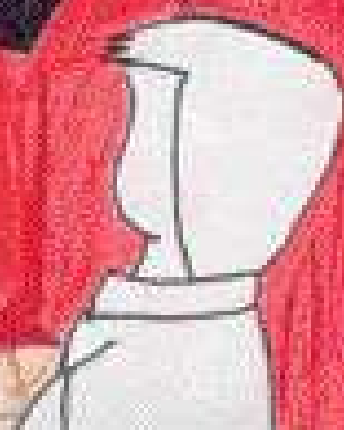
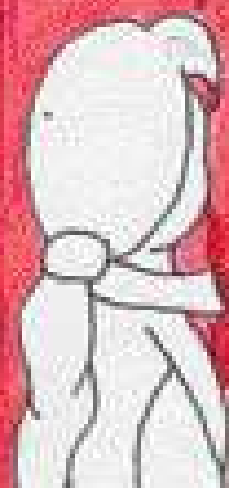


# BALLYHANE COMMUNITY SCHOOL



# Year Book 2017





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# Greetings from the Principal



About the time that Lisa Jordon and Danielle Duffy were informing me that it was that time of year again when I had to put some thoughts together for the School Yearbook, a cataclysmic event was taking place on the other side of the World. The Japanese Earthquake was breaking news that day and the Tsunami was still in formation stage some

miles off the Coast. Little did we think as we had our brief conversation that an event of such magnitude was unfolding elsewhere that would have such devastating consequences. I mention those tragic events to emphasise that while our situation in this country is far from ideal at least we have been spared natural disasters of a scale such as those in Japan.

I look forward each year to the publication of the School Yearbook because it is the unique creation of the Leaving Cert Class of the particular year. Many many hours of discussion, hard work and sometimes argument is required and each year the class group give their time, energy and talents to produce the "Magazine". This year is no exception, Ms. Mooney arranged a meeting some months ago to set the publication process in motion and from that the committee was formed.

Tales of adventures in far off Achill, Barcelona, Killary and Ballintubber are retold and only those who were there know the truth. The Magazine is the medium for the class of 2011 to tell their story of life in the school for the past five or six years. It chronicles their story, happy, sad or outrageous, and will lay in many a bedside drawer for years to come. It will on occasions be called upon to

verify the year such a person did the Leaving or simply to recall some special moment during their journey through Ballyhaunis Community School.

This year we had just one retirement, Micheál Murren who taught Maths and Business Studies in the School Since its Establishment. Micheál was the last of the original teachers who transferred in here on the establishment of the Community School in 1977. He was a gifted teacher who won the respect of his students through the strength of his character and the fact that he was passionate about both subjects. He was even more passionate about matters GAA, he trained teams enthusiastically right up to the time he retired and indeed is still to be seen on the playing fields on cold wet winter days when only those who love the game would venture out. I know that others will speak more eloquently of Micheál in articles in this magazine, but in essence Micheál was a gentleman to work with, his advice was always solid and sincere. He had an understanding and insight into young people that I was often in awe of. He is missed around the place and on behalf of the school community I wish him many years of contented retirement.

I hope all the readers of the 2011 School Magazine enjoy the content, traditionally it is viewed as the authentic history of the year group and I thank this year's committee for their long hours of hard work and I especially want to thank Ms Mary Mooney who spends months advising, cajoling and encouraging the Editorial team. Mary advises the Committee but never seeks to control their decisions and that is the essence of free press.

**Pat McHugh,**  
**Principal.**

## Burke & Coyne Oil



# Teaching Staff 2010/2011



**Back row:** Mr. Emmet Dolan, Mr. Colin Quinn, Ms. Edel Cunniffe, Ms. Claire Caulfield, Ms. Geraldine Finn, Ms. Áine Fallon, Ms. Anne Grogan, Mr. Michael Murray.

**Middle row:** Mr. Pat McHugh, Ms. Mairéad Reidy, Ms. Karen Reilly, Ms. Anne Varden, Ms. Eva Brogan, Ms. Josephine Loftus, Ms. Yvonne Walshe, Mr. Pdraig Shannon.

**Front row:** Ms. Mary Mooney, Ms. Claire Hopkins, Ms. Eileen Byrne, Ms. Genevieve Murray, Ms. Sharon Mulroy, Ms. Cathriona Raftery, Ms. Siobhán O'Connell, Ms. Éadaoin Flynn.



**Back row:** Ms. Concepta Moran, Ms. Shellie Gibbons, Ms. Aisling Comer, Ms. Orla Macken, Ms. Olive Lyons, Ms. Ann Joyce, Ms. Orla Phillips, Ms. Bernadine Waldron, Mr. Ray Woolley.

**Front row:** Mr. Seán McHugh, Ms. Anna Henry, Mr. Patrick Noone, Ms. Siobhán Devine, Ms. Colleen Hayes, Mr. Patrick McGarry, Ms. Patricia Hargaden-Whyte, Mr. David McDonagh.



## Staff 2010/2011



*Administrative Staff: Mrs. Mary Francis Cleary and Mrs. Justina Lyons.*



**Left to Right:** Mrs. Eileen Nestor (Supervision), Mrs. Eileen Jennings (Caretaking) and Mrs. Cáit Webb (Supervision)



*Caretaking Staff: Mr. Paddy Kelly and Mrs. Eileen Jennings*



*Administrative Staff: Mrs. Patricia Gaughan*



*Special Needs Assistant: Mrs. Bernie Lyons*



*Caretaker: Mr. Con Boyle*

## Staff News

The school year 2010-2011 welcomed many new teachers to the school; Ms. Morrison, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Caulfield, Ms. Cuniffe and Mrs. Reidy! As the saying goes, as one door opens another closes and summer 2010 marked the retirements of the legendary Mr. Michael Murren and Sr. Maura Callaghan. On behalf of the school community, we would like to thank them for their hard work and dedication down through the years. We wish them all the best for the future.

It was a very busy year among the teaching staff on the engagement and matrimonial front! Congratulations to Ms. Anne Keane (Mrs. Grogan), Ms. Gillian Duffy (Mrs. Madden), and Ms. Deirdre Keehan (Mrs. Brohan) on their respective weddings during the year. We wish all the couples a long and wonderful life together. We also wish every happiness to Ms. Cathriona Raftery, Ms. Anne Varden, Mr. David McDonagh, Ms. Siobhán O'Connell and Ms. Edel Cuniffe on their recent engagements. Furthermore, we would also like to extend our best wishes to Ms. Raftery, Ms. Varden and Mr. McDonagh on their forthcoming weddings this summer.

Congratulations to Ms. Anne-Marie O'Reilly on the birth of her daughter, Katie, Ms. Mairéad Conway on the birth of her daughter Blaithín, Ms. Antoinette Lennon on the birth of her daughter Annie and Ms. Siobhán Mannix on the birth of her son, Cormac. The staff is also delighted to welcome back Mrs. Peggy Egan.

- Lisa Jordan



*Baby Grace McCormack (daughter of Ms. Orla Macken)*



*Baby Cormac Mannix (son of Ms. Siobhan Mannix)*



*Pictured are Ms. Anne Keane and Mr. Ciaran Grogan on the occasion of their wedding.*



*Pictured are Ms. Gillian Duffy and Mr. Danny Madden on the occasion of their wedding.*

# Staff News

## Transplant Joy

As many of you are aware Ms. Bernie Osgood, a member of the teaching staff in our school donated a kidney to her 7 year old daughter Rebecca in July 2010. Little Rebecca suffered kidney failure at the age of two as a result of ecoli poisoning and up until her transplant had been receiving 10-hour nightly dialysis treatment.

Initially when Bernie asked to be considered as a potential living donor, she was not allowed as she had recently given birth to her son Conor and needed time to recover. In the meantime Rebecca's father, Iain, was screened for liver donation but was not a compatible donor. Undeterred, Bernie persisted and eventually was allowed to go through the screening process which took 6 months. The outcome was a successful liver donation transplant from mother to child which took place at Beaumont hospital last July. Rebecca was well enough to return home just two weeks later on the day of her seventh birthday. Rebecca is now a happy, healthy little girl and has returned to school.

There are currently over 650 people in Ireland awaiting life saving organ transplants including heart, lung, liver, kidney and pancreas. Almost 2,600 people in Ireland are enjoying extended life as a result of receiving organ transplants.

Bernie and her family extend the invitation to each of us to consider becoming a donor in the event of our untimely death and to discuss this decision with loved ones.

Organ Donor Cards can also be obtained by phoning the Irish Kidney Association

LoCall 1890 543639 or Freetext the word DONOR to 50050. Visit website [www.ika.ie](http://www.ika.ie)

It will now be possible to store a donor card, the 'ecard' on Smart mobile phones. The new free 'E-card' offers an alternative to the traditional donor card and the public can now keep their completed organ donor e-card on their smart phone, rather than traditionally in their wallet. The E-card app is available by searching for and downloading 'ecard' from the App store.



*Bernie and her family are pictured with Ryan Turbidy at the launch of the Organ Donor Awareness Week 2010. L-r: Iain, Bernie, Lauren and Ryan Turbidy holding Rebecca.*

## Life Saving Organ Donation

The Junior and Leaving Cert Biology courses are an excellent introduction to the living world. The Leaving Cert programme in particular includes a section on human anatomy and physiology. We study how all systems like respiration, digestion etc. function in co-ordination.

Excretion is one of the functions in the human body and is carried out by the skin, the lungs, and the kidneys. Every minute approx. one litre of blood passes through the kidneys and in the process gets ride of toxic molecules. The kidneys also maintain fluid balance in both volume and composition and play an important role in regulation of blood pressure (BP). For different reasons the kidneys can fail to function properly and at a certain stage medical intervention is necessary. This can be done in essentially two ways; dialysis or transplant. In relation to transplantation a kidney can be from a living or deceased donor. The first living kidney donor

operation was carried out in Boston in 1954. In Ireland the first operation of this kind was carried out by the late Dr. Peter McClean in 1974.

The number of living donor/recipient transplants has increased over the years, for example there were 18 operations in 2009 and 23 in 2010. I am one of the eighteen living donors, I donated a kidney to my wife, Geraldine, in 2009 and this resulted in a dramatic improvement in her wellbeing.

All great medical advancements have been possible due to study, research and work of many dedicated people. For our Leaving Cert students subjects like Biology and Chemistry may be a stepping stone to a career in the exciting world of medical science.

The **wikipedia** website is useful for further information.

**Terry Coleman.**



# Retirements

## Haulie - Micheál Murren

Haulie- the last of the original staff members who joined Ballyhaunis Community School from the Vocational School back in 1977, has decided to call it a day. When I was asked to pen a few words about Haulie, I was to start with To Whom It May Concern. I have known Haulie since 1973 and I can recommend him for any position of trust, but I said to myself hang on a minute Haulie is not looking for work, he is a free man.

When I arrived here in Ballyhaunis Vocational School in 1973 Haulie was a young red haired whiz kid having started work in the Vocational School some six months earlier. (The hair hasn't changed)

My first introduction to Ballyhaunis GAA was through Haulie and in the early days in Ballyhaunis Vocational School we had many trips to various parts of the county for matches. I had the pleasure of getting a guided tour of beautiful Mayo. Our teams were not always the best footballers but they were very willing and enjoyed a few hours away from the hum drum of school life. One trip I can well remember was to the official opening of a new pitch in Swinford vocational School. We had a great game of football and were well treated afterwards.

Haulie's service to the life of Ballyhaunis Community School was second to none. He was the first there each morning, willing to keep a watchful eye over exuberant students. Whenever a helping hand was needed to get students over the line, Haulie could be depended upon to give a little extra. His loyalty to the school and various managements were greatly appreciated and valued. You were a trusted and loyal colleague of all the staff.

Gaelic games were an important part of the life for Haulie and throughout his career he gave his free time to provide students with the opportunity to play. He got great joy from seeing his teams perform. The winning part was secondary, but important. I can recall one story attributed to him, on arriving home from a match, he was asked how they got on and what the score was? His reply was- we won 5-17 to 1-8. Who played well was the next question? Haulie replied 'nobody'.

