



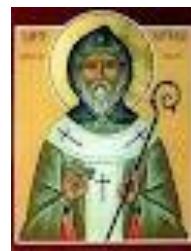
Spring Newsletter 2012

PRESENTATION SECONDARY SCHOOL



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Principal: Mrs. Breda Cogley • Deputy Principal: Mrs. Anne O'Brien



Yunwoo with Biology teacher, Ms. C Ryan

BT Young Scientist winner & Gold medal winner at Chemistry Olympiad

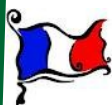
Sixth Year student, Yunwoo Lee, won first prize in the Senior Individual in the Biological & Ecological Sciences section at this year's BT Young Scientist Competition.

Well done to Yunwoo also for winning the Gold Medal, with the highest score ever achieved, in the Chemistry Olympiad held in DCU on March 3rd. Good luck to Yunwoo when she represents Ireland at the International Chemistry Olympiad in Washington DC in July. (Full report page 7.)

Seachtain na Gaeilge



Idir an 5ú agus an 16ú Márta bhí an-chuid imeachtaí ar siúl againn sa scoil mar chuid de Seachtain na Gaeilge. Ina measc bhí tráth na gceist, comórtas póstaer agus céilithe. D'eagraigh an t-idirbhliain céilí ar son Barretstown agus bhí deis ag na gcaoilíní cúpla rince a mhúineadh do dhaltaí ó Scoil na mBraithre Críostaí. Go mbeannaí Dia an obair.



French Exchange

The first half The Second Year French Exchange happened in early February. 28 girls and three teachers (Ms. Sunderland, Ms. Gartland and Ms. Rossiter) spent a week on exchange in Paris. (Full report page 7)



Who takes good care of us every day? The Care-taking team!

These two gentlemen, Mr. E. Rossiter and Mr. A. Gilbert keep our school ticking over smoothly in pristine condition. Most of the time their tremendous work goes unnoticed because they go about it so efficiently and quietly behind the scenes. Thanks, guys!



Meitheal 2011-2012

On December 21st 2011 the first year Christmas party was held in the school hall. The 15 meitheal leaders got together and decided to have a table quiz and a disco at the party. Each first year received a Christmas gift and a selection box for taking part in the quiz. After the quiz each first year group had to do a party piece for the whole year. Each party piece had been practised for weeks. The party pieces were great and all the hard work paid off. In



return the meitheal leaders put together a party piece. It was great fun to watch.

On January 17th 2012 The Meitheal Awards took place in the Riverbank House Hotel to congratulate each of this year's meitheal leaders. All the schools from Wexford were represented at the ceremony. When all 15 leaders from the Presentation Wexford were awarded with a certificate they recited a little piece that was put together to represent the letters of the word 'Meitheal' to the crowd. It was a great success and it was great to receive an award for putting so much time in at the beginning of the year to help the first years.

Meitheal leaders training day at Carne



FOOTBALL NEWS

Leinster Post-Primary - Under 14 Football Competition

The Under 14 footballers of Presentation Secondary School, Wexford have had an excellent campaign so far in this year's Leinster Under 14 Post Primary competition. After two victories in the group division, they have advanced to the quarter-finals of the competition.

The two games played in the group division were completely different affairs. In the first game, Presentation, Wexford recorded a comfortable 26 point victory over Coláiste Eoin, Hacketstown (played in Hacketstown) on a score-line of 12-7 to 5-2.

Their second game was a very close affair against a spirited Ramsgrange Community School team, played in Clonard GAA Park. Presentation, Wexford showed great spirit in coming from behind, with just a few minutes to go, to record the victory on a score-line of 1-6 to 1-4.

Presentation, Wexford await the winners of the Kildare section in the quarter-finals: these teams are Maynooth Post Primary School, Cross and Passion Secondary School, Kilcullen and Scoil Dara Secondary School, Kilcock.

All the players involved look forward to this next challenge.

