

News Update: Beginning of the School Year 2013



ST. JOSEPH OF CLUNY KILLINEY CO. DUBLIN

From the Principal's Desk

September 2013

Dear Parents,
We have had a lot of positive developments in the school since our summer Newsletter, not least the spectacular new building developments on the school grounds! As September comes to a close we have a lot of new features to be pleased about: i.e. the new avenue and traffic management system is well under way, the new Astroturf is evolving daily, the excellent L.C. results were a welcome arrival in August and with the addition of our new First Years we have indeed a very special start to this new school year.

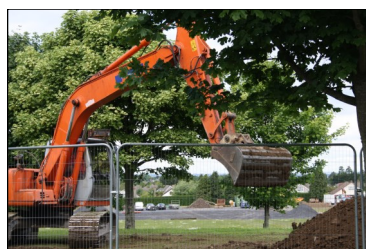
We have our usual annual reminders enclosed and our annual updates about sports and the range of extra curricular activities available for the girls.

We wish all of our students a very enjoyable school year. We hope that our new First Years will quickly make new friends and settle in enthusiastically to life in the secondary school. We hope that the older students will adapt well to the changes the new school year brings and that they will bring their usual enthusiasm to the range of sports and school activities that we will continue to provide them with.

New Construction: Summer 2013

The school's latest building construction works commenced at the end of May last and have been proceeding with great pace, precision and style over the months of the summer. The school avenue and grounds have

been transformed into a modern campus before our eyes and I'm sure you all agree that the evolving Astroturf is a truly spectacular sight! The removal of the boundary trees around the walls of the school really opened up space and light onto the grounds.



The Astroturf is expected to be finished at the end of October to coincide with the October mid-term break. Great thanks are due to the construction company SAC Construction from Co. Meath for the care and attention they have given this build and also Sports Labs U.K who were the Edinburgh based pitch consultants. We are all particularly looking forward to seeing the new pavilion changing room located near the pitch, which is developing a whole life of its own as it evolves!

Special requests of parents while the work is ongoing:

- Please observe the new traffic regulations and **pull into the new set down area** outside the student entrance in the mornings when dropping off the girls. Please **do not stop on the new white lines outside the student entrance**. Others will be tempted to copy you and

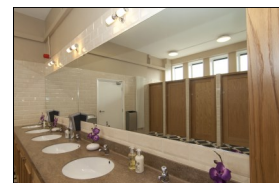


even a short drop off at this point causes' traffic delays on the avenue. We appeal to parents to **please set a good example with your car** on the school grounds.

- The second problem area is the drop off at the new gate entrance on Ballinclea Road. Parents are asked not to **stop their cars on Ballinclea Road** to drop students off at this gate as this is highly dangerous and may cause an accident. **This gate is for pedestrian students only**. Unfortunately if cars continue to stop on Ballinclea Road to access the new school gate the school Board will have no choice but to close the new gate. The Health and Safety of students both on the grounds and coming onto the school grounds is an absolute priority of the school Board at all times and your co-operation with regard to the use of the new gate would be most appreciated.

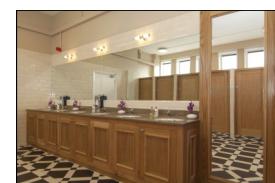
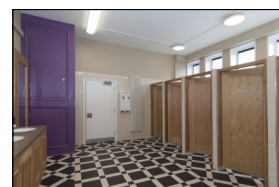
Other Summer Works:

As well as all the construction work going on outside the major internal work was the new look junior toilet block that got a complete makeover like the senior one last year. We kept a similar heritage theme as with last year and it features another beautiful Italian porcelain floor. Thanks once again to Joey Moore and SAC construction for the beautiful quality of materials used.



Special points of interest:

- DEPUTY PRINCIPAL GREETING
- SCHOOL PROCEDURES
- PARENT TEACHER MEETING DATES
- ANNUAL REMINDERS
- DEBS DATE



News Update: Beginning of the School Year 2013

From the Principal's Desk continued

We also secured a suite of new upgraded computers for the students in the Computer Room. The school has been selected for high speed broadband which we were preparing for this summer and which should be here by the end of the term. We have also added additional items to the suite of gym equipment in the Sport Hall. We hope the girls will start their training early for next years' mini marathon. We might even be joined this year by some fit parents! Watch out for details over the coming months.

