

ST. JOSEPH
OF CLUNY
SECONDARY SCHOOL

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Catholic Schools Week
- Business Junior Achievement
- 5thYear Famous Artists Party
- Vive La France
- Green Schools Herb Garden
- Home Economics snaky draughts & PJ Parties
- TY Work Experience Reports

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Principal's Desk	2
Ethiopia, My Story	8
German Exchange	13
History Quiz	16
Le Cheile— Singing for the President	18
Library	19
Sports	22

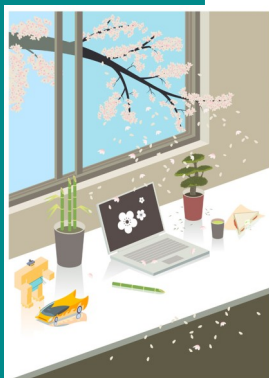
Easter Newsletter 2010

SECOND EDITION

MARCH 2010



From the Principal's Desk



“The Sisters struggle now, along with the rest of the population, to maintain the vestiges of ordinary life”

‘Hats for Haiti’ day combined with donations and local events a grant total of €8100 has been raised.



Hello everyone and it’s very good to be back at the Principal’s desk once again! I was very happy to have been able to return to work in February thanks to a good health prognosis and undoubtedly the assistance also of many prayers, Deo Gracias. My sincere thanks to you all – parents, students, staff and past pupils – for all your cards, Mass cards and letters over the last few months. They were a great source of support and encouragement to me during my illness. My sincere thanks also to Mrs Lundy for taking over from me so efficiently and to Mrs Gale for being equally efficient as acting Deputy Principal. And as you can see from this spring edition of our Newsletter it’s been a busy and productive time in the school since our last one in December.

Mrs Lundy found herself as the new project manager for the installation of the new school windows in the autumn. I’m not sure how she felt about the honour but as you will have seen it was all effected with great efficiency and aplomb! The girls even wrote to me in the hospital to tell me there would be no need for leggings this year as the school was now very warm! My thanks to Senator Windows also who provided us with very practical and aesthetically pleasing new double glazed windows to bring us through the next fifty years!

The school is also to be congratulated for a great charitable undertaking in the ‘Hats for Haiti’ day

which raised €8100 for that stricken country. Several thousand of the final sum came from the Johnstown students who held a sale of work in January and added to our total. There are fourteen Cluny convents in Haiti eleven of whom managed to avoid the total destruction caused by the earthquake. The Sisters struggle now, along with the rest of the population, to maintain the vestiges of ordinary life. Three Secondary Schools, a Primary School and a Literacy Centre for adults run by the Cluny Sisters were also destroyed. The Sisters are involved in education, health care, women’s promotion and social development in Haiti. The money raised has been dispatched to the Cluny Sisters in Haiti for appropriate distribution and the assistance of the stricken people there.

As can be expected Transition Year students have been very busy. Most recently were delighted with the success of the trip to Paris organised by Ms. Molloy and Ms. Ryan. It was a very popular choice of city with almost the entire year group opting to travel. The inclusion of Euro Disney was a popular option – no surprises there! Well done also to the five TY Enterprise students who reached the Regional Finals of the Junior Achievement programme and their organiser Mrs Smyth. They were delighted to have been awarded Third Place in the competition. The Transition Year students have recently completed their work experience which was a great success thanks to the work of Ms. Kelly Guidance Coun-

From the Principal's Desk cont.

sellor. The girls were in some very diverse locations for their placements and the reports coming in from their employers have been positive and complimentary. We hope it will be an important first step on the career ladder for many of our students.

Congratulations to Mr. Byrne's Second Year public speaking team who reached the finals of their Irish Federation of University women held in UCD recently. This was a marvellous achievement for an U15 all Ireland Public Speaking competition. They were Ayo Arogundade, Ellen O'Connor, Sarah Lynam and Sophie Jones (reserve). Well done to the team and their supporters. We also had good news that a past pupil Rebecca Seery (2008) was awarded the Patrick Semple Medal for outstanding academic performance in her Music degree this year.

In sport congratulations to the Senior U16 Badminton team who won all their matches and were brought to a semi final against Mt. Sackville [Their old rivals!] and went on to win the final and the Leinster Senior Cup against Holy Child Sallynoggin. The Hockey season had an unprecedented eight-three matches in all. Congratulations to the three coaches Ms. Seymour, Ms. Murphy and Ms. Somers and to the Senior B and Junior B teams who qualified from their sections of the league, and the Minor B's who reached the quarterfinal stage of their league. Well done to Sophie Grehan and Leah Crowley in First Year who were subbed up to Minor and Junior level during the season.

Basketball had an equally busy season, Congrats to the girls and Mr. Randolph and especially the First Years who have reached the semi finals of the Dublin League and may be heading to an all Ireland final. Hard luck to both the Senior A and Cadette A who both lost to Dalkey in the Dublin finals.

On the school golf front good luck to Lauren Dent who is playing in the Leinster School Championship in Clontarf Golf Club on 26 March next.

Many thanks to parents who returned surveys on the effectiveness of our current Code of Discipline and Behaviour. All second level schools are engaged in

their process at present and we mailed a cross section of parents and pupils from all years to assist us in reviewing the Code. In general there was a positive reaction to the present Code with certain adjustments proposed and we are examining these responses at present.

A reminder to parents also that the girls should not be texting or phoning home from their mobiles during the day. We have asked the girls that if they are ill they must come to the office and report to us which allows us to assess if they are sufficiently ill to warrant being sent home. The school will then contact you if that is the case. We would ask you to accept that all requests to leave the school must be processed through the office.

We are delighted to welcome Hannah Bryan (2Y) back to school following her illness. She has shown great courage and tenacity over the last few months in coping with her treatment and we wish her continued good health and happiness. Good to have you back Hannah. Good luck to our exam students in the final leg of their preparation for the state exams in June. Go neire an t-ádh libh. Looking forward to a busy next term. A reminder that Prizegiving for Seniors is May 20th, TY Prizegiving is on May 13 and Sixth year Mass and Graduation will be on 25 May.

The Parents Association have secured Mr. Shane Martin who specialises in self-help psychology and is giving a talk for parents on 22 April @ 8.00 on the dynamics of the parent/teenage relationship. He offers guidance on the challenges of parenting during the teenage years and his 'Mood Watchers' courses are always extremely popular.

Looking forward to meeting you all then.
M. White.

Catholic Schools Week



*“Catholic
Schools-A Light
for Every
Generation.”*

Strengthen
the links
between
generations

“A Light for Every Generation”

Earlier this year, our school celebrated Catholic Schools Week from the 31st January to the 6th of February. This gave us the opportunity to acknowledge and reflect on what it means to be part of a Catholic school and how we can contribute to our local community.

This year’s theme was “Catholic Schools -A Light for Every Generation.” Our school is committed to the education and formation of each student in every aspect of their lives. Cluny is a light for pupils, staff, parents and the community in every generation. This theme reminds us of our duty to let that light shine through to everyone around us.

We had a beautiful display in the Sacred Space of our school representing this theme. All of us were asked to bring in photos of ourselves, friends and family members. These were presented in the Sacred Space to show the different generations. Mr. Larkin, our religion teacher, also prepared a display of four pictures representing different generations in the shape of a candle. This showed the light we can bring into people’s lives, no matter what their age, colour or religion.

St. Brigid’s day fell on the second day of Catholic Schools Week. To mark the occasion, Mrs. Higgins presented a beautiful slideshow at the school assembly. I have included a copy of St. Brigid’s

prayer. For us, it signified the beginning of a new opportunity to be more involved in our faith in school life.