The clock calls time on all of us Haulie- you can rest easy, be satisfied with a job well done. You have played well. Good luck and best wishes and may you have many years of happy retirement

- **Hugh Rudden**

## Saying "Goodbye" to Micheál Murren

Micheál Murren, better known as Haulie to all of us, retired from the teaching staff of Ballyhaunis Community School in August 2010, his departure also meant him retiring as head of the maths faculty. It was a great honour and privilege to have worked alongside him for many years. He was the person to whom all in the maths faculty turned to whenever we needed a problem solved. Solving these problems came easy to Haulie and you were guaranteed to get a very simple solution to what originally seemed a difficult problem. He had brilliant mathematical ability and he was always dedicated and hardworking.

Haulie was a true and loyal friend to all and his many acts of kindness were appreciated by staff and students alike. He was a man of few words but sound judgement. He was a good listener and was always prepared to listen to anyone with a problem and you were assured of the strictest confidentiality.

Haulie, it really was a pleasure to have been a colleague of yours and we miss you greatly, especially the "impromptu meetings" outside F1 at lunchtime! On behalf of the staff of Ballyhaunis Community School and the maths faculty we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a long and happy retirement.

**Peggy Egan**  
**Ann Joyce**



**G.A.A. Presentation-Mr. Micheál Murren**

Pictured are Mr. Pat McHugh (principal), David Kenny (captain of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year Boys G.A.A. Team, with the Tarmey Cup), Mr. Micheál Murren, Ms. Concepta Moran (deputy-principal) and Mr. David McDonagh.

A presentation was made to Mr. Murren in recognition of his outstanding contribution to G.A.A. within the school.



# Retirements

## Farewell to Sr. Maura

Farewell Sr. Maura Callaghan

It was a great privilege and a pleasure to have been a colleague and friend of Sr. Maura for many years in Ballyhaunis Community School. Born in Carrowkeel, Clontuskert, Ballinasloe, she entered the Convent of Mercy in Ballinrobe in 1970. In 1974 Sr. Maura went to NUI Maynooth to study for a BA. in Mathematics, Geography and Philosophy.

In 1978 she was asked to join the Sisters of Mercy teaching staff in San Diego, California. Being the loyal dedicated person that she is, she agreed to go even though it was difficult for her to leave her family that she dearly loved. She spent eight years teaching there.

In 1986, Sr. Maura returned to Ireland and joined the staff of Ballyhaunis Community School replacing Sr. Assumpta who retired that year. She joined the maths faculty and became an integral part of the maths team. She was a wonderful colleague who was always eager and willing to help when we needed guidance, advice and encouragement. Sr. Maura was a hard working, conscientious and dedicated teacher who took a keen interest in her students and their progress and she is remembered by past students with respect and admiration. She was a loyal caring person and endeared herself to staff and students alike.

It was this caring nature that prompted her to take a career break in 2003 to look after her mother who had become ill. For the following three and a half years she gave selflessly of her time to care for her mother and cherished every moment she had with her. Sr. Maura retired from the staff of Ballyhaunis Community School in 2009 and now works in the administration office of the Mercy Headquarters in Ballinasloe.

Sr. Maura, even though you have left Ballyhaunis Community School, you are definitely not forgotten and the friendship we developed over the years will be everlasting. On behalf of the staff of Ballyhaunis Community School and on our own behalf we would like to thank you most sincerely for your dedication during your teaching career and wish you many years of good health and happiness.

**Ann Joyce**  
**Peggy Egan**



**Retirement-Haulie & Sr. Maura**

*Pictured are: Mrs. Justina Lyons, Mrs. Bríd White, Mr. Pat McHugh, Sr. Maura Callaghan, Mr. Matt O' Dwyer, Ms. Concepta Moran, Mr. Michael Murren.*

# Students Achievements



## Jessica Kelly

*Leaving Cert student of Ballyhaunis Community School 2010*

Jessica was an Entrance Scholarship recipient in 2010, and is now studying Commerce - International (Italian) at U.C.D. Jessica was one of 240 First Year students from around Ireland to be recognised for academic, sporting, performing arts and Irish language achievements at the Scholarship ceremony held at University College Dublin in November 2010.



## Lisa Freyne

*Past student of Ballyhaunis Community School and recipient of 2009/10 Entrance Scholarship to N.U.I. Galway.*

Lisa is currently studying Speech and Language Therapy at N.U.I.G.

## Ryan Peake: boxing article:



This year, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, I was crowned youth 2 (U-17) National champion. My road to victory included a very tough semi-final against Stephan Mulholtenal from Antrim. I knew this would be a tough contest as we both trained on the Irish squad previously, the contest proved to be the best on the night awarding me the verdict of a scoreline 7-4.

My final was against a physically strong Stephan Morris from Ulster. The first two rounds were tied 0-0 so I went into the 3<sup>rd</sup> round with flurries of punches which saw me win the fight and clinch the title on a 3-0 score. I was delighted having won and was surrounded by huge support after winning - which I am so grateful for.

I have now secured 6 mayo titles, 6 Connaught titles, and finally the Irish title. I will be training regularly on the Irish team and will soon be representing Ireland. My next goal is the U-18's although only 16, my coaches and I are confident that I can claim this title also.

I would like to congratulate my clubmates who won National titles, this saw Ballyhaunis

Boxing club win 4 National titles on the same day, while also doing the best out of Connaught. I would like to thank my coach and father for helping me to reach my goals both inside and outside of the Boxing ring.

## Aisling Tarpey - Gaelic Football

Aisling has enjoyed a very successful football career to date having won the U-12 Connacht Championship (2007) with Mayo and being awarded player of the match. In progressing to the U-14 Mayo ladies team, Aisling experienced further victory when they became U-14 B Connacht runner up champions (2008), U-14 B All-Ireland champions (2008), U-14 A runner up Connacht champions (2009) and U-14 A All-Ireland champions (2009). The trend continued for Aisling and her team as they embarked upon the next stage, Mayo U-16s. She was an invaluable member of the U-16 A runner up All-Ireland champions (2009), U-16 A runner up Connacht champions (2009) and the U-16 B All-Ireland Champions (2010). Aisling also plays for her local club, St. Mary's, who presented her with a trophy in 2011 in recognition of her outstanding sporting achievements with Mayo Ladies G.A.A. In addition, Aisling plays football with both the Junior and Senior football teams in school. Her overall commitment and sense of dedication to the sport are deeply admirable at all levels-school, club and county. Undoubtedly, she has a very promising sporting future ahead of her.

# Scór na nÓg

In the later months of 2010 the Scór na nÓg, traditional music and dance competition was close at hand. With three county titles to our names, it was our chance to once again redeem our former glories and bring back the county title to Aghamore.

After gliding smoothly through the first and second rounds of the GAA run competition, the county final took place in Breaffy GAA club in late November. Waiting backstage the nerves had very much kicked in, but as the resident victors it was feeling that we were used to. As we waited side by side for the judge's verdict we had prepared ourselves for the worst and as they called out our names we screamed with delight. We had exceed our expectations , winning titles in the Ballad group and rince set competitors as well as winning best overall club for Aghamore GAA. We would like to thank our parents, our community, Board na nÓg and Gráinne Kelly – Frayne, for all their help, co – operation and support. It was a brilliant day to remember!

*By Deirde Durkin*



## Scór Na nÓg

**Back Row:** Anna Doherty, Emma Duffy, Davóg Freyne, Michaela Durkin

**Front Row:** Sarah Creighton, Sinead Niland, Deirdre Durkin

**Missing:** Mary Waldron



## Scór Na nÓg

**Back Row:** Fergal Boland, Davóg Freyne, David Kenny.

**Front Row:** Sinead Niland, Michaela Durkin, Deirdre Durkin, Emma Duffy.

Congratulations to Paul Raftery and Enda Mulkeen on receiving 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for their Junior Certificate Metalwork projects.

The medals were awarded by the Engineering and Technology Teachers Association (ETTA) in the Galway/Mayo region. Both projects were of a very high standard and they out won some stiff competition.

The students are pictured here with their teachers Mr. Noone, Mr. McGarry and Principal Mr. McHugh.





# Chaplain's Piece 2010

## **Searching for hidden treasure** *A word from the Chaplains... K. Reilly & O. Macken*

How many of us are good listeners? There is a real shortage today of people who will take time to listen to the problems of others and so help them to unburden themselves. Many of us spend a lot of our time listening to and watching what is being said on TV even if it is only some soap opera or other. But how much attention do we give to the more important issues of life and how much listening do we do, where the things of God are concerned. Can we recognise His voice when he speaks to us? We certainly won't hear what God is saying to us while our minds and ears are 'clogged up' with the events of the day. We need to take time to listen to Him.

We all run on the treadmill of life, some of us keep running and yet go nowhere. Sometimes it's important to press the button to a slow jog or a relaxed walk for moments of reflection about where we are going in life. Beneath the debris of worldly worries there is a deeper meaning to living, the fact is all of us are digging for treasure of one kind or another that will bring us comfort, pleasure or make us rich. But what kind of treasure do we think will make us happy? And are we digging in the right places?

Most of us will spend our life searching for the true meaning of life. We all want to be deeply loved and heard and somehow we feel that to earn this kind of love we need to do something outstanding!! But if we understand the type of love God has for us it would bring us such incredible security.

We as chaplains offer a listening ear and support to help young people as they prepare to move out into the world from home and from school. Many pressures fall on young people today. Living in a fast world of success and achievement sometimes makes it difficult to cope. Many temptations and attractions throw themselves in front of them. Consequently it is very difficult to share the word of God with young people yet it is always a wonderful privilege and joy for us.

*'For where your treasure is there will your heart be also' Luke 12:34*

### **Worth the Living**

Any day is worth the living  
If one heart is aching less  
Because something you and I did,  
Helped encourage and to bless.  
If some seed of hope was planted  
Turning someone's thoughts above  
To seek help when all seemed hopeless,  
Trusting God's unfailing love.  
If we set a sad heart singing  
That had lost its happy song:  
If their spirits were made brighter  
Because we had come along.  
If our own heart was encouraged  
By another's kindly deed,  
Causing us to be more thankful  
For our friends in time of need.  
Any day is worth the living  
If we first seek God in prayer,  
Asking for His gentle guidance,  
Leaving each day in His care.

**Beverly J. Anderson**

# G.A.A. Presentations 2010

The 2010 GAA prize giving ceremony took place on last May. Medals were presented to the school's junior football team which won the Mayo Championship and the second year football team received their Tarmey Cup medals. The winners of the school's football league were also presented with their trophies and the runners-up picked up their medals. The league was a great success once again this year. In all, five teams participated but in the end it came down to two. The Roscommon team captained by Stephen Comer triumphed over the Kerry team captained by Ryan Worden in a very entertaining final.

The winners of the players of the year awards also received their trophies on the day. The first year award went to Liam Duffy, the second year award went to Sean Gildea, the juvenile award went to Darren Duffy, the junior award went to Caoileann Fitzmaurice.

*Well done to all involved.*



*Pictured is Liam Duffy receiving the 1st Year Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh (Coach) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal)*



*Pictured is Darren Duffy receiving the Juvenile Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh (Coach) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal)*



*Pictured is Seán Gildea receiving the 2nd Year Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh (Coach) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal)*



*Pictured is Caoileann Fitzmaurice receiving the Junior Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh (Coach) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal)*

## Class 1A



**Back Row:** Orla Cleary, Stephen Collins, Azad Ali Ahmed, Thomas Connell, Daragh Crawley, Killian Brehony, James Cribbin, Rebecca Bowen.

**Middle Row:** Cathal Brady, Piarais Caulfield, Radek Cervenak, Sean Carrick, Daniel McCormack, John Cassidy, Adrian Boyle, Oisín Coffey, Fraz Ahmad,

**Front Row:** Huma Arshad, Bianca Cooper, Kaitlyn Clarke, Sarah Behen, Eimear Daniel-Demsey, Hina Ali.

## Class 1B



**Back Row:** Dylan Maughan, Damien Egan, Radek Gvzedzinski, Pdraig Duffy, Shane Crinnigan, Niall Fitzgerald, Lewis Gourley, John Cunnane,

**Middle Row:** Claudia Glavey, Daniel Greally, Tommy Folliard, Shane Cribbin, Niall Dunleavy, Barry Forde, Oisín Henry, Anmul Grover.

