



news from ceist...

30 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

Latest News from the Trust

The Month of May is quite a busy month for the Trust with attendance at school award ceremonies, end of term Masses, senior management appointment processes and so forth. We are making plans at present for our ninth **CEIST Annual Education Conference**, which is being held this year in the **Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath on the 25th and 26th September**. Following the very popular success of **Joining the Dots** with CEIST schools, Amalee Meehan is facilitating a weekend summer programme in Mount St Anne's from the 18th - 20th July. Click [here](#) for more details.

Dr. Marie Griffin takes up her position with CEIST as the new Chief Executive Officer on June 1st and we wish her well in her new role. CEIST offers best wishes to all students in our schools undertaking their exams this year and to school staff who are retiring at the end of this school term.



CEIST News



Security in the School - A Timely Reminder

The following is a timely message from Allianz on security checks prior to school closure for the summer holiday period.

The article highlights areas that should receive particular attention in your school security check and discusses emergency plans and pointers to reducing the risk of malicious fires.

[MORE](#)




Don't Forget

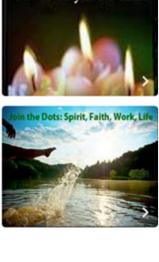


Annual Statistical Returns To CEIST

CEIST statistical returns for 2013-14 can be submitted online via <http://forms.ceist.ie> or by clicking on the **CEIST E-Portal Link** on the home page of our [website](#).

Thanks to all of our schools who have submitted their statistical data to CEIST. We ask schools who have yet to access the e-portal to please submit at their earliest convenience. The data collected from these statistics are crucial in informing the Education Office of underlying trends and standards adhered to in our schools.

Please e-mail jwoods@ceist.ie if any issues are encountered using the e-portal.



CEIST Prayers for Chairs

News from CEIST Schools



Eureka are the National Champions of Public Access to Law 2014

On the 5th April the [Eureka Secondary School PAL](#) (Public Access to Law) team set out for the Criminal Courts of Justice in Dublin for the annual National Mock Trial Competition.

Over 40 schools from all over Ireland were competing for a place in the All Ireland Finals to be held in the Criminal Courts of Justice the following weekend, April 12th.

[MORE](#)

Dates for your Diary

The Ninth CEIST Annual Education Conference will be held on **Thursday 25th and Friday 26th September** in the **Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath**.

We will be adding more details on our conference to our website in due course.

Amalee Meehan, CEIST Faith Leadership and Governance Co-ordinator is facilitating a weekend summer programme of the very successful "Joining the Dots" programme in **Mount St Anne's from the 18th - 20th July**.

Click [here](#) for more details.

Senior Management Posts - CEIST Schools

A number of CEIST schools are currently recruiting for Deputy Principals and Principals and we have posted these positions on our website.

Please note all correspondence and applications need to be directed to the address given by the school and not to CEIST.

Click [here](#) to view current posts being advertised.



Presentation Secondary School Thurlies Green-School Success!

Well done to the Green-School committee in [Presentation Secondary School, Thurlies](#) who enjoyed great success during the year.

The school was awarded the Water Conservation Flag by An Taoiseach and overjoyed to learn that out of 26 schools in the region they won the top award - €750 for the school and a crystal trophy presented by the Minister for the Environment, Mr Phil Hogan at a ceremony on May 6th in Croke Park, Dublin.

[MORE](#)



Ardcoil na Tríonóide Awards Day 2014

The Awards Day at [Ardcoil na Tríonóide](#) took place in the school gym on Friday, May 16 last. Invited guests included Sr Dolores, a member of the Mercy Community in Athy, Ms Sylvia Aspl, Chairperson of the Parents' Council, Mr Vincent Gorman, Chairperson of the Board of Management and Mr Justin Brown from CEIST, the Trustee body of the school.

While awards could be given to all students, this was an occasion to acknowledge outstanding participation and excellence.

[MORE](#)



News from Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty

The following news snippets were kindly shared by [Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty](#), Co. Cork highlighting student achievements and projects undertaken in the school.

Four transition year students at Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty have a very special project on their hands for the next two years- they will be rearing five Angus cross calves for 24 months as part of the national Certified Irish Angus Beef competition.

[MORE](#)



Launch of The Proof of Love is Deed in St. Leo's Carlow

There was a large turnout in [St Leo's College](#), Carlow recently when the school hosted two joint events.

The first was the launch of the book **"The Proof of Love is Deed - Following in the Footsteps of Catherine McAuley"** by past pupil and broadcaster Olivia O Leary.

The second was the delivery of the **Catherine McAuley Lecture** by another distinguished past pupil Alison Miller who is on the ladies Irish rugby team.

[MORE](#)



Raising of the CEIST flag in Mount Mercy College Cork

On Monday 19th of May the raising of the CEIST flag was celebrated with a Prayer Service organised by the School Chaplain Maggie Quain in [Mount Mercy College](#), Model Farm Road, Cork.

Staff and students gathered around to watch the flag being hoisted into its new position.

Mr John Kennedy the Chairman of the Board of Management and Mr Richard Cronin Chairman of the Parents' Association joined in the ceremony to recognise the important role of CEIST in Mount Mercy College.

[MORE](#)



Coláiste Bríde Students Making Positive Impact on their Community

Localise Community Service Learning Schools Programmes directly engage secondary school students in positive community work in their local areas. It challenges them to care, not only for themselves, but for others, and inspires them to take action and learn through service.

Students from two 2nd year classes in Coláiste Bríde, Presentation Secondary School, Clonsilla had a hugely positive impact on their community by reaching out to the Monday Club, a local elderly group and to Special Olympics Ireland (Eastern Region).

[MORE](#)



Coláiste Muire Ennis Students Win YSI 2014

CEIST congratulates the students of [Coláiste Muire](#), Ennis who were recently named **"Young Social Innovators of the Year 2014"**. Big congrats also to [Mount Mercy College](#), Model Farm Road, Co. Cork who were runners up in the competition.

Coláiste Muire's project **"Beware of I.T."** aims to educate young people about the increasing dangers associated with internet usage.

It was one of over 400 youth-led social innovation projects undertaken this year in over 200 second level schools and youth organisations throughout Ireland.

[MORE](#)



Mercy Navan Uniform Set for a Makeover

Amidst great excitement and anticipation, the new uniform for [St Joseph's Secondary School](#) in Navan was officially launched last week.

The uniform comes into effect in August, and will be phased in over the next two years, with next year's 1st Years, Transition Years and 5th Years switching over to the new image.

[MORE](#)



New School for Presentation Secondary School, Miltown

The Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn T.D. recently performed the official sod turning on the new [Presentation Secondary School](#) in Miltown, County Kerry.

The new school which will cost in the region of €8 million is expected to cater for more than 600 pupils.

The new school will be a two storey building adjacent to the existing school site. The new site was acquired by the Trustees in June 2010 to facilitate this project.

[MORE](#)



St Joseph's College, Lucan Students Launch 'Age United' Video

Singing, dancing and card-making was the basis of the firm friendship which was struck between these two unlikely groups.

A group of 30 students from [St Joseph's College, Lucan](#), Dublin, recently launched their **"Age United"** video - a two minute clip recording their school project detailing their attempt at reaching out to the older generation in their community.

[MORE](#)



Two All Ireland Titles in One Day for Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise

Wednesday the 7th of May was an eventful day for [Scoil Chríost Rí](#) in Portlaoise.

While many schools would be delighted to achieve one All-Ireland success, Scoil Chríost Rí managed to achieve two all in the space of a few hours!

[MORE](#)



Notable Success On The Sports Fields for Eureka Secondary School, Kells

As well as winning the Public Access to Law Competition, Eureka Secondary Schools, Kells, Co. Meath have also enjoyed great success on the sports fields over the last couple of months.

Eureka were winners of the All-Ireland TESCO Homegrown Post Primary Schools' Junior B Final and in soccer the girls won the IFA Leinster Division 1 title.

[MORE](#)



News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvara

The following are the latest news snippets very kindly put together by teacher John Simms and shared to CEIST.

On the 7th May four first year students travelled to UCC to take part in this year's Salters Festival of Chemistry. The day consisted of two scientific challenges as well as a talk on forensic science and a science demonstration.

[MORE](#)



Presentation College Carlow Success - F1 in Schools Technology National Finals

[Presentation College Carlow](#) were delighted to announce that three of their F1 in Schools teams recently collected six awards at the F1 in Schools Technology National Finals. Presentation College Carlow were winners of the Junior Cycle - Renaissance Racing.

They were also winners of the Senior Cycle - Autolaunch Racing and National Champions - Autolaunch Racing.