February 3rd is the feast of St. Blaise, the patron saint for sore throats. For Catholic Schools Week, this day was designated as Grandparents Day. This was to strengthen the links between the two generations, young and old. Not everyone is lucky enough to have grandparents in their lives, but this day allowed us to cherish the memories we do have and to keep our grannies and grandads in our prayers.

Throughout the week, different events took place around the school to mark the importance of Catholic Schools. A speaker, Dr. Mark Dooley came in to talk to 5th years about his experiences and faith journey. The 5th years appreciated his input. My own year was unlucky in the fact that our Mocks took place in the same week so we did not get to fully experience all the events that took place. Despite that, I really appreciate the importance of recognising this week in Catholic Schools. It really makes a difference in our awareness of our faith and it helps us to express our own experiences of faith such as in the photography display. It was a really great opportunity for the whole community to get involved in school life and I am already looking forward to Catholic Schools Week 2011. Niamh Casey, 3X

Below is the prayer that was used for Mrs. Higgins’ presentation on St. Brigid’s Day.

Brigid, a Blessing

*Brigid, Light to the darkness
Hope to the downcast
Woman of faith
And of Ireland.*

*As water Falling from full-sky
Brought Benediction to the crop and creature.
As water from cupped hand
Brought Benediction to the new born Christian
We sprinkle water here and now
In this a place made blessed by our children
May the dark of the heart never hold them
May the light of the faith always lead them
May it shine like the pillar of fire before them
And scatter the dark of their days
As it mastered the shadows of yours, Brigid
May the dark of the heart never hold them
Light to the darkness
Hope to the downcast
Woman of faith
And of Ireland*

Christy Kenneally



ART—5th Year Famous Artists Party



5th Year Art class have been having a Famous Artists Party. The girls select a 19th or 20th century artist to study, then they each picked a painting by that artist to study and copy while including an addition or changing some element to personalise it. They also did a written project on the artist and his work. On the 10th of February we held our party. The girls came dressed as their artists and presented their work to each other, explaining their contribution to the art world. It was most enjoyable to have Dali and Picasso mingling with Monet

and Warhol. Their works are on display in the library so do go and see them.
Well done everyone

Susin Tobin presents Van Gogh's 'Starry Night', you recognise him by his bandaged ear. Susan has done an excellent job at catching the energy and vibrancy of Van Gogh.

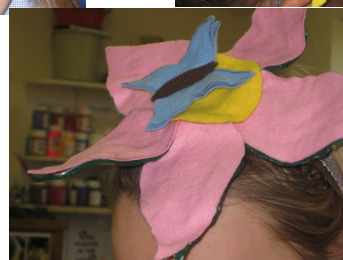
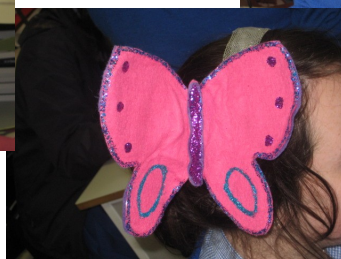


Zuzia Whelan introduces to the Pre Raphaelite movement in this wonderful interpretation of Dante Gabriel Rossetti's 'Proserpine'.

Juliette Noone has brought us into the 20th century Pop art world with her Lichtenstein.



Designer Hats



Business Junior Achievement—EU Fact Fest



Today fourth years took part in a fun EU Fact Fest! When we first heard that we'd be taking part in the Fest we were all a little apprehensive because we thought it would be just another workshop where we all just sit and listen. While it was very educational and we learned loads, we also had a really great time. All the students were given a certain length of time to learn about a particular country and find information about it. At the end of the day there was a 'Big European Quiz' which dealt with questions all about different European facts. And at the end the win-

ners received a USB key. During the whole day we learned loads of interesting things like for example that Ljubljana is the capital of Slovenia or that there's around 490 million people living in Europe today.

Junior Achievement Ireland organized the workshop and they focused strongly on the advantages of EU citizenship to young people.

*By Ally O'Connor & Mollie Ball
4L*

*"...setting up our
own mini-
company for the
Junior
Achievement
Competition."*

TY Enterprise

This year in Enterprise we got to do a lot of different things. The main one was setting up our own mini company for the Junior Achievement Competition. When Ms. Symth told us about it we were really enthusiastic and excited. We decided to do it as a class instead of different groups which turned out great. We came up with the idea of making a Junior Cert Survival

Guide. We all got involved in doing it together and it was very successful. We recently found out that we got into the regional finals which is going to be held on the 9th of march, something we cant wait for. In doing this we got great help, encouragement and enthusiasm from our teacher Ms.Symth and our Junior Achievement representative Johnathan who comes into our class every Friday. We all learned teamwork, how communication is vital to a team, how hard work pays off and also we learned how to face the different challenges along the way. Don't think it was all hard work and no play because it wasn't. We had such a good laugh this year and enterprise was a class we all looked forward to every-week and having Mrs Smyth teaching it made it even better. We also have new workshops coming up that we are all excited about doing. Our mini company was something we all loved doing. Win, loose or draw in the competition it doesn't matter because we enjoyed the experience, benefited from it and had fun doing so.



TY
students
enjoying
Enterprise
class

Junior Achievement Programme



**First
Years
awarde
d Cer-
tificates**

For five weeks, our first year Business Studies class took part in the 'Our World' Junior Achievement Programme. Erica Cash came to our class to talk to us about the following topics:

Enterprise,
Currency,
Foreign Exchange,
Trading and Marketing.

We also did small projects in groups of two, in which we were a company based in North America. We had to come up with a product and sell it to a country in a different continent. This went really well and we all presented our projects on the last day of the programme. Ms. Cash was a great teacher and explained things really well.

We really enjoyed this programme and look forward to doing the programme again next year.

By Emma Finn 1X

*"We had to
come up with
a product and
sell it to a
country in a
different
continent."*

Our World

From the 4th of November, Ms. Smyth's first year business class took part in a six week Junior Achievement course entitled "Our World".

A volunteer named Carol Fagan came in from a company called Accenture. She told the class all about the different points on International Marketing. Some of these points included : Imports & Exports and Currency Exchanging. The class had great fun taking part in the course and hope to participate again next year.

Aishling Ruigrok & Rebekah Butler,
1W



Ethiopia—my story



Siobhan Bradley
visits Ethiopia

"I'm so grateful to
all my amazing
friends in Cluny,
Clonkeen and CBC
who gave up days
of their summer
holidays and
weekends to help
me"

My Trip to Ethiopia with ORBIS IRELAND 2009.

ORBIS Ireland is an eyesight charity focused on eradicating trachoma in Ethiopia. Trachoma is a disease of the eye. It is an infection that causes the inside of the eyelid to contract and pull the eyelashes in. They then scratch against the eye and can cause scarring. Repeated infection causes irreversible blindness. If it's caught early enough, it can be treated with an operation that costs only €20 and takes 15 minutes and a drug called Zithromax (donated by Pfizer). ORBIS trains the nurses to do this simple, life changing operation, provides the money to pay for the operation and administers the drug once every year for three years to everyone in the Gamo Gofa region of Ethiopia. This keeps trachoma at bay long enough to eradicate it from the area completely. ORBIS's goal is to eradicate trachoma by 2012. Trachoma was a disease in Ireland until the 1960's and was one of the things checked for at Ellis Island, the landing station for Irish emigrants to America during the Famine.

During last summer, my Dad and I began fundraising for a trip to Ethiopia to see the project in action. We did this through a golf outing that my Dad organised, selling marmalade that my Mom made and mainly

by bag packing. I'm so grateful to all my amazing friends in Cluny, Clonkeen and CBC who gave up days of their summer holidays and weekends to help me. Everyone was so generous giving up their time and donating money despite the recession. I'm really appreciative for everyone's help and generosity.

On the 19th of November 2009, 70 ORBIS Ireland representatives, including my Dad and me, headed off for Ethiopia. We flew into the capital, Addis Ababa arriving in the morning of Friday 20th.

