

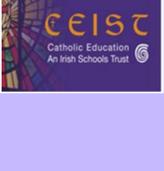


# news from ceist...

30 May 2016

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



### Expression of Interest for New CEIST Schools

CEIST is applying for patronage for four of the nine new post primary schools opening in 2017 and 2018. CEIST is seeking expressions of interest from parents in **Portlaoise, Co. Laois; Firhouse, Dublin 24; Malahide/Portmarknock and Lucan, Co. Dublin.**

A decision will be made on the patronage based on the level of parental interest and with regard to the provision of diversity of school type in each area. CEIST is very proud to be offering parents in four areas the opportunity of choosing a Catholic secondary school for their children for the future.

Parents can express interest [online on the CEIST website](#).

## CEIST News

### CEIST School Budget Portal

The CEIST Budget Portal went 'Live' in May and we are excited with the response from CEIST schools to date in submitting their budgets on the new system.

If schools have any queries in using or accessing the portal, please contact [John Woods](#) in the CEIST office.

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### Trustee Nominees for School Selection Panels

Just a reminder to CEIST schools, if you have any teacher nominees for the summer, your Trustee nominees on the interview board have to be approved by CEIST.

If you send in a panel of names, those people can be used for all interviews.

Please click [here](#) to access the online form for completion.

## Competition

### Carol Competition 2016

St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan Schola is holding the following competition for young composers.

Composers who are 21 years of age or under are invited to submit a new carol for Advent or Christmas, suitable for upper voices.

[MORE](#)

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### Show Racism the Red Card Creative Competition Awards

The Show Racism the Red Card Creative Competition awards showcase took place on Wednesday 11th May at the AVIVA stadium. The event was attended by more than 600 young people from schools and youth services from around Ireland.

Young people from primary and secondary schools, youth services and youthreach centres were involved in developing their messages about racism. At the event, there were presentations including the Show Racism the Red Card DVD and there was also videos from schools with CEIST school, Eureka Secondary School, Kells, Co. Meath, being one of them.

[MORE](#)

## Don't Forget

### CEIST Publication

We would like to thank those schools who have submitted their pieces and photographs for the CEIST publication which will be launched in September.

Each of our schools will be profiled in this publication and the excellent work that is going on in the CEIST community will be highlighted.

We would like schools to have their contributions in by the middle of June. This will allow us sufficient time for preparation and editing.

Click [here](#) to download the document detailing what is required, objectives and samples submitted from schools.

If you require any further information please contact [Justin Brown](#), Schools Coordinator.

## News from CEIST Schools

### Presentation Secondary School Kilkenny School Choir

The Presentation Kilkenny Secondary School choir missed out on a place in the Britain's Got Talent final by finishing fourth in the semi-final on Thursday night 26th May.

The choir and choir mistress Veronica McCarron had received a standing ovation from the judges and the audience for their performance of Ave Maria by Schubert. Gracious in defeat, they thanked everyone who had supported them.

What a fantastic journey the choir members have had in the competition and are a credit to the school and have made us all feel so proud!

[MORE](#)

### Holy Rosary College Mountbellew Celebrations

Holy Rosary College is a Catholic, co-educational rural school in the town of Mountbellew, 50km from Galway city with a student population of 570.

It was founded in 1965 by the Sisters of the Christian Retreat, and has just celebrated its 50th anniversary. We are delighted with our new and refurbished school which was officially opened in March.

[MORE](#)

### Our Lady of Mercy Secondary School, Drimnagh First Ever TY Group

Forty years after the original launch of Transition Year in Ireland we celebrated our first End of Year Exhibition and Prize-Giving for TY in Our Lady of Mercy, Mourne Road, Drimnagh on Tuesday, 24th May.

In 2016, 67 students completed a compulsory TY programme in our school, which was our first ever TY group of students.

[MORE](#)

### Presentation Ballygary's Prize Day

On Friday 13th May staff, students and guests gathered in Presentation Secondary School, Ballygary for the annual Prize Day Award Ceremony.

Principal, Mrs. Angela Cahill welcomed guest speaker, Ms Ailish Cantwell, Ms. Catherine McCormack, Ceist Representative, former staff members, including former Principal Mr. Fennessey, prize winners, their families, distinguished guests, students and staff.

[MORE](#)

### Coláiste an Chroí Naofa Promoting Core Values of CEIST

As part of our religious education programme our students are promoting the core values of CEIST.

These values are intended to support and nourish the lives of the people who are at the heart of our schools - students, staff and parents.

As the days lengthen and spring brings new growth to the earth after the winter, the six weeks of Lent provide us with an opportunity to grow in our awareness of God's presence in our lives.

[MORE](#)

### Coláiste Muire Ballymote Win All Ireland Table Tennis U19 Girls Championship

Coláiste Muire, Ballymote, Co. Sligo had great success recently in Table Tennis.

The schools Under-19 Girls won the All-Ireland Table Tennis Championships in the National Basketball Arena on Thursday 28th April, beating St. Angela's Dublin.

Coláiste Muire Under-15 Boys team also secured 4th place in the country at the same event!

[MORE](#)

### Opening of New School Building for Presentation Secondary School, Miltown

Past and present staff and students from Presentation Secondary School, Miltown, along with visiting dignitaries, had every reason to celebrate on Tuesday May 17th as the new school building was officially opened by Bishop of Kerry Ray Browne.

Bishop Ray also celebrated a mass of thanksgiving and blessed the new building before unveiling a plaque to mark the official opening.

[MORE](#)

### Packed closing Mass for Scoil Carmel in Limerick

Students and staff, past and present, gathered to bid a fond farewell to what has been affectionately named 'The Mount' after nearby Mount St Vincent Convent in Limerick.

The closing Mass on Sunday (24 April 2016) for Scoil Carmel secondary was celebrated by Bishop Brendan Leahy, Canon Donal McNamara, Fr P O'Sullivan and Fr O Plunkett.

[MORE](#)

### St Joseph's College Lucan Feature on Irish Catholic

St Joseph's College, Lucan were the monthly school feature for May on the Irish Catholic newspaper.

Transition Year students Arooja Hussai, Katie Feeney and Jennifer Moran, reported on their experience of the CEIST Student Leadership Conference, which was held in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra on March 15th, 2016.

[MORE](#)

### Euroscola Ambassador Schools Competition Prize

Congratulations to Mery College Sligo Transition Year students Hannah Scanlon and Mackenzie Ellwood on winning the Ambassador Schools Special Euroscola competition. Their winning Tweet was:

"The EU is like a car engine; it works well without us knowing how. The Programme raises us to be future mechanics of our European engine."

[MORE](#)

### First in Ireland for Our Lady's at Walton's Music for Schools Competition

Sheer delight, euphoria, elation are some of the words that come to mind when describing the news that Our Lady's Secondary School choir had captured 1st prize in the Walton's Music for Schools competition in Limerick on Tuesday 10th May.

