

CEIST is the trustee body for the voluntary secondary schools of the Daughters of Charity, the Presentation Sisters, the Sisters of the Christian Retreat, the Sisters of Mercy and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Feature



Christmas Greetings From CEIST

The CEIST Education Office would like to offer thanks to the Boards of Management, Principals and Staffs of our 110 schools who work so hard on a daily basis to create an environment for students to flourish both academically and personally.



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

We would like to wish all in the CEIST community a **Very Happy, Peaceful and Blessed Christmas.**

Education Matters

Challenge to Change 2014/2015



Challenge to Change is a Development Education Project initiated by the Presentation Education Office for schools in the Presentation Network.

The project is funded by Worldwide Global Schools and Presentation Trustees.

[MORE](#)




Faith-related Issues

Catholic Schools Week 2015



Catholic Schools Week (CSW) will be celebrated between 25th - 31st January 2015.

The theme for CSW 2015 is "Catholic Schools: Called to Serve".

[MORE](#)




News from CEIST Schools

A First in I.T. For Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland



Presentation Secondary School in Castleisland is the first school in Kerry which has been granted the "Centre of Excellence Award for IT".

The award was presented on Wednesday 10th of December by Billy Breen of Prodigy Learning to Ms. Annette Leen (I.T. teacher) and Ms. Katherina Brodenick (Principal).

[MORE](#)

Coláiste Muire Ennis School Choir Perform at University of Limerick Christmas Musical



Congratulations to the School Choir from Coláiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare who were central to a wonderful Christmas musical celebration which was held in the University of Limerick on Saturday, 6th December, 2014. Coláiste Muire's school choir joined the UL orchestra for some special choral treats.

[MORE](#)

New Extension Begins for Mercy Mounthawk Tralee



Monday December 15th was a mile stone in the life of Mercy Mounthawk as they turned the sod for the new extension to their school.

"Since we opened on this site in 2001, our facilities, which serve a school population of 1,200 have included a set of prefabs which were necessary for classroom accommodation. This is the day that we began the countdown to their departure".

[MORE](#)

Our Lady of Mercy College Beaumont Students inspired to say Yes to success



On Monday 1 December 2014, 10 students from Our Lady of Mercy College, Beaumont, Dublin 9 travelled to London to kick start their Career Academy programme, and enjoyed a behind-the-scenes visit to Penna.

The event, called **A Capital Experience**, was organised in partnership with the national charity, **Career Academies UK**, which aims to bridge the gap between education and work by giving young people access to real experiences of the world of work.

[MORE](#)

Papal Nuncio Visits St. Raphael's College, Loughrea



The staff and students of St. Raphael's College, Loughrea, Co. Galway were delighted to welcome Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Charles Brown to the school on Monday November 24th, 2014.

Archbishop Brown was welcomed to the Diocese of Clonfert by Bishop John Kirby before meeting with several groups of students from the school.

[MORE](#)

Natasha Carrick of Presentation College, Athenry Wins Major Prize for school!



Well done to Natasha Carrick, Transition Year student from Presentation Secondary School, Athenry, who has won a prize worth EUR10,000 for telling Ireland's 11 MEP's what our youth want from them during their term in office.

Natasha who is a student of Mr. Jason Cotter's European Studies class, entered the European Parliament's 'Six World Challenge' and has successfully won a prize which will see Natasha and 23 Transition Year students from Presentation College Athenry travel to Strasbourg in March 2015.

[MORE](#)

CEIST schools Compete in the F1 in Schools World Finals



After a tough, hard fought competition Team Ireland comprising of Autolaunch Racing, Fusion F1, and Photon Racing have been successful in winning three of the top prizes at the F1 in Schools World Finals held recently in Abu Dhabi.

The reigning Irish national champions, Autolaunch Racing from **Presentation College, Carlow** impressed the judges panel and were awarded 'Best Engineered Car' and 'Best Verbal Presentation', taking 5th place overall.

Photon Racing from **Presentation College, Headford, Galway** also competed very well but were unfortunate not to receive an award.

[MORE](#)

Presentation Clonmel Celebrate Presentation Day and Bi-Centenary Closing Ceremony



Presentation Secondary School Clonmel celebrated Presentation Day through reflections and song on Friday 21st November 2014.

Sixth year students read reflections on their time as a Presentation student and what being a Presentation student meant to them.

[MORE](#)

Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise stage 3rd Year Debating Final



It is said that Debating is a sport truly worthy of the Olympics – it trains people to be analytical, critical, and quick thinkers as well as helping them become persuasive speakers, note-takers, researchers and speed readers. Indeed debating does not only teach a person how to win an argument, but also teaches a person a great amount of life's essential skills.

Such skills were evident in Scoil Chríost Rí recently when the school held the final of the 3rd Year Debating competition.