When we got out of the airport into the sunshine, I realised how different it was to home. There wasn't a proper traffic system and people just sat on the side of the road. There were a lot of cars and buses (similar to single deckers that fit 100 people) donkey's and taxis (mini buses for the wealthier people) and it was very slow getting through. Every time the bus stopped people came up to the windows looking for food and money. Our guide told us not to open the windows because then we would never get through the road because everyone would come over. I wasn't expecting it to be that bad.

When we drove past the slums it was awful. There were thousands of houses made of tin and wood stretching down through a valley and up over the hill. I'd seen pictures in Geography class but I never fully realised how many homes there would be and the noise of the traffic and how many people would just be sitting on the street in groups talking as dust and smoke from the city rose in clouds.

That evening we had a traditional Ethiopian dinner and there was music and dancing. It was very different to the food I was used to. There was a

Ethiopia story continued

flat, pancake bread ("Injera") and different types of vegetable and meat curries and stews. My Dad and I nicknamed the food "mush mush" and "yuck yuck" and we found it pretty inedible. The music and dancing, however was fantastic. It was very different to our music but very lively and full of rhythm.

The next day we travelled up North to an Ethiopian Orthodox monastery. As we drove out of the city and through the countryside, the green fields for miles. It is sad to think that a country with such resources is so poverty stricken. Every time we stopped children would appear as if from nowhere to talk to us, sell baskets and necklaces and accept the pens and sweets we had brought to give them. There were lots of cows on the roads.

When we arrived at the monastery, there were no toilets. I had always taken for granted running water and toilets and never properly thought about how hard it must be without it. After a tour of the big church, we got back on the bus and stopped beside a forest for a toilet break. The leftside was for the girls and the right was for the boys. We all scrambled off to find a spot to do our business. It was awkward to say the least! After a while, baboons started emerging from the trees. It's probably a good thing we didn't know there were massive apes in the forest as we went to the toilet. There were big males, smaller females and tiny babies on their backs less than 100m away from us. It was amazing!

The next day was the Great Ethiopian Run. 10,000 people registered for it and many more went along for the buzz. Children were asking for bottles to recycle and some were simply asking for a bit of water. The crowds were as far as the eye could see ahead and behind. Before the race, music played loudly as all the people warmed up – not by stretches and light jogging as we would, but by dancing their socks off!

When the race was over, who should we see but Haile Gebre Selassie, one of the greatest

distance runners of all time. He has broken 27 world records and there he was happy to pose for a picture with us.

That night there was a barbeque at the hotel. Unfortunately one of the men on the trip had the "brilliant" idea to sell our food to other guests to raise money for ORBIS. This meant everyone pretty much had salad for dinner. One of the other men saved the day and persuaded the kitchens to open again and ordered pizza for everyone. That night we started taking Malaria tablets in preparation for the rest of the trip.

The next day, everyone went home apart from about 20 people who stayed on to go down and see the project in the South. We got into jeeps and drove 10 hours down to Arbaminch. Andy was our driver and I was the lucky one who got to sit in the front with him to look out the windows. He told me it was harvest time and pointed out the different crops. He said that there was no machinery for them to harvest their crops. There were a lot of children working in the fields and they would wave when we drove by. They all looked so happy. It was heart breaking. When evening came there were children driving cattle along the roads. We passed lollipops out to them. Some of the children were really young (about 4 or 5) just sitting around on the side of the road beside fields. Andy explained that parents didn't know that little children shouldn't be left by themselves. It's amazing the things we take for granted like knowing not to leave toddlers on their own.

Our new hotel was like nothing I'd been in before. Each room was a circular stone hut with stone floors and thatched roofs. They were similar to the mud huts we'd seen driving down. The shower was a big branch of a tree with a shower head wrapped up around it.

**"...who
should we see
but Haile
Gebre
Selassie, one
of the greatest
distance
runners of all
time."**



The Great Ethiopian Run



"It didn't seem fair that such kind, polite, friendly, honest people were given such a tough life while we had everything that we needed"

Ethiopia Story continued

For the first evening there was no water and until the 3rd day there was no hot water. The electricity kept going but fortunately, Diane (the leader of the trip) had reminded us all to bring torches. We also had to sleep under mosquito nets and there were baboons outside our doors and scampering across the roofs.

The next day at breakfast we had maize flakes (like corn flakes except maize) and papaya juice. This was the day I was most looking forward to. We were going to visit a school and see an eye operation in the hospital.

The first job was to divide up all the sweets, football tops, colouring books, pens, pencils and paper into five lots. My Dad, another man, Scott, and I went with Andy and Temesegen Kabes (ORBIS Health Co-coordinator for the region) to Bolla Zame Elementary School in Gamo Gofa.

When we stopped a little bit away from the school there was a crowd of children who were too young for school and some older girls who were looking after them. We gave them lollipops. In the city we were warned the people would try to cheat us and take more than one but in the little village it was different. I tried to make sure one child had gotten one at the back and instead of taking another one, he just smiled and showed me he already had one. I was surprised at this because in the city, children were more than happy to take four or five of whatever we were offering. None of the people here did. They were happy with one. The same happened later on; Dad and Scott gave some money to a blind woman and as a crowd of people surrounded the car, we thought they would try to get some money as well. They didn't. They were happy the blind lady had gotten some and when we gave lollipops to the five children, they laughed and smiled and moved out of the way to make it easy for the kids to get them. As the car

started moving again, they smiled and waved.

When we arrived at the school we received a tremendous welcome with hundreds of students and lots of teachers and posters about ORBIS. The principal and teachers proudly showed us their new outside toilets. There were 6 for the girls and 8 for the boys (there are more boys in the school than girls). Best of all, they showed us a tap and soap for washing their hands. This is a vital part to stop the spread of trachoma.

We were treated as honoured guests and they shared with us bread, scrambled eggs, coffee (which was half made up of sugar), milk (but more like yogurt), apples, sweet popcorn and seeds. We took lots of photos at the school and the students and teachers were very friendly. They also performed a drama for us about not cheating in exams. There is also an Eye club in the school. This is great because it shows how much the students now care about their eyesight.

After the school we went to a hospital where we saw a live operation. While we were waiting for the doctors, we gave out some left over sweets. I made friends with a nine year old boy called Samson. Before the operation started the woman was given a local anesthetic and the nurse began the operation. It took 45 minutes instead of approximately 15, because his equipment was old (and he was young and inexperienced!). It was great to be able to see an operation up close and we felt very privileged to be allowed to see it. When it was over Samson was waiting outside. He shook my hand when we were getting into the car. This made me want to cry. It didn't seem fair that such kind, polite, friendly, honest people were given such a tough life while we had everything that we needed

Ethiopia story continued

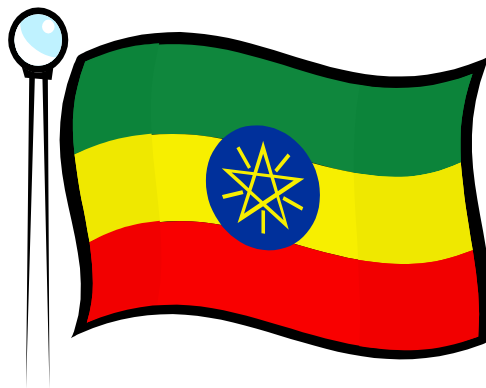
handed to us on the day we were born, without doing anything to deserve it.

The next morning was our last day. We went out on a boat across this massive lake. It was sad to see that water was such a problem in Ethiopia not just because it is in short supply but also because of lack of pipes and water cleaning facilities. The boat was small and it took a while for the engines to start. We weren't nervous because, although we'd heard there were hippos and crocodiles in the lake, we didn't think it was common because of the people fishing standing on logs. How very wrong we were!