This national competition which has run for 5 years requires schools to submit their entry in DVD form and it is from this that a school is chosen to participate.

[MORE](#)

### Galway Schools' Global Passports

A national conference with a global outlook honoured the efforts of schools to bring world issues to the classrooms, when more than 400 students and teachers from 60 schools across the country convened in late April at Limerick's Thomond Park.

The following is an article covering Galway schools who attended the event.

[MORE](#)

### Green-Schools Water Award Winners Announced

Jane Myers and Rachel Phelan from the Presentation Secondary School, Waterford were amongst those honoured at the Green-Schools Water Awards in Dublin this week.

The Green-Schools Water programme, operated by An Taisce and supported by Irish Water, recognises the dedication and innovation shown by schools that have been working on the Water theme and are receiving the Green Flag award for Water this year.

[MORE](#)

### Blind Navigation and Obstacle Detector Stick

St Brigid's Secondary School, Killarney students' recent SCFest entry was awarded the Biomedical Award in Tralee on Saturday 7th May, 2016. The following was kindly shared by Deputy Principal, Ms. Mairead Lucey.

God gifted vision is as an important aspect of life.

[MORE](#)

### Pres College Tuam Students First Year Geography and History Tour

The following news was kindly shared by Doreen Gurney of Presentation College, Curryvea, Tuam, Co. Galway.

First Year students from the school enjoyed a great day touring the various aspects of their Geography and History courses.

[MORE](#)

### Primark Legend inspires Presentation College Athlone students

Group Director of Primark, Breege O'Donoghue met with a group of secondary school students in Presentation College Athlone last week to give them an insight into her career, which has spanned over 50 years.

Speaking to the students at Presentation College Athlone O'Donoghue had some wise words for the 400 students who had gathered for the school assembly, which was organised by Business Teacher, Jason Cotter.

[MORE](#)

### Latest News from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna

Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna Deputy Principal, John Sims has shared the following news of students who won academic and sports awards.

[MORE](#)

### Dates for your Diary!

#### Principal Regional Network Meetings

CEIST are holding further Principal Regional Meetings during June 2016.

Each session will run from 10.30 - 12.30 with refreshments provided from 10am.

Dates and venues as follows:

**June 15th - St. Brigid's Secondary School, Killarney**

**June 16th - Ardscoil Mhuire, Ballinasloe**

**June 20th - St. Joseph's Secondary School, Castleblayney**

**June 22nd - CEIST Education Office, Kill, Co. Kildare**

**CEIST Administration/Finance Training**

Each session will run from 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. (Refreshments will be provided from 1.30 p.m.)

**Locations and dates:**

- St. Brigid's Secondary School, Killarney - 15th June 2016
- Ardscoil Mhuire, Ballinasloe - 16th June 2016
- Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney - 20th June 2016
- Scoil Christ Ri, Portlaoise - 21st June 2016
- Coláiste Bríde, Clonsilla - 22nd June 2016

**These sessions will be practical workshops with each participant having access to a computer.**

**Topics:**

1. CEIST Finance Sub-Committee Reporting Template
2. CEIST Budget Portal

**Covering:**

- Troubleshooting
- Practical Examples
- Frequently Asked Questions

We would like to thank the host schools for the use of their computer rooms for these sessions. Please let Rosemary Greene know at [rgreene@ceist.ie](mailto:rgreene@ceist.ie) who will be attending.

**Presentation Miltown Annual Newsletter**

Presentation Secondary School, Miltown, Co. Kerry have recently moved into a new state of the art school building.

The following is the schools [2015-16 edition of Nuacht na Toirbhíne](#).

**Presentation Ballygary YSI Work**

Presentation Secondary School, Ballygary, Thurles TY students have done some excellent work with Senior Citizens in the community as part of their YSI project.

Click [here](#) to view their PowerPoint.

**Send Us Your News!**

CEIST would be delighted to profile the 'good news' from your school no matter how big or small.

Please submit any news or upcoming events you may have to [woods@ceist.ie](mailto:woods@ceist.ie) and we will profile on our website, enews and twitter mediums.



# News & Events

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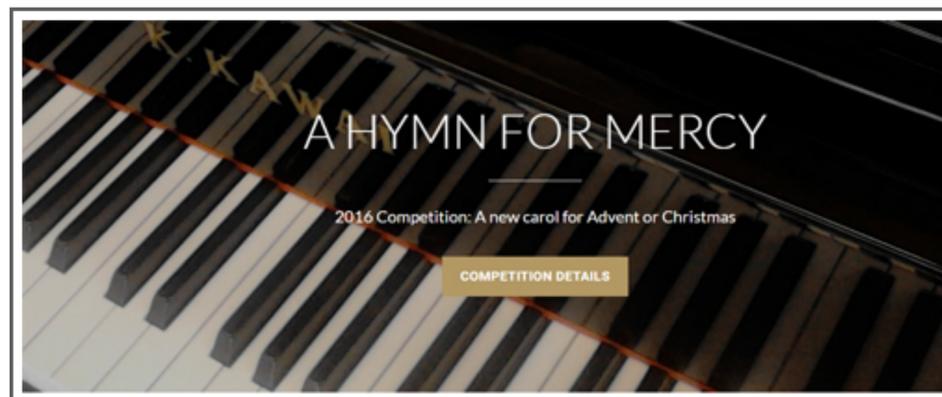
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## Carol Competition 2016

Monday 23rd May 2016



St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan Schola is holding the following competition for young composers.

Composers who are 21 years of age or under are invited to submit a new carol for Advent or Christmas, suitable for upper voices.

The carol can be for unison, SA or SSA choir, or for choir and congregation.

The accompaniment may be piano and/or organ, or may be unaccompanied.

There will be two prizes of €350 and €150 awarded for the best carols, and the winning carol will be performed by the Schola at the annual Mercy carol service which takes place in St Mary's Church Navan during December 2016.

Full details from [www.ahymnformercy.weebly.com](http://www.ahymnformercy.weebly.com).



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## Show Racism the Red Card Creative Competition Awards

Wednesday 18th May 2016

The Show Racism the Red Card Creative Competition awards showcase took place on Wednesday 11th May at the AVIVA stadium. The event was attended by more than 600 young people from schools and youth services from around Ireland.

Young people from primary and secondary schools, youth services and youthreach centres were involved in developing their messages about racism. At the event, there were presentations including the Show Racism the Red Card DVD and there were also videos from schools with CEIST school, Eureka Secondary School, Kells, Co. Meath, being one of them.

At the event, Show Racism the Red Card Chairperson Martina Quinn highlighted the importance of the message, particularly in the context of recent racist attacks against Afghan families in Dublin and the broader context of the refugee crisis internationally.

Shining a light on this was Syrian journalist with Storyful Razan Ibraheem. Razan spoke of her experience having left Syria and moved to Ireland but said that so many more people need Ireland's help.