[MORE](#)

Gardai Visit Presentation College, Athenry



On the 11th December, First Year students from Presentation College Athenry, Co. Galway met with Sergeant Ronan Mahon and Garda Conor Ledwith of the Garda Traffic Corps.

The Gardai highlighted the RSA's 'Be Safe - Be Seen' Campaign, which aims to raise the importance of wearing 'high viz' clothing when out and about in the dark.

[MORE](#)

BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, with 2,077 project submissions from schools in Ireland.



This year saw an all-time record number of entries in the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, with 2,077 project submissions from schools in Ireland.

It is a huge achievement to qualify and 5 projects from Presentation Secondary School, Thurles were short-listed.

[MORE](#)

Latest News from Mitchelstown Secondary School, Mitchelstown



Presentation Secondary School, Mitchelstown kindly shared with CEIST recent news items from their school diary.

The school was thrust into the Christmas spirit when they held their Christmas Market recently. It provided students with the opportunity to display their entrepreneurial skills and showcased their talents in craft, baking and design.

[MORE](#)

Ten Scholarships for class of 2014 in Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney



Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan can justifiably be proud of the Leaving Cert class of 2014 who notched up a total of 10 scholarships.

The scholarships included the very prestigious Naughton and JP McManus Scholarships, all of which were presented on the basis of excellence and high achievement in their Leaving Certificate.

[MORE](#)

Reflecting CEIST Values

Mary's Meals



On Thursday 11th December Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow and Mary's Meals received the inaugural Human Life, Human Rights and Human Dignity Award at the Cireschtas. Mary's Meals is a global movement that sets up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities, where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

It's a simple idea that works. Mary's Meals provides one daily meal in a school setting in order to attract chronically hungry children into the classroom, where they receive an education that can, in the future, be their ladder out of poverty.

[MORE](#)



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

Month

Year

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Challenge to Change 2014/2015

Monday 15th December 2014



What is Challenge to Change?

- Challenge to Change is a development education project aimed at young people in Presentation schools.
- It seeks to raise awareness, to bring about a greater understanding of global inequality and to allow young people to see the impact of a changing global environment.
- It seeks to empower them by exploring ways in which their actions at local level can impinge for the better on issues such as injustice, human rights, fair trade, racism and exploitation.
- By informing the students and the wider community the project will bring about a heightened awareness, a social consciousness and a broader vision and appreciation of developmental issues.
- The Vision of the project is driven by the Presentation charism and ethos which embraces the challenge of working with those who are marginalised and excluded, for whatever reason. Justice, human rights, sustainability and promoting right relationships are central to the Presentation mission.

Aims of the Project

That students will:

- have a heightened understanding and greater awareness of current global issues
- develop a more critical mindset
- develop a keen sense of justice, equality, fair play and human rights
- be motivated and enthused to take corrective action to redress inequality wherever it may manifest itself
- come to be more aware and conscious of the wider impact of their personal choices and actions on the global environment
- experience the value of collective action and strategic intervention in combating inequality and injustice

The following CEIST schools are participating in the Challenge to Change Project 2014/2015:

Presentation Secondary School, Grogan's Road, Wexford

Presentation Secondary School, Thurles

Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel

Presentation Secondary School, Waterford

Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny

Presentation Secondary School, Ballingarry

Coláiste Bríde Secondary School, Clondalkin

Killina Presentation Secondary School, Rahan

Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise

Presentation De La Salle, Bagenalstown

Presentation College, Currylea

Presentation Secondary School, Mitchelstown

St. Joseph's College, Lucan

The website www.challenge2change.ie contains further information on how to be part of the 'Challenge to Change' project.

Click [here](#) to download Challenge to Change 2013/2014 Booklet, which provides profiles of all the schools who participated and their associated projects.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

A First in I.T. For Presentation Secondary, Castleisland

Friday 12th December 2014



Presentation Secondary School in Castleisland is the first school in Kerry which has been granted the "Centre of Excellence Award for IT".

The award was presented on Wednesday 10th of December by Billy Breen of Prodigy Learning to Ms. Annette Leen (I.T. teacher) and Ms. Katherina Broderick (Principal).

Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification is the leading IT certification in the world. More than 1 million MOS exams are taken every year in over 140 countries. Students in Presentation, Castleisland have been studying MOS for a number of years.

"We are absolutely delighted with the award, which recognises the hard work of the students of Presentation, Castleisland and the high level of I.T. skills they develop here." said Ms. Leen.

The school recognises the importance of I.T. in modern life and supports this with dedicated I.T. classes. Such is the level of uptake in the school that plans are underway to develop another state of the art multimedia lab in the school.

