



St. Joseph of Cluny



Summer Newsletter 2012

ISSUE III

JUNE 2012

SPECIAL POINTS OF IN- TEREST

- PRIZEGIVING HIGHLIGHTS
- GAISCE AWARDS
- JUNIOR CERT HOME ECONOMICS
- GRIFFITH COLLEGE FASHION REINVENT AWARDS
- SPORTS UPDATES

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Senior Prizegiving 2012



Top: L-R: Ms. Mary White, Principal, presenting awards to Head Girl and Senior Linguist Aisling Murphy, Deputy Head Girl Anna Thorp and Outstanding Senior Student Niamh O'Hanrahan.

Róisín Ingles Writer, Journalist and Guest of Honour presenting awards to Emma Crotty Senior Sportsperson of the Year, Katie Wolahan Senior Music Award Winner, Sr. Evangelist presenting her Award to Melanie Hogan and Eleanor McSweeney receiving the Sr. Dolores Memorial Award from Róisín Ingles. Well done to all the Award Recipients on the night.

Junior, TY and Sports Prizegiving Highlights



**Junior
Sports-
person of
the Year
Sophie
Grehan**



**Junior Cert
2011
Highest
Achiever
Ayodele
Arogun-
dade**

**Kate Doorly
Outstanding
Junior Student**



**Rebecca
Dunne TY
Dillon Cup
Winner**



**Junior
Linguist
2012 Ciara
McKeown**



**TY
Achieve-
ment
Folder
Winner
Sarah
Lynam**



**Mark Kenneally Marathon Runner in London Olym-
pics 2012 presented the Cluny Sports Awards to
our Champions!**



**Bank of
Ireland TY
Enterprise
Student of
the Year
Award to
O r l a
Cryan and
Ellen
O'Connor**





Ms. Mary White,
Principal

*I would like to
wish all of our
students, parents
and school staff
a happy and
enjoyable summer break.*

From the Principal's Desk

Hello everyone. I was reminded again in recent days of the turn of the year and that

*There is a time for everything
And a season for every activity under
heaven.*

The season of concluding ceremonies, final preparations, end-of-term activities and goodbyes came upon us very quickly this month. Although not planned that way, the month of May ended up being somewhat frantic this year. Now that the house exams have finished, the lockers have been emptied and the end of term has arrived, I would like to wish all of our students, parents and school staff a happy and enjoyable summer break.

We were rewarded with beautiful weather for some brief days at the end of term and we basked in unexpected sunshine for Sports Day and for the Sixth Years Graduation Day. The cold days of April and May were probably a blessing in disguise for exam students though! I wish all of our Sixth years and Third years well in their exams and hope they have a thoroughly enjoyable summer at the end of June. It has been a long year of preparation and study for the girls. I hope all of our exam students are rewarded with exam papers that they are pleased with and that will allow them to display their knowledge to the full.

End of term

As you are all probably aware all of the end of term ceremonies this year were conducted against the backdrop of a whole school inspection of the school conducted by the D.E.S. Inspectorate. Even with all of the preparations for the inspector underway we had nonetheless some very enjoyable end of term ceremonies. Sports Day was a glorious day on 21st May complete with great costumes from the Sixth Years again this year with ice-cream sales in aid of Down Syndrome

Ireland. Our guest for Sports prize giving that afternoon was Mr. Mark Kenneally, Irelands only Marathon event qualifier for the London Olympics this year. His account of his present training schedule was pretty awesome and the line up of African runners, and the Kenyans in particular, are the ones to watch, it would seem. Ms Seymour and Mr Randolph were well pleased with the day.



We also had a very enjoyable graduation with the Sixth Years on 24 May and many thanks to the Parents Association, Mrs Bernie Power and all of the parents who sent in items for the lunch. It was a great treat to have the time to sit down with the girls. They bid an emotional farewell to the rest of the school that morning, with a mix of songs and good-byes to the younger classes and we had a wonderful Graduation Mass that evening. Many thanks to the Sixth Year Graduation Committee, the Senior Prefects and members of the Parents Association Committee who gave up their time to make the whole day a wonderful occasion. Special thanks to Mrs Galvin for the beautiful graduation cake and to Mrs Goulding for the beautiful graduation cup cakes and all the mums who contributed confectionary. Special thanks to Mrs Janet O Doherty Chairperson and Mrs Paula Crotty Hon Sec of the Parents Association for their work this year. It was a notable year for great guest speakers organised by the Association including Fr. Peter McVerry and



From the Principal's Desk continued



L-R: Deputy Head Girl Anna Thorp and Head girl Aisling Murphy

We all wish our Sixth Years wonderful success in the future as they all enter the next exciting phase of their lives.



Roisin Ingle & Aisling Murphy

Brent Pope and some great evenings that the girls really benefitted from including the Careers Evening. Special thanks also to Head Girl Aisling Murphy and Deputy Head Girl Anna Thorp for all the work and the fundraising during the year. They were both excellent role models and represented the general student body so well at all times. We all wish our Sixth Years wonderful success in the future as they all enter the next exciting phase of their lives.

Prize giving Ceremonies

Our guest presenter at Senior Prize giving was Irish Times journalist Ms. Roisin Ingle. She was very warmly received by the Fifth and Sixth years. All of the Sixth years for the first time received a newly designed Cluny Killiney Graduation Medal which has been uniquely designed for the school and was presented at this prizegiving ceremony. We had some beautiful music from the choir and orchestra conducted by Ms. Helen Mahon. Congrats are due to Outstanding Senior Student Niamh O'Hanrahan 6N, Sr. Dolores Memorial winner Eleanor Mc Sweeney 5L and at our Junior ceremony that afternoon our Outstanding Junior

Student was Kate Doorly 3Y. Our Senior Linguist this year was Aisling Murphy 6N. The Sr. Evangelist Award winner was Melanie Hogan 6N and congrats to our Senior Sports-person of the Year Emma Crotty 5L and Junior Sports-person of the Year Sophie Grehan 3W.

As always we look forward to the Fifth Years assuming their leadership roles next year following on from great example set by the Fifth year House captains during the year. Congrats to our newly elected Head Girl Katie O Byrne 5L and Deputy Head Girl

Laura Spain 5C. We are all looking forward to their senior year and their leadership roles next year.

Whole School Inspection

The D.E.S programme of whole school inspection began about ten years ago and has been visited on most post primary schools at this point including our neighbouring schools, so it wasn't wholly unexpected that an inspection was announced for Cluny by the Inspectorate during the month of May this term. The whole school inspection process is in fact a very intensive examination of the workings of each post primary school, an examination of the management of the school and of the quality of the teaching and learning operating there. Two inspectors visited Killiney spanning a two week period in May and met with the Board of Management, representatives of the Parents Association as well as the teaching Staff Principal and Deputy Principal and representatives of the student body. The parents of Fifth and Second Year students were also asked to participate in a questionnaire organised by the inspectorate.

Many thanks to all parents who were involved for your assistance during the inspection process either at meetings or by returning surveys etc. The girls, as always, were exemplary during the whole process and we were very proud of them all, whether it was in their enthusiastic participation in class or by their participation at various meetings that were specially convened to meet with students.

It proved to be an intensive but also a very rewarding experience for the school community. The report will be published in September and will be available on the D.E.S. website. While not wishing to preempt the published report, the verbal report back was excellent and was a ringing endorsement of the quality of the

From the Principal's Desk continued

educational experience that we are so proud to be a part of in Cluny. The Inspectors singled out for praise the quality of relationships and interaction between students and teachers in the classroom: the excellent classroom practices observed and the variety and high quality of teaching and learning methodologies used, including the incorporation of ICT in lessons. The inspectors praised excellent systems that have been established in the school and singled out for praise were the workings of the Board, the Parents Association and the Student Council. The inspection process endorsed Cluny as a school that is well equipped to meet all of the educational challenges of the present and the future.

