

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  

Beannachtai na Nollag

We are very grateful to the Boards of Management, School Principals and Staffs of all our schools for all the great work you do and for your support and encouragement throughout the past year, which is very much appreciated by all in CEIST.

The CEIST Team would like to wish all in the CEIST community a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas and our best wishes for the New Year.



CEIST News

 **Blessing of the CEIST Office**

CEIST were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, Bishop Denis Nulty to our office on Thursday 17th December.

After a short prayer service Bishop Denis Nulty blessed our office.

The CEIST team were joined at the blessing by CEIST Members, CEIST Board of Directors and Educena Board of Directors.

[MORE](#)

 **Deputy Principals Network Meetings**

Dates for your Diary!

CEIST are holding two Networking Meetings for Deputy Principals of CEIST Schools.

The first networking day will be held in St. Atloysius School, Cork City on the 19th January, 2016 and the second will be held in the Sheraton Hotel Athlone on the 28th January, 2016.

 **RE Support Days**

As mentioned in last month's e-news CEIST plan to hold a support day in two different venues for RE Teachers of CEIST Schools in the Spring of 2016.

The seminars will be held in St. Patrick's College, Thurles on February 8th and on Wednesday, February 10th in the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone.

If you would like to attend please [email](#) the CEIST office.

Faith-related Issues

 **Irish Catholic Monthly School Feature**

The Irish Catholic Newspaper plan to run an ethos feature of a different CEIST school each month.

If you would like to profile your school with the Irish Catholic and also feature on our website, then please e-mail jbrown@ceist.ie or contact the CEIST office.

[MORE](#)

News from CEIST Schools

 **All Ireland Scholarship Award for Presentation Thurles Student**

Congratulations to Aida Izdydorczyk, student of Presentation School, Thurles who recently received an All-Ireland Scholarship Award funded by JP McManus. Aida is studying Medicine in Trinity College, Dublin.



Aida is pictured above with school Principal, Ms. Marie Collins.

 **Colaiste Nano Nagle Receive 100K Funding from Past Pupil**

Colaiste Nano Nagle, Sexton Street, Limerick got some very welcome news recently.

Past Pupil, Ms. Noreen McManus is very generously going to provide funding of 100k over 5 years to the school.

School Principal, Ms. Marion Cummins who was overjoyed with the news said that they are looking forward to lots of discussion in determining how best to use the funding for the school.

 **Mercy Secondary School Tuam Students Celebrate 'Year of Mercy 2015/16'**



To celebrate 'Year of Mercy 2015/16' in our Parish, Fifth Year Religion and Art students from Mercy Secondary School, Tuam, Co. Galway designed and painted a lintel for over the 'Doorway of Mercy' to be displayed in Tuam Cathedral for the duration of the coming year.

[MORE](#)

 **Scoil Carmel Wellness Week**

Scoil Carmel, O'Connell Avenue, Limerick recently completed a very successful Wellness Week. Each day had a different theme with activities to match so that over the course of the week all aspects of a balanced and healthy lifestyle were covered.

The daily themes were nutrition, physical activity, meditation/relaxation, mental health and lastly care for the carers. Activities ranged from speakers to zumba to "Walk in My Shoes" fundraising. The whole school was involved, whether through whole school activities or class group work.

Hopefully we have all learned from the experience.

 **Scoliosis Awareness Project from Presentation De La Salle Bagenalstown Student**

Molly Nolan is a second year student in Presentation De La Salle, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow and she is taking part in the BT Young Scientist Competition. She is trying to raise awareness and promote screening in schools for Scoliosis.

[Click here](#) to view Molly's website Scoliosis Awareness.

The Facebook Page is called **Scoliosis Awareness - Early Detection**.

 **Latest News from Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel**

Deputy Principal, Michael O'Loughlin has kindly shared the latest news from Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel with CEIST.

The school celebrated their 19th Annual Presentation Awards for Excellence this year in St. Marys Church Irish town.

[MORE](#)

 **Three brings the ☐ Perfect Surprise ☐ this Christmas to Presentation Athenry Students**

What began as a regular chilly November morning, was transformed into the ultimate Christmas surprise for a group of secondary students recently, with thanks to Three.