**Front Row:** Roisín Fitzmaurice, Amy Giblin, Sinead Horan, Meadhbh Glavey, Leanne Henry, Hayley Conroy, Milena Gawłowska.

**Missing:** Maura Forde, Radosław Grzedzinski



## Class 1C



**Front Row:** Adam Hickey, Conor Lenihan, Cian Henry, Darragh Hunt, Séan Harris, Aidan Henry  
**Middle Row:** Matthew Grogan, Zaid Gulzar, Hassan Mahmood, James Lyons, Cathal Carney, Patrick Keadin  
**Back Row:** Anna Khromova, Serena McLoughlin, Roisín Byrne, Laura Lavin, Saoirse Caulfield, Riona Kearney, Emer Kiely, Shannon Keadin  
**Missing:** Michael Hill, Katie McKay, Sorchá McNamara, Martin Ward

## Class 1D



**Front Row:** Claire O'Gara, Martin Mulkeen, Robert Naughton, Liam Cregg, Sean Ruane, Robert McCormack, Thomas Murphy, Roisin Ní Shúilleabhain,  
**Middle Row:** Chantelle McDonagh, Tayba Muneer, Zozan Ali, Lucy Moss, Aoife Nolan, Shona Niland, Katie Moran  
**Back Row:** Thomas McDonagh, Jahangeer Javaid, Ciara Mulkeen, Hillary Phillips, Chloe McNulty, Aimee Reagan, Davina Morris, Kamil Maliszewski, James Reynolds  
**Missing:** Cormac Reidy

## Class 1E



**Back Row:** David Wallace, Johathan Ryan, Fred Kemp, Brendean Morrissey, Aaron Peake, Seán Tarmey, Bilal Saleh

**Middle Row:** Mazhar Tayyab, Brian Waldron, Kevin-Austin Tighe, Connor Wallace, Carlton Ubaezuonu, Danil Spicyn, David Finn.

**Front Row:** Emma Rowley, Demmi Greally, Rebecca Walsh, Barbora Vichtova, Catherine Quinn, Jiya Ali

**Missing:** Sarah Skeffington, Muhammad Younas

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## 1st Year Lunchtime Activities



*Pictured are H. Dip teachers  
Ms. Gillian Coughlan and  
Ms. Caroline McGuire.*

*Absent from photo is Ms.  
Gemma Connaughton.*

This term was a very busy one for our first year students. Lunchtimes were a hive of activities for all first years, with almost 60 students taking part daily in activities, namely; Table Tennis, Articulate, Drama, Rounders, Music and team building games. All students participated and enjoyed the activities immensely, with great fun being had daily. Throughout the term many young rising stars emerged while partaking. The activities were organised and supervised by Ms. Connaughton, Ms. McGuire and Ms. Coughlan.

Ms. Coughlan staged lunchtime drama workshops with on the spot roll playing producing many funny acting moments. Ms. McGuire took the team building and articulation games- if noise levels were anything to go by, both the students and Ms. McGuire certainly enjoyed themselves. Ms. Connaughton undertook the table tennis league, in the beginning there seemed to be a difficult transition from Gaelic Football with many high balls being hit into the air!!!



# First Year and Minor Camogie

In recent years Camogie in the school has been getting stronger and this year's first year team was no exception. After only a handful of training sessions the girls played a blitz in Davitt College in Castlebar back in March. They defeated Westport South in their first match but narrowly lost out to Carrick-on-Shannon in the second. The girls put in a great performance in all matches and were held to a draw in the final game against Westport South after an unlucky last minute goal.

This first year team took to the field again in April along with some second years as part of the minor Camogie team. Their first group match was played in Roscommon against a team from the Mercy. After a very close game they were narrowly defeated in one of the last attacks of the game. They have yet to play Westport in the group stages.

We would like to thank Ms. Varden for all the work she put into organising both the matches and frequent training sessions.



**Back row:** Meadhbh Glavey, Aisling Lynskey, Áine Coyne, Sile Brady, Aoife Lilly, Rebecca Walshe, Huma Arshad, Leanne Henry, Eimear Kiely. **Front row:** Labhaoise Cunnane, Shannon Keadin, Emma Rowley, Kaitlyn Clarke, Eimear Daniel-Dempsey, Maria Waldron.

## U-14 Girls Football

We started training for under 14 girls football in September with Ms. Mooney and Ms. Macken as our coaches. Our first three matches saw us emerge as the victors against Joseph's Secondary School Charlestown, St Patrick's College Lacken Cross, Scoil Mhuire and Padraig Swinford. These matches saw very strong performances from everyone. We were then through to the Connacht semi-final against Dunmore. Unfortunately the match didn't go our way on the day and Dunmore emerged as the stronger team. On the behalf of the Under-14 team we would like to express our sincere thanks to Ms. Mooney, Ms. Macken, Lisa O'Connell and Sinéad Horan for their effort and dedication throughout the year.

Sheila Brady.1A came out top with a staggering 176 skips in 1 minute! We would like to thank Ms. Mulroy, Ms. O'Reilly, Ms. Corcoran, and Ms. Donoghue for letting us organise the event. We would also like to thank the Transition Year students for all their help.



**Back Row:** Shona Niland, Meadhbh Glavey, Saoirse Caufield, Leanne Henry, Sheila Brady, Orla Clearly, Aoife Lilly, Stacey Haden, Maria Waldron, Carol Freeley, Serena McLoughlin

**Middle Row:** Hayley Conroy, Shannon Keadin, Sarah Behan, Sinead Horan, Niamh Murry, Emma Rowley, Aisling Lynskey, Aine Coyne, Emer Kielly, Zozan Ali

**Front Row:** Dervla Phillips, Aoife Nolan, Kaitlyn Clarke, Roisín Ní Shúilleabhain, Eimear Daniel Dempsey, Hillary Phillips, Roisin Fitzmaurice

## First Year Boys Gaelic Football

The year started with a blitz in Kiltimagh, where we played three games, winning two and losing one. This was then followed by training and then another blitz up on the town pitch when we won all our games. The blitz were of no significance towards winning any trophies but gave lots of players a chance to impress the management team. We then started training to get ready for the league and championship.

Our first competitive game was against the schools old rivals St. Nathy's. After a game which was very scrappy we came out on top, against a team that hadn't trained a lot. Our next game was at home against Oranmore. After a great start we ran out comfortable winners. Kiltimagh were next on the list and after a very comprehensive display by Ballyhaunis we ran out worthy winners. This meant that we topped our league group with three wins.

After a three month wait and some hard training the first years made their championship debut against Davitt College Castlebar. After a sloppy start, we ran out 5-12 to 1-7 winners. Two weeks later we travelled to Loughglinn to face St Nathys in the Connacht quarter final. An improved St. Nathy's gave us a hard fought match but in the end we came out comfortable winners.

After a very successful year we now await St Joseph's Galway in both Connaught semi finals. Let's hope we can finish of the year with some silverware.

We would like to thank all the players who trained hard throughout the year. We would also like to thank all the teachers and staff who co-operated by allowing 1st years to



go to training. The team was captained by James Lyons.

Gaffer: Mr. McHugh  
 Assistant Gaffer: Seamus Burke  
 Trainer: Luke McDermott  
 Assistants: Patrick Kiely, Neil Lyons



## 1st Year Boys Soccer



It was decided in January that we should form a first year soccer team, together with Mr. Noone and Michael Murphy. We had several training sessions and then had a match

against St. Louis Community School (Kiltimagh), where we drew 2:2. It was a hard fought game. Ballyhaunis started the better of the two teams and in the first few minutes Cathal Carney went through on goal and placed the ball in the back of the net. Then St. Louis really took notice and started playing. With only a few minutes left in the first half St. Louis scored. Immediately from tip off Cathal Carney laid the ball off to Robert Mc Cormack who put the ball through to Cathal Carney again. Then Cathal drilled the ball into the back of the net. At the start of the of the second half St. Louis started as the better of the two teams. Furthermore, with 15 minutes into the second half, St. Louis scored again to equal the game. The game ended with a 2-2 score line. The panel for the game was; Darragh Hunt, John Cunnane, Liam Cregg, Tom Murphy, James Lyons, Stephen Collins, Bilal Seiligh, Azad Ali, Sean Ruane, Robert Mc Cormack, Carlton Ubazanai, Niall Dunleavy, James Renyolds, Cian Henry, Patrick Keadin and Cathal Carney. It was a good start to the year and hopefully we will continue to gain momentum in the following years.

**Cathal Carney**



**Rebecca Walshe-Karate**

*Pictured is Rebecca Walshe (1E) who is a member of the Kiltimagh-Ballyhaunis Karate Club. She is currently preparing for her Purple belt.*

## The Big Skip-Off

This year's "Big Skip Off" took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2011. This annual event is fast becoming the highlight of first years in B.C.S. The aim of the skip off is to find the best male and female skipper in First year. The competition this year was incredible! Each class put forward their best skipper – we started with the girls. Representing 1A was Bianca Cooper. Unfortunately Bianca Cooper was ill but she was ably represented by Kaitlyn Clarke. 1B was represented by Roisín Fitzmaurice. 1C was represented by Emer Kiely. 1D was represented by Zozan Ali and last but not least Barbara Vichtova from 1E. After the girls the boys took up the challenge! Piarais Caulfield from 1A, Damien Egan from 1B, Aidan Henry from 1C, Thomas McDonagh from 1D and finally Aaron Peake from 1E battled it out for the No.1 spot.



*Pictured are Roisín Fitzmaurice, Eimear Kiely, Barbora Vichtova, Piaras Caulfield, Damain Egan, Aidan Henry, Thomas McDonagh and Zuzan Ali.*

It was a very close contest but Thomas McDonagh and Zuzan Ali won the top spot. Both from 1D, they were crowned the best skippers in First year! The atmosphere on the day was electric and first year's had brilliant fun. This year I, Roisin Ní Shúilleabhain and James Reynolds were the "presenters" and it was a great experience. It was nerve-wrecking but worth it! The proceeds went to charity so First year's are not just fit but generous too! Well done to all involved. I'm sure in 2012 the "Big Skip Off" will be even bigger and better!

**Claire O'Gara and Roisin Ní Shúilleabhain**

Hello, my name is Hina Ali. I came to live here in 2007. I made friends straight away. I like living here. School in Ireland is different to school in Pakistan. Clothes and food are also different here. I hope to live in Ballyhaunis for a long time.

*Hina Ali (1<sup>st</sup> year)*

### **Boxing**

I am a member of Began Boxing Club. I train twice a week. It is good fun and it keeps me very fit. The rules are very strict but they have to be to keep people safe.

I have a good friend who won the Connacht Boxing Lightweight Championship. He is going to Dublin for the All-Ireland Boxing Championship. He asked me to go with him. I would love to go and see him win.

*Martin Ward (1<sup>st</sup> year)*

## **1<sup>st</sup> Year Creative Writing**

Hi, my name is Jiya. I am in 1<sup>st</sup> year. I am thirteen years old. I used to live in Pakistan in a city called Wana. It was a busy city. Ireland is very different to Pakistan. My house had a flat roof and there were stairs up to it and we used to sit there under a shade in the warm sunshine. The food and clothes are different too. My family and I moved here three years ago. I am very happy in school and love it here. I would like to visit my granny and family in Pakistan and tell them all about Ireland.

*Jiya Ali (1<sup>st</sup> year)*

My name is Zuzan. I am from Iraq. Iraq is very different to Ireland. Iraq can be a very dangerous place. The capital of Iraq is Bagdad. I was born in Dohok, it is a very nice town in northern Iraq. In Iraq the weather is very bad, in summer it's very hot and in winters it's very cold. Every Friday the whole family used to go on picnics because in Iraq we hadn't school on Fridays. The park is totally different from here. The place that I enjoyed going to most was the beach, but anyway it's very good that I live here. I've got lots of Irish friends who are very nice.

