



news from ceist...

31 January 2014

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

Feature

Education Law Seminar

As part of the Trusts continuing support for School Principals and School Board of Management Chairpersons in this ever changing and challenging school environment, CEIST are delighted to announce an Education Law Seminar facilitated by Brian and Marianne Matthews of Millett & Matthews Solicitors, who were so well received at both the Chairpersons' Day in May 2013 and again at our Annual Conference in September 2013.

This seminar will be run in two locations:

- The Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick – February 12th 2014
- The Lyrath Estate Hotel, Kilkenny – March 12th 2014.

There are 70 places available for each of these dates. We would appreciate if you would complete the booking form that was sent to your school and return to the CEIST Education Office at your earliest convenience. Any queries on the event please contact us on 01-6510350. Click [here](#) to view agenda for the seminars.

CEIST News

CEIST Training - School Financial Management

In recent years, the Trustees have become increasingly concerned at the escalation in numbers of Boards of Management having difficulty fulfilling their obligation in matters of finance. It is our wish to assist and inform all the new Finance Sub-Committees of their obligations in relation to financial best practice.

The Trustees thus invited members of each School Board of Management's Finance Sub-Committee to attend cluster meetings that were held in Kildare, Cork, Galway and Limerick.

These seminars were facilitated by Bernadette McKeown, CEIST Office Accountant in conjunction with the CEO, Anne Kelleher and we were greatly encouraged with both the attendance and feedback received from attendees.

Competition

BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2014

This year saw an all-time record number of entries in the 50 year history of the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, with 2, 000 project submissions from schools in Ireland.

It was a huge achievement to qualify for the exhibition, never mind win an award and the following are accounts from some CEIST schools who very kindly gave of their time to share details and photos on their projects.

[MORE](#)

Don't Forget

CEIST Annual Reports/Statistical Returns

School Annual Reports 2012-2013

Thank you to all our schools who have submitted their annual reports for the 2012-2013 school year. For those schools who are still outstanding with their annual reports we would be very grateful if you could submit at your earliest convenience to the Trustees for review. Click [here](#) to download our suggested Annual Report Template.

CEIST Online Statistical Returns

CEIST statistical returns for 2013-14 can be submitted online via <http://forms.ceist.ie> or by clicking on the CEIST E-Portal link on the home page of our [website](#). The data collected from these statistics are crucial in informing the Education Office of underlying trends and standards adhered to in our schools. Please e-mail woods@ceist.ie if any issues are encountered using the e-portal.

Faith-related Issues

Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Mercy International Association

This year, 2014, is a special milestone in the story of Mercy International Association, marking as it does the 20th Anniversary of the opening of Mercy International Centre.

The following article from the Mercy World website gives more details on this milestone and plans to mark the 20th Anniversary.

[MORE](#)

New MA Programme Leading To A Professional Qualification

The Master of Arts in Christian Leadership in Education is an innovative postgraduate programme, leading to a professional qualification.

This programme was originally established by the Department of Theology and Religious Studies of Mary Immaculate College in conjunction with CEIST.

It is offered on two campuses; Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, and Marino Institute of Education, Dublin.

Those taking the Graduate Diploma will take the taught modules and exit after three semesters without completing the dissertation.

Click [here](#) to download the brochure.

Safer Internet Day 2014

Safer Internet Day is part of a global drive to promote a safer internet for all users, especially young people. The 11th Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 11th, 2014 in many countries across the world, including Ireland.

Click [here](#) to view the Webwise website that has suggestions for activities and events that you can hold in your school or classroom to take part in Safer Internet Day 2014.

The theme for this year will be "Let's create a better internet together".

CESI Conference 2014

The annual conference of the Computers in Education Society of Ireland will take place in Galway on February 28th and March 1st, 2014. The theme for this year's conference is Spark the Imagination.

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.

Click [here](#) for further details on the event.

New Website from Presentation Secondary School, Castlesland

Well done to Presentation Secondary School, Castlesland, Co. Kerry on the creation of their new school website.

Click [here](#) to view the website.

Lasco Maths Challenge 2014

The annual Inter-schools charity Maths competition with a prize fund of up to £5000, is open to all Primary and Post Primary Schools in Ireland. The next Challenge takes place on February 3rd.

Click [here](#) for further information.

Profile your school on CEIST E-News!

CEIST would love to share your news snippets, student achievements, photos, upcoming events, etc.

Please send to jwoods@ceist.ie or contact John Woods on 086-0437146/01-6510433.

News from CEIST Schools

St Leo's College Carlow Celebrate Official Opening of New School Extension

Another milestone was marked in the history of [St Leo's College, Carlow](#).

It's new extension "Solus" was officially opened by the Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn TD.

The aptly named new building consists of six classrooms, a Science Lab, Technology Room and Library.

[MORE](#)

St Joseph's College, Lucan Students win €5,000 Prize!

THREE secondary school students walked away with a €5,000 prize for their school after producing an original rap video to promote healthy eating and exercise.

Tina Ehiguese (14), Gabrielle Fulham (14) and Lisa Browne (13), from [St Joseph's College in Lucan](#), Dublin, came first in the second annual Pumped Schools' Video Awards.

The video, which was filmed at the school, features the students rapping and singing along to a catchy song entitled 'Active Teens, Healthy Hearts', which they wrote themselves.

