



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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St. Joseph of Cluny Secondary School

Winter Newsletter 2013

ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2013

From the Principal's Desk



L_R: Mr. Sean Barrett BOM, Ms. Jenny Burke Past Pupil and former International Hockey Player, Fr. P. Gleeson Sallynoggin Parish, Tony Ward former International Rugby Player, Ms. Mary White Principal, Ms. Mary Mitchell-O'Connor TD, Sr. Rowena Galvin Provincial of Cluny Sisters, Robbie Blair Sports Labs UK, Ms. Orla Lambert Deputy Principal, Mr. Joey Moore SAC Construction.

"There are two ways of spreading light ; to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." E. Wharton

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our Cluny Newsletter. Hope this season brings joy to all in the Cluny community – parents, students, past pupils, staff and sisters - with all the festive decorations, family time and opportunities to catch up with friends that the season affords. The year is drawing to a close finally with a number of significant goals achieved in

the school in 2013, in particular the redesign of the front of the school and the addition of the new Astro Turf hockey pitch. In school life there were lots of individual student achievements and successes, very positive events organised by the Parents Association and a very rich tapestry of school life created by the staff. Hope the holidays are a time of rest and restoration for you all. Last Friday brought the culmination of the Astro Turf construction and car



Ms. White,
Principal

*Congratulations
to all our
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From the Principal's Desk continued

park development with the official school opening of the new pitch. More details of that shortly.

Student Awards

This term brought another quota of University Awards for our L.C. students of 2013. In November the **UCD Entrance Scholars Awards Ceremony** featured 4 of last years' Sixth Years who received their awards as a result of their high performance in L.C 2013. Our UCD award winners were Lauren Cavanagh, Science UCD, Fiona Craddock, Psychology UCD, Emma Lennon, Medicine UCD and Abigail Molloy, Arts UCD. Abby was awarded a Choral Scholarship and was selected as the main female vocalist who sang at the UCD Awards ceremony. This month **Trinity College** awarded Eleanor McSweeney an **Entrance Exhibition Award** on the basis of her performance in the L.C. exams. Eleanor has elected to study Engineering in TCD. Congratulations to all our University award winners on their excellent results and their commitment to their studies. We wish all our graduates of 2013 every good wish in their new colleges or in the programmes they are undertaking in 2014.

Student Success

Congratulations firstly to the **16 Silver Gaisce** participants from **Sixth Year** who received their Awards in Trinity College on 5th December last. This award demands a considerable commitment of time and effort from stu-

dents and the requirements of the award are demanding so well done to the students who received their award last week. We wish the T.Y students well in the pursuit of their Bronze medals this year and congratulate Mrs Wolahan on her commitment to facilitating and assisting the girls annually to enter for this award. Congratulations also to **Ciara Mc Keown** 5N who participated in an Irish EU Chemistry Olympiad Competition and was highly commended for her achievement. Another recent achievement of note was a Gold Medal achieved by **Eve Carr** 4C in boxing in the Wicklow Championships, a sport which Eve has only recently taken up. Congrats also to **Rachel Doyle** who was selected to play soccer for Ireland U19's in the European Championship Games earlier on this term.

In debating well done to **Megan Ross** 6N and **Gemma Lynch** 5C who were



successful and got through the initial stages of the Leinster Schools Debating Competition and are into quarter final stage now. Also in the Junior section **Laura Lynam** 3W and **Amber Barry** 3X reached the quarter finals of the Leinsters. Special congratulations to **Ayodele Arogundade** 6L and **Grace Morgan** 6L who were Winner and Runner up respectively of the 2013 Sorop-tomist International Woman's

From the Principal's Desk continued

Speaking Competition in the Mansion House in November. The **Concern** Debating Team have been progressing steadily in their group. This year's team consists of **Niamh Plunkett** (Capt) 5L, **Kate Doorly** 5N, **Chloe Langan** 4N and **Ciara Crotty** 4N. Also in T.Y., success for debaters **Aisling Scully** 4C and sub **Ellen Fortune** 4C. Congratulations to Mr Byrne and Ms McEvoy for their work in the debating competitions.

Five Sixth Year students; **Hannah McAteer**, **Niamh McGrath**, **Ellen O Connor**, **Jill Martin** and **Ayo Arugundade** participated in the Juvenes Translatores Competition. Well done to these students who continue their commitment to school life and to **Jessica O Sullivan** 6N, **Kelly Livingston** 6N, **Caoimhe Dempsey** 6N and **Louise Burne** 6L who participated in a Spanish debating competition. Three Sixth Year Students progressed in the Gael Linn Debates i.e. **Megan Ross**, **Ayo Arugundade** and **Caoimhe Dempsey**. Congrats to all the teachers concerned and well done to these students in Sixth Year who continue to participate despite the demands of their final year in school.

School Events

This term saw two very successful school tours i.e. the **Fifth Year** school Tour to **Barcelona** during the October mid-term organised by Mr Hartigan and Mr Browne with over 50 students enjoying beautiful October sunshine and the wonderful sites of this city throughout. Ms Devaney and Ms Archibald also travelled that week with their **Sixth Year Art students** on an Art tour of many of the main galleries in **Paris**.



There are lovely accounts of both tours in this edition of the Newsletter.

Congrats to Mrs Irene Burke and the T.Y. girls on the success of this year's T.Y. Musical 'The Boyfriend'. The boys in the cast from Gonzaga, Blackrock and Clonkeen were a great addition also. The setting of the 1920's allowed for some spectacular costumes and dancing and the scenes were a feast for the eye. Well done again on this occasion to our Choreographer Debbie Kieran. One student's comment from the Musical booklet captures the spirit and value of this event for T.Y. students i.e. 'The musical is the best part of 4th Year. It's brought our whole year together and has really boosted everyone's confidence. I made friends with people in the year that I didn't know before.'



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The **Green School Committee** celebrated the raising of their **Fifth Green Flag** just before mid-term. This very popular and successful Committee, headed by Mrs D. Smyth, made us all consider biodiversity and sustainability during 2013. Cllr Carrie Smyth Cathaoirleach of Dun Laoghaire joined us on the day and heard a presentation from the girls on various elements of their work for the flag including the establishment of a butterfly garden. We had some of last year's Sixth Years who were avid committee members back for the occasion! Recently the Committee organised a Christmas decoration workshop using re-cycled materials at a lunchtime event. Well done to all involved!



From the Principal's Desk Continued



'It has been a privilege and always a joy for me to have spent a total of 22 years among you all here in Killiney' Sr. Monica Sheehan, Principal Junior Schol

Archive photo from 2006 Senior Infants welcoming Ireland President Mary McAleese



Well done to the First Years who recently raised over €2,500 in the national **MS Readathon** competition. Ten percent of this fund will go towards books for the Library. We have had some wonderful displays in the Library this term with Harry Potter making a welcome return from **Ms Dillon** and her **Library Prefects**. Most recently, a display on Nelson Mandela has featured in the Foyer but also an exhibition featuring JFK and the events of 1963 have been on display as well as various themed weeks. Bambi has made a seasonal appearance recently in the Christmas-themed Library! Please find details in the Library Newsletter attached.

There have also been significant successes in Sport over the term and the articles inside from Ms Seymour and Mr Randolph will give an outline of how the various teams are doing.

November saw the special **Mass of Celebration for the Junior School**. It was a lovely occasion organised by the Junior School Parents Association and compared on the evening by Mr Ronnie Lynam. The speeches from Sr Claire and Sr Monica were both a fun and a moving recollection from both Principals about life in that very special Cluny school over the years. We wish both Sisters a long and happy retirement after many years of service, dedication and affection for all

their students in the Junior school and after creating many happy memories for the students who attended the school since the mid 1950's.

The Parents Association

The **AGM of the Parents Association** was held in September and organised by the outgoing Chairperson Mrs Janet O Doherty. Our student presentations included speeches from the Head Girl, Laura Lynam, and Deputy Head Girl, Fiona Deegan, on the importance of the Library to the school and Ms Andrea Dillon, Librarian, included a presentation on student reading habits on the night. A very interesting talk followed from Ms. Sheila O'Malley who was the guest speaker on the night on 'Parenting Teenagers'. Ms O'Malley is very experienced in the field of Relationship Counselling and it was the general view that she would be a valuable speaker for students also. The **Debs Reception** on 03 October was a wonderful success and the P.A.-organised **Careers Evening** had over 40 presenters selected by students and, for the benefit of T.Y, Fifth and Sixth Year students. Many thanks to the hard working Parents' Committee and Mrs Ciara Duggan and the school Guidance Counsellor Ms C McPhillips for their input in preparing for this event. It was followed up with a wonderful **Carol Service** last Thursday when a group of parents from the Association transformed the foyer and the Hall and Mr Larkin, Mr O Farrell and Mrs Higgins pro-

From the Principal's Desk Continued

duced a beautiful night of music and readings. Over €500 was collected on the night for the St. Vincent de Paul.