The students of Presentation College, Athenry, Co. Galway were surprised with their very own magical winter wonderland, complete with falling snow, white-tipped Christmas trees, steaming hot chocolate, a festive snowman and a very unexpected visit from former Ireland rugby captain Paul O'Connell.

[MORE](#)

 **St. Joseph's Secondary School Castlebar Transition Year Musical**

Caroline McGrath, Public Relations Officer in St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castlebar has kindly shared the follows news from the school on their recent Transition Year Musical, which by all accounts was a great success.

Well done to all involved!

[MORE](#)

 **Our Lady of Mercy College Beaumont Celebrate Cultural Week**

Our Lady of Mercy College Beaumont celebrated the diverse cultures and backgrounds of their students during Culture Week, Nov 23 - 27.

Sixth year students curated an exhibition of Art work by 4th, 5th and 6th years which was on display all week.

First and Second years were greatly touched by the documentary "Our Way to School".

[MORE](#)

 **St Mary's Secondary School Ballina Celebrates Student Achievements**

School Principal, Patsy Sweeney was delighted to share the following news and excellent photos of recent student achievements in St. Mary's Secondary School, Ballina, Co. Mayo.

[MORE](#)

 **TY's of Scoil Christ Ri, Portlaoise Stage the Musical Dancing Queen**

The Transition Year students of Scoil Christ Ri, Portlaoise had a busy few days recently as they brought their latest musical "Dancing Queen" to the local Dunamais Theatre in the town.

The students performed matinees and evening shows from 15th to the Wednesday 17th December in front of full houses on each occasion.

[MORE](#)

 **Beginning of the Commemoration of 1916 in St. Joseph's Spanish Point**

The Irish Flag was raised in St. Joseph's, Secondary School, Spanish Point, Mitown Malbay, Co. Clare to commence the Commemoration of 1916.

Thanks to Captain Marie Morgan and Corporal Paul Ryan (Irish Defence Forces) who raised our Irish Flag to commence the Commemoration of 1916.

[MORE](#)

 **Prestigious McManus Scholarship for Noah**

It was a great source of delight and celebration in Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan when management and staff learned that Noah Donnelly of the Leaving Cert Class of 2015 had been awarded the prestigious JP McManus Scholarship.

Noah becomes the sixth student in Our Lady's to receive this honour, with two students, Jane Brady & Katherina Kozachenko being recipients in 2014, Aodhan Callan in 2012, Aisling Kerr in 2011 and Patrick Kerr in 2008 - a pretty impressive record for any school!

[MORE](#)

Recommended Reading

 **The Message of Mercy**

The Message of Mercy is a new publication by Amalee Meehan, CEIST Faith Leadership and Governance Co-ordinator.

The book will be launched by Bishop Brendan Leahy in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick on Tuesday, 12th January 2016.

[Click here](#) to download flyer.

Technical Tips

 **CESI Conference 2016**

The annual conference of the Computers in Education Society of Ireland (CESI), #cesicon, will take place in Dublin City University (DCU) on February 27th, 2016.

The theme for this year's conference is **"Our Digital Strategy - making IT matter"**.

The conference will be preceded by a TeachMeet on the evening of February 26th at the Registry Hotel, Dublin 9.

[MORE](#)



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

Month

Year

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Blessing of CEIST Education Office

Friday 18th December 2015

CEIST were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, Bishop Denis Nulty to our office on Thursday 17th December.

After a short prayer service Bishop Denis Nulty blessed our office. The CEIST team moved to our new office in Kill, Co. Kildare last July.

The CEIST team were joined at the blessing by CEIST Members, CEIST Board of Directors and Educena Board of Directors.

We are very grateful to Bishop Denis Nulty for giving up of his valuable time to come visit and bless our new office.



Pictured above (LtoR) are Fr. Matt Kelly, C.C, Bernard Keeley, Chairperson, CEIST Board of Directors, Bishop Denis Nulty, Dermot Dwyer, Chairperson, Educena Board of Directors, Fr. Willie O'Byrne, P.P., Marie Griffin, CEO, CEIST and Liam Bergin, CEO, Educena.