*Zuzan Ali*

**IRAQ**  
**From Iraq**  
**to Ballyhaunis**

Hi my name is Azad I am from Iraq. I have been in Ireland for 3 years, and I love it. I like Ireland because of the sports. I play Gaelic for Ballyhaunis club and soccer for Lough Harps. My favourite sport is Gaelic I play under 16 for Ballyhaunis. I think Gaelic is a better game than soccer. I like being able to handle the ball and the idea of scoring points. I have training nearly every day for soccer or Gaelic. I love living in Ireland. I would like to go back to Iraq for holidays but Ireland is my home now. I would love to play for the Mayo team some day!

## **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Seachtain na Gaeilge was another huge success this year. Students and teachers alike threw themselves into the spirit of the week.

Ms. O Loughlin and the T.Y. students did Trojan work in organizing a first and second year table quiz.

First and second years were treated to an afternoon of Irish Culture in the form of traditional Irish set dancing. All students stepped it out and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Bhí ceardlann damhsa sa scoil ar feadh Seachtain na Gaeilge. Bhí an craic ag na daltaí iarraidh damhsa a fhoghlaim. Well done to all who participated agus mile buíochas to Mrs Frayne for her expertise.

'Go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís'



## Class 2A



**Back Row:** Peter Dooley, James Folliard, Liam Duffy, Mantas Aguonis, Bilal Amin, Evan Coyne

**Middle Row:** Hiba Arshad, Sarah Creighton, Sheila Brady, Thomas Coll, Laura Carney, Jennifer Cox, Áine Coyne

**Front Row:** Labhaoise Cunanne, Anna Doherty, Maisie Dunne, Kelly Donegan, Yvonne Davy, Lynette Duffy

**Missing:** Bazla Alam, Mohammed Ahmad

## Class 2B



**Back Row:** Dean Henry, Conor Hagney, Phillip Fitzmaurice, Lewis Kearsey, Ryan Kilbane, Faysel Kezzeh, Brian Gavin

**Middle Row:** Neal Folliard, Ria Dunleavy, Leanne Hession, Doina Dima, Stacey Hayden, Carol Freeley, Hannah Hardcastle, Saleha Gulzar, Joseph Kelly

**Front Row:** Roisín McDonagh, Ciara Jordan, Megan Griffiths, Sarah Feeney, Jules Gossey, Lisa Higgins



## Class 2C



**Back Row:** Joseph Lyons, James Lyons, Qasim Nazir, Declan Kilgarrieff, Rory Nestor, Kevin McNulty, Calvin Lyons, Davóg Frayne

**Middle Row:** Séan Niland, Conor McCarrick, Maryam Mahmood, Aoife Lilly, Tammy McMahan, Rosina Lukoseviciute, Louise McDermott, James Murphy

**Front Row:** Niamh Murry, Aisling Lynskey, Lisa Morley, Aoife Murray, Amy Mannion, Tessa Lyons

**Missing:** James Burke, Tautvydas Mackevicius

## Class 2D



**Back Row:** Mark Phillips, Stephen Nolan, Stephen Ryan, Cian O'Boyle, Waqas Rehman, Sean Sutton, Niall Robinson, Hamzha Yousaf,

**Middle Row:** Ria Marigliano, Marlena Staszczuk, Colm Ronan, Shawn Groarke, David Regan, Shane Seddon, Mary Waldron, Mary Ward

**Front Row:** Duha Riyaz, Ailish Phillips, Dervla Phillips, Erika Webb, Maria Waldron, Grace Worden

## Second Year Boys Football

The second year footballers began their campaign under the experienced guidance of Mr. Hugh Rudden. Our first game began with defeat to Rice College, Westport in some rather miserable conditions at the town pitch in Ballyhaunis. We were getting back into our stride after the summer of being apart as a team.

Followed by this, we stepped up our previous performance to come out on top against a tricky St. Ann's side as we ran out nine point victors. Once again we showed another strong team performance as we beat St. Tiernan's by a significant margin of fourteen points which proved to be a very comprehensive win. Sadly, our final league game ended in defeat to St. Nathy's college in which a fourteen man Ballyhaunis side put in a valiant effort but unfortunately our effort was in vain. To our disappointment we did not progress any further in the league as we finished third in our group.

When Spring came around we had another chance at victory as we played Presentation College, Headford in the championship. However, this proved to be a very difficult encounter in which we were heavily defeated. This loss brought an end to our season. We would like to thank Mr. Rudden for taking on the task of managing us this year and hope he will continue to manage school teams in the future.

### Liam Duffy



**Back Row:** Cian O'Boyle, Steven Nolan, Davóg Freyne, Shawn Groarke, Liam Duffy, Mark Phillips, Hamza Yousaf, Steven Regan

**Middle Row:** Evan Coyne, James Murphy, Colm Ronan, James Lyons, Rory Nestor, Shane Seddon, Ryan Kilbane,

**Front Row:** Sean Sutton, Neal Folliard, Joseph Kelly, Conor Hagney, Niall Folliard

## Juvenile Boys Football Team

We began our Juvenile football season in early September when we returned to school. This year, our managers were Mr. Murren and Mr. Rudden, two past teachers who taught in the school. Our campaign kicked off against Davitt College which proved to be a very evenly matched encounter. With the two teams dead-locked at full-time, extra-time beckoned. However, it wasn't going to be our day as we conceded an early goal as Davitt College escaped our clutches by a mere four points. This was a game which shouldn't have got away. The team then began the league campaign against our close

neighbours St. Louis' Community School. As close as the battle was, we unfortunately ended up on the losing side by a narrow margin of two points. Followed by this, our next opponents were Rice College. The opposition were by far the stronger team and were the winning side on the day. Our final league game was against St. Nathy's college and it was to be a match between bitter rivals. Our hopes of victory were crushed as a strong Nathy's outfit dashed our hopes of any win. After our league campaign concluded we endured a couple of months of tough training. By the time the championship had arrived, we were eager for revenge as we discovered we were to lock horns with Nathy's once more. We were licking our lips at this prospect as we were determined not to be on the losing side this time. Our valiant first half performance was not enough as Nathy's took the upper hand in the second half and finished the game off bringing our season to an end. The team, captained by Shane Healy, would like to thank Mr. Rudden and Mr. Murren for taking charge of the team this year and for all of their effort and dedication.

### Liam Duffy, 2A



**Back Row:** David Kilkenny, John Morley, Mark Sutton, Steven Nolan, Séan Gildea, Davóg Freyne, Daniel Cuanne, Liam Duffy, Mark Phillips, Omoarebun Ebelegbe.

**Middle Row:** Jason Coyne, Thomas Kilboyle, Martin O'Gara, Robert Morley, Joseph Fahy, Kevin Kilbride, Shane Healy, Morgan Lyons, Séan Burke, Michael O'Rourke, David Harrison, Ronan Murphy.

**Front Row:** Michael Waldron, Cian Conboy, Fergal Boland, David Kenny, David Freyne, Cyril Collins, Conor Waldron, Conor Hagney, Liam Kearney, Josef Loughran, Jack Hughes.

## 2nd Year Retreat

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of January and the 1<sup>st</sup> of February the second years made their annual pilgrimage to Knock for our retreat. With the year divided over two days, the classes of 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D got some valuable time to reflect on our lives and think about our relationship with God.

Our day began with an opportunity to spend some time getting to know those in our group. We then viewed a clip on teenage life. This powerful slide show highlighted some of the issues that affect teenagers and which are relevant to our lives.

We also got the opportunity to listen to the life stories of the group leaders- Helen and Nicola. They spoke openly about the challenges of life and the important role their faith has played.

A trip to the Museum and a video on the history of Knock and the apparition gave us all a sense of what was experienced and witnessed on that night in August 1879.

The two day retreat was a very enjoyable and worthwhile day. It was great to escape the books and classes for a day and get to know our year group more. A wonderful surprise on the day was the unexpected Apparition of the 'Gleeks' in Knock. Knock will never be the same again!!!

We would like to thank all teachers involved.



## Second Year S.P.H.E. Day

On the 31<sup>st</sup> March all second year students were given the opportunity to take part in an S.P.H.E. day. The day was promised to be a fun and relaxing day away from the worries of everyday school life. However, while we sat in the assembly area that March morning, we all wondered about the content of the day. Upon the arrival of Ms. Byrne, Ms Moran and all of the other teachers involved, we were separated into our specified groups. Unfortunately, the majority of students were not mixed with any other classes, which we were slightly disappointed about. But we were not going to allow this minor problem to spoil our day.

As our names were called we went to our assigned classrooms. Throughout the course of the day we took part in many games and group exercises which were quite enjoyable. Everyone took part in all of the games and the fact that we were not separated into other groups was only a formality now. We also discussed some rather important issues throughout the day such as feelings, emotions and bullying. We learned some valuable skills such how to be assertive and different ways of dealing with emotions and how to with problems such as bullying. When the day drew to a close, we were all worn out from our eventful workshops. I strongly feel that the skills which we were taught will stand to us for the rest of our lives. On behalf of all the second years, I would like to thank all of the teachers who were involved in the day and for making it a fun and enjoyable experience.

*Liam Duffy 2A*



## First Year Summer Tour 2010

Wednesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> what a beginning to the summer holidays! the dreaded summer tests over, the uniforms packed safely away until September and three long blissful months stretched ahead of us. When talk about the annual 1<sup>st</sup> year tour began way back in April, it seemed like an eternity away. Now the day finally arrived, over 90 eager 1<sup>st</sup> years (well now technically 2<sup>nd</sup> years) boarded the buses – with the lads winning the battle to occupy the back seats - we hit off to Westport House for a fun filled action packed day.

The Pirate Adventure Park gave us hours of fun, the highlights of the day included the Pirate Ship (thrills 'n' chills ride), Pirates Plunge (wet 'n' wild flume ride), Treasure Island Express (rumble through the jungle), the Cannon Ball Run (slippery slide ride) and who can forget The White Swan (pedal boats) with Mr. McGarry, Ms. Gibbons and Ms. Varden pedalling us safely around the lake – nobody got soaked.....well except the teachers!!

It really was a brilliant day, a definite high point of our time in B.C.S. so far. We did stop off in Castlebar for a little 'retail therapy' where some of the lads rushed into 'New Look' to check out the latest fashion trends. On the journey back to school songs were sung, jokes were told and one or two new relationships blossomed!!!!

*Many thanks to the teachers who accompanied us on the day.*





# Creative Writting

## Creative Writing-All different, all the same.

We were playing in the school yard when along  
Came the school bully, trying to be hard.

Picking on a young Muslim boy for show  
"Why aren't you eating he demanded to know,"  
I can't it is Ramadam and during the day we  
Cannot eat that is our way."

The bully responded like a big evil bear, the little  
Boy trembled his eyes filled with fear.

"Eat my lunch now," He growled and hissed  
But then the school bell went, what a near miss.  
The boy ran away full of tears and with fright, the  
Bully walked off and gleamed with delight.

I wonder if the bully was in a foreign school would  
He be treated so miserably and cruel if he was  
Trying to fast during lent to be made feel  
Worthless and spent.

Christmas, Ramadan, Lent or Eid respect all  
Traditions, class and creed.

## Creative Writing- All Different, All the Same.

Pale or tanned, black or white  
It doesn't really matter we're all the same,  
Right?

Doctor, nurse, dentist or teachers,  
No matter what religion we could all be preachers.  
Polish or Latvian, Irish or Swedish  
In Ireland we all speak the same language,  
English!

Shy or courageous, giddy or tame,  
We're are all different, but we are all the same.

## All Different, All the Same

Years ago the white man ruled,  
Blacks were slaves  
And weren't schooled.  
Black people were jumped, beaten and killed,  
Yet the white man never paid for the blood he spilled.  
Racism engulfed America,  
And out of the darkness one man came forth,  
And said 'I have a dream!'  
We're all equal and on the same team.

## Creative Writing-The Japanese Tragedy

On Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011 disaster struck  
in Japan. All the buildings shook and everyone  
panicked. But once everyone had calmed down  
things only got worse. The sea arose and a  
monstrous tsunami hit Japan, killing thousands  
and thousands. Boats, cars and many people were  
swept away. Houses and buildings were destroyed  
and lives were taken.