Currently all students are encouraged undertake I.T. certification. Just last year a Presentation Secondary student was a semi-finalist in the Doodle for Google competition, which was in itself a significant achievement.

"Our staff has embraced new learning methodologies and integrate I.C.T. daily in their lessons. Students have been introduced to Edmodo, which is a Social Learning Platform, so that educational information can be shared by teachers and homework can be submitted electronically", according to Ms. Broderick.

Along with these developments the school is ever mindful of the importance of educating students on responsible use of social media. Recently, students and staff have received training in Internet Safety from Dr. Maureen Griffin, Forensic Psychologist.

The school also has a Safer Internet Day Ambassador, Ellen Sheehan (Transition Year), who is currently receiving training via webinar in how to promote safer Internet use among her peers.

As part of the Transition Year (TY) programme in Presentation, Castleisland, students attend Animation Workshops in the I.T. in Tralee, as well as participating in the Transition Year teaching Programme which involves courses such as: Creative Programming, Games Development, Digital Graphic Design and Music Technology.

On the MOS certification, a delighted Ms. Broderick said "This award recognises the quality and standard of IT programmes afforded to students of Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland. Furthermore, it recognises the hard work which our students have undertaken to complete the certification and the commitment of their teacher, Ms Leen to its success. They certainly have reason to celebrate!"



Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month **Year**
 Any Any

SEARCH

Events

CEIST Annual Conference

E-News

Monthly School Feature

News from Coláiste Muire, Ennis

Monday 15th December 2014

The following are some exciting news items and photos kindly shared from Coláiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare.

University of Limerick Orchestra and Coláiste Muire Choir



Congratulations to Coláiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare School Choir who were central to a wonderful Christmas musical celebration, which was held in the University of Limerick on Saturday, 6th December, 2014.

The University of Limerick Orchestra performed Dvorak's much loved masterpiece, New World Symphony together with a number of delightful seasonal favourites. Coláiste Muire's school choir joined the orchestra for some special choral treats.

Coláiste Muire School Choir

Music is at the heart of extra-curricular activity in Coláiste Muire, Ennis. The School Choir is one of many ensembles, which include the First Year Choir, 'Seinn', the School Orchestra, the Traditional Music Group and the Fourth Year Musical.

Membership of the School Choir is by audition and students from second year to fifth year may become members. Ms. Carmel Griffin is the school music teacher.

The choir have performed with Regina Nathan (Soprano), Paul Byrom (Tenor), the University of Limerick Orchestra, the Cork Youth Orchestra and the Orchestra and Choir of Churchlands Senior High School, Perth, Australia.

The choir's recent achievements are:

- 2014 Third place and a certificate of excellence at the Cork Choral Festival.
- 2011 Performance of Vivaldi's Gloria for the 150th anniversary of Colaiste Muire School.
- 2010 Second place and a certificate of excellence at the Cork International Choral Festival.
- 2009 Third place, a certificate of distinction and winner of the Irish Federation of Musicians & Associated Professions Trophy, at the Cork Choral Festival.
- 2010 Release of 'All things Bright and Beautiful' - a compilation CD of the choirs performances over the years.
- 2008 Second place at the Young Prague Festival, in the Czech Republic.
- 2006 First place and an award for the best performance of the compulsory piece (in the Czech language) at the Young Prague Festival.
- 2004 Fourth place in the Lyric FM Carols for Christmas Competition.
- 2004 First place and a certificate of distinction at the Chester Competitive Festival of Performing Arts, in England.

John Rocha presents his inspired design for Young Social Innovators

John Rocha unveiled his design for Young Social Innovators at a breakfast event on 9 December hosted by the charity and their partner, the Vodafone Ireland Foundation. With him, at the event in Fire Restaurant, Dublin were the Young Social Innovators of the Year 2014 from Coláiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare.



These twenty two young teenagers last week featured in a documentary produced by the RTE Investigations Unit for Prime Time, on the issue of internet safety.

John's inspirational design signifies youth, innovation and hope, and has been translated into brushed silver pins and larger Perspex sculptural pieces.

Academic Awards

Well done to Shauna Lyons who has been announced as a recipient of a 2014 All Ireland Scholarship 3rd Level Award sponsored by JP McManus. She was presented with her award on 9 Nov in University of Limerick. Shauna is studying Biotechnology in NUI Galway.

Well done to Thaynara da Silva who has been awarded Intel's Women in Technology Scholarship. Thaynara is studying Software Development in L.I.T.

Well done to Muireann O'Shea who has been awarded an Entrance Scholarship in UCD. Muireann is studying Medicine.



Well done to Isadora de Melo Oliveira (pictured above) who achieved the highest mark nationally in Leaving Cert Technology. She was presented with an award from the Engineering and Technology Teachers Association to mark her achievement. Isadora is studying Engineering in TCD.