[MORE](#)

Team sMOOlicious from Árdcoil na Tríonóide, Athy

Congratulations to all the students in TYC at [Árdcoil na Tríonóide](#), Athy, Co. Kildare and team sMOOlicious, Eadaoin Burgess, Ellen Purcell, Clodagh Walsh, Emma Owens, Adam Ryan and Anna Cully.

Team sMOOlicious with their Home Economics teacher, Ms Jackie Cooper have made it through to the second round of the Milk It Awards competition run by the National Dairy Council. Fifty teams were short listed from a large number of entries from schools all over Ireland.

[MORE](#)

Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam Mass Celebration for CSW 2014

[Presentation College, Currylea](#), Tuam, Co. Galway marked the beginning of Catholic Schools Week 2014 by preparing a special mass for the people of Tuam.

Transition Year students from the college prepared the readings, prayers of the faithful, offertory, music and the homily for mass celebrated yesterday 26th January.

Principal Neasa Cosgrove recited a short introduction before the entrance procession in which she explained that this was Catholic Schools Week, a week in which we celebrate the massive contribution that Catholic Education has made in Tuam and elsewhere.

[MORE](#)

News from Coláiste Muire, Ennis

[Coláiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare](#) have kindly shared the following photos and news snippets of all student achievements and events that have occurred in the school recently.

Coláiste Muire is an All Girls school with 800 plus pupils and the following article gives a great account of the outstanding work being carried out by staff and students in the school.

[MORE](#)

News from Scoil Muire agus Pádraig, Swinford, Co Mayo

The following are news snippets from [Scoil Muire agus Pádraig](#), Swinford, Co Mayo.

Junior Cert students were honoured by the School of Business and Economics at NUI Galway in recognition of their having achieved A Grades in Higher Level Business Studies in the Junior Certificate 2013 and first years participated in the RTE Programme "Operation Transformation".

[MORE](#)

Venerable Nano Celebration in Presentation Secondary School Kilkenny

Presentation Secondary School, Loughboy, Co. Kilkenny recently celebrated Nano Nagle being declared Venerable by Pope Francis.

Click on the more link below to read about their celebrations in the Presentation Sisters Union website.

[MORE](#)

Reflecting CEIST Values

Catholic Schools Week 2014

Bishop Denis Nulty of Kildare and Leighlin launched Catholic Schools Week on the 20th January with over 200 students and staff of Saint Dominic's College in Cabra, Archdiocese of Dublin, and thirteen local schools and representatives from across the country.

Catholic Schools Week (CSW) will be celebrated between Sunday, 26th January, and Sunday, 2nd February 2014.

The theme for CSW 2014 is **Catholic Schools: Centres of Faith and Learning**.

[MORE](#)

Reviews

Catholic schools ethos benefits Ireland's pluralist society

The following is a very interesting article that was published in the Irish Times on Monday 27th January from Sr. Elizabeth Maxwell, who is provincial leader of the Presentation Sisters Northern Province and also a Member of CEIST.

Sr Elizabeth profiles Catholic Schools Week and discusses why genuine pluralism is not attained by ignoring the religious freedom of the majority.

[MORE](#)



Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month Year
 Any Any

SEARCH

Events

CEIST Annual Conference

E-News

Monthly School Feature



BT YOUNG SCIENTIST AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION 2014

Tuesday 28th January 2014

This year saw an all-time record number of entries in the 50 year history of the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, with 2,000 project submissions from schools in Ireland.

It was a huge achievement to qualify for exhibit, never mind win an award and the following are accounts from some CEIST schools who very kindly gave of their time to share details and photos on their projects.

Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty

Three Transition year students; **Ellen Fitzgerald, Aoife Dolan and Niamh Nyhan** under the supervision of their science teacher Ms Holland from **Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty** won the **Alcatel-Lucent Special Award** at the BT Young Scientist for their project entitled **"A Non-Integrated LED Bulb"**.

The students designed an LED bulb that could be fitted into the current fixture being used for street lighting. They then carried out a number of experiments comparing their LED bulb with the current SON-T bulb being used.

The students concluded that the LED bulb could be used to save energy and as a result millions of euro for the council each year.



Pictured above are Sacred Heart Secondary School, Clonakilty students Ellen Fitzgerald, Aoife Dolan and Niamh Nyhan.

St. Vincent's Secondary School, Dundalk

Aoife Begley (Teacher: Ms. Selina McEvoy)

Junior Individual, Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences Category

Award: Highly Commended

Title: Slip or non-slip. That is the question?

Aoife aims to test a number of floor coverings e.g. Tiles, carpet, wood, Lino to determine friction. She will construct a rig, apply different weights (average weight of man/woman) to the various floor surface and record the friction.

She then hopes to develop a consumer friendly scale based on her findings. Aoife wishes to do this for dry and wet surfaces.

Sarah Begley (Teacher: Ms. Sarah Hunt)

Junior Individual, Biological and Ecological Sciences Category

Award: 3rd Place Category and Display Award

Title: Does Restless Legs Syndrome really exist?

Sarah found that there is no particular medicine currently available to cure RLS (Restless Legs Syndrome).

Through use of a survey she found that RLS is not very common, however, when present, occurs most commonly between the ages of 41 to 60 years of age.

Through the use of case studies she found that decreasing caffeine intake decreased the frequency of RLS and that deficiencies in Magnesium and Zinc in diet can be a contributory factor.