Astroturf development

This term we were pleased to learn that our application for planning with regard to the Astroturf development has finally been approved by DLRCC, with some minor adjustments only to the lighting plans. We have learned since that an appeal has been lodged to An Bord Pleanála in relation to drainage. The Architects are confident that all appropriate attenuation has been undertaken in the plans for the Astroturf development and in relation to the plans for the new traffic management system on the grounds. We are still hopeful that tendering for the pitch will take place in the spring of 2013 with completion that autumn. The build should take about 6 months in total. We continue to look forward to positive developments next year with regards to the plans and to the addition of this wonderful sports facility to the grounds of the school.



The Board and School Finance

The Board of Management has approved a modest fee increase for next year of €150, bringing the fee total to €4,100 for 2012-2013. The Board

regrets having to make a fee increase, which it has not undertaken for the last 3 years. Unfortunately recent increases in education and other costs have made it unavoidable. The national Budget announced in December 2012 saw the pupil/teacher ratio increase by a further point for fee paying schools. The net effect for fee paying schools of the increase in the pupil/teacher ratio -which has increased 4 times since 2009-is that we have no choice now but to increase the fees if we wish to maintain our present staffing levels and also the number of teaching subjects we offer presently. Added to this will be the cost of the new Astroturf sports facility, which will hopefully come on line next year but must be paid for entirely from school funds.

The Board hopes that parents will appreciate that the school continues to offer a quality educational environment at a competitive fee level.

Library Events

We hope you continue to enjoy Ms. Dillon's new Library Newsletter and the launch of the new Library logo thanks to Amy McRedmond 4L. Ms. Dillon has had a great year with many fine events having taken place in the Library with our First Years featuring very significantly in the presentations. There were some excellent presentations from visiting speakers also, including the photographic presentation of the Titanic dive by Irish diver Rory Golden. The most popular library book of the year was undoubtedly 'The Hunger Games'. We were lucky to have had several copies in the Library but they were constantly in demand and a constant appeal was made at school Assemblies to return copies of the book! It would be great to see the same happen every year!

Final Farewell

The Board of Management sends their congratulations and good wishes to two members of the teaching staff who are retiring this summer i.e. Mrs Brenda Mc Nulty and Mrs Dympna Smyth. Mrs Mc Nulty has had a long association with Art and R.E. in the school and her art displays in the school foyer of the students' work were always a joy to behold and were of an extraordinary standard. She has inspired many



NEW BOOK
NEW WORLD
ST JOSEPH OF CLUNY LIBRARY

New Library Logo

From the Principal's Desk continued



Retirements
Top L-R: Ms. White, Mrs. Smyth & Mrs. Lambert

Side L-R: Ms. White & Mrs. McNulty



The Board and the school Community wishes both Mrs McNulty and Mrs Smyth a long and happy retirement.

students to continue with Art into Third level. Mrs Dymrna Smyth had an equally long association with Business and Enterprise Education in the school and annually she has regularly had prize winning students in receipt of Business and Enterprise awards at our school Prizegiving ceremonies. She has always been a kind and popular Year Head and was First Year Yr. Head this year. In both cases these teachers have shown extraordinary commitment to the development of their subjects in the school. The Board and the school Community wishes both Mrs McNulty and Mrs Smyth a long and happy retirement.

Some acknowledgements from Senior Prizegiving

I would like to include finally some of the acknowledgements I made at the Prizegiving ceremonies this month in relation to students who excelled in one way or another this year.

"In the academic area we had excellent Leaving Cert and Junior Cert results this year. Our Highest Achiever for Leaving Cert 2011 was Caoimhe Basquille who is on route to study medicine next year and who remained throughout her years in school an extraordinary athlete and gymnast. Four of last year's Sixth Years received Entrance Exhibition Awards from Trinity. Another Entrance award recipient received the award

from Maynooth to create a first for Cluny from this university and it's great to have two of our past pupils selecting Maynooth and opting to live on campus this year. In march, three more of this group received

entrance exhibition awards from U.C.D. No pressure Sixth years!

This year our senior students achieved distinctions in a number of areas i.e. In the Soroptimist International Public Speaking Competition for girls the participants in the qualifying round were Aideen Cooney, Aisling Murphy and Katie Wolahan with Katie selected for the finals in Kildare. Fifth Years were invited to participate in the model European parliament in Dublin Castle including Katie O Byrne, Eleanor Mc Sweeney and Megan Ross. Fiona Craddock and Megan Ross and with the help of Eleanor O Mahony competed in the Leinster Schools Debates. The Concern debaters advanced through four rounds of the competition and they were Sadbh Fisson- Roche; Aine Flanagan and Niamh Casey and the Fifth Years also competed successfully in schools debates recently against CBC and Clonkeen College. Congrats to your hard working teachers Mr. Byrne and Ms. McEvoy.

The Fifth Years had a wonderful tour to Italy and the sights of Venice and Lake Garda in October. Congratulations to Mr. Hartigan and Mr. Browne who organised it. Two Fifth years were successful in the 2011 Concern Essay writing Competition – Sarah McNabb and Niamh Fahy

In Hockey over 80 league matches were played this season with some of our teams having very successful runs. Congrats this evening to the Senior B's reaching League quarterfinal stage. In Basketball, congratulations to our League Finalists, the Senior A team. The Senior A team had a wonderful fighting spirit and were finalists in the South Dublin Leagues, the Dublin/Leinster League and were semi finalists in the National Cup. This team did not give up and I commend you all especially as many of you were in



From the Principal's Desk continued

Sixth Year and you kept that determined fighting spirit going through the year. Badminton had another good year. I have to mention the U-19 team. For the second time in a row this team have won the Dublin League. The last time this happened was in 2003. They also came third in the Leinster finals. Special congrats as it is their final year to Jennifer Crotty, Aisling Ahern, Jennifer Campbell and Karen Killeen. Congrats also to Lauren Coleman who stood in on the day of the Leinster Final and played a wonderful match. To those of you here this evening who took up the swimming on Monday mornings at 6.30 am and kept up the commitment, good for you! Keep it up! I can see a champion Cluny swimming team forming in the not too distant future.

I would like to commend the choir and orchestra who continue to perform to a very high standard and in saying that I would like to commend Ms. Helen Mahon for a splendid year in taking over the music baton this year i.e. the Musical, the carol service, the liturgical services, the assemblies, the talent shows that she has most generously made herself available to assist with. As always special mention to Mrs Higgins for her continued support of music in the school.



I would like to commend the work of both the Art and Home Ec. teachers again this year and commend the splendid art and craft displays in the foyer always undertaken to a high standard and always items to be proud of.

To the staff I would like to thank you for your dedication to the students here and your skill at ensuring the academic pressure is delivered while also providing collective support and assistance for students in the classroom and in the myriad of activi-

ties I have already referred to. Your genuine interest in the welfare of students, both past and present, your dedication to being progressive in your subjects and your respect for the individuality of each student - either high achieving or struggling a little ensures that the education the girls receive in Cluny compares favourably with the best.

Finally I would draw your attention as I have done before to the words of Indira Gandhi written in 1974 at a time of great transition in India that perhaps has great resonance at the time of uncertainty and change in our own society

"... One of the biggest responsibilities of the educated woman today is how to synthesize what has been valuable and timeless in our ancient traditions with what is good and valuable in modern thought. All that is modern is not good just as all that is old is neither all good nor all bad. We have to decide..almost every week, every month what is coming out that is good and useful to our country and what of the old we must keep and enshrine in our society. To be modern most people think that it is something of a manner of speaking or certain habits and customs but that is not really being modern. It is a very superficial part of modernity" She continues "What we have to have is a thinking public, thinking young women who are willing to listen, analyse and decide what is rightfully accepted. The sort of education which we want is one which enables young people to adjust to this changing world and are able to contribute to it."

To our young women here whatever you decide to become, keep what Indira Gandhi called 'the superficial part of modernity' at arms length, hold on to the values that your education has given you and chart a course that measures your success in terms of your contribution to others.

Congratulations to all our students on their many successes. Good luck to our Sixth Years over the next couple of weeks. Take the exams in your stride. They don't define you. We hope you enjoy the next phase of your education"

M. White.

Gaisce Bronze — The President's Award

Gaisce Trip

This year 57 of our Transition Year group took part in the Bronze Gaisce award. We had to take part in thirteen weeks of a Personal Skill, Community Involvement and Physical Recreation and one of these had to be for twenty-six weeks. We also had to take part in an Adventure Journey. For our adventure journey, we undertook a 25km hike which we had to help organise. Ms. Wolohan, our President Award Leader (PAL), organised a trip to Glendalough for two days and one night.