Inaugural Bank of Ireland Bond Trader Challenge



TY 1 students currently running our school bank took part in the inaugural BOI Bond Trader Challenge held in Thomond Suite, Thomond Park, Limerick on 20 November.

The evening began with an overview of markets and trading by BOI Head of Pensions & Investments. Students then participated in the Bond Trader Challenge responding to real market scenarios and making decisions on how to manage their own bond portfolio.

Pope John Paul 11 Awards



On Thursday Oct 23 at the Inn at Dromoland a crowd of over 300 hundred people gathered to witness the inaugural presentation of the Pope John Paul 11 awards in the diocese of Killaloe. Bishop Kieren O'Reilly and Clare Hurler Colin Ryan presented 101 young people from across the diocese with their awards.

The Pope John Paul 11 awards began in Derry in 2006. They are dedicated to the memory of the late Pope Saint John Paul whose love of young people was so profound.

The purpose of the awards is to recognise and affirm the good work that young people are doing in their parishes and communities.

Nine students from Coláiste Muire were presented with awards. Well done to all and in particular to Ciara Reidy on her Gold Award.

Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

This year's school musical which took place from 26th to 29th November at Dánlann an Chláir was a most popular choice with audiences. The musical "Joseph" was first staged in Coláiste Muire 29 years ago. Since then there has been no break in staging our Annual Musical.

Alongside our strong academic tradition is a vibrant music and arts education which contributes to our learning environment.

Over 200 fourth and transition year students were involved. We acknowledge their energy, enthusiasm and many talents.

The musical affords each student an opportunity to develop personally and work as part of a team and in doing so grow in confidence and self belief. This is the true meaning of and essence of real education.



Pictured above cast members dressed as 'wives' taking shelter from a downpour during a photocall to promote Joseph.



MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL MOUNTHAWK Meánscoil na Trócaire Cnoc an tSeabhaic

[New Extension Begins](#)



Monday December 15th was a mile stone in the life of Mercy Mounthawk as we turned the sod for the new extension to the school. Since we opened on this site in 2001, our facilities, which serve a school population of 1,200, have included a set of prefabs which were necessary for classroom accommodation. This is the day that we began the countdown to their departure.

Work has commenced on a 1.7 million project to improve and develop the facilities of the school. Our new extension will have 7 classrooms, 4 resource rooms, an extended canteen space which will double as a performance space, and a new toilet block. This extension will provide improved facilities so that the school will be in a much better position to embrace the modern developments that are coming down the educational track. Our school has invested a lot of time and energy and creativity in the arts since our inception and we are intent on being able to stage our own productions in Mercy Mounthawk in the future.

This extension has been made possible through the allocation of a devolved grant from the Department of Education. We are very thankful to our local politicians and especially Minister Deenihan for their support in delivering this development. Indeed we are delighted that the Minister was able to perform the sod-turning ceremony. We also welcomed the CEO of our Education trust – CEIST, Dr. Marie Griffin, herself a Tralee native. Present also were members of the Mercy congregation – we were delighted to welcome back Sr. Nora Flynn a member of the Mercy Leadership team and a past member of staff at Mercy Tralee.

However, the realisation of this project has been made possible through the reliable support of the parents – through very considerable and ongoing fundraising. We undertook an ambitious plan to raise €250,000 to provide for the extension to the canteen space and with the support of the parents and the local community we are half way through to that target goal. 'Today is an opportunity to thank our parents for their constant and ongoing support', said Mr O'Roarke. This extension will be a testament to the will and determination of the local school community in partnership with the Department of Education in realising their vision of better facilities for our students at Mercy Mounthawk.

While the project is progressing over the next year, it will of course be a very important injection of capital into the Tralee area with spin-offs to the local economy. The design team is led by Liam Waldron and Cathal Sheehy from MRG consulting in Tralee and the contract has been won by Evans and Kelliher from Milltown.

Our Lady of Mercy College Beaumont Students inspired to say ‘Yes’ to success

Thursday 4th December 2014

On Monday 1 December 2014 **10 students** from [Our Lady of Mercy College, Beaumont, Dublin 9](#) travelled to London to kick start their Career Academy programme, and enjoyed a behind-the-scenes visit to Penna.

The event, called **A Capital Experience**, was organised in partnership with national charity, Career Academies UK, which aims to bridge the gap between education and work by giving young people access to real experiences of the world of work.

As part of their visit to Penna students were given a day to remember by both staff of Penna with their CEO Gary Browning.

In the afternoon, the students joined 1,700 other young people from across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, all of whom are beginning the Career Academy programme. Students were given the opportunity to hear from motivational speakers and enjoyed entertainment from Citi Bank’s choir, who recently featured in the BBC’s The Choir – Sing While You Work, as well as dance group, CEO Dancers.