We had a visit from a past pupil from Cluny Mount Sackville, Linda O Halloran, who is the founding director of Thinking Development and is aiming to build a Cluny primary school in Port au Prince in Haiti to replace those that were destroyed three years ago. The country lost 4,000 schools then. She is seeking the assistance of a Cluny Past Pupils network to begin sustainable reconstruction there. We are hoping to be of assistance to Linda in this school and hope to have her back in the New Year. Please see her article in the 'Irish Times' Tuesday 17/12/2013 and we hope to bring you updates of her plans on our website in the New Year also.

Opening of the Astro Turf

Last Friday saw the official opening of the Astro Turf and we were blessed with a beautiful day for the event. It was an important opportunity for the school to say 'thank you' to all of those involved in its construction and to acknowledge what an exceptional addition it is for the school. The team involved are deserving of great praise in particular **SAC Construction** led by **Mr Joey Moore** who steered us steadily through all the issues that this complex topographical site presented us with over the summer. The very experienced Sports consultants on site were **Sports Labs UK** and **PKO Brien**

were the QS firm involved representing the Board. **Emerald Sports** gave us the turf surface and **Air Tricity** installed the lights. It was indeed a very co-operative and successful project.

The guest presenters on the day were **Mr Tony Ward** former International Rugby player and Rugby Commentator, **Ms Jenny Burke** past pupil and former Ladies International Hockey Player and a Hockey Coach, **Sr Rowena Galvin** Provincial Cluny Order, **Fr Padraig Gleeson** Parish Priest Our Lady of Victories who gave us the blessing and **Dr. Eilis Humphries** Le Cheile Trust. Mrs Lambert started the girls with a lovely procession of items representing the various sports played both within and outside school and made for an impressive display which was remarked on by Tony Ward. He was very encouraging of students to commit to a sport and experience all of the benefits that lie therein and the understanding of self that comes from the engagement also.

Jenny Burke spoke of her memories of playing hockey in the school and her memory of when she first took up the sport in Cluny. The old grit pitch came into focus 'It did have one great advantage though because we won our fair share of matches by skilfully spraying grit, dust and pebbles in the faces of the opposition!'. Jenny went on to earn over 160 Caps for Ireland in her career and has offered students a special coaching session for complete beginners in the new year. Our guests were treated to some carols from our choir and orchestra, had an opportunity to view the new hockey changing pavilion and got a display of hockey from our seniors vs past



He was very encouraging of students to commit to a sport and experience all of the benefits that lie therein

From the Principal's Desk Continued



**Nelson Mandela
Remembered**

*"Our team
proved 22 years
ago that the
impossible is
possible if you
dare to dream
and commit to
your
teammates"*
Jenny Burke

pupils. All in all it was a very happy occasion. Special thanks to Board of Management members Mr Ronnie Lynam and Mr Leo Blennerhassett who gave huge commitment to this project over the last two Boards of Management and particular thanks to Mr Sean Barrett T.D Ceann Comhairle who has given many years of advice and commitment over several years to ensure this project came to fruition. If I could leave you with some observations and wishes I made on the day:

'As the symbols brought forward by the girls this morning illustrates, the educational philosophy in Cluny is holistic and recognises that the students' health and well-being is at the pivot of their emotional and academic development. Sport is recognised as a vital contribution to that well-being.

Today we take a moment to celebrate the successful completion of this endeavour which is the fruit of many peoples vision, of careful planning and of co-operation between many groups and individuals. All have been fired with the desire to benefit the students of this school, those here now and those who will come after. We hope and pray that the opening of this pitch today will enhance the life of the school and that it will help the full physical, human and spiritual development of all who use it.

It was Nelson Mandela's belief that there is no value to be found in playing small or in settling for something less than what we are capable of. May our pitch inspire our students to achieve excellence in play and to know that so many people contributed over many years to bringing our pitch to fruition at this time .Our sincere thanks to all involved.'

May I wish all our students, staff and parents and all in the Cluny community a happy and peaceful Christmas and the Christmas season ahead.

Nollaig Shona.

M.White Dec 2013



Speeches from Head Girl Sarah Lynam & Deputy Head Girl Fiona Deegan

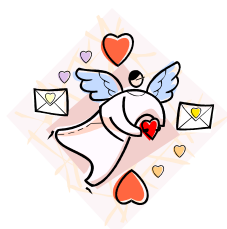
I've been playing hockey for the past 11 years. Thanks to hockey, I have amazing memories that can never be taken away from me. I have been on several different teams throughout the years but one thing that has been consistent throughout each team, is their enthusiasm and love for hockey.

Every sport has its highs and lows, just as every match can turn in your favour or against you. There's no doubt whatsoever, but that the original hockey pitch, had well passed its sell-by date. It did have one great advantage though, because we won our fair share of matches by skilfully spraying grit, dust and pebbles in the faces of the opposition. Many of us left that pitch with more pebbles embedded in our skin than you'd find on a beach. Oh and by the way, have you ever tried walking around for any length of time in a shoe which has a loose pebble in it, constantly sticking in your heel? Well that's what we, the devoted hockey players of St. Joseph of Cluny, suffered for our school without complaint. I just think that we are the real unsung heroes and that we deserve the pitch we are standing on now.

When I saw the planning permission for this amazing Astroturf go up on display in the foyer for an open day, I was amazed. I remember staring at the plans with a sense of disbelief.

I think I can speak for every student, parent, and member of staff when I say that the excitement of seeing the builders' progress with the Astroturf during the summer when we arrived back to school in September was simply incredible. The development and planning of this Astroturf has been a lengthy process. Countless hours of planning have gone into this pitch. It is an absolute honour for me to stand up here today and celebrate with you all at the official opening of this pitch. We are all very lucky to have this outstanding facility and not to mention the pavilion which, might I add has a chandelier in it!

This development is the best thing to have happened to this school in a very long time. I know that it took a great deal of courage and financial planning to make it a reality. For many years it was my hope and dream that this pitch would be in place whilst I was a student and that I would have the opportunity to play on it before I left. So this is a very special and emotional moment for me to have the privilege to stand here and witness this day. All of us as students of this school are without doubt immensely privileged, and on behalf of all of us, the students, I want to say a very sincere thank you for making this dream a reality. Thank you. Sarah Lynam



Now let the truth be told I have played no more than 3 days of hockey since 1st year which in all reality was 2 days, one of which was what the girls told me was a 'fun day'... they lied. This fun day consisted of running and drills and then more running just for good measure and the girls thought that this was hilarious. So needless to say my hockey career did not take off. I'm going to put that down to the grit pitch, had we had an astro back when I was in first year I would be giving Ayo a run for her money.

Now as I'm sure you are aware, the pitch has been designed to allow, in theory, the whole school to support a match which may be wishful thinking but it can't be stressed enough how important it is that we support our hockey team! The girls work incredibly hard. I personally have never taken a hockey ball to the shin nor do I have grit embedded in my knees. Now to be honest I don't feel like I'm really missing out. I can't say I'm jealous of them but, seeing how hard they work for it, they really do deserve our support. So if you ever find yourself roaming the streets of Killiney at 9 o'clock on a Saturday morning, which seems quite likely given that us Cluny girls love the early mornings, do stop in and support the team.

At this stage I trust that the vast majority of you have seen our pavilion. The pavilion is actually unique to Cluny and will act as a changing room come bathroom come fancy chandelier room because as we all know no changing room is complete without its own chandelier.

Cluny girls can definitely shout the loudest which I think is something that we need to prove to the other teams. We may not always take home the gold but we do have the number 1 supporters. We have had our run-ins with the Dalkey duck before but that's all water under the bridge now (pun intended).

And as for us non hockey players, Rounders is going to be unreal this year, there is something in the new astroturf for us all. Who knows, maybe we could start our own team. The pitch can act as anything from a running track to an athletics field so we have no excuses now girls.

So, on behalf of the whole school I'd like to wish the hockey teams the best of luck with this year's league, you will have all our support behind you. Word on the street is that the minors are doing incredibly well, we have faith in you girls... no pressure!

Thank you. Fiona Deegan

Five Green Flags for Cluny



Raising of the 5th
Green Flag
for Biodiversity

*There are only a
handful of
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with five green
flags so this was
a very proud
moment for all
concerned.*

Carrie Smyth, Cathaoirleach of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, and three of last year's Sixth Years, were on hand to help the girls raise their fifth green flag on Friday 25th Oct. There are only a handful of schools in Dublin with five green flags so this was a very proud moment for all concerned.

The school's active Green Schools committee worked very hard to earn this flag for biodiversity. Cleaning a local park, planting a butterfly garden and investigating alien species in Ireland is just a small sample of some of the tasks undertaken by this dedicated group.

Celebrations on Friday started with a charity fancy dress competition where all costumes had to be recycled. Then, after some supportive words from Councillor Smyth, our sixth year Green Schools chairperson Zoe Byrne led the whole school outside to raise the flags. After an introductory saxophone solo played by Becky Hackett (fifth year) the whole Green Schools committee joined together to sing a song especially written for the occasion by Louise Burne (sixth year).

With five flags proudly flying outside the school the girls are now ready to turn their attention to flag number six, Global Citizenship, Litter & Waste.



