



# Christmas Newsletter 2010

## PRESENTATION SECONDARY SCHOOL

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### Religion - Chaplaincy Updates

#### 6<sup>th</sup> year Retreat



The Retreat took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of November in Waterford. The days were a great success and were enjoyed by all the students.

#### Presentation Day

Thank you to all **fifth year students** who did great work on their Nano Nagle projects.

There was a great variety of talent and knowledge on display. Well done girls

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fr. Tom Dalton will be in school to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December at lunchtime in the Prayer Room. All are welcome to attend.

#### Saint Vincent De Paul

The annual collection is currently taking place in the school. All students are asked to bring in food items as directed by Religion teachers.

#### Peer Prayer Programme

Thanks to all 2<sup>nd</sup> yrs who are praying every day for our 6<sup>th</sup> years. Your prayers and support are appreciated by all 6<sup>th</sup> year students.

#### TY Gaisce challenge in Glendalough



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#### Students for a day with 'Attitude'!

Over twenty 'mature students' attended the Presentation for one day on Friday Nov 26th. Despite their obvious talent and enthusiasm they were not accepted into the student body on a permanent basis because of poor standard of uniform, excessive jewellery, tattoos and disruptive behaviour!!!

(This was in conjunction with the Concern 'Festival')

Don't forget to complete the **Newsletter quiz** and put your entry into the box in the Foyer before **11 00 on Tues Dec 21st**. Prize of €25 voucher for **Brash hair design**, 5th Main St.

**BRASH**  
HAIR DESIGN



## Basketball

The **Senior and under 16 Basketball** teams got off to a flying start this season, with both teams recording unbeaten runs in the league stages. Strong team performances ensured emphatic wins over Loreto Wexford, Bridgetown, Rosbercon and Colaiste Bride, advancing to the quarter final stage.

**Presentation** received home advantage in both quarter finals with the under 16 team beating Bagenalstown 33–10, with Niamh Butler top scoring with 16pts. The Seniors received a bye from Abbey Community School, Waterford and now take on St Anne's, Tipperary in the regional semi-final.

### **Under 16 Team**

Cara McDonald (capt), Rebecca Kirwan, Ciara Redmond, Aine McDonnell, Clíodhna Flynn, Holly Crosbie, Niamh Butler, Lauren Kelly, Aleisha Cullen, Sarah Berry, Emma Nolan, Kasey Maher, Caoimhe O'Sullivan.

### **Senior Team**

Deirdre Kenny & Stella McKay (capt), Eleanor Nolan, Ciara Grey, Susan O'Doherty, Eadaoin Miskella, Aisling Nolan, Emma Walsh, Lauren Lawlor.

## Camogie

This year started off with a visit from the Wexford All - Ireland camogie winning champions, a visit which has motivated the girls to progress to the knock out stage of both Junior and Senior competitions.

The Seniors recorded a well deserved victory after a hard fought match against Hackettstown and quickly followed up this success with a win over Ramsgrange. These wins mean that the Presentation girls top the group and now eagerly await a semi final clash against Trim, Co. Meath. On current form the girls will be hoping to extend their unbeaten streak and advance to a Leinster final.

Our Juniors have enjoyed mixed fortunes with a record of played two, won one, lost one. The first match saw them record a win over Ballyhale on a scoreline of 2-3 to 2-1. Gorey were next and they proved too strong for the girls on the day, running out ten point victors. With all teams on equal points the Presentation girls progress thanks to a superior scoring difference. With players to return from injury, the girls have, once again, their sights firmly set on retaining their Leinster title.

## Hockey

The hockey club currently has three teams involved in South East Leagues: Minor B (Second Years), Junior B (U16) & Intermediate A (Seniors)

**Minor B's** played their first match on 11<sup>th</sup> October but unfortunately lost to F.C.J., Bunclody despite putting up a good fight. For many of the players this was their first time playing a match as they only took up hockey this year. They still have 3 matches left to play: Kilkenny College, Loreto, Kilkenny and Loreto, Wexford in the New Year.