The CEIST team are pictured above with Bishop Nulty (Back: LtoR), Gerry McGuill, John Woods, Amalee Meehan, Catherine McCormack, Justin Brown, Bernadette McKeown and Rosemary Greene. Seated at front are Marie Griffin, CEO, CEIST, Bishop Denis Nulty and Liam Bergin, CEO, Educena.



Pictured above with Bishop Nulty are personnel from CEIST Members, Educena and CEIST boards and the CEIST team.



Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month Year
 Any Any

SEARCH

- Events**
- CEIST Annual Conference**
- E-News**
- Monthly School Feature**



Mercy Secondary School Tuam Students Celebrate 'Year of Mercy 2015/16'

Wednesday 9th December 2015



To celebrate 'Year of Mercy 2015/16' in our Parish, Fifth Year Religion and Art students from [Mercy Secondary School, Tuam](#), Co. Galway designed and painted a lintel for over the 'Doorway of Mercy,' to be displayed in Tuam Cathedral for the duration of the coming year.

Fr. Pat Farragher visited our class today to thank the artists for their hard work and complimented them on the beautiful lintel they created.

We look forward to seeing it in situ in the Cathedral later this week.

Other News from Scoil Bhríde Tuam



Pictured above are **Friends in Faith** going to Aras Mhuire Nursing home to sing carols and bring some Christmas cheer. They are students from Scoil Bhríde, Mercy Secondary school, Tuam Co. Galway.



Pictured above are Saint Vincent de Paul hampers collected by staff and students to donate to families less well off.

Scoil Bhríde Tuam Video



[Scoil Bhríde A Window into our School](#) from [Gearoid Leen](#) on [Vimeo](#).



Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month Year
 Any Any

SEARCH

- Events**
- CEIST Annual Conference**
- E-News**
- Monthly School Feature**



Latest News from Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel

Monday 23rd November 2015

Deputy Principal, Michael O'Loughlin has kindly shared the latest news from Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel with CEIST.

Academic Awards for Excellence 2014-15

Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel celebrated the 19th Annual Presentation Awards for Excellence in St.Marys Church Irishtown in October. The awards acknowledge the tremendous achievements of the girls across the whole spectrum in education in the school. The awards recognize that this pursuit of excellence is not confined to academic achievement but encompasses the whole range of activities that makes for a rounded and balanced education. The evening is a celebration of the achievements of the students over the past school year. The evening began a beautiful rendition of "One Step Beyond" by the Junior School Choir under the guidance of music teachers, Ms.Siobhan Alley and Ms.Jennifer Williams.

The school was delighted to have Justin Brown,CEIST, as our guest speaker, Mrs.Ethel Reynolds (Principal) welcomed the large attendance which included special guests, Presentation Sisters from the local community and the trustees representatives, members of the Board of Management, Teachers, Parents, Sponsors and most importantly, the students themselves.

Anne Marie Power and Mairin McGrath (President and Vice President of the Student Council) replied on behalf of the students. Certificates of Recognition of Outside Achievement in Extra Curricular Activity The evening started with a presentation by Ms.Kathriona Murphy to over 90 girls for their involvement in extra-curricular activity. In presenting these certificates, the school recognized the outstanding achievements of the students in their chosen field of activity and is acknowledging the ambassadorial of the students on behalf of the school.

Student of the Year Awards

The Student of the Year Award from the 1st to 6th year groups were presented by the respective Year Head in association with the sponsor of each year group. Nominations from each year were invited on stage and with mounting tension, the Year Head read out the winner.

These awards were followed by the Academic Awards.

Junior Cert Academic Award

Mrs Anne Dwyer presented the Junior Cert Academic Award to Aoife O'Farrell,a past student of Grange N.S.

Leaving Cert Academic Awards.

Mr.Michael O'Loughlin (Deputy Principal) presented Leaving Cert Academic Awards.

Traditional Leaving Certificate Award was presented to Lorna Ni Chealligh,a past pupil of St Olivers who achieved 595 points in her Leaving Certificate. Lorna is now studying Science in UCD. During the six years which she has spent as a student of Presentation Secondary, Lorna has shown herself to be a student of exceptional ability. Needless to say when it came to Leaving Cert she shone again with a brilliant result of 595 points

Jade Loftus was the winner of the Leaving Cert Applied Academic Award.Sophie worked very hard and consistently since starting her programme in September 2013 and is described by her teachers as an excellent student who showed great care for others as well.