Presentation, Wexford Under 14 panel: Róisín Nolan, Lauren O'Donoghue, Nicole Meyler, Mary Ann Sheehan, Jessica Doyle, Rachel Dalton, Chloe Roche, Áine Ennis (captain), Brídín Reville, Rianna Cullen, Sarah Murphy, Melina König, Niamh Berry, Laura Dowdall, Gráinne Roche, Cora O'Donnell, Keely Smyth, Rachel Woodbyrne, Hazel Kennedy, Saran Matthews, Casey Nolan, Clare Moran, Ciara Frayne, Katie Connick.

Training continues every Tuesday from 4-5pm, with Mr Rolston, Mr Kelly and Mr O'Gealbhaín.

MUSIC



Both the Senior and Junior Choir have been busy this term rehearsing for the 'Music Soirée' which is planned for the final term of the school year. The Junior Choir rehearses every Monday after school from 4pm-5pm and the Senior Choir rehearses at lunchtimes on both Tuesday and Thursday (new members are always welcome). The interest for both choirs has been immense and the girls are looking forward to showcasing their talents at the end of year concert.

The Senior Choir have also started their preparations for the 6th Year Graduation Mass in May.

3rd and 6th Year Music students are busy with preparations for their Practical Examinations after Easter.

The Music Department would like to congratulate Rebecca and Ciara Grey for making it into the final of the Credit Union Singing Competition 'CU Factor'. Well done girls!

First years have had a very creative term learning how to compose melodies and rhythms. The picture below shows some of our budding composers!





CAMOGIE NEWS



Schools Camogie returns again, this time it is the turn of the Minor camogie players (1st & 2nd Year). The Leinster competition will begin in the coming weeks and with a good showing in the Junior championship earlier on this year, the girls will look to go far in this competition. Last Thursday saw the girls take on the Loreto in a practice match. It consisted of three twenty minute periods and all of the 25 member panel got an opportunity to sharpen their skills as they eagerly await their first championship fixture. The game highlighted the enormous potential that this team has, however as it is so early in the campaign there is a lot of hard work to be done in the training field in order to realise this potential. Training takes place on Wednesdays and Fridays at lunchtime and all newcomers are welcome.

1st yr Camogie Blitz

Twenty First Years took part from Presentation along with other schools around Co. Wexford.

It took place all day in Oylgate, they had great fun and a very enjoyable day was had by all regardless of the cold weather.

We had two teams and they both played three matches.

The girls should all be very proud of their performances.

Also thank you to Shannon O' Brien, Geraldine Doolan and

Aleisha Cullen from Transition Year who came with us to help out on the day and referee the games.



HOCKEY—South East League Finalists



The Inter A Hockey team had a narrow defeat to Abbey Community School in the South East Final. The girls were unbeaten in their side of the League and played a determined final. They were unlucky not to score early in the 1st half with some terrific shots from Shannon and Aoibhinn. Abbey scored just before half time despite best efforts of Sarah in goal. The hockey club players travelled to Dublin on Tuesday 15th March to play Loreto Bray in a friendly before going on to UCD to support Ireland's men v Chile in the Olympic Qualifiers tournament.



The annual **Trócaire** campaign is underway! Fifth year students recently attended a talk by a Trocaire field worker outlining their work in Uganda. Up to one hundred students are participating in the :

GIVE IT UP FOR TROCAIRE LENTEN CAMPAIGN.

TROCAIRE
Working for a Just World



CAREER GUIDANCE

6th Year students completed their CAO applications in January and turned their focus to FETAC Level 5 courses. Many of the local Colleges of Further Education have held talks in school this term. Places on PLC courses are very competitive. All students must complete an interview. Students interested in FETAC courses are encouraged to attend PLC College Open days. Supporting documents for HEAR and DARE and I.T. Carlow Access must be returned to relevant bodies before April 1st 2012.

Information on the new awarding authority for all student grants (SUSI) for 3rd Level and PLC courses will be available in school.

