St. Joseph of Cluny Winter Newsletter 2015

2015-2016 Edition I

December 2015

Special points of interest:

- From the Principal's Desk
- LC 2015 College Destinations
- School Tour to Italy
- Arts Week—Tour of Dublin Galleries
- Sports—Badminton,, Basketball & Hockey updates
- Carol Service 16th December Date for Diary

Inside this issue:

From the Principal's Desk	2-5
Leaving Cert Class 2015	7
School Tour	8-9
Musical Fame	10-13
Art Week	16-17
Recess	19
TY Enterprise Companies	22
Sports Pages	24-25

From Recess to Lake Garda, 1st Years to Graduates—A Day In The Life Of A Cluny Girl!

Seasons' Greetings

From the Principal's Desk: Nov 2015

Welcome everyone to our end-of-term 2015 Newsletter.

As the year draws finally to a close I hope the forthcoming Christmas season brings peace and joy to all in the Cluny community and an opportunity to catch up with friends and family amidst all the festivities.

We had many achievements in the school in 2015. Quite apart from the many student successes which we itemised in the Newsletters during 2014/15 and the many very positive events organised by the Parents Association, we also had the opening up of our new Tennis Courts, the redesign and upgrading of our Computer Room and the wonderful Haiti fundraising evening last May ie 'Strictly Cluny' organised as a joint effort by the Parents Association and the Staff.

Since our September Newsletter update there have been lots of events to report on and plenty of student events and achievements including two very successful school tours and a very successful 'new look 'Parents Association organised Careers Evening.

Unfortunately we had to cancel our **'First Year Social Evening'** on the 17th November last due to inclement weather and the busy school calendar is preventing us from finding a suitable replacement evening. We will instead look forward to seeing our First Years in action at their presentation evening next May 2016 instead!

Student Awards

This term brought another series of Awards from both **UCD** and **Trinity College** for our Leaving Cert students of 2015. This month three of last years' students were selected for awards at the **UCD Entrance Scholars Awards Ceremony** as a result of their high performance in their chosen faculty in L.C. 2015. The three students who were recipients of these awards were **Ciara McKeown** ie 605 points Radiography ; **Niamh Plunkett** 565 points Biomedical Science: **Caoimhe Ni Bhroin** 565 points Engineering. Similarly **Trinity College** held its **Trinity Entrance Exhibition Award** this month and **Aisling Ruigrok** who is now studying BESS and was the recipient of a Scholars Award there having achieved 600 points in last years' L.C. We are delighted again this year for our award recipients and we also congratulate all out recent graduates and wish them well in their new colleges or in the programmes they are undertaking this year.

Student Success

The large numbers of our **Fifth Years** who become annual recipients of **Silver Gaisce** medals has become a great success story for the school over the years as this is a challenge undertaken voluntarily by the Fifth Year group. Its success is due in no small measure to its organiser Mrs Breda Wolahan.

UCD Entrance Scholars Awards Ceremony as a result of their high performance in their chosen faculty in L.C. 2015. The three students who were recipients of these awards were **Ciara McKeown** ie 605 points Radiography ; **Niamh Plunkett** 565 points Biomedical Science: **Caoimhe Ni Bhroin** 565 points Engineering

Above: 5th Year Silver Gaisce Recipients
Below: Aisling Ruigrok and proud parents at the Trinity Entrance

From the Principal's Desk—continued

Congratulations therefore to the **16 Silver Gaisce** participants who received their award in Trinity College this week. There is a very demanding series of challenges involved in this silver programme so well done to all the students involved. We also wish the TY's well in the pursuit of their Bronze medals and congratulate **Mrs Wolahan** on her commitment to facilitating and assisting the girls annually.

Very special congratulations are due to Third Year student of ballet **Alana Borza 3X** who was invited by **Cork City Ballet** to perform **Swan Lake** in this month. What a great personal achievement this is for Alana.

In debating success for **Niamh Brennan 6N** who successfully advanced through the initial stages of the Leinster Schools Debating competition to debate in UCD this month. The **Concern Debating** team have advanced through their rounds and were successful against St Gerards in Bray this month and the team consists of **Fifth Years Hannah O Neill 5L, Amber Barry 5L, Ailbhe Mulhall 5C, Caoimhe Whelan 5N** and **Laura Laughlin 5C.** Congrats also to the Díospóireachtaí Gaeilge Bl.a sé **Ailise Allen 6C, Emma Duggan 6C** and **Chloe Langan 6C** who have been successful in the opening rounds of the competition. Congrats also to the Spanish debating team – **Hannah McSweeney 6C, Niamh McCarthy 6L, Miona Fogarty 6C** and **Ailise Allen 6C**on their first round success last month with **Hannah McSweeney 6C** nominated as the best speaker on the night. Well done to all our Senior debaters above and to Ms McEvoy, Ms Darmody and Ms Culliton for their preparation of the girls for the debating Leagues.

Parents Association

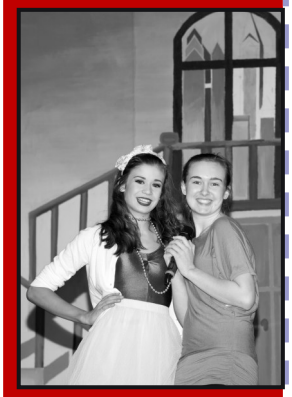
Congrats to the members of the Parents Association on the Success of the **'Careers Evening'** organised in association with the Career Guidance teachers Ms Mc Farland and Ms McPhilipps on 10 November last. As this will be a bi-annual event it was decided to include all senior students with the Third Years, for the first time this year, to allow Third years commence some fact finding on the future careers they might be considering. The evening included a guest appearance from **Dr Orla Donoghue, Science Faculty U.C.D** and a guest appearance from past pupil and actress **Aisling Franciosi.** The evening also included a talk for parents on the CAO system by the Guidance Counsellors. The feedback was very good from the girls and many thanks to Ms Ciara Chadwick from the Parents Association who re-designed and streamlined the hall and accommodated a conference type approach for the girls to access the presenters quickly and to hear from as many professions as possible. All in all it was a very successful event for the Parents Association and Chairperson Ms Ciara Duggan.

Many thanks to all involved with the hugely successful Careers Evening

School Events

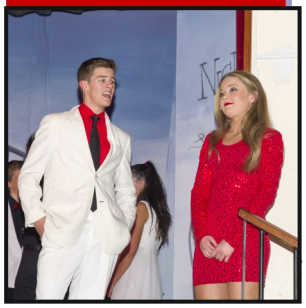
This term saw two very successful school tours i.e the **Fifth Year** school tour to **Verona** and **Lake Garda** which was organised during the October mid-term organised by Ms Doyle and Mr Browne with over 50 Fifth Year enjoying beautiful October sunshine and the wonderful sights and scenery of northern Italy.

From the Principal's Desk continued



Fame—TY Musical
October 2015

T.Y. girls who were very committed to all their rehearsals...



Ms Archibald and MsMcAleer also travelled that week with their Sixth year Art students on their annual tour of the Art galleries of **Paris.** How fortunate we were with the timing of that tour given the very sad events that unfolded in Paris in November. I hope all involved have great memories of their October Tour.

Congrats to **Mrs Irene Burke and the T.Y. students** - with the addition of the boys from Blackrock College - on the success of this year's Musical '**Fame'.** There was beautiful singing, choreographed dancing and spectacular costumes in this show, which is reflected in the beautiful Musical school photograph which has just gone up in the foyer. Our compliments to Mrs Burke on a great production again this year and our thanks to Debbie Kiernan the choreographer, Mr Michael Casey who co-ordinated the Music for the show and Mr J Leahy who was the chief Musical accompanist and voice trainer for the show. Well done to all our T.Y. girls who were very committed to all their rehearsals and in particular to the leads particularly '**Serena'** played so ably by **Issy O'Neill 4N,** and congrats to **Emer O Hara 4L**, **Sarah Kelly 4L, Siobhan Murphy 4N** and **Grace Lehane 4N** who played their parts to perfection. As the student's comments in the programme says it all 'It's safe to say that there is no small role in a production like this' and lovely to note that they felt 'we have bonded very closely and have mixed really well as a group because we had to help each other learn lines and practice dances'.