CEIST Award



Pictured above Sinead Cosgrave being presented with the CEIST award from Justin Brown of CEIST with Principal, Ethel Reynolds and Deputy Principal, Michael O'Loughlin.

The CEIST award was an extra addition to our ceremony this year.

This award was presented to a student who made an overall contribution to school life through a number of categories.

Sinead Cosgrave was the winner of the award.

Special Category Awards

Special Category Awards were presented in areas such as Creativity, Enterprise & Initiative, Leadership, Sports Awards, Student Peer Awards, Scientific Endeavour and Master Chef.

These awards recognized the tremendous work by students outside the academic area and their participation in extra curricular areas in the school community.

Mrs Reynolds concluded the ceremony by congratulating all the award recipients for their individual achievements and paid tribute to Ms.Jean Rogers for organizing the smooth running of the event.



Pictured above are the Student Peer Award Winners with Principal Ethel Reynolds, Justin Brown, CEIST and Deputy Principal, Michael O'Loughlin.

The Award winners were as follows;

Academic Awards: Junior Cert: Aoife O'Farrell

Leaving Certificate: Lorna Ni Cheallaigh Leaving Cert Applied: Jade Loftus

Student of the Year: Cailin Napier (First Year) , Niamh Power (Second Year) Kayleigh Hill (Third Year) Nadine Mullery (TY) Kornelia Cucwa & Aoife Delaney Reade(Fifth year) Aiman Khan (Sixth Year)

Special Category Awards; Moya O'Dwyer(Creativity Art), Caoimhe & Sadhbh O Flynn(Creativity), Sophie O Sullivan & Beibhinn Nolan (Enterprise and Initiative) Sarah O'Connor (Sports Junior) Megan Fitzgerald (Scientific Endeavour) (Junior Katie Glynn, Senior Aoife Shortiss (Master Chef) Sinead Cosgrave (CEIST Award)

Student Peer Awards:

First Year: Ella Traas Second Year: Olivia O'Brien Third Year: Aoife O'Farrell Fifth Year: Rosie Mai Fitzgerald Sixth Year; Aine English.

UCD Scholars Awards

Congratulations to Lorna Ni Cheallaigh LC 2015 who received an UCD Entrance Scholars Award for her outstanding Leaving Cert results.

Lorna received 595 points and is studying Science in UCD. Best wishes to Lorna in her future studies.

Cross Country Championships

We had a very enjoyable and successful day in Marfield last week at the South Tipp Cross Country Championships.

Our first year team finished third in the team event.

Sarah Ni Cheallaigh ran an outstanding race in the second year race. Sarah was a convincing winner and the second years finished second in the team event.

Lauren Kearney, even though, carrying an injury, finished third in the senior race and our senior girls won the team event.

Presentation Day



We celebrated Presentation Day with a prayer service organised by our RE Department & TY students.The service was attended by all members of our school community and we were delighted that Sisters from the local community attended as well.

Les Miserables



The High School and Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel presented "Les Miserables" as their annual school show in the White Memorial Theatre, Clonmel recently. This joint schools project has been running for thirty nine years. We were treated to another excellent production. The Theatre was packed to capacity for the four nights. The students also performed two matinees for the local primary schools.

The show provided some great nights of entertainment as the boys and girls of Highschool Clonmel and Presentation Secondary School,Clonmel performed to their normal high standards.

A large cast of over seventy talented teenagers took to the stage, to tell the story of Les Miserables.The storyline of one man's struggle in post-Revolutionary France sent certainly kept the audience enthralled. There were some outstanding performance by Jean Valjean (Conor McGuigan), Javert (Daragh Johnson),Fantine (Kate Alyward Brown), Cosette (Tara Gearon),Enjolras (Joe Sheehan) and Marius (Daniel Traas).