Career Academies UK aims to make young people work ready by delivering a programme of mentoring, master classes, workplace visits and internships in schools and colleges across the UK. **Our Lady of Mercy College** has begun working with Career Academies UK to help our students prepare for the world of work.

Anne Spackman, Executive Director of Career Academies UK, said: “It is always fantastic to welcome students from right across the country to experience work and life in the capital. We know that for some of them it will have been their first trip to London, and to walk into the glass and marble towers of the capital and realise that they are welcome and that someone like them could work there, is an inspirational moment for students.

“We hope that moment of inspiration will stay with them throughout the programme and motivate them to aim higher in their future careers.”

The day was a huge success from the moment we arrived to the time we left. The welcome from the Penna staff was warm and genuine. The presentation of the various talks and inter active sessions were top class and really well received by everyone who attended.

From a teaching perspective it was great to see the enthusiasm of the students. Both teachers and students all came away with a different slant on the importance of Recruitment, Coaching and Transitioning.

Again many thanks for a wonderful educational and informative day.

For more information about Career Academies UK, and to see photos from the event, visit: www.careeracademies.org.uk



Pictured above are the students with Mr Gary Browning CEO of Penna and Yvonne Skelly of Junior Achievement, Ireland.

Papal Nuncio Visits St. Raphael's College, Loughrea

Wednesday 3rd December 2014

The staff and students of St. Raphael's College, Loughrea, Co. Galway were delighted to welcome Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Charles Brown to the school on Monday November 24th, 2014.

Archbishop Brown was welcomed to the diocese of Clonfert by Bishop John Kirby before meeting with several groups of students from the school.

Archbishop Brown told the students of his connections with South Galway and was delighted to meet two of his cousins who attend St. Raphael's College, Mikey and Holly Burke.

Archbishop Brown had an opportunity to speak with a large number of students before sharing lunch with teachers, pupils, Bishop Kirby and invited guests at the school.

The Papal Nuncio also paid a visit to the sisters of Mercy at St. Raphael's Convent as well as visiting Mount St. Carmel and St. Brendan's Cathedral in the company of Bishop John Kirby.

Photos



Archbishop Charles Brown with school principal Paul Cafferky and Deputy Principal John Hardiman.



Archbishop Charles Brown with members of St. Raphael's College Student Council.



Pictured above are teachers Mairead Dempsey, Sr. Anne Farrell, Archbishop Charles Brown, Paul Cafferky, Rose Finnegan, Tara Healy & Deirdre Kavanagh.



T.Y. Student Niamh Lynch presents Archbishop Charles Brown with a painting depicting St. Raphael on the occasion of his visit to St. Raphael's College.



Leaving Cert student Jack Morrissey presenting Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Charles Brown with a hurl on the occasion of his visit to St. Raphael's College.



Leaving Cert pupils meeting with Papal Nuncio Archbishop Charles Brown. Maura Egan, Megan Lynch and Andrew Ryan.



Papal Nuncio Archbishop Charles Brown addressing the students of St. Raphael's College.

Presentation College Athenry Student Wins Prize worth €10, 000 for school!

Tuesday 2nd December 2014



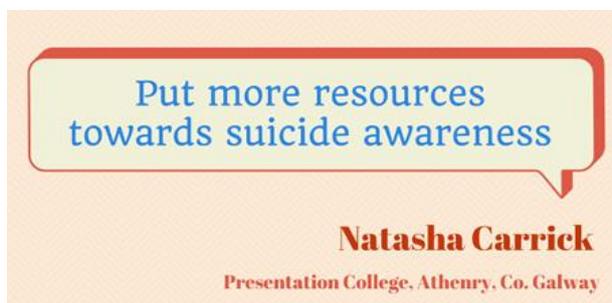
Well done to Presentation Secondary School, Athenry, Co. Galway Transition Year student Natasha Carrick who has won a prize worth EUR10,000 for telling Ireland's 11 MEP's what our youth want from them during their term in office.

Natasha who is a student of Mr. Jason Cotter's European Studies class, entered the European Parliament's 'Six Word Challenge' and has successfully won a prize which will see Natasha and 23 Transition Year students from Presentation College Athenry travel to Strasbourg in March 2015.

The students attending will take part in Euroscola, a one-day youth parliament for 16-18 year olds.



Pictured above Transition Year student Natasha Carrick.





News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Any

Year

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

CEIST schools Compete in the F1 in Schools World Finals

Thursday 11th December 2014



After a tough, hard fought competition Team Ireland comprising of Autolaunch Racing, Fusion F1, and Photon Racing have been successful in winning three of the top prizes at the F1 in Schools World Finals held earlier this week in Abu Dhabi.