TY Musical—The Boyfriend—October 2013

'The Boyfriend' tells the story of the romantic adventures of a group of upper class young English ladies at school in Nice, France in the 1920s !!!



Once more we brought you our annual musical under the guidance and encourage-

ment of our principal Ms White, in her belief that it is a very important event in every Cluny student's education.

So many hours of planning, preparation, talents and skills have gone in to give you each night's performance! The rehearsal of the songs, dances and acting with colleagues John, Debbie and Mary have been arduous but very rewarding. Behind the scenes, our Costume Club have worked tirelessly and I think you will agree that our Principals, Perfects, Charlestons and Blooms have been transformed into a riot of colour and glamour!

Our set was created under the artistic eye of Ms. Fiona Archibald.



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;
- Promotion - advertising and selling tickets
- Dance practice led by our Group leaders

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!

Preparation and presentation of 'The Boyfriend' 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 and co-operative students in bringing our musical from the dull page to vibrant stage show.

Congratulations girls and well done!

Irene Burke
M.A. (Drama) L.T.C.L.



Student Council 2013/2014

Since the academic year began the Student Council have achieved quite a lot. We have, for example, handled small problems for the 2nd Years regarding lockers and have been involved in the possible application of a new school attendance late system. Laoise, Sophie, Emily and I also went to the ISSU (Irish Secondary School Union) at the start of November. We met with other schools to talk about issues that arise within schools in Ireland. We spoke about Transition Year, how students feel about it and the different subject and extra-curriculum activities offered by each individual school. We were delighted to note that our school's choice of subjects and activities impressed the other schools.

Our Student Council representatives this year are:

- 1st year: Sahar Ul Haque
Molly Burke
Caoimhe McManus
- 2nd year: Emily Rafferty Doyle

Sarah Currivan
Caolifhionn McGrath

3rd year: Amber Barry
Charlotte Morgan
Ailbhe Mulhall

4th year: Niamh Kavanagh
Laoise Mangan
Aoife Burke

5th year: Sophie Grehan
Sophie Rhattigan Walsh
Emily Kavanagh

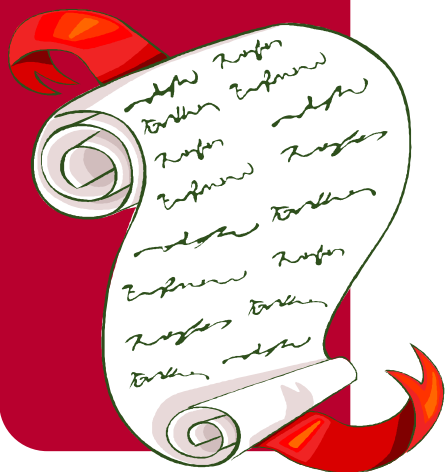
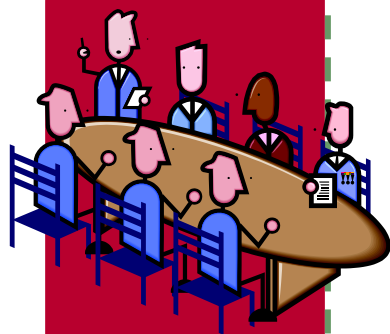
6th year: Emma Lynam
Fiona Deegan
Ayo Argundade
Megan Ross
Rebecca Dunne

Liason Teacher: Ms. Naomi Torpey

We look forward to helping anyone with any issue or general Enquiries that they may have over the year. Just come and find one of your representatives from your year.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
NEW YEAR
FROM YOUR STUDENT COUNCIL**

*We were
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Leaving Certificate Class of 2013

Congratulations to all students who sat their Leaving Certificate this year. We are extremely proud of them and wish them happiness and success in their chosen careers.

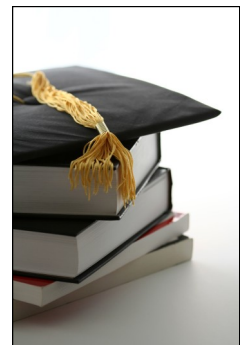
Outline of results and destinations: 73 students

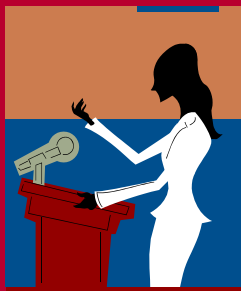


<u>Points</u>	<u>550-625</u>	<u>500-550</u>	<u>450-500</u>	<u>400-450</u>	<u>350-400</u>	<u>300-350</u>	<u>< 300</u>
<u>No of students attaining</u>	9	11	11	13	16	9	4

<u>Honours</u>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Pass
<u>Numbers attaining</u>	5	15	16	30	3	2	0	0	2

<u>University College Dublin</u>		<u>DIT Continue</u>	
Science	6	Law	1
Medicine	1	Marketing	1
Arts	8	Business Management	1
Psychology	1	Computer Science	1
Social Science	2	Logistics & Supply chain management	1
Nursing	3	Biomedical Science	1
<u>Trinity College Dublin</u>		Clinical Measurement Science	1
BESS	3	Engineering	1
Engineering	2	Aviation Engineering	1
English Studies	1	<u>IADT Dun Laoghaire</u>	
History and Politics	1	Business Studies and Arts Management	3
Dental Nursing	2	English, media and cultural studies	1
Theoretical Physics	1	<u>IT Tallaght</u>	
Social Studies	1	Pharmaceutical Science	1
European Studies	2	<u>IT Blanchardstown</u>	
Occupational Therapy	1	Business	1
Intellectual Disability Nursing	1	<u>National College of Ireland</u>	
<u>NUI Galway</u>		Psychology	1
Medicine	1	<u>Dublin Business School</u>	
<u>Dublin City University</u>		Social Studies	1
Communications	1	<u>University of East Anglia, Norwich</u>	
Education & Training	1	Nursing	1
<u>Dublin Institute of Technology</u>		<u>The Institute of Marigoni, London</u>	
Science	1	Fashion Design	1
Food Innovation	1	<u>Post Leaving Certificate Courses</u>	
Food Science & management	1	Art Portfolio Course	3
Nutraceuticals in health & nutrition	2	Pre-nursing studies	2
		English and Film	1
		PR & Event management	1
		<u>Working/Repeating</u>	3





Debators 2013-2014

Congratulations to Laura Lynam 3W and Amber Barry 3X who have reached the quarter finals in the **Leinster Schools Debates**.



2013-14 Concern debating team, Chloe Lagan 4n, Ciara Crotty

4N, Niamh Plunkett (Capt) 5L, and Kate Doorly 5N.

TY Public Speaking Team 2014 who are through to the Dublin County final of the 2013/14 Mental Health Ireland Public Speaking competition in St. John of Gods Hospital, Stillorgan.

Aisling's speech was entitled "You

can't stop the waves but you can learn how to surf them"
Photo: Aisling Scully, Ellen Fortune, Sarah Jane Ronan, Niamh Brennan.

Gemma Lynch 5C and Megan Ross 6N are through to the quarter finals of the **Leinster School Debating** Competition in UCD. They were proposing the motion "That students should be paid to get good grades."



Soroptimists 2013



Ayodele Aro-gundade 6L & Grace Morgan 6L, winner and runner up of the 2013 Soroptimist International

Women's Speaking Competition in the Mansion House.

DCU Business Award

Congratulations to Anna Jackson (4th Year) who is to receive an award from DCU Business School in January for her high results in her Junior Cert Business Exam.



Poetry Aloud

On Thursday the 24th of October thirteen students from second to fifth year went to the National Library to participate in the Poetry Aloud competition. Poetry Aloud is an annual poetry speaking competition organised by the National Library and Poetry Ireland. There are three categories; junior, intermediate and senior. In each category there was a set poem which you had to recite. You also had to choose another poem from a particular anthology of poetry. Each contestant then had to stand in front of the judges and fellow contestants and recite their two poems with expression and emotion.

We arrived at the National Library and were directed into a conference room. We sat down and went over our poems. Slowly people from other schools started to arrive. At last it was time to begin.

We all recited our set poems first. The set poem for my intermediate category was 'Poisoned' by John Ennis. This is a tragic poem about a dog that has been poisoned.

We went in alphabetical order, regardless of our category. As it got closer to my turn I could feel my legs starting to shake and my heart pounding. When it was my turn I walked up and recited my

poem. I could feel my heart racing. When I had finished, a sigh of relief came over me. I watched other people go up and say their poems.

It was then time for the chosen poems. My chosen poem was 'The North Ship' by Philip Larkin. I chose this poem because it symbolises the different paths in life.

When everyone had said their final poem there was a break so the judges could decide on who got through to the semi-final. We all sat around talking about the different poems and who we thought would get through. Eventually, after what seemed like a lifetime, the judges came back into the room. The head judge announced the people who got through. Only one or two people got through from each category. We all sat there with everything crossed hoping it would be us. Unfortunately none of us got through. When it was all over we headed down to the DART to go back to school.

Although I didn't get through I am glad I participated. It was a great experience and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I would definitely do it all again if I had the chance.