The cast was treated to standing ovations on all nights such was the great reaction to the show. Great acknowledgement should be given to the Producer and Director, Jennifer Williams, with musical direction from Siobhan Alley and Olga Gannon.

The students had been working hard on their return to school in late August and they can be very proud of their production. Both schools would like to acknowledge the support of their sponsors for the raffles over the four nights which help to defray the costs of the production of the show.

Photo Gallery

Click [here](#) to view more photos from the school.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

Month

Year

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)



Three brings the 'Perfect Surprise' this Christmas to Presentation Athenry Students

Thursday 26th November 2015

What began as a regular chilly November morning, was transformed into the ultimate Christmas surprise for a group of secondary students last week, with thanks to Three. The students of Presentation College, Athenry, Co. Galway were surprised with their very own magical winter wonderland, complete with falling snow, white-tipped Christmas trees, steaming hot chocolate, a festive snowman and a very unexpected visit from former Ireland rugby captain Paul O'Connell.



Christmas came early for the school after the 2nd year media class decided to get in touch with Three to enquire how they could get their hands on the snow cloud which appears in the Three Perfect Surprise Christmas ad. The ad depicts the great lengths a father goes to in order to bring his daughter home the 'Perfect Surprise' in the form of a snow cloud which guarantees her a white Christmas. Three was so taken with the letters it received from the class that it decided to give them their very own 'Perfect Surprise' this Christmas.

Following a meticulous twenty four hour set-up, which involved 40 Christmas trees and 3.5 tonnes of artificial snow the Athenry school yard was transformed into a snow-kissed dreamland for the day, which brought festive cheer to students and staff, which will last well into the New Year.

See how Three brought The Perfect Surprise to Presentation College here: https://youtu.be/rMn37Y_ZZ_s

Sandra O'Donoghue, the teacher who tasked her class with writing the letters to Three, said of the surprise; "This has been a truly amazing experience. The kids and staff have had the most phenomenal day and the transformation of our school yard to a winter wonderland needs to be seen to be believed! The visit from Paul O'Connell was the icing on the cake – the kids were thrilled to have him take the time to visit our school."

Aislinn O'Connor, Head of Brand & Marketing Communications with Three added; "Christmas for Three is all about the Perfect Surprise and we were thrilled to be able to bring that to the students of Presentation College. The letters we received from Sandra's class had such an impact on us that we knew we would have to acknowledge them and give the school their very own Perfect Surprise. The surprise and excitement is clear to see in our video."

Three's "Perfect Surprise" Christmas TV ad is currently on air and will run throughout November and December.

Photos

Click [here](#) to view more images.



Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

CEIST Annual Conference

E-News

Monthly School Feature

St Joseph's Secondary School Castlebar Transition Year Musical

Thursday 26th November 2015



Caroline McGrath, Public Relations Officer in St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castlebar has kindly shared the follows news from the school on their recent Transition Year Musical, which by all accounts was a great success. Well done to all involved!

Transition Year Musical

Our Transition Year students recently performed Tale as Old as Time - the classic tale of Beauty and the Beast in the TF Royal Theatre, Castlebar.

Students played to a packed house on each of the three occasions and during a matinee performance invited 6th class students from local primary schools along to enjoy the performance.

The show, which keeps alive St. Joseph's long tradition of staging musicals, was a hugely enriching experience for our TY students.

Photos

Click [here](#) to view more images from the musical.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month Year
 Any Any

SEARCH

- Events**
- CEIST Annual Conference**
- E-News**
- Monthly School Feature**



Our Lady of Mercy College Beaumont Celebrate Cultural Week

Monday 30th November 2015

We celebrate the diverse cultures and backgrounds of our students during Culture Week, Nov 23 - 27. Sixth year students curated an exhibition of Art work by 4th ,5th & 6th years which has been on display all week.

First and Second years were greatly touched by the documentary "Our Way to School". Afterwards they spoke about really appreciating how easy we have it here in Ireland.

Of course the international table quiz held at lunchtime is always exciting and competitive. Events ended with a colourful display of dance and song as well as wonderful food.

Professor Daire Keogh, St Pats College visited for the event. He spoke about the value of education and the need to embrace diversity in our schools for both students and staff.