5th Year students Career Talks from NUIM, NUIG, St Patrick's Maynooth, Gainfort Hair & Beauty Academy, Engineers Ireland have all taken place this term. All 5th years attended an Interview Training Seminar in school on Wednesday 7th March. Optional Mock interviews will be held before Easter.

3rd Years and T Y students Closing Date for Senior Cycle Options is 20th March 2012. An Information Night for parents on the options available in the school was held on Wednesday 14th March. All 3rd yrs and TY students have had career guidance classes and individual interviews with their Guidance Counsellor to help them with their choices. A careers booklet on 'Senior Cycle Options' is available in school for students.

2nd Years have completed a career guidance module where students were introduced to career decision making skills, career research and career web sites.

1st years completed subject choice for 2nd yr. choosing one from Art /Music /Home Economics.

All 1st year students completed a 'Homework Skills Workshop' in January and it is hoped that they have developed more effective homework habits as a result. We ask parents to encourage 1st Years to focus on good note taking in preparation for active learning.

Revision & Study tips for exam Students

Exam students **need to focus** on school and exam work in the weeks ahead. Junior Cert students need to do **3 hours study 6 days** a week.

Leaving cert students need to do **3.5/ 4hours study 6 days** a week

Now that Mock results are back take action. **Make out a Revision Plan now!**

Make out a revision checklist for each subject i.e. a list of topics for each exam subject.

Set realistic targets for each week. Balance your time between all exam subjects.

Revise a little each day. Have set times either before or after homework. Do extra revision at weekend.

Be active in your study-don't just re-read notes. Rewrite key points, use mind maps, memory cards and self- test regularly.

Study in a quiet, well lit room at a table with no distractions (no mobile phone, TV, radio)

Work through past exam papers and practise timing your answers.

World Book Day

March 1st was World Book Day. Posters were displayed around the school encouraging students to read and share books. In-class discussions took place about the importance of reading and students talked about how disadvantaged they would be if they could not read or write. Apart from the obvious, they would be unable to text friends, read prescriptions or do any number of things that they now take for granted. Students also discussed that in certain parts of the world, where education is a privilege, it is usually the girls who lose out. Maybe we should appreciate our education more!



Transition Year News

Hamlet



The Transition Year students brought Shakespeare's "Hamlet" to life on the 14th and 15th of December under the direction of Paul Walsh. Preparations for the play began all the way back in September after our Drama Workshop with Paul. Auditions were held shortly after the workshop and the main cast was selected. The cast consisted of Brídín Nolan, Gabija Varnelyte, Molly Morris, Emma Shannon, Beibhinn Whelan, Samantha Carr, Austeja Varnelyte, Geraldine Doolan, Leah O'Toole, Megan Boyle, Róisín Tobin, Clíodhna Flynn, Hayley Doyle and Chloe Thomas. After this, the rehearsals got underway. Many lunchtimes and hours after school were invested in the preparation of our play. The entire cast worked exceptionally hard committing to rehearsals and learning a vast amount of lines. All the TY's were involved in the play in one way or another whether in acting, doing backstage work or in front of house. The show was performed four times, three of which were for audiences from the Presentation, St. Peters Collage and the CBS. The final performance was an evening show attended by family and members of the public. All the proceeds from the show went towards the annual Transition Year trip. All the spot prizes for the raffle were donated by Transition Year students and local businesses. The play was a great success on stage and off and was a great experience for all involved.

Mini Company

The Mini-Company School Final took place on the 31st of January. On the day every group had to put up a stall and they were judged by Eimear Doyle from the Wexford Enterprise Centre and Ms Byrne. The competition was huge on the day and each group was judged on their product/service, the presentation of their stall and their report.

The judges chose the A.L.L.E.N mini company as winners of the environmental award. Original Sports mini-company and Epiphany mini-company both went through to the senior category and Real Roads mini-company won a merit and also went through to the senior category.