**Junior B's** met with F.C.J., Bunclody also on the 11<sup>th</sup> October but sadly lost by a goal. Their second match was against Loreto, Kilkenny but victory was not to be had that day either! Next time girls! Their other two matches to be scheduled in December had to be postponed till New Year. Meanwhile, girls it's time to concentrate on training!

**Inter A's** have only played one official match so far against Loreto, Kilkenny on the astro pitch in Enniscorthy. The girls played a super game winning 2-1. (Goal scorers: Aoibhinn O'Connor and Ciara Mordaunt). Unfortunately the matches against Kilkenny College and St Leos Carlow had to be postponed till after Christmas.

We wish the teams all the best in the rest of their matches. **Keep up the training girls!**

### **First Years**

First Year hockey will begin in the New Year in preparation for South East Leagues in second year. All interested First Years please keep an eye on the Sports Notice Board in January for details.



## **1st.yr. Basketball**

The 1st yr Inter class League is progressing to Quarter Final stages. Over 80 students have taken part. 1A1 are showing strength in depth with 3 teams through to Quarter finals. It is a very successful run up to inter school 1st yr Leagues which will begin in the New Year.

### **Quiz question 1**

**Who won the prize for the best costume at the 3A4 Fancy Dress Fun Run in October?**

Write your answer on page 7.



## Gaelic Football Blitz

A football blitz was organised by Bunclody Vocational College on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October. A team, consisting of a mixture of students from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> year, travelled to Bunclody and played 4 matches on the day. It was a super day for the girls with some great wins against Wexford Vocational College, New Ross Vocational College and Kilmuckridge Community School. However, we lost out in the very last round against FCJ Bunclody. Well done girls on winning 3 out of 4 matches!

## Junior Football (U16)

The Junior team met with St Mary's, New Ross at home on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. Despite a great team effort the girls lost 2-5. We also received walkovers against FCJ and St. Brigid's. Await further notice from the Leir.



## Senior Football (U20)

Unfortunately, no senior game has been played so far with St Mary's New Ross and Ramsgrange Community School both unable to provide teams to play us. We hope to meet Gorey Community School in the New Year.

## U-14 Gaelic Football

Training has started for the U-14 matches which are scheduled for after Christmas. New-comers most welcome! See Ms M. O'Brien or Mr J. Rolston.

We are delighted to avail of the coaching services of Suzanne Brennan from Clonard G. A. A. club, who will be helping our players in their football skills development over the coming months.

**Training takes place for all every Thursday in the Sports Hall from 4pm-5pm and during Monday lunchtimes.**



Aleisha Cullen and Megan McIntosh

## Mad Hair Day

This years 5<sup>th</sup> year LCVP students organised a Mad Hair Day for all students on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December in aid of **Make a Wish Foundation**. Make a Wish Foundation is an organisation that grants wishes to terminally ill children.

The 2010 P.A.L.S (Presentation Amateur Ladies Soccer) Cup came to an end on Friday the 18th of November with the teams "RUNVS" and "Pot Noodles" meeting in the final. Played in front of a packed gallery all players showed great skill and determination from the start. However, it was RUNVS who quickly raced into a two goal lead with goals from Deirdre Kenny and Stella McKay. Slowly but surely the Pot Noodles team came back into the match with two excellent goals from the midfield maestro Tanya Kavanagh. In fact it would and should have been more only for the goalkeeping excellence of Gemma Kelly. At the other end Amy Kennedy repeatedly stopped and blocked shots from all ranges. Aine Hayes battled on one side while Tishy Doran controlled the other. In defence Lauren Lawlor and Jessie Maher controlled both ends and constantly thwarted the opposition. With the scores locked at 2 all, up popped Aisling Broaders with an exquisite shot from a distance that deserved to win the cup. The winning team was presented with medals and the specially commissioned cup at the player's party that followed on the balcony. In addition Ciara Kelly (Sixth Year) was awarded top scorer for the entire competition. The winning team and five top players will now compete in the annual Teachers and Students match to be held before Christmas.

Roll on next year!

- **Whole School Evaluation**

The recent DES Whole School Evaluation was successfully completed. It proved to be a very positive experience for all involved. The Evaluation Team were very affirming of all the good work being done in the school and complimented all the students on their excellent behaviour and their positive attitude to their studies.