Furthermore, Sarah discovered that people with sedentary lifestyles are more likely to suffer from RLS. The most common forms of relief from symptoms included massage, stretching and the use of cold compressions.

Dara Goss and Megan Crilly (Teacher: Mr. John White)

Intermediate Group, Biological and Ecological Sciences Category

Title: The effect of Yoga on Blood Pressure and heart rate

Published research indicates the benefits to Yoga practitioners in terms of reduced Blood Pressure. We aim to test whether this is true by examining Diastolic and Systolic Blood Pressures over a period of Yoga, during Yoga sessions and between sessions, and assess if there is any danger to practitioners. We aim to raise awareness that Yoga can be an intense workout and dispel some of the misconceptions around Yoga and Exercise.



Pictured above Group Photo of All St. Vincent's Secondary School, Dundalk BT Young Scientist 2014 participants. From left to right: Aoife Begley, Aoibhin Sally, Grainne Smyth, Aiveen O'Callaghan, Megan Crilly, Dara Goss, Rachael Ni Dhonnachada and Sarah Begley.

Rachael Ni Dhonnachada (Teacher: Mr. John White)

Intermediate Individual, Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences Category

Award: 2nd Place Category

In Karate when punching your fist is rotated 90 degrees prior to impact.

The reason commonly provided for this rotation is that it adds power to the punch, the downside of the turn is that if the turn is executed slightly early it causes the elbow to flare out from the side of the body which exposes the body to increased likelihood of a counter attack.

My project is to determine if eliminating the twist will provide for a better defence from counter attack and not compromise velocity/acceleration. A secondary benefit is that it would make the coaches/Senseis job much easier when teaching beginners which may aid in the retention of students. I am using the Motion analysis software and a 3 axis accelerometer to capture the data and aid in the analysis.

Grainne Smyth, Aiveen O'Callaghan and Aoibhin Sally (Teacher: Mr. John White)

Intermediate Group, Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences Category

Award: Highly Commended

Title: Home Brewers Beware! The effect of hot press temperature variations and bottle storage conditions on variations in alcohol concentration in home brewed beer.

Our project is about the possible variations on alcohol concentration in different batches of home brewed beer. We brewed different batches of beer.

Using a hydrometer and a refractometer, and "Beer's-Lambert Law" we test the alcohol concentration in each individual bottle of beer and compare the results to where the bottles were situated in the bottle crate.

St Leo's College Carlow

Emma Townsend is in second year in St. Leo's College in Carlow.

Her project **"Zero App; Zero waste"** aimed to reduce food wastage in homes across Ireland.

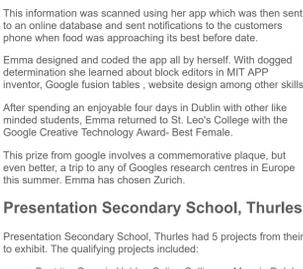
She used QR codes to store information on products including their best before dates.

This information was scanned using her app which was then sent to an online database and sent notifications to the customers phone when food was approaching its best before date.

Emma designed and coded the app all by herself. With dogged determination she learned about block editors in MIT APP inventor, Google fusion tables, website design among other skills.

After spending an enjoyable four days in Dublin with other like minded students, Emma returned to St. Leo's College with the Google Creative Technology Award- Best Female.

This prize from google involves a commemorative plaque, but even better, a trip to any of Google's research centres in Europe this summer. Emma has chosen Zurich.



Presentation Secondary School, Thurles

Presentation Secondary School, Thurles had 5 projects from their Transition Year students that were selected to exhibit. The qualifying projects included:

- Beat it – Georgia Hobbs, Celine Cullinane, Maggie Delahunty
- The Forgotten Backyard – Caroline Fogarty, Eibhlin Vaughan
- Leaving Cert Biology App – Kelly Ryan, Katie Fanning, Ailish Layden
- To examine mobile phone usage between Junior and Senior cycle – Jennifer Bourke, Ashling Brett and Rebecca Loughman Twomey
- Does Moosic effect milk? – Laura Quigley, Louise McCormack, Claire McCormack. Laura, Louise and Claire were Highly Commended for their project.

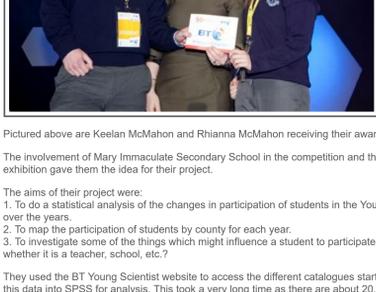
The future is looking bright for these girls as the exhibition has proven to be a launch pad for the next generation of entrepreneurs, scientists and technologists. Well done to all involved!

Lisdoonvarna Young Scientists scoop 5 awards

The students from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare continued their winning ways in the BT Young Scientist competition which was held in Dublin in early January.

This year saw the school continue an unbroken participation in the Young Scientist competition of 25 years. The projects that made it to the Dublin exhibition were already winners by the fact that only 550 projects were chosen to exhibit out of the 2,000 projects entered this year. The school was represented by 12 students under the mentoring of John Sims. In all the North Clare school scooped 5 awards despite the fact that the standard of the projects competing in the competition had, according to the judges, risen to very high levels.