We all got on the bus on the 4th May 2012 along with a few Fifth Years and some of our teachers. It took an hour to get there and when we did, we sorted out the rooms and put our bags away and then went for our first hike. We did 10km the first day and it was extremely exhausting but when we got to the top, it was worth the pain. The view was amazing and we saw deer running along the mountain top. The feeling of accomplishment

was great and some would have continued on but we were all very excited to go back to the hostel to relax and eat.

We went on our second hike the next day which was 15km. It was the single most exhausting experience of my life but the views were even more incredible than the day before. Some parts of the walk were fun though. We had a birthday cake for one of the girls and sang happy birthday. We walked through a beautiful forest at the end of our walk, and it was a great way to end the trip. When we returned to the hostel, we got our suitcases and got on the bus and returned to the school. We were all exhausted but it was a very memorable and fun trip. It gave us a chance to get to know each other better. We all had a great sense of accomplishment, from both completing our bronze Gaisce Award and surviving a 25km hike!

By Lisa Holland

We all had a great sense of accomplishment, from both completing our bronze Gaisce Award and surviving a 25km hike!



Gaisce Silver—President's Award

Last year we did the Bronze Gaisce: 25 kilometres over two days. We endured blisters and a horrible hostel manager, all to an amusing and enjoyable end. I had been looking forward to our Silver Gaisce hike for weeks beforehand. The number of our year going on the hike had been considerably depleted in comparison to last years gang of thirty something. We were left drowning in a sea of fourth years or “the bronzes” as they were referred to, with three of them for every one of us.

My excitement fizzled a bit when I saw the skies on the Friday that we were due to set out. Grey clouds blanketed the heavens with the forecasted rain lurking and threatening to pour down on us. Out of the bags came the t-shirts and shorts, and raincoats, gators, waterproof trousers and ponchos (all though I'm pretty sure that last one was just me!) took their place.

We got out of class fifteen minutes early on Friday to change into our walking gear, and were on the buses to Glendalough within twenty minutes. An hour and a half later we arrived at the Glendalough hostel. We ran to our rooms, everyone flinging their bags on beds, fighting for the best ones.

Then we started walking. Us “silvers” were easily identifiable by our more drab and durable outfits, a stark contrast to some of less experienced hikers fluorescent pink ensembles. We walked 10 kilometres that day and through some miracle it stayed dry. Everyone was relieved to get back to the hostel and feast on the chicken pasta(silvers) or curry (bronzes) that had been prepared for us.

For the silvers anyway, it was an early night, 1am sounds about right. Well it seemed early at the time! We were up the next morning and rearing to go, and out of the door by 11, a not so surprising reduction of pink being worn by the fourth years. We climbed the Spinc that day, covering twenty kilometres in 5 hours.

When we reached the top of the mountain we were overjoyed to see the hostel, just a small yellow speck but definitely visible. Then the trail

turned away from the hostel and we learnt that we weren't even halfway there, the groans of disappointment were deafening. We finally arrived back at the hostel, the fourth years departing promptly for civilization and us, left to take inventory of our war wounds and prepare for the final 20 kilometres the next day.

The azure skies we saw briefly the previous day disappeared under a light shower of rain that day which seemed to match our lethargic moods and sore feet. Everything seemed brighter by lunch, though perhaps that was because we pretty much ate our weight in sugar. But it definitely had brightened up and by the time we plopped ourselves onto the carpark ground in a scout camp in Lough Dan, slightly delayed by our attempts to carve our initials into a tree (we failed) and an impromptu photoshoot.

*Sore
muscles
aside we
had an
absolute
blast!*

When we got on the bus our cravings for tea were smothered and the extra toes we had grown in blisters suddenly weren't so painful. Instead we put our heads back and tried to catch some z's. Sore muscles aside we had an absolute blast! We had all our exercise done for the weekend and a superb excuse to spend the entirety of the next day sleeping. What more can a girl want? Bring on the gold!

By Emma Crotty 5L



A Visit From France



It was so
interesting to
learn the
differences and
similarities
between the two
Cluny schools.

I was privileged enough to be part of the group of 5th years looking after the French students who visited the school in March. We were very enthusiastic and really learnt a lot from the experience.

With the help of Ms Ryan and Ms Stafford, we were able to keep a class of 2nd years, a dozen 1st years and 30 French girls busy for two days. That certainly kept us busy anyway! After some tea, scones and lots bonding with their Irish pen pals, we split the French students into groups and took them on a tour of the school. It was so interesting to learn the differences and similarities between the two Cluny schools. They were amazed at some of the things we have here: our huge lockers, the two gorgeous kitchens and, of course, the uniforms. We were amazed to find that their school was mixed and they didn't wear a uniform, and they almost spoke better English than we did!

When we got back from the convent, we managed to get a proper céili going with them seeing as it was 'Seachtain na Gaelge'. It really just ended up being a lot of jumping up and down but at least they had a bit of fun. We were running around all afternoon trying to bring our groups to the right classes and make sure no one got lost. Unfortunately, we had to miss a bit of class, we were very upset about this. The French girls had prepared presentations for their pen pals which they gave in the library entirely through English. Our girls were very impressed!

France; it was nice to be able to share our culture with them while they taught us about theirs. They came back the next day for a few more classes and a bilingual table quiz. They were very surprised to see a French 'Harry Potter' round!

A few hundred photos later, it was time for them to leave. We exchanged Facebook names with them so we could keep in touch. It was sad to see them go so soon, although they weren't even our pen pals. We hope they all enjoyed Ireland as much as we enjoyed having them.

Une Visite de la France

J'ai eu la chance d'appartenir au groupe d'élèves de Première qui s'est occupé des françaises qui nous ont rendu visite en mars. Nous étions très enthousiastes et nous avons beaucoup appris de cette expérience.

Avec l'aide de Mme Ryan et de Mme Stafford, nous avons pu occuper une classe de quatrièmes, une douzaine de Cinquièmes et trente françaises pendant deux jours. Cela nous a bien occupé de toute façon! Après un peu de thé, des scones et la création d'amitiés avec leurs correspondantes irlandaises, nous avons divisé les élèves françaises en groupes et nous leur avons fait une visite de l'école. C'était si intéressant d'apprendre les différences et les similarités entre les deux écoles de Cluny. Elles étaient étonnées par les choses que nous avons ici: les casiers immenses, les cuisines et, bien sûr, les uniformes. Nous étions également étonnées par le fait que leur école est mixte et ils ne portent pas d'uniforme, et elles parlaient l'anglais presque mieux que nous!

Quand nous sommes revenues du couvent, nous avons réussi à faire un vrai 'céili' avec eux comme c'était 'Seachtain na Gaelge'. À la fin, on ne faisait que sauter, mais au moins elles se sont amusées. Nous avons couru de partout dans l'après



The visit also coincided with the TY musical so they stayed in the school that evening to see it. We got some sports going outside to keep them occupied beforehand and had dinner ready for them in the cafeteria. They thought the show was incredible. They had never seen anything like that in

A Visit from France—continued

midi en essayant d'emmener nos groupes dans les bonnes classes et de vérifier que personne ne s'était perdu. Malheureusement, on a dû manquer un peu de cours, on en était très déçu. Les françaises avaient préparé des présentations pour leurs correspondantes qu'elles avaient fait dans la bibliothèque entièrement en anglais. Les filles étaient très impressionnées! Leur visite a aussi coïncidé avec la comédie musicale des Secondes donc elles sont restées à l'école cette soirée-la pour la voir. On a fait du sport dehors avec elles et on leur avait préparé à manger à la cantine avant le spectacle. Elles ont trouvé que le spectacle était incroyable. Elles n'avaient jamais rien vu de pareil en France, c'était sympa de pouvoir partager notre culture avec elles pendant qu'elles nous ap-

prenaient la leur. Elles sont revenues le lendemain pour quelques cours de plus et un quiz bilingue. Elles étaient très surprises de voir une manche 'Harry Potter' en français! Quelques centaines de photos plus tard, il était l'heure de nous quitter. Nous avons échangé nos noms pour Facebook pour pouvoir garder le contact. C'était triste de les voir partir, même si elles n'étaient pas censées être nos correspondantes. J'espère qu'elles ont aimé l'Irlande autant que nous avons aimé les recevoir.