Leaving Cert 2013

The LC students of 2013 and their teachers are to be congratulated on their excellent LC results this year. There were many students who surpassed their expectations with these results and improved considerably on their mock results at the end of the previous term. The top five highest achieving students were **Fiona Craddock on 605 points, Eleanor Mc Sweeney on 590 points, Emma Lennon on 580 points, Anastasia Blinova on 580 points and Eleanor O'Mahony on 560 points. A total of 21 students from this years' L.C. group achieved 500 points in this year's exam or higher.**

As with every year group there were a number of significant success stories within this years' results for students who had particular difficulties and challenges to overcome. We congratulate them on their hard work and determination. We also commend so many in this group for keeping up their commitment to school sports and other activities which is such important example to give the

younger students. We wish all of our LC students of 2013 great success as they begin in their new colleges and courses. Great thanks is due to the teaching staff who are to be congratulated for their dedication to this group of students throughout their six years in the school and for all their hard work in ensuring the girls success. Thanks is due also to Ms. Caroline McPhillips, school Guidance Counsellor, for her work on Careers with last years' Sixth Years and her support of them during a stressful year. We look forward to seeing the girls who are returning to us on 03 October for their Debs night reception hosted by the Parents' Association from 5.00-7.00 pm. Family members of all ages will be most welcome.



Congratulations also to our Third Years on their recent **Junior Certificate** results and to **Megan O'Toole 4N** (above) in particular who swept the boards with her **11 A's**. A great achievement Megan! There were wonderful achievements among the other students in this group also.

New First Years

We hope our new First Years are enjoying the new routine of secondary school with all the exciting changes this brings. They have been settling in well into their new classes and beginning to make new friends. They have also made contact with their new Sixth Year Buddies who joined them last week along with their

Senior Prefect to have a special 'pizza lunch' get-together for all three classes.



We look forward to meeting up again with the parents of First Years on Tuesday 19 November next when the girls will let you know how they are getting on. In the meantime we would be most grateful if you would ensure that the school journal is signed once a week and encourage you to keep an eye on the quality of the homework that the girls are submitting and that they put in the time and the effort with their work. If you have any queries in the meantime the Year Head of First Year Mr. John O'Farrell will be happy to assist you, as will the class Tutors i.e Ms C. O'Riordan 1Y, Ms F. Archibald 1X and Ms V. Culliton 1W.

Parents Association

The Parents Association AGM took place on Thursday 26 September at 7.30 in the school Library. Mrs Janet O Doherty, Chairperson reviewed the work of the Association last year and other items of Association business; there were student presentations: the Librarian Ms. Dillon gave a short update on the developments in the Library and a guest presenter Ms. Sheila O'Malley spoke on Parenting Issues.

Many thanks once again to Mrs Mary Feeney and her team of parents who are Irish Heart Foundation instructors for the C.P.R. instruction they give to the T.Y. group over four mornings this month. It is wonderful that the girls have certified training in this essential skill as part of

General Notices

1st & 2nd Year Parents Weekly Signing of Journal

We are returning to the procedure of asking parents to supervise the homework listed in your daughter's journal by signing the journal at the end of the week.

Supervision of Students

**8.15 a.m. —
4.15 p.m.**

Supervision of students begins at 8.15 and finishes at 4.15. We would ask parents to have their daughters attend only between these times.

Debs Night 2013

The annual Debutants Reception will be held by the Parents Association on **Thursday 03 October** from 5.00p.m. 7.00p.m.

From the Principal's Desk continued

their T.Y. programme now. We are once again most grateful to the parents involved for offering their professional services to the school for this initiative.

Many thanks also to the association for the donation of money for the purchase of an item of gym equipment for the school as part of our new suite.

Some additional items of note:

'Lunchbox' by Carrig Catering

The school are pleased to welcome Carrig Catering i.e. the New School Catering Company this year. The girls have a wide selection of items to choose from for their lunch including a wide range of salads, wraps, baps and all are healthy and tasty. They can also order any item at break time to save having to queue at lunchtime. At the moment only cold food items are available but the caterers may introduce hot food in time if there is sufficient demand. This might suit the students who have to stay late for supervised study etc. Carrig Catering are well known to some of the local girls schools in the southside.