In the senior group section of the Social and Behavioural Sciences category Rhianna McMahon and Keelan McMahon won two awards for their project entitled "The Changing Geography of the Young Scientist competition". They took second prize in this category as well as winning the EMC2 Data Hero award for the project with the best use of data in the competition. As well as winning this award they have been invited to present their project to the staff of EMC2 in Cork at the end of February.



Pictured above are Keelan McMahon and Rhianna McMahon receiving their award.

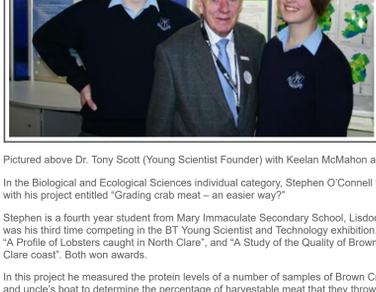
The involvement of Mary Immaculate Secondary School in the competition and the fact that it was the 50th exhibition gave them the idea for their project.

The aims of their project were:

1. To do a statistical analysis of the changes in participation of students in the Young Scientist competition over the years.
2. To map the participation of students by county for each year.
3. To investigate some of the things which might influence a student to participate in the Young Scientist, whether it is a teacher, school, etc.?

They used the BT Young Scientist website to access the different catalogues starting at 1965. They entered this data into SPSS for analysis. This took a very long time as there are about 20,000 entrants over the 50 years. This data was then mapped using ArcMap.

One of the people who came to discuss their research with them was Dr. Tony Scott, one of the founders of the competition back in 1965. They had a very busy time at the exhibition as their project generated a lot of interest from the public.



Pictured above Dr. Tony Scott (Young Scientist Founder) with Keelan McMahon and Rhianna McMahon.

In the Biological and Ecological Sciences individual category, Stephen O'Connell from Doolin won first prize with his project entitled "Grading crab meat – an easier way?"

Stephen is a fourth year student from Mary Immaculate Secondary School, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare. This was his third time competing in the BT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition. His previous projects were: "A Profile of Lobsters caught in North Clare", and "A Study of the Quality of Brown Crab caught off the North Clare coast". Both won awards.

In this project he measured the protein levels of a number of samples of Brown Crab catches from his father and uncle's boat to determine the percentage of harvestable meat that they throw back and the percentage of meat that they keep that is unsuitable for harvest.

From the data he collected he found that the colour of the underside of the shell was an accurate method of predicting the quality and quantity of the meat in Crab Claws. He also developed an accurate Crab underside colour chart that would enable fishermen around the country to classify crab quality easily. There was great interest shown by the public in this project and Stephen had a busy time telling them about his project.



Pictured above Stephen O'Connell receiving his award.

Tess Casasin Sheridan and Aoife Doherty with a project entitled "Why are the beaches in Clare different colours?" were rewarded for their hard work by winning the GSI award for the best project involving geology. Their project was in the junior group section of the Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences category. Tess is from Ballyvaughan and Aoife is from Doolin. As well as winning this award they have been invited to present their project at the annual conference of the GSI in Dublin later this year..

The beaches along the coast of Clare have different coloured sand and can be divided into two main colour types; they are either generally grey/white or have a golden colour. Fanore beach is a golden colour and gave Fan Óir, meaning "the golden sand", its name. Another beach near Milltown Malbay is known as White Strand because of the colour of its sand.

The aims of this project were:

- To classify the beaches based on colour.
- To identify what contributes the colour to the beaches.
- To determine the source of those constituents where possible.

To carry out their project they chose 6 beaches. Three of these beaches had a golden colour and three had a grey/white colour. Ten samples were taken from each beach. Each sample was photographed and the colour was analysed using computer software. A sample from each bag was treated with dilute hydrochloric acid to determine the percentage of carbonate present. The samples were also examined using a binocular microscope to separate the grains into organic and inorganic.

This research provided information about the sand budget of these beaches which would be very useful should these beaches need sand replacement in the future due to storm damage. They were busy at the exhibition answering questions from the public on their project.



Pictured above Tess Casasin Sheridan and Aoife Doherty being presented with their trophy by Koen Verbruggen, Director Geological Survey of Ireland.

David Sims was awarded a Highly Commended for his project entitled "The feasibility of using Ulva lactuca as a method in the treatment of sewage". This project was in the Senior Individual section of the Biological and Ecological Sciences category. This is his sixth and final year entering a project. "Through my research on my project last year I found that Ulva lactuca grew more in places with higher levels of nutrients. This year I wanted to find out if this seaweed absorbs the nutrients and other chemicals in the water".

The aims of his project were:

- To see if Ulva lactuca can be used to treat sewage and contaminated water.
- To look at how lowering the salinity of the water affects how Ulva lactuca works.

He found that Ulva lactuca did reduce the nutrient levels in sewage and that it could have a potential use in treating sewage.



Pictured above David Sims showing off his book autographed by Chris Hadfield.

The other projects that successfully made it to the exhibition in the RDS were:

- Aisling O'Rourke: "An examination of rock pool fish communities on shores north and south of Galway Bay"
- Patrick O'Rourke: "Sport and alcohol, is it too close a relationship?"
- Oriáth Bownen: "Predator effect on the behaviour of Mytilus edulis and Littorina littorea".
- Maghnus Harigan: "Mouse's Ears; Development of a computer mouse that senses users' subconscious reactions"
- Lizzy Roche and Olivia McGann: "Variations in Carlinia vulgaris from different regions of the Burren".