Show Racism the Red Card also stated that with the formation of the new government it was vital that a Minister for Integration and Combating Racism be established so as to respond and focus on these issues which present many challenges.

### Creative Competition

Six hundred young people from youth groups, youthreach services, primary and secondary schools attended the annual Creative Competition awards ceremony.

The competition called on young people to develop creative messages about racism and integration using written, visual and audiovisual means and prizes were awarded for entries ranging from songs and raps to posters, videos and social media campaigns.

Congratulations to CEIST schools **Eureka Secondary School, Kells, Co. Meath** and **Presentation Secondary School, Thurles, Co. Tipperary** who both received Highly Commended Awards.

<http://www.todayfm.com/Listen:-17-year-old-raps-against-racism>

Entries to the competition can be viewed on [www.youtube.com/theredcardire](http://www.youtube.com/theredcardire) and on previous news articles at [www.theredcard.ie/news](http://www.theredcard.ie/news)



Pictured above are Eureka Secondary School Kells Mosaic Club who were highly commended for their work with Show Racism the Red Card.



Pictured above Presentation Thurles Students with their Highly Commended Award.

# The Kilkenny Presentation School Choir are the real winners of Britain's Got Talent - and here's why

They stunned the judges week after week with their moving performances

They may not have snagged a spot in the final, but the [Kilkenny Presentation School Choir](#) are the true winners of Britain's Got Talent.

Proudly representing [Ireland](#) throughout the latest season of the talent show, the girls stunned the judges with their moving act episode after episode.

The talented troupe rose to the big occasion again by performing in front of 60,000 fans at half time during the Dublin-Kerry League final at GAA HQ earlier this year.

While they may not be performing in tonight's final episode, the choir certainly made a memorable impression on the judges.

Speaking after their performance on Thursday night, Simon Cowell was again full of praise for the choir and their mistress, Veronica McCarron.

He said: "I liked the first audition. I absolutely loved this performance.

"Ronnie you are honestly special. It was like you dropped down from heaven."

Amanda also heaped praise on the group saying she felt "so proud".

She said: "That was just the most heavenly performance ever."

David claimed he thought the song was "absolutely perfect" for the choir, while Alesha Dixon described them as a class act.

Congrats to Veronica McCarron and the Kilkenny Presentation School Choir for their massive achievement - we're sure we'll see great things from them in the future.

Taken from Irish Mirror

<https://www.irishmirror.ie/whats-on/film-news/kilkenny-presentation-school-choir-real-8065832>

YouTube Video

<https://youtu.be/tL2rgeORYBg>

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## Holy Rosary College Mountbellew Celebrates 50th Anniversary & New School Building

Friday 27th May 2016

Holy Rosary College is a Catholic, co-educational rural school in the town of Mountbellew, 50km from Galway city with a student population of 570. It was founded in 1965 by the Sisters of the Christian Retreat, and has just celebrated its 50th anniversary. We are delighted with our new and refurbished school which was officially opened in March.

In a society that is becoming increasingly spiritually barren, our school seeks to create meaningful Christian community among its staff and students.

Since their arrival in Mountbellew, the Sisters of the Christian Retreat have shared the Spirit of the Congregation, not only in the school itself, but also in the wider community and beyond. This work continues on a daily basis within the school and touches the lives of all of our students and teachers.

Never before has the mission of the Congregation – to awaken an alien world to God through reflection, prayer and retreat – been more relevant.

Starting with Sister Assumpta's 'Good thought for the week' on a Monday morning, in which she shares her spirit of prayer and inspires students and staff to live out Gospel values in their lives, and continuing throughout the week with her meetings with individual first year students, and vulnerable students of all ages for a comforting chat, our school is spiritually nourished by the presence of the sisters of the Christian Retreat day after day.

We are aware that the vision, mission and ethos of a school mean very little if they are not constantly, tangibly present to all within the walls of that building as staff and students go about their educational business. In order to really live out our Catholic ethos, we ensure that students' faith is nourished in practical ways throughout the year.

We organise yearly retreats for all students in order that they might gain the opportunity for reflection on the presence of God in their lives.

We maintain a Sacred Space in the main Assembly Area where students are encouraged to pause and pray or even bless themselves with the holy water.

Religion classes are always prioritised within the school timetable, in order to present opportunities for meaningful theological learning to occur, and to provide students with a real sense of 'connectedness' to a rich religious tradition.

The 'rootlessness' that is experienced by many young people today can be remedied by offering the experience of being part of the Christian family that was founded on selfless love and sacrifice.

It is through hearing the old stories of their faith and becoming aware that they belong to a wider faith community outside of the school that young people are helped to feel that they are not alone; that they are part of something bigger and more comforting than their peers alone can offer.

We have always organised regular opportunities for spiritual nourishment through participation in the Sacraments. Thomas Groome emphasised the need for Catholic schools to provide times of 'prayer, communal worship and intensified spiritual experiences.'

For this reason, the school organises Masses at the beginning and end of the school year, and prayer services at Christmas. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is provided before Christmas and Easter in the local Church, with priests from three surrounding dioceses, and all students attend.

We have Mass and a meal on the Feast of the Holy Rosary in October at which all staff, retired staff and board of management members join with the sisters in celebrating their feast day.

A very robust pastoral care system operates in the school. Vulnerable students and their parents are supported and cared for while the general cohort of students experience a caring environment from the sisters, staff and board of management. Our school counsellor is a major support for all students and in particular for those experiencing difficulties.

We value highly the involvement of the local community in the life of this school and support families during bereavement and through difficult times.

In these individualistic times, Catholic schools must strive to remain places of spiritual nourishment and transformation in the face of increasing levels of consumerist pressure and restrictive educational legislation.

Our school strives to continue the mission of the Sisters of the Christian Retreat in Holy Rosary College, who shared their charism with the people whose lives they touched.

We work to remain an institution that is not only academic, but spiritually transformative.



Pictured above are Martin Tierney (Deputy Principal), Sr Assumpta (Chaplain) and Maureen Walsh (Principal).



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## Our Lady of Mercy Secondary School Drimnagh Celebrate First TY Group

Friday 27th May 2016

Forty years after the original launch of Transition Year in Ireland we celebrated our first End of Year Exhibition and Prize-Giving for TY in Our Lady of Mercy, Mourne Road, Drimnagh on Tuesday, 24th May.

As a DEIS Band 1 school we aim to improve educational outcomes in terms of access to Further and 3rd Level Education.

OLM is the most improved school in Dublin 12 (Irish Times survey 2015).

In 2016, 67 students completed a compulsory TY programme in our school, which was our first ever TY group of students.

The wide range of experiences this afforded students has dramatically improved their communication and presentation skills.

They have a much clearer sense of what they want from Senior Cycle and have already focused in on college courses they are interested in.

DEIS schools are turning to TY as a pathway to improving educational outcomes for young people, many of whom will be 1st generation to attend college.

