

If successful she will win a trip to Philadelphia. We wish her all the very best. She is a worthy winner and well deserves our praise for her ability and hard work.



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## Transition Years in Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise Display Their Artistic Side

Wednesday 2nd April 2014

Congratulations to Alatinium from Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise who are through to Junk Kouture Grand Final on May 2nd.

The team is made up of three TY students - **Eireann Brennan, Anna Healy and Laura Buggy**. The students winning entry is a dress made of aluminium tins and ring tops from cans.

The girls worked under the supervision of their teacher Ms Jayne Louise Kelly.

The students received the news last Friday when former Ms. Ireland Roseanna Davidson personally delivered the news to the school.

### Video

Click [here](#) to view video of the visit. We are proud to note the CEIST flag proudly flying outside the school at the beginning of the clip!!

Their participation in the Junk Koture completion was not the only forum the TY students used to express their artistic side.

They are currently staging the musical Wicked in the local Dunamaise Theatre in Portlaoise.

The show which will go for three nights has proved hugely popular and has been enthusiastically received by audiences.

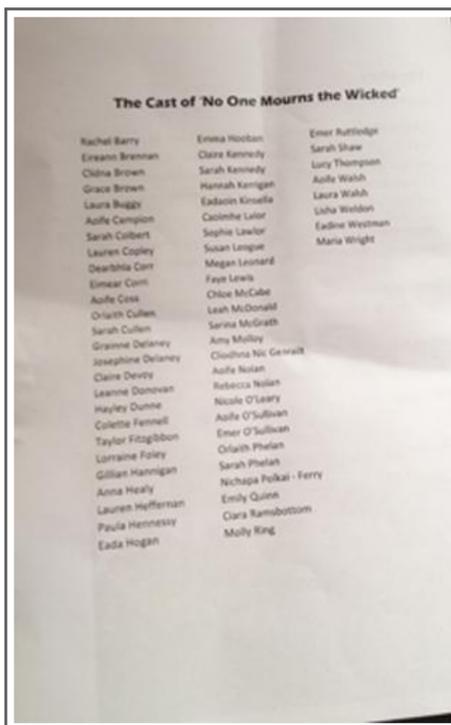
"No one mourns the wicked" tells the story of how the two witches of Oz came to be.

Under the direction of Ms. Karen Hackett and their co-ordinator Ms. Joan Finlay the Transition Years deserve great credit for staging such a professional and enjoyable production.

### Photos



Pictured above the students on stage.



The Cast of the show.



The Programme.

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## News from Presentation Secondary School, Tuam

Wednesday 9th April 2014

[Presentation Secondary School, Currylea](#), Tuam, Co. Galway have kindly shared the following news snippets with CEIST.

### Musical Recital

A musical recital and art exhibition were held recently in the synod hall Tuam. Pictured below are some of the performers rehearsing for the big night.



### Transition Year Fashion Show

A TY fashion show was held recently in Presentation Secondary School, Currylea.

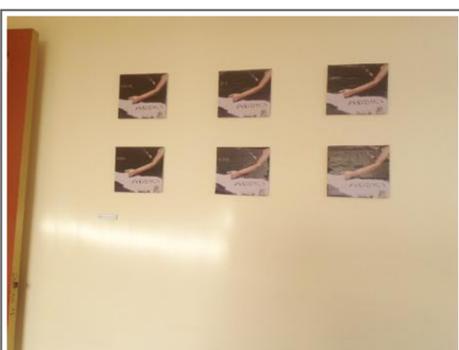
It was an evening for Transition Year students to showcase some of their original designs and millinery skills.



### Art Gallery

Fifth year art students recently unveiled their modern art gallery in the school.

The Marie Quinn Hogan modern art gallery was officially opened by former art teacher, Ms. Marie Quinn Hogan.





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## Presentation Loughboy Win All Ireland Senior 'A' Post Primary Camogie Title

Wednesday 9th April 2014

Congratulations to [Presentation Secondary School, Loughboy](#), Co. Kilkenny on winning the All Ireland Senior 'A' Post Primary Camogie Title on March 8th.

The following is an extract taken from the school website on their great win.

### All Ireland Camogie Senior 'A' Title



The electronic scoreboard tells the tale at the final of the All Ireland Senior 'A' Post Primary Schools Camogie which was played today, March 8th, at Parnell's GAA grounds in Dublin.

The game began with Pres aided by a strong breeze and they slowly built up a lead of 1-5 to 0-0, the goal being scored by Aisling Nolan. St. Marys began to come more into the game as the half progressed and with points just before half time left the score Pres 1-7, St. Marys 0-3.

The feeling at the break seemed to be that Pres would need all of this lead when they faced the wind in the 2nd half.

This seemed to be confirmed when Magherafelt scored three points without reply in the early stages of the new half. Pres settled, however, and managed to stop the Magherafelt onslaught.

About mid-way through the half Mary O'Connell got a point from a free and this was followed by a great goal from Aoife Farrell.

This left the score at 2-8 to 0-6 and try as they might after this Magherafelt could not catch the Pres girls.

The final whistle sounded to great relief and celebrations among players and supporters.



Pictured above the All Ireland Camogie champions and team mentors.



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## 'Light The Way' - A Night To Remember!

Tuesday 29th April 2014



Approximately 1,000 people participated in the 'Light The Way' candlelit procession and positive mental health event in Carrick on Suir on Friday 28 March to promote awareness and raise funds for the Donal Walsh #LiveLife Foundation, Piéta House and Aware.

Organised by Transition Year students of Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir the event captured the imagination of the whole community and Carrick was a sight to behold with candle-bearers converging on St. Nicholas' Church from a number of starting points on the outskirts of the town.

Following an introduction by Caoimhe Meaney and a rousing rendition of 'Lean on Me' there was standing room only in the church when the gathering was initially addressed by Peter Mackey who works in the area of addiction with the HSE. Peter emphasised the importance of mindfulness and gave practical advice on how we can care for our mental well-being.

The story of Donal Walsh, the Tralee teenager who passed away in May 2013 is well-known to all and his father Fionnbar was next to speak. He had a captive audience as he recounted his son's story – his cancer diagnosis, his treatment regime and his determination to speak out to young people about the value of life and the importance of connecting with friends and family when faced with challenges.

In an address that contained sadness and humour, anecdotes and memories, he spoke movingly of how Donal lived out his determination to promote a positive outlook on life and to raise funds for teenage treatment facilities.

A spontaneous standing ovation as he finished speaking demonstrated the gratitude of all present to Fionnbar and his family and friends for their work to promote Donal's message since he passed away.

The final speaker on the night was Dermot Keyes, a journalist who attended secondary school in CBS Carrick on Suir. He outlined through a reading of one of his recent columns the importance of seeing and appreciating the beauty and value of ordinary things in everyday life.

Following a powerful rendition of 'To Dream The Impossible Dream' by Dermot and members of Carrick on Suir Musical Society, Monica Griffin spoke on behalf of the Scoil Mhuire students and thanked all present for supporting the event.

A music gig in Scoil Mhuire showcasing the great talent of the young people of the area brought a memorable evening to a close.

The students hope that 'Light The Way 2014' will encourage all members of the community to reflect positively on life and provide support and friendship to each other in the face of life's many challenges.