After the celebrations have died down work is already beginning in Mary Immaculate on the next BT Young Scientist competition which as I write this article the BT Young Scientist website informs me that we only have 349 days left to get all the work done!

CEIST congratulates all students who took part in the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition.



Recent News

Keywords

Category
 --- Select ---

Month Year
 Any Any

SEARCH

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



St Leo's College Carlow Officially Open New Extension

Thursday 30th January 2014

Another milestone was marked in the history of [St. Leo's College, Carlow](#).

It's new extension '**Solas**' was officially opened by the Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn TD.

The aptly named new building consists of six classrooms, a Science Lab, Technology Room and Library.

The name reflects the light, space and spirit of the new build. Equally it reflects a new departure in the evolution of St Leo's College.

CEIST were represented at the ceremony by the CEO Ms Anne Kelleher and Faith Leadership and Governance Co-ordinator Justin Brown.

In his speech the Minister paid tribute to the legacy of the Mercy Sisters and the Public Private Partnership which is the Department, Trustees, Parents and wider community working together in the best interests of the students.



Pictured above Ms. Emma Dwyer, Teacher with Ms. Anne Kelleher, CEO, CEIST meeting students.



Pictured above students carrying the flags which represent the 28 different nationalities in St Leo's College.



Pictured above LtoR are Anne Kelleher, CEO CEIST, Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn, Clare Ryan, School Principal and Chairperson of School Board of Management, Justin Cody.



Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn unveiling the commemorative stone with Clare Ryan, School Principal



Pictured above the commemorative stone to mark the official opening of new building.

News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

St Joseph's College, Lucan Students win €5,000 Prize!

Tuesday 21st January 2014



THREE secondary school students walked away with a €5,000 prize for their school after producing an original rap video to promote healthy eating and exercise.

Tina Ehiguese (14), Gabrielle Fulham (14) and Lisa Browne (13), from St Joseph's College in Lucan, Dublin, came first in the second annual Pumped Schools' Video Awards.

The video, which was filmed at the school, features the students rapping and singing along to a catchy song entitled '**Active Teens, Healthy Hearts**', which they wrote themselves.

It aims to highlight why exercise is good for the mind, helps people feel happy, unwind and sleep better.

This was the school's second year winning the awards, whose entries are judged anonymously.

The awards were put together in light of a survey of 500 Irish teenagers, which found that three in 10 regularly consume junk food and soft drinks.

Pumped.ie ambassador and Ireland Olympic silver medallist Kenneth Egan presented the awards.

The awards are organised by Bayer in partnership with the Irish Heart Foundation and the Federation of Irish Sport.

News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Team sMOOLicious from Árdscoil na Tríonóide, Athy

Monday 27th January 2014

Team sMOOLicious



Pictured above Eadaoin Burgess, Ellen Purcell, Adam Ryan, Clodagh Walshe, Anna Cully and Emma Owens with their bicycle powered smoothie maker.

Congratulations to all the students in TYC at Árdscoil na Tríonóide, Athy. Co. Kildare and team sMOOLicious, Eadaoin Burgess, Ellen Purcell, Clodagh Walsh, Emma Owens, Adam Ryan and Anna Cully.

Team sMOOLicious with their Home Economics teacher, Ms Jackie Cooper have made it through to the second round of the Milk It Awards competition run by the National Dairy Council.

Fifty teams were short listed from a large number of entries from schools all over Ireland.

In order to qualify, each team had to submit a short video pitch of how they plan to encourage young people to consume their recommended 5 portions of dairy a day in their school.

As they have qualified, the team now have to activate their campaign.

Team sMOOLicious plan to increase the consumption of dairy in Ardscoil na Tríonóide by encouraging students to consume yogurt/milk based smoothies.

They have designed a bicycle powered smoothie maker to allow students make their own smoothies at break time.

Check out the video clips of the bike in action on the sMOOLicious Facebook page.



News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

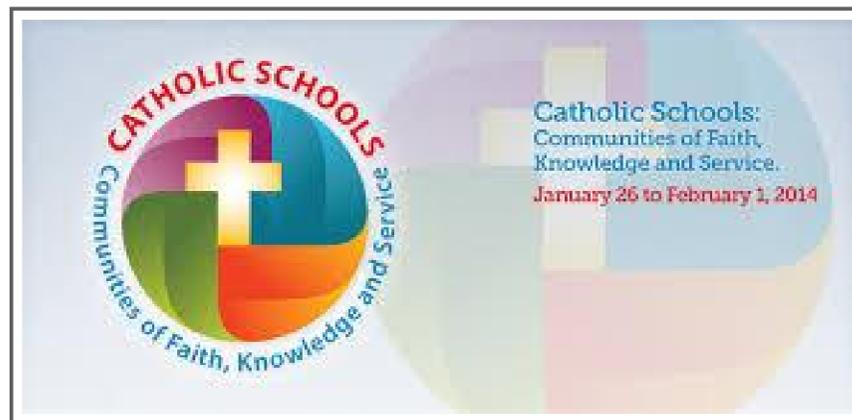
[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam Mass Celebration for CSW 2014

Monday 27th January 2014



[Presentation College, Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway](#) marked the beginning of Catholic Schools Week 2014 by preparing a special mass for the people of Tuam.