As National Champions, Autolaunch Racing will now represent Ireland at the F1 in Schools World Championships in Abu Dhabi in November.

[MORE](#)

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Security in the School – A Timely Reminder

Friday 30th May 2014

Every September, we receive an increasing number of property damage notifications following the re-opening of schools. As school summer holidays are approaching, school buildings and grounds will in most cases, not be used over the summer months.

We would therefore recommend that you carry out a security check prior to the school closing for holiday periods.

The following areas should receive particular attention:

- All exit doors, windows and skylights should be securely locked. Limit the number of key holders to senior personnel only and ensure that all keys are removed from the premises when they are unoccupied.
- All valuable equipment such as laptops, iPads and such like should be out of sight and if possible stored in strong rooms, particularly during holiday periods.
- Internal doors should be left unlocked with the exception of fire doors.
- Keep yards and grounds free from material that could be used as ammunition. Loose materials left outside the buildings can be used for arson and vandalism i.e. waste left in rubbish bins and skips.
- Coat scalable walls and drain pipes with anti-climb paint.
- Ensure that external lighting is in working order. The advantages of external lighting are twofold. It illuminates pathways and car parking areas to enable authorised individuals see and move safely around the school grounds after dark whilst denying intruders the cover of darkness by illuminating their access routes and target areas and thus making them more visible to passers-by and neighbours.
- Water supply should be turned off at the mains. All water taps should be checked to ensure they are fully closed. This is particularly important during winter holiday periods.
- Basketball rings, goal posts, playground equipment likely to attract children should be removed where practical.
- Ensure that any Burglar Alarms, Fire Alarms and CCTV cameras have been activated.
- Regular patrols of the school buildings and grounds during holiday periods are recommended, as is the removal of any mail from public view.
- Cash is an attractive target. It should be a firm rule that cash is not kept on the school premises overnight and particularly during weekends and holiday periods.
- Management embraces the way in which activities of maintenance and housekeeping are carried out. It is a fact that schools, which look neglected, are more prone to vandalism, theft and arson. A good working relationship within the school and local community and well understood procedures are highly effective in reducing losses at little or no cost. Security and Prevention require discipline. The best and most comprehensive Burglar Alarm and CCTV system is only effective if it is switched on.
- Finally, have a well earned and enjoyable summer break.
- conduct fire safety inspections, preferably every term;
- make more frequent informal checks to confirm that the fire safety rules are being followed;
- ensure fire escape routes and fire exit doors/passageways are unobstructed and doors operate correctly;
- check that the fire detection and protection alarm systems are maintained, tested and records kept;
- include fire safety in the regular health and safety reports to the Board of Management.

Under a Code of Practice issued by the Department of the Environment it is a requirement that all schools should maintain a Fire Safety Register that must be available for inspection by the local Fire Office upon request. The Fire Safety Register should be used to record essential information such as evacuation procedures, tests of fire fighting equipment, details of training sessions and results of fire drills.

Fire detection and alarm systems should be installed or upgraded to comply with Standard I.S. 3218. The Board of Management should give serious consideration to connection of the fire alarm system to a central monitoring station linked via the intruder alarm, which can alert the fire authorities immediately on activation of the alarm. This is particularly relevant, bearing in mind the majority of fires occur outside of school hours or during the summer holidays.

Emergency Plans

Emergency plans and fire notices are a key element of fire safety management. The plan should include agreed evacuation procedures, arrangements for calling the fire brigade and any other actions to be taken by staff in the event of a fire. In order to familiarise both staff and pupils with the evacuation procedure it is recommended that each room should have a fire notice action document conspicuously displayed informing the occupants of:

- how to raise the alarm if they discover a fire;
- the action to be taken on hearing the alarm;
- the escape routes to their assembly point;
- the location of their assembly point.

For clarity, the last two points are best displayed on a schematic plan of the school. The age and ability of the students must be taken into account when preparing the notices. When drafting the fire emergency plan, consideration should be given to all users of the premises, such as those attending sporting events, schools concerts, residents on site, the needs of speakers of other languages, and members of the public who may use the school premises to attend evening classes or meetings.

The School's Emergency Plan should also include arrangements for the safe evacuation of those with disabilities that may include learning, physical and sensory difficulties. This may require special training of staff.

Members of staff should only consider fighting a fire after they have seen to the evacuation of the pupils in their charge and raised the alarm. They must inform other members of staff of their intention to fight the fire and they must be certain that their actions will not place themselves or others in danger. If they are in the slightest doubt then they must evacuate the building along with their pupils.

Malicious Fires

Many fires start accidentally because of a momentary act of carelessness or failure to take account of obvious hazards. However, an increasing number are started deliberately and therefore consideration should be given to the following in an effort to reduce the risk of Arson: -

- Deter and prevent unauthorised entry onto the school premises. This can be done by use of signs, delineating the boundary of the premises by use of robust security fencing, good security lighting, CCTV surveillance and/or a monitored intruder alarm detection system.
- Eliminate features such as deep recesses and alcoves around the exterior of the school building.
- The weakest point of entry into a building is via the windows and doors. Clearly, means of escape must never be compromised but inspections should be carried out to ensure that windows and doors are adequately secured after school hours and external doors fitted with approved locks. The local Crime Prevention Officer can provide advice on this subject.
- Refuse and Recycling containers including wheelie bins should ideally be kept in a secure compound or alternatively secured by a padlock and chain to a post sited no less than eight metres from the building to prevent them being moved against the building.
- Obsolete combustible materials such as old tables/chairs should be stored in a secure compound or disposed of on the same day.

Most fires can be prevented by a few simple precautions and those that do start can usually be held in check or quickly controlled by fire safety measures that can be addressed under a proactive School Fire Safety Policy.

Every fire in a school has the potential to cause considerable destruction, disruption, and damage to property that can result in extensive costs and expenses being incurred in rectifying the damage. However, of much more serious concern is the fact that it can also threaten the lives of children, school staff and others who may be on the premises. Those who have experienced a serious fire at their school have difficulty in forgetting the pain and despair caused by the incident. It is important to remember that fires don't just happen; they are caused.

[School Summer Closing Precautions.pdf](#)

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Eureka are the National Champions of Public Access to Law 2014

Friday 16th May 2014



On the 5th April the Eureka Secondary School **PAL (Public Access to Law)** Team set out for the Criminal Courts of Justice in Dublin for the annual National Mock Trial Competition.

Over 40 schools from all over Ireland were competing for a place in the All Ireland Finals to be held in the Criminal Courts of Justice the following weekend, April 12th.

The top four teams on the day would secure a place in the National Finals on the 12th April, which would be presided over by three Judges of the District, Circuit and High Court.

The Eureka School Team from Kells, Co. Meath displayed some outstanding advocacy skills winning all of their three cases on the day and finishing in 1st place, thereby securing their place in the National Finals on the 12th April.

An excellent performance by all team members, in particular the Eureka barristers, Emily O'Donovan, Katie Bowser, Mary Carpenter and Catherine Dolan ensured that Eureka came out on top.

The Public Access to Law competition requires Transition Year students to prepare both sides, i.e. prosecution and defence, of two different cases. This year's competition saw students prosecute and defend a murder case as well as a Section 3 Assault case.

On April 12th the Eureka girls competed against a strong team from Loreto Kilkenny in the semi finals and came out on top to compete in the All-Ireland final against Loreto Balbriggan.

Loreto Balbriggan put up an impressive performance but the Eureka girls proved too strong for them on the day with the Eureka barristers, Catherine Dolan and Mary Carpenter, picking up some vital points on their cross examination of witnesses.

A flawless and powerful closing argument from Eureka's barrister, Catherine Dolan, garnered some all important scores for the Eureka team and left the Judges in no doubt as to who were the worthy winners.

The witnesses for the Eureka Team, in particular, Michelle Duffy, Jane Rooney, Kate Able, Emma Megan, Sarah Lawless and Aoife McKeever were well prepared and made their opponent's task all the more difficult with their impressive performances.

In addition to collecting their All-Ireland medals, special recognition on the day was awarded to Eureka students Catherine Dolan and Mary Carpenter who were jointly awarded the highly prestigious Harry Hill Cup for Best Speakers. It was a winning week for the two girls who had only days earlier collected their Under 16 All-Ireland football medals.

The Eureka Team were well prepared by their Team Coaches, Edel Traynor (Solicitor), Elaine Traynor (Solicitor) and Ronan Fahy (Teacher). The team and coaches would also like to thank Anne and Niall Dolan for all of their kind help and assistance in coaching the girls to All-Ireland success. The Eureka girls now have the opportunity to travel to Brooklyn, **New York in October** to represent Ireland in the **Empire World Finals**.