The reigning Irish national champions, Autolaunch Racing from **Presentation College, Carlow** impressed the judges panel and were awarded 'Best Engineered Car' and 'Best Verbal Presentation', taking 5th place overall.

Fusion F1, made up of members of the Irish junior category winners Renaissance Racing (also from Presentation College, Carlow) and UAE National Finalists, Team Tachyon, won the 'Best Collaboration' prize.

Photon Racing from **Presentation College, Headford, Galway** also competed very well but were unfortunate not to receive an award.

CEIST congratulates all three teams including their teachers and parents

Next year, it could be you! Register your team for the upcoming season today at www.F1inSchools.ie

Follow F1 in Schools Ireland on Facebook: [F1inSchoolsIRL](https://www.facebook.com/F1inSchoolsIRL) and Twitter: [@F1inSchoolsIRL](https://twitter.com/F1inSchoolsIRL)

Presentation Clonmel Celebrate Presentation Day/Bi-Centenary Closing Ceremony

Monday 1st December 2014

Presentation Day Celebrations

Presentation Secondary School Clonmel celebrated Presentation Day through reflections and song on Friday 21st November 2014. Sixth year students read reflections on their time as a Presentation student and what being a Presentation student meant to them. This was followed by song and dance. Students from 1st year Choir, 2nd year & 3rd year Music classes, Ellen and Rose Hallihan entertained the attendance.



The concert was thoroughly enjoyed by the Junior School (1st -3rd years). A presentation was made to the Presentation Sisters. Sr. Anne Healy accepted on behalf of the Sisters.

A special presentation was made to Sr. Colette on her 90th Birthday. In the afternoon, An tUllaimh Micheal O'Suilleabhain visited the Fifth and Sixth year Music students.



Celebratory Concert

Presentation Community and Schools Clonmel held a Celebratory concert in the Clonmel Museum on Friday 21st November 2014 with Micheal O'Suilleabhain as special guest. This concert marked the closing of the Bi-Centenary year.

The audience were welcomed by Marie McMahon, curator of the Museum and Sr. Anne Healy.

The first group to perform were the Presentation Secondary School Choir. They were followed by the Presentation Primary Music Group and a student Traditional Music Group (Sarah O'Gorman, Seamus O'Gorman, Ellen O'Gorman, Rosie Mai Fitzgerald, Jennifer Murphy, Lorraine Murphy, Yvonne Murphy).

Anne Breen (Chairperson of the Bi-Centenary Committee) introduced an tUllamh Micheal O Suilleabhain, Chair of Music at the University of Limerick to the audience. Micheal's connection with Presentation Clonmel goes back to the early days of his musical education.



He holds the Professorship of Music at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance which he founded at the University of Limerick. A Clonmel native, his early love of music was highly influenced by Presentation Sisters, Sr. Margaret and Sr. Ita. Micheal had fond memories of the Presentation Sisters.

Presentation Community & Schools would like to thank Micheal O'Suilleabhain for performing at the concert.

We would like to thank Marie McMahon and her staff for hosting the event and for organisation of the Presentation Bi-Centenary Exhibition in the Clonmel Museum.

Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise stage 3rd Year Debating Final

Wednesday 17th December 2014

It is said that Debating is a sport truly worthy of the Olympics – it trains people to be analytical, critical, and quick thinkers as well as helping them become persuasive speakers, note-takers, researchers and speed readers. Indeed debating does not only teach a person how to win an argument, but also teaches a person a great amount of life's essential skills.

Such skills were evident in Scoil Chríost Rí recently when the school held the final of the 3rd Year Debating competition. On the day a combination of both teams and individuals were faced with motion 'This house believes a sugar tax should be introduced in Ireland'. Each speaker made both interesting and informed arguments either proposing or opposing the motion. Those in favour highlighted the benefits to be accrued from such a tax including a reduction in obesity and increased tax revenue while those opposed cited the recent example of water charges to argue that we have enough of taxes as it is and that the only way to prevent obesity is to 'teach not tax'.

After a very interesting engagement between the debaters in front of an attentive audience the judges, which included a member of the CEIST team had a difficult decision to make - who had won the argument? In the end the Team winners were Rebecca Keane and Helen Byrne while Doreen Onejeme emerged victorious in the individual category. Interestingly the winning team had proposed the motion while Doreen opposed it.

CEIST would like to acknowledge the courageous and competence of the students who debated on the day as well the work of English teacher Ms. Edel Griffin who organised this enlightening and educational event.



Winning Team Members Rebecca Keane and Helen Byrne (Centre) with Clíodhna Nic Gheairilt (right) and Deborah Corcoran (left) members of the school's Debating Committee.



Pictured above Individual Winner in the Debating Final Doreen Onejeme.



Justin Brown, CEIST Faith Leadership and Governance Co-ordinator presents winner Rebecca Keane with her prize.