In Sports we have some of this term's highlights itemised in this Newsletter. Just to make special mention of some of the recent Sports' successes i.e. in **Badminton** ie the win for the U19 team against Wesley College 4-2 which puts the girls into a semi-final in the Dublin League : in Basketball the senior A's reached Dublin semi – final stage this week congrats to Rebecca Maher, Hazel Nolan and Capt Megan O' Toole. In Hockey there was a great win for the Senior B team against Mt Anville last week 4-0 and equally the Senior A win against Our Lady's Grove 2-0. Congrats to all the coaches involved and please see the other highlights in the articles enclosed.

Library

Please find the Library newsletter attached and I hope you all got to see the wonderful 'Alice in Wonderland' exhibition in the Library in October to celebrate the 150 year publication of this novel. It is such an influential, rich and extraordinary

From the Principal's Desk Continued

novel that benefits from re-reading time and again and Ms Dillon's exhibition did great justice to the rich and iconic symbolism that the novel yields up. Good luck to the Sixth Year Library Prefects this year i.e **Kirstin Higgins 5C** and **Cadhla Turner 5L.**

Sixth Year Leadership

Our **Buddy** system that links up our new

First years with the Sixth Years got off to a great start again this year. We have had our quota of meet –ups with lunches, quizzes, birthday treats and the up-and –coming annual Cinema outing on 15th December next. Halloween Dress up day was a great success again this year just before mid-term and the House Captains did a great job organising the 'Best Costume' fashion show at lunchtime. Well done to the girls for their funny, stylish and colourful costumes and to Ms Somers for helping to organising the event. Our **Head Girl Hazel Nolan 6L** and **Deputy Head Girl Niamh McCarthy 6L** are great student leaders this year and are proving to be great school Assembly presenters, each with their own style, as testified in the quality of their speeches for our recent 'Opening of the Year' school assembly organised by the Sixth Years. At this event the Sixth years present to the girls all elements of school life that they – the Sixth Years- have participated in and appreciated over the years. Our **Student Council** is being headed up this year by **Laoise Mangan 6L** and Sec **Ailbhe Mulhall 5C.** They are busy at present doing some fundraising and preparing their programme for the year with Ms Delahunty. We will doubtless be hearing from them during the year.

As we move into **December** a reminder that our annual **Carol Service** will be taking place on **Wed 16th December @ 8.00 pm in the school Hall** organised by **the Parent's Association** and followed by the annual **Mince Pie reception.** Donations will again be taken on the evening for the annual St Vincent de Paul Society collection.

In the meantime I hope that when the hustle and bustle is all over that you all find the month of December a time of rest, quiet and positive reflection of the year behind and the year to come. Every good wish to you all and your families for the Christmas season ahead. Nollaig Shona.
M. White Dec 2015

Carol Service will be taking place on **Wed 16th December @ 8.00 pm in the school Hall** organised by **the Parent's Association** and followed by the annual **Mince Pie reception**

6th Year Retreat to Glendalough

Having heard that there was an orange weather warning issued for the Friday of our retreat, we weren't looking forward to a day of being soaked to our skins while walking through Glendalough.

However, when we arrived, God was on our side and the rain stayed away for the duration of the day.

Father Michael Rogers had us all walk around a labyrinth in silence while reflecting on our life so far. He then took us around to famous spots around the lough and spread the message that life is precious. Before lunch, we stopped by the lake and realised how blessed we were to be alive in such a beautiful place.

To end our spiritual day, Father Rogers said mass in a small chapel by the lough. The chapel had originally been a cottage but was recently converted to a chapel for people on pilgrimages to have somewhere to stop for prayer.

So we ended the day not quite ready to join the Cluny Order, but definitely with a better understanding and appreciation for our life. By Chloe Langan & Hannah McSweeney.

6th Year Spanish Debating

our first motion: "La educácion deberia ser gratis", or "education should be free

Since the beginning of this school year, myself and the rest of the team, Hannah McSweeney, Míona Fogarty and Ailise Allen, have been partaking in the Leinster Spanish Debating Competition. I started doing Spanish debating mostly as way to improve my speaking skills, and having no previous experience with any sort of debating experience, I really wasn't expecting to get anywhere. Before long, we were given our first motion: "La educácion deberia ser gratis", or "education should be free". We were opposing the motion, and after two weeks of preparation, the debate took place in Castleknock College, against Ashbourne Community School in Meath. Aside from the speeches themselves, each team is required to ask the other team a question, and the team must answer on the spot, so your knowledge of Spanish is really put to the test! After a very heated debate, we emerged victorious, and were through to the next round! Soon enough we were given our next motion, which was definitely more difficult. "La religión no tiene lugar en el aula"-"religion has no place in the classroom"; and we were proposing. This debate was definitely more interesting to take part in, as everyone had different opinions on the topic. Unfortunately, we didn't win that debate, but it was really fun to engage in such an interesting topic, especially in light of recent events such as the marriage referendum. After each debate, the teams got a chance to mingle and even though the debate was very heated we chatted to our opponents and have even kept in touch since. So, not only was it good for our Spanish, we even made a few friends along the way! I would recommend taking part in the debates to anyone doing Spanish, and even if you think your level isn't great, debating really throws you into the thick of it and improves your fluency a lot.

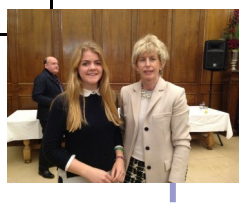
Niamh McCarthy

Debators
L-R: Ailise Allen, Niamh McCarthy, Hannah McSweeney & Míona Fogarty

Leaving Certificate Class 2015

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 2015**

Points	550-625	500-550	450-500	400-450	350-400	300-350	< 300
No of students attaining	8	9	10	12	9	5	7



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Engineering	1
Economics	1
Biomedical Science	1
Health and Performance Science	1
Science	1
Political Science and Economics	1
Arts	7
General Nursing	1
Psychology	1
Law & French	1
Radiography	1

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Computer Science	1
Computer Science & German	1
BESS	3
Science	1

DUBLIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Business Studies	1
Business Management	1
Culinary Entrepreneurship	1
Leisure Management	1
Science	1
Music	1
Business and Retail Management	1
Food Innovation	1
Tourism and Marketing	1

NUI MAYNOOTH

Science	1

ST PATRICKS COLLEGE

Early childhood education	1

DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY

Law	1

NUI GALWAY

Science	1
Marine Science	1

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY

Nursing	1

IADT

Business and Arts Management	1

BRAY COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

Animal Care	1
Fashion Theatre and Media Make-Up	1
Dance	1

DUN LAOGHAIRE COLLEGE OF FURTHER ED.

Nursing	2
Software Development	1
Arts, Culture and History	1

BLACKROCK COLLEGE OF FURTHER ED.

Business	1

SALLYNOGGIN COLLEGE OF FURTHER ED.

Performing Arts for TV & Film	1
Art Portfolio	1
Dance	1

STILLORGAN COLLEGE OF FURTHER ED.

Portfolio	1

WORKING/GAP YEAR 3

Fifth Year Tour of Italy Oct 2015

Jumping for Joy

On Saturday the 24th October 53 5th year girls, as well as 6 teachers, set off to Lake Garda, Italy. We left the school at 3:00 am sharp and everyone on the bus was chatty and excited despite the fact most of us were running on less than five hours sleep. Our flight from Dublin was spent sleeping and waiting in anticipation for the day ahead of us. We arrived in Milan Bergamo early and after collecting our luggage we quickly set off for Sirmione. After leaving the rain and wind in Ireland all of us were surprised by how hot and sunny it was! In Sirmione we were given two and a half hours to get some lunch and look around, with only one rule- to try the ice cream! After the traditional Italian lunch of pizza and pasta all of us spent the rest of the time in Sirmione devouring massive ice cream cones and taking in the beautiful view of Lake Garda. When the two and a half hours were over we all made our way to meet the teachers as slowly as we could- no one wanted to leave! Next, we went on cruise on Lake Garda to Malcesine. Here we made our way to the cable cars and after a brief (and slightly scary) journey in the cable cars we arrived at the side of the mountain. The view was amazing! Sadly we only had a few minutes to take some photos before making our way back down. Finally, we made our way to the hotel and after an interesting dinner in the hotel's restaurant we spent the night chatting and laughing, hoping the next day would be as great as the first.

