



CLUNY SECONDARY
SCHOOL

St. Joseph of Cluny S.S.

SPRING EDITION

MARCH 2012

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTER- EST:

- St. Patrick's Day Festival
- BT Young Scientist Exhibition
- Project Maths
- Home Economics News
- Sports Updates
- TY Musical Hairspray

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What an eventful Spring in Cluny! Brent Pope Talk, Model Council of Europe, French Students Visit, TY Enterprise Presentation, TY Musical 'Hairspray'





Ms. Mary White
Principal

"There have been several student competitive successes in a number of areas over the last few weeks..."

From the Principal's Desk: March 2012

A very happy Easter to everyone. We are very quickly coming to the end of our spring term in Killiney. It has been very eventful as you will see from all the school activities reflected in this edition of the Newsletter by the students and staff. There have been several student competitive successes in a number of areas over the last few weeks including in the areas of public speaking, fashion design, cookery and imaginative writing. We have also enjoyed a great TY Musical 'Hairspray'; the visit of 30 French students from a Cluny secondary school in Lille and presentations from speakers as diverse as Brent Pope and Rory Golden, the latter an Irish deep sea diver who has gone to the resting place of the 'Titanic'. It's hard to believe we are now turning the corner into the last term of the year. We wish all of our exam students well over the next few weeks with all of their exam practicals, assignments, projects and language orals. We are also pleased to introduce the first edition of our Library Newsletter 2012 by the new school Librarian Ms. Andrea Dillon.



Cluny selected as a leader school by the NCCA for the implementation of the new J.C. Curriculum 2014:

The school was very pleased to learn this month that our application was successful to lead in the curriculum innovation that will prepare all

schools for the new Junior Cert in 2014. Only 47 schools were accepted to lead in elements of the new curriculum by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment out of several hundred schools that applied. The process of selection will involve the school in implementing aspects of the new curriculum on a trial basis. Ours is the only girls secondary school in the area to have been granted this particular distinction. Needless to say we are very pleased and believe that the students and staff will very much enjoy the curricular challenges and the educational engagement that working with the N.C.C.A in this way will bring. In years to come we hope that the girls will remember that their engagement in new approaches to the curriculum and the valuable feedback that they will give will have made a significant contribution to this new national plan for second level education. We will keep you updated on the particular areas of the curriculum we will be exploring over the next two years.

'Hairspray' the Musical and the French students

Hope you all got a chance to see the TY students in action last week in a great musical production of 'Hairspray'! This Musical has grown in popularity among audiences in Dublin and is a definite favourite with young people and we played to full houses for the 3 nights of the show. We had the addition on opening night of our visiting French students from Lille – both the girls and the boys this time – who were delighted to have been invited and loved every minute of the production. Congratulations to all the cast of 'Hairspray' and in particular to Ruth Richardson 4L who played a

From the Principal's desk continued



marvellous lead role as Tracy. Well done also to Jemma Matthews 4N as Penny, Ayo Arogundade 4L as Maybelle and Amy Higgins 4N as Amber and the boys who participated enthusiastically from Gonzaga College, Colaiste Eoin, St.Brendans, CBC Monkstown and Clonkeen College. Well done to you all. A very special thank you of course goes to Mrs Irene Burke the producer, Debbie Kirwan the choreographer, Sandra Mullen the Stage Manager and Ms. Helen Mahon for directing the musical score.

A group of 30 French students from the St. Joseph of Cluny College Therese d'Avila in Lille arrived for a two day visit to the school last week. The French students had been corresponding with some of the First and Second Year students since last November when we had a visit by the College Director and some of the Staff to make their introductions. Along with being our guests for the Musical, the students enjoyed ceili dancing, attending classes, playing sports



and making presentations about their interests and about French life to our students. We hope to keep up the connection between the two schools and the French students left excited about keeping up their correspondence with their new Irish pen pals.



"...the French students left excited about keeping up their correspondence with their new Irish pen pals."

And more from Transition Year

Not only were T.Y. students performing in the school Musical last week but the T.Y. Art students were preparing for performances of a different kind. Four Art Students won through in the first school preliminary round of the very popular Junk Kouture Fashion Competition that requires entries from recycled material. All the school entries were of an extraordinarily high standard and all the T.Y. Art students and their team of helpers deserve great commendation for their work. The winning entries were from T.Y. students Emma Higgins 4L, Laura O'Connor 4C, Lourdana Macari 4N and Laura Mahon 4L and the girls progressed last week to the regional finals. This was a very popular competition entry this year in school. Well done also to the 9 T.Y. students and Ms. Devaney who were invited to participate in the Dublin St. Patricks Day Parade as part of the Brighter Future float. There were several rehearsals involved in the staging of the event but the girls enjoyed all the preparations and were mentioned twice in the R.T.E. commentary on the day.

From the Principal's Desk Continued



"It was a distinct honour for the Fifth Years to be invited to participate in the Council of Europe schools debate in Dublin Castle last week."

Debating and Public speaking

Ms. McEvoy's Fifth Year Concern Debating team enjoyed the success of winning through four rounds of the competition this year. This competition requires a very well researched and competitive performance from each student which they all undertook confidently. The team consisted of Capt. Aine Flanagan 5C, Niamh Casey 5N, Lorna Carroll 5C and Sadhbh Frison-Roche 5L. It was a distinct honour for the Fifth Years to be invited to participate in the Council of Europe schools debate in Dublin Castle last



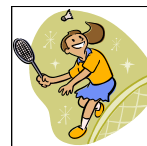
week. Guided by Mr. J. Byrne the girls represented France on the Council. The team were Eleanor O'Mahony 5L, Sadhbh Frison-Roche 5L, Lorna Carroll 5C with Katie O'Byrne 5L, Eleanor McSweeney 5L and Megan Ross 5C. This year a podcast of the debate was watched live in the school of the students who were participating. It was nearly as good as being there! Well done also to Eleanor McSweeney 5L who reached the semi-final stage as an individual speaker of the Leinster schools semi-final debating competition. We were very pleased also to see a team of Second Year students win the Trinity College round of the Womens Graduate Public Speaking Competition. They proceeded to the finals in U.C.D. this month. This competition is not for the faint-hearted as the students have only ten minutes

before the competition to prepare a three minute speech on a topic given to them on the day! Well done to Aisling Scully 2Y, Amy Ashe 2Y and Sarah-Jane Ronan 2Y for doing so well in this competition this year and to Mr. Byrne for all his work.

Finally congratulations to Olwyn Wymer 3X on being selected as a finalist in a Fantasy Writing Competition. She had her special presentation in the Hugh Lane Gallery in February. Congrats to Ellen Ashe 4L who came third in a national cookery competition and has been invited on work experience by Nevin Maguire over the summer. What a prize! We just received word that last year's Sixth Years Caoimhe Basquille and Sinead Craddock have achieved a U.C.D High Achievers Award presented to exceptional first year students who achieve 540 points or more in their Leaving Cert. Well done to our past pupils on this achievement.



Highlights in Sports



As you will see from the enclosed sports articles we have had a busy season in school sports. Firstly well done to the students in the U19 Badminton team who got through to the Leinster League finals this year. Well done also to the U16 and U14 teams who qualified for Dublin semi-finals and their coach Ms. Kelly. Well done to the Junior A and B Hockey teams who notched up several significant

From the Principal's Desk Continued

victories this term and to the First Year teams who had a very promising season. In Basketball all the drama was with the Senior A team. This team showed great team spirit and skill throughout the many basketball league and cup games that were all challenging and all had their moments of drama. It is great news that the first year Minor A team and the second year Junior A team have reached the finals of the Dublin League. We wish both teams well next week.

Next term we look forward to our recently elected new Fifth Year Prefects beginning to assume their responsibilities to prepare for next year. The Fifth Years had a Leadership Day this month to prepare all students for leadership in Sixth Year and had a two hour seminar given by presenters from the Institute of Public Administration and from our own Sixth Year Prefects. We wish our newly elected Prefects well.

We hope you enjoy the enclosed Library Newsletter. Ms. Dillon, school Librarian has had a busy and an event filled few months.



There will be a 'Titanic' themed week in the Library next week. It will include a mock trial with First Years and their Sixth Year Buddies, a Titanic journal club, a Titanic quiz and a 'Titanic' Exhibition in the Library. This week First and Fifth years had a fascinating talk from Mr. Rory Golden deep sea diver who is the only Irish person to have dived

twice to the Titanic wreck. His talk and presentation of slides were very special as he took us through the unfolding events in 1912 of the stricken ship and slides of the two dives he has taken part in. We are looking forward to all of the events in the Library next week. Special congrats go to Amy Mc Redmond 4L for her winning entry to the Library Logo competition i.e. 'New Book New World'. Beautifully put together Amy!