Eleanor McSweeney 5L

We Went to a German Library



Thursday dawned grey and gloomy, but nothing could upset the lucky Transition year heading to town for an educational - and fun! - day out with Mrs. Crimmins and Ms. Flaherty-Klapp. Our destination was the Library of the Goethe Institute, a German cultural institute in Dublin since the 1960s.

Books written about Germany, books written in German; it was a hive of information about everything to do with Germany, and beyond. But it wasn't just dusty old books; they had magazines, CDs, and even DVDs for research and interest alike.

Frau Steubel greeted us and led us into a presentation room where she showed us two videos, one about life in Germany and another promoting the German language, which gave us a great taste of what we would be experiencing when we visit Germany in October. We also saw a clip on the Goethe Institute which showed us how important the German language can be in today's economy.

Frau Steubel took us to a room with magazines on display, and then we got taken to the library at last! But if you can't speak German, don't despair! Specially marked books are written in English. Much to everyone's disappointment, we had to skip McDonalds, but we made a compensation pit-stop for a sandwich and a drink.

We were all sorry to be on the DART home, but we'd gained some wonderful memories - and learnt a lot too! The trip was really interesting and showed us how important the German language is and how much it could help us in the future. It also got us even more excited for our trip to Germany later this year. Danke, Frau Flaherty-Klapp!

Amy McRedmond, 4L

Fifth Year—Niamh Casey's Trip to Uganda



Niamh teaching the children in Uganda

Despite their hardships they were the happiest and most energetic group of children I've ever met, all of them so bright and eager to learn.

This Easter I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to travel to Uganda with my auntie and a small English charity she works with called All Our Children that is linked with the town of Kabale, Uganda. After over 24 hours of travelling, we arrived in Rwanda where we spent two nights in a hostel. We visited the Genocide Memorial Museum in Kigali and an old church where 5000 Tutsis were brutally murdered during the genocide that occurred less than 18 years ago. Although this part of the trip was upsetting and quite depressing, it had a significant effect on me and I will never forget it.

We then crossed the border into Kabale, Uganda where I spent the next 2 weeks working with the various projects All Our Children has established there. I spent a few days at Kigezi High School, a very large boarding school with over 1200 students. We worked with the Kigezi teachers to improve their teaching methods and tried to create a better learning environment for the students. I also helped my auntie to run a gender equality workshop for the students, an issue that has been brought up by students on previous visits and we felt it was very successful. I also had a lot of fun getting to know the Kigezi students and found out a lot about their school lives and how difficult it can be for them.

I also worked at the Wise Parents Nursery School, a school for young children set up by the charity four years ago. Every year a number of children are sponsored to attend. As they have essentially no resources, this year we packed our suitcases full of teaching materials and toys for the children. The children were all extremely friendly and welcoming and I had the chance to teach them simple things like the alphabet and how to count.

My favourite part of the entire trip was working at the Restore Lost Hope Street Children Refuge where my auntie was teaching the children English. Their ages ranged from 7 months to 16 years and it was inspiring to see the constant smiles on their faces even though the majority of them are orphans and many have been affected in some way by HIV/AIDS. Each day they performed songs and dances for us with such energy and enthusiasm - astounding for kids living off one meal a day. Despite their hardships they were the happiest and most energetic group of children I've ever met, all of them so bright and eager to learn. On one of the final days we brought all 60 of the street children out for a picnic. It was a day filled with games like Duck, Duck, Goose, team relays and sack races. Such a simple thing yet I'd say it was a day that most of them will remember for the rest of their lives.

The only complaint I had was that two weeks wasn't enough time. I had the experience of a lifetime and met so many wonderful and inspiring people who taught me so much. There was so much to see and do and I've only mentioned half of the projects I had the opportunity to work with. Although at times it could be upsetting or challenging, I enjoyed every minute of it and really believe I am a more humble person because of it. A huge thank you goes out to all the Cluny girls and mums who supported me by coming to my Soup Lunch over Christmas in aid of the trip - I couldn't have done it without you! I would also like to thank Mr. Larkin for giving me the opportunity to give a presentation on my travels to our Religion class which I think everyone enjoyed and thank you to my class for being so receptive and supportive. Hopefully I will be lucky enough to return to Kabale again and help to continue the great work that is being done there.



Junior Cert Practical Home Economics Exam 2012

After weeks and weeks of practice, trying loads of different recipes, some disastrous, most successful, the day had finally arrived. On the 19th of March this year I, along with my Home Economics class completed our Junior Cert Cookery exam which counts for 35% of our overall grade.

We picked our tasks randomly in class a few weeks before the exam. There were seven tasks such as a high fibre dish or biscuits, cakes and cupcakes. I was delighted when I read my task to find I would be baking cupcakes as they truly are my favourite sweet dish!

We all arrived into school bright and early that Thursday morning. I think it is safe to say that the ten of us were shaking with nerves as we frantically made our way into the Home Economics kitchen to begin our preparation. Weighing out ingredients, collecting equipment and mentally preparing ourselves for the long morning ahead of us.

The girls and I were anxious to meet our examiner and we were all delighted when we did, as she was such a friendly lady. She made us feel quite comfortable throughout the entire exam. Everyone had calmed down a bit by the time the exam actually began.

Within the first few minutes of the exam the girls and I had really got into the swing of things and actually began to enjoy ourselves. For my cupcakes I had to have a theme, and I decided to make cupcakes for a wedding, I chose a purple and cream colour scheme, and a raspberry cupcake recipe. I got purple polka dot cupcake cases and decorated the cupcakes with piped buttercream icing, I cut flowers from coloured fondant and put them on top. As well as the baking and cooking we also had to com-

plete an evaluation, all in just an hour and a half.

The time flew by and before we knew it was over. It's safe to assume that our examiner was impressed with all the wonderful dishes that she would be tasting. From Cupcakes to Curry and Scones to Soup, there was a really wide variety of dishes within our class.

After we had finished the exam we left the kitchen so our examiner could do some further evaluating. We all discussed our experience with our teacher Mrs. Wolahan and from what I heard everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience and everything went perfectly!

It is such a relief to know that I have completed 50% of my Home Economics exam between the cookery exam and my craft project. Even though it was one of the most nerve racking things I have ever done, I honestly thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience, when it was over of course. Becky Carroll 3x



Selection
of
Junior
Cert
Projects



TY Culinary Arts Prize-winner meets the 'Kitchen Hero'



The girls got the opportunity to meet the "Kitchen Hero" himself, Donal Skehan and have their cookery books personally signed.

Recently, in an effort to source signed copies of Donal Skehan's latest cookery book as prizes for the best Culinary Arts Journals, we managed to get an invitation to the launch of the book in Dubray Bookshop on Wednesday 16th May 2012. The prizewinning Culinary Arts students are Rebecca Dunne, Aoi-bheann McGuirk, Jess O Sullivan and Grace Morgan. The girls got the opportunity to meet the "Kitchen Hero" himself, Donal Skehan and have their cookery books personally signed.

This young man is a self-taught home cook who started his career with a food blog and within a few short years has become so successful that he now has his own television series running on RTE1 on Monday nights called "Kitchen Hero". Donal Skehan visited the Home Economics Department in Cluny only two years ago ...when he was still relatively new to the media scene. He still fondly remembers his visit to our school and was very charming and socialable when we went along to his book launch.

His newest book, "Donal Skehan-Kitchen Hero-Great Food for Less" is now part of the wonderful collection of Cookery books in our school library and hopefully will be a source of inspiration for all our Home Economics students for many years to come.