Pictured above the wining Eureka team and coaches.



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Presentation Secondary School Thurles Green School Success!

Thursday 29th May 2014

The Green school Committee in Presentation Secondary School, Thurles has had a busy yet successful year.

The school applied for another green flag, the water conservation flag. In order to achieve this flag a number of tasks had to be completed. During the week of the 11th to the 18th of November last, the school held a Water Awareness week.

Teachers were asked to choose a water related topic for their lesson during this week. Luckily, there is a chapter in all the language books on this subject, as well as being part of the Science and Geography curriculum.

Compared to the same week last year, it was discovered that during this year's Water Awareness Week students consumed three litres less water per day.

Mr. Sean Hartigan from an Taisce visited the school on the 18th of March and met Miss Coady, Miss Olivia O'Brien, the committee and two science classes.

He was impressed by all the surveys the committee had conducted, the art competitions that the students entered and the great efforts made by TY students to monitor recycling and the energy consumption in the school.

Mr. Hartigan was also impressed by fifth year art student Amie Taylor's achievement as her drawing won a place on the EHA calendar for December.

He liked the Junk Couture images displayed and the fact that our litter motto 'Throw the Sliothar, Not the Litter' is used on Tipp FM radio.

In general the commitment to recycling as shown by our clearly marked designated bins said it all.

We were delighted to receive the news on April 28th that we were awarded the Water Conservation Flag by An Taisce and overjoyed to learn that out of 26 schools in the region we won the top award - €750 for the school.

The school was presented with a crystal trophy by the Minister for the Environment, Mr Phil Hogan at a ceremony on May 6th in Croke Park, Dublin.

Presentation Secondary School, Thurles were one of four registered winners in the country and CEIST congratulates all involved on this great achievement.



Pictured above at the Green-Schools Irish Water awards ceremony are Presentation Thurles students receiving their water school of the year award from Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Phil Hogan TD.



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Ardscoil na Tríonóide Awards Day 2014

Wednesday 28th May 2014

The Awards Day at Ardscoil na Tríonóide took place in the school gym on Friday, May 16 last. It began with a reflection read by Ms Margaret Dalton and Ms Aisling Roche followed by a choral piece performed by the 1st year choir entitled "The Beauty of the Earth" which they had performed earlier in the year at the 37th Interscholar Music Festival at Wesley College, Dublin.

Invited guests included Sr Dolores, a member of the Mercy Community in Athy, Ms Sylvia Aspil, Chairperson of the Parents' Council, Mr Vincent Gorman, Chairperson of the Board of Management and Mr Justin Brown from CEIST, the Trustee body of the school.

While awards could be given to all students, this was an occasion to acknowledge outstanding participation and excellence.

There were many nominees for **Academic Excellence** from each year group based on results from Christmas and mock exam results.

Academic Excellence

The nominees are:

1st yr – Angela Joy, Senan Shortall, Esther Craven, Joshua Farrelly, Tara Kelly and Liah Ayegoro.

2nd yr - Avril Martin, Rhys Orimaco, Aoife Cunningham, Eimer Cahill, Ciaran Fennessy, Gayle Moore and Ciara Carberry.

3rd yr - Adam Bowden, Bucky Adebawale, Eoin Fox, Justine Fabien, Marin Juric, Octavian Rosca and Sarah Reeves.

5th yr - Gary Byrne, Lousie Doran, Brad Fitzpatrick, Brandon Flynn, June Phillips, Maebh Molloy, Hannah Lawler, Ferga O'Connell, Fiona Sunderland, Rebecca Cole and Shane San Agustin

Student of the Year

Next came nominations for the Student of the Year from each class group based on the criteria that students endeavour to be the best they can be each day. The winner from each year was announced at the end. The nominees were:

1st yr – Emma Cuddy, Darragh Grufferty, Charbel Nebo, Lorcan Robinson, Cieran Conlon and Seamus Farrelly.

2nd yr - Aoife Cunningham, Aoife Fennessy, Eimer Cahill, Katie Harrington, Siobhan Smith, Mathew Benkowski and Rebecca Dunne.

3rd yr - Yasmin Hyland O'Keefe, Cathal McGovern, Laura Prendergast, Jamie Merrins, Orla Dalton, Aaron Buckley and Stephen Moore.

5th yr - Gary Byrne, Laura Byrne, Louise Doran, Rebecca Cole, Rachel Eustace, Tadgh Foley, Luke Kelly, Beatrice Reeves and Shane San Agustin.

6th yr - David Kelly, Sophie Laverty, Emma Gillis, Dominic Fennelly, Joseph Fitzpatrick, Ann Marie Kelly and Kevin Moran.



Pictured above School Principal Johnny McCormack presenting 6th Year student of the year award to Emma Gillis.

Green Schools Committee

The **Green Schools Committee** works tirelessly to plant trees and bulbs around the school, develop the school gardens, feed the birds and carry out surveys for Birdwatch Ireland. The group received certificates to acknowledge their work and the committee consists of Rebecca Cole, Michael Wynn-Crosbie, Ali Loughman, Sinead Keane, Geraldine Lawler, Mateusz Benkowski, Jan Carlo Aquino, Jessica Cole, Darragh Keane, Glen Hendrick and Alisha Ali. The 1st year class group, Edmund 1, received a class award for their commitment to emptying all the classroom blue bins during the year.

Sport

Sport played a big part in some of the schools' successes throughout the year with the soccer and basketball teams winning Midland Regional finals and the girls' tag rugby team reached the Leinster final.

Basketball brought a fast and all-out energy to the contests this year with teams reaching regional championship level. Players of the Year winners are as follows:

Girls : 1st year – Fiona Troute, **2nd yr** – Siobhan Smith, **Cadet** – Niamh Walsh, **Senior** – Emma Gillis

Boys: Senior – joint winners, Johnny Massala and James Kehoe.

Cadet : Shaundale Shogbamimu



Pictured above student James Keogh being presented with Senior Boys Basketball Award by Mr Ronan.

Rugby

Rugby produced some exciting contests during the year with both boys and girls teams. Tag Rugby is now becoming a popular sport in the school.

The Rugby Players of the Year are:

Girls: Anna Cully

Senior: Ronan Fenlon

Junior: Eoin Cooney

Soccer

Soccer is also a very popular sport and continues to grow in popularity.

Senior Player of the Year – Rory Feely

U-16 Player of the Year - Octavian Rosca

1st yr Player of the Year – Fuad Adisa

GAA

GAA continues to be strong within the school with students playing at county level. We are looking forward to contests between Laois and Kildare Minors with Rory Feely, Tadgh Foley and Mark Hyland playing for Kildare and Aaron Cooney, Brian Daly and Conor Behan playing for Laois.

Senior Player of the Year – Mark Hyland

U-16 Player of the Year - Ben Flood

U-14 Player of the Year – Lee Dooley.

Equestrian

The Equestrian Team travelled the length and breadth of the country this year to represent the school. The team also hosted a very successful Interscholar Equestrian League event in March. On Awards Day the team received their certs and so did each horse! Ms Aisling Carter, the team co-ordinator, also thanked the parents who facilitate the team throughout the year.

Orlaith Doyle, a sixth year student who will be leaving the team this year, came fifth in the All-Ireland Hunter Trials.

She was awarded the Sports Person of the Year for her dedication to the team and Ms Carter wished her well.

The Equestrian Team comprises of Paul Kehoe, Rebecca Dunne, Rachel Kelly, Ruth Kehoe, Tara Mulreid, Chloe Chadwick and Orlaith Doyle

The **Cairdeas Group** work all year with Sr Concepta as a Buddy group for 1st year students and help out with many other events which take place in the school throughout the year, much of it in their own free time. These students are; Aisha Ali, Kirsty Banks, Lauren Dempsey, Michele Dempsey, Rachel Eustace, Tadgh Foley, Grace Forkin, Aoife Fricker, Daniel Gruba, Ciarán Laverty, Courtney Leonard, John McAuley, Rachel Mc Fadden, Maebh Molloy and Ferga O'Connell.

An **Ethos** award was given to three students who created some beautiful banners which adorn the school and the parish church. Of note is a series of banners depicting symbols of Christmas which added to celebrations in the parish church over Christmas. The students awarded work with Ms Shiela Byrne to create these pieces. They are Gary Byrne, Le Samblin and Brandon Flynn.



Pictured above are all the sports award winners with Principal Johnny McCormack, Sr. Dolores Grady, Mercy community and Justin Brown of CEIST.