This is a definite step in breaking the cycle of disadvantage and achieving equality of outcome for our young people.

### Exhibition/Ceremony

Parents and Guests were invited to the TY ceremony where samples of TY students work were presented and exhibited by the students.

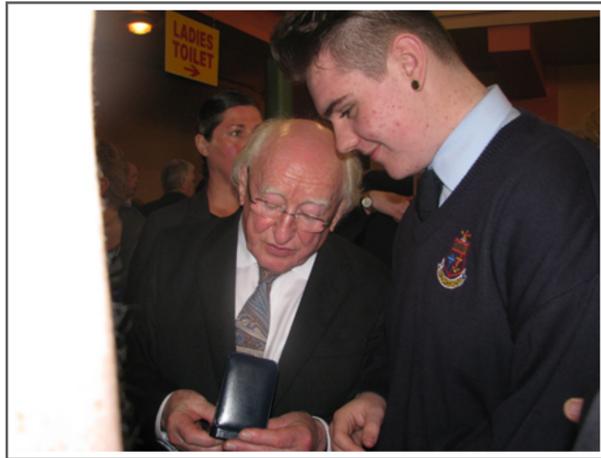
The students gave a very confident and informative delivery of their presentations on the day.

Employers who took the TY students on work experience were delighted with the work ethic, knowledge and enthusiasm shown by the students and some of the students have been placed for summer work experience.

After the exhibition a ceremony took place where prizes were handed out to students.

Refreshments were provided and a wonderful evening was had by all.

### Photos



President Higgins pictured above with TY Student of the Year, Aaron Rock with his Salter Sterling Gold medal, awarded to him by the Trinity Access Programme.



Pictured above are the students at Glencree Hostel in Wicklow, where the students began their Presidents Award 25km walk that was completed over two days.



Transition Year students pictured above in the preparation of a video for their end of year exhibition.



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## Presentation Ballingarry's Prize Day

Wednesday 18th May 2016

On Friday 13th May staff, students and guests gathered in Presentation Secondary School, Ballingarry for the annual Prize Day Award Ceremony.

Principal, Mrs. Angela Cahill welcomed guest speaker, Ms Ailish Cantwell, Ms. Catherine McCormack, Ceist Representative, former staff members, including former Principal Mr. Fennessey, prize winners, their families, distinguished guests, students and staff.

Ms. Cahill spoke of the responsibility of all our students to reach their full potential no matter what challenges face them and to use their many talents to make a difference. She went onto stress how success does not come by accident but is instead the product of a great deal of hard work, nurture, care and the dedication offered by the many partners of the school community.

Firstly, she acknowledged The Board of Management for their unstinting commitment. Next, Ms. Cahill commended the Parent's council for their continued hard work. Thirdly, she thanked the students for the positive contribution they make to the school and expressed her pride in their capacity to be such hardworking, decent compassionate individuals.

Finally Ms. Cahill acknowledged the "tireless commitment" of the teaching and support staff whose genuine concern for the students was she said, "second to none."

Mr. Joe Moran then introduced guest speaker, Ms. Ailish Cantwell. In his welcome address he described Ailish as a genuine, sincere, engaging student when she studied in Ballingarry in the 1980's and applauded her success as founder of Inspire PR.

Ailish shared her journey from Mullinahone to Waterford, Dublin and beyond as she found herself working alongside some of the biggest names in the business and musical world like Bill Gates, Bono and Tony O'Reilly to mention just three. In her address Ailish highlighted the importance of hard work together with the willingness to take every opportunity that comes one's way.

It was with great fondness that she recalled her days in Presentation Ballingarry. She studied International Languages and Marketing in Waterford. Following her graduation Ailish was just one of 10,000 to apply for a job with Dublin Tourism and following an interview through French she was selected as one of twenty successful candidates.

Remaining true to her determination to take advantage of every opportunity she spotted an idle computer in the corner of her office and so began the creation of a central reservations system.

Ailish's talents and professionalism soon saw her employed as "image and brand builder" of the K Club. In speaking of the importance of reputation Ailish reminded students of the importance of safeguarding their reputation and cautioned them against over exposure on Social Media.

Ailish received a call which would see her leaving the prestigious K Club to begin working with Bono and the Edge with whom she was to remain working with for seven years, travelling the globe and making sacrifices until 2003 when she established her own company, Inspire in the front room of her home.

In concluding her delivery she advised students to be passionate about what they do, to be true to themselves and to never give up.

Following on from this address the class awards were presented by Deputy Principal Mr. Gerry Dowling

### CLASS AWARDS

1st year: Ciaran Maher. 2nd year: Anna Ryan & Conor Vaughan. 3rd year: Sarah Walton. 5th year: Eimear Kenny & Jamie Broderick. 6th year: Sophie Quin. LCA: Laura Phelan.

### PREFECT CERTIFICATES

1st years: Mikie McGrath & Maria Hogan. 2nd year: Jack White & Sarah Crannich. 3rd years: Claire Egan & Conor Duggan. TY: Annie Cody, Erik Hehir, Robert Grant & Caoimhe Ryan. 5th year: Caoimhe Murphy & Darragh Kelly. 6th years: Aine Mc Manus & Eamonn Lyons. LCA: Conor Lawlor & Laura Phelan.

### HEAD BOY & HEAD GIRL AWARDS

Rachel fitzgerarld and Conor O'Halloran.

### STUDENT COUNCIL AWARDS

Maria Hogan, Sarah Crannich, Emma Cody, Conor Duggan, Erik Hehir, Caoimhe Ryan, Darragh Kelly, Laura Phelan Eamon Lyons.

### MENTOR AWARDS

Caoimhe Murphy and Conor Lawlor received certificates on behalf of all the fifth year students who have acted as mentors to our first years.

### ECDL AWARDS

Niamh Ryan, Aisling Fennelly, Pdraig Maher, Caoimhe Murphy, Eimear Ryan, Jpy Das Chaudhuri, Eimear Horan, Niamh Fennelly, Dion Cantwell, Jessica Horan, Eimear Kenny, Fiachra Scott, Colleen Windsor, Matthew Keating, Michael Cody and James Maher.

### TIPPERARY SCHOOL DRAMA FESTIVAL AWARDS

Recipients were Eimear Horan, Niamh Ryan and Niall Mockler.

### SPORTS AWARDS

Head of the PE Department Mr. Brian Moran introduced the sports awards. Ms Cantwell presented the following awards. Jnr Basketball - Sarah Walton. Junior hurler - Conor Duggan. Camogie - Aoife Doheny. Basketball - Rachel O'Brien. Ladies Football - Aoibhe O'Shea. Hurler - Dylan Walsh. Footballer - Cody.