Recent News

Keywords

Category
--- Select ---

Month Year
Any Any

SEARCH

- Events**
- [CEIST Annual Conference](#)
- [E-News](#)
- [Monthly School Feature](#)



Gardai Visit Presentation College, Athenry

Thursday 11th December 2014

On 11th December Presentation College Athenry, Co. Galway First Year students met with Sergeant Ronan Mahon and Garda Conor Ledwith of the Garda Traffic Corps who highlighted the RSA's 'Be Safe - Be Seen' Campaign, which aims to raise the importance of wearing 'high viz' clothing when out and about in the dark.

Photos





News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

BTYSE Projects shortlisted for Presentation Secondary School Thurles Students

Monday 1st December 2014

BT YOUNG SCIENTIST AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION 2015

This year saw an all-time record number of entries in the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, with 2077 project submissions from schools in Ireland. It is a huge achievement to qualify and 5 projects from our school were short-listed.

The qualifying projects include:

- An exploration of the effects of slurry usage on the earthworm population and hence on Irish soil health on Irish farms- Lucy Kennedy, Flavia Alvarez and Bronagh Morrissey.
- Gas Hear-A device to prevent lives being lost to slurry fumes-Ellen O'Donnell, Alice Ryan and Estelle Parkinson.
- A study on the uptake of physics in second and third level education-Róisín Coady, Sinéad O'Connell and Clodagh Irwin.
- Medical devices for the sustainable future-Emma Finlay, Keelan Flynn and Ciara Moloney.
- To compare the cancerous effects of e-cigarettes to normal cigarettes and observe how they affect cancer cell growth-Michelle Ryan and Caoimhe Lanigan.

The girls will display and present their projects between 6th and 10th of January in the RDS, Dublin. We wish them every success.



Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month Year
 Any Any

SEARCH

- Events**
- [CEIST Annual Conference](#)
 - [E-News](#)
 - [Monthly School Feature](#)



News from Presentation Secondary School, Mitchelstown

Wednesday 17th December 2014

Presentation Secondary School, Mitchelstown kindly shared with CEIST the following news snippets from their school diary.

Presentation Secondary School Mitchelstown Diary

The **Presentation Secondary School Christmas market** was held on Wednesday last December 3rd. The school was thrust into the Christmas spirit when students displayed their entrepreneurial skills and showcased their talents in craft, baking and design. The multipurpose room was transformed into a winter wonderland with over 20 stallholders selling their wares. There was something for all ages, with a wide range of products and produce ranging from home baked goods to pieces of art to home ware.

The first years showed what budding entrepreneurs they are offering many festive treats including hot chocolate, muffins, candy kebabs, Christmas decorations, canvas art and also personalised lyric art. The LCA 1's were there on the day with their mini-company "Build a Snowman" a great product for all Frozen fanatics with a particular gra for Olaf. We also had the transition year students who showcased their mini-company "Boardz Inc".

We had Ciara Shanahan who catered for all the coeliac with her gluten free home baked goodies along with Alana and Caoimhe Corbett with their company "Alcamo" who sold everything from custom made pillows to aprons to knitting bags. A special mention to LCA 2 students who helped to organise the event and served up free festive goodies to all visitors including mulled drinks and lemon drizzled shortcakes. Overall a great day was had by everyone students and parents alike and the girls selling went home happy after turning their hard work into profit.



Pictured above are Kayleigh O'Neill and Lousie Devaney first year students.

Basketball Success for Presentation Mitchelstown Senior Team

Pres Mitchelstown 36
Scoil Mhuire 21

Having gone on an unbeaten run in the Cork Cup defeating Loreto Fermoy, Nagle Rice, Doneraile, Pobalscoil na Trfonaide, Youghal and St. Aloysius, Carrigwohill; Pres Mitchelstown basketball team faced their final showdown with Scoil Mhuire in the Under 19 Cork Cup on Wednesday the 3rd of December.

The team and school as a whole were both nervous and hopeful as they set sail for Neptune Stadium with one goal in mind, and that was bringing home the trophy. Under the watchful eye of coach, Noreen Pigott and assistant coach, Ms Maher, that is exactly what they did.

The opposition was an ambitious Scoil Mhuire Cork team who were touted as being favourites for this final but the Pres girls had no qualms with being the underdog. One of the main concerns was the availability of one of their key players, Clodagh McGrath, who was carrying a knee injury following a school's Munster Ladies Football quarter-final played the previous Monday, but she managed to take to the court.

In the first quarter, the Pres girls took the lead immediately and dominated the court. Scoil Mhuire were proving difficult to break down as the defended well and they eventually pegged back the Pres lead as the second quarter finished on a nail biting score of 13-13.