By Eilidh Murphy

We left the school at 3:00 am sharp and everyone on the bus was chatty and excited despite the fact most of us were running on less than five hours sleep.

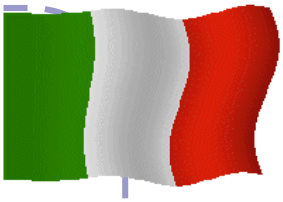
By Lake Garda

Day 2: Garda Land

We woke up on Sunday morning and after a panic about the clocks going back and some confusion over time! Followed by our breakfast which consisted mainly of cake, we all pilled in to our bus for a fun filled day at the theme park- Gardaland.

After we got our tickets and probably over 100 various pictures in front of the Gardaland sign we were allowed to go around by ourselves for the day as long as we met our teachers at 5pm. Personally this was my favourite day as there were so many different things to do there. Most of us got fast passes which meant we got to skip the queues on some of the most popular attractions which really paid off as we got to go on loads of fun rides. We also had a really nice

Fifth Year Tour of Italy 2015 continued



lunch and for the people in the year who didn't like the big rides there were lots of fun amusement style games and rides like the teacups and a merry-go-round. We even got two new recruits to our year in the form of teddies some of us won.

At 5 o'clock we all met up again, exhausted. With crepes and waffles in hand and lots of memories, we made we made our way back to the bus and then to the hotel. After dinner, which included birthday celebrations for Caoimhe and Laura some of us had a silent disco beside the pool and later we all had fun talking in our rooms. All before a much needed night's sleep after an amazing day.

We started off at the beautiful Arena di Verona in the centre of the city, and we made our way through the rest of the city to Juliet's balcony, one of the most famous monuments in the country

Lake Garda Day 3

On our last day on Lake Garda, we woke up bright and early, had our last Italian breakfasts, packed our bags and piled onto our tour bus to Verona. After an hour and a half's bus journey, we arrived in the city, and we met our tour guides for the day. We started off at the beautiful *Arena di Verona* in the centre of the city, and we made our way through the rest of the city to Juliet's balcony, one of the most famous monuments in the country. The balcony is stunning in real life, as is the rest of the city. After we finished taking in the scenery, we were let loose on the shops in Verona. Kiko and Zara probably made a year's worth of sales in a matter of hours after we cleared them out.

When the damage was done, we hopped back onto the bus and headed to the airport, after a quick detour to another shopping centre, where there was more spending – mainly on last minute presents to bring home. We arrived at the airport only to find out that our flight was delayed for an hour, but we kept ourselves entertained with indoor multi-sports and card games. By the time we got on the plane, we were all exhausted, and within 5 minutes of being in the air, half of us were fast asleep, dreaming of starting the holiday all over again.

By Caitriona Grant

Mr. Browne sampling Italian Ice Cream

TY Musical 2015—Fame

So far out of all the things we've done in fourth year the musical was definitely the thing I enjoyed the most. For our musical this year we did Fame. Personally I had never actually seen Fame the only thing I had to associate with it was "FAME! I'm gonna live forever I'm gonna learn how to fly HIGH!". However now having done it I can easily recite every single line in Hard Work and perhaps the entire script! We did our musical with about 11 boys from Blackrock, all of whom were very friendly and hilarious they made the musical experience that much better.

The auditions were daunting and scary we all went to the concert hall together and had to sing a couple of lines from a song "Mabel's prayer" which we would all get to know too well in the near future. We had to then recite several lines from the script infront of everyone which was a little scary. After all of that you could lengthen your audition by singing a song of your choice. Then came the long wait to hear if you got a call back. Several girls including myself got the call back. At long last the final cast list was put up and it went as follows:

Carmen- Emer O Hara Serena- Issy O Neill Iris- Grace Lehane Mabel- Siobain Murphy Lambchops- Sarah Kelly Miss Sherman- Heather Watson Miss Bell- me!

Nick- Hugh Kelly Schlomo- James Lunt Tyrone- Harry Kearns Joe- Luke DeMichael Mr Myers- Daniel Walpole Mr Skeinkoff- Alex Quinlan

P.A students/dancers- Ronan Fanning Rory O Reilly Cian Hasson Ross Brandon Cillian Cummins and all of the girls in my year.

Once we were all casted we had to meet each other. So one night we all came to the school along with Ms. Burke and we read through the script together. Then the real nitty gritty rehearsals started. We had rehearsals about three days a week of two hours at a time. The leads also had rehearsals for two hours three nights a week. Although they were tiring they were usually the highlights of my week. We all got to know each other very well and soon enough we were all friends. The rehearsals in school were all singing and dancing and the ones at night were purely acting.

As the show came nearer we started to have to wean ourselves off our scripts which was easier said than done. I know certain people never left their scripts out of their hands! (Heather Watson's clip board!) Rehearsals started to get a little more serious and stricter but we still found ways to make them fun.

When we started having to get into costumes we had mini heart attacks. Some of the things they pulled out from under the stage were awful. Like Heather's beautiful tube skirt, Daniel's mustard coloured shirt and all of the girls white leggings which I know they loved. However some of the dresses were lovely like Emer's white finale dress and my red jumpsuit. On the nights however we all looked great on stage and our costumes suited our characters.

We had a full dress rehearsal with our entire year and the boys which was unusual because I was used to having either rehearsals with just our year or with the lads and a few other girls. The dress rehearsal went well. I think the most entertaining part was seeing what all the boys looked like with their make up on.

Finally after what felt like years but would soon feel like days the first

TY Musical 2015—Fame

night of the musical came around. We all went to the school for 6 o'clock and proceeded to freak out amongst each other. We had to get into our costumes as quickly as we could and then go down for hair and makeup. Gaye put my hair up in a ballet bun along with a hair net which was a style I had rocked before as a young ballerina! I had my makeup done which had to be done very dark so it could be seen on stage however it was a lot darker than I had expected, I was used to it due to the night before though. Before we knew where we were it was time for us to go on stage. The leads went into the wings along with half of the dancers. I had small huddle with a couple of the leads we gave each other a pep talk and we were ready to go. The first night went very quickly it was over before we knew it.

The second night was nerve racking because it was the night that they film the show. The camera came down the corridors where we get changed/wait etc. to film what it was like. I can't wait to watch the movie. The second night again went well.

The third and final night was definitely the most emotional. We were all sad that it was nearly over and all promised to make the most of the last night. We did the show as normal (plus a few inside jokes and laughs). Then it was time for the final finale! We all had to come out onto the stage and do a "silly" (as Ms. Burke said) pose at the top of the stage with our partner. I went out with Daniel we went back to back I did a ballet pose considering my character was the dance teacher. We all sang "Bring on tomorrow" for the final time and then "Red light" and finally "Fame". We presented the flowers to Ms. Burke and then preformed Fame for the last time ever with each other. That memory will forever be with me.

Once the curtains closed we all hugged each other and screamed because it was all over. It was an emotional time for most. We then took our group photo on the stage displayed below and did our famous "Rebellion" hand gesture; an joke we created during the musical.

We all went back to Rebecca Lee's house for pizza and just to hang out with each other. The next night we all went to Isabelle Torpey's house for a massive after party which was so much fun. Another night I'll never forget.

I of course miss the musical with a passion and I would do it all over again in a heartbeat and ironically, as I write this, Fame is playing in the background and I can feel my eyes getting watery.

The musical is a memory that will stay with me forever I finish this with a quote from Norman Lear which I found fitting "Life is about having a good time, and it was a good time. We did some things well and some things poorly, but that is always the case"

by Isabel Moulton 4N

"I of course miss the musical with a passion and I would do it all over again in a heartbeat ..."

Heather Watson's publication from the TY Musical Fame Programme

Thank you to the Boys from Blackrock College.

It has been a whirlwind of songs, dances, lines to learn and much more.

To say that this Musical has been a whirlwind would be the biggest understatement I have EVER heard! To say that it has been a great laugh would *also* be a massive understatement.