Video footage showed the force and power of  
the tsunami as it crashed onto the mainland and  
destroyed everything and everyone in its path.  
Black waves thirty feet in height swept large ships  
inland and many coastal towns were destroyed.  
The waves such speed and power that nothing  
stood a chance against them.

The death toll currently stands at over twenty  
thousand but many people are still missing. People  
are now living in concert venues and football  
stadiums. The country faces a huge reconstruction  
effort.

Japan holds many nuclear power plants and some  
of which were damaged. The nuclear power plant  
at Fukushima was greatly damaged by the tsunami  
which caused explosions in some areas of the  
power plant. This is of great danger to the people if  
Japan as there are major fears that there could be a  
huge radiation leak.

It will take many years for Japan to recover from  
this tragedy. The full scale of the disaster is yet to  
be discovered.

## All different, All the same.

Don't judge me by the  
Colour of my skin,  
Wait and discover  
What you find within.

Don't judge me by the  
Sound of my accent,  
It's because of your taunting  
From school I have been absent.

Don't judge the country  
I call home,  
My friends remain there  
While I struggle alone.

We have our own beliefs  
That is no shame,  
We are all different  
Yet all the same.

## National Obsession

It's talked about more  
than the weather,  
It is our national obsession,  
Yes, you've guessed it,  
It's the Recession!

It began in 2008,  
And it has since been,  
A constant debate.

Three years on,  
Nothing's been done,  
The wealth of Ireland,  
Is dead and gone.

We had Bertie Ahern,  
Crash and Burn,  
Brian Cowen,  
Bringing us down.

But now Enda Kenny,  
A Mayo man,  
Has come to save us,  
With his 5 point plan!

**Sarah Creighton 2A**

**Labhaoise Cunnane**

## Class 3A



**Back Row:** Ali Almas, Séan Burke, Anthony Brereton, Cyril Collins, Cian Conboy, Cian Caulfield, Cian Cunningham, Pádraig Connolly.

**Middle Row:** Laura Araviciute, Fergal Boland, John Cribbin, David Frayne, Jason Coyne, Morgan Lyons, Josef Loughran, Greta Narkeviciute.

**Front Row:** Emma Duffy, Tasha Coyne, Aoife Devaney, Noreen Ashraf, Shannon Biesty, Edel Coffey.

**Missing:** Damien Callaghan, David Cleary, Patricia Daly.

## Class 3B



**Back Row:** Omoarebun Ebeleghe, Mark Sutton, Michael Flanagan, Andrew Henry, Shane Healy, Joesph Fahy, Seán Gildea, David Harrison.

**Middle Row:** Ronan Forde, Eric Fitzgerald, Darragh Freeman, Danika Gallagher, Thomas Kearns, Eamon Hora, Liam Kearney.

**Front Row:** Sarah Flynn, Deirde Durkin, Michaela Durkin, Sonia Henry, Caoimhe Henry, Róna Joyce.

**Missing:** Kieran Folliard, Gerard Freeley, Jack Hughes, Chantell Maughan.

## Class 3C



**Back Row:** Conor Lyons, Haider Mahmood, Bangani Dhlomini-Nkosi, Jason McGoldrick, Kevin Kilbride, David Kilkenny, Daniel McDermott, John Morley.

**Middle Row:** Thomas McNamara, Colm Morley, Darren Moloney, Séan McDermott, Andrew Manning, David Kenny, Thomas Kilboyle, Martin McDonagh.

**Front:** Shauna Morley, Sara Mitrovia, Sinéad Niland, Claire Moran, Michelle McNamara, Elaine Neary.

**Missing:** Viktorija Konovalciuk, Jasmine Moss, Kathriona Ward, Nicole McNamara.

## Class 3D



**Back Row:** Shahzad Rehman, Martin O'Gara, Mark Tighe, Michael Waldron, Michael O'Rourke, Robert Morley, Zubir Koohestain, Thomas McDonagh.

**Middle Row:** Marlena Marciniak, Bernard McDonagh, Michael Naughton, Stephen Regan, Conor Waldron, Ronan Murphy, Asia Tayyab.

**Front Row:** Hazel Nolan, Pamela Ubaezuonu, Aisling Tarpey, Anne O'Gara, Sarah Staunton, Emma Waldron.

**Missing:** Hussain Noor Muhammad Bambro, James Reidy, Mark Ruane, Momna Shafique.



## Junior Girls Football

The Junior Girls campaign began last October against Mount St. Michael in Claremorris. The Claremorris ladies were a very strong side and despite a come back from us in the second half they emerged as the winners by a narrow margin. Our second match was at home to Swinford, for the majority of the game we were in the lead and we were worthy winners on the day. Having lost a game and won a game we were quite optimistic about our next match against St. Louis Community School Kiltimagh. Unfortunately we lost, but after the game we were on level points so we had to re-play them for a place in the Connaught Quarter-Finals. We re-played the game in Kiltimagh after school, due to injury and illness some of our players weren't in top shape and as a result we lost.

Although we didn't receive any silverware this year we thoroughly enjoyed our matches. On behalf of all the girls I would like to thank Ms. Gibbons and Mrs. Grogan for training us and for their continued help with ladies football in the school.

- **Rona Burke**



**Front Row:** Róna Burke, Sonia Henry, Ashling Tarpey, Anne O'Gara, Shannon Keadin.

**Middle Row:** Fiona Brady, Lisa O'Connell, Aoife Murray, Shauna Morley, Riona Joyce, Ashling Lynskey, Maria Waldron, Amy Mannion, Áine Coyne, Áine Lilly.

**Back Row:** Sinéad Garvey, Sarah Feeney, Sheila Brady, Dervla Phillips, Niamh Murray, Aoife Lilly, Stacey Hayden, Carol Freely, Jules Gossy.

## Junior Boys Football

The Junior team this year, under the guidance of Mr Woolley, had a rather mixed year. The year began with a two point defeat to St. Louis Community School, Kiltimagh in the league. But with a narrow win over Davitt College, Castlebar following a replay, they got the chance to redeem themselves against St. Louis Community School. They narrowly won by four points to ensure Ballyhaunis retained the Colleran Cup. This was followed in the championship by a nine points to four victory over St. Nathy's of Ballaghderreen. However, Kiltimagh were to have the last laugh as they defeated Ballyhaunis by fifteen points to five in the championship semi-final. On behalf of the Junior team I would like to thank Mr. Woolley for his input this year.

- **Paul O'Gara**



**Back row:** Darren Duffy, Paul O'Gara, Jarlath Carney, Adrain Phillips, Daniel Cunnane, Declan Muldoon, Liam Conboy, Patrick Kiely, Neil Lyons, Rory Mannion, Jason Fahy, David Kenny, Michael Walshe.

**Front row:** Morgan Lyons, Luke McDermott, Fergal Boland, Michael Flynn, Conor Hussey, Seán Burke, Cian Conboy, James Cribbin.



## Junior and Senior Girls Camogie

**Back row:** Aisling Tarpey, Riona Joyce, Aine Coyne, Sarah Feeney, Joanne Cregg, Sharon Lynskey, Niamh Cunnane, Claire Egan, Noreen Cassidy, Rebecca McGowan.

**Middle Row:** Sheila Brady, Shauna Morley, Aoife Lilly, Aoife Cassdiy, Lisa O'Connell, Áine Lilly, Laoise Cunnane, Claire Moran.

**Front Row:** Sonia Henry, Maria Waldron, Aisling Lynskey.

## Trócaire

The 3<sup>rd</sup> years organised a soccer tournament in aid of Trócaire. Each student that wanted to take part in the tournament contributed 2 euro each. In total there were 4 matches played... 2 semi-finals a final and a 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place play off. The tournament began with the 3A class playing the 3C class. It was a tense first half, each team had chances, but 3A came the closest when Joey Loughran hit the post with a cracking shot. 3A had most of the possession and another great chance was taken by Morgan Lyons when he collected the ball at the edge of the box and slotted it past the 3C goalie, Colm Morley. It was a tight match to the finish but 3A emerged as the winners on a score line of 1-0. In the other semi-final 3B took on 3D. It was a tight encounter with both teams going in level at half time. The second half started and minutes into the half Shane Healy scored a cracking goal from a well placed cross from Seán Gildea. But the 3Ds never dropped their heads and minutes later the referee awarded a dubious penalty to 3D, Tom McDonagh stepped up and slotted the ball past 3B goalie, Omo Ebeleghe. Chances came and went but it ended up going to the dreaded penalty shoot-out. Liam Kearney stepped up to take the first penalty and scored a well placed penalty. The match took a dramatic turn when 3B missed a penalty, putting the 3Ds a goal up in the shoot out. The final score ended up being 4-2 on penalties. This meant the 3D class were through to the final. The final took place with 3A playing 3D. The first half was close, but a long ball from goalkeeper Seán Burke found its way to Jason Coyne and he neatly placed the ball past 3D goal keeper, Shazad Rehman. The game was tight and with final whistle approaching, Ronan Murphy had one last chance to bring the game to penalties but a superb block by Fergal Boland meant that 3A emerged as the winners by 1-0 and they won the tournament. The final match played was the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place play off. The opening minutes were close but 3C took the lead with Kevin Kilbride scoring from close range. Chances came and went but it was not long before Kevin Kilbride grabbed a second opportunity. 3B pulled one back but 3C grabbed 3 more goals and Kevin Kilbride finished off a brilliant hat-trick with the score line reading 5-1. It was a closely fought tournament which raised much needed money for Trócaire.

By ANTHONY BRERETON / SEÁN BURKE

## Daffodil Day: March 25th 2011

A huge thank you from the 3C class to everyone who supported the Irish Cancer Society, by buying a daffodil on daffodil day. We campaigned for this cause by visiting the various classes and selling the merchandise in the assembly area during lunch time. Every daffodil, key ring or pin sold allows the Irish Cancer Society to continue to provide its free nationwide cancer information and patient care services. We raised €195 on Friday March 25<sup>th</sup> and we could not have done this without your continued help. Thank you again for your support.



## School Garden

The school garden continues to bloom and develop under the care and attention of 3D. Last year's action project in CSPE class is an ongoing work in progress. The Religion Department made use of it in November as a Garden of Remembrance and more recently it became a Garden of Romance filled with hearts and flowers for Valentine's Day.

Mr. McGarry and last year's Transition year students added to the colour and interest with their creative sculpture of a crocodile. The Leaving Cert class of 2010 made the garden a focal point of their Graduation night and presented the school a beautiful garden bench. Plans are already underway to complete the garden for this year's Graduation ceremony with the addition of a water feature.

I would like to thank 3D for all of their hard work and enthusiasm and effort with the school garden.



Ms. G. Murray

## 3rd Year Retreat

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 the third years set off to Knock for their retreat. It was a rainy day, and everyone was tired. We weren't expecting much. Usually, retreats with the school are long, boring days. This was quite the opposite...

We were greeted by a friendly group of people from "Authentic Youth" – Johnny, Ailish and Jude. They were much younger than we expected. We could really relate to them. They all told us stories from their childhood which, in turn, gave us a good insight into their lives and their jobs.

Throughout the course of the day, we played games, had a quiz and drew pictures. One exercise we especially liked was when we drew a house and drew where we were in relation to God. We also had a tense game of "Bang", with Claire Moran defeating Sonia Henry to come out as the winner. We were entertained by "The Gleeks" – Seán Gildea, Shane Healy and Michael Waldron, who gave us their own unique version of the Journey classic "Don't Stop Believin' ". We were also given tea and biscuits, which we enjoyed very much.

We would like to thank our teachers Ms. Phillips and Ms. Reilly for bringing us. We really enjoyed our day.

By Caoimhe Henry and Seán Gildea (who had great difficulty in deciding whose name would be written first!!)



Pictured are Micheal O'Rourke and Ms. Karen Reilly.



The Gleeks 'apparition' in knock!!!

# Creative Writing

## Creative Writing- Brotherhood

"Rise and shine!"