After about 20 minutes we saw flocks of storks and then, someone pointed out into the lake. Ten or so hippos were around our boat and on the other side 20 or so crocodiles. Then the boat driver stopped the engines. I wasn't the only one who was wondering how great an idea it was to cut the engines while surrounded by dangerous animals. But thankfully, they started again without too much difficulty. Someone asked why the people fish in the water, do they not get attacked? The answer was simple. People need food and money. There had been seven fatal attacks that year. This was another horrible moment, when I realized that here it was necessary to risk your life to feed your family.

We arrived home late Thursday night after a long flight and I was exhausted. It was the best place I'd ever been in my life and one of the best weeks of my life. I learned a lot about the importance of education and healthcare in society. I'd never really thought about how lucky we are to go to school, have running water and electricity and all the other things I just take for granted. I know now how lucky we all are and how important it is to donate money and time to charity. I'm very grateful for the life I have and all my fantastic friends and family who helped me fundraise and make a real difference to the lives of others.

**"I realized
that here it
was necessary
to risk your
life to feed
your family."**



French—Vive La France

EMMA LYNAM 6L SANCERRE - IN A CLASS OF ITS OWN

My apartment in Sancerre was a 2 minute walk from the school. Its high oak beams created an atmosphere of old world elegance. With its marble fireplace and typically French decor I knew that this was the beginning of an experience that was going to be something special. The kitchen facilities were ideal for self catering. It was up to me to make it my own.

It was the summer of 2009. I had just finished 5th year and getting there was a unique experience in itself given that I had to make all my own arrangements. I flew into Charles de Gaulle airport and took the train to Cosne-sur-Loire followed by a 20 minute drive to Sancerre, a medieval town perched on a hilltop in the Loire valley, with its fairytale setting of higgledy pig-gledy laneways oozing French culture. I had booked in for 3 weeks, but stayed for a month, such was the attraction of this special place.

The school was located in a 16th-century château with its steep slate roof, witches' hat turrets and gargoyles. I selected a programme involving 3 weeks individual tuition rounded off with a final week of group sessions.

During my stay there I met an amazing cross section of people, young and old from Vancouver to Texas and back to mainland Europe. We still keep in touch and this made the experience even more special. I cannot say enough about the quality and excellence of the teachers. This was total cultural immersion.

Self catering can be difficult enough when you are living in your own country. However the experience of doing it on your own, in a foreign country and speaking its native language all the time has an amazing effect on developing new skills. Speaking English simply wasn't an option. The whole village experience was unique. From the smell of freshly baked bread from the ovens in the town's boulangerie to the vineyards in the valley below, lived a close-knit

French community. Their homes were beautifully kept, pretty and inviting, flower boxes on window sills, wooden shutters fastened against the aging stonework.

Leisure time is not difficult to fill if you make the effort to involve yourself in the local community. Once I was prepared to take that step I found that the locals welcomed me amongst them. I suddenly found myself talking to them in such a natural way that my French was improving without me being aware of it.

The best way to see any place is by bike, so I decided to hire one. This country is bike-friendly. I cycled alongside the Loire river, taking a detour through the dusty tracks of the local vineyards and ended up in some of the small villages dotted around the locality.

I didn't spend all my time with my feet on the ground. Around the middle of my visit I climbed into a single engined aircraft, piloted by Gérard and got a aerial view of the locality. This lasted about 60 minutes and was breathtaking.

More down to earth experiences included French cooking classes and cultural activities organised by the college.

If you wanted to go swimming there was an outdoor pool overlooking the vineyards. It was a hotel facility which could be availed of.

Sancerre might not have been so special had I not gone to a French college in Nice the previous year but if I had a choice I'd have to say that Sancerre is in a class of its own and I'll be back.



Fun in
Sancerre

Petit déjeuner



Last Tuesday, after we had received our mock results, our entire French class went over to the cafeteria to celebrate with our ‘petit déjeuner’. Everyone was to bring in something. We had croissants, pains au chocolat, chocolat chaud, baguettes, everything you would be expected to eat a real French breakfast! It was a great chance for the class to bond and was a huge success. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed eating ‘à la française’ and Ms Cassidy took some really good pictures too! We all had an amazing time and our love for French pastries has grown even more.

Tout était vraiment délicieux!
Eleanor McSweeney 3Y

German Exchange

Meinen Schüleraustausch in Deutschland

Guten Tag Alle!

It is said that the best way to learn a language is to experience it in the country where it is spoken. From personal experience, I can confirm that this is undoubtedly true. However, while the classroom is a great place for learning, there is no better way to innately pick up useful phrases, good grammar and excellent pronunciation than living the language in its natural surroundings and soaking up the atmosphere and culture that goes with it.

Last year, when I was in 5th Year in school, I did a German Student Exchange. It was a great experience. After considering many different options including a once off trip to Germany and German Colleges here in Ireland, I chose to do the exchange as I hoped it would be the option that I would benefit from most. It was also the most cost-effective as there was no accommodation or living expenses.

On completion of a detailed application form and questionnaire about myself (personality, hobbies, interests etc.) and my family, I was suitably matched with a girl

who was soon to become one of my very best and closest friends. Her name is Siri. She lives in a small village in a beautiful part of Baden-Württemberg in the south of Germany. Her hometown, while situated on the foothills of the Schwäbische Alp (Swabian Alb Mountains), was also only an hour’s drive from the pleasant city of Stuttgart – excellent for shopping (and sightseeing if you’re into that kind of thing!)

Siri came to Ireland around Easter time of 5th Year. She spent two weeks with me in school and one week on holidays. She wore the school uniform during her time at Cluny (a shirt and jumper belonging to me and a skirt belonging to my friend), although this wasn’t necessary. She got on great with all of my friends and



“there is no better way to innately pick up useful phrases, good grammar and excellent pronunciation than living the language in its natural surroundings “

German Exchange



Rebecca & Siri in
Germany

*"It's hard to
know where to
begin with all of
the things we
did"*



teachers too and thoroughly enjoyed her time in school.

During our Easter Holidays we went on many outings and did lots of interesting things. She really integrated well into my family! There was also a trip to Dublin City organised for all of the German and Irish students in the group. We were given a tour of the city and it was a chance for us all to meet up and see how others were getting on.

I couldn't wait to return the visit and head off on the plane to Germany the following July. That departing day couldn't come soon enough. We were accompanied from Dublin Airport to the collection point in Stuttgart where I was met by Siri and her dad. From that moment on, it was the best three weeks of my life! The very first thing I did was to attend a Classical Youth Orchestra Concert. Siri played the violin and she was very good at it. (I play the piano and also have a keen interest in music – one of the hobbies that matched us together). While very enjoyable and a lovely welcome to Germany, this was probably the tamest activity I did in the course of my three weeks there!

It's hard to know where to begin with all of the things we did but here is a little taster: attending a German Gymnasium (grammar school) for one week and a half, going on a class trip to Lake Constance and swimming in the lake itself, camping out under the stars on the edge of a forest beside a big open fire, carrying out a night-time army-style invasion of a Youth Camp (in a very realistic game of Capture-the-Flag), midnight McDonalds on the way to the invasion, daytrip to Europa Park – Europe's answer to Disney Land with really big rides for really big kids! –, hikes up the mountains with stunning views stretching as far as the famous Black Forest, digging for and finding fossils from millions of years ago, swimming in the local Schwimmbad (outdoor swimming pool) and, last but not least, visiting the local caves and Castle. These are only some of the things I did during my stay in Germany. As well as all this I made an abundance of German friends whom I am still in contact with. Siri invited me back to Germany for Sylvester –

the German celebrations for New Year's Eve – but unfortunately I was unable to return due to the fact that the Leaving Cert takes up so much time...even during the Christmas holidays! I hope to go back to Germany in the summer when I am finished school and Siri will definitely come back to Ireland too.