Hope to see you all at one of our many end-of-year ceremonies next term.

Best wishes go to all our Sixth Years for their final exam preparation and their last term in school. A reminder that Senior Prizegiving is for Fifth Years and Sixth years only this year and will be on Thursday 17 May at 7.30 pm. Please see the Prizegiving booklet enclosed which gives you details of the prizes available for all students in all four prizegiving ceremonies next term. I look forward to seeing you all there.

M. White

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SONRISE

Ecumenical Easter Service

Sunday 8th April 6.30a.m. Killiney Hill



One of four
entries for Junk
Kouture
Competition
(see more inside
this edition)



Deputy Principal's Diary—Mrs Orla Lambert

It has been a hectic term so far. Since January two new members have joined the teaching staff Ms. Culliton and Frau Klapp. We also welcomed our new Librarian Ms Dillon. I want to thank them for all their hard work to date and to wish them every happiness in St Joseph of Cluny.

Our students have had a busy few months also. Siobhan O'Neill continued the valuable work already started with 2nd years with our 3rd & 4th yr groups in her Workshops 'Raising Awareness around the use of FACE-BOOK'. Meanwhile our senior students focussed on the importance of positive mental health facilitated by AWARE.

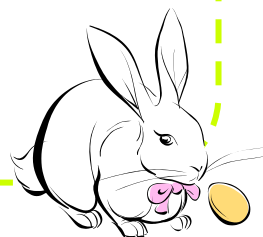
Ms White and I have been working with the Parents Association and we had a very enjoyable evening with Brent Pope as Guest Speaker. Our senior students who attended also got a lot from the presentation with many staying back to talk to Brent afterwards. Thank you to the parents who helped organise the evening and helped out on the night.

It was lovely to welcome Sister Monica, the 5th class teacher, to the school recently. The girls came over to show us their wonderful entry for the Young Scientist of the Year. We were so impressed with their prize and work that Regina Casey our lab technician put them on special display in the foyer for all to see. Well done girls and we hope you will continue with your research and studies.

We were all so happy to have eaten our way through boxes and boxes of roses at the request of the 4th years and Ms Devaney. When we saw the amazing creations the girls modelled for us at the Junk Kouture Modelling Show all the calories were worthwhile! Collecting LUAS & DART tickets also paid off! They looked amazing as

they 'worked' the cat walk in their finery. Hairstyles, makeup and heels were all fab! We thoroughly enjoyed the evening of the Regional Finals and saw other amazing creations at the Crowne Plaza over St Patrick's Weekend. Well done girls!

Not content with Junk Kouture, our 4th yrs were also busy with their rehearsals for Hairspray and we were blown away by the final result. Well done to everyone involved. The girls managed to take time out to see the film *The Help* in Dun Laoghaire which turned out to be a memorable morning! Well done to Fiona Deegan and Rebecca Dunne who represented the school at the Le Cheile Catholic Schools Conference in The Citywest Hotel in January. They did themselves and the school proud in their workshops and presentation to the Principals and School Board members along with the other Cheile schools who attended. Thanks to Fiona's Mum too for all the assistance! Our 6th and 3rd years have completed their mocks and have worked very hard. We wish them well in the coming months as they begin practical and oral exams. Can I finally say a massive thank you to all the fabulous 4th years who helped out with the Hostessing and 'Signing-In' duties at the Parent Teacher Meetings this academic year. You did tremendous work and are to be commended for juggling the demands of rehearsals and homework while still managing to smile throughout. 'Au Revoir' to our French Students from Lille. We really enjoyed meeting you all. Well done to all the student pen-pals and to the 5th Yrs for 'running the show' during their visit. We hope you all take time to recharge the batteries over the holidays. Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Easter.



St. Patrick's Day Festival Preparation



Eight of us Fourth Years have signed up to take part in the St. Patrick's Day Festival. We will be marching in the Brighter Future's parade. Hugh comes into us every Thursday and teaches us dances and walks that we will be performing on the day. On Thursday 1st of March we had the wonderful opportunity of going into the studios where Hugh and the rest of the team work on putting together the parade. When we first arrived we were given a tour of the studios. We got to see the costume-making in progress and all the props being made. They were making spectacular props that were very interesting to see being made. The costume room was the best room. They had shelves and shelves of loads of different types and colours of fabrics. They were working hard to finish over 200 costumes for this year's parade. After our tour we began to rehearse

our dance. We also learned new steps and walks that we must do on the day. We will be playing the part of ninjas and will be doing kicks like the ones we learned in our self-defense module this year. It is a lot of fun learning the dances. Five girls in our group will be wearing Victorian ninja costumes. They tried them on and practiced dancing in them. The costumes were stunning and very unusual. Hugh then showed us some of his tricks which included cycling on a very tall unicycle, juggling balls and balancing on a one-sided ladder. We then ate lunch in a small cafe beside the studios. After lunch we went back to the studios and we helped out in the costume room. We were given the job of making 90 red pom-poms and sewing poppers onto leather jackets which had been made by the costume makers. It was great fun helping with the costumes and the people in the studio were very nice. We had a great day in the studios and had loads of fun. We are all looking forward to the parade.

By Hannah McAteer 4L



"The costumes were stunning and very unusual"



Festival Excitement Grows

Being part of the St. Patrick's day festival is a great experience. We have a great laugh every week while rehearsing for the big day on the 17th of March. There are only eight of us taking part from 4th year and we all get along great. The first day we took part in the festival rehearsals we played a lot of games which taught us to feel more comfortable and confident around each other. The highlight so far of our whole experi-

ence was our trip to the warehouse. We spent the whole day learning our routine and helping design our costumes. I must say I've never laughed and had so much fun since joining in on this festival. Now we're counting the days to the big festival. I can only imagine how much fun we are going to have.

Neneh Lyons





"...students and teachers came together to celebrate our faith and to strengthen our relationship with God"



Catholics Schools Week 2012

This year at St. Joseph of Cluny, along with many other Catholic schools around Ireland, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week 2012 lasted from January 29th until February 4th and the theme was 'Christ's living body active in our world'. This theme refers to keeping Christ alive in our modern day world by fulfilling his missions, praying, and receiving the Eucharist. Catholic Schools Week is a time when Catholic schools come together and celebrate their faith in a unified and active way. At St. Joseph of Cluny we have a strong Catholic ethos all year round and Catholic Schools Week is a time when we put in extra effort to celebrate and renew our faith. This year we emphasized the importance of prayer during our Catholic Schools Week celebrations with displays all around the school. These displays in-

cluded candles, pictures, and a powerpoint with music being played in the foyer. The second year classes 2X and 2W completed projects on places of religious significance and religious icons and these projects were also put up on display around the school. During Catholic Schools Week we received a special visit from the Diocesan Adviser for Secondary Schools, Gary Abrahamian, who was very impressed with our displays, praising us on our efforts.

Catholic Schools Week 2012 was very successful here at St. Joseph of Cluny as students and teachers came together to celebrate our faith and to strengthen our relationship with God as a school.

Hazel Nolan, 2X.

Lent

Lent began on Wednesday, 22nd February 2012, and ends on Thursday, 5th April 2012. The season of lent, the time of preparation for Easter Sunday, begins on a different date each year.

Pancake Tuesday is the day before lent starts where everybody can have a big feast. Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shriving, when the faithful confessed their sins to the local priest and received forgiveness before the Lenten season began. Shrove Tuesday also marked the beginning of the 40-day Lenten fasting period when the faithful were forbidden to consume meat, butter, eggs or milk.

The fourth years and Mr. Hartigan baked pancakes in Mrs. Wolahan's pink kitchen on pancake Tuesday and thanks to all the girls in the school who came to make a donation to the fourth's year money box. They raised a total of one hundred and fifty five euro.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of lent and occurs 46 days before Easter. It is a moveable feast, falling on a different date each year because it is dependent on the date of Easter. It can occur as early as February 4th or as late as March 10th. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this 40-day liturgical period of prayer and fasting.

Mrs. Higgins placed ashes on everybody's forehead on Ash Wednesday in the school's Oratory. Easter is the Christian holiday celebration commemorating the resurrection of the lord, Jesus Christ. Easter Sunday or Resurrection Day is the most well-attended Sunday service of the year for Christian churches. The money that we would have spent on chocolate bars, crisps, sweets or fizzy drinks will go into our charity Trocaire boxes and these are typically handed in after Easter.