With encouraging cheers from the excellent Mitchelstown supporters, Pres settled into a scoring rhythm in the 3rd quarter. Baskets from Clodagh McGrath, Breda Martin, Ciara Leonard, Janet Norris and Judy McCarthy helped the team to grow in confidence. Much of the work in training began to pay off as excellent zonal defence work saw Pres deny Scoil Mhuire many scoring opportunities. Having held firm in terms of concession in the third quarter, Pres started to pull away in the 4th quarter with Sarah Lynch adding her name to the score sheet.

The final score was an impressive 36 to 21. The team were thrilled with their win and rumour has it that the joyous screams were overheard in Mitchelstown. The bus of team and supporters celebrated their victory in style with a gourmet meal in McDonalds, before returning out to a rapturous applause from all at the school.



Presentation Mitchelstown Senior Basketball Squad with the Cork U19 Trophy.

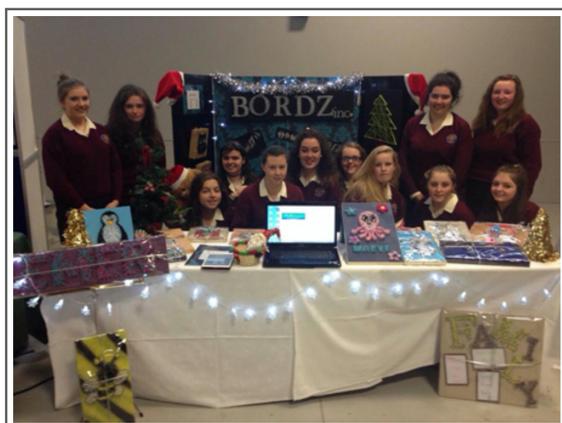
Back Row (l to r) – Janet Norris, Sinead O'Doherty, Breda Martin, Zoe Fitzgerald, Sarah Lynch, Roisin Murphy, Laura Guerin, Isabelle Dobz del Castellar. Front Row (l to r) – Maeve Lewis, Judy McCarthy, Clodagh McGrath, Ciara Leonard, Brid Howard.



Pictured above are Presentation Secondary School Mitchelstown students with Lorraine O'Keeffe Acting Principal who received their community Youth achievement awards organised by Tesco Ireland and An Garda Siochana - Special Congratulations to Valerie Clancy who achieved 1st placed in her age group 14-18.



Presentation Secondary School, Mitchelstown Choir entertaining customers with Christmas Carols at Mitchelstown Credit Union.



Transition Year students attended the Regional finals of the County Enterprise Board with their mini company BORDZ.

News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

Month

Year

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Mary's Meals

Friday 12th December 2014

On Thursday 11th December Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow and Mary's Meals received the inaugural Human Life, Human Rights and Human Dignity Award at the Oireachtas.

The photograph below shows Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow with Marie-Therese Kilmartin (Principal Coláiste Bride, Clondalkin), Dr Marie Griffin (CEIST) and Senator Ronan Mullen (Board of Directors, CEIST).



About Mary's Meals:

Mary's Meals is a global movement that sets up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities, where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

It's a simple idea that works. Mary's Meals provides one daily meal in a school setting in order to attract chronically hungry children into the classroom, where they receive an education that can, in the future, be their ladder out of poverty.

The Mary's Meals campaign was born in 2002 when Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow visited Malawi during a famine and met a mother dying from AIDS. When Magnus asked her eldest son Edward what his dreams were in life, he replied simply: "I want to have enough food to eat and to go to school one day."

That moment was a key part of the inspiration leading to the founding of Mary's Meals, which began by feeding just 200 children at a Malawian primary school in 2002. Today, the organisation reaches over 920,000 children daily across five continents with a school-based nutritious daily meal.

The average worldwide cost to feed a child for a whole school year is just €14.50. Wherever possible, Mary's Meals uses locally grown food to support the local economy and engages local community volunteers to prepare and serve the meals.

The organisation works hard to keep its running costs low and, thanks to its army of volunteers, ensures that at least 93 cent in every €1 is spent directly on its charitable work.

In recognition of Magnus's work, CNN named him one of 2010's 'Top Ten Heroes'. He received an OBE in the 2011 New Year's Honours list and has been awarded Honorary Degrees by Glasgow Caledonian University, University of Hull and University of Stirling. He takes a hands-on approach to leading the organisation and spends much of his time speaking about the work of Mary's Meals all over the world, and visiting the communities who benefit daily from the charity's school feeding programmes.

Once upon a time, Magnus played shinty for Glenorchy Camanachd Club, was capped four times by Scotland and represented his country at senior International level in Croke Park.

To find out more, visit www.marysmeals.ie or see www.facebook.com/marysmeals | www.twitter.com/marysmeals