Transition Year students from the college prepared the readings, prayers of the faithful, offertory, music and the homily for mass celebrated yesterday 26th January.

Principal Neasa Cosgrove recited a short introduction before the entrance procession in which she explained that this was Catholic Schools Week, a week in which we celebrate the massive contribution that Catholic Education has made in Tuam and elsewhere.

Staff and students present were honoured to welcome Archbishop Neary as the celebrant.

Therese Kearns, a TY student gave a wonderful homily (see below), outlining her personal experience of attending a Catholic School.

[Homily](#)

She mentioned the mutual respect that exists in Currylea and the positive effect a smile from a fellow student or teacher can have on a person.

The TY choir were accompanied on organ by past pupil Emer Kelly with the assistance of another past pupil Aoife Willis.

The wonderful sermony finished with the song "oh happy day" performed by Tobi Adelowo.

Catholic Schools Week will continue to be celebrated in the school during morning prayers this week.

Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Any

Year

Any

SEARCH

Events

CEIST Annual Conference

E-News

Monthly School Feature



News from Coláiste Muire, Ennis

Wednesday 22nd January 2014

Coláiste Muire, Ennis, Co. Clare have kindly shared the following photos and news snippets of all student achievements and events that have occurred in the school recently.

Academic Awards

Leaving Cert

Well done to Fatima-Zahra Jaouimaa who is a recipient of a 2013 All Ireland Scholarship which is sponsored by JP McManus. She received her award from Minister for Finance Michael Noonan TD at a ceremony on 9 November. Fatima is studying Economics & Mathematical Science in UL.

Well done to Holly Cotgreave who has been awarded a UCD Entrance Scholarship. Holly is studying Medicine.

Well done to the following students who have received Entrance Exhibition Awards in Trinity College, Dublin.

- Madeline Arkins (German & Drama)
- Amy Gallagher (Medicine)
- Alison Brogan (Law & Political Science)
- Mary Ellen Nagle (Russian & Drama)



Pictured above (LoR) are Niamh O'Regan, Guidance Counsellor, Alannah Redington studying Financial Maths, Prof. Paul McCutcheon, Vice President Academic & Registrar University Limerick and Jean Pound, School Principal, Coláiste Muire, Ennis.

Leaving Cert Applied

Well done to Danielle Marshall, one of 9 students nationally to be awarded the LCA Fergal Quinn Award for outstanding results in LCA.

Junior Cert

Well done to Grainne Cremin who was selected to participate in the Irish Junior Science Olympiad (IrJSO) based on results in Junior Cert Science.

Well done to Meabh Hurley who has been identified by the State Exams Commission as a high achiever in 2013 Junior Cert Mathematics. Meabh has been invited to participate in the 2013 Irish Beaver Computing Contest (IBCC)

Law Education for Schools (18/19/20 Sept)

All TY students were given a unique insight into law as seen through the eyes of a practising barrister. Law Education for Schools places emphasis on teaching the student the skill of advocacy.

College Open Days

Leaving Cert and TY students pictured on right attended Open Days in NUI Galway (4 Oct), UCC (Sat 12 Oct), UCD (Sat 9 Nov) and TCD (Sat 7 Dec).

They had the opportunity to attend introductory lectures, visit exhibition stands, talks to undergraduate students and participate in various campus tours.

Horizon Adventure Centre, Kilvalley, Westport (8 – 11 Oct)

TY students took part in a multi- activity programme including surfing, kayaking, climbing Croagh Patrick, zipwire, Jacobs ladder, high ropes, archery and various team building tasks.

Mission Week

Our Annual Mission week took place from 21 – 25 October. The purpose is to raise awareness and to raise funds for the Mercy mission in Nguatani. Mission Week activities included Whacky Sock Day, Copper Race, Cake Sales, Lunchtime Concerts, Leaving Cert Theme Day and the Leaving Cert Concert. We raised in excess of €5000.

Pathology Department Open Day (16 November morning)

A number of TY students took part in this event which took place in conjunction with the "Labs are Vital" initiative organised through the Academy of Medical Laboratory Science in partnership with Abbott Diagnostics, and as part of National Pathology Week, Ireland.

Radiography Presentation Afternoon (16 November afternoon)

A number of TY students attended University Hospital Limerick and listened to talks outlining the different aspects of a career as a Radiographer, followed by a tour of the X-ray department. Both events also coincided with National Science Week.

Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thanks to all those who filled 300 shoeboxes with a selection of small gifts. As a result of your generosity Team Hope can fund all year round feeding, water, education and agricultural projects for children and their families in Romania, Kenya, Swaziland, Burundi, Moldova, Congo.



National Ploughing Championships

Our Agricultural Science students travelled to Ratheniska, Stradbally, Co. Laoise on 25th September. As Europe's largest Outdoor and Agricultural Trade Show attracting on average 1,350 exhibitors and over 200,000 visitors this is an annual event in the Science faculty's calendar.

Trad for Trocaire

Trad for Trocaire continues to be enthusiastically supported in Coláiste Muire. Our Traditional Musicians (students and teachers pictured on right) entertained us at break time from 26th Sept to 3rd October.