Gaisce Awards

The Gaisce Awards or President's Award has been in existence since 1985 and Sr Concepta has been involved in this initiative in the school for almost twenty years. This year nine students obtained a silver award. They include Aisling Crosbie, Grace Forkin, Niall Foley, Tadgh Foley, Mark Hyland, Kevin Maher, Tony Martin, Gavin McDonnell and Fiona Sunderland.

Social Justice

The Social Justice Volunteers were acknowledged again this year and the work they do to build up a community of social innovation raising awareness on social justice issues within the school and to the wider community. The students involved are Rebecca Cole, Geraldine Lawlor, Ali Loughman, Tony Martin, Gavin McDonnell, Adam Bowden, Jack Fennin, Aaron Buckley, Robbie Lovett and Eoin Cooney.

For Justice Day in the school this year class groups undertook projects (some individual and some as groups) on various social justice topics which they had to present at an exhibition in the school gym. A panel of judges, having interviewed each on their chosen topic, had the tough task of picking winners. This year the winners are:

Benedicta Idehen – Education is Power

Sarah Reeves – Home Education

Laura Donegan – Wheelchair Users and their Rights

Tara Gillen, Rhema Joram and Ore Jatto won the group entry with their display on Homelessness

The Sr Helen Keegan Award goes each year to a student who through their time in school shows care, concern and dedication to justice for everyone. This year's recipient is Tanya Moran.

This year saw our Irish debaters reaching the national finals in the Gael Linn National Debating Competition under the tutelage of Mr John Watchorn and Ms Gwen Ni Hutáin. They were narrowly defeated in a close final. The team was awarded for their great work and dedication and is comprised of Frank O'Donnell, Sarah Reeves and Aoife Cunningham.

The Mary Ó Murchu French Student of the Year was awarded to Ciara Byrne.

Dominic Fennelly was awarded the Student of the Year award for German while Klaudia Worwa received the Italian Student of the Year Award. David Kelly was recognised as the Student of the Year in Agricultural Science.

Tara Mulreid and Sinead Keane had pieces of their Artwork framed which will now become part of the schools permanent art collection.

This year there was a big increase in numbers of students receiving the Full Attendance awards.

There was a special award of a number of some notable activities during the year.

Team Delta Times reached the All- Ireland Final of the Formula 1 in Schools Competition with teacher Mr Dermot Gannon and produced the fourth fastest car in the seven year history of the competition. The team is Clodagh Kelly, Shannon Keane, Kate Smullen, Tony Heffernan and Codey Davis.

Rhys Orimaco, a second year art student with Ms Margaret Dalton, won a county award recently for designing a book cover.

As part of the national "Cycle for Suicide", nineteen students cycled with teachers and parents to from Athy to Carlow and back. Liam Goldrick and Niall Foley from fifth year cycled over 100 km for the same event.

Kyle Loughman, a second year Home Economics student and finalist in the Schools Chef Star competition was wished well in his up-coming "cook off".

The "Smoolicious" team who are national winners in the Milk It competition with Ms Jackie Cooper and the "ABC Cups" team with Ms Maria Tracey who were national finalists in the Young Entrepreneur awards were congratulated for their great work and success

Student of the Year Winners

Before concluding the Student of the Year winners were announced:

1st yr – Cieran Condron

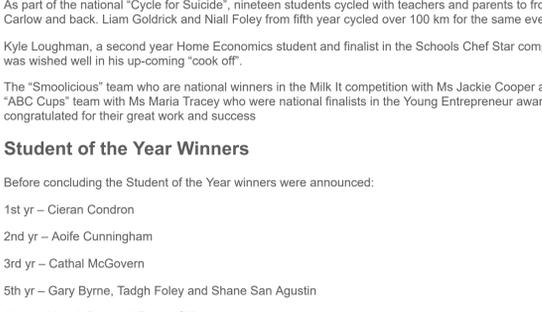
2nd yr – Aoife Cunningham

3rd yr – Cathal McGovern

5th yr – Gary Byrne, Tadgh Foley and Shane San Agustin

6th yr – Niamh Barr and Emma Gillis

Third year music student, Frank O'Donnell played Beethoven's Sonatina in G to draw the ceremony to a fitting close.



Pictured above group photo of all award winners.

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News from Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty

Monday 26th May 2014

The following news snippets were kindly shared by [Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty](#), Co. Cork highlighting student achievements and projects undertaken in the school.

Clonakilty TY students rear Angus calves for national competition

Four transition year students at Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty have a very special project on their hands for the next two years- they'll be rearing five Angus cross calves for 24 months as part of the national Certified Irish Angus Beef competition.

The girls all from farming backgrounds have a huge interest in farming and would like to pursue careers in the area of Food or agriculture. They are delighted to be one of five school chosen based on an initial application from 65 schools.

They were one of twenty schools chosen to make it to the second stage of the competition where they gave a seven minute presentation and were interviewed for 15 minutes. The girls wooed the judges with their professionalism, enthusiasm and knowledge.

The girls will be presented with their five calves at the National Ploughing Championships in September. The girls success had created great excitement in the school and they have named the five calves after staff members. We wish Aoife, Laura, Clionadh and Meabhhdh the very best as they embark on rearing the five calves.



Pictured above are Brid Hennessy (Teacher) John ABP Bandon, Laura Clancy, Clionadh Condon, Aoife Dullea, Meabhhdh Sexton, Ann Marie Brosnan (Principal), Brendan Walsh (Deputy Principal) and Charles Smith (Angus Producer Group).

Awards Evening Celebrated Sacred Heart Secondary School

Sacred Heart Secondary School recently celebrated its annual "Awards Night". Attending the evening were Mön senior Aidan O' Driscoll, former CEO of CEIST, Anne Kelleher, Chairperson of the Board of Management, Sr. Mary Donovan, teachers, parents and students.

Claire Dullea, student council chairperson welcomed everyone and congratulated all students who were being recognised for many achievements.

The evening was compered by Deputy Principal Brendan Walsh, who introduced and announced each award recipient.

In total 15 students received awards on the evening including notable additions this year for best Leaving certificate Biology and Technology results in Ireland. Anne Kelleher former CEO of the trustees for the school, CEIST was the guest speaker and she thanked the school again for the invitation.

Ms. Kelleher congratulated the magnificent achievements of the school and its pupils. In her speech she reminded the girls that they were in the prime of their lives and that they all possessed considerable potential, much of which they had yet to be discovered. In her speech Anne focused on the importance of encouraging young people as well as advising them to follow their ambitions.

The full list of award recipients included.

- Full Attendance Award to Kate Jennings, for 6 years full attendance
- Technology (Junior Cycle) - Caroline Crowley/Kate O' Donovan
- Junior Cert - Caroline Crowley/Kate Ryan
- Applied Leaving Cert - Jamie O' Regan
- Recognition of The Fergal Quinn Award - Katie Moloney
- LCVP - Madeline Files
- Recognition of Zoe O' Brien - Leaving Certificate Biology Award
- Technology (Leaving Cert) - Caroline Hayes
- Niamh Coughlin Award - Rachel Hurley
- Pauline Cullinane-Hicks Award - Madeline Files
- An Duais Award - Amy O' Sullivan

Award Ceremony Photos



Success for ABBA Bank!

On April 3rd 2014, "ABBA Bank" from Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty won the AIB Build a Bank Challenge.

28 schools from Ireland qualified for the National Finals and the standard was exceptionally high.

The girls went through an intense interview process to win the title. This consisted of 20 minutes of showcasing their bank followed by 2 minute analyses by both the head judges and the co-founder of Coder-Dojo for the Digital Prize.

The top six banks were asked to make a four minute presentation on the events of the year and the judges deliberated on the winning teams whilst the students enjoyed a performance by a new Irish band "The Original Rude Boys".

ABBA Bank feels they owe their success to the school community who evidently supported their bank openings. The girls have opened 82 new student accounts in the school and have accumulated over €34'000 on deposit. The school community have also participated in the bank's innovative YouTube videos which have received over 8'000 views to date.

Here is a link to the channel: <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1tkNxaEBM7ORnreTnyDg7w>

Each bank member took home a tablet, the winning trophy and a cheque to the value of €5,000 for the school.