Ellen Fortune 4C



*As it got closer
to my turn I
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pounding.*

Mental Health Public Speaking

TEAM: Aishling Scully, Ellen Fortune, Sarah Jane Ronan, Niamh Brennan. TY Public Speaking Team 2014 who are through to the Dublin County final of the 2013/14 Mental Health Ireland Public Speaking competition in St. John of Gods Hospital, Stillorgan.

Aisling's speech was entitled "You can't stop the waves but you can learn how to surf them", Sarah Jane spoke on how "happiness is a product of the choices we make" and Niamh's speech was entitled "Hope has audacity to reach a hand into the darkness."



Filí Inár Measc



Carla Irwin
Class Group

When I submitted it I had no idea that it would be published. I was delighted with my achievement.

Carla Irwin is ainm dom agus bhuaigh mé duais i gcomórtas san iris “Comhar Óg” le mo dhán “An Teachín Beag Bídeach”. Bhí orainn dán a scríobh bunaithe ar pictiúr de theach beag faoin tuath. Tar éis cupla nóiméad ag staidéar ar an bpictiúr tháinig smaoineamh chugham. Smaoinigh mé ar cé chomh deas is a bhí an teachín agus faoi na daoine bochta nach raibh teach ar bith acu. Mar sin bhí mé ag iarraidh rud éigin deas a scríobh ar son na daoine sin. Chuir me an teideal “An Teachín Beag Bídeach” air. Nuair a sheól mé mo dhán chuig “Comhar Óg” nior cheap me go mbeadh sé foilsithe ar chor ar bith. Bhí mé an-sceitimíneach nuair a chuala me gur bhuaigh mé duais. Bhronn an príomhoide seic fiche euro ar me fein agus mo chara Alison. Bhíomar ar bhárr na gaoithe. Leanfaidh mé ar aghaidh ag cumadh dánta le Cúnamh Dé.

My name is Carla Irwin and I won a prize for a poem I wrote for a magazine “Comhar Og”. The title of my poem was “A Dainty Little House”. We were given a picture of a house in the countryside and asked to write a poem based on that picture. After a few minutes studying it I thought how nice the house looked and also of the homeless who don’t have any house. I decided to dedicate my poem to these people. When I submitted it I had no idea that it would be published. I was delighted with my achievement. Our Principal presented myself and my

friend Alison with a cheque for 20 euro each. I will continue to write poetry le Cúnamh Dé.

Teachín Beag Bídeach

Ar thaobh an bhóthair
Bhí teachín beag bídeach.
Bhí sé deacair féachaint isteach,
Ach rinne mé iarracht.

Bhí fuinneog bheag
Ar thaobh on teachín,
Nuair a d’fhéach mé isteach,
Leáigh mo chroí beagáinín.

Bhí tinteán ar lasadh sa seomra suí,
Ba mhian liom éalú ón bhfuacht
Is a bheith gar don tine,
I mo luí.

Ach níl an ceart agam
A bheith in áit chomh hiontach,
Mar sin shiúil mé ar ais sa bhfuacht,
I bhfad ón teachín beag bídeach.

Le Carla Irwin



Filí Inár Measc



**Alison
Barnes
Class
Group**

magazine “Comhar Óg”. My Principal presented Carla and myself with a cheque each worth 20 euro. Everybody was very happy for us. I really enjoyed the experience and I have entered again for the next edition of the magazine.

Is mise Alison Barnes. Scríobh mé dán le haghaidh comórtas san iris “Comhar Óg”. “Níos Sona” is ainm do mo dhán. Chonaic me pictiúr de theach beag faoin tuath agus scríobh me faoi feirmeoir sa teach go sona sasta cois tine tar eis lá fada ag obair go dian. Sheól mé é chuig an gcomortas agus fuair me ríomhphoist ar ais. Cúpla lá ina dhiaidh sin d’inis mo mhuinteoir Ghaeilge dom gur bhuaigh me duais fiche euro. Bhí mé an sasta mar níor cheap mé go raibh seans agam. Anuas ar sin bhí “Níos Sona” foilsithe san iris. Bhí mé ar mhuinteoir na muice nuair a chuala mé an nuacht. Bhronn an príomhoide an seic orm féin agus mo chara Carla. Bhi sceitimíní orainn agus bhí gach duine sásta. Bhain mé taitneamh as an ócáid agus chuir mé dan eile isteach don chéad eagraire eile.

My name is Alison Barnes and I entered a poetry competition. “Happier” was the title of my poem. We were given a picture of a house in the country and asked to write a poem based on it. The theme of my poem was the happiness and contentment of a farmer sitting by the fire in the house after a hard days work. I sent my poem to the magazine and a few days later my Irish teacher informed me that I had won a prize. I was also really delighted to learn that my poem had been published in the

Níos sona

Bhí se an-fhuar
Ach ní raibh scamall sa spéar
Bhí an teach beag
Agus deatach go léir

Ní raibh aon duine
Ag siúl in aice an tí
Bhí an feirmeoir ag obair
Bhí gach rud go maith

Istigh sa teach beag
Bhí sé an-te
Agus in aice na tine
Bhí áthas ar an bhfeirmeoir gan aon agó

Tar éis lá fada oibre
Is gaiscíoch aon duine
Bhí sé tuirseach

Ach anois bhí sé níos sona

Le Alison Barnes

*I sent my poem
to the
magazine and
a few days
later my Irish
teacher
informed me
that I had won
a prize.*





*B'fhéidir go
mbeidh duine acu
ina Tánaiste*

Bua na Cainte

Ayodele Arogundade, Caoimhe Dempsey and Megan Ross of sixth year have progressed to the second round of Comórtas

Díospóireachta an Phiarsaigh.

Ar an naoú lá déag de Shamhain, ghlac triúr daltaí as an séú bliain páirt i gComórtas Díospóireachta an Phiarsaigh. Eagraíonn Gael Linn an chomórtas seo a bunaíodh caoga bliain ó shin, agus is iomaí polaiteoir a ghlac páirt sa chomórtas seo le linn na mbliana – Mary Hannafin agus an Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore ina measc.

Bhí ceithre fhoireann sa chéad bhabtha agus bhí sé ar súil i gColáiste Naomh Mhuire, Ráth Maoinis. Ba é an rún ná *'Is féidir linne in Éirinn ár muinín a chur sa chéad ghlúin eile!'* Bhí Meánscoil Naomh Iosef de Cluny i bhfábhar an rúin, chomh maith le Meánscoil San Doiminic, Baile Thormaid. Bhí Coláiste Chiaráin, Léim an Bhradáin, agus Coláiste Naomh Mhuire, Ráth Maoinis, i gcoinne an rúin.

Bhí Ayodele Arogundade ina cap-tain na foirne agus rinne sí sainmhíniú den scoth ar an rún. Ansin, labhair Caoimhe Ní Dhiomsaigh agus Megan de Rossa ina diaidh. Labhair siad le muinín agus bhí siad lánabálta bréagnú a dhéanamh ar argointí na bhfoirne eile. Ní théann ach dhá fhoireann ar aghaidh go dtí an chéad bhabtha eile, agus bhí caighdeán na díospóireachta an-ard. Tar éis tréimhse fhada machnaimh, rinne na moltóirí a gcinneadh. D'éirigh le Cluny dul ar aghaidh go dtí an dara babtha! Bhí áthas an domhain ar na cailíní agus mhol na moltóirí go hard iad. Guíonn gach duine sa scoil ádh mór ar Ayo, Caoimhe agus Megan sa chéad bhabhta eile. B'fhéidir go mbeidh duine acu ina Tánaiste sa todhchaí freisin!



TY Maths Week Quiz

TY Maths week quiz
Took place on Friday October 18th
at 8.45a.m.

Special
thanks to
Ellen For-
tune who
did the
scoring.



Comórtas Juvenes Translatores

Ar an ochtú lá is fiche de Shamhain, ghlac mé féin, Siobhán Nic an tSaoir (Hannah McAteer), Niamh Ní Chraith (Niamh McGrath), Eibhlín Ní Chonchúir (Ellen O'Connor) agus Jill Ní Mháirtín (Jill Martin) páirt i gcomórtas darb ainm *Juvenes Translatores*. Ar feadh dhá uair a chloig, bhí orainn sliocht a aistriú ó Ghaeilge go Béarla agus i gcás amháin, sliocht a aistriú ó Fhraincís go Béarla. Eagraíonn an Coimisiún Eorpach an comórtas seo gach bhlian agus an aidhm atá aige ná feasacht a ardú faoin ngá atá ann do theangacha eile a thuiscint. An bhliain seo, bhí an comórtas oscailte do dhaltai scoile san Aontas Eorpach ar fad a rugadh sa bhliain 1996. Mar seo, ní raibh cead ag aon duine níos sine nó níos óige cur isteach. Bhí díoma an-domhain ar a lán daoine sa rang mar gheall ar seo! Ar an lá, thosaíomar ar a naoi ar chlog ar maidin agus bhíomar an-neirbhíseach. Ach ar an iomlán, ní raibh sé chomh dona! Bhí sé dushlánach ach cheap mé go raibh sé an-tairbheach agus gur thaithí den scoth í. De bhreis ar sin, fuaireamar t-léinte, málaí agus cartai poist saor in aisce ó na heagraithe sa Bhruiséil! Ní raibh mé ag gearán faoi sin, ar chor ar bith!