\*POW\*

The gunshot, ringing through my ears, had embedded itself into the wall on my right as I shot upright in bed. I quickly gained my bearings and gathered my thoughts as I realised I wouldn't be winning the Dreamland Cup any time soon. A wave of pure horror suddenly froze over me.

On my left just in the doorway, a man in a black suit with a red tie was pointing a black pistol that gleamed from the sun-light shining through the window to the left beside the bed. It was open. The man was wearing a balaclava over his face.

"Now I will have my revenge!" The man shouted. His voice was hoarse.

"I didn't kill him! What will it take to get that through your thick skull?!" I retaliated slowly getting out of bed.

Don't move!"

There was no escape. The man's face may have been hidden but I knew all too well that this was the same man who had been chasing my brother and I for a week now. His son had picked a drunken fight with us at a pub. I ran across the road, he followed in pursuit, and was hit by a lorry. He had to be the son of mafia hitman Ryan Derell, didn't he? The police had hidden us in a motel until Derell could be arrested or killed.

The room was silent. Derell seemed to be hesitating. Where is Charlie? I wondered. I remembered my brother leaving in the middle of the night. I hope he heard the gunshot. After an eternity, Derell spoke:

"Close your eyes."

I did so, trembling with fear.

\*POW\*

The door opened. "Well do-"

\*POW\*

I, unharmed, opened my eyes to find the masked man had shot the wall again and, confusingly, Ryan Derell was dead, face-up on the floor, a briefcase at his side. The dark-haired, wrinkly old man had been shot in the chest.

The masked man picked up the briefcase and plopped it on the bed. He opened it to reveal hundreds of five-hundred euro notes.

"Who are you?!" I demanded, shaken by the fact that I had almost died.

"Looks like Derell kept his side of the deal" replied a familiar voice. The man pulled off the balaclava. Underneath was a blonde headed man with a pointy nose and a big chin. It was Charlie.

**Tommy Kearns**

## STAR

I am like the sun in darkness,  
Like the moon around the starry night.

I am brightness in the life of blind,  
Someone who knows how to be kind.

The snow is my blanket,

The wind my breath

And darkness.....

And darkness is my greatest enemy and fear.

Of course I am.....

A little light called a

STAR

## Sweet angel!

My sweet angel, help me fly,

Help me fly, before I die,

Die from hunger, die from thirst,

You know I won't be the first.

Hey sweet angel, you I love,

You please help me, fly like a dove,

Fly like a dove, through the air,

Take it as a plea, or take it as a dare.

Yes you! Sweet angel, bring the light,

Bring bright light, through the dark night,

Oh! Sweet angel, hear our cries,

Destroy starvation, from which this world dies.

## Creative Writing-The Jungle

Another world on this earth. A world where we humans don't belong. But all other animals do belong. A world we don't understand. We might only see the beauty of their world, but not the danger. A world in which we are terrorists, and them owners. They hate their home to be disturbed, just as we would hate strangers taking over our home, breaking things, just like we cut trees. A world where the animals sense the danger like we smell pies baking. They understand what or who they have to eat themselves.

They'll hide during the day and it will seem as if it is a desolate area. But they'll be watching you, watching your every step, every move. At night they'll be full of life – hunting, playing, hiding, fighting. The whole jungle would be full of life. The trees swishing under the pale, misty light coming from the moon. Each animal has its own unique way of living. Some care for their kind, some don't. All this happens under the tall trees of the jungle. The animals call it their home.



## Students Council

At the start of the school year two representatives were elected from each class. As always, we wanted to provide an opportunity for teachers and pupils to discuss relevant school issues. We held meetings frequently and at present we are coming up with ideas to raise money for sports equipment, games and more. On behalf on the committee we would like to thank Ms. Hayes for all her help and assistance during this school year.

- *Ryan Worden and Anna Doherty.*



*Students Council...Class Representatives*

**Back row:** John Morley, Seán Griffin, Declan Muldoon, Oisín McDermott, David Harrison. **Middle row:** Niall Robinson, Cathal Brady, Josef Loughran. **Front row:** Niamh Murray, Ciara Jordan, Anna Doherty, Niamh Kilkenny, Lisa Jordan.



*Students Council ...Vice -Representatives*

**Back Row:** Patrick Kiely, Darren Nolan, James Cribbin, Diarmuid Byrne, Shane Muldoon, James Simcox. **Middle Row:** Stephen Nolan, David Kenny, David Frayne, Liam Duffy, Davóg Frayne **Front Row:** Celine Brennan, Rebecca Walshe, Meadhbh Glavey, Sarah Flynn

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# Athletic Success

Ballyhaunis Community School had yet another successful year at the regional athletic finals in Sligo. 30 students competed in a range of activities such as javelin, shot putt, high jump, 100, 200, 1500, 3000 metres. All students worked hard and produced some very good results on the day. 15 students qualified to the Connaught finals in Athlone I.T. They are:

Seán Carrick – 100m and long jump

Mark Sutton – shot putt and hammer

Eric Hynes – 5000m

John Morley – High jump

Morgan Lyons – Triple jump

Seán Gildea – 400m hurdles

Seán Sutton – Shot putt

Lisa Hunt – long jump

Ultan Griffin – Javelin

The Minor boys, Junior girls

and Senior boys – 100m relay.



**Athletics- Intermediate**  
L – R : Gerard Freeley, Séan Gildea,  
Michael O'Rourke, Robert Morley.



**Cross Country**  
Azhar Tayyab, Jakub Szebesta, Zubir  
Koohestani, Eric Hynes.



**Cross Country**  
Stephen Nolan, Charlton Ubaezuonu,  
Bongani Dhlamini-Nkosi



**Cross Country**  
Joanne Cregg



**Cross Country: Back row:** Stephen Nolan, Bongani Dhlamini-Nkosi, Jakub Szebesta, Eric Hynes. **Front row:** Zubir Koohestani, Charlton Ubaezuonu, Joanne Cregg, Azhar Tayyab.

## Ballyhaunis Boxing Club

The club was founded in 2007 by Martin Peake after being closed for a period of 11 years, our club trains in Began Community Centre on Monday and Wednesday nights. Since our club has been opened it has had numerous achievements. Over the last four years our club has a total of 42 school boy titles, 45 Mayo titles, 9 Connaught titles, 6 national titles and a lot more to come!. This season has been one of our best so far with our club being the one club in Ireland to win the most national titles this year and we also won best club in Mayo. The titles our club has won so far this year are 16 Mayo titles, 9 Connaught titles, 4 school boys and 4 national titles with 2 unlucky finalists, and the season is not over yet with the U-18 All- Irelands in May and the U-21s in October. The coaches put a serious amount of work in our club, they are Vinnie Moran, Thomas Conroy and Martin Peake. Martin is extremely dedicated in bringing all of our boxers to every tournament throughout the busy winter season and indeed the whole year. This consists of journeys nearly every night of the week and can range from travelling as far and wide as Belmullet and Dublin. Additionally, he also plays a huge part in fundraising for the club and commits to coaching twice

per week. Our club would have never got to where it is without Martin and we hope to keep it going and win many more titles in the years to come.

**By Shane Muldoon**



**Ballyhaunis Boxing Club**  
**Back Row:** Shane Muldoon, Brandon Peake, Ryan Peake  
**Front Row:** Aaron Peake, Thomas McDonagh, James Burke,  
Antony Brereton.



## A large collage of 24 photographs showing students and staff participating in various activities, including singing, dancing, and social events, during the 'Rock Your School' campaign. The photos are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with some images overlapping. The subjects are mostly young people in school uniforms, engaged in group singing, dancing, and social interactions. Some photos show students in a hallway, others in a large hall or gymnasium. The overall atmosphere is lively and celebratory.



# Art Photos





# Transition Year





# A Day In The Life





# Our School's got talent

Late last year our school entered 'The Our School's Got Talent' competition with funds going towards Special Olympics Ireland. Our school was proudly represented by 16 acts which consisted of the school choir, Michelle Lenehan, Tara Plunkett, Siobhán Wilcock and Ivan Hynes, Brian Kelly, Rona Burke, Eric Hynes, Pamela Ubazuonu, Michael O'Rourke and Morgan Lyons, Davóg Frayne, Mary Waldron, Niamh Murray, Kaitlyn Clarke, and of course "The Gleeks"-Seán Gildea, Shane Healy and Michael Waldron. Through the different heats we powered through, losing some talented acts along the way, but we are proud to say our school reached the county final with an impressive four acts. Siobhán and Ivan, Niamh, the choir and the Gleeks all preformed in the T.F. Royal Theatre, Castlebar for the county final. All acts did extremely well with two securing a place in the semi-finals for the Connaughts. Due to exam pressure it was decided that the choir would not participate, so all the pressure rested on Niamh Murray! The semi-final was held in the Radisson Hotel in Galway. Up against tough competition Niamh sang the legendary 'Proud Mary' and was accompanied by five dancers Áine Coyne, Ailish Phillips, Ciara Jordan, Maria Waldron and Ria Dunleavy. The girls came an impressive first and Ballyhaunis Community School were through to the Connaught Final! The Final was held in the T.F. Castlebar. A great night was had and the girls did the entire school community proud. The school was well with its bus loads of loyal and excited supporters. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers, students and the wider school community for all of their help and support along the way, especially Ms. Devine and Ms. Coughlan.

*Ciara Jordan*



## School Choir



**Back Row:** Cathal Glavey, Paul O'Gara, Eric Eaton, Johnnathen Klein, Ivan Hynes, Áine Waldron, Sinead Garvey, Megan Carroll, Olivia Murphy  
**Middle Row:** Michael O'Rourke, Melissa McLoughlin, Siobhain Wilcox, Tara Plunkett, Róna Burke, Clodagh Sloyne, Áine Lilly, Meaghan O'Doherty, Rebecca McGowan, Morgan Lyons  
**Front Row:** Róna Joyce, Michaela Durkin, Caoimhe Henry, Sinead Niland, Sonia Henry, Anne O'Gara, Shauna Morley



**Back row:** Hayley Conroy, Meadhbh Glavey, Labhaoise Cunnane, Niamh Murray, Ciara Jordan, ????, Dearbhla Phillips.  
**Middle row:** Sinead Horan, Roisin Ni Shuilleabhain, ????, Áine Coyne, Tessa Lyons, Amy Mannion.  
**Front row:** Katie Moran ????, Hillary Phillips, Kaitlyn Clarke, Carol Freeley, Maria Waldron, ????, ????



**'Forever Young'**

Pictured are Niamh Murray, Ailish Phillips, Maria Waldron, Ria Dunleavy, Áine Coyne, Ciara Jordan



Pictured are Carol Freeley, Siobhán Wilcock, Ivan Hynes, Niamh Cunnane and Pamela Ubazuonu, all of whom auditioned for the All Ireland Talent Show last September. The auditions were held in The Radisson Hotel, Galway. Niamh travelled to the next stage of auditions which were held in Griffith College Dublin, sometime later. A great experience was had by all.

## Go Cyber Green

The Go Cyber Green project brings together partners from schools in Asia and Europe who get to know each other, work together and learn from each other through an on-line collaboration.

Different activities are offered: pupils can talk about themselves and their "environmental passport"; they can describe someone they know who acts as a role model on green issues and they can research an enterprise that shows a concern for the environment. We Transition Years, as part of our I.T. programme, took the task of updating the blogs about Ireland, Mayo and Ballyhaunis. We first started with creating our profiles and continued onto writing a blog on a person we admire and then went onto a blog about our local area. We got great feedback from the other schools participating in this project and they were all very interested in our posts.

- **Phelim Webb**



## Green Schools Committee

The Green School's Committee is still actively promoting environmental awareness and green issues in the school.

The recycling programme is still ongoing and is a huge success. All recyclables are being recycled and are not going to landfill as they previously did. All the schools waste paper is also being recycled. The composting programme which we embarked upon last year is progressing well with all the schools waste organic matter being composted.

This year we have taken on two new programmes. At the beginning of the year we started to recycle batteries. We have battery recycling boxes in the foyer of the school, so please continue this good work. Batteries are highly toxic and should not be sent to landfill.