I strongly recommend anyone studying a language in school – be it German, French or Spanish – to explore the possibilities of a Student Exchange. As well as learning the language and excelling in the Oral exam both in language and perhaps by doing a project on something that interested you while you were there, it is great to experience the culture of the language you are learning also. The family I stayed with couldn't have been more welcoming and they always made sure I was comfortable and had had plenty to eat. If you're worried about the food, don't be. It's really nice! They also eat many of the things we eat at home too, for example, Spaghetti Bolognese, Pizza, Burgers and Chips and much more! Although I would recommend trying the Wiener Schnitzel – all jokes aside it's really tasty!

If anyone is thinking of doing an exchange and has any unanswered questions or would like to ask me anything else about it, please don't hesitate to come to me. I'm always around the school and you'll probably see me up behind Ms. White at Assembly on a Monday and Friday morning. I hope this article will have inspired some of you to seriously consider a Student Exchange to your chosen language's country. Das hat mir viel Spaß gemacht und ich hoffe, das wird dich auch viel Spaß machen!

Bis bald! Tschüß!

Rebecca Dwyer 6L

EU Exchange offer 3 and 6 week exchange programmes at a cost of €700. This covers the flight costs from Dublin, travel insurance, group outings and group leader. Please see www.euexchange.org for more details.

Green Schools

Cluny's Green Schools Committee has been very busy this year. While we are continuing to collect recyclables, water plants and monitor litter, we are also working towards applying for our fourth flag for transport. We are currently running a sustainable transport competition (closing date 26th March), so why not let your creativity flow and enter? Who knows, you might win some goodies!

Some fun projects we have up and going at the moment include our new herb garden, our water butt and our efforts to get people out of cars and on their bikes! The students on the Green School Committee have been working extremely hard on the various projects. Here is what one student has to say about our sustainable transport endeavours.

Sustainable Transport by Laura Spain 3Y

In order to achieve the Transport flag there are a few things we have to do to improve the way we use transport as a school. Our survey last year found that there is a group of students and teachers who live in the area but still drive to school.

We would like to change this by encouraging students and teachers to walk, cycle or carpool to school. This would create many benefits, not only for the environment, but

also for the students and teachers themselves.

Walking or cycling to school is a great way to exercise and clear your mind before a day at school. If you don't like walking on your own, why not arrange to meet up with a friend and walk together? That way you can get some exercise, have a chat with your friend and be wide awake by the time you get to school!

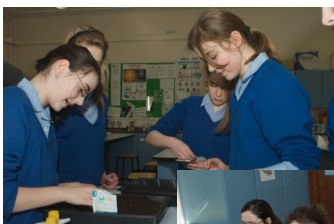
I think you'll agree that cycling has become a popular trend. For example, the new 'Dublin Bike' scheme has become a very popular means of transport among people in Dublin City. We would like to continue this trend in Cluny. Cycling is great exercise and is a very popular way to reduce your carbon footprint.

For students who live too far away to walk or cycle to school, why not organise a carpool with other students who live nearby? This would mean that your parents wouldn't have to drive you to school every morning. Instead they could take turns with other parents. Fewer cars means less pollution, reduced congestion and should help to improve journey times.

So go on, make a change for a week and see how it goes!

"Some fun projects we have up and going at the moment include our new herb garden, our water butt and our efforts to get people out of cars and on their bikes!"

Herb Garden in the making!



History Quiz

Every year, the History Teachers' Association of Ireland organises a History Quiz for Leaving Cert Students. This year it was hosted by St Conleth's College in Ballsbridge.

When our History teacher Ms Coleman asked for fifth year volunteers, the response from certain girls (myself included) could only be described as "overly eager." The frantic gesticulating worked, however, and soon we were sitting in St Conleth's PE hall with pen and paper in hand.

The quiz consisted of various rounds, and covered the Leaving Cert course thoroughly. *Famous Dates* and *Women in History* were two of the topics covered. During the inter-

val, we got a chance to mingle with the other teams.

Our sixth year opponents had an obvious advantage over us, but we did our best. And though we weren't exactly laden down with trophies on our return home, we left having enjoyed a fun and educational evening.

We have already (rather greedily) decided to try again next year, and with a bit of work and more of the course done, we're confident that history won't repeat itself.

5L students Aoife Cuthbert, Zuzia Whelan, Jane Rice and Zoe O'Reilly took part in this year's History Quiz on the 25th of January 2010.

"...though we weren't exactly laden down with trophies on our return home, we left having enjoyed a fun and educational evening."

Home Economics

1st Year Home Economics

After Christmas we started on our sewing project which was to design and make a draught excluder using recycled materials as much as possible. We spent four weeks doing this and we were all delighted with the result. Mrs Wolahan was really pleased with our creations too! We learned lots of new skills and shared ideas too. We had lots of fun making our draught excluders.

Jessica Murphy 1X and Zoe Caceres-Chandler 1X



2nd Year Home Economics

The frost is still on the ground but the 2nd year Home Economics class don't feel the effects of the cold because of the snug PJ's that we made this year in Home Economics class. We started just before Christmas and had completed the PJ's by February midterm. We used all sorts of different fabrics from fleece blankets to crisp cottons to make the PJ bottoms. Then we bought or recycled a plain string t-shirt and decorated it to match the bottoms. What creativity was displayed! We were all really happy with what we made and will really enjoy wearing our PJ's for many more cold winters.

Therese Hussey 2W



No more snaky draughts



**1st Year
Draught
Excluders**

This year in Home Economics class first years made draught excluders. Miss Fahey our teacher suggested we could add eyes and a mouth to make them look like real snakes!! This might sound easy but there was a lot of hard work and time involved

over the four weeks. Keeping the cost of the materials down was important so we looked for recycled fabrics which we could use from our own homes. We learned lots of embroidery stitches e.g. blanket stitch, star stitch, chain stitch, back stitch, how to appliqué and how to use a sewing machine. The finished snakes looked great and my aunt said mine looked so good I could sell it in the Blackrock Markets!! Making draught excluders was fun but a little stressful at times. Overall it was a great experience and there will be no more snaky draughts in our homes.

Lauren Higgins 1W

“The finished snakes looked great and my aunt said mine looked so good I could sell it in the Blackrock Markets!!”

Pyjama Party!

This year our second year sewing project was to make pyjama bottoms using a commercial pattern. We had 5 weeks to make them. It was a very enjoyable process and we learned a lot of new sewing skills such as using a commercial pattern, taking measurements, how to sew a crotch seam and how to put elastic in the waistband and hems. At first we were all struggling with the sewing machines but by the end we were professionals.....almost!!!! Miss Fahey was very pleased with us and we all enjoyed the process. The best part was trying them on at the end and we can't wait to wear them at Irish college this summer.

Neneh Lyons and Grace Morgan



Le Chéile—Singing for the President



Cluny
Representatives at
the Le Chéile
Conference

*“we returned to
the City West
bright and early
to prepare for
the arrival of
Mary Mc Alesse,
our President.”*

The
Le Chéile
Choir
Singing
Their
Hearts
Out

On Feb 4th we got the opportunity to represent our school in a national choir for the annual Le Chéile Conference in the City West Hotel.

The conference itself began on Thursday evening and the choir began to rehearse the selected songs for the following day. ‘May the Road Rise to Meet You’, an old favourite, was on the list along with ‘Who Will Speak?’ and a specially commissioned song ‘A New Beginning’ which has become the anthem of the organization.

We met many students from other schools all around the country. There were two representatives from all the Le Chéile Schools which gave us an opportunity to meet with our peers from all around the country. It was nice to meet the two representatives from Mount Sackville, our sister school in Chapelizod.