Mrs Breda Wolahan and Mrs Deirdre Fahey
Home Economics Department



Light in our Lives Competition Results

Results of the
'Light in our lives'
Photography/picture
Science Competition
Ms. Torpey's Science
Class 1X

Winners :
Caitriona Grant
Mia Kenny
Dearbhla Hanney
Robyn Magennis

Home Economics Junior Cert Craft Project

For our Home Economics Junior Cert Craft project we had to design and make an inexpensive craft item. The choice of item was up to each person but cushions were a popular choice, with a few wall hangings, blankets, an apron and even a bag. There was a great variety of embroidery, applique and patchwork with some very original ideas. Once we decided on our craft and sketched our final design we had to get the material required. Some of us recycled fabrics to keep costs down. We had to be sure to keep receipts and samples of threads and fabrics to put in our design brief folder. We then had 8 weeks to complete the item. Most of the work was done in class but we could do some hand stitching and embroidery at home. It was actually a lot of work and the deadline for finishing came around really quickly. Throughout the time we had to record all the details in our design brief folder. This had to include our ideas, designs, samples of thread, materials, stitches,

details of techniques we had learned, the equipment we used and the costing. The design folder is handed up for marking along with the finished craft so it was important to present it nicely.

This was probably the first complete item I made from concept to design right through to finished item. There is something very satisfying in seeing the finished item knowing that you are completely responsible for it. I am looking forward to getting the project back after the exam and being able to use it.

Anne O Grady

Selection of Junior Cert Projects



My Patchwork Blanket

For my Junior Cert Home Economics project I made a patchwork blanket. At the start of the year I was very nervous about doing the craft project. Thinking back now I have no idea why I was as I had so much fun making my blanket.

When we first started making the craft project there was the all-important job of deciding what fabric and colours we were going to use. I don't know if it was the same for everyone else, but for me it was a grueling job. Trying to figure out what colour patches to use and what colour felt from the never ending rainbow of colours. Finally in the end I settled on pink and white. Making the craft was easier than I had expected. We made out a time plan which we followed closely to ensure we were fin-

ished on time. We made the patterns, cut out the fabrics, pinned and tacked, machine sewed, embroidered and before we knew it we were putting the finishing touches on our crafts 8 weeks later. In the end we had an array of cushions, blankets and wall hangings. All of them looked amazing. I had so much fun making my patchwork blanket and I hope that next year's 3rd years have just as much fun as we did.

Amy Lambert



Pimp My Room



Bedroom Designs

This year in Home Economics the three second year classes completed an interior design project. Their task was to design a bedroom for a teenage girl which was suitable for sleeping, studying, hobbies and storage. There was a prize for the winner and runner up in each class and everyone wanted to win. There was an option of either making a 3 dimensional room using a shoe box or presenting the information on an ideas board. A floor plan of the room had to be drawn in graph paper and then a colour scheme decided on. Actual paints/wallpapers, different floor coverings and fabrics were used to decorate the rooms. Energy efficiency had

to be considered. Ideas were researched by looking up catalogues such as Argos and Ikea and interior design magazines, visiting shops such as Woodies, Ikea and Hickeys Home Focus. A lot of hard work went into everyone's room and judging the winners was a difficult task for the teachers. A lot was learned about wall coverings, floor coverings, lighting and heating. The lucky prize winners were Kate Whelan, Emma Duggan, Megan O Toole, Niamh Kavanagh, Ciara Young and Sophie Forsyth. Congratulations and enjoy the prize!



*"...we begged
Anthony and
Howard to come
back the following
week"*

Learn to Earn—TY Enterprise

As part of enterprise this year, we had a number of speakers in as part of the "Junior Achievement" Program. On a Monday morning, Anthony and Howard from Bank of Ireland in Dun Laoghaire came in to us to give us lessons. They taught us about fraud and identity theft, how to make wise financial choices, how to recognise the importance of money in achieving

personal goals as well as finding out how to prepare ourselves against financial difficulties. We learned these things not only from a workbook, but also from board games.

We really enjoyed the 6 week programme and the boys coming in to us every Monday morning. We learnt a lot through this programme and had great fun doing it. We were all sad when the pro-



gramme ended and we begged Anthony and Howard to come back the following week. But unfortunately, they declined our invitation.

Louise Burne 4L



Junior Achievement Success Skills Programme

Our Enterprise Education class recently completed an eight-week Junior Achievement Success Skills Programme. It couldn't have been done at a better time than in Transition Year as it is at this time that we all like to think that we're grown up enough to start earning our own money and are tough enough to enter the big bad world of work when really, we can't even deal with our homework let alone working for someone else. Thankfully, the programme included lessons on effective communication, teamwork, CV preparation and interview skills. Ms Ciara O'Dowd from MasterCard delivered the programme.

The first few weeks were spent honing our communication skills- both verbal and non-verbal. We participated in role plays where we had to guess what kind of situation the budding thespians in the class were acting out by just using their body language. Amazingly, it was easy to guess because apparently 93% of our daily communication is non-verbal and only 7% is verbal! You don't even have to open your mouth before others know what you're thinking! I don't know about anyone else, but I personally love doing personality tests and things alike so when we were given a career interest inventory to complete, I was keen to find out what the future held for me career wise! In the end, I turned out to be an artist, an enterpriser, or an investigator meaning I could easily end up being a photographer, a lawyer or a surgeon...

Who knows? One thing's for sure though (those who know me can probably vouch for this) - I am not a 'doer'. I got a big fat ZERO under that category so I can kiss my dreams of being an air traffic controller goodbye. I'm apparently not much of a 'helper' or a 'detailer' either.

After discovering our strengths and weaknesses it was time to start putting our CVs together despite the fact that we didn't have very much to put in them! All the same, we learnt how to lay all of the information out and that CVs should be kept to a maximum of two A4 pages! We then had to go and make our own CVs and were forced to make several trips down memory lane to recall things that happened ages ago, like the year we all started primary school and things that didn't happen that long ago but we choose not to remember, like our Junior Certificate grades.

Just when we thought we had finished another hard day's work at the office, Ciara dropped a massive bombshell on us. She told us that she and her manager from MasterCard would be interviewing us for a 'job'. Good thing she had shown us a video on job interview "dos" and "don'ts" the week before. To practise, we had to interview each other and then rate the other person's interview techniques.

When the day of the interview arrived, although no one would admit it, we were all ridiculously nervous. I knew that not a lot was really at stake, but still! An interview! I felt like one of the candidates on The Apprentice preparing for battle in the boardroom except without the skirt suit and Alan Sugar staring at me waiting for a reason for the failure of the task. Thanks to alphabetical order, I was the first one to be interviewed by Ciara's manager and to be honest it wasn't so bad after all! A lot of thinking on my feet was required along with a lot of smiling and eye-contact. I probably over did the eye-contact and the smiling though...

In the end, Rachel Doyle and I were hired for the job by Ciara and Ciara's manager respectively and what better a prize than chocolate?! Everyone got certificates and MasterCard key rings for completing the programme and I presented Ciara and her manager with boxes of chocolates to thank them for everything.

All in all, I benefited greatly from the Junior Achievement programme. It has given me a head start as I now have a CV that I can send to places should I want a part-time job over the summer. The interview skills I learned are invaluable and will be useful to me whether I'm applying to be a photographer, a lawyer, a surgeon or even an air traffic controller...

Ayodele Arogundade 4L

I felt like one of the candidates on The Apprentice preparing for battle in the boardroom except without the skirt suit and Alan Sugar ...



Rachel and I looking absolutely chuffed about being 'hired' by MasterCard...



*We lowered our
loan rate and
raised our
savings and
were rewarded
with first place!*

Junior Achievement—Banks in Action

After eight weeks of being taught about banking by Mr Anthony Handrick, a manager in Citibank, learning, practicing and, ahem, beating my fellow classmates, Nicole Wallace, Orla Cryan and myself went to Citibank on Friday 11th May to participate in Junior Achievement's 'Banks in Action' national competition. We were second to arrive so we had to sit and wait nervously for about fifteen minutes before all the schools had arrived. Also competing were Muckcross in Donnybrook, Cabinteely Community School, CBC O'Connell Street and St. Paul's Raheeney. We were taken into

a conference room to be briefed on the running order of the day. Eventually the competition started. We lowered our loan rate and raised our savings and were rewarded with first place! This trend continued for the next seven

'quarters' until our confidence got the better of us and we were beaten by a team from Muckcross. We did get some lovely pens for our hard work and a free lunch too.