The day we filed into the Concert Hall on that first afternoon in August to start auditioning for the principal roles seems like years ago, when in fact it has been little over 7 weeks. It has been a whirlwind of songs, dances, lines to learn and much more. We have spent hours rooting through our wardrobes looking for the perfect red t-shirt to match our outfits in 'Red Light', weeks reading over and over our lines and lyrics trying to drill the words into our memories and also hours spent practicing the choreography we had to remember every second of. Learning when our cue was to start belting out the lyrics to 'Bring on Tomorrow', painstakingly teaching the boys the pairs work for 'Let's Play A Love Scene' and repeating lines over and over to each other to the point that we knew each other's lines better than we knew our own (at least half of the girls here could have filled in for me, after hours of listening to 'Hard Work' repeated over and over).

It's safe to say that there is no small role in a production like this. Say a person is only in 6 scenes on-stage, you can be sure they spent hours painting that backdrop they are standing in front of (I cannot explain the immense effort that was put into that scene). Or say they only get to dance in 3 songs, it's safe to say they helped pull costume after costume out from under that stage! Everyone has put so much time and effort into this production it is a miracle we are still standing upright in front of you here tonight!

But despite the late night texts asking has anyone got 'spare white leggings' and the running up and down the corridors in search of a CD player, it is safe to say that this Musical has been one of the highlights of our time in Cluny! Even in Connemara, on our weekend away, we were belting out the lyrics of 'Dancing on the Sidewalk' and and

Heather Watson's publication from the TY Musical Fame Programme continued

role playing to 'Hard Work' up and down the aisle of the bus. This has been an amazing experience and has brought our year group much closer together! We have bonded very closely and have mixed really well as a group because we had to help each other learn lines and practice dances.

I'd also like to mention the contribution of our art committee to this production because it's safe to say that the time and effort they have put into that set is second to none. They spent hours meticulously drawing, measuring and re-drawing those steps and used dozens of brushes and palettes in an effort to get those colours blended perfectly. Trojan work was done by our very, very helpful teacher Ms. McAleer and it is very clear to all of us that had it not been for her help we never could have produced such a work of art!

We want to extend an enormous 'Thank you' to our dedicated choreographer Debbie Kiernan. It's safe to say that had it not been for her patience and commitment , there is no way we could have produced such a show for you tonight. Our extremely helpful music teacher Mr Leahy has also put in countless hours perfecting everything from those dodgy solos to the correct key for each of the songs we performed tonight. Our costumes were put together by an extraordinary team of women who helped us with everything from securing safety pins to changing dresses halfway through a scene, their help was invaluable. And last but not least a tremendously humungous 'Thank you' to our director Ms Burke, who it's safe to say had every second of this performance whipped into shape and totally perfected.

Thank you to everyone involved (no job is a small one in a production of this size) and I hope you enjoy the show!

New for 2015: Crochet Club

Historical X-Factor

All About That Faith

Well Ladies and Gentlemen,

We saw it all! We saw monks breaking into song from their vow of silence, we saw all singing, all dancing actors praising Shakespeare and we saw dedicated painters showing that they are just as multi-talented as Leonardo Da Vinci.... But as with all mainstream competition shows, there can only be one winner.

The winner of the Historical X-Factor competition is... (insert a dramatic pause that is far too long and add in some loud heart beat sounds for good measure)... ECOMMUNICATION!!!!

The crowd goes wild, people scream, people cry and the lights go down...

Please find below the lyrics from said song o the tune of All about that Bass (An homage to Martin Luther and the Reformation)

All About That Faith

By Sarah Chadwick & Jodie Jameson 3X

Chorus

Because you know

I'm all about that faith 'bout that faith no indulgence (x3)

About that faith faith ...

Yeah it's pretty clear there ain't no purgatory,

But we can pray and pray like we're suppose to do.

'Cause I got that bowl bowl that Catherine Von Bora chased, and all the right curls in all the right places.

Yeah in Saxony, that's in Germany in 1483 the world was full of greed,

He wanted to make a change so He read every page if the bibibibibibible.

You see the pope sent me a letter that made me very angry,

So I threw it in the fire and jumped around hip hip hurray,

and no I won't be no Catholic Protestant all the way,

so if that's what you're into you can go walk away.

Chorus *

By Laura Loughlin 5C

Viewing of 'The Suffragette'

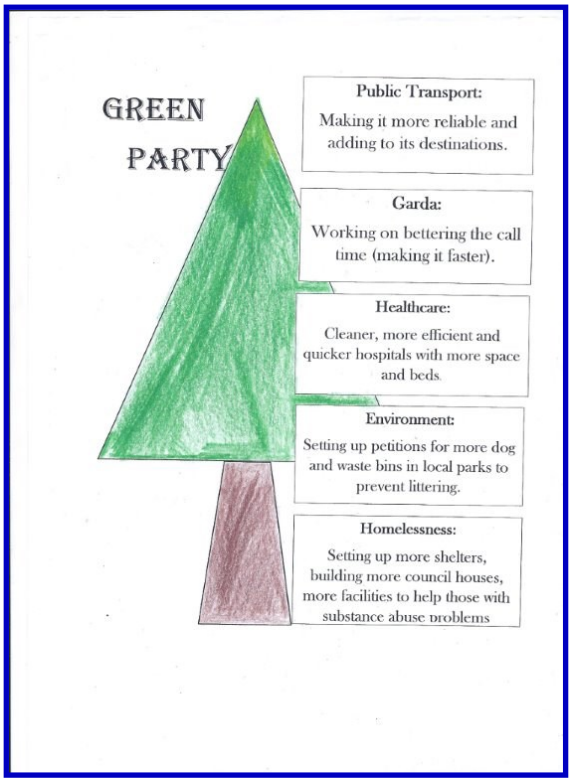
On Monday 19th October 2015, the fifth and sixth year history students along with all the TY students were brought to see 'The Suffragette' in the cinema by Ms. Doyle, Ms. Connoughton and Ms. Stout. Upon hearing about this trip we were excited to learn more about the fight for women's rights. The movie explores how women fought against discrimination in the workplace and follows their battle for equal voting rights. Throughout the movie we followed the life of the main character Maud Watts and we saw how her life changed when she was recruited to join the U.K's suffragette movement. We saw how the suffragettes suffered from brutality from the police force and isolation from their husbands, family and friends. Nevertheless the suffragettes persevered. Inspired by true events, this film showed us how the women in the 1920's risked their homes, jobs, families and even their lives in becoming suffragettes. This thrilling, heart-breaking and passionate movie gave us an insight to the hardship of life for women back then and how much time have changed. We thoroughly enjoyed seeing the film and would recommend it everyone.

By Lauren Murray and Eleanor Moore 5L

Mock Election: CSPE Action Project

As a part of our CSPE action project, our class 3W took part in a mock election, the voting for which was on throughout the Cluny Open Evening. This CSPE action project was used to help us to learn about Ireland's political system and the different parties in an interesting and interactive way. It engaged everyone and encouraged us to work in teams.

First we were split into groups and chose a current political party. These included Fianna Fail, the Green Party and Fianna Gael. We then designated the roles; party leader, leaflet/ manifesto designer etc. We prepared leaflets, posters and stickers to promote our party which outlined our manifestos and political views.



On the night we went around the school prompting people to vote for our party, explaining to them why they should vote for us, handing them our leaflets and telling them where they should go if they wished to vote (Room 11). The party which got the most votes in the mock election on the night was.....

The Green Party!!

Our Geography Trip

On Thursday the 15th of October, all three 1st year classes went on a geography fieldtrip to Shankill beach with our geography teachers, Ms. Murray, Ms. Seymour and Mr. Twomey. We walked from the school to Glenageary Dart station and took the Dart to Shankill. From there we walked to Shankill beach.

At Shankill beach we had a delicious picnic beside the sea and participated in various activities such as measuring the rate of longshore drift using oranges and inspecting the effects of

coastal erosion. We were handed worksheets to complete using evidence from the beach to help us.

It was an amazing fun-filled day and all of the 1st years are looking forward to our next one! No pressure in making it even better than the last one!

By Julia Kobic and Shauna Kelly

Annual Art Week Dublin Galleries & Exhibitions Tours

National Gallery of Ireland

As part of our Annual Art Week, we visited several galleries and exhibitions throughout Dublin.

First Year Art Trip!

As part of art week, Ms. Mc Aleer took the first year art class into town to visit the Hugh Lane Gallery, The Natural History Museum and the National gallery of Ireland. We had great fun there and learned a lot about new works of art.