We rehearsed from 4.00pm until 7.00pm and then we had a meal together which was fun. More rehearsals followed and we found that we had to learn all the lyrics off by heart for the next day. That was a challenge but one which we took on with zeal!

Next day we returned to the City West bright and early to prepare for the arrival of Mary Mc Alesse, our President. After a number of speeches by other

delegates, she entered the conference centre to the strains of the Le Chéile Choir. We were very pleased that our hard work had paid off and we actually remembered all the lyrics too! The president’s speech was charismatic and engaging and she took particular time to address us the students of the choir. She recalled her school days and praised the work that the Religious orders had done for Irish education through the years.

Lunch with all the school leaders, Principals, Chairpersons of BoMs and Heads of Religious Orders followed. It was unusual that we all mixed together for this but we suppose that this is the Le Chéile way!

We had workshops in the afternoon during which we discussed the problems faced by many second level students. Groups shared their suggestions and all the school leaders came in for the feedback session. It was interesting to hear perspectives from different schools.

Events concluded at 4.00pm and we headed for home, tired but happy that we had participated in the conference.!

Emma Coogan & Aoife Cuthbert 5N



Library—Claire Hennessy comes to Cluny Library



**Claire's
latest
titles, avail-
able from
the Library**

On 4 March 2010, World Book Day, Claire Hennessy came to Cluny Library to talk to Transition Year Students about writing and her books. She met the students in two different groups, in the first session 4L and half of 4N attended, and after break 4C and the other half of 4N attended.

Claire told the students that she began writing at an early age, and wrote her first book in sixth class. This book was published when Claire was 13. Since then she has gone on to write eight other books. In the first session Claire read from her book 'Every summer'. She explained that the story was told from a few different characters' perspectives. After this she had a question and answer session with the students. She spoke

about how she went about getting published. She also explained why she likes writing for the young adult audience. She explained to the students that as well as writing, she teaches creative writing.

In the second session, Claire read from her book 'That girl'. After this the students were given the opportunity to ask questions. In both sessions she said that she doesn't focus on experiences that she and her friends have had to write her books, as this would be quite insensitive. She said that she enjoyed writing for teenage readers as they are going through interesting times and encountering lots of new experiences for the first time.

This visit was a great success and was enjoyed by all who attended. Remember that Claire's books are in the school library to borrow and enjoy!

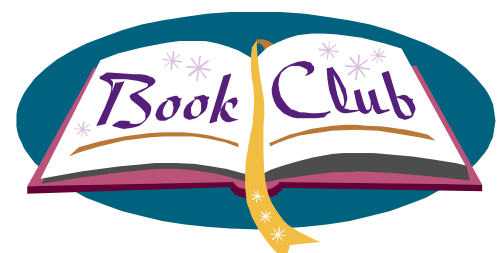
**"The meetings
are
interesting,
and members
get to know
about books
that they
wouldn't
ordinarily
read"**

Update from the Cluny Bookworms

The Cluny Bookworms meet once a month at lunchtime in the Library to discuss books. This year a mix of students from different year groups attend the meetings. So far this year students from first and fifth year regularly attend the meetings. Every month a theme is chosen and books are read by the members from this theme. To begin with in October every member was allowed to read any book they wanted. In November the theme was fantasy fiction. The members then decided that in December they would read a book by an Irish author. In January 2010, the members read a book of historical fiction, and in February they read a book that is or will be a film. For this month, March, the theme chosen is a new book that was published in the last year.

This approach is working well and means that members of the book club can recommend books to one another. The meetings are interesting, and members get to know about books that they wouldn't ordinarily read. They also decide among themselves and with the help of the Librarian what theme to choose for the following month's meeting. Overall it is very enjoyable and a fun way to spend a lunchtime.

Iníon Ní Mhaicín



Library— New books added to Cluny Library's stock since Dec. '09



Fiction

Adlington, L. J. The glittering eye
 Boie, Kirsten The princess plot
 Brookmyre, Christopher A tale etched in blood and hard black pencil
 Cassidy, Anne Just jealous
 Christie, Agatha The ABC murders
 Collins, Suzanne Catching fire
 Connelly, Michael Lost light
 Donaldson, Julia Running on the cracks
 Doyle, Roddy Rover saves Christmas
 Doyle, Roddy The giggler treatment
 Ellis, Deborah Beyond the barricade
 Fisk, Pauline Mad Dog Moonlight
 Forman, Gayle If I stay
 Grafton, Sue I is for innocent
 Grafton, Sue A is for alibi
 Grafton, Sue D is for deadbeat
 Grant, Helen The vanishing of Katharina Linden
 Harris, Joanne The lollipop shoes
 Hennessy, Claire Big picture
 Hennessy, Claire Every summer
 Hennessy, Claire That girl
 Jensen, Marie-Louise The lady in the tower
 Khadra, Yasmina The swallows of Kabul
 King, Stephen Cujo
 Kostick, Conor Epic
 Larsson, Stieg The girl with the dragon tattoo
 Love, Seán From the republic of conscience, stories inspired by The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 Malley, Gemma The declaration
 Malley, Gemma The resistance
 Martin, Andrew The Blackpool high flyer: a novel of sabotage, suspicion and steam
 McCall Smith, Alexander Dream Angus : the Celtic God of Dreams
 McCall Smith, Alexander The full cupboard of life
 McCall Smith, Alexander La's orchestra saves the world
 McLarty, Ron The memory of running
 O'Connor, Joseph Redemption Falls
 O'Flynn, Catherine What was lost
 O'Neill, Joan Fallen star
 Patterson, James Double cross
 Pfeffer, Susan Beth Life as we knew it
 Phillips, Scott The walkaway
 Redmond, Patrick All she ever wanted

Redmond, Patrick Apple of my eye
 Roy, Jennifer Rozines Yellow star
 Sebold, Alice The lovely bones
 Shaffer, Mary Ann The Guernsey literary and potato peel society
 Shreve, Anita The pilot's wife
 Shreve, Anita Strange fits of passion
 Shreve, Anita A wedding in December
 Stoker, Bram Dracula
 Summers, Laura Desperate measures
 Von Ziegesar, Cecily Gossip girl
 Von Ziegesar, Cecily I will always love you
 Von Ziegesar, Cecily Only in your dreams
 Walsh, Pat The Crowfield curse
 Webb, Sarah Summer secrets
 Wyley, Enda The silver notebook
Religion
 Neary, Donal Forty masses with young people

Economics

McWilliams, David The generation game

Irish books

Hughes, A. J. Trialacha tuigbheála : téacsanna Gaeilge do mheán-agus Ardranganna
 Hughes, A. J. Leabhar mór bhriathra na Gaeilge

Physics

Gonick, Larry The cartoon guide to physics

Biology

Dawkins, Richard The greatest show on Earth: the evidence for evolution

Home Economics

Atkinson, Catherine The cookie and biscuit bible
 Brand Miller, Janette The low GI diet cookbook
 Monga, Prabhjot Vegetarian recipes for microwave cooking

Biography

Clarkson, Jeremy The world according to Clarkson
 Clarkson, Jeremy And another thing: the world according to Clarkson, volume two
 Morgan, Don Our father: a tribute to Dermot Morgan
 Nye, Christopher Maximum diner: making it big in Uckfield
 Williams, Serena Queen of the court
History
 McKenna, Denis A local history of Sandymount, Irishtown, and Ringsend, a social and natural history of our area



Physics—Our Physics Trip

In January, the 5th and 6th Year Physics classes went on a trip to NUI Maynooth. The Experimental Physics Department in NUI Maynooth organises a series of laboratory sessions for Leaving Certificate 6th Year Physics students. We left the school at 12 and arrived in Maynooth at 1pm. We were given time to get lunch so we went to explore the town ending up in McDonald's. After our delicious lunch we headed back to the college and began our afternoon of practical physics experiments. We were given an introductory lecture and we were then split into groups of eight. We did various physics experiments that related directly to the Leaving Cert Physics course including.