Local Radio Near FM broadcasted from the school from 11-11:30am. They were delighted with the atmosphere and they interviewed students and staff as well as Prof Keogh.

It was great to welcome many parents and past pupils.

Cultural Week



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

CEIST Annual Conference

E-News

Monthly School Feature

St Mary's Secondary School Ballina Celebrates Student Achievements

Thursday 26th November 2015

School Principal, Patsy Sweeney was delighted to share the following news and excellent photos of recent student achievements in St. Mary's Secondary School, Ballina, Co. Mayo.



Professor Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, pictured with Patsy Sweeney, Principal and Karen Padden from Mary's Secondary School, Ballina.

Karen was a recipient of a Maynooth University Entrance Scholarships for achieving more than 525 points in her Leaving Certificate examination.

Karen scored 600 Points in LC 2015 and is studying Froebel – Primary Education.



Pictured above at the All Ireland Scholarship 2015 Awards ceremony in U.L. with Awards Sponsor J.P. Mc Manus are the two female recipients from Co Mayo – both students of St Marys Secondary School Ballina – Aoife Neary and Karen Padden, with their proud Principal Patsy Sweeney.

Aoife, who is studying Pharmacy in Trinity College, was also awarded an Entrance Exhibition Scholarship to TCD while Karen was awarded a full Maynooth University Entrance Scholarships.



Pictured above at the recent awards ceremony, for Junior Certificate Students who scored an A in their Junior Certificate Business Examination 2015, and hosted by E. Cairnes School of Business, Public Policy & Law at National University of Ireland, Galway are recipients from St Mary's Secondary School Ballina.

Back (l-r) Niamh Daly (Bus St Teacher), Grace Judge, Dr Kieran Conboy (Dean of School of Business, Public Policy & Law, National University of Ireland, Galway) Katie Naughton, and Denise Kilgallon (Bus St Teacher).

Front (l-r) Heather Mc Gowan and Michelle Mulrooney.



Pictured with their Principal proudly displaying their 2015 Junior Certificate Results – where they each scored 11As at Higher Level are two students from St Mary's Secondary Scholl Ballina- (L)Sharon Farrell and Katie Naughton.

Katie was also selected as a finalist in the IrEUSO Irish EU Science Olympiad.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category
--- Select ---

Month Year
Any Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)



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Thursday 17th December 2015

The Transition Year students of Scoil Christ Ri, Portlaoise had a busy few days recently as they brought their latest musical 'Dancing Queen' to the local Dunamaise Theatre in the town.

The students performed matinees and evening shows from Monday 15th to the Wednesday 17th December in front of full houses on each occasion.

The students and their teachers worked tirelessly since early September to bring their interpretation of the musical more commonly known as 'Mamma Mia' which itself is a jukebox musical written by Catherine Johnson and is based on the 1970's hit songs of ABBA.

A representative from CEIST was delighted to be present at one of the evening shows and would like to compliment TY co-ordinator Anne Dollard, Principal Helen O'Donnell and the girls themselves on an excellent and enjoyable performance.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

CEIST Annual Conference

E-News

Monthly School Feature

Beginning of the Commemoration of 1916 in St. Joseph's Spanish Point

Monday 30th November 2015



The Irish Flag was raised in St. Joseph's, Secondary School, Spanish Point, Mitown Malbay, Co. Clare to commence the Commemoration of 1916.

Thanks to Captain Marie Morgan and Corporal Paul Ryan (Irish Defence Forces) who raised our Irish Flag to commence the Commemoration of 1916.

Click [here](#) to view gallery of photos on the school website.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

Month

Year

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Prestigious McManus Scholarship for Noah

Monday 7th December 2015

It was a great source of delight and celebration in Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan when management and staff learned that Noah Donnelly of the Leaving Cert Class of 2015 had been awarded the prestigious JP McManus Scholarship.

Noah becomes the sixth student in Our Lady's to receive this honour, with two students, Jane Brady & Katherina Kozachenko being recipients in 2014, Aodhan Callan in 2012, Aisling Kerr in 2011 and Patrick Kerr in 2008 - a pretty impressive record for any school!