The Senior Sportsperson - Aoibhe O'Shea. Mr. Aidan O'Leary presented medals to the following U16 ½ team: Brendan Kearney, Patrick Walton (Captain), Conor Duggan, Pdraig Maher, Jack Kealy, Jamie Broderick, Dara o' Brien, Martin Keogh, Eddie Hayes, Conor Vaughan, Nathan butler, Patrick Burns, Eamon Corcoran, DJ Lyons, Aidan Mullally, Stephen Donovan, Eoghan Pollard, Anthony Ryan, Aidan Ryan, Niall fitzgerarld, Eanna ryan, Eoin Ryan, Thomas Phelan, Matthew thompson, Cathal Brett, Sean Ryan, Jack Meagher, Conor Hayes, Kieran Lyons, Declan Hayes, David Ivors, Jack Lonergan, Micki Mc Grath =, Dara Ryan, Gerard Ryan.

In conclusion Mr. O'Leary praised the leadership and dedication of Team Coach Mr. Liam Gleeson, Mr. Joe Moran and Mr. Alan Egan.

### GRADAM DI RICCI AWARD

The best Leaving Certificate Irish Award went to Pdraig Norton while the award for best Junior Cert Irish Award went to Caoimhe Ryan.

### THE JOE GOLDSBORO AWARD FOR INSPIRATION

Aine Walton 6th year

### LEADERSHIP AWARD

Cliodhna Hall

### NANO NAGLE COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

Caoimhe Murphy

### EAMONN RYAN BUSINESS AWARD

This award was presented to Sarah Teehan. Eamonn's wife Mary who taught Business in the school up to her retirement presented this award.

### CEIST PERPETUAL TROPHY

Presented by Ceist Representative, Ms. Catherine Mc-Cormack to Niamh Ryan 5th year

### BEST LEAVING CERTIFICATE RESULT 2015

Pdraig Norton who unfortunately due to exam commitments could not attend the awards. Pdraig is currently studying Business in UL.

### BEST JUNIOR CERTIFICATE AWARD 2014

Caoimhe Ryan who is currently enjoying TY.

### STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2015

Laura Lanigan (6th year)

In conclusion Mrs. Cahill expressed her gratitude to the teaching staff, the office staff, Mr. Dowling for his support and hard work in preparing for Prize Day. In particular Mrs. Cahill thanked Guest Speaker Ms. Ailish Cantwell and Ceist Representative Ms. Catherine McCormack.

She then called on Mr. Dowling to make a presentation to both guests on behalf of the school community. She congratulated all the prize winners together with their families and invited everyone to enjoy some refreshments.

### Award Photos





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## Coláiste an Chroí Naofa Promoting Core Values of CEIST

Wednesday 18th May 2016



40 DAYS 40 ITEMS

### Coláiste an Chroí Naofa, Carraig na bhFear, Cork

As part of our religious education programme our students are promoting the core values of CEIST.

These values are intended to support and nourish the lives of the people who are at the heart of our schools - students, staff and parents.

As the days lengthen and spring brings new growth to the earth after the winter, the six weeks of Lent provide us with an opportunity to grow in our awareness of God's presence in our lives.

It is a time during which we strive towards an inner conversion of heart by opening both our hearts and our minds to self examination and self discipline during these weeks before Easter.

This year, for lent, our students decided to encourage the student body to take an active role in supporting local charities, promoting the core value of being just and responsible.

Following much discussion the challenge of **40 DAYS 40 ITEMS** was developed.

Various classes and the staff aimed to collect 40 items for the charity of their choice over the 40 days of Lent. Cork Penny Dinners and Cork Simon Community were the charities of choice.

Catherine from Cork Penny Dinners very kindly came in to speak to our students about their work and truly inspired each and every person in the room.



This challenge was a huge success, well done to all involved and a big thank you to all who donated.





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## Coláiste Muire Ballymote Win All Ireland Table Tennis U19 Girls Championship

Thursday 5th May 2016

Coláiste Muire, Ballymote, Co. Sligo had great success last week in Table Tennis.

The schools Under-19 Girls won the All-Ireland Table Tennis championships in the National Basketball Arena on Thursday 28th April, beating St. Angela's Dublin.

Coláiste Muire Under-15 Boys team also secured 4th place in the country at the same event!

Both teams [gave an interview to Ocean FM](#) on Friday 29th April along with a table tennis match with the presenter!



Pictured above are Coláiste Muire Ballymote U19 Girls team who won the All Ireland Table Tennis Championship.



Coláiste Muire Under-15 Boys team who came 4th place in the country in All Ireland Table Tennis Championship.

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

# Opening of New School Building for Presentation Secondary School, Miltown

Thursday 19th May 2016

Past and present staff and students from Presentation Secondary School, Miltown, along with visiting dignitaries, had every reason to celebrate on Tuesday May 17th as the new school building was officially opened by Bishop of Kerry Ray Browne.

Bishop Ray also celebrated a mass of thanksgiving and blessed the new building before unveiling a plaque to mark the official opening.

The new build boasts stunning views of the Slieve Mish Mountains and Inch beach. The bright, modern and airy two-storey building caters for the needs of 600 students and 45 staff and has state of the art facilities, including: 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. Ruairi Quinn, the then Minister for Education, officially turned the sod on the new school exactly two years ago this month, on May 9, 2014.

In her speech to mark the special occasion Principal Kerry Harkin (pictured on right) paid tribute to the generosity and vision of the Presentation Sisters and Presentation Brothers.

The South West Province of the Presentation Sisters purchased a site specifically for the new school in 2010, leading the way for work to start on the multi-million euro development.

Ms. Harkin also thanked former staff members whose dedication and commitment has led to the successful expansion of the school, and particularly former Principal, Cormac Bonner, who retired earlier in the school year and whose tireless dedication and devotion ensured that the project went ahead despite many setbacks and challenges.

The Department of Education and Skills appointed the NDFA as project managers and JJ Rhatigan were appointed as contractors for the new build. All those involved in these organisations were thanked for their attention to detail, diligence and professionalism.

Ms. Harkin acknowledged past students, present students and their parents for their participation in school life and their efforts and innovation in organising and supporting school fundraising, events and activities.

The continued support of the school's trustee body CEIST throughout the building project and beyond, was also acknowledged.

Ms. Harkin closed her remarks by saying, 'We are truly privileged to have such an amazing building in which to 'Gather to Continue God's Work,' which was the theme students had chosen for the celebration.

Deputy Principal, Sean Costello was also one of the speakers on the day and other invited speakers included Sr. Sheila Kelleher, PBVM, Provincial Leader and John Woods, CEIST.

Refreshments were served afterwards and all guests were invited to tour the fantastic new building, which is a credit to all involved on the project.

Sr. Sheila Kelleher, PBVM, Provincial Leader addressing the gathering at the official opening of the new school building in Presentation Secondary School, Miltown, Co. Kerry.















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## Packed closing Mass for Scoil Carmel in Limerick

Thursday 28th April 2016

"I really believe that the day was a true celebration of the legacy of 60 years of Scoil Carmel."