The money we raised (€250) goes to support vulnerable communities, living in extreme poverty and suffering terrible injustices

School Musical (25 – 30 November)

This year's school musical was Cats. From its foundation in 1860 Coláiste Muire has fostered Music and the Arts. The annual musical promotes an opportunity for each student to work as part of a team and to discover their individual talents. It gives an opportunity for growing in self confidence and self worth.

Thanks to our Board of Management, our teaching staff and our Parents' Association. Staging a musical in a school environment is a mammoth task which requires a huge level of commitment and investment from all the parties involved.



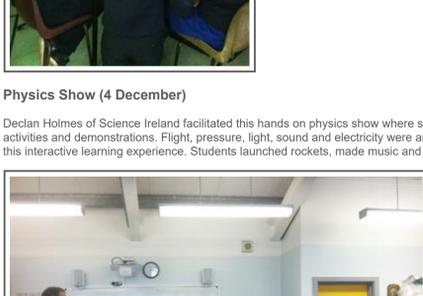
Lyric FM "Making Radio"project (3 December)

Lyric FM Education and Outreach programme involves making classical music based radio programmes. A mobile radio studio was brought to the school and the fundamental aspects of radio programme making were discussed. The programme was facilitated by Lorcan Murray and Eddie Lenihan



Physics Show (4 December)

Declan Holmes of Science Ireland facilitated this hands on physics show where students participated in activities and demonstrations. Flight, pressure, light, sound and electricity were among the topics covered in this interactive learning experience. Students launched rockets, made music and learned how helicopters fly.



St Vincent de Paul

A St. Vincent de Paul Soft Toy Appeal was launched in the school in December. Any previously loved toys were donated. Our TY 2 class are in the process of setting up a Young St. Vincent de Paul Society here in Coláiste Muire.

Introduction to 2nd Level Programme

This is the sixth year that Coláiste Muire offered this programme for five days in January. 150 sixth class students from primary schools in our catchment area were given an insight into a typical, day in second level. Following an iPad demonstration and a short tour of the school they had a French, German and Science class. They also joined some first and second year core classes. They day concluded with a short information session with the Principal and Guidance Counsellor.



Siansa Gael Linn Music Competition

Siansa Gael Linn is one of the country's most prestigious competitions for young traditional Irish music and singing Gael groups.

Organised by Gael Linn with support from Forfas na Gaeilge, RTE Raidio na Gaeltachta and Irish Music Magazine, Siansa provides a platform for talented teenage groups who aim to emulate groups such as Teada, Altan, Danu, Dervish etc

Coláiste Muire are taking place in the semi final in Galway on 10th February.





Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)



News from Scoil Muire agus Pádraig, Swinford, Co Mayo

Friday 31st January 2014

The following are two news snippets from [Scoil Muire agus Pádraig](#), Swinford, Co. Mayo.

Junior Cert Business Studies Awards 2013

Congratulations to Caoimhe Groarke, Grace Mullaney, Bethany Miller, Sonachú O'Callaghan-Broe, Danielle O'Grady and Ruth Tobin Transition Year students at Scoil Muire agus Padraig Swinford who were honoured by the School of Business and Economics at NUI Galway in recognition of their having achieved A Grades in Higher Level Business Studies in the Junior Certificate 2013.

The Awards ceremony took place in the Bailey Allen Hall in University College Galway on January 28th last.

All at Scoil Muire agus Pádraig would like to say well done to the students and their teachers Mr Kilgallon, Ms Casserly and Mr Armstrong.



Pictured are the students who received the awards with a member of the Faculty of Business and Economics, NUI Galway.

Operation Transformation 2014 at Scoil Muire agus Pádraig Swinford

All First Year students at Scoil Muire agus Pádraig Swinford recently took part in Stage 1 of a fitness challenge in association with the Operation Transformation programme currently running on RTE 1 and the John Murray Show on Radio 1.

This stage – the Bleep Test - tests the students' current fitness levels and the students will now embark on a fitness programme under the direction of their PE teacher Ms Keane after which they will be tested again to find out how much they have improved in the intervening time.



Pictured are some of the First Years lining up for the Bleep Test.

News & Events

Recent News

Keywords

Category

Month

Year

SEARCH

Events

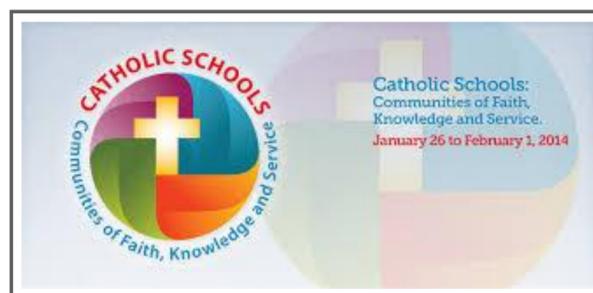
[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Catholic Schools Week 2014

Friday 31st January 2014



Catholic Schools Week (CSW) will be celebrated between **Sunday, 26 January, and Sunday, 2 February 2014.**

The theme for CSW 2014 is *Catholic Schools: Centres of Faith and Learning.*

Launch of Catholic Schools Week

Bishop Denis Nulty of Kildare and Leighlin launched Catholic Schools Week on the 20th January with over 200 students and staff of Saint Dominic's College in Cabra, Archdiocese of Dublin, and thirteen local schools and representatives from across the country. Click [here](#) to see the great talent and energy these students brought to the event!