The bank members include:

- Kate Ryan- Bank Manager
- Alice O'Regan- Assistant Manager
- Elena Dineen-Customer Service Representative
- Anne-Marie O'Donovan- Customer Service Representative
- Sarah Benson- Sales & Marketing Executive
- Serena Sheane- Financial Controller





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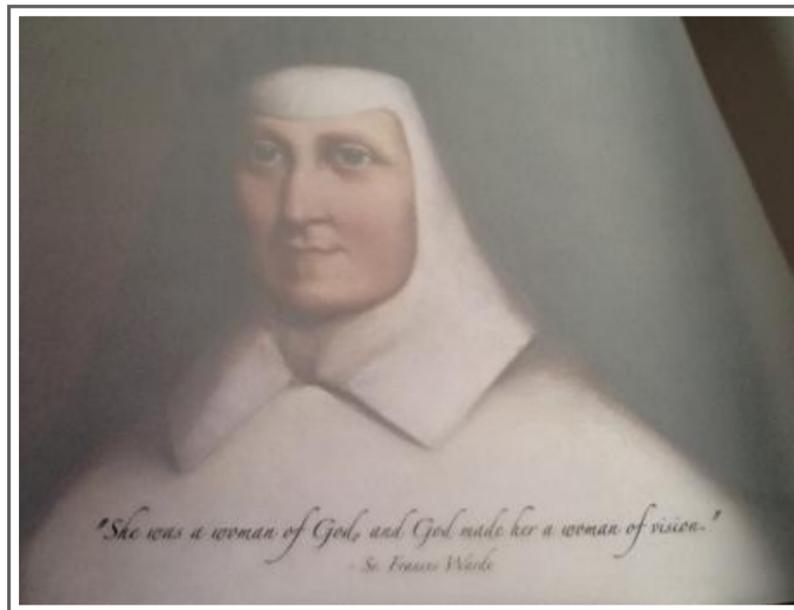
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Launch of The Proof of Love is Deed in St. Leo's Carlow

Tuesday 6th May 2014



There was a large turnout in [St Leo's College](#) College Carlow recently when the school hosted two joint events.

The first was the launch of the book "**The Proof of Love is Deed – Following in the Footsteps of Catherine McAuley**" by past pupil and broadcaster Olivia O'Leary. The second was the delivery of the **Catherine McAuley Lecture** by another distinguished past pupil Alison Miller who is on the ladies Irish rugby team.

The book itself was edited by staff member Mairead Redmond and 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, Dr 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, former Chief Executive of CEIST, Professor Hannah McGee, Dean Royal College of Surgeons, Sheila Smyth DES German Inspector, Msgr. Caoimhin O'Neill, President of Carlow College.

In launching the impressive publication Olivia O'Leary recounted her positive experience in St Leo's and how the Mercy Sisters had empowered her and the girls of her generation.

Clare Ryan the present and coincidentally the first lay Principal of St Leo's also spoke emotionally and passionately about the contribution of the Mercy Sisters to the school and how their legacy still lived on.

As part of the launch three copies were presented to Justin Cody, Chairman of the Board of Management, Sr Kathleen Kennedy the last Mercy Sister to be Principal and Justin Brown of CEIST.

In her lecture Alison Miller recalled fondly her memories of her time in St Leo's and how her passion for sport had been ignited in the school.

She paid tribute to all her past teachers including members of the PE department. She noted how she and other women could draw inspiration from the legacy of Catherine McCauley.

She particularly highlighted how she set goals and while she encountered many challenges she still strived towards meeting those goals and eventually succeeded.

Afterwards the assembled guests adjourned to the schools new extension Solas for some refreshments and further sharing of memories. A fitting end to a lovely evening.



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Raising of the CEIST flag in Mount Mercy College Cork

Monday 26th May 2014

On Monday 19th of May the raising of the CEIST flag was celebrated with a Prayer Service with the Chaplain Maggie Quain in Mount Mercy College, Model Farm Road, Cork.

Staff and students gathered around to watch the flag being hoisted into its new position.

Mr John Kennedy the chairman of the Board of Management and Mr Richard Cronin Chairman of the Parents Association joined in the ceremony to recognise the important role of CEIST in Mount Mercy College.

Padraigin Ui Riordain Principal praised the work of CEIST and encouraged all students to be informed of the values promoted and treasured by CEIST.

It was a meaningful occasion and we were blessed that the rain stopped just in time for the ceremony.



Pictured above Ms Mary Roche, Mr Richard Cronin, Doireann Riordan, Mr John Kennedy, Rebecca Barford Ryan, Ms Ann Nally and Padraigin Ui Riordain (Principal).



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News from Coláiste Bríde, Presentation Secondary School, Clondalkin

Friday 30th May 2014

Localise Community Service Learning Schools Programmes directly engage secondary school students in positive community work in their local areas, it challenges them to care, not only for themselves, but for others, and inspires them to take action and learn through service.

This year the Localise have embarked upon piloting the Localise Community Action Short Course at junior cycle. The short course is a curriculum component in the new junior cycle, which has, in this case, been developed to address the societal need of connecting what is learned inside of the classroom to the world outside the school walls, while being of real service to the local community.

Students from two 2nd year classes in Coláiste Bríde, Presentation Secondary School, Clondalkin had a hugely positive impact on their community by reaching out to the Monday Club, a local elderly group and to Special Olympics Ireland (Eastern Region).

Rang Aodh

Rang Aodh visited the local elderly, The Monday Club to find out about school days past, as it happens The Monday Club hold their weekly meetings in the building where Coláiste Bríde was situated for many years before moving to the current site on New Road. While at The Monday Club the students held an intergenerational quiz and took portrait photos of the club members. The following week The Monday Club members were invited back to school, where they were given a tour, and were brought back into the classroom for a local history lesson given by class teacher Ms. McArdle, before viewing an exhibition of their portraits and school stories.



Rang Fionnuala

Rang Fionnuala invited Special Olympic Athletes from the Ronanstown Community Training Centre to Coláiste Bríde on March 27th, where they filmed a music video to the song 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. The theme of the video was "Because I'm Happy to be Different, Because I'm Happy to Treat Everyone the Same" This event was a wonderful success as the students and Special Olympians were able to celebrate ability and focus on their commonalities, while sending out a serious but positive message.



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Coláiste Muire Ennis Students Win YSI 2014

Thursday 8th May 2014



CEIST congratulates [Coláiste Muire, Ennis](#) students who were recently named “**YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATORS OF THE YEAR 2014**”. Big congrats also to [Mount Mercy College, Model Farm Road, Co. Cork](#) who were runners up in the competition.

Coláiste Muire's project **Beware of I.T** aims to educate young people about the increasing dangers associated with internet usage.

It was one of over 400 youth-led social innovation projects undertaken this year in over 200 second level schools and youth organisations throughout Ireland.

Sr Stanislaus Kennedy, Co-Founder, Young Social Innovators and Anne O'Leary, CEO Vodafone Ireland presented the winning team with their award at a special ceremony in Dublin following the 13th Young Social Innovators Annual Showcase, which was supported by the Vodafone Ireland Foundation.

The prize for the winning school, Colaiste Muire, included €1,500 to develop their project.

Runners-up were another CEIST school, [Mount Mercy College, Model Farm Road, Co. Cork](#) for their project on **Sexual Assault Must Come To A Halt**.



Picture above Students from Colaiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare celebrate after being crowned Young Social Innovators of the Year 2014. Also pictured are Sr, Stanislaus Kennedy, Co-founder, YSI, and Anne O'Leary, CEO, Vodafone Ireland.

The Young Social Innovators Showcase and Awards were attended by over 4,500 young people. Congratulating the award winners and all the participants in this year's YSI Social Innovation Programme, Sr Stan said “today we've witnessed thousands of young people who are completely engaged in society and prepared to play an active role in resolving some of our most pressing social issues. Social Innovation champions youth led, experiential learning. It's 'hands on' active citizenship. Civic engagement should always be a core part of youth development and education. It's learning for life and work but fundamentally it is learning about how you connect to the people around you.”

Anne O'Leary, CEO, Vodafone Ireland, said “We're delighted and very proud to support Young Social Innovators. This is a uniquely rewarding opportunity for young people to make a real difference to society. We continue to be hugely impressed with the far reaching scope and creativity of your initiatives. You deserve our support, encouragement and our respect. We all stand to benefit from your actions if we nurture the ideas and the attitude showcased here today,” she continued.

Speaking on the impact of social innovation education at the Showcase, Rachel Collier, Co-founder and Chief Executive, YSI called for all young people to be given the opportunity to participate in a social innovation programme.

“As a society we are facing huge local and global challenges. Science and technology are helping us to develop innovative responses to many of these challenges. Education for social innovation is playing a critical role too, promoting innovation for social good – advancing equality, fairness and social inclusion. This learning has to be a central part of the education for all young people in Ireland. It cannot be left to chance or as an optional module or course but as an integral part of youth development,” she said.