Students and staff, past and present, gathered to bid a fond farewell to what has been affectionately named 'The Mount' after nearby Mount St Vincent Convent in Limerick.

The closing Mass on Sunday (24 April 2016) for Scoil Carmel secondary was celebrated by Bishop Brendan Leahy, Canon Donal McNamara, Fr P O'Sullivan and Fr O Plunkett.

"The day was a very emotional day for many. The huge turnout was extremely gratifying and everyone was so positive, delighted to be there and many acquaintances were renewed and memories shared," Ann O'Reilly, Acting Principal, Scoil Carmel, told CatholicIreland.net.

"The formal liturgy was so moving and symbolic, while the reception back at the school gave people the chance to interact in a more informal way."

The Church, with a capacity of over 400, was packed with many standing.

Mercy sisters from Mount St Vincent and Westbourne convents were present as was the Provincial Team from Naas.

Also in attendance was CEIST CEO Dr Marie Griffin and Dr Amalee Meehan.

There were several previous principals and deputy principals, past staff and pupils and parents some who attended on behalf of their daughters' who are living abroad. The liturgy was held in St Joseph's Church.

"Sunday was a beautiful closing ceremony and very apt considering we had every major occasion of school lives, from joining to graduation, in St Joseph's Church. The singing was lovely and the hymns so familiar, that we were transported back 30 years or more singing 'As I kneel before you' and 'Ave Maria'," Margaret, Ann and Mary Foley who are sisters and their cousin Mary McAleer (nee Foley) told CatholicIreland.net.

Between them they attended Scoil Carmel in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

It cited "insurmountable" challenges including demographic changes and the economic downturn for the closure.

At the time there were 300 students and 30 staff including teachers, administration and caretakers.

The Catholic secondary school is under the trusteeship of CEIST which has other schools in the city including Ardscoil Mhuire in Corbally and Presentation Secondary School in Sexton Street.

The long lead up to the closure facilitated the current pupils in completing Junior and Leaving Certificate examinations at Scoil Carmel.

The teaching staff who catered for the needs of Scoil Carmel during the transition period, will be re-deployed with the help of the Department of Education.

"Scoil Carmel is still a functioning school with all our students facing state examinations in June so it is a difficult time for current staff and pupils but we all worked really hard to make this day a success and we were delighted that it was such a success. The affection and support shown by past members of the community is a great support," said Ann O'Reilly. "I really believe that the day was a true celebration of the legacy of 60 years of Scoil Carmel."

The theme for the day was based on the school motto Scaipimis an Solas -Let us spread the light.

Scoil Carmel began life as a "secondary top" run by the Sisters of Mercy who understood the importance of education for girls in Limerick.

Recognised by the state as a secondary school in 1952, it has since become an important part of the educational fabric of Limerick city with the trademark bottle green uniform. Students come from all parts of Limerick – county as well as city.

Over 700 students attended the school at its peak and it embraced new developments in education and curriculum initiatives offering Transition Year, Leaving Certificate Applied as well as the traditional Leaving Certificate. Subjects including honours maths and various science and business subjects were available to the students.

Non-curricular activities included school trips, school musicals, fashion shows, arts week, and awards nights. Students have excelled academically and have succeeded in a wide variety of careers.

Many present on the day were happy hear recollections of past teachers and principals including English teacher, Mr O'Mahony, who spoke of the row of horse chestnut trees on the school boundary and the many day dreams it was the background to.

(Article and photos courtesy of [CATHOLICIRELAND.NET](http://CATHOLICIRELAND.NET))





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## Euroscola Ambassador Schools Competition Prize

Thursday 5th May 2016

Congratulations to Mercy College Sligo Transition Year students Hannah Scanlon and Mackenzie Ellwood on winning the Ambassador Schools Special Euroscola competition. Their winning Tweet was:

**"The EU is like a car engine; it works well without us knowing how. The Programme raises us to be future mechanics of our European engine."**

The prize is a subsidised trip to Strasbourg to represent Ireland at Euroscola on Thursday, 26th May 2016, where young people become an MEP for a day.

Mercy College Sligo as a result of Hannah and Mackenzie winning the competition are allowed bring 22 of their classmates to the Euroscola and two teachers with a group of 24 in total travelling to the event.

For more information on Euroscola log onto the website [www.europarl.ie/youth](http://www.europarl.ie/youth)



Pictured above are Mercy College Sligo students who will travel to Euroscola in Strasbourg with teachers Ms Joan Swift and Ms Imelda Harte and Marian Harkin M.E.P.

Well done also to the following CEIST Schools who will represent Ireland at Euroscola in Strasbourg;

- St. Joseph's Secondary School, Rush, Co. Dublin - European Election Poster
- Mercy Heights Secondary School, Skibbereen, Co. Cork - Board Game: Skibb to Strasbourg
- Coláiste Nano Nagle, Limerick, Co. Limerick - EU Limerick from Limerick
- St. Mary's College, Arklow, Co. Wicklow - A Century of Change in Europe (St. Mary's be competing in the European Youth event in Strasbourg on 20-21st May, 2016).



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## First in Ireland for Our Lady's at Walton's Music for Schools Competition

Monday 23rd May 2016



Sheer delight, euphoria, elation are some of the words that come to mind when describing the news that Our Lady's Secondary School choir had captured 1st prize in the Walton's Music for Schools competition in Limerick on Tuesday 10th May.

This national competition which has run for 5 years requires schools to submit their entry in DVD form and it is from this that a school is chosen to participate.

From 1000's of entries each year, Our Lady's choir has been selected to participate every year since the inception of the competition. And to secure a 2nd placing and a 3rd placing for two years and a 1st, in four of the five years tells us something of the standard of Our Lady's choir.

The choir in Our Lady's holds a very special place in the hearts of the school community, from the highs of Awards nights to liturgies for families and friends, the OLSS choir always offers something really special.

And perhaps what is most special and striking is just how passionate, how involved and how much the choir themselves enjoy their performances.

Indeed this is what the adjudicators remarked on, Dr Gwen Moore of Mary Immaculate College and Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, Irish musician, pianist, composer, recording artist and academic, and holder of the Professorship of Music at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance. "We were brought to tears by their performance and precision"

The 45-strong OLSS Performing Arts Group performed 'The Freedom to Follow Our Dreams', a dynamic and original response to the Competition's theme

'Why Music?' The inclusive group, which includes students from First to Sixth

Year, worked with the school's dedicated music teacher Cara Murray to create a piece that combined different music genres, including rap, in a compelling and cohesive performance.

The choir performed to a packed auditorium, enthraling the audience with their presentation of The Swallow by Joan Baez, Lose Yourself by Eminem, One Shot from the musical Hamilton and Beautiful Day by U2. They included a fusion of traditional tunes and tunes composed by their music teacher, and mixed in three different dance styles including Hip Hop, Contemporary and Irish Dancing.