Abbi O'Toole

Le Chéile Conference

We arrived promptly at the Lé Chéile conference at 5.30pm. We felt nervous yet extremely excited for the night ahead.

Our first impression of the hotel was that it was amazing. It was huge, which then caused great confusion as to where we should go, so we acted like sheep and followed the other confused students. Finally we found our way. We were led to the ballroom where we registered and received our room keys. It was only then that we realised how many schools were there. We set out on our next adventure of finding our room. It took us about a half an hour to find it!

We were introduced to our roommates. It was a bit awkward at first to be sharing a room with someone that I had never met, but then her friend also joined us, we all began talking and we realised that we had a lot in common. They too were from Dublin which gave us more to talk about as we had similar interests and we socialised in the same places.

At half six we returned back to the ballroom where we were escorted to the dining room. The food was delicious and we met some interesting people too. Everyone was really friendly which put us at ease. After dinner we were given a sheet between us. We had to choose a word which we believed reflected the ethos of our school. We chose 'giving'. We then learned songs and speeches which we were to perform in front of An Taoiseach Enda Kenny the following day. At half nine we were broken up into groups for our workshops. The options were art, music, drama and photography. We both chose photography as we are interested in it.

At half nine we were sent back to our room to change for the quiz which began at 10pm. We were separated into groups, a little daunting at first. This turned out to be great as we got to make even more friends. The quiz wasn't too difficult but unfortunately neither of our teams won. We were back in our room by 11 and watched 'Take Me Out' with our roommates, but we were fast asleep by midnight. We were exhausted!!!

We woke up bright and early the following morning, 7 o'clock to be precise. We weren't the least bit im-

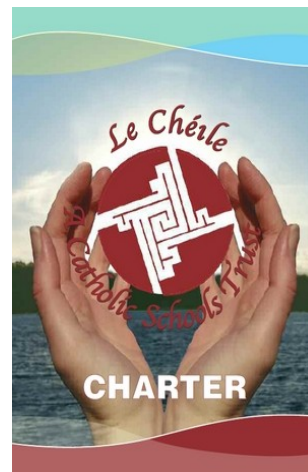
pressed with this early morning rise but we stumbled out of bed and down for breakfast. We met with our friends from the night before and headed back to the ballroom. We waited in anticipation for the Taoiseach to arrive. We sang the songs that we had learned the night before and listened to inspiring speeches made by An Taoiseach himself and fellow students.

Once An Taoiseach left we reassembled into our photography groups. Each group was given a professional camera. Although nervous that we had been trusted with these extremely expensive cameras, we headed off in search of inspiring things to take pictures of. We were taking pictures of the words that we thought reflected the ethos of our school eg. A picture of a Garda as a sign of respect and a picture with Paul Cunningham's (the religious correspondent for RTE) cameraman handing us his expensive camera as a sign of trust. We were given an hour or so to take our photos and then when we returned with our 'masterpieces', we were told to write a poem to match these photos. Unfortunately we weren't very talented on the poetry side of things so we resorted to rhyming. We were surprisingly happy with the end result.

A short break for lunch and then back to our workshop. We put the final touches to our piece and prepared for the presentation in front of our teachers, principals and vice principals. We got to watch the drama groups performance, the music groups songs, the art groups posters and our fellow photographers presentations. They were all incredible. The conference ended after the presentations. We said goodbye to our new friends and headed home.

All in all we had a terrific time and are so grateful for the opportunity.

Fiona Deegan &
Rebecca Dunne



Junk Kouture

We were approached by our art teacher at the beginning of the year with the idea that we as a class would maybe enter 'Junk Kouture'. Of course we were all ecstatic at the thought of making our very own dresses.

The idea behind Junk Kouture is that you make dresses out of recycled materials. These dresses are then entered into the 'Junk Kouture' competition along with a small written piece on why we think our dresses are worthy of qualifying to the regional finals.

We assembled into groups, most of which contained four people, and got working on thinking up ideas. We were very eager to begin and had an extraordinary amount of ideas. Unfortunately these began to run short the closer we got to the end of our dresses, but with a little bit of encouragement from our friends, families, teachers and of course our art teacher Ms. Devaney we all made it to the end.

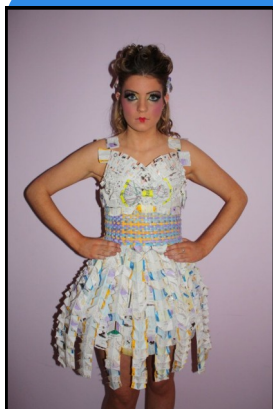
Each dress that was made in our class is so incredibly unique, each just as beautiful as the next. The dresses never ceased to amaze me. Not even at the very end when I had seen them all countless times.

All five groups had very different ideas on what to base their dresses on. This made the project so much more interesting - to see the contrast in designs. One group made their dress out of old bus, dart, luas and any other tickets that they could get their hands on!!! They were inspired by the vast amount of tickets that are used once and then thrown away. The second group made theirs out of old school books.

They got their idea from all the old books in lost and found or just lying around the school or in peoples houses, most of which are never to be used again. The third group made theirs out of ripped up maps, bottle caps and bubble wrap. They were aware of the amount of geography maps not in use in the school and the amount of bottles left behind after school and sports. The fourth group's dress was made out of egg cartons wrapped in the golden foil of dairy milk wrappers. They loved the black and yellow/gold of bees which gave them this terrific idea.

Finally, the group that I am a part of. We made our dress out of Roses wrappers, croche and an old curtain for the train. We were inspired by the colours and textures of the coral reef. All of the dresses were incredible!

Although our first drafts turned out quite different to our end designs, we were all delighted with the end result. Four of our groups have now qualified for the regional finals which we are over the moon with. We hope to do our school proud! I'm sure we'd all do it again in a heartbeat!!!! Of course we would like to thank our school and especially our art teacher Ms. Devaney for giving us this incredible opportunity. We are so unbelievably grateful!



Emma Higgins



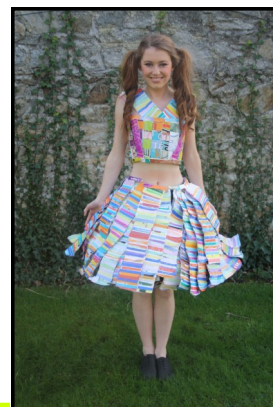
Loredana Macari



Laura Mahon



Ruth Richardson



Laura O'Connor

Art Portfolio

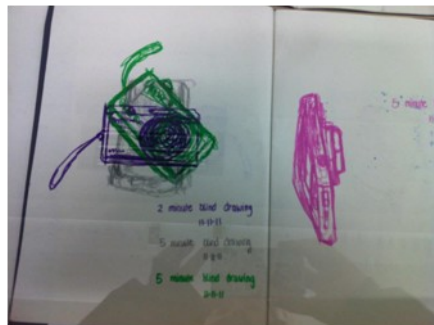
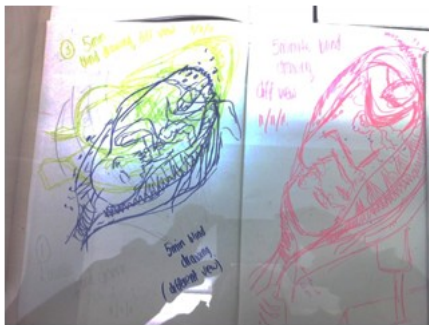
This year an art student from IADT, Sara, came in to our Art Portfolio Class to fulfill her work experience module.

We learned so many new skills, from blind drawings to stick and ink, mono printing and so much more inbetween.

We each chose an object from skulls to feathers to fetus to glasses that we desired to learn and discover more about. The different techniques we constantly used showed our work from so many different perspectives.

At the end of the term our work was submitted into the Art Gallery in Dun Laoghaire and when we visited it in December we were so proud to have our work on show. Other people were viewing and discussing the art work that we had worked so hard on. We are so grateful for the amazing experience.

Áine Flanagan and Claire Lambert



Good Luck Girls

Best of luck to Frau Flaherty-Klapp and her Sixth Year students Ruth Slamon, Amy Dominguez, Christine Doyle and Orlaith Kelly who are participating in a scholarship competition sponsored by the Irish Austrian Society with a project on *Dr. Otto von Habsburg – Ein Leben für Europa (1912-2011)*



Irish Museum of Modern Art Trip



*"...tie the ribbon
to your wrist
and the writers
wish was now
your
responsibility"*

On Wednesday the 21st of December the Fifth and Sixth year art classes, accompanied by Ms. Devaney, headed off to spend the day embracing our artistic sides and prepping ourselves for the leaving cert. Our first stop was the "Rivane Neuenschwander" exhibition in the New Galleries at the Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA) in Kilmainham.