Over 6,000 young people participated in Young Social Innovators' project-based Social Innovation Action programme this year undertaking projects aimed at finding and implementing solutions to the social issues that concern them.

The projects addressed a range of social issues including farm and water safety, mental health, gay rights, the isolation of older people, energy and environmental conservation, as well as issues such as alopecia awareness and cyber-bullying. A further 16,000 young people were involved in YSI's other innovation programmes in 2014.

In March this year An Taoiseach launched the Social Innovation Awards Scheme recognising schools and youth organisations which promote youth led social innovation on an on-going basis.

YSI designed the scheme in association with its public partners, Departments of Environment, Community and Local Government, the Health Service Executive, Irish Aid's WorldWide Global Schools, and the Departments of Children and Youth Affairs, Education and Skills. Over 200 second level schools are eligible for these awards.

Since the organisation was founded in 2001, over 75,000 young people have participated in YSI programmes and have undertaken more than 3,000 youth led social innovation projects.

Young Social Innovators' aim, in conjunction with its official partner, the Vodafone Ireland Foundation, is to create 100,000 young social innovators by 2015.



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Mercy Navan Uniform Set for a Makeover

Friday 23rd May 2014

Amidst great excitement and anticipation, the new uniform for [St Joseph's Secondary School in Navan](#) was officially launched last week.

The uniform comes into effect in August, and will be phased in over the next two years, with next year's 1st Years, Transition Years and 5th Years switching over to the new image.

The new uniform is the result of 18 months of fabric sampling, design and pricing, consultation with staff, parents and students, and meeting manufacturers and suppliers.

The new design keeps the distinctive Mercy Blue, albeit in a richer tone, across the entire school.

The new pleated school skirt is a plaid weave of blue, black and white. Senior students, who appreciate the distinction of being older, will have a subtle difference in their uniform with the introduction of a red stripe on the collar of their jumper.

The current blue shirt is to be replaced with a crisp white.

The response to the new uniform has been overwhelmingly positive, and it will continue a sense of pride in Mercy Secondary School amongst the student body.

The new uniform is available from Geoghegan's on Trimgate Steet.



Picturd above is collage of photos with students wearing new uniform.



Three students from St. Joseph's Secondary School, Navan wearing new school uniform.



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Minister Quinn turns sod on new €8 million Secondary School for Presentation Miltown

Friday 9th May 2014

The Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn T.D., today performed the official sod turning on the new Presentation Secondary School in Miltown, County Kerry. The new school which will cost in the region of €8 million is expected to cater for more than 600 pupils.

The new school will be a two storey building adjacent to the existing school site. The new site was acquired by the Trustees in June 2010 to facilitate this project.

This project consists of general classrooms, practical rooms, social areas, administration rooms, teaching spaces, laboratories, a general purpose hall, a library with ancillary spaces in addition to a PE Hall with fitness suite. Outdoor areas include ball courts, bus set down, surface car parking and associated site works and landscaping.

Speaking at the ceremony today Minister Quinn said, "The new school will be of huge benefit not only to today's students but also to future generations in Miltown and its surrounding areas who will attend this school."

"Despite the tough economic circumstances the country faces, this Government has prioritized education and we continue to provide much needed new school buildings, major extensions and vital refurbishment works for our schools."

"I want to thank the principal, the board of management, parents, teachers and the whole school community for their work in bringing the project to this point and I look forward to returning to see your new state of the art school when it is completed," Minister Quinn concluded.

This school is one of seventeen projects selected to form part of the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA) Devolved Schools Building Programme where the Department of Education and Skills has devolved responsibility for the management and delivery of this project to the NDFA.

This new build will replace the existing school, which is expected to be demolished following the project's completion. Work on site began in March 2014.



The Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn pictured above turning the sod on new school for Presentation Secondary School, Miltown, Co. Kerry.



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St Joseph's College, Lucan Students Launch 'Age United' Video

Friday 16th May 2014

Singing, dancing and card-making was the basis of the firm friendship which was struck between these two unlikely groups.

A group of 30 students from [St Joseph's College Lucan](#), Dublin, yesterday launched their '[Age United](#)' video - a two minute clip recording their school project detailing their attempt at reaching out to the older generation in their community.

The project was undertaken as part of the girls' school CSPE project, and quickly turned into a labour of love, as the two groups bonded through dancing, singing and friendly chats over many cups of tea.

The second year students decided to contribute to their community by spending time with the local active retirement group and bridging the intergenerational gap.

Maura O'Reilly, the chairperson of the Lucan Active branch, said that they had a "great time" with the girls.

Photos



Pictured above are Students and members of the Lucan Active Retirement group at the launch of the video by 2nd year students from St.Joseph's College, Lucan, Co. Dublin.



Pictured above RTE News reporter Sinead Hussey in St Joseph's College.



Ms Fitzgerald pictured above making the opening speech.



Pictured above are RTE and local Ministers at the video launch.



Students, Teachers and Members of the Lucan Active Retirement Group.



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Two All Ireland Titles in One Day for Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise

Thursday 8th May 2014

Wednesday the 7th of May was an eventful day for Scoil Chríost Rí in Portlaoise.

While many schools would be delighted to achieve one all Ireland success Scoil Chríost Rí managed to achieve two all in the space of a few hours!!

Firstly the school's U14 soccer team had a fantastic 7-2 win in Athlone to claim the All Ireland U14's title with one player Emma Lawlor scoring five of the seven goals.

This was a great achievement and we would like to congratulate the team as well as their teachers and coaches Mr.Goggin, Mr.Moss & Ms.Duggan.

Meanwhile a Transition Year student from the school was busy cooking up another victory as she was taking part in The Fine Dine at Mine All-Island Schools Cookery Competition.



The Junior and Senior Finals were held over two days in St. Angela's College, Sligo. Sixteen finalists in each category and from all over Ireland battled it out for the coveted title.

The competition gives students an opportunity to create tasty, healthy and affordable restaurant meals at home.

Students are asked to submit their favourite restaurant meal (main course dish only) for TWO people.

In the end the student in question **Eada Hogan** was victorious and won first prize in the senior category.

Well Done Eada.



Pictured above the Scoil Chríost Rí team winners of the All Ireland U14's Soccer Championship.



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Notable Success On The Sports Fields for Eureka Secondary School, Kells

Tuesday 20th May 2014

All Ireland Tesco Homegrown Post Primary Schools Junior B

Eureka Secondary School, Kells, Co. Meath produced a fantastic display to overcome Ballinamore Community School, Leitrim in the TESCO Homegrown Post Primary School's Junior B Final. The Meath School played a flawless tactical game and had the perfect finisher in full forward, Niamh O'Keefe, who finished the day with 5 goals to her name.

From the moment the two teams appeared on the pitch the clouds opened to produce a torrential downpour that lasted right up until the final whistle.

It was Ballinamore that started the brighter of the 2 teams as they scored the first point of the match through corner forward, Aileen MaGuire who was to finish the game with 5 points. However, this was to be the only time that the Leitrim school, were to lead as Eureka got to grips with the awful weather conditions to produce some beautiful flowing football.

The impressive Amy Gaynor levelled the scores for Eureka as the playmaker took her score well but that was followed immediately by Niamh O'Keefe's first contribution as she stormed along the side-line before finishing delicately to the bottom corner. Eureka never looked back and O'Keefe was to hit the net twice more in the first half to complete her hat trick of goals. Aileen Maguire pointed another free for Ballinamore but they were already in consolation territory as the half time score was 3-07 to 0-02 in favour of Eureka.

Ballinamore needed a quick start to the second half but they were immediately rocked back on their heels, as O'Keefe was on the end of a typical flowing move and the expert marksman made no mistake. O'Keefe was to add yet another goal to finish with an impressive tally of 5 goals and a point and manager and teacher, David Wright, even had the luxury of withdrawing the player of the match with more than 10 minutes to play. Carla La Guen scored Ballinamore's only point from play but their misery was compounded as Laura Keoghan added her school's 6th goal. The Leitrim School never gave up battling right to the end but they had no answer to a fantastic attacking performance from Eureka.

To their credit the likes of Ellis O'Dowd, Carla La Guen, Aileen MaGuire and substitute Katie McNulty did their best to bring Ballinamore back into the game.

For the winners there were outstanding performances all over the field especially from the like of Shianne Swarres who played a deep lying defensive role despite wearing number 15 on her back, Marion Farrelly was outstanding at centre half back as was Amy Gaynor who was at the heart of everything good that Eureka did.