At the beginning of April we acquired two recycling bins from Rehab. These were specifically for small electrical items such as kettles, toasters, hair straighteners etc.

You all dug deep and cleared out your garages and attics and in protecting the environment you also made much needed money for Rehab.

The Green Schools would like to thank everybody for their co-operation with this programme and ask everybody to make a renewed effort to ensure that the programme remains successful.

Recycling rotas are placed in each area and we would ask everybody to be conscious of this and to keep up the good work.



**Green School-Composting:** Pictured at the school composter are Aron Moran, Mrs. Eva Brogan and Eric Hynes.



Pictured are Iarlaith Forkin, Eric Hynes, Éanna McNamara, Kirsty Phillips and Lauren Gourlay.



**Green School-Recycling of Batteries:** Pictures are Rebecca McGowan and Bianca Cooper.



**Green School-Recycling:** Pictured at the recycling bins are John Cassidy and Cathal Brady.



# School Blog

This year our I.T. teacher, Ms Waldron, set up a school Blog. The blog provides parents and students with information about recent and upcoming events involving the school. As transition year students we were chosen to update and post blogs about different activities, such as the Forensics Science day, B.C.S. banking, Transition Year news and sports.

You can access the blog by going to:  
<http://ballyhauniscs.scoilnet.ie>

- *Phelim Webb*



# P.L.C. Graduation 2010



**PLC Class**

**Back Row:** Eddie McNulty, Zaneta Grzedzimska, Shauna Hayes, Orla McEville, Laura Lynch.

**Front Row:** Margaret Cleary, Marie Cleary, Mrs.B.Waldron (Course Co-ordinator) Taran Grover, Aysha Amin, Andrew Swanick.



*Pictured is Mrs. Eva Brogan... 'Rose of Ballyhaunis'!!!*



## 1st & 2nd Year Girls Soccer League



### **1st Year Girls Soccer League:**

**Back row:** Riona Kearney, Shona Niland, Leanne Henry, Rebecca Walshe, Zuzan Ali, Chloe McNulty, Serena McLoughlin, Meadhbh Glavey. **Front row:** Kaitlyn Clarke, Davina Morris, Hillary Phillips, Shannon Keadin, Emer Kiely, Claudia Glavey, Emma Rowley, Saoirse Caulfield, Demi Greally.



### **2<sup>nd</sup> year Girls Soccer League**

**Back Row:** Ciara Jordan, Leanne Hession, Amy Mannion, Erika Webb, Aoife Lilly, Shelia Brady, Niamh Murray. **Middle Row:** Dervla Phillips, Aoife Murray, Maria Waldron, Grace Wordon, Lisa Higgins, Stacey Hayden. **Front Row:** Jenny Cox, Ashling Lynskey, Laura Carney, Sarah Feeney, Ria Dunleavy, Carol Freely, Aine Coyne.

## Boys Badminton

Jakub Szebesta, Bongani Dhlamini-Nkosi, Azhar Tayyab, Zubir Koohestani, Jamil Kezze, Mazhar Tayyab, Jonathon Klein, Adrian Boyle



## European Studies

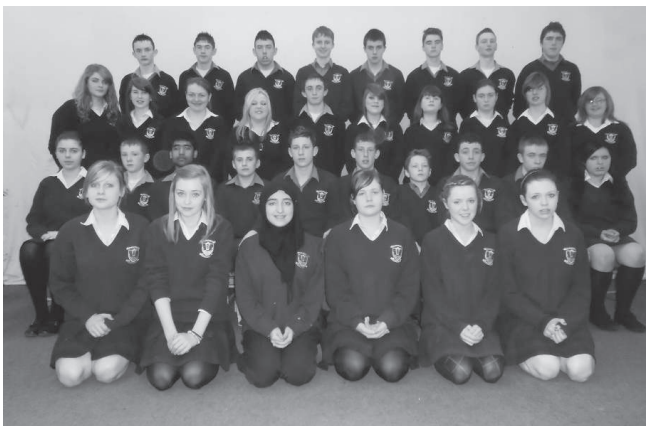
We were told at the start of the year that we were doing a subject called European Studies with Ms. Phillips. We had never done this subject before and we were excited to start something new. There are two European study programmes in the school, the junior programme which is Ms. O'Loughlin's 2D second year class and the senior programme which consists of the Transition year class. The two classes joined together to start a project called "a teenage guide to Ballyhaunis". We went into the town to visit some local people in their local businesses, such as local restaurants, and we also visited local historic places such as the friary church in the town. We asked them to fill out surveys we had compiled in order to help us find out information about the town. We then put all the information we had collected together into a project write up.

At the start of the year the Transition Years made individual profile pages which we sent to our twinned schools across Europe. We also put a project together including pictures and surveys about our school. We entitled the project 'a day in the life of T.Y.'. We also entered a bookmark competition, the main topic being environmental issues.

The second year 2D class who were involved in the junior programme were linked to schools in Romania, Ireland, Northern Ireland and England.

Both classes who took part in this subject found it very interesting and worthwhile.

Kirsty Phillips



### European Studies

**Back Row:** Aron Moran, Liam Coll, Michael Walsh, Stephen Ryan, Mark Phillips, Eric Hynes, Eanna McNamara, Iarlaith Forkan

**3<sup>rd</sup> Row:** Kirsty Phillips, Edel Fitzmaurice, Fiona Brady, Phelim Webb, Shiofra Flatley, Tara Mulkeen, Eadaoin Lyons, Lauren Gourley, Lisa O'Connell,

**2<sup>nd</sup> Row:** Marlena Staszczuk, Colm Ronan, Waqas Rehmon, Shane Seddon, Stephen Nolan, Niall Robinson, David Regan, Cian O'Boyle, Shawn Groake, Mary Ward

**Front Row:** Dervla Phillips, Ailish Phillips, Duha Riyaz, Grace Warden, Maria Waldron, Erika Webb

## Agri Science Plot

A new dimension to the Science department this year is the opportunity for Agricultural Science students to perform some aspects of their practical crop work in the newly established 'Agri. Science Plot'. This small area gives students an opportunity to grow samples of potatoes, cereals, brassicas and other crops on a micro scale. Unfortunately our Leaving Certs will not get an opportunity to sample much of their produce as harvesting will not take place until late August but hopefully they will be equipped with the knowledge on how to grow their own vegetables in the future.

Well done to students and teachers in the Ag. Science Department.





## Transition Years



**Back Row:** Phelim Webb, Eanna McNamera, Liam Coll. Aron Moran, Kirsty Phillips, Edel Fitzmaurice, Micheal Walsh, Eric Hynes, Iarlaith Forkan.

**Front Row:** Fiona Brady, Louise Henry, Shiofra Flatley, Lauren Gourley, Eadaoin Lyons, Lisa O'Connell, Tara Mulkeen.

**Missing from Photo:** Niamh Hunt, Lukasz Dnileczuk, Arkadiusz Gredzinsk.

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## T.Y. Experience

In September, we started our TY year with a trip to "Fame the Musical" in the T.F in Castlebar. Following our day trip to "Fame" we had a three day trip to "Killary Outdoor Adventure Centre". During our stay we had a chance to try a variety of different activities such as kayaking, wall climbing, laser combat, gorge walking, the bungee swing and who could forget "Killary Challenge". Overall the highlights of our stay for everyone were jumping in the muddy bog holes, the adrenaline pumping bungee swing and terrifying cliff jump.

In October, Ms. Mooney, our English teacher, brought us to The Abbey Hotel, Roscommon to see the play "Psycho Spaghetti". This was a hilarious stand-up of what goes on inside the teenage brain. This was a day I can safely say was enjoyed by all. Also in October, we held a 1<sup>st</sup> year quiz. It went remarkably well.

For two weeks during the months of October and March, we had an opportunity to go on work experience. This was a big part of the T.Y. programme and everyone benefited from it.

During December, we visited Derrynumera Recycling Centre, with our Geography teacher, Ms.Brogan. We arrived at the centre and were greeted by the site manager, who showed us the various areas of the centre

and explained how each item was recycled. After this, we travelled to Croagh Patrick where Ms.Brogan showed us the geographical features of the boy and surrounding area.

Before Christmas the T.Y. class travelled to Castlebar to attend a Road Safety day. This was a complete eye opener into the consequences of speeding on our roads . During Seachtain na Gaeilge our Irish class organised a table quiz, as Gaeilge, for the first and second year students. This was a great success.

A guard came in to visit the class and showed us a DVD of the effects of speeding . The advertisements were so different to those we watch and were a lot more graphic, using shock tactics to get their message across.

After Easter the school bank "B.C.S. Banking" will be partaking in the "AIB build a bank challenge". In May we have planned a trip to Paris and the remaining TY's will be competing in the YSI showcase in Dublin on behalf of us. So far, our year has been full of fun and worthwhile experiences and we hope to do much more in the coming weeks.

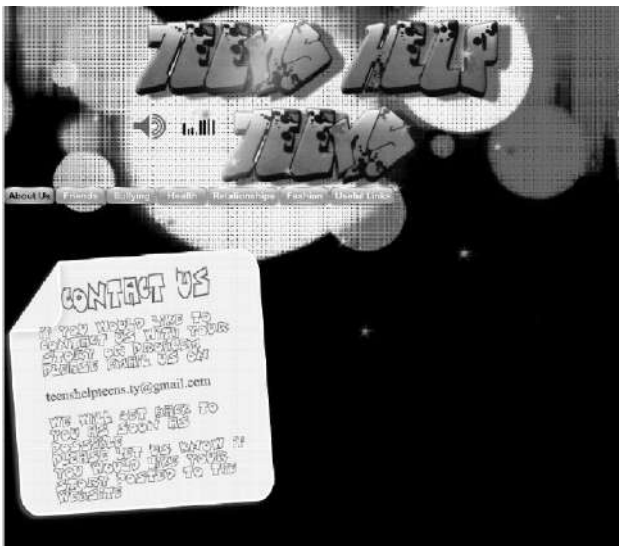


## Young Social Innovators

Y.S.I. is a social awareness and activism for young people (15- 18yrs). Young Social Innovators works to give young people a voice on social issues of concern to them and their communities. The Y.S.I. Advocates for Social Justice is a large network of young people who work to promote human rights, justice and fairness for everyone.

We as Transition Years of 2010 – 2011 started off with discussing what our Y.S.I. project would focus on. After our team building trip to Killary we realized that teenagers ,especially boys, have no help or support when it comes to problems they have- whether it revolves around making friends, health problems or just plain simple relationship advice. We thought about what sort of medium we would use for helping teens so we conducted surveys and concluded that most teenagers use the internet quite regularly. I was chosen to set up the website because I am very competent with I.T. As a class we chose what the layout would look like and then everyone proceeded to write the content for the website. As soon as this was completed the material was uploaded to the website. There are still some 'teething' issues to address with the website but hopefully all will be finished before our launch night in the near future. This project has presently reached the national finals, which will be held in May. This was a great achievement for both the TYs and school. On behalf of the T.Y. class, I would like to thank Ms. Murray for her endless guidance and support throughout.

*Phelim Webb*



## B.C.S. Banking

This year as ever, the transition year's entered the A.I.B. build a bank competition. We started off with a launch day at break time on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2010. The members of the bank team are: Kirsty Phillips, Edel Fitzmaurice, Lauren Gourlay, Shíofra Flatley, Tara Mulkeen and Fiona Brady. Ms. Waldron and Ms. Cuniffe also helped us throughout this project. We held weekly meetings on Wednesdays at break time in the library where bank

members could deposit money into our bank. Just before Christmas we did a raffle for bank members, the three winners were Niall Robinson, Rebecca Walsh and Katie McKay. Shortly after the Christmas break we had a cake sale to fundraise and we raised over a hundred euro. The number of people joining the bank kept on increasing as the year progressed. On Valentine's Day we held a 'last rolo' day in aid of the bank. It was a great success

and was very enjoyable also! D-Day came so quickly upon us, it was the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, the day of the regional



finals. We headed up to Sligo, confident that we were going to do well even if we didn't make it through. We arrived at the luxurious



Radisson hotel and headed into the conference room to set up our presentation along with all the other participants. After what seemed like an eternity of waiting they announced the prize winners and unfortunately we weren't one of them. We had failed to qualify for the national finals. At least that's what we thought....