First we went to the Hugh Lane gallery where we saw Francis Bacons' original Art Studio and a quote that he once said himself "This mess here around us is rather like my mind, it may be a good image of what goes on inside me, that's what it's like, my life is like that". The girls then filled out a worksheet for a piece of art work that they admired. From what I could tell the girls really enjoyed this gallery.

...not only did we improve our drawing but we learned a lot of interesting facts too

After that, we walked to the Natural History Museum. We drew our favourite animals, paying a lot of attention to texture and detail. We could really see our drawing improving! We had a great time in the Museum and not only did we improve our drawing but we learned a lot of interesting facts too. I thought that this was the most interesting part of our trip.

We stopped for a quick lunch break in St. Stephen's Green. We were all eager to get to the next stop on the list: The National Gallery of Ireland! On the way, we stopped for some ice-cream, which was one of the highlights of our tour. At last, we arrived at the Gallery! There was a huge array of paintings there by artists like Picasso, Monet and countless others. We were very impressed by the detail and shading in some of them. My favourite was "Portrait of Lady Laverly".

National History Museum

It was a fun trip and I really, really enjoyed it. I was inspired by the artists and I hope that I will be able to improve my painting and drawing!

By Emma McGuire and Julia Kobic

Second Year Art Trip!

On Tuesday the 20th of October First and Second years set out on an art trip into town. Our teachers, Ms Archibald and Ms McAleer worksheets on the places we were going to visit. We had to choose a piece from each place and write about the artist and the features of the piece. A coach collected us from the school and our trip then began. We first arrived at the Tivoli car park. The Tivoli car park is a large car behind the Tivoli Theatre on Francis Street, Dublin 8 filled with graffiti created by loads of different artists, not one bit of the walls wasn't filled with colour. It had images painted on the walls, from large baby heads to all sorts of writing. We then chose a piece of graffiti and started to fill out our sheet all about the graffiti we chose. The Tivloli car park was definitely one of the highlights of this trip.

The next place we went to was the Zozimus ceramic gallery, also on Francis Street, where we saw many beautiful sculptures and clay pieces. The gallery also had many paintings and drawings in the downstairs part. We then continued our worksheet by choosing a piece of clay and evaluating it.

Afterwards we went to a museum which had lots of interesting paintings.

Then for the part we were looking forward to the most, we went to McDonalds! When it was time for lunch we ate in McDonalds and then explored a few shops around Temple Bar Square.

For our last location we went to a print factory where the workers

Annual Art Week continued

showed us all of the different types of printing and each step to achieve the best prints. This was very interesting as we had already covered printing in class so it was fun to see how they did it and the other techniques for printing.

That concluded our art trip. We all had such an enjoyable time and can't wait for our next trip!

By Becca and Jill

Third Year Art Trip to Dublin

On the 22nd of October this year, both 3rd year Art classes went into town on an Art trip for the day.

In the morning, we arrived at the Natural History Museum on Merrion Street in Dublin. We had a look around and drew some of the animals. We spent the morning there until 11.30am.
We left the museum and went to St. Stephen's Green. We went for lunch and then headed up to the National Art Gallery. We looked at all the amazing art and got inspiration for our own art projects.
By Emily Rhattigan Walsh, 3W

5th and 6th Year Art Trip

This year, on the 22nd of October, the third, Fifth and Sixth year art classes went on a trip to Dublin to visit the many art galleries in the city. We headed off early that morning with Ms Archibald and Ms McAleer, and as soon as we arrived, the Fifth and Sixth Year classes went straight into the National Museum of Ireland. Our task was to wander around the museum to find and write about several artefacts, including the Ardagh Chalice, the Tara Brooch, and many more fascinating objects. It was really interesting to learn about these ancient artefacts, and the fact that we were on a strict time limit made it even more interesting. Towards the last five minutes we had in the museum, some of us were running around in a hysterical panic trying to find the last one or two objects we hadn't yet found, making the experience sort of like an extreme game of hide-and-go-seek. After all, you'd have wanted to get your whole worksheet filled out so that the teachers wouldn't suspect you spent half the time getting your friend to take ridiculous pictures of you posing outside the passage tombs.

Later on, we visited the Douglas Hyde Gallery in Trinity College, where we got a tour and a detailed explanation about the layout of the gallery. It was very interesting and the artwork was really unique, particularly the small exhibition of the walking sticks with artistically carved handles. We also managed to visit two smaller galleries before lunch; the Sol Art Gallery and the Kerlin Gallery. We only spent a short amount of time in each as there was not much to see (and because we wanted more time to have lunch... but of course that wasn't the primary reason). Despite this, it was well worthwhile going to see them, as we got to see many different professional artists' work, as well as many different styles and types of artwork.

Finally, after lunch, we went to the National Gallery of Ireland, where we were given another tour and explanation about the artwork and layout of the exhibition. I personally thought that this was the most fascinating part of the trip, as many of the paintings and sculptures in this gallery were from the Renaissance era. The tour guide gave us so much information about the styles, the artists and the stories behind the artwork that it completely captured my interest. Over all, I learned a lot on the art trip, and I really enjoyed the whole day in general.
Carla Irwin, 5N

we got to see many different professional artists' work, as well as many different styles and types of artwork.

Quirky Sculptures in Gallery
Zozimus

Film Making

TY Modules

Our task was to create a short film or advertisement using their camera, including all the techniques they'd taught us previously

Film making was the first workshop that we took part in during the year and it was on the 29th of September. Ciara and John from the Holiday Show came in to talk to us about the production of films, and the media world. We gathered in the hall as they carried out a full presentation.

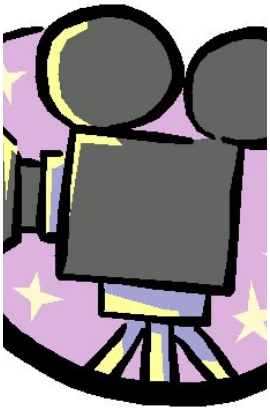
They both introduced themselves and talked to us about how each other got involved in media. Neither of them new what they wanted to do with their career, and both stumbled across media. After college, they both started working in radio or TV. Ciara told us about how she was involved in producing the new Eir advert on TV, which is very impressive as it's a popular, well known advert. John told us about he began working on the programme Quiz Zone on RTE, which, like Ciara was very big achievement.

We started off by each of us coming up with a story about ourselves, or something that happened us. They brought their own camera and videoed each of us telling our stories in front of the camera for one minute without stopping. We did it as if we were news reporters on TV, so we had a look straight into the camera the whole time, and we were counted down from five to get the camera rolling. This was very interesting to see how difficult it actually is to have to talk for one minute straight, considering you didn't know if you were going too fast or too slow, and focus on the camera all at the same time.

The next activity we did was first we got into groups of five or six. Each group had to have people suiting the positions of a director, camera man and sound person. These imitated some of the roles that would be present during an actual film production. Our task was to create a short film or advertisement using their camera, including all the techniques they'd taught us previously on angles and sound. This was a great opportunity to create different aspects and really participate in the making of a movie.

Overall it was a very beneficial day. Before the workshop, I'd never considered media or film making as a career but now that I've discovered all the work and effort that is made behind what you see on the screens, it definitely is worth persuading. Ciara and John are a perfect example of starting off small, but with determination you can make an established career out of a simple idea.

By Issy O'Neill



Recess - TY Adventure Trip to Galway

On the 10th of September, we all got on board the big white bus and headed towards Galway. We first stopped in an apple-green and loaded up on sweets and drinks. We then drove to Galway city, ate Mc Donald's and said our final goodbyes to civilisation for the next few days.

After a little while the bus dropped us off in the middle of nowhere and we began our four and a half hour hike. This was definitely one of the highlights of the recess trip for all of us. Although we were all tired and hungry we all pulled together and got through it. The views were spectacular as well as the atmosphere from of all of us and we skipped and danced through the hills. We eventually climbed back in the bus and arrived to the recess house. We all rushed in and picked our rooms and unpacked our bags.

The next day we got back on the bus and drove to Achill beach. We were split into two groups. Group 1 hopped out into the freezing cold, wind and rain and got changed into our wetsuits. We then ran down to the beach and eventually jumped into the freezing sea and began surfing. While we were doing this group 2 went on a bus tour around Achill. After our first activity we had a barbeque on the beach and then swapped so that group 1 were on the bus tour and group 2 jumped into the water.