Laura Keoghan, Edith Lynch and Ciara Lynch were all excellent in attack but there is no doubt that the headlines will go the way of Niamh O'Keefe who took every chance that came her way to justify her selection as Player of the Match.

Final Score:

Eureka S.S Kells 6-13

Ballinamore C.S Leitrim 0-06

Ballinamore C.S. S. O'Rourke, R. McNiffe, R. O'Toole, K. Doonan (c), E. Quinn, D McGovern, N. McNiffe, E. O'Dowd, R. McHugh, S. Plunkett, E. McGovern, A. McCartin, C. LeGuen (0-01), L. Flynn, A. MaGuire (0-05 f).

Eureka S.S, Kells. L. Carpenter, H. Doyle, M. Carpenter, E. O'Neill, A. Tobin, M. Farrelly, E. Corcoran, C. Dolan (0-02), R. Finnegan, E. Lynch (0-02), A. Gaynor (0-01), L. Keoghan (1-02, 0-01f) C. Lynch (0-03), N. O'Keefe (5-01), S. Swarress



Pictured above the Eureka Girls GAA Team who won the All Ireland Post Primary Junior B Title.

IFA Leinster Champions - First Year Division 1

Eureka Secondary School girls won 6-0 against Scoil Mhuire, Clane to become 1st year division 1 champions.

Goals from Hannah Boggins and Ruby Loughlin and 2 from Lorraine Drumm and 2 from Chloe McDonnell sealed a well deserved victory in Trim.

Well done to all that took part and coaches Mr Noone, Mr Dennehy and Mr Whitty.



Pictured above the Eureka girls team who won the IFA Division 1 Leinster Championship.



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News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna

Thursday 29th May 2014

The following are the latest news snippets very kindly put together by teacher John Simms and shared to CEIST.

Salters Festival of Chemistry

On the 7th May four first year students travelled to UOC to take part in this year's Salters Festival of Chemistry. The day consisted of two scientific challenges as well as a talk on forensic science and a science demonstration.



The students that took part were Jane O'Loughlin, Aisling O'Connell, Conor Clancy and Arthur Collins. They were accompanied to the event by John Simms.

Mary Immaculate students take top awards at SciFest

SciFest was held at GMT on the 15th May. Mary Immaculate Secondary School sent six projects to the event. Secondary school pupils from counties Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Clare and Tipperary took part in the competition submitting a total of 50 projects.

The North Clare school was very successful at the event taking home two awards. Aisling O'Rourke took the top award at the event by winning the SFI Discover Best Project Award. This award was won for her project entitled "an examination of rock pool fish communities on shores north and south of Galway Bay".

Maghnus Hartigan was awarded the Intel Award (Best Physical Sciences or Technology Project). This was for his project entitled "Mouse's Ears: The development of a computer mouse that senses the user's subconscious reactions".

The other projects competing were: Órlaith Bowen - Predator effect on the behaviour of *Mytilus edulis* and *Littorina littorea*, Tess Casasin Sheridan and Aoife Doherty - Why are the beaches in Clare different colours?, Patrick O'Rourke - Sport and alcohol, is it too close a relationship? and Lizzy Roche and Olivia McGann-Variations in *Carina vulgaris* from different regions of the Burren.



Pictured above Dr Des Foley, Head of School Science GMT, Aisling O'Rourke, Donna McCabe (SFI) and George Porter, Scifest.

2014 Awards Ceremony at Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna-Fifth Student Awards

The Principal, John O'Loughlin, told the gathered student and staff body that 'the awards ceremony is designed to encourage and challenge each student of Mary Immaculate to be the best possible person he or she can be'.

He thanked the tremendous dedication and generosity of the staff when it came to the promotion and support of co-curricular and extracurricular activities. He congratulated the entire student body, especially those being nominated and those receiving an award.

He thanked especially John Simms, Acting Deputy Principal for co-ordinating the Student Awards and Sally McMahon for secretarial support.

Attendance:

The school is proud of the very good attendance rate of its students. Full attendance of the following students was acknowledged:

- First Year: Dara Kenneally
- Second Year: Liam Nilan, Róisín O'Donoghue,
- Third Year: Keith Dowling, Maghnus Hartigan, Pádraig Kelly, Ben Kenneally
- Fifth Year: Maria Beuselnick, Nicole Davis Danaher, Cronan Howley, Aisling O'Rourke,
- Sixth Year: Angelo Heart

Charity:

As a Mercy/CEIST school we are always aware of those who are much worse off than us. The following students were thanked for their extra effort in relation to raising much needed funds for Trócaire:

Arthur Collins, Conor Clancy, Claire Reilly, Tess Casasin Sheridan, Thomas McCormack, Colm O'Brien, Sean Kelly

Focus Ireland:

With the extent of homelessness increasing across the country year on year it was appropriate that the effort of our First Year students in raising awareness and money for Focus Ireland was acknowledged: Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the four First Year representatives on behalf of all their classmates: Joshua Roche, Isabelle Walsh, Fearghal Burke, Ellen Dobbin Catto.

Classroom Assistants:

There is a group of students who each morning since last September helps arrange and set up the classrooms for class.

Isabelle Walsh, Jane O'Loughlin, Theo Martin, Ken Scheuenemann, Owen Kelly, Liam Nilan, Amy Costello, Claire Costello, Scion Flanagan, Tara Flanagan & Conor Casserly.

Student Council:

As part of our school community we value student input, opinion is sought and respected and students are empowered to participate in the life of the school.

- First year: Isabelle Walsh, Michael Garrihy, Ellen Dobbin Catto, Joshua Roche
- Second Year: Richie Johnson, Aidan McNamara, Olivia McGann, Ailbhe Hughes
- Third Year: Cathal Guerin, Dilse Guerin, Eala Mardell, Joseph Mogan
- TY: Charlene Smyth, Austin Moloney
- Fifth Year: Annie Xiao, John Clancy
- Sixth Year: Keelan McMahon, Katie Connole, Mason Roche, Catherine Guerin

BT Young Scientists:

The school continues to strive for excellence in all spheres especially in the academic. We promote quality and excellence in teaching and learning. We are very pleased to honour and acknowledge students who have achieved excellence in Science. This year we had another very successful BT Young Scientist competition with the school bringing home 5 awards. Those who partook in the 2014 BT Young Scientist were:

Órlaith Bowen, Aoife Doherty, Tess Casasin Sheridan, Lizzy Roche, Olivia McGann, Maghnus Hartigan, Stephen O'Connell, Rhianna McMahon, Keelan McMahon, Patrick O'Rourke, Aisling O'Rourke & David Sims

Salters' Festival of Chemistry:

Four first year students took part in this competitive and practical activity featuring a scientific investigation chosen by Salters Institute and one chosen by University College Cork.

Conor Clancy, Arthur Collins, Aisling O'Connell & Jane O'Loughlin,

Scifest:

This was held in GMT in May. Our school won the Best Project Award (Aisling O'Rourke) and also the Intel Award (Maghnus Hartigan)

Participants were: Órlaith Bowen, Patrick O'Rourke, Lizzy Roche, Olivia McGann, Tess Casasin Sheridan, Aisling O'Rourke & Maghnus Hartigan.

Northern Ireland Young Scientists:

In June 2013, students from Mary Immaculate participated in the Northern Ireland Young Scientist competition. Four awards were won by the students at this event.

Participants: Claire Costello, Ross Duffy, Katie Flanagan, Dilse Guerin, Maghnus Hartigan, Ben Kenneally, Myra McNamara, Eala Mardell, Rebecca O'Callaghan, Ellen O'Loughlin, Eimear Thynne, Órlaith Bowen, Martyna Buynowska, Deirdre O'Connell, Keelan McMahon, Aisling O'Rourke & David Sims

British Science Association Crest Awards:

There are three levels of award: bronze, silver and gold.

Bronze Award: Claire Costello, Ross Duffy, Katie Flanagan, Dilse Guerin, Maghnus Hartigan, Ben Kenneally, Myra McNamara, Eala Mardell, Rebecca O'Callaghan, Ellen O'Loughlin & Eimear Thynne.

Silver Award: Órlaith Bowen, Martyna Buynowska & Deirdre O'Connell

Gold Award: Keelan McMahon, Aisling O'Rourke & David Sims

Young Environmentalists 2013:

2013 was the first time we participated in this competition.

Finalists: Eala Mardell & Rebecca O'Callaghan
 Highly Commended: Myra McNamara & Eimear Thynne

Young Environmentalists 2014:

Finalists: Deirdre O'Connell, Ashley Garrihy, Rowan Johnson, Suchadar White, Shane O'Donoghue, Joanna Kowalczyk, Ryan Burke, Stephen O'Connell, Tomás Cullinan, Tristan O'Callaghan & Crebhan Hughes.