Turas trí lá chun na Bruiséile a thabharfar mar dhuais don aistritheoir óg is fearr sa tír. Buailfidh siad leis an gCoimisinéir um Oideachas, Cultúr, Ilteangachas agus Óige agus leis na buaiteoirí ó thíortha eile. Anuas ar sin, tabharfaidh siad cuairt ar cheanncheathrú aistriúcháin an Choimisiúin chun léargas a fháil ar obair aistritheoirí gairmiúla. Nach mbeadh lúchair an-domhain orainn dá mbeadh an bua ag duine sa scoil seo! Ach beidh orainn fanacht ar feadh dhá mhí mar ní bheidh na torthaí foilsithe go dtí Mí Feabhra!

Ar aon nós, tá mé chomh sásta go raibh an deis agam páirt a ghlacadh sa chomórtas seo i mbliana. Tá súil agam go gcoimeadann an scoil suas leis an gcomórtas an bhliain seo chugainn!

Ayodele Arogundade

6L



bhí orainn

sliocht a

aistriú ó

Ghaeilge go

Béarla agus i

gcás amháin,

sliocht a

aistriú ó

Fhraincís go

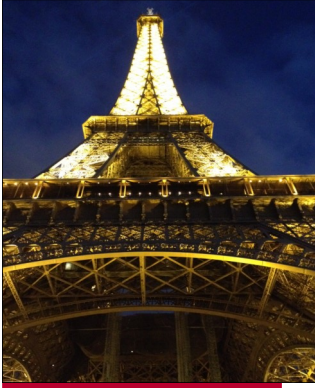
Béarla.

Career in HR Talk to 6th Years

Sharon Seagrave Senior HR (Human Resources) Analyst with Merck Sharp & Dohme Pharmaceutical giving a talk organised by the Business Department to sixth years about a career in HR.



6th Year Art tour of Paris



Eiffel Tower Paris
by Night

*...as all the lights
of the city
twinkled below
us we swooned
at the thoughts
of a romantic
Eiffel tower
proposal in the
city of love.*



6th Year Art Class Trip to Paris

Our very first metro ride in Paris, and a man goes along the carriages playing an accordion and singing to the passengers. The thirteen of us from the 6th year art class laughing and cheering him on and everyone else acts as if it is completely normal. Immediately we knew that Paris was very different from Dublin and this would be an extremely interesting few days in this vibrant city.

We arrived in Paris on Saturday the 26th of October. Our first destination was the beautiful Montmartre which is full of cobbled streets, boutiques, and elegant houses that the artists of Paris once inhabited. At the very top of Montmartre is the Sacre Coeur Cathedral which (after climbing many many many steps!!) looks over the whole city of Paris. The outstanding view at the top was well worth the long walk as we looked out at the huge city and all its buildings. We then had dinner in Flunch and set off for our River Seine cruise. On our way to the cruise, we saw the Eiffel tower for the very first time and we were all taken aback by how large and beautiful it was as it sparkled in the evening sky. Our River Seine cruise was wonderful. We got to see all the most famous buildings of Paris all lit up in the night time. My favourite part was seeing all the people gathered on the walls of the bridges, singing, playing music, and relaxing with friends.

The next day, after a much needed sleep and a panicked awakening

due to mixing up the changed time zones and also the hour going back, we set off for our first museum, the Musee Marmottan. Here we saw wonderful paintings of Claude Monet, Bert Morisot and Renoir. It was amazing to see in person the paintings we had studied and get a sense of their true scale, colour, and style. We then had lunch in a lovely cafe where we got free dessert of little cakes and tarts. We then visited the Musee de les Arts Decoratifs, which is the museum of decorative arts which include as fashion, textiles, jewellery, and furniture. We saw an exhibition on the development of underwear throughout the ages and even got to try on giant underskirts from the Victorian period. We also saw jewellery, embroidery, and fashion which gave us great ideas for our own embroidery projects this year. That night we got to see the amazing Eiffel tower again and go all the way up to the top. The view from the top was amazing and as all the lights of the city twinkled below us, we swooned at the thoughts of a romantic Eiffel tower proposal in the city of love. We then all began to imagine our perfect Paris proposals.

The next day we went to the wonderful Musee d'Iorangerie. Here we saw the magnificent water lilies by Monet. They are many feet long and they curve around the walls of white oval shapes rooms. The scale and colours were very impressive, we were all amazed as we finally got to see the brush

6th Year Art tour of Paris continued

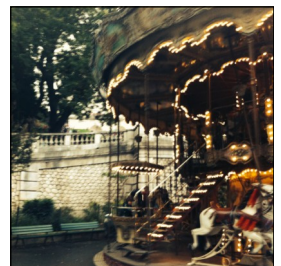
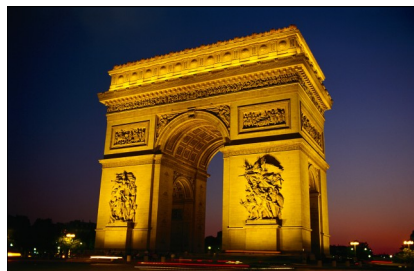
strokes and colours of the dappled lilies that Monet is so famous for. We then went shopping which everyone thoroughly enjoyed and headed to Pizza Hut for dinner with arms full of shopping bags.

Tuesday was our last day in Paris and we were all sad to be leaving the city we had fallen in love with. We were meant to go to the Musee d'Orsay but unfortunately it was unexpectedly closed that day. So after a change of plan we walked up the river and got to see many beautiful places such as Notredame and the Louvre. They were so beautiful and elegant. We then got to see the lock bridge where couples write their names on a padlock, lock it to the bridge and finally throw the key away into the river. Every inch of the bridge was covered by locks of all different shapes and sizes. We even found one that said "will you marry me" on it with a big "YES" scribbled on top and the proposal plans we had come up with were expanding again with locks, romantic dinners, and

cruises being added to the list! After some more shopping and serious damage being done in the makeup store Kiko (not mentioning any names!) we took the train to the airport. Being typical Cluny girls, we made a singsong out of the journey, which the passengers found highly entertaining. As we took off in the airplane, we looked out the window down at the twinkling city of love thinking about all the wonderful things we had seen. Everyone had a brilliant time. We learned so much about the artists on our course and were inspired by new styles that we saw. It was a very beneficial trip that we will never ever forget. Thank you Ms Devaney and Ms Archibald !



we learnt so much about the artists on our course and were inspired by new styles that we saw.



Blackrock Radio

Hazel Nolan, Jennifer Hickey, Kate Whelan, Miona Fogarty, Aine Jones, Aisling Scully.

The production team were responsible for the organisation and production of the Cluny thirty minute guest slot on Blackrock College TY Radio.



TY Art Workshop



On the 15th of November our TY art class had a full day of workshops to help us prepare for the national Junk Kouture competition.

Costume Design for Stage and Design



Eimear, the head lecturer in Design for Stage and Screen in IADT came in to talk to us about how to go about researching the themes of our outfits. She explained fashion history and how it influences us today. She showed us a few portfolios from some of her students, which helped us to understand the amount of work that goes into creating a costume for a character. She encouraged us to use designs from the past as well as our imagination to make our outfits.

*She explained
fashion history
and how it
influences us
today*



LA Academy of Creative Arts

Our next workshop was held by Laura and Sarah from LA Academy of Creative Arts who showed us a few tips on how to do our make-up for the catwalk, which included applying an androgynous look to Niamh's eyebrows. They both really helped us to emphasis the theme of our project. Laura

also explained to us what it takes to make a career in make-up. Laura is an acclaimed make-up artist who recently worked on the TV programme "The Voice".

Fashion Designer

After lunch we entered the extraordinary world of Claire Garvey. Claire is a very famous Irish fashion designer who makes outfits out of recycled materials. She designed an outfit that was made from rubber mats and handbags which was worn on this year's X-Factor. Claire also brought in some of her recent creations which are all handmade and one of a kind. She came around to each of our groups and talked about our designs and how we can improve them.

It was a very worthwhile and enjoyable day. We certainly learned a lot of new skills and techniques and hopefully it might put us a step ahead of the competition. It also gave us a very good insight to what it is like in the careers of the visual arts.

By Niamh McCarthy & Aislinn Brennan



TY Architecture Trip to Granby Park



One of the new modules introduced into the TY program this year is Architecture. Recently my option group visited Granby Park in Dublin's inner

city. Accompanied by Ms. Archibald, we set off in the bus with a packed lunch and high expectations.

Granby Park is a "pop-up" park by nature, open from the 22nd of August to the 22nd of September. The initiative was set up by Upstart, a group of talented architects, artists and designers who wanted to make the use of the dis-used space. The actual site was supposed to be developed into apartments, but it never happened due to the arrival of the recession. Granby Park is made from recycled, up-cycled, donated and found materials from all over the area. The eclectic park definitely adds some colour to the concrete pavement! The park hosts a variety of art installations and interactive pieces, all made from recycled materials, as well as a café, kids' play area, pyramid swing, research library, and even a stage made entirely by teenagers from old palettes, which is complete with the sign: "keep off the stage, we're waiting for Shakira". The park also hosts gigs and a skill exchange with classes run by local people willing to teach others.