Rivane Neuenschwander is a Brazilian artist. Her exhibition "A Day Like Any Other" had a variety of art works – paintings, sculptural objects, film and interactive pieces. Making our way through the exhibition which comprised of three floors, we were encouraged to pay close attention to the details of each piece, especially the layout, lighting and display and the underlying themes, so as best to address the questions we would have to tackle in the leaving cert.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition, but some of the pieces really stood out. For example "I wish your wish". This was a piece where hundreds of ribbons printed with visitors' wishes from her past exhibits were

hung on the gallery walls, visitors were asked to remove a ribbon and replace it with a new wish on a slip of paper. The idea was that you would tie the ribbon to your wrist and the writers wish was now your responsibility and would be granted when your ribbon fell off naturally. We all found this extremely interesting and all left IMMA with ribbons on our arms.

After this we were taken to visit the National Museum. Here we were shown artefacts from the Stone, Bronze, Iron and Christian Eras that we had studied. We all made detailed sketches of the pieces. This would be very helpful because we had before this point only seen photographs in our books.

We saw some amazing craftsmanship in pieces like the Ardagh Chalice and the Broighter Collar and all left with a better knowledge of the intricate designs of the works.

Having spent a day looking closely at the artworks we are studying really gave us a feel for how to approach the exam questions. The trip was of huge benefit to our course and has really improved our essays and homework as well as giving us a better appreciation for modern art. Each one of us has now received a new view on modern and contemporary art. We would like to sincerely thank Ms. Devaney for taking the time to organise and help us on this trip.

By Geraldine Dempsey and Hannah O'Sheehan.



Holocaust Memorial Evening 2012

The Holocaust is “a huge stain on European history and shows the true evil that can emerge from hatred, prejudice and intolerance” President Michael D Higgins said at the recent annual Holocaust memorial evening. The President of Ireland was the first speaker of the evening at the event in Dublin’s Mansion House. My history class accompanied by Ms. Coleman attended the evening a few weeks ago, on Sunday 29th January. Having recently studied anti-semitism and the Holocaust, we all very much looked forward to the evening as it was hoped that we would gain a much better understanding of the Holocaust and its devastating results. And we certainly did. The Holocaust memorial evening was an emotional occasion for both the audience and those taking part in the ceremony, many of whom had relatives who were killed in concentration camps. The evening placed an emphasis on, not only the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust, but the many other minority groups. This included the Roma, Homosexuals, the Disabled, Jehovah’s Witnesses and the Slavic people, who also lost vast numbers of people in Nazi labour and concentration camps. Music, readings and personal accounts of the Holocaust made up the evening. One speaker who we had previously met was Tomi Reichental, a Holocaust survivor who as a young child spent a horrific time in Bergen-Belsen, a concentration camp in Germany. Tomi represented the Holocaust survivors by giving a short reading. I know from speaking to my classmates afterwards that we all greatly admired those who gave readings, particularly those like Tomi Reichental as it can’t have been easy to discuss the horrors of the Holocaust, particularly when it’s not only a fact of history but a part of your childhood. A group of students from three different secondary schools read aloud some of the names of

those who died in the Holocaust with Irish connections. It was startling just how many there were and there is something about knowing the names and ages of people that makes it more personal.

The evening ended with a minute’s silence when candles were lit to represent those that died in the Holocaust. As much as the evening was very emotional and the sense of injustice and loss was very much apparent, it was also a very poignant and solemn event. The purpose of the evening was to remember and commemorate those that lost their lives during the Holocaust and that was done beautifully. We learn about the past to ensure such an event will not be repeated. In relation to the Holocaust, ‘Tell your children about it and let your children tell theirs and their children the next generation...’

The main thing I’ve taken from the study of the Holocaust is that something very evil and incredibly tragic can emerge from intolerance and discrimination. This is one of the reasons it is so important to remember those who perished in the Holocaust, just like we did at the memorial evening. To listen to firsthand accounts and talk to people who saw the suffering and evil in action, ensures that the deceased will not be forgotten and creates hope for the future, hope that something as horrific as the Holocaust will never happen again.

Laura Spain 5C

“...there is something about knowing the names and ages of people that makes it more personal.”



5th Year Music Class Trip to the Opera



St. Werburgh's
Church

We, the 5th year music class, were lucky enough to go see two operas this term. For most of us it was a completely new experience as we had never been to one before. On the night of January 16th we all gathered in St. Werburgh's Church in the city centre to see "Semele", an opera about a girl who is about to marry a man she does not love, until she is rescued from the wedding ceremony by the god Jupiter and is carried away to the Immortal World. It was very atmospheric in the church and as we arrived we were asked if we were at the wedding on behalf of the bride or groom. They soon began to sing and we were all entranced. Their voices were so powerful and the choir who were seated up on the balconies stood up regularly and joined in, creating an even more magnificent sound. The night was a huge success and we were all eager for more.

On February 3rd (we were so excited that we agreed to give up our Friday night!) we went to see a second opera, "Orpheus in the Underworld", this time in DIT. A parody of the original Greek myth, this opera was about Orpheus' journey to rescue his wife from Pluto, the god of the Underworld. This was completely different to Semele but equally amazing. It had a 70s theme and the costumes were crazy, one guy even parading around in a full wetsuit, snorkel and flippers! The singing was of course outstanding and the storyline was a little easier to follow than Semele. The two operas were completely contrasting: from the setting, to the costumes, to the surprise Can-Can that featured in Orpheus in the Underworld. They were both brilliant experiences and I couldn't possibly choose my favourite between them as I enjoyed them both so much.

Niamh Casey 5N



German Play Review

Last Wednesday evening Orlaith Kelly, along with Ms Flaherty-Klapp, Ms Ryan and I, Ruth Slamon, attended a German production in St Killians Deutsche Schule. The play was called 'Kottan Ermittelt' and was presented by the Trinity College German department drama group. The play was a theatre adaptation of the pilot episode of a popular Austrian detective TV programme of the same title from the 1970s. The play was set in an apartment building and revolved around the murder of Mrs Trummer. The superior police officer on the case, Kottan, only suspected the foreign residents of committing the crime while Schrammel, the other officer, stuck to the rules and began his own investigation. While the police were trying

to solve the case, the other residents of the apartment building began to accuse each other. There were lots of twists and turns including a second murder and a seemingly harmless, demented character who constantly talked to her plants. The play was very enjoyable and also very funny. The actors' German accents were quite good, and I found it very helpful with my German, but the English synopsis of each scene did help. After the play, the Austrian Embassy held a reception, and Orlaith and I got to try some native Austrian cuisine. The play was very well put together and it was an enjoyable evening throughout.

The Opera



When I imagined the opera, I saw obese women in old fashioned ball gowns, belting out deafening, and glass shattering notes at pitches only accessible by canines, in

some gibberish language that no one understands. Oh, and I can't forget us. In the back row. Asleep. Or at least attempting to perfect our high scores in *Temple Run* on our iPhones.

Needless to say, while I was looking forward to an outing with my music class, I wasn't quite so enthusiastic about the opera itself. Nonetheless, at 7pm on Wednesday the 16th of January our music class met outside St Werburgh's Church. For anyone akin to our class, and who reacts to that location with confused or blank expressions, perhaps it's worth telling you that it's opposite to *Burdogh's Chipper* (Cue the "Ohhhhhh! Now I know where that is!").

We piled into the church, heavily bundled up in hats, scarves and gloves and sat down in the wooden pews. The lights dimmed and... we sat mesmerized for the entire performance. It was incredible. Forget stiff, boring and utterly incomprehensible. Bring on feathers, wigs and shopaholics.

Semele is about a young girl, Semele, who is being forced by her family into marrying a prince when she's already in love with someone else. To complicate matters even further, the "someone else" is Jupiter, the king of the gods, and god of sky and thunder, who is married to the insanely jealous

goddess Juno. Semele leaves her would-be husband at the altar and runs off to join Jupiter in the land of the immortals: Olympus. From there on in it's credit cards, incredible costumes and people singing at their own reflections.

It truly was spectacular. We arrived into school the next morning bleary eyed and half-asleep, but in high spirits, chattering non-stop about our class bonding moment! I think Ms Mahon was even more surprised at how much we enjoyed the opera than we were, and completely speechless when we begged to go to another one.

And so, three weeks later on the 3rd of February, we saw our second opera: *Orpheus and the Underworld*. Imagine a violinist trapped in an unhappy marriage until his wife elopes with the god of the underworld. Although he makes it obvious he's happier living the bachelor lifestyle, his reputation as a renowned violinist is threatened, and he's forced to rescue her. Now visualize it in the 70's, complete with garishly colourful outfits, flared jeans and a spandex dragonfly...."