Orla and I went on to win Bank of Ireland Student of the Year Award at junior prize-giving on Thursday 17th May. Our whole class went to Citibank for a tour the day after and we were told about the companies Citi is employed by, and how much money would go through their servers every day.

Ellen O'Connor
4C



Geography Field Trip



Fantasy Writing Competition

In March, Olwen Wymer in 3rd Year won the 2012 Fantasy Writing Competition run by Brainfood. The brief was to write a short story based on an Alice in Wonderland quote.

Olwen's winning short story entitled 'Succession' follows:

Succession—by Olwen Wymer 3X

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

The afternoon was drawing to a close in the Swampy lowlands of Tambarare. The toves, reptilian and scaly, lounged in the shallows on the side of the low hill and the borogoves whistled their haunting melodies from the moss covered trees. The mournful raths emitted deep and throaty bellows as they sloshed through the stagnant waters. The swamplands were on edge. It was as if the creatures that infested them sensed a deep unrest and were nervous. They were not the only ones. Through the forest and over the hill, the human settlement was in turmoil. Their leaders rule had come to an end and the time had come for him to pass on his duties to his eldest son. However, it was not that simple.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

Chief Kiongozi stood at his window surveying his domain. He heard a noise behind him and turned to see that his son had entered the room. "Son", said Chief Kiongozi in a strangled voice that he hardly recognised as his own. He turned back to the window so that his son would not see his expression.

"We knew this day would come Father", said the boy steadily. "But so soon", murmured the chief. "They're waiting for me Father", the boy said in a voice not quite

so steady as before. The Chief turned and pulled the boy into a firm embrace, and with tears running down his face, he said, "Take care out there my boy. Remember what I taught you". With that, the boy left.

He took his vorpal sword in hand:
Long time the manxome foe he sought--
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,
And stood a while in thought.

The village council had organised a parade in the boys honour but nobody felt much like celebrating. Before he left, he was presented with a sword, as was tradition. Then, just as the clock struck five, the village gates opened and the boy set off into the gathering dusk.

He encountered nothing that first evening and spent the night in the top branches of a tree for safety. He slept fitfully and was woken at dawn by the borogoves singing.

He had been allowed no provisions other than the sword and all the plants in the swamp, though beautiful, were toxic to humans. So by midday, he had begun to feel the pangs of hunger. Still, he trudged on. When he could walk no more, he stopped by a large Tumtum tree and rested. The dappled sunbeams filtering through the branches over his head caressed his face and made him feel pleasantly drowsy. For once, his thoughts turned away from the task at hand.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,



Succession—continued

Came whiffing through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!

The boy was jolted back to reality by a ferocious crashing in the undergrowth. He scrambled up the Tumtum tree and looked down but there was no sign of further movement from the vegetation. Suddenly, a flock of borogoves flew screeching from the bushes below him. The fright knocked the boy out of his perch and he found himself lying flat on his back in the algae infested water. Then he heard sloshing footsteps coming from behind him and the overpowering stench of rotting flesh filled his nostrils. "It's time", he said to himself and raised his sword.

One, Two! One, Two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.

The boy had been training his whole life for this but no amount of training could have prepared him for what he saw. The mere sight of the creature before him was enough to make his knees buckle beneath him. Yet he did not stumble. He raised the jagged sword and charged. The creature was quick and lashed out at him, but the boy retaliated with a desperate stab at the beasts terrible eyes. The beast, now partially blinded, fell backwards and let out a terrible roar that shook the whole swamp. The boy leapt through the air and slashed once, and then again for good measure. The creature tumbled to the ground. The fire that had once burned behind its eyes had gone out. The boy chopped off the beasts head and, dragging it behind him, he headed home.



"And, has thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
O frabjous day! Calloo! Calay!
He chortled in his joy.

It was midday and Chief Kiongozi was just leaving a meeting he had been at with the village council. They had been discussing the future of the village if his son did not return and it was looking quite likely now, that he would not. He had been gone for two days and the chief was beginning to despair. Just then, he heard a joyful shout. This could only mean one thing. The chief ran fast as he could to the main gate and a wonderful sight met his eyes. His son was limping through the gateway. He was bruised and bloody and dragging the head of the monster behind him, but he was alive. The chief ran to him and they embraced. They stood like this for a long time, neither of them speaking. Then the boy pulled away and, smiling for the first time in a long time, he said, "It is done Father". Chief Kiongozi smiled and, wiping away his tears, said in a choked up whisper, "I have never been so proud of you my boy". Then father and son walked back to the village together with the villagers following behind, whooping and cheering: "Long live our new chief!"

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

The afternoon was drawing to a close in the swampy lowlands of Tambarare. The toves lay in the shallows, the borogoves sang in the trees and the raths splashed around, snorting quietly. The swamp-lands were at peace. The natural order had been restored once more. All was well.

5th Year Art—Griffith College Dublin's Fashion Reinvent Award 2012

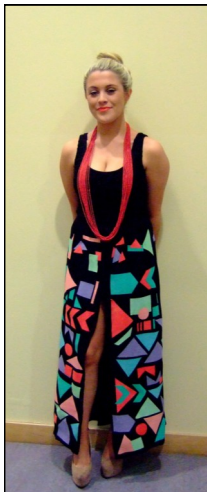


This term our art class entered Griffith College Dublin's Reinvent Fashion Award. We had to take old garments and remake them into a new outfit. We based our designs on the Spring/Summer 2012 trends as a starting point, so we had to do a lot of research. On the 28th March we went to Griffith College Dublin to model our outfits for the panel of judges and to present our design boards, which showed our inspiration, research, sketches and photos of the process of constructing our outfits. Before the fashion show we had pictures taken for local and national newspapers. We then got to show off our designs on the catwalk. Six finalists were chosen, two of which were from our class - Hannah O'Sheehan and Gerardine Maughan-Dempsey. The overall experience was brilliant because we had a lot of fun designing and then modeling our final designs on the catwalk!

By Rebecca Kavanagh 5N

Carla Byrne McCann 5C

My outfit was inspired by geometric and Aztec designs. The outfit was a long black dress with a split up the middle with an intricate pattern of brightly coloured geometric Aztec designs which I had hand-dyed, cut into shape and attached to the dress fabric using bondaweb.



Rebecca Kavanagh 5N

My dress was inspired by the floral trend. I hand-dyed all of my fabrics and made a pink petal skirt and a pink rose top decorated with hand-sewn flower rosettes. The skirt had a green leaf pep- lum on both hips, embellished with machine stitching and green sequins to look like the pattern of the veins in a leaf.



Ellen Keegan 5N

My outfit was inspired by Coco Chanel. I re- searched pictures of styles of clothes from that period and then designed a dress inspired by the colours and sil- houette of the classic Chanel look.



Amelia Leonard 5N

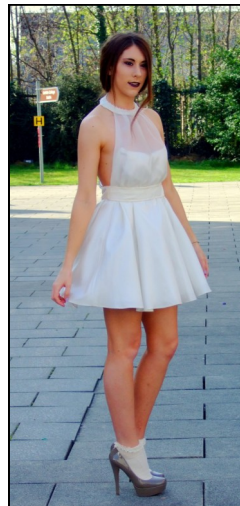
My outfit was inspired by the 'Old American West'. I made panels from old checked trou- sers and used them to embellish the back and shoulders of a plain white shirt.

I also attached denim onto the collar and around the buttons of the shirt. I short- ened and reshaped an old skirt to fit in with the look of the rest of the outfit.



Gerardine Maughan-Dempsey

For my design I decided to recy- cle my communion dress and give it a new life. The cream fab- ric tied in well with my vintage 1920s inspired backless design and was complemented by the strings of pearls that hung from the collar at the back of the dress. I was delighted with the outcome and I really enjoyed the whole experience.