We would like to say well done to all those who took part and that are going further to represent the school.

Work Experience

TY3 and TY4 started work experience on Wednesday 1st of February. This will continue until the end of May. TY1 and TY2 finished up their placement and are now doing different modules in school on Wednesdays.

Carlingford TY trip

From the 6th- 9th of February the TY's ventured on their annual activity trip, this year in Carlingford Adventure centre. On arrival we were divided into two groups for the week. One group went down to the water to do kayaking while the other group hiked up a hill to do rock climbing and abseiling. That night, the groups did the night line and the late night walk. Over the next few days we collectively participated in many more fun activities, such as high ropes, low ropes,



archery, zorbin, laser tag and team work challenges. The most popular activity amongst the girls was laser tag. This showed the competitive side in everyone!!! Overall everyone really enjoyed this trip.



BASKETBALL NEWS



Under 16s and Seniors in All Ireland Playoffs.

The under 16 team travelled to Upper Glanmire in Cork in January to take part in the All Ireland series of the competition, following on from their South East Final success in December. The opposition on the day was Caritas College from Dublin, Meanscoil Luimneach and the hosts, St Aidan's of Cork.

The first game was a close, exciting encounter as the girls took on Caritas College. The game was nip and tuck until the Dublin side pulled away in the last quarter. The girls had a break of 30 minutes before they faced Meanscoil Luimneach. The Limerick school had some great shooters, but the Presentation defence kept them at bay. Limerick powered ahead in the final stages of the game and the Presentation girls were yet to record a victory. The third and final game of the day saw them lose out to the hosts and the favourites, St Aidan's. Despite not recording a win in Cork, the girls increased their skills, knowledge and level of performance. The experience has inspired the girls to aim for this prestigious stage in the future.

Team: Jessica Hore, Sophie Donnelly, Ciara Redmond, Leanne Brennan, Joanna Kavanagh, Kasey Maher, Cliodhna Flynn, Róisín Hayden, Kim Brazzill, Katie Mae Boyce, Niamh Kenny, Brídín Nolan.

The Senior team played hosts in their All Ireland Playoffs, and welcomed Pobail Scoil Inbhear Sceine, Cartias College and St Mary's Middleton to the school Sports Hall in February. The girls got off to a great start with an emphatic victory over Caritas College. Next up were Pobail Scoil Inbhear Sceine, fresh from their appearance in the School's Cup final in the Basketball Arena the previous week. The going was tough in this game and the Kerry side exerted a control on the game from start to finish to give them victory over Presentation. St Mary's Middleton beat the Kerry side and as the final match of the day commenced, a win by 19 points for Presentation over Middleton would see the Presentation group winners on the day and book their spot in the All Ireland semi-final. The girls stuck to their task and held a lead which grew throughout the game. They were on course to pull off such a win as they led by 20 points at the end of the third quarter. Middleton fought back and clawed back the lead to 14 points at the buzzer. This saw Kerry progress to the semi-final. They girls played with great passion, pride and perserverence for the day and will rue an uncharacteristic poor performance against the Kerry side.

Team: Jessica Reville, Aleisha Cullen, Áine McDonnell, Eadaoin Miskella, Cathy Wheeler, Lauren Lawlor, Emma Walsh, Chloe Thomas, Rebecca Kirwan, Niamh Butler, Eleanor Franquera-Nolan.



First and Second Year.

The First Year team got their school basketball careers underway with wins over Bridgetown and Coláiste Bríde. They were unfortunate to lose to two very strong teams in FCJ Bunclody and Loreto Wexford. This is the girls first expereinces of basketball and the interest in training and the ongoing committment to developing their skills and tactics in the game will stand to them in the future.

The Second Year team got off to a flying start with victories over Bridgetown and Colaiste Bride. They faced a set back when FCJ secured a win over them, but fought back admirably against near neighbours, Loreto to snatch a win in overtime following the sides being tied at 20-20 at the end of normal time. This saw the girls take on Abbey Community School in the quarter final, and despite being in control of the game for long periods, Abbey fought back in the last quarter to win by a single basket in the dying seconds.