- **Evening Study**

Evening Supervised Study takes place each evening.

**Please note that two extra weeks will be added on at no extra charge to compensate for the two weeks lost due to adverse weather.**

- **Saturday and Mid-term and Easter Study**

The school provides Supervised Study each Saturday during term time and also during mid-term breaks and Easter holidays. Sessions run from 9:30 am to 3:00pm and the cost is €5.00 per day. These sessions are designed for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year students to do revision work in preparation for their upcoming State Exams. Attendance at these sessions is strongly recommended.

5<sup>th</sup> year students can also avail of this facility.

**Dates for next term are: January 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>. February 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>.**

Note: Any student who wishes to avail of this facility but is unable to meet the cost please talk to Ms A.O'Brien.

- **Information Technology (IT) Upgrade**

The school recently received a grant from the DES to upgrade our ICT facilities.

The total received amounts to €45,963.00 and it is planned in the first instance to provide a teaching computer and a data projector in each classroom. This will enhance the teaching and learning experience for all.

- **Heating Project**

The Heating Project was recently completed. This involved the replacement of the entire heating system throughout the school with a thermostatically controlled system which will increase efficiency and provide greater comfort for all.

- **Communication with Parents/Guardians**

The school uses text messaging as an efficient and effective way to communicate information from school to parents and guardians. If any parent/guardian has not been receiving texts please contact the General Office at 053 9124133 immediately to inform them of your correct contact mobile phone number.

The School Website is currently being developed. We encourage you to go online and look out for school updates and information by visiting [www.preswex.ie](http://www.preswex.ie).

**Dates for your Diary:**

- Study Skills Seminar for all 1<sup>st</sup> Years ----- Wed 12<sup>th</sup> January
- Point of Care Catch-up Cervical Cancer Vaccination No.2  
for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Years ----- Wed. 19<sup>th</sup> January
- Mock Exams for Junior and Leaving Cert students ----- Mon 7<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Quiz question 2.**

**Name the student who was top scorer in the u-16 Basketball quarter final against Bagenalstown?**

Write your answer on page 7.

Parent Teacher Meetings		
Transition Year	_____	Wed 26th. January
	4.15 _ 6.45	
First Year	_____	Fri 18th. February
	1.00 _ 3.30	
Fifth Year	_____	Tues 8th. March
	4.15 _ 6.45	
Second Year	_____	Mon. 14th March

**School closures due to bad weather**

In light of the recent school closure as a result of bad weather, full attendance by all students for the remainder of the school year is essential to minimise the effect of the loss in teaching time. In the unfortunate event of any future such closures students are advised to be responsible and to use time wisely for study and revision. You are asked to check the school website regularly as teachers may post work for students.

**Christmas Draw**

A big thank you to the Parents' Council who organised the successful Christmas Draw and to all who purchased tickets or sponsored prizes.

**May we take this opportunity to wish all our students, teachers and their families a happy and peaceful and safe Christmas.**

**B.Cogley Principal                      A.O'Brien                      Deputy Principal**





### Junior Cert Business Awards

Once again Business students made the grade.

This year nine students received an award from Waterford Institute of Technology for achieving an A grade in higher level Business Studies.

Congratulations to the following students

Monika Der, Niamh Doyle, Beth Kavanagh, Lauren Devereux, Aoife Doyle, Jennifer Bryan, Rashma Skariah

Laura Cousins, Roisin Scallan. Well done also to their teachers : Mr. C Walsh, Mr. K Gilshinan and Ms. AM Byrne.



The **Meitheal Leaders** are busy at present preparing for the **First year Christmas Party** which they organise and run every year. The Meitheal Leaders for 2010 - 2011 are: Back l to r: Sarah Callaghan, Ciara McIntosh, Nicola Cogley, Orla Boggan, Megan Sinnot, Hollie Barry, Brona Gately, Orla Bolger, Fiona Cullen. Seated: Chloe Chan, Lauren Campion, Rachel Scully, Christine Furlong Missing from photograph : Aoife Mcnamara and Deirdre Kenny. Meitheal Co-Ordinator, Ms. Anne Gartland.