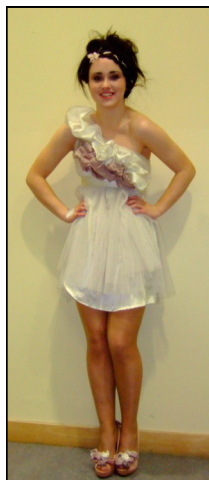


Fashion Reinvent Awards—continues



Katie O'Byrne

I got most of my inspiration from Alexander McQueen's Spring/Summer 2012 collection by Sarah Burton. I also researched and experimented with lace and different forms of ruffles in my design. I used various old garments to create my piece including an old flower-girl dress.



Hannah O'Sheehan 5L

One of the fashion trends for Spring/Summer 2012 was floral, so I decided to develop this and based the silhouette of my dress design on the form of the flower rather than focusing on floral patterns. I did a lot of research and using old fabrics that I had hand-dyed, I created my dress. It was a fab experience.



Study Skills Phase II

Following on from the first study skills session for all classes (October 20th 2011) the second phase was held on

March 29th, before Easter.

This meant that there was eight weeks remaining before the Summer Exams. The emphasis was on exam technique and planning. Like last year it meant the students needed to fill in their own revision list, topic by topic or chapter by chapter for each subject.

They are always asked to structure a timetable for themselves to include study homework and going back over the day's classwork.

Again in August this year Sixth and Third Years have their own 'Study Skills' day run by a professional study skills company.

We hope that throughout the six years the students will build up and develop good study/revision habits to help them learn their work in a way that best suits their individual needs.

Help in school is always available from the subject teachers, tutors and myself throughout the year – just ask.

Ms. Dullaghan
Study Skills Co-ordinator.

Websites:

www.skool.ie/examcentre
[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/
studentlife/revision and skills](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/studentlife/revision_and_skills)
www.revise.ie
www.hot-to-study.com
www.myrevisionplan.co.uk
www.eircomstudyhub.ie

Cluny Sports Updates—Golf



Our second year students had the opportunity to practice some of their golf skills during a Golf Awareness workshop held in school just after Easter.

Rory Leonard from Junior Golf Ireland visited the Sports hall where he set up an array of golf activities for the students, including an inflatable driving net, a mini chipping activity, a putting game and a Nintendo Wii golf game.

Students were introduced to some of the basics of golf and allowed to try out the different activities. A number of the students had played the game which was obvious from the way they could drive the golfball, but hopefully this brief introduction to golf will encourage some others to take up the game.

We had one entrant in the Leinster Schools Golf Championship this year, which was held in Clontarf Golf Club. Lauren Dent represented the school very well in the event and we would like to increase the numbers in the future.

Ms Seymour



Tennis

As is usual the school tennis season is relatively short, requiring trials and matches to be played in quick succession. Trials were held in Cluny Park, where teams practice twice a week with home matches being played in Sandycove Tennis Club.

The nature of the tennis season means that there is not a lot of time to prepare, so players who don't play regularly during the year may be at a disadvantage. Unfortunately we had very unseasonal weather which impacted on practice, and caused a number of games to be postponed. These matches then had to be rearranged at another time.

This year we had three teams: One Senior team and two Minor teams. Our Senior team captained by Aoife Wynne began with a 2-1 defeat to St Gerards. This was followed by a 3-0 victory over St Killians before coming second to Mt Sackville in Castleknock Tennis Club. Special mention must

go to Aoife and her partner Niamh Ahern who remained unbeaten in all matches.

Our Minor Teams consisted of all 1st Year players, some of whom were relatively new to the game. The Minor As began very well with a 3-0 victory over Woodlands Academy. This was followed by a narrow loss against Holy Faith Clontarf, before finishing strongly with a victory against Kings Hospital. Despite winning two out of their three matches, they narrowly missed out on a place in the knock out stages. Julia Buckley and Lauren Murray deserve special mention for winning all of their matches.

The Minor Bs competed very well in all their matches and hopefully learned a lot about the game. They must be commended for their effort and commitment, especially when playing against more experienced players – some of them 2nd year students.

Led by Ailbhe Mulhall, they showed lots of enthusiasm which will be of great benefit to them as they develop their skills in the game in the future.

With summer finally arriving, it is ideal tennis weather so hopefully our players will continue to play during the holidays. Ms Seymour



*In the first week
of the term the
club reached full
capacity with
over 50 students
enrolled.*

Swimming

Information for School Newsletter May 2012

This year brought a new sports extra-curricular activity to the school, **Swimming**. In the first week of the term the club reached full capacity with over 50 students enrolled. The girls worked hard to improve their fitness, develop their techniques, and for some – prepare for the Leinster Championship and Swimamile Events.

If you didn't know about the Swim Club, we are a mix of two types of swimmer, **competitive and non-competitive**. The sessions are designed to cater for both types, so if you would like to join just for fitness and fun, you are more than welcome.

We train early on Monday mornings at 6.30am and on Thursday evenings at 7 o'clock at Castle Park Swim Academy. We have just secured a second evening training session on Tuesday evenings at 9 o'clock; and it is also hoped to introduce two dry-land sessions per week in September. All swimmers can attend either one, two or three sessions per week. Students interested in participating in Swim-

ming as part of their Gaisce Award, are also more than welcome to sign up.

If you would like to receive an information pack, or would like to talk about enrolling in the club, please contact Ms Somers at somers.ms@gmail.com as soon as possible, as spaces are limited.

This year, six girls were rewarded for their participation, effort, enthusiasm and achievement in the Club. Similar to the other sports, we have an award for the Most Improved Swimmer, Coaches' Award, and Swimmer of the Year. In the Junior Section, the Coaches' Award went to Emily McHugo, the Most Improved Swimmer was Emily Harte and the Junior Swimmer of the Year is Sarah Ayres. In the Senior Section, the Coaches' Award was awarded to Zoë Byrne, the Most Improved Swimmer was Lauren O'Driscoll, and the Senior Swimmer of the Year is Hannah Desmond.

Congratulations to all the girls, and well done to everyone who participated this year in the Club.



Full Colour Newsletter

available on our website:

www.Clunykilney.ie

Basketball

The 2011-2012 season ended with Cluny teams on the move in All-Ireland competition. First up were the Minor A team. They travelled to Castleisland Co. Kerry where the team experienced their first taste of national competition. In Cluny's pool only one team could make it out to the semi-finals. The host school Presentation Castleisland, always highly regarded, won out and will be returning to the A section next year. Our Minor A team put together a good performance over the weekend. The win came against Presentation, Kilkenny with a score line of 32-14. The Minor A team had a very good season reaching two finals. Well done!! Can't wait for next season! Thanks to all the First Years who played this year, Minor B and Minor A. Have a enjoyable summer and a safe one. Don't forget Summer Camp. Now is the time to set goals and work on improving your skills.

Second Yrs. (Junior A)- so so close! Cluny Junior A did themselves and their school proud by their play in Cork. For a second weekend a Cluny team played against a Kerry team. In fact the same school. The Minor A team were first. Now it was the 2nd Years turn to show what they could do. In a very tough game full twists and turns the lead changed nine times before Pres. Castleisland came out on top 28-25. With an hour and forty minutes to rest and get ready for the next game, there is only time for a quick review of tactics and to get food and fluids into the body before the next game. Next up were the host side Christ the King. Exciting! Like Man City leaving it late and winning the Premiership and also Chelsea winning the Champion's League. That's how Cluny vs the Cork school went. With the sides level at 22-22 neither side could find that illusive point or basket so extra-time. Some parents who travelled down could barely watch as opportunities to take the lead slipped away. And with 3 sec. on the clock Ciara Crotty launched a shot from

mid court and scored a 3pt shot but it was not enough as Cluny came up short 29-26. Another heart breaking loss in over-time. The teams last pool game was against Loreto Kilkenny which they won comfortably 39-20. All of the girls realized that things could have gone either way in their first two games but that's sports. Well done to the 2nd Yr. Junior A team and all of our 2nd Year students who played this season. Don't forget Summer Camp. You can get info from Mr. Randolph. Now is the time to start preparing for next season on the court and inside the classroom. Have great summer. Coach E.

Farewell but not good bye to our 6th Yrs. That played Basketball all six years in Cluny.