Literacy Awards:
 Helen Bradshaw, on behalf of the English Department and as part of our School Improvement Plan (SIP) said that 'as a result of the Drop Everything and Read Programme (DEAR) students have gained more confidence in their literacy and oracy abilities' She went on to say that 'this has led to greater participation in local, regional and national competition and is borne out by our many successes and reasons to be proud this year'. Helen went on to quote Lily Tomlin, a famous American actress and comedienne who once said, "If you read a lot of books you are considered to be well read, but if you watch a lot of TV you are not considered well viewed!"

English Short Story Awards:

First Year: Jane O'Loughlin, Conor Clancy, Ellen King, Dara Kenneally, Lara Norrish, Isabelle Walsh
 Second Year: Róisín O'Donoghue, Grace Cassidy, Joey Fitzgerald, Richie Johnson, Owen Kelly
 Fifth Year: Jonathon Whelan, John Clancy, Riona Burke, Aisling O'Rourke

English Debaters Award:

Conor Clancy, Ellen King, Thomas Hartigan, Erin Urquhart, Lara Norrish, Lucy O'Growney

BSTAI- CIMA Secondary Schools Business Quiz Award:

The importance of business was recognised in the award to the team that reached the semi-final of the BSTAI-CIMA Secondary School Quiz: Amy Costello, Katie Flanagan, Niamh Kelly, Jack Sheedy

Awards were also made to the team that reached final:
 Maghnus Hartigan, Ellen O'Loughlin, Lauren Crowe, Ben Kenneally.

Féile na hÍnse:

The school has an abundance of talented musicians and singers. The following were awarded for their success in Féile na hÍnse:

Amhránaíocht – Popghrúpa

Ciaran Mac Eoin, Ava Ní Fhlanagáin, Brónagh Ní Choinsíin

Grúpa Cheoil

Áine Nic an Rí, Séan Mac Fhlannacaidh, Ellen Ní Lochlainn, Eimear Ní Theimhin, Niamh Ní Cheallaigh, Lauren Ní Chonchró, Míle Nic an Rí, Sínead Ní Lochlainn, Ellen ní an Rí, Róisín BÍ Dhonnóchú, Isabelle Ní Bhreathnach, Saoirse Nic Conmara

Sports Personality of the Year:

This is awarded to the student who in the opinion of the staff involved in sport deemed to be an all-rounder, good leadership qualities, putting the team first over personal glory, watching out for and defusing tension or rancour and generally a positive influence on those around him/her, capable of bringing the best out of fellow team members.

Sports Personality of the Year was awarded to Liam Tierney.

Junior and Senior Student of the Year:

Each of the students nominated in this category showed a willingness to be individual, caring, respectful, and generous with their time, courteous, able to form healthy relationships with fellow students and their teachers and other staff members. They are in effect all round students involved to the best of their ability with study and also in extracurricular activities, at all times representing the school with honour and pride.

Those students with 3 or more nominations for Junior Student of the Year were:
 First Year: Conor Clancy, Ciara Costello, Ellen King, Jessica Kelly, Lucy O'Growney, Jane O'Loughlin, Melissa Roche & Isabelle Walsh

Second Year: Grace Cassidy, Joey Fitzgerald, Owen Kelly, Niall McCormack, Liam Nilan, Katie O'Brien & Róisín O'Donoghue

Third year: Gary Connole, Keith Dowling, Olivia Leneghan, Myra McNamara & Ellen O'Loughlin

Junior Student of the year is: Keith Dowling.

Those students with 3 or more nominations for Senior Student of the year were:

Transition Year: Neasa McCormack & Deirdre O'Connell.
 Fifth Year: John Clancy, Sean Hegarty, Cronan Howley, Sínead McCormack, & Kanchana Sriwang,
 Sixth Year: Órla Burke, James Gray, Catherine Guerin, Róisín Kelly, Keelan McMahon, Amy O'Brien & David Sims

Senior Student of the year is: David Sims.



Pictured above Senior Student of the Year David Simms.



Pictured above is Junior Student of the Year Keth Dowling receiving his award.

Principal's Award:

The Principal's award is normally given to a student for his/her contribution to school life over the length of their time, talent and gifts whilst in school.

Previous award winners were:

- 2009 – Darren O'Gorman
- 2010 – David Crowe
- 2011 – Cormac Fahy
- 2012 – Mark O'Donnell on behalf of the Leaving Certificate Class 2012
- 2013 – no award

This year's award winner is Róisín Kelly.

She tried her best in everything she did both in class and out of class. She was most respectful of each and every one of her teachers over the past six years. She participated in many if not all extracurricular and co-curricular activities: Young Scientist, Speech and Drama, Féile na hÍnse, Business Quiz, Student Council, Peer mentor and on the field of play.

The school got involved and volunteered to help out whenever the need arose. She is a person who is not in afraid to swim against the tide and live out her faith in school and in the community, in her parish and with the local youth club. As a member of our Faith based school she is an exemplary role model for each of us in her quiet, determined, gentle and humble way. Róisín is an all-rounder, popular with her classmates, and staff and is blessed with bucketfuls of intelligence, integrity and kindness.

The Principal reminded Róisín that as a First Year student she wrote that she "wanted to be a fashion designer when she was older, she wished for world peace, was afraid of spiders and said that 'A real friend is someone that is always there for you'".



Pictured above is School Principal, Mr John O'Loughlin presenting Principals Award to student Róisín Kelly.



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Presentation College Carlow Success - F1 in Schools Technology National Finals

Thursday 8th May 2014

[Presentation College Carlow](#) were delighted to announce that three of their F1 in Schools teams recently collected six awards at the F1 in Schools Technology National Finals.

Presentation College Carlow were winners of the Junior Cycle - Renaissance Racing.

They were also winners of the Senior Cycle - Autolaunch Racing and National Champions - Autolaunch Racing.

As National Champions, Autolaunch Racing will now represent Ireland at the F1 in Schools World Championships in Abu Dhabi in November.

The whole school is extremely proud of their hard work and success and CEIST congrats all students and staff involved on the various projects.



Pictured above back row (L-R) David Hatton, John Harding, Pauric Dempsey & in front Team Captain Lee Campbell. Photograph by Susan Jefferies.

F1 in Schools Technology Challenge 2014

Autolaunch Racing from Presentation College, Carlow were declared the overall winners of the 2014 F1 in Schools Technology Challenge, powered in Ireland by the Irish Computer Society at the National Finals held in Dublin Castle as part of Tech Week Ireland.

Team members John Harding, Pauric Dempsey, David Hatton and Captain Lee Campbell were coordinated by teachers Claire McHugh and Mike Ryan. The team fought off competition from 25 other finalist teams from all over Ireland to claim the National Title and trophy, €2,000 in prize money, and the opportunity to represent Ireland in the 2014 World Championships in Ferrari World, Abu Dhabi alongside the 2014 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix in November this year.

Work for the 2014 Finals began last September with schools registering their interest in competing. Intense competition followed with 94 teams representing 63 second-level schools from across the country, battling their way through the various qualifying stages of the competition to reach the National Finals.

In addition to racing head-to-head, the competing teams were judged on the quality of engineering, portfolio, resource management, marketing, graphic design, sponsorship activities and on a verbal presentation of their work.

Campbell said, "Our journey so far has been the most amazing experience of our lives, and we've learned so many new skills in a vast range of areas, such as Science, Engineering, Design, Business and Media. Being involved in the competition has really broadened our horizons for the future, and having all our hard work payoff is an incredible feeling. We are absolutely delighted to be able to represent our country in this year's World Finals."

The F1 in Schools challenge, powered in Ireland by the Irish Computer Society, began as a response to a recognised skills shortage in computing and engineering, with technology courses having had experienced a significant decline in CAO applications over a number of years.

CEO of the Irish Computer Society Jim Friars congratulated all of the participants. "The teams raised the bar considerably this year and it was amazing to see the excitement and enthusiasm from both students and teachers alike. An incredible level of commitment and teamwork was displayed and the lengths that the teams went to in modelling and planning the cars were unprecedented."

This is the fourteenth year running for the leading global education initiative, which now incorporates over 25,000 schools from 40 different Countries. It will be held in Ferrari World, Abu Dhabi. Autolaunch Racing will hope to emulate the success of the only Irish team to win the World Finals, 'The Koni Kats' from St.David's Secondary School in Greystones in the 2009 Finals in London.

Follow Autolaunch's journey on their [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

See the full list of winners and awards [here](#).