Supervised Study After School: The extension of the after school Supervised Study programme until 7.00 on Mondays and Tuesdays will continue for Senior Students this year. Supervised Study is available for Third, Fifth and Sixth Years each day from 4.00-6.00pm each day otherwise. We do encourage the girls to keep up their commitment to playing team sports during the week and to keep a balance regarding their study routine and to keep up their interest in their own fitness and in their extra-curricular programme.

Sport and the extra- curricular programme:

The full range of **Sports and extra -curricular** activities available for the students is shown in this newsletter. We have our full range of Sports coaches again this year including Swimming Coach Ms. Somers. Some new sports coaches who have joined the panel in the school including Gillian Clarges who is a fitness coach and will be available to senior students after school on Wednesdays and Fridays in the fitness room. Ms. Darmody is commencing after school running this month also. It is worth noting the range of Music items available for the girls including vocal tuition.

The Library has a full range of activities each day including lots of different Library Clubs and themed weeks for the girls to enjoy. Student Council, Green School and the Fifth Year Societies offer a range of interests for the girls to get involved in. First and Second Year students are asked to sign up to at least one school extra- curricular item. We would ask parents of First and Second Year to return the enclosed signed form to us indicating your daughters' choice of after school activities to us.

School Fees

The school Board is pleased again this year to have been able to maintain the school fees at the same level as last year. The Board is most grateful to all parents for their financial support of the school and the prompt payment of fees. The Board recommends that any parent who may be experiencing difficulty meeting school fee payments to make contact with **the school Bursar Ms. Maura Bracken** early on in the year to discuss a way forward in the matter. She is available from Monday to Thursday mornings from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm to discuss options with you and how she can assist you in planning the payment of fees. The fee policy is available on the school website for viewing. The Board remains committed to competitive fees and the provision of a high standard of educational service and facilities for our students each year which requires a commitment to continuous financial planning. We hope the girls will enjoy all of their new facilities this year.

Finally:

We are looking forward to the return of 'The Boyfriend' i.e. the **T.Y. Musical** for this year which has enjoyed a number of popular productions in the school. We are also looking forward to the return of the Musical to its familiar slot in Octo-

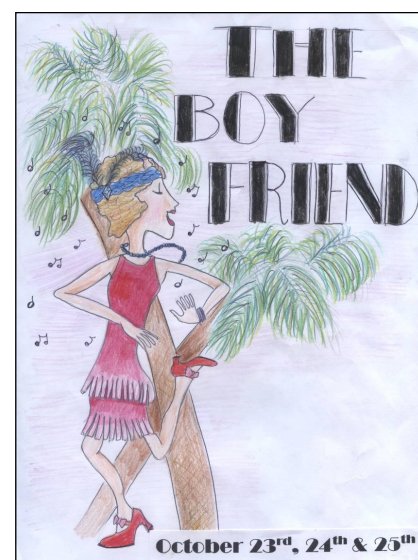
ber. Tickets on sale shortly! We wish Mrs Burke and the production team well for another year!

Good luck to the Sixth Years in their final year with us this year, to the Senior Prefects and all of you in various leadership roles including Sports captains. We wish our Deputy Head Girl Fiona Deegan 6C and our Head Girl Sarah Lynam 6C well in their roles this year and look forward to hearing from them at various events.

The school continues in its preparation for new Junior Cert 2014 as one of the selected network of schools who are exploring the programme presently with the teaching staff. We hope to have an exciting programme in place for the roll out next year and will keep you updated on what the new curriculum will consist of. The school is both impressed and committed to the educational principles underlying the new JC programme and believes it heralds an important new approach to teaching and learning within the curriculum.

Looking forward to meeting you all during the year

M.White



Deputy Principal's Greeting

Ballinclea Road
Killiney
Co. Dublin

Phone: 01 2855027
Fax: 01 2851310
E-mail: cluny@eircom.net
Web site: clunykillyne.ie

ST. JOSEPH OF CLUNY

Welcome back everyone and a special céad mile fáilte to all our new First Year students. We are delighted to have Ms. Byrne and Ms. Delahunty with us again and we wish Ms. Coleman every happiness in her retirement. We are delighted to be joined by Ms E. Doyle in the Spanish Department this year and by our new Laboratory Technician Marie. We are also enjoying scrumptious delights from *Carrig Catering Company* in the School Cafeteria and are glad to have the use of extra newly added gym equipment to keep fit!