Ciara O'Dowd	Aoife Boylan
Melanie Hogan	Ruth Slamon
Lauren Flannagan	Aisling Matthews
Sarah Gaynor	Nicole Dunne

Thanks again for the kind present and I hope all the 6th Years enjoyed the school's gift to you. Just would like to wish all of you the very best in your next game! The Leaving Cert! No worries it will be fine. Coach E
Wish you well.

*Now is the
time to set
goals and
work on
improving
your skills.*



Athletics



Ms. Darmondy presented with flowers by Mark Kenneally Olympian for her active role in establishing a Running Club in Cluny.

Well done to all of the athlete's who competed in the East Leinster Athletic Championships.



Chloe McDonnell East Leinster Medal Winner

First Years and Second Years lead the way! Cluny's younger side of the school lead the way on the track and field this year. Ms. Somers and Mr. Randolph were in charge of Athletics this season. A large number of students signed up but didn't come out for training. We know that this will change next year because those student-athletes who did come out and made the team really did well in competition. Not just our 1st and 2nd Years but a number of 4th year students came out this year. So things are on the way up for next season. Remember there is a running club on Mondays that will continue with Ms. Darmondy. So don't be afraid of getting that stitch when you are running. When you get into reasonable shape those go away! Promise! Plus you can come and take part but let one of the coaches know if want to be considered for the Team or if you are just out to get some exercise and stay active.

Well done to all of the athlete's who competed in the East Leinster Athletic Championships. Congratulations to Sophie Jones (4th yr.), Chloe McDonnell (2nd yr.) and Caroline Byrne (2nd yr.) for qualifying for the Leinster Athletic Championships. Sophie placed 3rd and won bronze medal in the U/16 mile. Chloe placed 2nd and won a Silver medal in the Junior girls Long-Jump. And Caroline placed 2nd and won Silver medal in the Junior Girls Walk.

Making it to the Leinster's is a very good achievement. All three girls were up against strong opposition. Sophie finished in 10th place in a highly talented group of runners. Caroline finished 12th in her 1200m walk. Well done to both students for making it to the Leinster Finals. Well done and congratulations to Chloe McDonnell for winning her 2nd Silver medal. She will be traveling to Tullamore, Co. Offaly for this years All-Ireland Athletic Championships. We are very happy and proud of you. Well done again. And good luck this weekend in Tullamore. Competition is on this bank holiday, Sat. June 2nd in Tullamore.

I would to thank all the students who came out for athletics this season and Ms. Darmondy and Ms. Somers for all their work this year.

Mr. Ed Randolph



Sports Day 2012

Following weeks of miserable weather, Monday 21st May dawned bright and sunny giving us the best possible day for our annual Sports Day. Students gathered outside in their house t-shirts, while the 6th years came in fancy dress lending a very colourful air to the proceedings.

Preparations had started weeks earlier with House Captains taking entries for the various events, which included running, throwing and jumping events as well as the novelty activities like potato and spoon, obstacle races and sack races.

All students are encouraged to take part and to compete for points for their Mission House. Points are accumulated and the House with the most points at the end of the day wins the Sports Shield. Teachers and other staff members officiate at the events and competition was very keen between the students.

Other activities which proved very popular on the day included Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee and Penalty Shooting, where Mr Twomey very bravely stood in goal. Our events concluded with the very exciting and competitive relay races and when all the results were added up, the clear winner was Fiji, followed by Gambia in second place and Sierra Leone in third place.

Our sports prizegiving took place in the Assembly hall following the conclusion of events outside. This year our special guest was Mr Mark Kenneally. Mark has recently qualified to run in the Marathon at the London Olympics later in the summer, and we were delighted that he could take the time to be with us for our prizegiving ceremony. Our Sports prizegiving ceremony gives us the opportunity to celebrate the successes and achievements of the major school sports during the year and we had representatives from Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Hockey, Soccer, Swimming and Tennis all receiving awards from Mark. GAA, Golf and Sailing were other Sports to receive a mention.

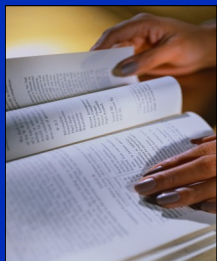
Two other major awards had been presented earlier at School Prizegiving. Congratula-

tions to our Junior and Senior Sports Person of the Year – Sophie Grehan and Jennifer Crotty.

Well done to all who participated in Sport this year and who received awards. Hopefully our numbers will continue to grow in each of the Sports next year.

Ms Seymour





We are most grateful to parents who give so freely of their time to speak with the pupils.



Parents Association 2011-2012

School year 2011/2012 has been a busy year for our Parents Association. We held a number of activities throughout the year.

We welcomed our 2011 Debutantes to their pre Debs reception last September. They looked amazing in all their finery and an enjoyable evening was had by family and friends.



In October we held our AGM and we welcomed new members to our committee. We had two wonderful speakers during our year: Fr Peter McVerry and Brent Pope.

Our Careers Evening for 4th 5th and 6th Years proved very popular with our students. This is an opportunity for students to meet with parents and past pupils from careers they may be interested in pursuing. We are most grateful to parents who give so freely of their time to speak with the pupils.

Our team of volunteers did a marvellous job of decorating the Concert Hall for the annual Carol Service.

We have also supported the school chosen charity St Johns Ward, Crumlin Hospital. We thank you all for your support during the past year.

Janet O'Doherty, Chairperson



Attention Parents

Second-hand Book and Uniform Sale

Friday 22nd June 2010 @ 10a.m. Concert Hall

Format: The School provides the venue for the sale i.e. Concert Hall, Parents/Student can set up a stall to sell their old books and uniform items.

Remember to bring your Book Lists and cash with you (in small denominations).

Deputy Principal's Diary—Mrs Orla Lambert

Firstly I would like to wish all the exam students every success. As the saying goes *'take pride in how far you have come, have faith in how far you can go'.*

We bid fond farewell to our 6th yrs .They have been a wonderful year group to work with, supportive of us all and committed to their studies and extracurricular activities. They were so attentive to the first years, minding them in the early days and looking out for them, bringing them to the Office when they were unwell or concerned about something. They took their responsibilities as Buddies to first years seriously, organising trips, quizzes and sweets for outings.

Thank you to all the 6th yr leaders in Green Schools Committee 2011-12. They were innovative, full of energy, managing the meetings and campaigns with ease. Our Prefects were exemplary, meeting every Tuesday morning at 8.30am in the library, planning and organising campaigns, rotas and schedules for the academic year with Ms Dullaghan. Their contribution to the school has been valuable and is much appreciated. Their campaign to highlight use of the Merit System was a phenomenal success .The number of merits issued under their baton went from **1000** per annum to just under **4000** and it took a team of 4 people to make the entries!

Special thanks goes to Aisling and Anna for their amazing work as Head Girl and Deputy Head and for their support of the St John's Ward, Crumlin Hospital during the year. They remained calm under pressure and brought everyone with them.

A special word of thanks to Aisling Ahern and Jenny Campbell and the first year Prefects for all their help each week at the Principal's Assembly. It was a pleasure to work with such calm, reliable young ladies who were always in good humour even on a Monday morning!

I wish all the 6th years every success and happiness as they set out on the next part of their voyage.

The Parents Association have been a tremendous support again this term with our School Inspection, 6th yr School Lunch and 6th Yr Graduation Mass. Thanks to all the parents and students who supplied us with magnificent desserts. The gift of beautiful individual cupcakes for the Leaving Cert exam students was really appreciated and went down a treat!

The Junior and Senior Prize giving Ceremonies provided another lovely occasion for us all to celebrate Cluny success. Congratulations to all the students who won awards. You all proved that what is worth doing is worth doing well!

I hope everyone has a fantastic summer. We look forward to seeing our Debutants on Sept 20th and the remainder of the students along with our new 1st years in late August.

The future belongs to those who believe in their dreams.

I wish all the 6th years every success and happiness as they set out on the next part of your voyage.



6th Year Graduating Year launch their balloons and wishes to the sky



“Study Skills & Your Child”

An informative and entertaining one hour talk for parents.

St Joseph of Cluny, Monday 8th Oct 2012 @ 7:30pm



**Simple and practical ideas to help
your children achieve in school!**

Topics covered include:



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