That night we had our showers and dinners and started singing and dancing and played some highly competitive games on ping pong and cards.

On our third day we were split into three groups. Over the next day and a half all of the groups completed three different activities which were kayaking, orienteering and abseiling. Two of the activities took place on the Saturday and the third was on the Sunday morning.

After our final activity we came back to the house and packed up all our things and headed back onto the bus for the last time and went back to Dublin.

I think I can safely say on behalf on the transition years of 2015-2016 that this was without a doubt one of the greatest highlights of our transition year experience, if not our entire secondary school experience as a whole.

By Emily Rafferty Doyle

Intergenerational Event

Interview the Active Retirement Group

On the 16th of October, two of the fourth year classes walked down to the Boylan Centre in Dun Laoghaire to meet the Dun Laoghaire Active Retirement Group. This was part of the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council's Social Inclusion week.

The author, Colm Keegan, led our morning. First of all, we were told to sit in a circle with each student sitting beside one of the members of the Dun Laoghaire Active Retirement Group. We were asked to interview each other on what our lives are/ were like growing up.

It was interesting to see how life has changed from when the woman I met was growing up and now. Her school life was completely different to mine, as were most aspects of her life. She had to leave school when she was 14, to go and work in a sewing factory to earn money for her family. This is very different to me as I am still in school and will continue being in school for a few more years.

We had a break for tea and biscuits half way through, where Emer Healy O'Reilly played us a lovely piece on the piano. When we all sat down again, we were asked by Colm to write either a poem or a short paragraph about what we had learned. Some people then read out what they wrote. We all learned a lot about life in the past and how different our life is to life growing up over forty years ago. Overall, it was a very good experience, which we all really enjoyed. By Siobhan Murphy

Health Promoting School Programme

This programme, supported by the HSE (Health Service Executive) and SHE (Schools for Health in Europe) was recently launched in St Joseph of Cluny. A HPS team which includes students, teachers and parents are taking on the challenge of securing a Health Promoting School recognition. The process involves several stages which begin by getting feedback from students, parents and staff in order to establish the current health status of the school.For this purpose, parents are requested to fill in the **questionnaire** accompanying this newsletter and return it to the school at your earliest convenience. The team will then analyse the feedback in order to prioritise the main areas of concern in relation to health in our school community. Strategies will then be implemented in an effort to address these areas. The plan of action will be monitored and documented. After a period of time the team will evaluate the results of any changes made within the school. If the team succeed in the health promoting process, the HSE will award the school with the Health Promoting School Flag.

Good luck to the Health Promoting School team in this worthwhile endeavour.

The student representatives are Lauren Rawson (5th year), Eilidh Murphy(5th year), Mia Kenny (5th year), Grainne McHugo (5th year), Isabel O Neill (Transition Year), Rebecca Byrne (Transition year) and Una Nolan(3rd year).

Eco Conference

The Transition Year students were invited to participate in an eco-conference with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. We all got the dart down; we were very excited as we had all been members of the green schools committee.

When we got there we started with an activity about food air miles. Each group received food "top trumps" and were asked to make a meal suitable for an adult and a teenager. We were all shocked after we discovered the amount of air miles used to transport each meal. We then discussed ways to reduce the amount of air miles used and how to transport and grow food with the least amount of damage to the environment.

Prizes were given to people who had lunch that used recyclable packaging and didn't contain any waste. After lunch we went into the conference hall where the senators meet and we watched PowerPoints about different organisations that protect the environment and ways for teenagers to get involved in caring for their environment.

The eco conference was a great way to make friends; we all sat with people from different schools and had a chance to get to know each other at the lunch break. My favourite part of the day was learning about world trade, we all received a country, I was a part of the India group, we learned how counties trade, share resources and recycle their waste products.

At the end of the eco conference everyone shared ideas of how to encourage our school to recycle and ways we can make a difference in our local environment. It was great to hear the different ideas other schools had and share some of the work we had done at green schools. We all toughly enjoyed the day out and learned a lot about different ways to help protect the environment and ideas we could use to work towards are next green flag. By Ruby Wall

Bag packing in aid of St. Vincent de Paul

Disclaimer: No eggs were squashed by 4C on Friday morning.

On the morning of Friday 27th, the 17 girls in 4C set out to Dunnes Stores, Cornelscourt. We spent 2 hours, from 10am – 12pm, packing up peoples shopping. The money we raised went towards helping St. Vincent De Paul. I think this well-recognized charity was part of the reason we received such gracious donations. I mean obviously our amazing bag-packing skills. We had great fun chatting to the little old ladies who needed their few pieces of shopping distributed into what felt like a hundred bags, so that they weren't too heavy to lift. We also had a couple of requests to come with some of the customers and help them unpack when they got home.

All in all it was a very successful day, we returned to the school with lots of time remaining to eat lunch and go to our last classes of the day. We also raised lots of money for the charity, which will greatly help their efforts to help people coming up to Christmas this year. We look forward to providing hampers for local families at Christmas time. We would like to thank Mr Larkin for organising these events.

By Heather Watson 4C

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Neighbors helping neighbors®

Outline of the TY Enterprise Businesses

Transition Year

Enterprise

Students

Business

Ventures

2015-2016

Good Luck

Girls.

Healthy Cookbook

Emily Kane, Grace Lehane, Rebecca Lee and Siobhan Murphy

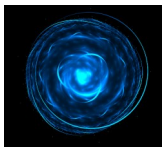
We've decided as a part of our enterprise course to set up a mini company. We have found that healthy eating is not a big part of many people's lives and is becoming an issue in Ireland. To counteract this problem, we've decided to develop a healthy eating and nutrition cookbook. We all have a big interest in a healthy lifestyle. The aim of this cookbook is to educate people on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and help incorporate this into their daily lives. We hope to do this by including simple healthy recipes and nutritional information on brain foods and super foods. This cookbook will hopefully cater for people with tailored diets, for example vegetarians and vegans. We hope to publish this cookbook before Christmas as it would make an excellent Christmas gift!

Spanish Cuisine Tuckshop

Isabelle Miranda, Nuria Vazquez, Ana checa & Almudena molina

Do you want to taste some delicious traditional Spanish food? Come to our shop in the foyer at 1p.m starting in December and you will know how delicious Spanish food is. We start selling our food the first of December, and you can buy fantastic Spanish cuisine such as churros with chocolate, tarta de obleas, tortilla de patatas, sweets and lots more. Come see us!

Blue Energy



Blue energy is a phone charging kit, essential for every phone user. It contains 3 key products for ensuring your phone is always at its highest percentage of battery. It contains a portable phone charger for on- the-go use. It also contains a cable for your Samsung and iPhone 4/5/6 and a charger protector to ensure your charger never breaks.

Becky Clarke, Abby Keogh & Mairead Martin.

Premature Baby Clothes

Rebecca Byrne

My product is a range of baby clothes suitable for babies born from 25weeks to 36weeks. From my research I have found that there is a large gap in the market for premature baby clothing. All parents want to show off their new born baby and my product hopes to offer a line of essential, premie sized clothing to mothers with premature babies.

School Bank with Bank of Ireland

Transition year, enterprise students are running bank of Ireland school bank for a limited time during school.

All students are able to sign up for a Bank of Ireland account.

It is a great way to save money and all students who sign up will be put in the draw for a IPAD at the end of the year.

Location: School foyer beside the concert hall

Time: Wednesdays at lunch time

Students need €5 to activate an account. Your account will be yours forever. You can access it through Bank of Ireland, Dun Laoghaire outside school time. If you have any questions please visit our team on Wednesday.

Tallaght IT Business Quiz

Molly Burke, Caoimhe McManus, Sahar Ul Haque and Sarah Newport attending the Business Quiz in Tallaght IT

Sarah Enderson, Roisin Rafferty, Sophie Kelly & Amy Devitt at Tallaght IT Business Quiz on Wednesday 11th November run by CIMA Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Badminton News

This Autumn/Winter season has shown great promise among the badminton girls, as we look ahead to a successful year. At the beginning of the season we had a Round Robin competition in Loreto School, Bray against St. Raphaela's, Loreto School, Bray and ourselves. Matches were very close but St. Joseph of Cluny came out on top, winning first place ! The girls were delighted, receiving their medals and of course enjoying great pride in their achievement. The girls involved were Alison Barnes 5th year and Mia Kenny, 5th year and Hannah McSweeney and Niamh McCarthy, 6th years.