Top achievers in **Junior Cert Maths and Science** Beth Kavanagh and Roisin Scallan with their teachers Ms. D Deegan and Ms. M Dooley

Edenvale Geography Field Trip

'Athletes' from the 3A4 Fancy Dress Fun Run, Stephanie, Jade & Natsha



### Quiz question 3

Name the MEP who visited the 3A2 CSPE classroom.

## Transition Year News - September to December 2010

It has been an extremely busy few months for the 87 students in Transition Year 2010-11.

Some new elements to the Transition Year programme this year are the introduction of the following modules: Art, Music, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Oriental Cuisine. Also, all students are getting the opportunity to participate in Community Work in St Bridget's Day Care Centre on Roche's Road, every Thursday afternoon.

In addition to the above modules, the following subjects are being offered to all T. Y. students: Irish, English and Drama, French or German, Maths, Religious Education, Physical Education, Computer Studies, Careers, Young Social Innovators, Mini-Company & Enterprise, Geography, Pastoral Care and the Drugs Awareness Programme (run by Tommy Redmond of the F. D. Y. S.).

The students' first major event was their "Bonding Day" at Sheilbaggan Outdoor Education Centre in Ramsgrange, where they enjoyed participating in archery, abseiling, orienteering and team-challenges.

Next up was an in-school Irish Céilí Workshop with Sean O hUigin and a Personal Development Programme Workshop with Dolores Corcoran. In this workshop, students were also given Beauty and Make-Up tips and all students received information booklets. Overall, both workshops were greatly enjoyed by every student.

A traditional part of Transition Year in this school is the opportunity to participate in the Gaisce Awards - the President's Awards. This allows students to participate in community work, learn a new skill and participate in a physical activity for a set number of weeks. An adventure trip is also a requirement of the awards. On the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, the girls set out with Ms Mahon, Ms Kinsella, Ms Colfer, Ms V. Redmond, Mr Rolston and Mr McCormack to Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, on a 25-30km walk over two days, with an overnight stay in An Óige Hostel in Glendalough. It certainly proved to be a challenging activity, but, overall, a great time was had by all students. Many thanks are given to all the teachers who volunteered to accompany the students on this trip.

Since mid-September, all Transition Year students have been doing their work-experience placement every Wednesday. All the students are extremely grateful to their employers for offering them this wonderful opportunity to experience life in the working-world. Every student will have two main work-placements during the academic year, with Placement One finishing at the end of January.

All students also tapped into their musical talents with two very popular workshops organised in November - a Percussion (Drums) Workshop and SongSchool workshop, where all students got to write and perform their own songs. Well done to all involved as the tutors, giving the respective workshops, were highly impressed with the talent on show.

Another major part of T. Y. is the annual drama production. This year's play is one of William Shakespeare's renowned tragedies - "Romeo and Juliet." The performances take place on Wednesday and Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of December, with three in-school productions and one evening (public) production on the 16<sup>th</sup>. A raffle will be held at each performance. All the funds generated from these performances go to help the T. Y. year and events. Work on the play has been ongoing since September and the girls have worked extremely hard, so well done to all involved. We are particularly delighted to have worked with T. Y. students in the C.B.S. Secondary School on this production.

Other events that have taken place this term were:

- Mental Health Ireland Public Speaking Project (well done to Beth Kavanagh, Michaela Itaire-Mifsud, Stephanie Storey and Alison O'Doherty who took part in this project).
- Wexford Women's Refuge talk and Art Project
- Coffee Morning and fundraiser for Action Breast Cancer, Ireland
- Careers trip to Dublin City University Open Day on November 19<sup>th</sup>
- The on-going "Challenge-to-Change" project for Presentation Schools (in Religious Education)

**Student Council** →

Student council members : Sarah Byrne, Sarah Berry, Emma McDonald, Ms. Joan Wyse (Co-Ordinator), Nicola Cogley and



**NEWSLETTER QUIZ ENTRY FORM**

1A1 Geography Edenvale Field Trip  
Saoirse, Sadhbh and Roisin.