When we got there, none of us knew what to expect. The park was really an open air exhibition, which we all thoroughly enjoyed looking at and interacting with, especially when we could all

leave our mark on a piece designed especially for visitors' notes. Some left inspirational quotes, others random doodles of whatever came to mind at the time! One of the leading architects there told us then when they are taking down the park, other groups are welcome to contact them to make use of the left-over materials, as they want these parks to start popping up all over the country! The experience as a whole was really inspiring; showing us what can be done with a space in a short space of time. It was a great introduction to the module, and I'm definitely looking forward to the rest of TY architecture!

Niamh McCarthy 4L



TY Students in Granby 'Popup' Park

The experience as a whole was really inspiring; showing us what can be done with a space in a short space of time.

5th Yr Portfolio Class

Photography Project

During our photography project we were given a variety of different themes each week such as "Everyday Life", "Beauty", and "Decay". We were asked to respond to these themes with a personal interpretation through photography.

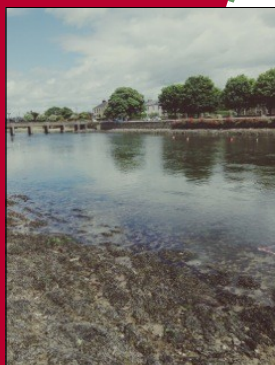
My picture was taken in the first week. The theme was "Everyday Life". Using my smart phone, I took a variety of pictures involving my surroundings. It was a good experience for me because as I took each picture I was able to see all the beautiful and interesting scenes around me that I might not have realised were there on a day to day basis.

Gemma Lynch

We were given the theme 'Everyday Life' so I took pictures of my walk to school in the morning. The morning of this picture the atmosphere was foggy and had an

eerie feel. Getting this theme made me look at everything around me differently. I was able to really appreciate what I saw around me, things I was used to seeing everyday.

Ellen O'Toole



Landscape by
Isabel Pert-Curto
Eerie morning by
Ellen O'Toole



*I was able to
really appreciate
what I saw
around me,
things I was used
to seeing
everyday.*



Killiney By Carmen Molly



Beauty By Sarah Kate O'Connor

CSPE—Third Year 2013

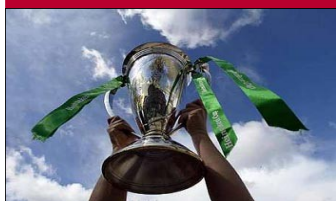
Last year, when we were in second year, four of us held a fundraiser for the Blackrock Hospice. We held a cake sale in May and also held a raffle of two Heineken Cup Final tickets. We were only too delighted to announce that Emily McHugo won.

We are very glad to announce that one hundred and forty five euro and sixty three cents were raised for the hospice. The money has gone and

made a real difference. It has been put towards facilities and activities for all the hospices' patients.

We would like to thank all the people who made this fundraiser possible. These include Ms. Rooney, our teacher, Mairead Dillon, our hospice guest speaker, our parents who supported us, and of course everyone who contributed!

Thank You. Amber Barry, Alison Barnes, Caitriona Grant and Marta Serrano.



Bronze Gaisce Award Recipients



Congratulations to the following 5th Year students who completed the challenges for the Bronze Gaisce Award in Transition Year 2012-2013. To achieve this, the participants had to do one hour per week of a Skill, a Physical Activity and Voluntary Work in the Community for 13 weeks and an additional 13 weeks doing one of these. They also were required to carry out a two day Venture Trip which, for this group, involved two days hiking in the Glendalough area covering a distance of 25 KM. Presentation of the Bronze Gaisce Medals took place at the beginning of year school assembly.

Sarah Ayres	Rebekah Butler
Zoe Cacades-Chandler	Aoife Carraher
Rebecca Carroll	Anna Carroll
Lucy Carvill	Jinsu Connolly Brady
Leah Costello	Leah Crowley
Eve Cunningham	Julie Davis
Hannah Dempsey	Kate Doorly
Niamh Doyle	Grainne Fay
Emma Finn	Kate Geraghty
Sophie Grehan	Becky Hackett
Emily Kavanagh	Orla Kavanagh
Rebecca King	Amy Lambert
Kate McDonald	Aileen McGrath
Emily McHugo	Ciara McKeown
Amy McNiece	Emma McSweeney
Catherine Moore	Susie Moynihan
Aoife Nolan	Emma Nolan
Aoife O Driscoll	Caoimhe Ni Bhroin
Anne O Grady	Ellen O Hagan
Sarah-kate O Connor	Niamh Plunkett
Maeve Rafferty	Cliona Rellis
Sophie Rhattigan-Walsh	Aisling Ruigrok
Olwen Wymer	



Silver Gaisce Award Recipients

Congratulations and Well Done to the following 6th Years who completed the challenges for the Silver Gaisce award in 5th year. Presentation of Medals took place in Trinity College on Thursday evening 5th December. To achieve this award, the participants had to commit one hour minimum per week of a Physical Activity, a Skill and Community work for 26 weeks. In addition they were required to plan and implement a venture journey which, for this group, was a three day hike on the Wicklow Way covering a distance of 50Km. A fantastic achievement!

Ayodele Arogundade
Ellen Ashe
Fiona Deegan
Caoimhe Dempsey
Kelly Livingston
Rachel Hickey
Shauna Rogerson
Clodagh Hinkson
Cleo Jenson
Niamh Forster
Zoe Byrne
Zoe Harvey Graham
Sophie Jones
Aoife O Donovan
Laura O Connor
Caroline Stokes





Sommerskurs in Deutschland

This summer we travelled to Germany. We arrived in the city of Augsburg, Bavaria after taking a plane and two trains from Munich Airport. Claire and Kate stayed with an elderly host family and Clóna stayed with a German-Turkish family. Both families were very nice and helpful and our roommates were from interesting places like Switzerland and Russia. We started school at half 8 every day and finished at 1. Every day in the afternoon we did fun activities such as going to a waterpark or shopping and on Wednesdays we had no school and a full day of excursions. We visited Nuremberg and Neuschwanstein, the famous 'Disney' castle. On weekends

and after school we had lots of free time to go out with friends from school. This experience was very enjoyable because we got to make friends with people from all around the world (Mexico, Canada, Colombia, Russia and Georgia). Overall it really helped improve our German in listening, writing and speaking. We hope to go back to Germany next summer! We would recommend anyone studying a language in school to go abroad to the country, if they get the opportunity, as you will improve your grades and you'll meet lots of interesting people.

By Kate, Claire and Clóna, 5L.



Open Day in the Geography Room

First of all, in the geography room there was a 'Who wants to be a millionaire' quiz. In this quiz you are asked 15 questions based on geography.

It was great fun and lots of people really enjoyed it.

The geography room on open day was rainforest themed. When you walked in you were met by a ground world mat on the floor. There were animals all over the place - on the windowsills, on the tables and even hanging from the projector. All teddies of course! Jordan and I had to make volcanoes. We each had the plastic volcano, sand, vinegar, red food dye and bicarbonate of soda. We each started by placing sand around the volcano. After that we put the vinegar in. There were a few spills but everything was ok. Then Mr. Twomey added the red food dye. After

that we put the bicarbonate of soda in it. My eruptions were a lot more violent than Jordan's but everything went great.

There was also a debate going on in the geography room. The motion was 'The destruction and industrialisation of the Amazon rainforest is necessary for human survival'. On the proposing side we had Niamh Ahern and Cristine Blennerhassett and on the opposing side we had Laura Mahon and Kelly Livingston. In the end the proposing side won.

Also in the geography room there was a video of the tropical rainforest set up on the projector. It showed amazing videos of natural wild life, fluffy pandas, cranky crocodiles, sneaky snakes and a bit of monkey business. It was great and it made everyone laugh.

Open day was great, especially in the Geography room

By Jordan Lacy and Sarah Newport (1X)



Our Retreat to Glendalough

Last Friday, our whole year went on a retreat. We were all so full of excitement that we almost, and I stress the word *almost*, forgot all about it being the dreaded Friday the 13th. But trust us. It wasn't long before choruses of 'fingers crossed nothing bad happens today...' and 'OH MY GOD IT'S FRIDAY THE 13TH!' filled the concert hall before morning assembly. Never ones to dwell on the little trivialities of life though, we made our way, full of enthusiasm, to board the buses to Glendalough.

One may wonder why we were all so excited at the prospect of spending a whole day in Glendalough of all places. It wasn't as if we'd never been there before plus unless you're a real lover of nature, it wouldn't have offered much in the way of entertainment. The difference was that this would be the first time that we would be leaving the school to have our retreat. For the past five years, our annual retreat had been confined to the boundaries of the school cafeteria so it was nice, in our final year of school, to get out into the great outdoors and have some time to reflect on life in general.