On returning to the school, the choir were afforded a reception in the school gym where the entire school community assembled to welcome and acknowledge the achievements of the 45-strong choir. Having performed in the gym before their peers, the 700+ school community deservedly gave the choir a standing ovation.

Tributes were paid to the group on their commitment, dedication and hard work. Dynamic Music teacher, Ms Cara Murray was singled out for special mention with both management and the choir themselves remarking on her special skills as a leader and her remarkable ability to get the best out of everybody.

Speaking to the Principal of Our Lady's Mr. Kelly in the aftermath of the success and celebrations he acknowledged the 'outstanding commitment and dedication made by Ms Murray and the choir and that their success in Limerick was a just reward for all their hard work and efforts and that this particular success ranks as one of the greatest achievements in the proud history of Our Lady's.

He added that 'the students in the choir were excellent role models for the younger students in the school and that as a school community we are not only justifiably proud of their success but that we could learn a lot from their honesty of effort and humility'.

Having won 1st prize in the Navan Choral Festival on the previous Friday, this remarkably talented group of young people do not rest on their laurels, they now look forward and are busy preparing for the Eisteddfod festival in Wales during the summer.

Sweet sweet music!



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## Galway Schools' Global Passports

Thursday 5th May 2016

A national conference with a global outlook honoured the efforts of three Galway schools to bring world issues to the classrooms, when more than 400 students and teachers from across the country convened at Limerick's Thomond Park, last week.

Students and teacher representatives from Presentation Secondary School, Galway, Presentation College, Athenry and Coláiste Bhaile Chláir were among sixty secondary schools who gathered for the annual Irish Aid WorldWide Global Schools conference, where they discussed and debated a broad range of issues ranging from the current European migrant crisis to global warming, and the challenges of achieving justice and equality in the world in the years to come.



"The students of today will be the decision makers and custodians of our world tomorrow" says Mary McCarthy, Director of WorldWide Global Schools; "Our goal is to engage young people, so that they have a deeper interest and understanding, and are equipped to tackle the challenges that the world is facing."

[WorldWide Global Schools](#) is a programme that supports the delivery of Development Education in Schools, funded by the Irish Government, via Irish Aid.

This year's conference, held at Thomond Park was entitled The Global Goals: Taking Action! and focused on a broad range of relevant topics including the recently launched Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) the European migrant crisis and climate change.

The conference concluded with the formal presentation of the 2016 Global Passport Awards, a national awards scheme initiated by WorldWide Global Schools to recognise and validate those secondary schools that have demonstrated high levels of engagement with and commitment to global justice.

"Young people are now more aware than ever that we live in a highly interdependent, complex and unequal world. Issues such as migration and climate change demonstrate that we cannot hide behind national borders when it comes to finding solutions to the global challenges we face" Mary McCarthy said.



Students Dara and Michael Coleman from Presentation Secondary School in Athenry receive their global passport award from the Director of the Civil Society Unit at Irish Aid, Julian Clare, at the Worldwise Schools Conference in Limerick.



Student Rachel Burke and teacher Netta Kennedy from Presentation Secondary School, Galway receive their global passport award from the Director of the Civil Society Unit at Iris Aid, Julian Clare, at the Worldwise Schools Conference in Limerick, last week.

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## Green-Schools Water Award Winners Announced

Tuesday 10th May 2016

**Jane Myers & Rachel Phelan, Presentation Secondary School, Waterford named as new Water Ambassadors**

**Winning schools achieve up to 67% reduction in water usage through a Joint An Taisce EEU and Irish Water Initiative**

**Friday May 6th 2016:** Jane Myers and Rachel Phelan from the Presentation Secondary School, Waterford were amongst those honoured at the Green-Schools Water Awards in Dublin this week.

The Green-Schools Water programme, operated by An Taisce and supported by Irish Water, recognise the dedication and innovation shown by schools that have been working on the Water theme and are receiving the Green Flag award for Water this year.

For the first time this year, six Green-Schools ambassadors for the water theme were chosen from four regions in Ireland, with 5th year students Jane Myers and Rachel Phelan of the Presentation Secondary School chosen for their innovative methods of communicating and outreach not only to their school but also to the wider community.

A workshop was developed based on the water theme that both students rolled out to their local primary school and all the junior classes in the Presentation. They promoted the programme on screens around the school and in the school newsletter and linked in with the Waterford Discover Ireland Centre who promoted water saving tips via their twitter page and circulated water saving information around their office.

Speaking at the awards Jerry Grant, Acting Managing Director at Irish Water said: "Irish Water is delighted to be supporting the Green-Schools Water programme for a third year.

The success the students have achieved in reducing their school's water usage and raising awareness about water issues highlights how important it is to learn about the value of water and water conservation from a young age." He added, "I would like to congratulate all those who entered the awards, they should be very proud of their achievements."

Speaking at the awards was Green-Schools Manager Cathy Baxter: "Thank you so much to all our fabulous participating students and teachers who have achieved such impressive results on the Water theme this year. We're particularly excited about the Water Ambassador Programme – well done to all our Ambassadors! We look forward to continuing to work with you all in the future."

Schools were shortlisted for the award based on their application for the Green Flag award, the deadline for which was on Friday, 11 March 2016. An Taisce Green-Schools presented the winning schools with their Green Flags for Water today. This month 191 schools from across the country will be awarded with the Green Flag for Water.



Pictured at the Green-Schools Water Awards supported by Irish Water were Rachel Phelan and Jane Myers from Presentation Secondary School, Waterford with Jerry Grant, Acting MD, Irish Water, and Michael John O'Mahony, Director, An Taisce Environmental Education Unit.

# Blind Navigation and Obstacle Detector Stick

Thursday 12th May 2016

St Brigid's Secondary School, Killarney students recent Scifest entry was awarded the Biomedical Award in Tralee on Saturday 7th May, 2016. The following was kindly shared by Deputy Principal, Ms. Mairead Lucey.

God gifted vision to is as an important aspect of life.

There are about 39 billion blind people and 246 million visually impaired people around the world so we made a **BLIND NAVIGATION AND OBSTACLE DETECTOR STICK** to solve the problems faced by the blind people in their daily life.

The system also takes measures to ensure their safety through the GPS.

The girls showcased their work and product in Tralee on Thursday last 5th May and they were awarded the Biomedical Award.

They will now go forward to the National final which will take place in Dublin in September. We wish Shannon, Fionnghuala and Eisha as well as their teacher Ms. Miriam Malone the very best of luck.



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## Pres College Tuam Students First Year Geography and History Tour

Thursday 12th May 2016

The following news was kindly shared by Doreen Gurney of Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway.

Our First Year students enjoyed a great day touring the various aspects of their Geography and History courses.

The students were taken on a guided tour of McTigue Quarry and were shown how rock is extracted, processed and transported.

At the end of the tour, Garry and Caroline McTigue very generously gave the girls a lovely memento of their visit.

The students then visited Currans sawmills and viewed first-hand the transformation of logs into finished timber products.