We are in the middle of the Dublin Schools' League . At the moment, the Under 19s and Under 16s are through to semi-finals. We hope the same for the Under 14s, who start playing their matches first week in December. U19s have three 6th years playing and here's hoping they can finish their school badminton with success in the league 2015 -16.

Basketball

It's December and that means Leinster and Dublin play-off time! Our Sr. A team made it into the play-offs facing Loreto Stephens Green but fell short of making into the Final vs Loreto Dalkey losing 37 to 28. Heartbreak and a disappointing defeat. The six years realising that their secondary basketball career is almost at an end. The South Dublin Basketball League has started and there is everything to play for. Our Cadette A team have struggled to find some consistency in there training and playing. It's still not too late to make an impact in their remaining league matches. Sr. B team have started their Sdbl matches with winning 1 out of there 3 matches so far and will need win there next 2 matches to move into play-off positions. We have a Sr. C team for the first time in a couple of years. The girls train during lunchtime and its relaxed approach to playing and having fun. It's good to see them still making time to stay active while in Sixth year.
Keep your eyes open for our next newsletter some interesting articles on some of our players summer trip stateside playing basketball last summer and a look at one of our Spanish students who is playing basketball for the schools Cadette A team.

Subject: Basketball Results

Minor A Cluny 18 vs Cos Iosagain 30 Loss
Minor B Cluny 14 vs Cos Iosagain 22 Loss
Sr. A 28 vs L' St.Stephen's Green 34 Loss
Cadette A 23 vs L'At.Stephen's Green 26 Loss
Cluny Sr. A/ 35 vs Castleknock 20 Win
Cluny Cadette A 12 vs L'Dalkey 45 Loss
Cluny Sr. A 38 vs L' Dalkey 30 Win

Cluny Sr. A 28 vs The Green 37 semi-final loss Leinster

Cluny Cad A 22 vs Muckross 32 Loss

Cluny Sr.A 38 vs Muckross 24 Win

Senior A Basketball 6th year members.

Thank you for your dedication, commitment and sacrifice.

I would like to Thank some our Sixth Years who have made a major contribution to Basketball in Cluny during their years in the school. They have managed the play school and club basketball, keep on top of their subjects in school yet have social life. Megan O'Toole, Rebecca Mahar, Tara Keenan, Ella Browne, and Hazel Nolan we salute you for dedication, commitment, and sacrifice.

You have been good examples of being in 6th year and capable of participating in extra-curricular activities such as sports, drama, debating and scouts. You are good examples to the first and second years here in Cluny. The year isn't over yet, but it's always good to acknowledge

Your efforts now to student life in Cluny. It stretches further than the Basketball court! Thank you and wish you well with the mocks 🏀 👉

2nd Year basketball teams will be looking to repeat their success from last year by defending their Dublin & Leinster title which they Won last year. Along with South Dublin league semi-finalists for both teams. On returning from Christmas holidays all the 2nd year and first year teams will be playing league matches and in the case of Cluny's Junior A team they will be trying to repeat their successful season that they had last year. The Junior B team made it through to semi-final of the South Dublin league. Our first years look to be adjusting to secondary school making friends and learning the importance of team games. Working together with a common goal in mind. We have to wait and see how our first years develop during their first year in Cluny.

Mr. Randolph

It's December "All We Want for Christmas is to Make the Finals Santa!

Hockey Update

The Hockey season has been underway since the end of August, with most teams having completed at least one league match and the Juniors also having played in Round 1 of the Cup. League matches start quite early in the school term so preparation begins as soon as possible.

There is a new format at Senior 1 level this year with just one league section. The Senior As began their campaign with a defeat to a very strong St Columbas team. This was followed by a defeat to Santa Sabina in Sutton, before a very positive display against Newpark showed Clunys potential. Still quite a young a young team, they showed evidence of their capabilities which hopefully will stand to them in their other matches.

The Senior Bs have yet to contest their first league game and wait the opposition from Sacred Heart Tullamore and Mt Anville in their first two matches. They have however, beaten Newpark and St Raphaelas in practice matches both by a 3-0 scoreline so hopefully that augurs well for them.

The Junior As have waited a long time to get their league season underway. Victories over Newpark and Jesus & Mary College in friendly matches back in September showed evidence of their good form. Their eagerly awaited first league game versus St Killians proved to be a very exciting gamrom e. It was end to end and eventually finished in a 0-0 draw. They have also contested the first round of the Cup, narrowly losing to a strong Teresians team and will now compete in The Plate competition.

The Bs began their league with a narrow 1 -0 defeat away to Loreto Balbriggan. This was followed by an impressive display against Kings Hospital which ended in 1-1 draw. Their third game, again was a very closely contested game against East Glendalough school. Momentum switched from one side to the other several times during the game, but luck was with the opposition and they won by a 2-1 scoreline.

The Minor 1 league has a similar format to the Senior 1 league, in that it is one large group. The As have unfortunately come up against two of the strongest teams in the group in their first two matches and came second in both. They were showing good signs against Santa Sabina before the game was abandoned at 0-0 due to inclement weather, and they were very unlucky to lose 1-0 to Loreto Bray after a very positive performance – the goal scored in the last five minutes.

The Bs started well with a good performance against Mt Anville before coming up against two "A" teams from Temple Carrig and St Marys Naas who proved too strong.

The first years are an enthusiastic group, and have been busy preparing for their leagues. The format for first years is 8 a-side until Christmas, then progressing to 11 a-side after Christmas.In early season practice matches they showed some good form by beating Jesus & Mary College and St Raphaelas and this continued to their first league match. The As drawing 0-0 with Loreto Dalkey, with the Bs unfortunately being narrowly beaten.

Best wishes to all our teams for the remainder of the season.