**Music**



The 2nd and 3rd Music students went on their annual trip to The National Concert Hall for the "Music in the Classroom" series on Tuesday November 9th. The National Symphony Orchestra played excerpts from their Junior Cert. course. This was sponsored by The Irish Times. The conductor analysed and explained details of the various orchestral pieces from the 'prescribed' and 'choice' sections of the syllabus for their exam. It proved a very educational and enjoyable experience for all.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

Prize €25 voucher generously sponsored by

**BRASH HAIR DESIGN**



Question 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Question 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Question 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Question 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Parent/Guardian : \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete entry form and return to box in Foyer by 11.00 Tues 21st Dec.





**The Concern Fast**

took place on November 26<sup>th</sup> and was a great success. This year Concern headquarters wanted schools to organise their own "Festival" to raise money along with the traditional fast. Our school "Festival" went really well where 20 teachers dressing up in school uniform and the students sponsored them. everyone had a fun time raising money for this worthy cause.

**3A4 CSPE Action Project**

In October, as part of their CSPE Action Project, 3A4 organised a Fancy Dress Fun Run for all 1st years in aid of St Vincent de Paul. Sam McCauleys donated a fantastic gift hamper as a prize for best costume. This was won by Hannah Sinnott 1A4 with her 'Mary Harney Minister of Stealth' costume. She beat off stiff competition from a "Clown" and 'Where's Wally' to name a few. The €337.18 raised was presented to Mary Dempsey from St Vincent de Paul on 26th November. Well done to all involved in making this such a successful fundraiser.



**Quiz question 4**

**Who has Mad Hair & no jacket?**

**3A2 CSPE Action project**

On Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> November, the Irish M.E.P., **Liam Aylward** came over from Brussels to discuss democracy and current affairs with us, the 3a2 students of The Presentation Secondary School. Our class put a great effort into the preparation of his visit. We organised ourselves into numerous groups which would decorate the room appropriately with EU pictures and posters. Other groups bought refreshments and welcomed the Mr. Aylward on arrival. Firstly, he gave us information on what his job as an M.E.P involves and on the day to day running of the European Parliament. We then had an effective question and answer session where we discussed various topics such as the Euro, how the EU affects us, the funding Ireland receives from the EU and roaming charges. We found this very beneficial as it made clearer anything we were unsure of or curious about. When the discussion had ended, some students proceeded to give Mr. Aylward a tour of our school. He then offered very generously for three 3A2 students to accompany him to Brussels for two days and experience a tour of the EU parliament. There will be a competition held to decide which girls will go and every student is eager to win this once in a lifetime opportunity.



**Biology News**

In September, forty eight 5<sup>th</sup> Year Biology students ventured out to the Wexford Wildfowl Reserve to study the ecology of the area as part of their Leaving Cert course. The girls enthusiastically explored the wetland habitat, spotting numerous frogs, badger tracks and a few brave souls handled the creepy crawlies from the lake. The warm weather and rich variety of organisms made for a very enjoyable and educational day away from the classroom.

Caroline Ryan

**CAREER GUIDANCE**

A very busy calendar of events has taken place this term. A full list of all activities is available on the school web-site ([www.preswex.com](http://www.preswex.com))

**Senior Cycle**

Numerous talks and speakers in school from a wide variety of colleges and career areas..

Open Days at many of the 3<sup>rd</sup> level colleges.

An information night for 6<sup>th</sup> year parents

WIT Open Day has been rescheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010.

By mid January 6<sup>th</sup> years will have completed their CAO applications on-line in school.

5<sup>th</sup> year students will have an opportunity to attend the Choices 2011 Careers Fair in the Aviva Stadium on 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2011.

Interview Training Programme run by a recruitment & training consultant which will run in March/April.

**Junior Cycle**

3<sup>rd</sup> yrs have completed their DATs aptitude tests.

Many also took part in a half day seminar on study skills.

2<sup>nd</sup> years can look forward to a module 'exploring career choices' after Christmas with their Guidance counsellor

First years have completed their first set of term tests. To encourage high academic standards all 1<sup>st</sup> yrs will take part in a half day workshop on effective homework skills on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011.

**Happy, holy, peaceful Christmas to all our students & families**