When we arrived, we were greeted by Father Michael Rodgers (and a swarm of wasps- Friday the 13th in action...), a priest that has been affiliated with our school in the past and who accompanied the school to the Holy Land years ago. Once we had all settled down and stopped running around in circles in unsuccessful attempts to ward off the wasps, he gently explained to us that the day would be about focussing on our senses and feelings and that silence was of the essence. Silence. Not exactly a word we were familiar with but being

in the year that we are, we were up for the challenge.

Throughout the day, we walked through Glendalough (in silence), stopping at various points to listen to Father Rodgers explain its religious

history and give us time to reflect. Although I personally find it difficult to stay one hundred per cent silent all the time, I must say that my favourite part of the whole retreat was when we were told to separate from each other and just listen- listen to all the different sounds around us and take them in. It was at that point that I realised that it's okay to just sit in complete and utter silence. Sometimes it's needed. With the year that's in it (I refuse to say it) sometimes it's easy to forget to just take some time out. And if there's anything that I took from the retreat, it's that sometimes we need to just stop and listen.

We finished up with a nice mass in an old church ruin called ' Séipéal na mBan'- a very fitting place to have a mass with 70-odd young women. Despite the rain and an interfering helicopter, it was a lovely way to finish what turned out to probably be one of the most relaxing days we 6th years will have in a while...

By Ayodele Arogundade 6L



**sometimes we
need to just
stop and
listen.**

Visit from A Holocaust Survivor



It was a great opportunity to hear about this dreadful event in our history from someone who so bravely survived

On October 24th, the Fifth Year History classes and the Sixth Year girls were visited by a Holocaust Survivor named Tomi Reichenstahl.

Tomi spoke about how he and his family were expelled from Czechoslovakia and brought to Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp when he was nine years old. They suffered greatly while in Bergen-Belsen, and Tomi lost over 30 members of his family by the end of the war. Those in Bergen-Belsen were one of the first camps to be released by the British troops, and the BBC filmed their experience upon entering Bergen-Belsen, with Tomi present.

In 1959, Tomi moved to Ireland and married a young Irish woman. They lived a very happy life and had children together. Tomi never spoke about his experiences in Bergen-Belsen, and he never told his late wife. Ten years ago, he began speaking of what happened to

him and his family in Bergen-Belsen during World War Two. He is one of the last survivors of the Holocaust, and travels around Ireland giving people an eyewitness account as to what went on in these camps, and what life was like. He recently wrote a book '*I Was A Boy in Belsen*,' which is all about his life before, during and after his time in Bergen-Belsen. He also took part in a documentary about his life.

It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet Tomi and learn all about his life. Given the number of pupils that waited to receive a signed copy of his book, it was very clear that all present were thoroughly enthralled by Mr. Reichenstahl's account. It was a great opportunity to hear about this dreadful event in our history from someone who so bravely survived and we are extremely grateful to Mr. Reichenstahl for sharing his solemn experience with us.



Social Inclusion Week Exhibition

Laoise Mangan, Eve Carr, Saoirse Reide and Aisling Scully recently represented the school and Gaisce at the Social Inclusion Week exhibition which took place in the County Hall in Dun Laoghaire. The exhibition was organised by the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and was open to the general public. It was organised to create more awareness of the various community based activities which are happening in the area.

An Cahaoirleach, Councillor Carrie Smith who attended the event commented on how well the Cluny girls carried out their task and interacted with the public.

In St Joseph of Cluny, all Transition year students do 13 weeks community service as part of the TY programme and many have taken on the challenges of the Bronze Gaisce Award, which includes a requirement to do 13 weeks community involvement.

Small Business Ideas

As part of our transition year home economics module, we were assigned a task to come up with an idea for a small food business. Our idea was to bake chocolate chip cookies and present them attractively. We decided we would sell them in packets containing five cookies for a big profit! Other girls in our class had ideas from ginger bread men, to brownies to Christmas cupcakes. Some were decorated with glitter and some were festively decorated. We

enjoyed making these and you should look out for S&L cookies on the Dragons Den in the future. Watch out Marks and Spencer's cookies!

By Shauna O'Carroll 4C and Louisa Maye 4L



We decided we would sell them in packets containing five cookies for a big profit!

Business Quiz

On the fourteenth of November, eight third year students took part in a business quiz. It was hosted in Tallaght IT. The quiz consisted of junior certificate business and general knowledge questions.

We were divided into two groups of four. In one group were Alison Barnes, Ruth Jameson, Mia Kenny and Amber Barry. In the other group were Emily Harte, Sophie MacSweeney, Jane Byrne and Alison Rae.

It was great fun. We all had a fantastic time and really enjoyed ourselves. Schools from all over Dublin took part. We were given lots of free stuff including chocolate, crisps, bon-bons, high-lighters and pens.

The quiz consisted of ten rounds with ten questions in each. As the quiz went on, the questions got harder. We tried our very best and came out with very good results, with each team gaining fifty one points each. We were just five behind the team that came third.

We would like to thank all our parents for bringing us over and back. We would especially like to thank Ms O' Riordan, our teacher. She was there with us and supported us all the time. Overall it was great fun and a great experience.

Amber Barry, 3X



Bank Trip: 1st Yr Business & 4th Yr Enterprise



On Tuesday the 12th of November the fourth year enterprise class along with some first years took the bus down to the Bank of Ireland in Dun Laoghaire.

We were greeted at the door by a lady who helped to run the bank. She told us a bit about the bank and what we would be doing for the trip.

First we went to the safe. This was very interesting to see where they keep the money and how much security it is under. While we were down at the safe we also saw some log books that dated as far back as 1869!

We then went up to the room where the cashiers worked. They showed us how the machines worked and informed us on how and why it's important to open a bank account.

At the end of the trip they answered all of our questions.

Overall the bank trip was very successful. It was an interesting trip and a great eye-opener to see how a bank works and functions. It also helped me to decide what role I would like to play when we take on the school bank, as the trip gave me a better understanding of what each role entailed.

This was very interesting to see where they keep the money and how much security it is under.

Second Year Lunch Munch!

The 2Y Lunch Quiz, 3rd October, was won by the 'Peaceful Platypusses'! It went to a tie-break against the 'Catlacarcaccasmas'! Huge thanks goes to the Tutor Ms. Smyth and to Jessica O'Sullivan, Quiz Master, Senior Prefects and supplier of Prizes and Ruby Wall biscuit maker supreme.

The 2W Lunch Quiz was very colourful indeed, with Team Red beating the Yellows, the Oranges and the Blues. The Chewy Homemade biscuits enjoyed by Ms. Rooney and the rest were made by Louise Burne, Senior Prefect to 2W and proving yet again that those girls really can bake!

2X's definitely enjoyed a somewhat roudy Lunch Quiz on Thursday October 17th. Winners su-

preme were "The Jea's", four tie-breaker questions later... thanks to Ruth Richardson senior prefect who knows the name of the monkey in the Lion King!

I would like to thank the Second Years for including me and my famous pot of tea!!

Ms. Dullaghan, Second Year Yr. Head



Basketball Cluny Hoops Christmas Update 2013-14

The hoop season has been an up and down one so far this year. Good results one week and the next week slipping up—not having the consistency needed to close out matches!! But we keep preaching that that's life. We are striving for that perfect game, the season where it all falls into place leading to a match-winning performance and on to semi-finals and finals. As long as we are honest with our "Effort and Having Fun" All will be OK! So far, Cluny teams have come up short in Dublin and South Dublin League Semi-finals. Senior A went down fighting against Castleknock CS in the Dublin semi-final 62-41 and the U/16 Cadette team had a narrow defeat to rivals Teresians 28-24, but will have a chance to seek revenge in the South Dublin League semi-final in our gym. Good Luck girls!

The Sr. B team were knocked out of the quarter finals by Mt. Anville in a close encounter over in Anville's gym. The team is a young team and should come together nicely in the future. The Christmas break will come at time where it will give everyone a chance to

regroup and get ready for the later part of the season. I would like to take the time to thank all players for their commitment and dedication in turning up for training this term!

Happy and Safe Holidays.....Looking forward to 2014!

The 2nd Year and 1st Year basketball will take off when everyone returns from the Christmas break. The good thing is that the 2nd and 1st years are very keen to do well in Leagues and have looked well in all friendly matches to date. Any 2nd year or 1st year who is not involved in a team sport should try to get involved as soon as possible as you're missing a real opportunity to meet and make new friends, along with adding to your own personal growth. So come on don't be shy!

Article by: ECR



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**Congratulations to the U16 Basketball Team
for making it to the South Dublin League
by defeating Teresians 36-26
in their Semi-final on Monday.
Final will be in January.
Well done girls!**

5th Year School Trip to Barcelona



*It's enough to say
we were all
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entered our
heads.*

On the 26th of October, at six thirty in the morning, the fifth years, including myself, embarked on our trip to Barcelona. We were all so excited at the prospect of staying away from home in sunny Spain with each other. We arrived at our destination on time and we quickly stepped onto the bus and off onto our own adventure. We travelled straight to the heart of Barcelona, Catalunya. We were given an hour to wander around ourselves and get a feel for the city. We got to walk down the infamous Las Ramblas and taste the local tapas. When we met up again, we took a bus tour of Barcelona and visited the famous landmark, La Sagrada Família. It was incredible! Next on the agenda was to visit the Science Museum on Mount Tibidabo. We all really enjoyed the museum as it was enjoyable for all ages and it was very interactive.