Later, at Boston Scientific the girls were brought on a tour of the factory to view the production processes and cleanrooms where the products were manufactured.

The students were shown various medical devices and were given the opportunity to view how some of the products operate. Boston Scientific also gave the girls a souvenir of their visit.



After lunch, as shown in picture above the girls got immersed in where they dressed in Norman costumes, experienced some of the weapons, punishments and entertainments of the time

The day was finished with the girls taking part in an archery contest followed by a tour of Athenry Castle.

A great day was had by all.



Pictured above are the Pres Tuam girls outside Boston Scientific.

## Image Gallery

Click [here](#) to view all images from the first year students tour.

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## Primark Legend inspires Presentation College Athenry students

Monday 9th May 2016

Group Director of Primark, Breege O' Donoghue met with a group of secondary school students in Presentation College Athenry last week to give them an insight into her career, which has spanned over 50 years.

O' Donoghue, who was born in Boston, Co. Clare and educated in Gort began her successful career in the hospitality industry with the Great Southern Hotels Group before joining the Primark Group.

Speaking to the students at Presentation College Athenry O Donoghue had some wise words for the 400 students who had gathered for the school assembly, which was organised by Business Teacher, Jason Cotter.

At the age of 72, Breege is driving force behind many of Primark's departments and has recently spearheaded the company's successful expansion into new European and USA markets.

Students were advised to focus on achieving their full potential while in the educational system and their hard work would be rewarded.

Breege was presented with some very special locally crafted gifts including a hand painted portrait, a bainin woolen hat and a kiln-dried wooden photo frame.



Pictured above are Mr. Cathal Moore, Principal; Mr. Gerry Butler, Manager, Penneys ROI; Mrs. Breege O' Donoghue, Group Director, Primark; Hugh Lane & Marie O' Connor, Students at Presentation College Athenry and Mr. Jason Cotter, Business teacher, Presentation College, Athenry.

Click [here](#) to view all photos from the event.



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## Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna - Latest News

Friday 27th May 2016

The following is the latest news from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, kindly shared by Deputy Principal, John Sims.

### Liz Collins presenting The Hughie Kivlehan Award 2016 to Crebhan Hughes



This award reflects many of the attributes, values and spirit that Hughie brought to Mary Immaculate for over fourteen years until his untimely passing in October 2014.

The award itself features a piece of bog oak on a base of Cherry wood. It was designed and made by a past pupil of Hughie's, Caoimhin Conneely.

### John O'Loughlin, Principal, making a presentation to Liz Collins



John O'Loughlin, Principal, on behalf of the school community and in appreciation and thanksgiving of Hughie's life and time as a teacher in Mary Immaculate, presented Liz with a piece of bog oak which was engraved with the words 'Say not in grief that he is no more but say in thankfulness that he was'.

The piece was beautifully and carefully crafted by Patrick Lynch, a retired teacher, from Ballymahon Co. Longford.

Making the presentation, on behalf of the school community, John expressed his hope that this hand carved and polished traditional gift will help bring a little comfort to Liz and Hughie's children Joe, James, Patrick and Mae. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

Liz congratulated Crebhan on receiving The Hughie Kivlehan award and expressed her deep gratitude and that of her children to Mary Immaculate on remembering and continuing to remember Hugh in the making of this award. She wished all the Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate students every success in their examinations.

### Senior and Junior Student of the Year Awards



Principal John O'Loughlin congratulating Rowan Danaher on receiving the Senior Student of the year award and his sister Clodagh (both pictured above with John) on receiving the Junior student of the year award for 2016.

### A pupil from Mary Immaculate Secondary School Lisdoonvarna wins SciFest GMIT competition



Pictured above Barry Hayden (SFI) and George Porter (CEO SciFest) present Maghnus Hartigan with his award at GMIT.

Mary Immaculate Secondary School participated in the SciFest competition which was held in GMIT on 20th May 2015. The school had seven projects entered in the event out of a total of 84 projects. The north Clare school and teacher John Sims was delighted to take home two of the eight awards at the event. The winning projects were:

Of the over 80 projects exhibited at SciFest@GMIT 2016, the top prize on the day went to Maghnus Hartigan from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, Co Clare, for his project, Applying Real-Time Physiological Responses to a Virtual Classroom Environment.

Maghnus developed a computer mouse with heart rate and perspiration sensors, integrating an algorithm which uses the data from the sensors to deduce what is exciting or stressing the user, and then adapting the content accordingly. He tested the design, using students from his school in order to gauge the effectiveness of the design. "

Maghnus now goes on to the national final of SciFest 2016 will take place on the 11 November in the Marino Conference Centre in Dublin. He plans to further develop his project over the summer.



There was also success for Aoife Dowling and Chloe Geraghty (pictured above with George Porter, CEO, SciFest) who won the Maths in Science Award for their project entitled "Has the location of harebells (*Campanula rotundifolia*) an effect on the morphology of the plant? This award is presented to the project with the best use of maths in a project in the competition.

The other students taking part were Róisín O'Donoghue, Ailisha Leneghan, Katie Thomas, Amy Woods, Kate Considine, Sarah Nagle, Katelyn Vaughan and Emma McGhee.

### Success for Mary Immaculate in Junior D Clare Schools County Final



#### Mary Immaculate Lisdoonvarna 6-8 Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis 2-6

Mary Immaculate Junior Ladies Football Team contested the Junior D Clare Schools Final on Wednesday 18th May in Gurteen GAA Grounds.

The side, which was captained by Lizzy Roche, started well and hit 1-4 before Colaiste Mhuire got on the scoreboard. However, Colaiste Mhuire found their stride and hit 1-2 in the lead up to half time leaving Mary Immaculate ahead by two points on a score line of 1-4 to 1-2. Mary Immaculate pushed on early in the second half securing some vital scores which increased their lead yet again. Mary Immaculate put together many impressive passages of play and played with great determination from start to finish and proved decisive winners in the end on a score line of 6-8 to 2-6.

Well done to all the panel of players involved and many thanks to all the parents and supporters who attended on the day.

Scorers; Lizzy Roche (3-2), Clodagh Danaher (0-4), Sally King (1-1), Róisín Mc Namara (1- 1), Laura Griffey (1-0)

### Success in Maths competition

All first year students took part in the first round of the Irish Junior Maths Competition. Overall 8000 students from 178 schools took part at this level. Of these over 500 took part in the final round.

Congratulations to Dylan Egan from Doolin (pictured below) who finished second in the Clare division.



### Lisdoonvarna student presents science project in UL



The Department of Physical Education and Sport Sciences invited a number of students who took part in the BT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition in January to present their projects to staff members of their department. Maghnus Hartigan was one of the invited students.

He presented his project entitled "Applying Real-Time Physiological Responses to a Virtual Classroom Environment" to the PESS on the 19th May 2016. As well as presenting his project he and his teacher John Sims attended a number of workshops and talks.