Click [here](#) to view article from the Catholic Bishops website on the launch.

CSW Post-Primary Resources

Resources for post-primary schools have been prepared and are available [here](#).

Click [here](#) to download resource for preparing for Catholic Schools Week Mass.

Ideas for Catholic Schools Week

You could try some of the following ideas:

- Have each class select a saint for the week.
- Begin or end the week with a school Mass. Have the students plan the liturgy.
- Organise a fundraiser.
- Invite a guest speaker to come to your school, e.g. someone who works with the homeless.
- Represent your school in your local community by organising a visit to a local nursing home or volunteering with a local charity such as St Vincent de Paul.
- Visit a church every morning or evening during CSW for daily Mass, or just sit and pray.
- Research the life and times of a particular saint your school is named after or the founder of the religious community that may have founded your school.
- Do an anonymous act of kindness for someone.
- Use praise and worship music in class prayer (see more [here](#)).

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be celebrated from Saturday, 18 January, to Saturday, 25 January. Try some of the following activities during that week:

- Watch this [video](#) with images of prayer for Christian Unity.
- Find out if your local parish is having an ecumenical service and invite students to attend. Perhaps there is a particular way in which they could participate.
- Browse through the World Council of Churches [website](#) for information on Christian Unity.
- Download classroom resources from this [website](#).

For prayer resources check out the Catholic Bishops' [website](#).



Recent News

Keywords

Category

--- Select ---

Month

Year

Any

Any

SEARCH

Events

[CEIST Annual Conference](#)

[E-News](#)

[Monthly School Feature](#)

Catholic schools' ethos benefits Ireland's pluralist society

Wednesday 29th January 2014

The following is an article taken from the Irish Times on Monday 27th from Sr. Elizabeth Maxwell, who is provincial leader of the [Presentation Sisters Northern Province](#) and a [Member of CEIST](#).

Genuine pluralism is not attained by ignoring the religious freedom of the majority.



Young people are encouraged to develop the full range of their intellectual, physical, social, aesthetic, emotional and spiritual abilities and talents. (Photograph: Matt Kavanagh).

[Catholic Schools Week 2014](#) takes place this week across the island of Ireland. This annual celebration is an opportunity for Catholic parishes, parents, boards of management and governors, teachers and students to reflect on the values underpinning the long tradition of Catholic education in this country and worldwide.

The 2014 theme is **Catholic Schools: Places of Faith and Learning**.

During Catholic Schools Week we also commemorate the lives and contributions to educational theory and practice of saints such as Angela Merici, the founder of the Ursulines, the first congregation of women in the Catholic Church, and a pioneer of education for women.

We commemorate St Thomas Aquinas, acknowledged as among the most influential thinkers of medieval scholasticism, who combined the theological principles of faith with the philosophical principles of reason; and St John Bosco, renowned as an innovative educator, whose outreach to the vulnerable young of his day was marked by kindness, encouraging young people to paths of virtue and developing in them an appreciation of their own worth.

In presenting the message of the kingdom of God, Jesus adopted an invitational approach throughout his public life. The Catholic school, at all levels, aims to reflect a distinctive vision of life based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Its educational philosophy is inspired by that vision and corresponds to it. It strives to create a facilitative environment in which the student may grow in an appreciation of the presence of God, as Patrick Kavanagh puts it, "in the bits and pieces of everyday life".

This nurturing environment is achieved through the programmes of religious education, prayer and worship the school offers. It is also conveyed by the lived witness of teachers, the vision and policies of boards of management/governors, its recognition of parents as primary educators and its co-operation with the parish community.

In such an environment the student's learning is suffused by wonder at the transcendent mystery of God revealed in the complex beauty of the universe. The student also benefits from the achievements of scientists, the works of artists and writers, the insights of philosophers. Young people are encouraged to develop the full range of their intellectual, physical, social, aesthetic, emotional and spiritual abilities and talents in a balanced, integrated and generous way.

The Catholic school focuses especially on the holistic formation of the person because it recognises that each student "is a child of God", who is destined to grow into an active citizen in the world. In this milieu the young person experiences the "fragrance of the Gospel", as Pope Francis delightfully expresses it.

A Gospel-inspired concern for the needs of others calls for practical local and global outreach and partnerships.

We see numerous examples of this generosity among the students, current and former, of our Catholic schools.

Service in the community

They illustrate the impulse to be of service in the community, the "love thy neighbour as thyself" exhortation of the Gospel that spills over into action from the wells of deep faith in the message of Jesus.

A significant amount of public discourse around faith-based education in recent times suggests that denominational schools are a block to the development of a genuinely pluralist society. The opposite applies.

Catholic schools in Ireland today provide for diversity and cater for it in a variety of creative ways. Some have up to 44 different nationalities in their enrolment.

Diversity challenges but also enriches students and teachers. Our schools and parishes are playing a vital part in the integration of other nationalities into Irish society.

The multicultural character of Irish society today presents the Government with challenges in terms of adequate provision for those who do not subscribe to the Catholic ethos of the majority of primary schools. Catholic patrons acknowledge this and have expressed willingness, guided by parental choice, to divest Catholic schools.

Genuine pluralism is not attained by ignoring the right to religious freedom of the majority. In responding to the needs of our times, let us avoid the mistake of becoming victims to a national state of amnesia in relation to a tradition that has served us, and others, well.