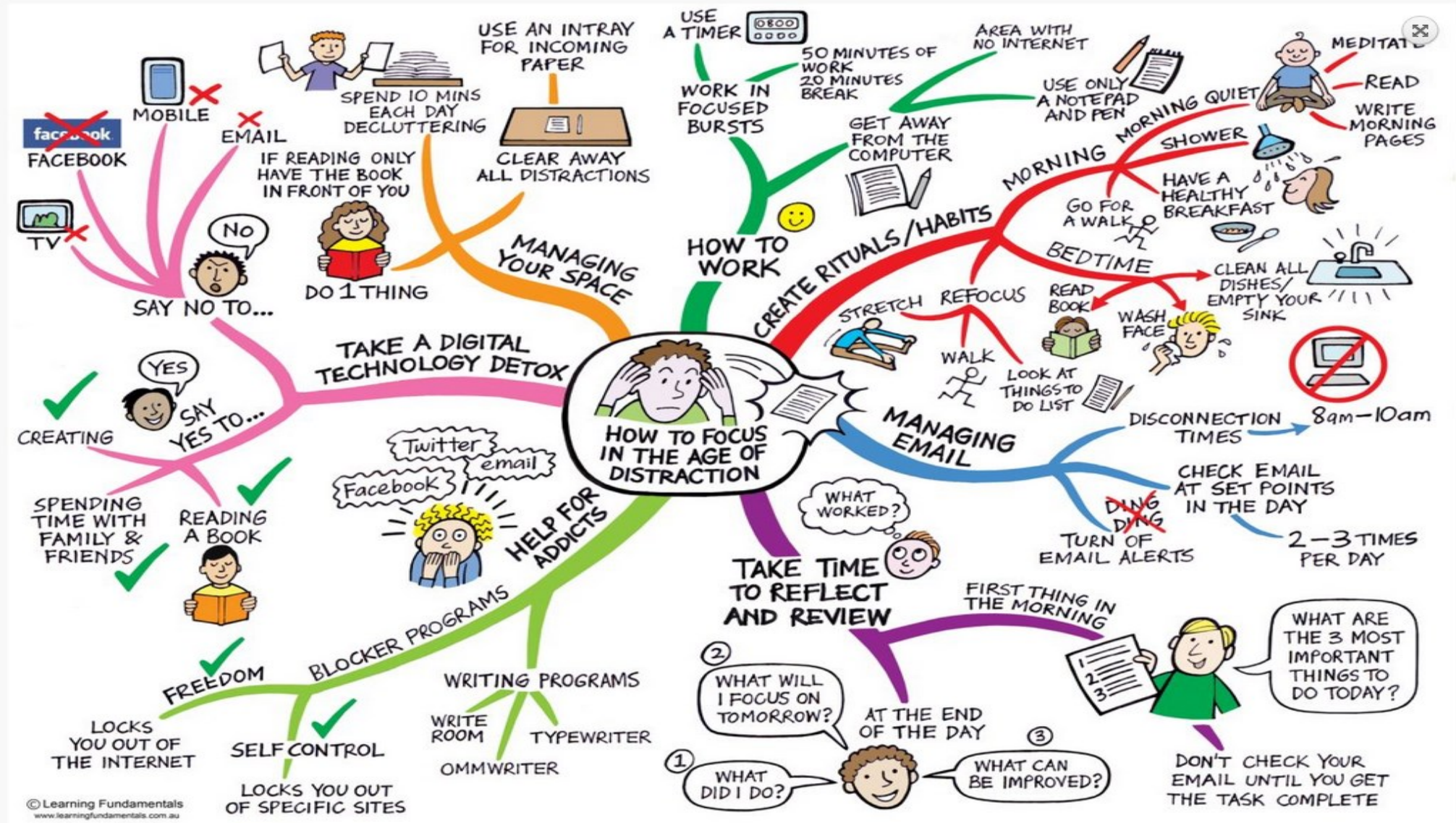
Ms M Seymour

The first years are an enthusiastic group, and have been busy preparing for their leagues.

Photo: Hockey Display from Open Evening

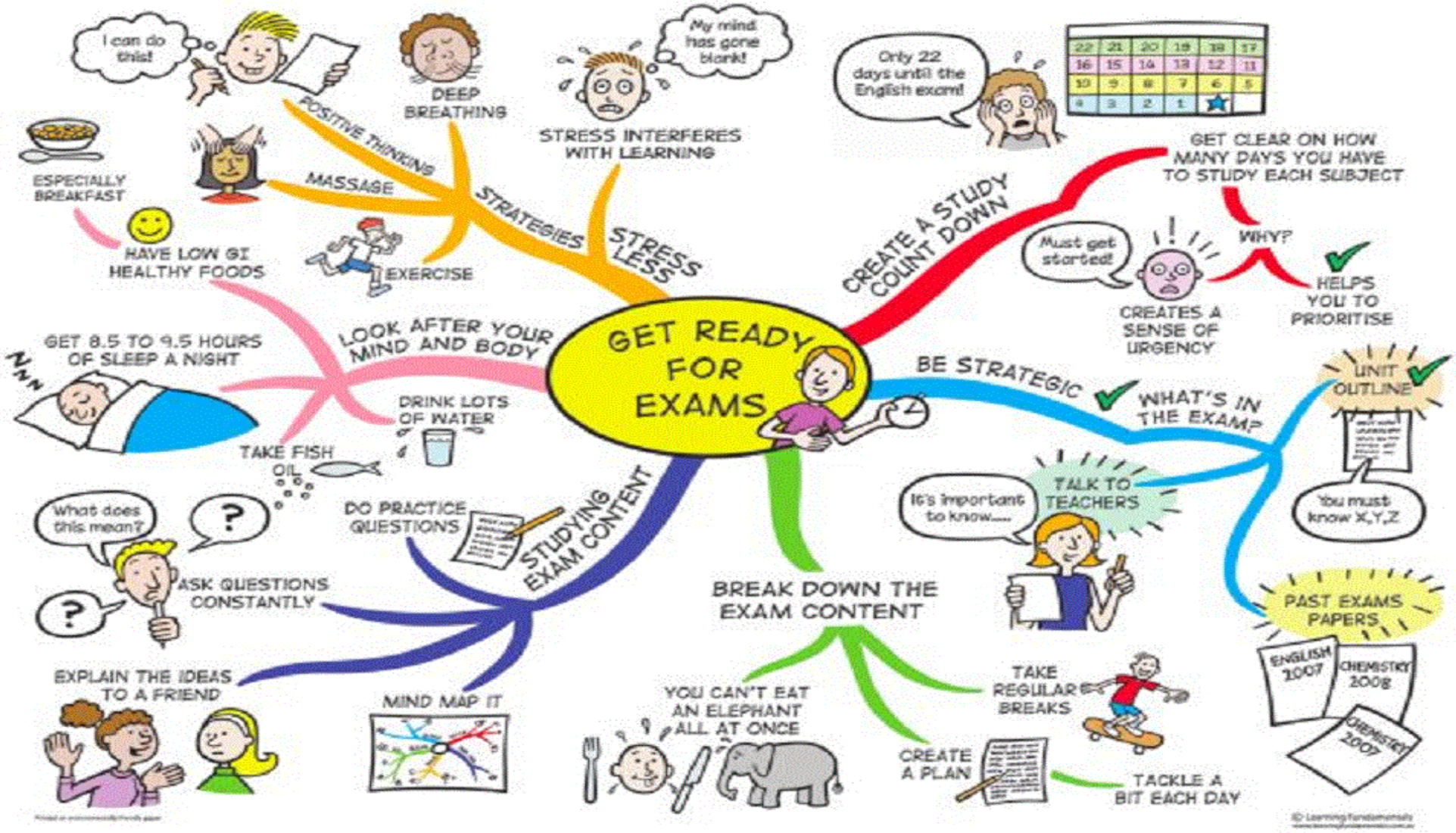
LEARNING NEW SKILLS

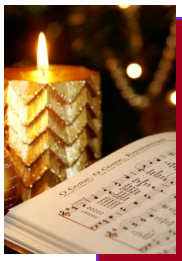
Mindfulness—Be Good to Yourself This Christmas



LEARNING NEW SKILLS

Mindfulness—Learning Preparation





St. Joseph of Cluny Secondary School

cordially invite you to the

Annual Christmas

Carol Service

on *Wednesday 16th December at 8.00 p.m.*

in the School Concert Hall

Refreshments will be served by the

Parents Association following the performance. All Welcome.

Deputy Principal's Diary—Ms. Órla Lambert

House Captains are Heroes!

Congratulations to the amazing House Captains who this year took on the daunting challenge of raising money for not 1 but 2 charities i.e. The Burns Unity in St James Hospital and The Adolescent Unit in St John of Gods Stillorgan.

They completed the first event with great gusto and spent long hours planning the Dress UP Day, the judging, prize giving, the collection of money etc. The students were infected by their enthusiasm and went to enormous effort to create the most amazing costumes. Even the staff room was invaded by a few extra-terrestrials!

The interval entertainment was by far the best I've seen in Cluny - a dance routine choreographed to 'within an inch of its life' with matching wigs and complimenting suits, each in the colour of the 6 Captain's Houses.

It was a major challenge to prepare and behind the scenes Ms Somers worked with the girls to ensure its success. We are really looking forward to the Talent Show for which tickets will be on sale soon .If the Dress Up Day is anything to go by it will be a big success. The 2 charities are lucky to have these 6 ladies 'batting' for them.

Our 1st yrs. are well settled in and are off next week to see the Disney /Pixar film 'The Good Dinosaur' in the company of the 6th Year Buddies so hopefully the weather will hold and there will be lots of fun, same sweets and laughter! Then we have the Carol service to look forward to. The Parent's Association who have just signed off on the Careers Evening have been busy planning and organising the Christmas Carol event for or all of us to enjoy it's a longstanding tradition in Cluny and one we cherish. Another longstanding tradition in the community is the Clonkeen Social .Normally held in Clonkeen, we are this year's hosts and the event takes place on Dec 11th 2015. Our 6th Year Prefects assure us that all is in hand and they will be helping out in the night with the young gentlemen of Clonkeen!

A special word of thanks to all the Parents, past pupils and professionals who gave of their time on the Careers Evening especially Ciara Chadwick, Lorraine Dunne, Ciara Duggan who led a wonderful team. It was a marvellous event with a wide variety of careers catered for and lots of stories and guidance on how to achieve your goals and to live your dream. The new style lay out made for easy movement from hub to hub and the atmosphere was really relaxed and informal. It was lovely to meet all our past pupils at their various stages of study and career who came to give their advice and direction to the girls. We wish them continued success.

Wishing you and all your family a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.