Congratulations to all our amazing 6th Yrs. on their Leaving Certificate results. We wish them every happiness and success in the future. Congratulations also to the Junior Certificate class of 2012-13 who recently received excellent grades.

We are very thankful to Mr. Randolph, Mr. Twomey and Mrs O'Driscoll for their hard work and support on the Recess trip. This is always an amazing four days and the girls return home with lots of fond memories. We have a number of upcoming trips to look forward to also: Barcelona for the 5th Yrs. and Paris for senior Art students. Exciting times ahead!

A lot of work and preparation is going on behind the scenes to prepare for the Debs Reception. The Parents Association are busily organising arrangements for what is always a lovely evening! Then we have the Careers Evening to look forward to later in the term. If you are a past pupil or parent who would like to give an insight to the girls of your profession please contact Ms. Mc Phillips. We are delighted to be working with Sarah and Fiona our newly appointed Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl. They are so organised and up to speed with everything, popping in to visit First Year classes, helping at Assembly, organising rosters, sitting on Student Council. The list goes on.... We are delighted that they have worked with the Prefects to select the *Make A Wish Foundation* for the *School Charity of the Year* and look forward to learning more about the work of the Charity at the Opening of School Year Assembly. We will also have a separate celebration of the raising of our fifth Green Flag with a visit from the Cathaoirleach of DLRCC to the school.

A special word of thanks has to go to the 6th Yr. Prefects. They came back to school a day early to help us organise the *Welcome Morning* for students and parents of first years in August. Since then they have organised a Pizza lunch with fun and games for each of the first year classes ably assisted by some volunteer Buddies. We look forward to their next event.

As well as Recess, Transition Years have had a hectic start to the school year with rehearsals for 'The Boyfriend'. We wish them every success. Special thanks to the parents who volunteered to take the TY group through the CPR training. Each year we are indebted to them for taking the time out to teach such a valuable skill to the girls. We look forward to meeting you all at the Parent Teacher Meetings and various school events in the coming months. Wishing you all a happy and healthy Academic New Year!

Ms. O Lambert

Annual Reminders

Parent-teacher Meetings 2013-2014

Sixth Years PTM

Thurs Dec 5th
4.15-6.45p.m.

Third Years PMT

Weds. Nov. 13th
4.15-6.45p.m.

Fifth Years PTM

Thurs. 6th March
4.15-6.45

Second Year PTM

Tues 15th October
4.15-6.45p.m.

TY PTM

Weds. 22nd Jan
4.15-6.45

First Years PTM

Tues. 25th Feb
4.15-6.45

School Procedures 2013-2014

If you have any queries or matters to discuss in relation to your daughters progress, subject, reports, behaviour uniform or disciplinary issues your first point of contact in the school is her Year Head. They are the following teachers:

6th Year

Iníon Uí Aodhagain

5th Year

Ms. R. Molloy/
Ms. G. McEvoy

4th Year

Mr P. Larkin

3rd Year

Ms. J. Joy

2nd Year

Ms. J. Dullaghan

1st Year

Mr. Farrell

by appointment if you wish, during term time.

The Tutors take a particular interest in the girls pastoral welfare and are the following:

6C Mr. C. Hartigan

6L Ms. T. Torpey

6N Mr. R. Browne

5C Ms. A. Delahunty

5L Ms. J. Ryan

5N Ms. O'Connor

4C Mr. C. Twomey

4L Ms. R. Devaney

4N Ms. B. Wolahan

3W Ms. AM. Doyle

3X Ms. M. Seymour

3Y Ms M. Darmody

2W Ms. P. Rooney

2X Ms. D. Fahey

2Y Mrs. D. Smith

1W Ms. V. Culliton

1X Ms. F. Archibald

1Y Ms. C. O'Riordan

The Year Heads are looking forward to meeting you at the Parents – Teachers meeting during the year or will meet you