1. Linear Air Track / Force and Acceleration
2. Speed of Sound
3. g by Free-fall
4. Vibrating String - Melde's Experiment
5. Fundamental frequency with tension
6. Wavelength of monochromatic light
7. Verification of Joule's Law

8. Variation of resistance with temperature
9. Current and voltage variation of conductor, filament, copper sulphate and semiconductor diode.

This physics trip was of benefit to both the 6th years and the 5th years. Although we haven't completed these experiments yet in class this trip allowed us to get a better understanding of how the experiments work, and get us used to using new apparatus. It was a great day and we enjoyed it thoroughly.

By Maria Murphy and Laura Martin

"The Experimental Physics Department in NUI Maynooth organises a series of laboratory sessions for Leaving Certificate 6th Year Physics students"



Prefects—Leadership Day

On the 10th of February all the Fifth Years took part in our Leadership Day. It began with an excellent speech from Ms. White regarding some of the characteristics that we would need in order to be good prefects. Then Mr. Browne talked about leadership in his life. He runs a martial arts school, who knew! He described his idol who we're all dying to meet – Dan the Rock Star. Mrs Gale followed Mr. Browne and took us through the prefect election process.

After break, we had a guest speaker Dr. Catherine Sweeney. She thoroughly explained what it means to be a leader and the responsibilities involved. After this we were all revved up for a chance to be a prefect. We filled out our application forms. We have never boasted so much about ourselves and described how great we are before! It was a great day and we all enjoyed it thoroughly.

Maria Murphy & Jenny Lennon 5C



Trinity Public Speaking 2nd Yr Success

2nd Year Winners of the University Womens Graduate Association Public Speaking Competition for Girls U-15 in Trinity College Dublin on February 6th

The team was Ayodele Aracondade, Sarah Lynam, Sophie Jones and Ellen O'Connor.

The Girls will contest the All Ireland Final in UCD on March 6th. 2010.

We wish them the best of luck!



"These girls won every one of their games 6 – 0 right through to the finals."

Sport—Badminton

A mention must be made of the two U16's Badminton teams representing St. Joseph of Cluny in the Dublin and Leinster Schools competition this year. Firstly on the U16A's team were Emma Crotty, Lauren Foster Ryan, Orlaith Kennefick and Karen Killeen and substitute Orlaith Loy. They made it through to the semi-finals having beaten old rivals Mount Sackville, Chapelizod in the quarter-finals. Playing a very hard match in the semi-finals against High School, Rathgard Lauren Foster Ryan and Karen Killeen were beaten by only one point in their games.

U16B's team were Tara O'Connell, Niamh Forster, Eleanor McSweeney,

Alana Jones and substitute Megan Ross. These girls won every one of their games 6 – 0 right through to the finals. On the day of the final they beat Holy Child Salynoggin 6 – 0 again to win. So congratulations to all the girls.



Sport—Golf

My name is Alice McGrath. I am in 6N. I learn how to play golf in Elm Park every Saturday. I am very good at golf. I won this plaque for playing golf in the Special Olympics, National Games. At the Games, I got player of the week because I got a hole in one in the putting.

Alice with her Golfing Plaque



Sport—March Madness Cluny 1st & 2nd Yr Basketball Teams

MARCH MADNESS--CLUNY 1ST & 2ND
YR. BASKETBALL TEAMS

MINOR A

Becky Carroll
Emma Finn
Kate McDonald
Orla Kavanagh
Jinsu Connolly-Brady
Caoimhe Ni Bhrion
Emma Nolan
Anne O'Grady
Ashley Byrne
Aoife Hughes
Ciara Mckeown
Grianne Fay
Emma McSweeney

MINOR B

Sarah-Kate O'connor
Sarah Ayres
Ciara Cryan
Becky Hackett
Jessica Murphy
Hannah Dempsey
Gemma Lynch
Aoife Carragher
Kate Geraghty
Emily McHugo
Susie Moynihan
Naomi Carney
Aisiling Kearns

* Note all players are registered for Leinster
and Dublin S.B.A.I. MATCHES

JUNIOR A

Zoe Harvey-Graham
Aoife O'Donovan
Hannah Moran-Jackson
Jemma Matthews
Caoimhe Byrne
Shona Duignan
Ayo Arogundade
Shauna Rogerson

Vivienne O'Brien
Aoife Wynne

JUNIOR B

Hannah McAteer
Trease Hussey
Grace Morgan
Kate McCabe
Louise Burn
Neneh Lyons
Rachel Doyle
Aoife Horgan-
Gaul
Cheryl Galvin
Katherine Murphy

* Note all players are registered for Leinster
and Dublin S.B.A.I. MATCHES

The basketball season has started to wind down but for some very promising First and Second Years their season can be lengthened by making the play-offs in the South Dublin Basketball league or Dublin Leinster League. Cluny have become the school to beat over recent years and that is still the case especially when coming up against local schools such as Loreto Dalkey, Colaiste Iosagain, Loreto Foxrock and now even closer Rathdown and Holy Child Killiney have switched from NetBall to Basketball so it will keep Cluny teams on their toes!!

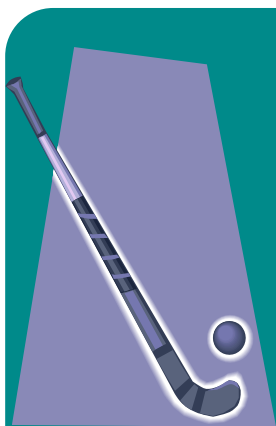
A glitter and sparkle of talented First and Second Years continue to impress and with play-offs just around the corner we hold our breathes with the hope that all four teams will make it to at least to quarter final stages of their respective leagues!!

Mr. Randolph would like to thank all the Fourth Years who have helped out with 1st and 2nd Year matches over the last couple of weeks. I really appreciate your help!!
THANKS

*"A glitter and
sparkle of
talented First
and Second
Years
continue to
impress"*



Sport—Hockey '09/'10



*"In a real topsy
turvy match,
Cluny had
numerous
opportunities to
score in the first
half"*

This year so far we have played eighty three matches since beginning our season on September 5th. Unfortunately due to poor weather conditions we had a number of cancellations and matches rescheduled to other times. This can be particularly frustrating for players and coaches alike as alternative arrangements need to be made. I would like to thank the coaches Ms Murphy, Ms Somers and our recent past pupil – Rachel McGuire for their work with the teams.

Our Senior As had a mixed season, beginning slowly against Naas before showing promise against Loreto Balbriggan and Newpark with two good victories. A very good display against Our Ladys Terenure in the Cup showed evidence of the potential in the team despite losing narrowly 2-1 to a team from the Premier league. Their first outing in the Plate competition saw the Seniors beaten by a very strong Newbridge College team in Naas.

The Senior Bs reached the knockout stages of their competition where they qualified to meet Wesley College. In a real topsy turvy match, Cluny had numerous opportunities to score in the first half but didn't take their chances.

They conceded a goal to the opposition, who themselves created numerous opportunities in the second half before eventually running out 2-0 winners.

The Junior As began their league season with a defeat to Kings Hospital before following that with a good 1-0 victory against Mt Sackville. Wesley were visitors to Cluny next and proved a little too strong before a deciding game against Loreto Foxrock proved just beyond reach. The Cup competition after Christmas saw Cluny compete with a much changed team. They acquitted themselves well before finally losing to Kings Hospital again.