If I've learnt anything from these operas it's that you should give everything a chance and not knock something before you try it. The only regret I have is that there aren't anymore coming up that we can go to, and in the words of our very own music teacher, the only appropriate response to that is: "Sad face!"

By Emma Crotty

"...visualize it
in the 70's,
complete with
garishly
colourful
outfits, flared
jeans and a
spandex
dragonfly...."

BT Young Scientist Exhibition



Display in foyer

On the 13th of January, all of the first years went into the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS, Ms Torpey brought us in.

We split into groups and went to look around at all the amazing projects that were displayed. An example of a project was "Are iPads better than books in school?"

iPads are not better than books because, if you break your iPad it would cost loads of money to get it repaired or replaced, but you cannot break a book. So, it turns out that school books are better than iPads. Even if school books are more expensive to buy at the beginning of the

year, an iPad would be more expensive in the long run.

There was lots of advertising stalls giving away free materials and we could enter quizzes and win prizes.

CBS Synge Street won the competition with their project named "Simulation accuracy in the gravitational many - body problem".

We all came home with lots of pens, pencils, highlighters and yoyos!! It was really fun and a great day out thanks to Ms Torpey.

By Aoibhe Finnie, Amber Barry and Cadhla Turner.

TY Spanish experience at Tapas Restaurant

El jueves, cinco de marzo, las dos clases de español fueron al bar de tapas que se llama 'the Port House' en Dundrum. On Thursday, the 5th of March, the two Transition Year Spanish classes left the school at 1.30 for lunch in the Tapas restaurant – The Port House – in Dundrum.

We were all so excited and were looking forward to trying out the food. By the time we got there at 2.00 we were all very hungry and willing to try anything that was put in front of us! We had our own private room and so had great fun all being together. We tried a range of Spanish food. Tortilla española (Spanish omelette), pa amb pernil, Txistorras a la plan-

cha were all part of the 'primer plato' For the 'segundo plato' we had 'paella con pollo (chicken paella), croquetas con jamon, calamares (squid) and patatas bravas, mojo y alioli. The highlight of the meal was of course 'el postre' (the dessert) - churros con chocolate. They were devoured in a matter of minutes and every last scrap was eaten. When it was time to leave, we were all so well fed that even the walk back to the bus seemed long! We all had a great day out and got a real idea of typical Spanish food. Muchas gracias a la Senora Coleman. !Lo pasamos bomba! Fue estupendo.

Grace Morgan & Louise Burne (TY Spanish)



Our Trip to the BT Young Scientist Exhibition

The BT Young Scientist Exhibition is the greatest opportunity for young people to express themselves in a constructive and productive way, the end result of which is to provide national or, indeed, international recognition of an idea or product of benefit to a significant number of people. It is unique in that it is open to students from all junior and secondary schools who choose to enter. This system encourages all young people to focus on ideas and concepts which encourage and excite their imagination and intelligence.

The first years in St. Joseph of Cluny attended the exhibition on the 13th of January. We spent around three hours at the exhibition

during which time there were lots of activities to keep us all interested. Because of the large number of entries it would not be possible to have had sufficient time to visit each one and even though most of them were very interesting we also needed some time to have some fun. From laser light displays to fingerprint identification there was, certainly, lots to choose from. Whilst the ultimate winners made us feel quite inadequate, it also helped us to realise that we all have the potential and opportunity to have a real input into our country's future at a very young age.

Laura Lynam 1w

"...encourages all young people to focus on ideas and concepts which encourage and excite their imagination and intelligence."

El Concurso De Espanol

El lunes pasado, el 5 de marzo, el concurso de espanol tuvo lugar de las 7.30 hasta las 10 en el colegio de King's Hospital. The Annual Inter-Schools Spanish Quiz took place in King's Hospital on Monday the 5th of March from 7.30 to 10pm. Three teams from 5th Year Spanish took part along with 30 other teams from the greater Dublin area. It was presented by Jose Cabello and run entirely through Spanish. There were 10 rondas (rounds) consisting of topics ranging from la musica, la historia, la geografia, la comida, una ronda de fotos, otra de edificios/lugares importantes (important places/ buildings) las fiestas etc. It was quite challenging and you had to listen carefully to each question. The preparation we had done in Spanish class during the week certainly paid off, helping up to recognise picture of Spanish landmarks such as the Guggenheim Museum in Bil-

bao, the Alhambra in Granada and famous singers such as David Bisbal! It was very atmospheric, 'a la espanola' as there was lots of Spanish music playing and students from Spain assisting with the quiz. In between rounds there were lots of spot prizes (premios instantes) for students and teachers, including la senora Coleman. Although we didn't make it to the top three on this occasion, the night was a huge success and we all had so much fun.

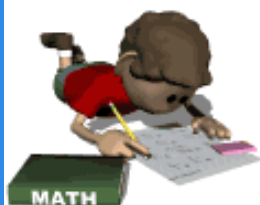
We plan to take part again next year and this time we'll take home the trophy. ! Hasta el ano que viene !

Niamh Casey/Amelia Leonard





“Project Maths aims to provide for an enhanced student learning experience and greater levels of achievement for all.”



Are you confused about Project Maths?

A Guide for Parents

Overview of Project Maths (Extract from project maths website – see below)

Project Maths involves the introduction of revised syllabuses for both Junior and Leaving Certificate Mathematics. It involves changes to what students learn in mathematics, how they learn it and how they will be assessed.

Project Maths aims to provide for an enhanced student learning experience and greater levels of achievement for all. Much greater emphasis will be placed on student understanding of mathematical concepts, with increased use of contexts and applications that will enable students to relate mathematics to everyday experience.

The initiative will also focus on developing students' problem-solving skills. Assessment will reflect the different emphasis on understanding and skills in the teaching and learning of mathematics.

The Mathematics syllabuses will be introduced by strand as follows:

- Strand 1. Statistics and Probability
- Strand 2. Geometry and Trigonometry
- Strand 3. Number
- Strand 4. Algebra
- Strand 5. Functions

So what does all this mean for your daughter in Cluny?

The following table shows a guide for students in school this year (2011 – 2012)

For further support and info please log on to WWW.NCCA.ie/projectmaths or www.projectmaths.ie

Class	Project Maths	'Old' Maths	State exam
6 th years	Strands 1 and 2	Strands 3,4 and 5	L.C. 2012 Paper 1: old maths Paper 2: Project maths + Area and Volume
5 th years	Strands 1,2,3 and 4	Strand 5	L.C. 2013 Paper 1: Project Maths + Functions and Differentiation Paper 2: All Project Maths
4 th years (And all subsequent 4 th years)	Strands 1,2,3,4 and 5	None	L.C. 2014 (And all future years) All Project Maths
3 rd years	None	All	J.C. All 'Old' Maths (L.C. All Project Maths)
2 nd years	Strands 1 and 2	Strands 3,4 and 5	J.C. 2012 Paper 1: old maths Paper 2: Project maths + Area and Volume
1 st years	Strands 1,2, 3,4	Strand 5	J.C. 2013 Paper 1: Project Maths + Functions Paper 2: All Project Maths

Language Village Blog Writing Competition



[I entered this piece in the Language Village Blog Writing Competition, "Why Learn More Languages?" (run by the Irish Post Primary Languages Initiative, who run the free Leaving Cert Japanese classes I attended in November and ended up coming first, winning an iPad 2...) Megan Ross

You Live A New Life For Every Language You Speak

"You live a new life for every new language you speak. If you know only one language, you live only once." - Czech proverb.

The world is a big place, inhabited by over 7 billion people who use more than 6,000 languages to communicate. The more languages you can understand, the more people you can communicate with, and the further you can go. You limit yourself unnecessarily when you only speak one language. There's an exciting world out there just waiting to be explored, full of people and cultures you've never even heard of – but they don't come with English subtitles.

Language learning is much more than learning off vocab lists and verb conjugations in every tense under the sun. It's an insight into another way of thinking. Every language has its own quirks; other languages have words for things or concepts which English doesn't:

Words that don't exist in the English language:

L'esprit d'escalier: (French) The feeling you get after leaving a conversation, when you think of all the things you should have said. Translated it means "the spirit of the staircase."

Waldeinsamkeit: (German) The feeling of being alone in the woods.

Meraki: (Greek) Doing something with soul, creativity, or love.

Forelsket: (Norwegian) The euphoria you experience when you are first falling in love.

Gigil: (Filipino) The urge to pinch or squeeze something that is unbearably cute.