The JP McManus scholarship scheme was established in 2008 to support many gifted young students across the whole island of Ireland, giving them extra financial support to enable them to participate in all aspects of college life during their third level education. They are awarded based on excellence in the Leaving Certificate and bring with them an award of €6750 per annum for the duration of the students' undergraduate programme.

Noah received his award at a ceremony in University of Limerick, attended by Minister for Education, Jan O'Sullivan and John O'Dowd, Northern Ireland Minister for Education. Champion jockey, AP McCoy was the guest speaker and gave an inspirational address to all the young people in attendance.

Noah, son of Dominic & Grace Donnelly, Mullyash, Castleblayney, is studying Computational Problem Solving & Development in DCU and already has made a name for himself in this area having been selected for the Irish Programming Olympiad with whom he travelled to Kazakhstan in July.

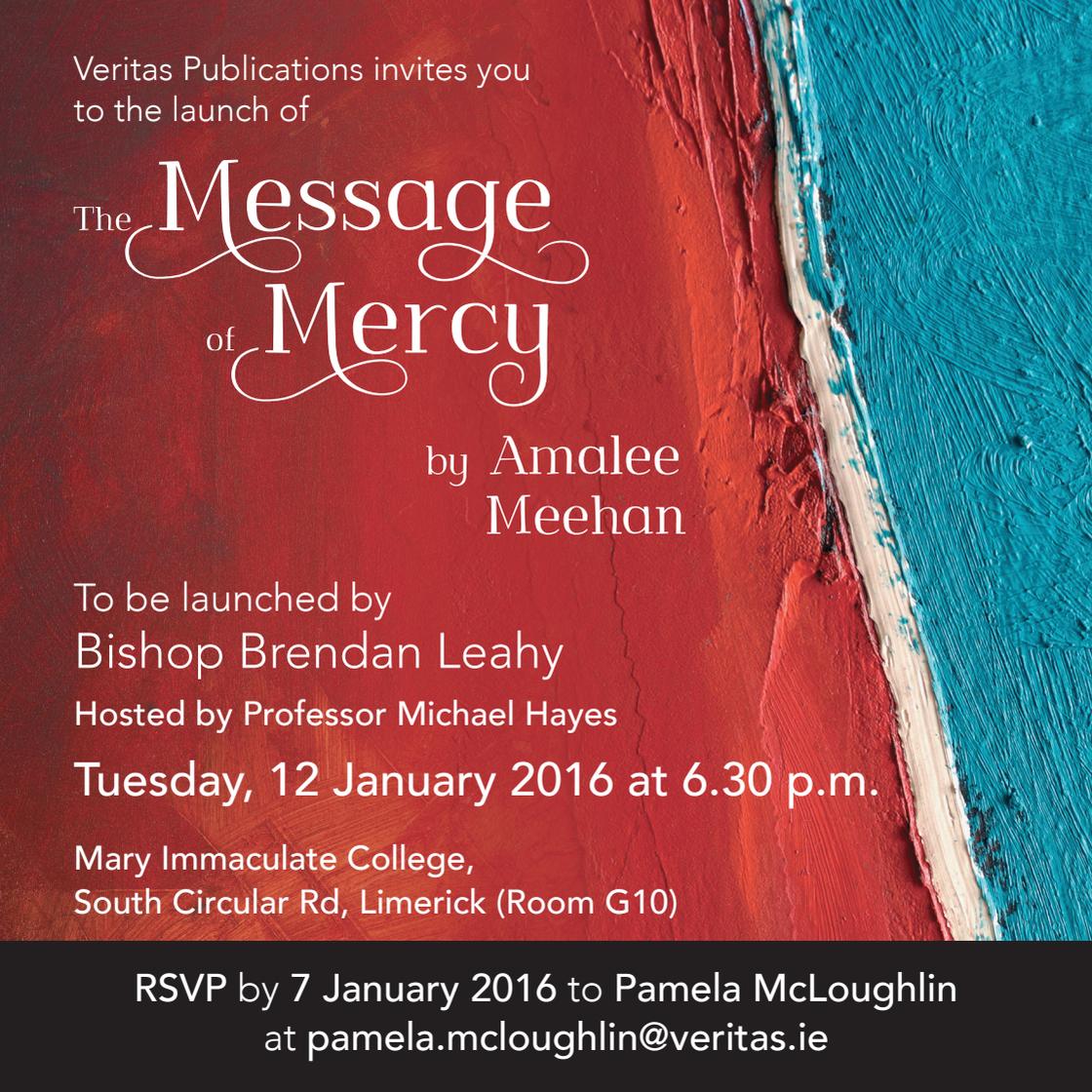
Speaking at the school during the week, Principal, Mr Eddie Kelly congratulated Noah on this wonderful achievement. "This award is a wonderful achievement for him and is a just reward for all his hard work, commitment and dedication to his studies.