After a very long day, we travelled to the Hotel Calypso in Salou. It's enough to say we were all exhausted and the thoughts of staying up all night never entered our heads. Well, definitely not my head!

On the Sunday, we spent the entire day in the theme park Port Aventura. We were extremely lucky as Spain

was experiencing a heat wave for the days we were abroad. Let's just say, we were all very grateful for the water rides! It was a very enjoyable day over all, we returned back to the

hotel and camped out in the grass outside a few of the girl's rooms on the ground floor together.

On our last day in Barcelona, we visited an old rural town, Tarragona and got to wander around and see the beautiful Romanesque architecture and even hit the shops. However, the real shopping only began when we reached our next destination, Port Vell Shopping Centre. There were many shops to choose from but overall the shop that ended up getting most of our money was the make up shop Kiko. We spent most of the day in the shopping centre with access to the aquarium across the bridge.

Finally, we went back to the airport and we all said a sad goodbye to the Sun and Barcelona. Some were even a bit teary, probably a lack of sleep!

The trip was definitely worth going on. Our days were filled to the brim with all the different activities. We bonded together even more as a year group and we also got on very well with the teachers who had to live with us noisy girls for the three long days. On behalf of my year group, I would like to take this moment to say thank to our teachers, Mr. Browne, Mr. Hartigan, Mrs. Wholahan, Ms. McEvoy, Ms. Cuilliton and Ms. Doyle for putting up with us and a special thank you to Mr. Browne and Mr. Hartigan for organising the whole trip. It was a brilliant experience!

Sophie Rhattigan Walsh 5N



Deputy Principal's Diary



What a wonderful term we have had! Celebrations, successes, wins and awards! The list is quite impressive as you will have seen from previous pages. Our Carol Service was particularly moving this year with beautiful performances by all. Congratulations to all the parents on the Committee, to Mr Larkin, Ms Higgins and Mr O Farrell on a spectacular evening!

The highlight of the term was the official opening of the Astroturf on Friday Dec 13th 2013. It was a delight to welcome Sr. Rowena, Provincial of the Order, Fr Pádraig Gleeson, Parish Priest Sallynoggin, Sr. Claire, Superior, the Sisters of Killiney, Eilis Humphries, Education Officer from the Le Chéile Schools Trust, our distinguished guests and of course Jenny Burke and former rugby international and sports correspondent Tony Ward. Jenny, a past pupil of St. Joseph of Cluny Killiney, has coached in the school and is a former Irish International hockey player and Irish vice-captain. Jenny joined the Irish Senior squad in the spring of 1995 and received her first cap in Russia against China. She finished with 161 caps to make her the second highest capped women's player in Irish history. Her words of praise and encouragement to the girls were inspirational and well received as was Tony's advice for everyone to embrace some form of physical activity.

It was a day of joy and celebration and the culmination of many years of hard work and dedication. We gathered to acknowledge a job **exceptionally** well done, to celebrate the realisation of a vision and a dream for our school and for our pupil's. It was a time to share memories and to take pride in the wonderful construction and to appreciate, praise

and acknowledge all who had a role in its creation. It was really interesting to hear Sarah our Head Girl and Fiona our Deputy describe their memories (and in Sarah's case the injuries) of the old days on the former hockey pitch!!! What an amazing Pavilion too! May the chandelier be with you!

It was lovely to meet all the First Yr parents at our Parent's Social Evening in November. We will have to liaise with **One Direction** for the launch of their next album so that the girls are not so stressed!!

We have had great fun this term with our Buddies in 1st and 6th yr. Prefects organised Buddy Sessions of Board Games and Pizza lunches. Then we had the Giant Table Quiz for Buddies and our trip to the cinema to see the second in the Hunger Games Trilogy 'Catching Fire'. Many thanks to Iníon Uí Aodhagain, Ms Archibald, Ms Dillon, Michelle and Susan for all their assistance and to the staff at Dun Laoghaire IMC for their patience and cooperation as a result of unforeseen delays.

This year, the Parents and Ms Mc Phillips pulled out all the stops for the Careers Evening. It is so lovely to meet all our past pupils at the event and to hear how well they are doing and how happy they all are.

As ever at this time of year, the Library has been a 'Winter Wonderland' and is as always a warm and inviting place to be. There have been informative and interesting displays and exhibitions and Ms Dillon has been busy with Book Clubs, Quizzes and presentations. I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas. Nollaig Shona daíobh go léir agus athbhliain faoi mhaise.



Nollaig Shona

daíobh go léir

agus

athbhliain faoi

mhaise.





Christmas Cake Icing Demonstration

On Friday the 29th of November, Mary Mc Govern came in for our Culinary Arts double to give us an icing demonstration. She showed us how to make some festive figures like a snowman, a choir boy, a penguin and a Christmas tree and I got some great photos which you can see. She gave us lots of great tips for our cakes, like using a silk scarf to make the icing shine. She

showed us different sugar craft tools and techniques. She then surprised us all by raffling her finished cake, it was very generous of her and we were all very jealous of Anouk Fitzsimons who won the cake. We loved the demonstration and got lots of great ideas. We are looking forward to decorating our own cakes.

by Laoise Mangan 4N



Christmas Tree Decoration

Miss Fahey's two first year classes made Christmas decorations. We drew some possible designs and chose one to start with. Next we bought our fabrics and we made a pattern for the decorations. We had Christmas trees, Christmas puddings, robins, penguins, Rudolph, Christmas stockings, hearts, snowflakes and a hippo!!!! While making the decorations we

learned how to thread the needle and we learned some embroidery stitches. Most of us were finished for our Parent's Evening and we hung them on a little tree. We are very proud of our designs and look forward to hanging the decorations on our own trees at home or giving as Christmas presents to friends and family.



Pumpkin Soup

The week before Halloween midterm Miss Fahey's home economics class carved pumpkins and made pumpkin soup. In the single class on Tuesday we cut the top off the pumpkin and scooped out the seeds. Using a melon baller we scooped out the pumpkin flesh which we used to make our soup the next day. To make the soup we used 1kg of the pumpkin which we roasted first. Then we sautéed an onion, garlic, chilli and ground coriander and added the roasted

pumpkin and stock. Afterwards we liquidised the soup. Then came the most exciting part...carving the pumpkin. There were a range of scary and funny faces. Some of us named our pumpkins e.g. Coco Orange and we displayed the carved pumpkins around the school until Friday.



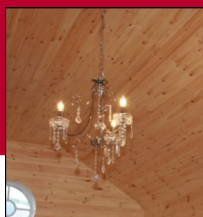
Photo Diary—Open Evening 2013



Photo Diary—Charity Dress-Up Day



Hockey in Cluny Enters A New Era



On returning to school at the end of August, there was much excitement as the new astroturf pitch began taking shape very quickly. Day after day the progress was very obvious, as we could see layer upon layer of the base layers going down followed by the rolling out of the astroturf itself. There was much interest in what it would look like, and what 'colour' it was going to be.

Meanwhile, as the construction was taking place, practice for Seniors, Juniors and Minors continued in Railway Union Hockey Club in Sandymount, and the girls were bussed in and out after school for the period up to midterm. First year practice took place in Castlepark school.

On returning to school after midterm, we were good to go. The pitch was ready and looking very impressive. We were blessed with a sunny day as we unofficially opened our new pitch and clubhouse. At 3.30pm the whole school assembled at the side of the pitch, and we had a countdown as we greeted two Seniors teams onto the pitch for a short game. The delight on the players faces as they stepped on the new pitch for the first time was great to see.

League matches meanwhile, had begun in late September with Seniors first into action. The Senior 1s began with a narrow defeat to Mt Temple, followed by a 1-1 draw with Loreto Bray. Their improvement continued with a comprehensive victory against Notre

Dame in the first league game on the new pitch. Senior 2s began with a win over Mt Anville, before losing to Skerries in their next game. Seniors 3 and 4 are also competing well against strong opposition.

The Juniors As have been in action recently too with good displays against both Sutton Park and Newbridge College. They were unlucky to suffer a narrow loss to the Kildare school. The Bs meanwhile were unfortunate to lose against High School following a courageous display, but found opposition from Loreto Dalkey and Alexandra College a little too strong. Both Minor teams are progressing well to date. The As have had winning results against Santa Sabina and Loreto Beaufort, and the Bs showing good form against Loreto Stephens Green and Loreto Bray. The First Years are about to start their leagues – which this year have a new format. They will be playing 8-aside on half a pitch as opposed to the other teams who are playing the usual 11-aside on a full pitch.

The numbers playing hockey are continuing to grow and we welcome all players - new and old to join or just to try the new pitch. It will really help to progress the game in Cluny. Good luck to all our teams for the remainder of the season.

Ms M
Seymour



*St Joseph of Cluny Supporting our local
St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal*