Pochemuchka: (Russian) A person who asks a lot of questions.

Pena ajena: (Mexican Spanish) The embarrassment you feel watching someone else's humiliation.

Cualacino: (Italian) The mark left on a table by a cold glass.

Ilunga: (Tshiluba, Congo) A person who is ready to forgive any abuse for the first time, to tolerate it a second time, but never a third time.

So I believe Ezra Pound hit the nail on the head when he said:

"The sum of human wisdom is not contained in any one language."



As Irish people, we should appreciate bilingualism more than we do!

To learn more languages means to recognise that our way of doing things *isn't* the only one out there; as the world becomes a smaller place, through ever-improving communications technology, it's now more important than ever for us to be as educated, open-minded and accepting of other peoples and cultures. The way I see it, the first step in doing that is learning another language – and it's really not as hard as we think. The internet is full of great resources – like Genki Japan for Japanese – you just have to look!

"There's an exciting world out there just waiting to be explored, full of people and cultures you've never even heard of – but they don't come with English subtitles."



Bord Bia Visits Cluny



Sheila Kelly from An Bord Bia with Ms. Wolahan & TY Students

Recent statistics indicate that exports of Irish-produced food increased by 11% in 2011- some of the good news that Transition Year and 5th Year Home Economics students heard during the recent presentation and cookery demonstration by An Bord Bia in the Home Economics Kitchen.

students about the many wonderful food products being produced in Ireland and where they are exported to. The Chinese apparently have a great fondness for Irish-produced pork! Sheila showed the students how to make Pork Meatballs in a delicious Coconut and Coriander Sauce, a sumptuous Frittata, Lamb cutlets with a delicious yogurt and coriander sauce and a Beef and Broccoli Stir-fry.

The Transition Year students made the dishes themselves in Home Economics class and many were surprised and delighted at how simple and satisfying it is to prepare healthy nutritious and delicious meals from just a few ingredients. The presentation was enjoyed by all.

Sheila Kelly from An Bord Bia made several delicious dishes using quality Irish meat, cheese and locally produced ingredients while telling the

"Ellen was required to prepare and serve her dish.... before the well known chef, Neven Maguire in Sligo"



"Take Way—Ellen's Way"

Transition Year Culinary Arts students recently took part in a cookery competition called "Take Away My Way" run by St Angela's College of Home Economics in Sligo in conjunction with Safefood. The task was to develop a recipe for a healthier version of a favourite take away food. The competition attracted 900 entries from all over Ireland. We were all delighted to get the news that Ellen Ashe, a Transition Year student, was selected as one of the 16 all-Ireland finalists. Ellen was required to prepare and serve her dish, Tandoori Chicken with Naan Bread and Pilau Rice, before the well known chef, Neven Maguire in

Sligo on March 13th 2012. In spite of some very tough competition Ellen came third! Part of her prize is a week's work experience in Neven Maguires restaurant, MacNean House and Restaurant in Blacklyon, Co Cavan. Congratulations and well done to Ellen.

Mrs B Wolahan.



Sneaky Snakes

Our first year home economics class made snake draught excluders for our sewing project. First we learned various hand stitches for our snake and then we picked our fabric. Mostly we used recycled materials to save money and be kind to the environment. Once we began our snakes some sneaky things began to happen! Sewing boxes went missing, two snakes were sewn together, my snake got a rip in it and a sewing machine needle broke. After all this we still got our snakes beautifully decorated and stuffed. One person even stuffed hers with beans from a bean bag and by the end of the class there were beans everywhere!!! Once we put the finishing touches to them they were looking great. We had snakes with hair, snakes that said "I love mum", big

snakes, small snakes... every kind of snakes. We can all now say we sewed a draught excluder and had great fun doing it.



Ailbhe Mulhall 1W

2nd Year Pyjamas

This year we have made pyjamas as our sewing project. It took us five and a half weeks. Some of us used fabrics we found around the house like sheets and others shopped in the Christmas sales and found bargains!! It was a quick and fun project. We started by taking our hip measurements and used this to calculate what size we would make the Pyjamas. Then we made the decision to make trousers or shorts based on our personal preferences. We cut out the pattern and started to sew! We learned lots of new skills such as seam finishes, sewing a crotch seam, using iron-on interfacing, making a pocket, sewing a casing, elasticsation and measuring and

sewing hems. We had so much fun making the our PJ's this year and I hope our craft project for the Junior Cert is just as much fun next year.

Anouk Fitzsimons 2Y and Abbi O'Toole 2X



Our Draught Excluder Snakes

Our Home Economics class were given an assignment to make a household textile item. Our brief was to make a household textile item (first years made draught excluder snakes), it had to be done within three weeks, include the embroidery stitches which we learned on it and we had to use recycled materials where possible e.g recycled socks or a pillow for the stuffing. Some even used the leg of an old pair of jeans to make the body of the snake! Also our draught excluder snakes had to serve the purpose, excluding draughts! Nobody in our class got below 70 % which was fantastic!

Our draught excluder snakes were a great success and we all hope next years sewing assignment will be as successful.

Robyn
Megennis 1X



Robyn's & Lara
displaying their
Snake Excluders

In our home economics class with Mrs Wolahan, we made a Draught Excluder. The draught excluder was designed as a snake, and we had to use recycled materials to make it. I used an old duvet cover and filled it with stuffing from an old cushion. Mrs Wolahan taught us all how to use a sewing machine and taught us how to do different embroidery stitches. We used buttons for the eyes and felt for the mouth. I really enjoyed doing this project and my draught excluder is really very useful!

Lara Quinn
1W



Chess

I have been playing chess since I was quite young. I used to play chess with either my brother or my dad. Of course I usually lost because I was very young, but I gradually started to get better as I got older. Unfortunately as soon as I got better at chess my brother and dad didn't play with me as much. They argued that they were too busy, but I think that they were more afraid of losing.

So about two months ago I pleaded my brother to play a game of chess with me. It had been a good few years since I had played chess and

I realised I was enjoying it a lot, probably more than my brother.

That's when it hit me. Our school didn't have a chess club. I thought there must be other people in the school who see the fun side of chess and so it was there and then that I decided to start a chess club.

I noticed Mr Browne himself seemed quite fond of chess, and if he wasn't, he sure seemed to have a lot



Concern Writing Competition



On November 23rd, Niamh Fahy (5N), Sophie Rhattigan Walsh (3Y), Niamh Doyle (3Y), Kate Doorly (3Y) Hazel Nolan (2X) and I attended the 2011 Concern Worldwide Writing Competition prize giving and book launch in Newman House. There, we met with journalists, authors, CEO of Concern Tom Arnold, and became published authors ourselves and enjoyed some light refreshments. Sounds pretty glamorous doesn't it? Last year, along with the help of our English teacher Ms McEvoy, we all entered into the Concern essay writing competition, where we had to put ourselves in the shoes of a journalist visiting the developing world and write an article on our experiences there. We sent in our essays and hoped for the best.

At the beginning of the year, all six of us received an email telling us that extracts from our essays had been included in the published book *Dispatches from the Developing World*. There

were nearly 800 entries from 37 different countries around the world. We were over the moon we were picked, and at the ceremony we were the only school with six students, a great achievement for Cluny! Overall it was a very enjoyable evening and I would encourage everyone to get involved this year.

Sarah McNabb, 5N.



Chess continued

of chess sets. So I asked to use his room and some of his sets. He agreed and seemed oddly excited about the whole thing.

So, with my extremely artistic posters advertised around the school, I hoped I might spread the word that chess can be cool and that anyone can learn how to play.

On the 1st of February, chess club was up and running. Our first turnout was a strong ten people, which is seven more than my mom thought would come, and the numbers are growing steadily.

Chess Club is laid back and fun, we play some "chess tunes" (it's just normal music) and people can chat and hang out. You can make the game as competitive as you want and can challenge anyone you wish too. There were a few beginners, who were taught the basics and have since improved and are now winning matches. If

you don't know how to play chess, you should come along and I can teach you, it's not actually as complicated as it looks. Once you know the basics you can start to make your own strategies and steadily improve.

Next year we hope to have some interschool chess matches and tournaments, probably with boys' schools, because essentially boys do play it more. Most boys do play chess so it's a great conversation starter and also not only does saying you play chess make you seem smarter, chess does actually make you smarter; chess has been proven to enhance creativity, problem solving, improve power of concentration, develop and expand critical thinking skills, boost memory and retention, and achieve superior academic performance.

No matter what some people say, all-round chess is great. Check you later mate!

Niamh Fahy 5N

*It's always good to end on a pun, and a rhyme?