The first round of the Plate saw Cluny produce a very good performance in defeating Newpark 6-1. This was closely followed by a match against Loreto Dalkey who proved too strong on the day, winning by a 2-0 margin. Nevertheless there were some good displays during the season especially from Jade Hanley

and Lauren Cavanagh – both girls playing for the Senior team also.

The Junior Bs began the season very brightly by beating Kings Hospital, East Glendalough and drawing with Wesley College. A narrow defeat to Alexandra College followed but they still qualified for the knockout stages where they suffered a defeat to Holy Child Killiney.

The Minor Bs had a very good season and were very unlucky not to qualify for the semifinal of their league. Having beaten High School, East Glendalough and Kings Hospital earlier in the season they reached the quarterfinal where they met Alexandra College. Despite having most of the possession on the day, Cluny could not find the goal and Alex were very fortunate to score in one of their few attacks. It was a very disappointing result for all concerned after a very fine season.

The Minor As had a varied season with some mixed displays. A good effort in the Cup resulted in a narrow defeat to Wesley in a well contested game. The Plate match that followed against High School, resulted in a win for the opposition.

Our First Years showed much enthusiasm as usual during the season. The As gave some very fine displays in defeating Our Ladys Grove and Our Ladys Terenure in particular as well as producing a good result against Newpark. There is a lot of potential among the First Year group with Sophie Grehan and Leah Crowley in particular showing lots of promise, having subbed up to Minor and Junior level. The Bs also gave some very good displays against Teresians and Our Ladys Grove in their league.

The hockey season is a long season, running from September to March and the importance of commitment to practice should not be underestimated. It is essential to becoming a real team player.
Ms M Seymour

Student Council 2010



**Over €600
was raised
for the
Laura Lynn
House**

The student council has been involved in a number of different activities since the start of the year. This year's representatives (Molly Brady – Martin, Rebecca Dwyer + 3 reps from each year and liaison teacher Mr. Twomey) have co-ordinated and participated in the sale of school calendars before and after Christmas and CPR (Courtesy, Politeness and Respect) week in January. The sale of calendars raised over €600 for the Laura Lynn House, this year's charity chosen by the deputy head girl, and CPR week helped

to raise awareness of the importance of respect in the school. During CPR week, students were encouraged to stand up as the teacher entered the classroom, walk on the right of the corridor, to use polite language at all times and to raise their hand before speaking in class. The student council meet every Wednesday at lunchtime in the sewing room and will continue their work this year by assisting the school in organising a new Code of Behaviour Policy and dealing with any issues arising that are of concern to students. We would encourage any student that has an issue to contact their rep in each year and not to hesitate in asking for assistance or information on any topic.

"We would encourage any student that has an issue to contact their rep in each year and not to hesitate in asking for assistance or information on any topic."

Cluny Fundraising for Haiti update

Donations From:	Amount
Staff	637
Donations	965
Johnstown Youth Club	4000
First Years	704.50
2 nd Years	409.20
3 rd Year	320.25
4C	290
5 th Year	342
6C	437
Found Monies – donated	115
Grand Total	€8104.95



**TY Work Experience student on placement raises funds for Haiti.
Well done Karen Sweeney**



TY—Sarah Gaynor's Work Experience Report

For my work experience I spent two weeks in a crèche. I got to wear whatever I wanted as long as I looked responsible. If you enjoy working with babies, this is the perfect place to be. On the first day I was extremely nervous. But by the end of the two weeks I felt like I was just at home. The staff were really kind to me.

The only thing that I didn't like was changing the babies' nappies, but I suppose that was the whole point of the experience. The good part of the

job was that I got to play with the kids all day. The job was exciting from the first day to the last.

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. I would strongly advise the students who are planning on doing their work experience in the future to book it well in advance. Or risk being like me and having to do two weeks in the same place because you left it till the last minute and you don't want to do that.

"We searched a suspicious man.

We were called to the scene of an exploding car"

Hannah Kirwan's WE Report

For my first week of work exp. I worked in Blackrock garda station. I was very nervous on the first day, but the Gardaí made me feel very welcome and took great care of me. I got a tour of the station. I got to see the equipment that the Gardai use when they're on duty. I went into Command and Control in town, this is where the 999 calls are answered and where the CCTV camera screens are. I went around in the patrol car with two Gardai, We searched a suspicious man.

We were called to the scene of an exploding car. It was very exciting because we drove extremely fast through Blackrock with the sirens on. It was the best experience ever.

I would recommend this job to next years 4th Years whether or not they want to be a Garda. They can experience something that nobody will never experience in their lives, and it's very interesting and fun at the same time!

Alex O'Connor's WE Report



For my first week I was working in a solicitor's office in town. It was really interesting. I got to go to the Four Courts and sit in on different cases. I also went to the criminal courts and sat in on a murder trial. I did a lot of filing and photo copying. On my first day I was really nervous but the staff were really nice and friendly. Having done this work experience, I now know it's not for me because I don't like sitting at a desk all day.

For my second week I was working in a hospital. I enjoyed this week the most. I was going around the wards with the consultant and nurses checking different patients. It was mainly geriatrics. They showed me how to use the hospital computers to check on different patients. I also went to the rehabilitation centre and worked in the physiotherapy department. I liked working in the hospital because I didn't have to sit at a desk all day.

Rachel Keegan's WE Report

For my first week of work experience, I worked at my old primary school Johnstown. I was helping the two senior infants classes. I was a bit nervous the first day because it was all new to me but that passed as the week went by. The kids were hilarious but I quickly found out that you need a lot of patience to be a primary school teacher. During the week I did paintings with the senior infants

for St. Brigid's day, brought them to mass, and eventually learned how to use a photocopier. The advice I would give to next years fourth years is to work in a school because I had a great time.



"I was a bit nervous the first day because it was all new to me but that passed as the week went by."

Laura Kennedy's WE Report

For my first week I worked in a nursing home. I really enjoyed it and it helped me see what nursing is really like.

I was nervous on the first day but the nurses were really friendly and they put me at ease. I had to feed the residents and help to get them up and dressed in the morning. I worked in different areas of the Nursing home every day. I got to see the residents in the Alzheimer's section and learned about their different medications and conditions. I was sent to the main

dining room to feed residents to dance and talk with them. I enjoyed meeting the residents and talking to the interesting people. The hours were tiring but I really liked it and I'd definitely go back if I was offered a part time job. The nursing home was in Roscommon and I really enjoyed travelling and being somewhere different. I'd recommend Nursing to anyone doing work experience next year.



St. Joseph of Cluny Parents Association

St. Joseph of Cluny

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Invites all Parents to

A talk by Shane Martin on

'The Teenage Years'

Thursday 22 April @ 8.00p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Work Experience Report Amy Dominguez

**"I got to
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I worked in IADT for my two weeks of work experience and I thoroughly enjoyed it. In the first week, I was working in the School of Creative Arts and in the second I was working in Human Resources. It was really interesting seeing all the different courses on offer and talking to the students and staff there. On the first day, I was really nervous but they were all so friendly and helpful and made me feel very welcome.

I got to try out so many new and different things. On the first day, I learned how to do monoprinting which is where you make an imprint of something such as a leaf on a thin metal plate. You then cover this with ink to transfer the image onto paper. I also got to sit in on a First Year Fine Arts class where the students were talking about the projects they were doing. I found it really interesting seeing all their creative ideas. Another day I got to try out Life Drawing and help Second Year stu-

dents complete their puppets. I also helped one of them with their performance piece. It was really fun and we had a good few laughs watching the various performances.

On the final day, I sat in on a photography class where students were analysing some of their photographs. I really enjoyed this and it made me realise that this would be a subject of great interest to me. I would also consider this subject when I leave school. Looking around the various dark rooms and how photos are developed was really interesting also. I would definitely recommend this place to do your work experience as both the tasks and atmosphere were really nice.

Amy Dominguez
4L