He is a credit to himself and his family and we in Our Lady's are very proud of his achievements. He is a wonderful ambassador for the school and I have no doubt he will make the most of the experiences and opportunities that third level education will bring.

All of the staff join with me in wishing him well in his future endeavours, as we do to all the class of 2015 in their chosen career paths and courses".



Pictured at the presentation of the prestigious JP McManus Scholarships is Noah Donnelly of the Leaving Cert Class 2015 in Our Lady's. Noah, who is studying Computational Problem Solving and Development in DCU, is pictured here with Our Lady's Principal, Mr Eddie Kelly.



Veritas Publications invites you
to the launch of

The **Message**
of **Mercy**

by Amalee
Meehan

To be launched by
Bishop Brendan Leahy
Hosted by Professor Michael Hayes

Tuesday, 12 January 2016 at 6.30 p.m.

Mary Immaculate College,
South Circular Rd, Limerick (Room G10)

**RSVP by 7 January 2016 to Pamela McLoughlin
at pamela.mcloughlin@veritas.ie**

2016: "Our Digital Strategy - making IT matter"



27th February 2016 – Dublin City University

Pre-conference TeachMeet: 26th February – Regency Hotel, Dublin

On **Saturday 27th February** 2016 the Computers in Education Society of Ireland (CESI) will hold its annual conference. The venue for this year's conference is [Dublin City University \(DCU\)](#). The conference will be preceded by the now-traditional **TeachMeet CESI** event, which will be held on the evening of **Friday 26th February** at the [Regency Hotel](#), Dublin 9. To register for this year's conference or the pre-conference TeachMeet, please [click here](#).

Conference Theme

2015 saw the launch of Ireland's Digital Strategy for Schools which aims to "greatly enhance the learning experience and lifelong learning skills of all our students". The foreword to the strategy calls upon all teachers "to use ICT in the classroom to bring learning to life for students; to give learners the tools to collaborate and to examine engaging problems; to research and analyse information; and to use ICT resources to communicate their ideas and to share what they create with others beyond the walls of their classroom or school" (p. 4).

With this in mind, the theme for the 2016 CESI annual conference is "Our Digital Strategy – making IT matter". Ireland's Digital Strategy for Schools will be put into practice by the participants of this conference in the years to come. This year's event will focus upon our understanding of the importance of information technology in education, the potentials and problems that lie ahead in implementing the Digital Strategy for Schools, and the ways in which we can make a meaningful and magical curriculum for the learners in our care.

The CESI conference is a calendar highlight for those who are interested in integrating technology into their teaching and learning and this year promises to uphold the high standard that has been set by previous CESI events. The conference features a mix of presentations and hands-on workshops, high-profile keynote speakers, and opportunities to engage with educators from all levels of the Irish education system.

Call for Presenters

The CESI Conference 2016 Call for Presenters is now open. To submit a presentation or workshop proposal for this year's conference, please go to www.cesi.ie/conference-2016-call. The Call for Presenters will close on **1st January 2016**.

Key Dates & Timeline

- Monday 30th November 2015: registration opens
- Wednesday 2nd December 2015: Call for Presenters opens
- Friday 1st January 2016: Call for Presenters closes
- Friday 26th February 2016: TeachMeet CESI (Regency Hotel, Dublin 9)
- Saturday 27th February 2016: CESI Annual Conference (Dublin City University)

CESI graciously acknowledges the various supports provided for conference by the [Teacher Professional Networks](#) and by the [PDST Technology in Education](#)