**Chess Club is on every Wednesday from 4-5pm in Room 5. Anyone welcome

Hockey 2011-2012



"The playoff season is upon us and a number of our teams have reached the knockout stages of their respective competitions."

At the time of writing we are coming to the end of a long and very busy season. The playoff season is upon us and a number of our teams have reached the knockout stages of their respective competitions.

Our Senior As and Bs had difficult seasons, with the As in particular finding the competition in their league section very strong. They began with defeats to Mt Temple, Santa Sabina and Our Ladys Terenure before finishing their league campaign very strongly with a fine display and victory over Loreto Bray in a very close match. The first round of the Senior Cup pitted Cluny against Holy Child Killiney. Our Seniors gave a spirited performance but finished second on the day. A rematch with Our Ladys Terenure in the first round of the Plate resulted in a victory for Terenure again. The Senior Bs also began slowly with defeats to Wesley and Holy Faith Clontarf, before recovering to secure victories over Loreto Bray and St Andrews and narrowly missed out on qualification.

The Senior Cs have qualified from their section with victories over Santa Maria, Alexandra College, Loreto Beaufort and St Andrews and have qualified to meet near neighbours Rathdown in the quarterfinals.

Our two Junior teams are having very good seasons. Both As and Bs have qualified from their sections to the knockout stages, with each having lost just one game. The

As had victories over Santa Sabina, Mt Anville, St Columbas and Jesus and Mary College after a rematch, while the Bs had positive results against John Scottus, Loreto Stephens Green and St Andrews. Captained by Shona Duignan and

Niamh Plunkett – we wish them well in the knock out stages.

The Junior Cup matched Cluny with a very strong High School team. In a very impressive display the opposition proved too strong for our girls, who nevertheless gave a very brave display which will stand to them in future matches. Entry into the Plate competition resulted in a comprehensive victory over St Raphaelas in the first round.

Our Minor A team had a good season and just missed out on qualification from their league section. They were unlucky not to beat St Andrews in their first game, having dominated possession and scoring first. A lapse in concentration allowed St Andrews to score and the game finished in a 1-1 draw. Victories over Loreto Stephens Green and Notre Dame followed, along with a closely contested game with Loreto Foxrock which ended in a draw.

The Minor Cup matched Cluny with The Kings Hospital, in a game played with great spirit by both teams. Cluny unfortunately failed to score and lost by a single goal. Their entry into the Plate saw them convincingly beat St Raphaelas before coming second to Rathdown in the quarterfinal.

The Minor Bs began the season very well, showing great enthusiasm and commitment. A very positive display against St Gerards saw them narrowly defeated in a well contested game. Luck was not on their side in their matches, as they came so close on so many occasions but narrowly failed to close out the games. However their enthusiasm and positivity will no doubt ensure they get the results in future games.

Continued on page 25



Hockey Continued

The First Year players showed a lot of potential throughout the season with some excellent team and individual displays – notably Julia Buckley, Lauren Murray and Hannah O'Neill who also subbed up to Minor level. Starting their league against Mt Temple, our girls were very unlucky not to score. With numerous shots on goal, they were met with an inspired goalkeeping display from the opposition goalkeeper which resulted in a 0-0 stalemate. A fine victory over Newpark was followed by a closely contested match with a strong Mt Anville

team, who ran out narrow winners on the day.

Our First Year Bs also had some good results, notably against St Columbas and East Glendalough where they were deserved winners.

So far this season we have played over seventy five matches, most of which are played on Saturdays. Thanks to the players and the coaches - Ms Murphy and Ms Somers for their effort and commitment.

Ms M Seymour

"We were shown loads of cool super-interesting experiments, from light to radiation, velocity, electricity and even nuclear physics."

Leaving Certificate Physics Trip

On a glorious crisp January morning both Fifth and Sixth Year Physics classes set off to NUI Maynooth for an experimental physics day. We were shown loads of cool super interesting experiments, from light to radiation, velocity, electricity and even nuclear physics. We spent a good bit of our time in the dark room for the spectacular spectrometer experiment. If there's any-

thing we love more than physics You-Tube videos, it is light experiments in the dark. (Lunch was rather nutritious, ala Supermacs/McDonalds). We quickly got to grips with the enormous size of the Maynooth campus and our day concluded back on the bus.

by Fifth Years – Alana, Anastasia, Heather, Eleanor, Niamh, Nicole and Siobhan.





"The Crème Egg Cup will be played against schools in the area so good luck to the girls"



Badminton

The Badminton season is well under way and with competitions held locally in Dublin and in Leinster, it's a busy schedule for all the girls..

In January this year a competition was held in Loreto, Bray with Cluny U14's (1st years and 2nd years) playing against St.Raphaels, Stillorgan and Loreto, Bray.

Considering some of the girls only started playing badminton in September last year they did really well to come 2nd. Well done to:

Mia Kenny	Jane Byrne
Toyah Hunt	Bronagh Stapleton
Sophie Forsyth	Sarah Garvey
Maeve McElree	Alison Rae



Back in October, Cluny entered the Dublin League. If a school wins this they qualify for the Leinster League. This year for the second year running our U19a's Div 2 got through to the Leinster League finals. The girls played really well in their matches but the decider match came to a draw and the girls were beaten into 3rd place by St.Vincent's school, Dundalk.

So well done to Jennifer Crotty, Jennifer Campbell, Aisling Ahern, Karen



Killeen and sub on the day, Lauren Coleman.

19C's Div 3 got through to semi-finals in Dublin League so well done Orlaith Kennifick, Orlaith Loy, Eleanor McSweeney and Ciara Loy. They were beaten by High School, Rathgar who went on to win the Dublin league Div 3.

Our U16A's Div 3 got through to their semi-finals this year but because they are a young team, it was tough against older girls in their division but was a great experience and they will come back stronger and keener next year.

Well done girls, Ciara Crotty, Becky Hackett, Kate Doorly and Gemma Lynch.

Our U14's are through to semi-finals in Dublin and will play in February, so good luck to the girls, Hannah McSweeney, Hannah Foster Ryan, Robyn Magennis and Ciara McGuirk.



With Easter just around the corner The Crème Egg Cup will be played against schools in the area so good luck to the girls who will represent St. Joseph of Cluny in this competition.

Ms.Kelly

Basketball News March 2012

WELL DONE TO CLUNY'S SENIOR A CUP TEAM FOR MAKING IT TO THE SEMI-FINAL OF THE "B" NATIONAL CUP. The team made it in to two finals this year; the East Region Final against Loreto Dalkey & the South Dublin League Final, against Loreto Dalkey again. The team were knocked out of the cup by the winning team from St. Mary's Castleblaney. They are now turning out to be Cluny's Bogey team. It was Blaney who defeated Cluny in the 2001 cup final out in the National Basketball Arena. At least the team can have some feel good factor being knocked out of the competition by the winning school. Castleblaney defeated Ursline St. Angelas from Waterford. We look forward to next year!

SENIOR CUP TEAM:

Aoife Boylan	(Capt.)
Ciara O' Dowd	(Capt.)
Ruth Slamon	Nicole Dunne
Sarah Gaynor	Aisling Matthews
Melanie Hogan	Lauren Flannagan
Emma Lennon	Orla Schutte
Fiona Craddock	Kim Plenderlieth
Jemma Matthews	

WELL DONE TO ALL OF THE PLAYERS IN REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL!!!!

MARCH MADNESS FOR 2ND YEAR JUNIOR A TEAM & 1ST YEAR TEAM

Very good start for the junior A team and 1st yr. A team at present. Both are undefeated with one league match to go against Portmar-nock Community School so all to play for. We have mixed results with the Junior B and Junior C teams. With a bit of luck both or one of them could make it in to the semi-finals of the South Dublin League. The 1st yr. Minor B team are just below 500. With a 2 wins—3 losses with two matches remaining in their section. Well done to all, keep up the (ED) E-Effort D-Desire! Those are two things we should not be lacking in!

CONGRADULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR TWO CLUNY STUDENTS WHO PLAY BASKETBALL BUT ALSO PLAY GAELIC FOOTBALL AS WELL.

Hannah Foster-Ryan 2nd yr. & Julia Buckley 1st yr. Made the Dublin U/14 team and embark on what could be a long career as County players for Dublin. They follow in the footsteps of other Cluny Alumni such as Amy Ring, Sr. member of the current Dublin Ladies team, and Amy Connolly now in her third year on Scholarship in UCD. Amy is also in the Dublin panel and plays for UCD College team. Well done to Hannah and Julia. We are proud of you and wish success in this years Championship.
Ed Randolph.