Training will continue for both the First and Second Year players and students involved should keep an 'ear out' for the daily announcements to remind them of training days and times.



Success at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition

Sixth year student, Yunwoo Lee, won first prize in the Senior Individual in the Biological & Ecological Sciences section at this year's BT Young Scientist Competition. Her project was among the top 24 out of 550 at this year's exhibition. She faced stiff competition from others in the category and tough questioning from the judges. Entitled "A study of allicin and an investigation of its potential use in combating antibacterial resistance", the study looked at the effectiveness of the active compound in garlic against microbes.

In the course of her work Yunwoo managed to confirm its potency against common bacterial strains, but more importantly she was the first person to stabilise the molecule responsible for this effect, the highly unstable compound allicin. Her hope is that in the future her discovery could give doctors a new way to combat the highly dangerous hospital bug MRSA.



Creative hands lighting the way.



Transition Year Students created these hand crafted clay pots during Art with Ms. A Conway. On completion a candle was lit and placed into the heart of each pot so as to illuminate the unique design and pattern of each one. Well done girls on creating and building such innovative pieces!



French Exchange



During the first half of The Second Year French Exchange the girls got lots of practice at speaking and listening to French language and trying to make themselves understood. They made great friends and learned very quickly how to make their way round Paris by Metro. Visits to the Eiffel Tower, the castle of Versailles and the Musee d'Orsay were on the programme as well as a morning in regular class. They hugely enjoyed every minute and their favourite visit was definitely to Disneyland Paris (even if the temperature was well below 0 degrees!). They and their families have just completed hosting the French correspondants in their homes in Wexford for a week. The French students and their three teachers have enjoyed a walking tour of Wexford, thanks to Ms. Monica Crofton of the Wexford Historical Society. They visited the recently opened Enniscorthy Castle, the ever popular Kilkenny Castle and with a break in the weather they were able to visit the Heritage Park and South Wexford. Wednesday morning saw the French pupils in classes from 9.00 to 11.00. A big thank you is due to the teachers of the French Department for their organisation throughout and also to the teachers who facilitated the class visits on Wednesday morning.





SATURDAY STUDY



Saturday Study continues during the Spring and Summer terms and during the second week of Easter holidays. We encourage all 3rd, 5th, and 6th Year students to make use of this facility to make maximum use of time for exam revision.

The dates are: Sat March 10th, Sat March 24th

Easter Holidays: Tues April 10th, Wed April 11th, Thurs April 12th, Fri April 13th

Sat 21st April, Sat 28th April, Sat 5th May, Sat 12th May, Sat 19th May, Sat 26th May

Times are: 9.30 to 3.00 with breaks

Cost is €5.00 per day.

Principal's Words of Encouragement for Exam Students

*Students preparing for exams are reminded that the key to success is PREPARATION. The work you are doing now is the preparation for your State Exams in June. **Keep focused and you will succeed.** The work you do between now and the exams in the Summer is what will make the difference between a good result and a great result.*

Be ambitious! Aim for your personal best!

What you put your mind to you can achieve.

Good luck to all 3rd and 6th Years over the next couple of months.

Your hard work will be rewarded so STAY FOCUSED!



1st yr Basketball club league

Winners 1A4 : Caitriona, Katie, Sarah & Rianna

Runners-up 1A1 : Rachel, Orla, Kelsey & Ciara

Well done girls!



1A2 Field trip to Hook Head



BIG CHANGES IN THE STAFF ROOM

Best wishes from the whole school community to all our retiring teachers this year. We hope that Ms. A. Gartland, Ms. C. Redmond, Ms. J Wyse and Ms M Lehané will have many years of happiness. We send them our gratitude for the many years of excellent service to our school.



TY recent fundraising Céillí for Barrettstown