"At least the team can have some feel good factor being knocked out of the competition by the winning school."



Hannah Foster-Ryan and Julia Buckley lifting the Sam Maguire Cup



"What a sense of achievement when you get that dance right, that song soaring, your poster on view, your set complete"

Musical Hairspray—taken from Programme

Musical Memories 2012

Once more we bring you our annual musical under the guidance and encouragement of our principal Ms White, in her belief that it is a crucial event in every Cluny student's education.

So many hours of planning, preparation, talents and skills have gone in to give you tonight's performance!! The rehearsal of the songs, dances and acting in the past months with colleagues Helen, Debbie and Sandra has been arduous but very rewarding.

We aim to give as many students as possible, of the 90 involved, an opportunity to shine both on and off stage - and there have been so many opportunities for those who took on the challenge!!

On stage - singing, dancing and acting, of course - but just as importantly, behind the scenes students beavered away on:

- Art work – painting sets and posters
- Costume organisation of over 200 costumes
- Social Committee organising presentations for our final night
- Promotion - advertising and selling tickets – essential to cover our costs
- Programme Preparation
- Stage management by 5th Years

What a sense of achievement when you get that dance right, that song soaring, your poster on view, your set complete.....your contribution to our communal endeavour!

Hairspray has been a truly educational experience which I know the 4th Years will remember with delight in the years ahead. It has been a pleasure to interact with the many talented, committed, delightful and noisy students in bringing our musical from the dull page to vibrant stage show. A comment that you were 'an obliging and enthusiastic lot' sums it up, but also

memorable was your kindness and support for each other.

Hairspray at first glance appears to be light and fluffy but its message is deep, meaningful and life changing – Diversity Rules OK!!! So go on stage and – **BRING IT TO LIFE!**

As I arrived for last Sunday's final student rehearsal it struck me that this was the 21st year we had gathered for the same event - the culmination of all the efforts - the bringing all the elements of our show together! The preparation process has changed and developed over the years and we are very proud of the standards we have achieved in our productions.

A 'core' production team have journeyed with me over many of these years - through *Fiddler*, *the Sound of Music*, *Grease*, *High School Musical*

.....
Martina Greaves is our longest serving team member - overseeing make up for 15 years. This year was particularly challenging so Gay Byrne (only ten years in action) and herself arranged a workshop for the girls to get that 60s makeup look and those buffant hairstyles!

Their dedication, together with Mary Dalton and Janet O'Doherty, in the area of costumes, to making sure every girl looks her very best on stage is done with amazing kindness, sensitivity and resourcefulness – Mary needs another dress; A gold belt to transform Velma's outfits; Our Edna's magnificent hat made its debut many years ago in *Anything Goes*, courtesy of a pink feather duster! Stephanie looks after 'our boys'. Always generous with her time and transport – the number of mornings we have travelled back and forth to our costume source in Blanchardstown! The result of their work this year, as usual, is a glorious riot of colour, at minimum expense.

On Sunday, new posters, printed and waiting to be distributed – reminded me of Annette and her pivotal role over the years in the whole undertaking – posters and tickets designed and sold, letters to other schools, programmes prepared etc.. etc.. etc.. and always with a smile!

Martin, Ed and Joe are also long term essential members of the production



Hairspray continued



team - witness our Corny Collins Show sign erected on high, our flats and backdrop in perfect position. Maura Seymour, quietly and very efficiently co-ordinates the vast duties at Front of House.

Michael Casey, our pianist, rescued us from disaster 15 years ago when our musical director became ill and hasn't managed to escape since then.. His musical expertise and dedication is invaluable.

Without the generous practical and moral support of this long serving core team and the new members who join us each year – Denise French on sets, Rebecca Higgins on make-up, Aoife Richardson and Ciara O'Connor on costumes this year and of course the large body of parents who help out in so many other areas the task of producing a successful show would be impossible.

Mrs Burke, Musical Director

*"Auditions
were intense
and there were
a lot of hidden
talents waiting
to be
discovered."*

Hairspray—An Experience to Remember!

We all waited in anticipation to find out what our musical was going to be. When we were told we were going to be performing the outstanding Hairspray, we were ecstatic! We had not expected or even dreamt of doing a show that we all knew so well! There was no slacking from day one. We were all taught a dance and given a song to sing and participated in an acting workshop, in anticipation of finding who our main characters were going to be and who was going to belong to the groups A, B and C.

It was easy to see that there was a huge variety of talents in fourth year. Auditions were intense and there were a lot of hidden talents waiting to be discovered. I found it brought our year closer, as although the majority of the year wanted a part in the play, everyone was encouraged.

When we found out who were the main parts everyone was thrilled for the soon to be famous girls! We all split up into our groups and began to learn our dances from Debbie a dancer and professional choreographer. She came up with the dances and even took into consideration some of our suggestions. We learnt all of the songs and harmonies from Ms. Mahon who always made us laugh and was such a pleasure to work with. She always had a smile on her

face, even if things were not going according to plan! Ms Burke oversaw everything that was going on and made sure that all ran smoothly.

We each signed up to a different task for the musical. We could sell the tickets, design the booklet, design the backdrop, and help with the costumes and many more. I chose art along with a handful of girls and we came in during the mid-term. With the help of Denise French, we designed and painted the backdrop and sides of the stage. I learned a lot about team work and how to make different designs using basic things!

We are now putting the dancing routines and singing together. Acting rehearsals continue every Sunday. Everything is going well, apart from the odd mistake. It

looks as though Hairspray is going to be a play worth remembering for a very long time. Well done girls!!

Sarah
Lynam, TY.



Hairspray—My Hairspray Experience

On a Wednesday afternoon in mid-October last year, word went round amongst the guys that there were auditions for a school musical called 'Hairspray' in St. Joseph of Cluny. I have to admit that I had never heard of Hairspray until then. It goes without saying, of course, that I had heard of Cluny. Naturally, it was our interest in the arts that prompted my friends and me to sign up.

A few weeks later, I received word that I had been cast in the role of Edna, Tracy's kind, plus-sized mother. I was quite surprised, because, let's face it, it's not every day that one is cast as a middle-aged, overweight laundress. "Oh, you're perfect for the role!" some would say. Well thanks for the compliment...

As the casting settled down, we found, in addition to the Cluny driving force, Gonzaga, CBC Monkstown, Coláiste Eoin, St. Brendan's, and Clonkeen College also had some representation. Some might say that this had been a clever marketing ploy.

Then the work began in earnest. We practised singing on Wednesday evenings and rehearsed different scenes on Sunday nights. As a group of people, we really seemed to click, and we found that the harder we worked, the more fun we had, which is always a good recipe for success. This was due in no small part to the great direction, "patience", and encouragement of Mrs. Irene Burke. Etched on our memories will

be the Record Shop scene, practised a mere 8,315 times, and the girls being taught to lengthen their screaming (like they needed that).

Ms. Helen Mahon was tireless in her efforts in teaching us how to sing, and we will be forever indebted to her for her instruction on how to pronounce the letter "t". We enjoyed the benefit of Ms. Debbie Kiernan's genius dance moves and expert teaching. Amongst her successes was the transformation of two uncoordinated awkward teenage males into an uncoordinated middle-age husband and wife.

We came to appreciate, as I suspect people only really do when they participate in a show, the extent to which the "behind the scenes" costume & set designers and wider stage crew are critical to the "front of house" experience.

It's been a great few months, and on behalf of all the guys, I'd like to say a sincere thanks to all the Cluny girls for bringing us into their show and being such brilliant craic. Thank you to all the parents who dropped and collected us all through the winter months. I hope you especially, along with the rest of the audience, enjoy the show. I'm sure my own parents relish in the thought of seeing their eldest son cross-dressing and wearing make-up.

Enjoy the show, folks!

Barry Mulvey

"...the transformation of two uncoordinated awkward teenage males into an uncoordinated middle-age husband and wife."





St. Joseph of Cluny S.S.

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3rd Year Parents & Students

TY Information Evening

Wed. 25th April @ 7.30p.m.

TY Presentation Ceremony

Thursday 10th May 2012

Junior Prizegiving Ceremony

Tuesday 15th May 2012

Senior Prizegiving Ceremony

Thursday 17th May 2012

6th Year Graduation Mass

Thursday 24th May 2012

Arnotts

Uniform Sales Day in Cluny

Tuesday May 22nd 10-3.30p.m.

**Uniforms will be available to Buy in the school
on this date.**

**Arnotts Online: [http://www.arnotts.ie/
categories/Uniforms/200500](http://www.arnotts.ie/categories/Uniforms/200500)**