When we returned from work experience on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April Ms. Waldron excitedly told us something shocking. We got through to the national finals on a wild card! We were absolutely delighted. Only 16 were chosen out of 206 and we are one of them. Currently, we are preparing for the nationals in the R.D.S. in Dublin on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May.

The bank team would like to thank Helen and Jarlath (workers from A.I.B. branches) for all of their help and co-operation throughout this project. Also, we would definitely not have made it this far without the help of Ms. Cuniffe and Ms. Waldron. Thanks a million!

Kirsty Phillips and Edel Fitzmaurice



**B.C.S. Banking**

Pictured are Ms. Edel Cuniffe, Ms. Bernadine Waldron, Tara Mulkeen, Shíofra Flatley, Edel Fitzmaurice, Lauren Gourlay, Fiona Brady, Kirsty Phillips, Mrs. Helen Quinn (A.I.B. Bank), Mr. Pat McHugh.

## L.C.A. Class



**Back Row:** Simon Waldron, Enda Mulkeen, Darren Tarpey, Padraig Fitzgerald, Waseem Ashraf, John Lyons, Ricky Niland.  
**Front Row:** Mark Davy, Paul Raftery, Bunmi Fabiy, Jamie Skeffington, Conor Fitzgerald.

## L.C.A. Applied

September 2010 was a very exciting time for our L.C.A. class. It was a new experience to arrive in school with a folder instead of a school bag and having a four day week instead of a five day week. Fridays would be our introduction to the world of work, going on a variety of placements and learning new skills. The concepts of key assignments, credits and tasks were also very new and important to our success in the L.C.A. programme.

Our first LCA task was facilitated by Ms. Murray in B4. We put on a Broadway production called "Christmas at Jacksies". We discovered hidden talents and we are now preparing our speeches for this year's Oscar awards. Ms Murray should be very proud of her team of directors and actors. We thank you miss for all your help.

Our second task was our enterprise task when we decided to have all the teachers' cars shining by bringing the Car Wash to B.C.S. Car Park. The cars were spotless and more importantly lots of money was raised, our hard work paid off. But we won't forget to give Ms. Gibbons a cut of the profits. Thanks Miss for helping us organise it.

Our third task this year involved cooking and serving a three course meal for our teachers and management. It was great fun, very successful and thank god no one got food poisoned. Sincere thanks to Ms. Flynn for all her

help. Our hard work was rewarded when the teachers organised a very generous tip. A big thank you to all who donated, it was much appreciated.

It's hard to believe our 1<sup>st</sup> year in L.C.A. is drawing to a close. It was action packed and hopefully our credits will be awarded and it will all have been worthwhile.

We are looking forward to the summer and returning as mature L.C.A. students facing the last few hurdles.

**Conor Fitzgerald**  
**L.C.A. Student**

## L.C.A. HC&T. Task

*ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN LCA HC&T STUDENT!*

For Our Hotel Catering and Tourism Task the teacher said we could make a product like Jam or Chutney or we could stage An Event and do a three-course lunch for at least ten people. Even though there was a lot more work for a three-course lunch, we still wanted to do it. We looked at photos of the lunches other LCA HC&T students had done over the last few years. Some of our friends also said, that it was one of the biggest highlights for them, when they did the lunch for the teachers.

We had completed Module One and some of Module Two of our HC&T Course. We had also done plenty of cooking since last September. In October 2010, we organised a Hospice Coffee Morning for a Key Assignment. We made



Chocolate Chip Muffins, Mixed Berry Muffins, freshly ground coffee in Cafetière pots and a few pots of tea for 50 teachers. We delivered everything to the Staffroom in time for the 11 O' Clock break and collected €257 for Hospice that morning. Doing a Three-course Lunch for ten teachers however was a much bigger task.

With the decision finally made we started with a brain-storming session for ideas on what we could serve for a three-course lunch. We broke up into smaller groups, one group researched Starters, another Main Courses and the Third group checked out some Desserts. Each group had to come up with at least 5 ideas. We looked for ideas in Cookery Books, Food Magazines and The Internet. When each group had come up with 5 ideas, we decided we could carry out a **survey** of the teachers to see what would be the most popular choices. We designed a survey with the information from each group. We printed 50 copies of it and delivered them to the staffroom. When we got the surveys back, we counted up the numbers for each option. With the help of our IT teacher-Mrs Loftus we used Microsoft Excel to show the results. The preferred starter was Melon Fan with Raspberry Coulis, for the Main Course-Chicken Maryland, with Chunky Homemade Potato Chips & Tossed Salad followed by Rich Chocolate Gateau, served with Chocolate Ganache Sauce & Ice cream.

Conor Fitzgerald designed a Menu Card, he printed off 14 copies so that he could give one to each teacher on the day of the lunch. Ms. Flynn asked the Vice Principal-Ms. Moran about a date for doing our task and also if she could get 10 teachers to come to the event. Each of us designed an Invitation and gave it to a teacher from the list given to us by Ms Moran. The teachers were delighted with the invitation and Mr. McHugh, our Principal sent a letter, officially accepting our invitation.

We worked in groups to compile a shopping list for the event and to work out all the jobs that would have to be done. We researched some other areas to help us with Our Task e.g. *Cooking Methods we would be using...Deep Fat Frying, Baking, Roasting; Jobs in the Food & Hospitality Industry e.g. Chef, Waiter/Waitress, Barman; Safety & First Aid in the Kitchen, Garnishing & Decorating Dishes; Preparing a Venue for a 3 course Lunch, Table Setting & Napkin Folding, Food Safety & Hygiene in the Kitchen & during Service*

Good communications and teamwork were essential to Our Task. We met regularly as a class to make sure everyone was getting on all right and to come up with solutions to any problems we were meeting with. We would let the teacher know what jobs we had completed and what jobs we intended doing next.

Most of us helped to set up D2 the day before the event. This was the venue where we would be serving the three-course lunch to the teachers. We tidied and cleaned the room and removed the extra furniture. We covered tables in white banqueting roll and then put some tablecloths and place mats on the tables to make it look nicer. We set the tables with the cutlery, crockery and glassware we had washed, dried and polished that morning. Two of the lads went off and picked daffodils to decorate the tables. We set up a separate table for the cups, saucers and sugar bowls.

We learned how to do table service and each of us took turns practicing this skill.

The day before the event we were mostly involved in preparing the food for the lunch. We made the cakes for the dessert. We made breadcrumbs, egg wash, seasoned some flour, "butterflied" the chicken breasts and coated the chicken and pineapple rings in breadcrumbs before refrigerating them. We prepared the salad ingredients, made coleslaw & the garnishes, as well as the French Salad Dressing and the Raspberry Coulis. We had to work quickly so that each food would not be too long in the "Danger Zone" i.e. room temperature-as this could lead to food poisoning.

The morning of the event we finished decorating the cakes each decorated with a 'Strawberry in a Tuxedo'. All that remained for us to do with them was put a scoop of ice cream on each plate just before serving. The Melons were prepared and nicely presented with Raspberry Coulis and some blueberries for decoration. We prepared the Chunky Homemade Potato Chips. Finally the Banana Fritters had to be coated in breadcrumbs.

At 12.00pm we started cooking the food. By 12.45 the teachers arrived. They were welcomed and shown to their seats. Four of us kept things going in D2 while the main courses were being put on plates and garnished in the kitchen. We served the starter and when the teachers were finished we cleared the plates away and then served the Main Course. Now we understood the pressure Ms. Flynn had told us we would be under when it came to service. You have to be quick, accurate and very careful not to injure/burn yourself or anyone else when the pressure is on!

As a surprise, we had prepared some extra food for the rest of the teachers in the staffroom. This was delivered at 1.10 pm along with chocolate cake. While the teachers were eating the main course in D2, we made the tea and coffee. . We put the cups & saucers, milk and sugar on the table and then served the tea & coffee. All of a sudden... the mad rush was over...we realised for the first time in two days the pressure was over, everything had gone according to plan. Its hard to describe the feeling...we were exhausted but on a high.

The teachers asked us to come into D2 for photographs etc. They each spoke about the lovely meal and the very good table service they had received. When the teachers left at 1.40pm, the panic was back on as we had to get D2 cleared and set up for class at 2.10pm. We took a quick lunch break after that and came back to the kitchen at 2.45 for the big clean up. We got finished and everything put away before 3.30pm. We had a well-earned cup of tea and for the few minutes before the bell went we sat down, relax and talked about the day. We were very tired but really proud of what we had achieved.



**Hotel Catering & Tourism Task**

Pictured are the L.C.A. class, Ms. Éadaoin Flynn (Home Economics teacher) and a number of the teachers enjoying the beautiful meal prepared by the L.C.A. class.



## Class 4A



**Back Row:** Lewis Seddon, David Bance, Stephen Brehony, Jordan Dalton, Seamus Burke, Jason Fahy, John Judge, John Flynn.

**Middle Row:** Megan Carroll, Paul Finnegan, Aiden Niland, James Cribbin, Luke McDermott, Michael McGuire, Olivia Murphy.

**Front Row:** Niamh Kilkenney, Meaghan O'Doherty, Sheba Younas, Sandra Lyons, Andrea Morris

**Missing:** Bilal Ahsan, Róna Burke, Jamail Kezze, Áine Lilly, Neil Lyons, Azhar Tayyab.

## Class 4B



**Back Row:** Brendan Connolly, Eugene Durkin, Conor Nolan, Jamie Waldron, Daniel Cunanne, Darren Dennehy, Gary Patterson, Farhan Ahmad.

**Middle Row:** Shahzeb Yousaf, Darragh Richardson, Diarmuid Byrne, Hannan Iqbal, Mohammed Kezzeh, Marian Morris, Michaela Boland, Jennifer Lilly.

**Front Row:** Atif Farooq, Clodagh Sloyan, Bronwyn Potgieter, Shauna Kelly, Nicola Hunt, Claire Egan, Laura Culliney, Séan Griffin.

**Missing:** Thomas McGuire.

## Class 4C



**Back Row:** Jarlath Carney, Patrick Kiely, Ryan Peake, Declan Muldoon, Conor Hussey, Jarlath Meagh, Paul Kilkenny, Brendan Finn, Ultan Griffin.

**Middle Row:** Andrew Cunnane, Darren Duffy, Ian Coyne, Suha Riyaz, Joan Egan, Joe Sutton, Haseeb Arshad, Liam Conboy.

**Front Row:** Dean Glavey, Louise McNanara, Claire Walsh, Aisling Kenny, Zeenat Javid, Grace Lyons, Lisa Hunt, Shane Boland.

**Missing:** Sibion Joyce.

## Class 4D



**Back Row:** Rory Mannion, Eoghan Collins, Adrian Phillips, Jakub Szebesta, Niall Mevlin, Stefan McMillan, Donatas Bradauskas, Bartosz Gostkowski.

**Middle Row:** Jade McDermott, Brian Kelly, Ivan Hynes, Eric Eaton, Jonathan Klein, Darren Nolan, Daniel Harrison, Sineád Garvey.

**Front Row:** Hira Mahmood, Aoife Hill, Rosie Simcox, Rebecca McGowan, Chloe Noonan, Noreen Cassisy, Vickey Miskell, Emily Worden, Sharon Lynskey.

**Missing:** Michael Flynn, Lukasz Malachowicz, Mateusz Marcinak, Daiga Zarina.

## SENIOR LADIES G.A.A.

After last year's defeat at the Connacht final stage, this year our hopes for victory were high. It began on a high note with a comfortable win against Louisburgh, followed by two strong wins against Davitt College. A loss to Foxford left us second in our group. This brought us up to the Connacht quarter-final stage against Belmullet, which ended in a large scoreline in our favour. As the semi-final approached our training regimes up'd-the-ant but unfortunately luck wasn't on our side on the day. The scoreline was tight up to the final whistle but ended with a loss to the Dominican College, Galway. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Grogan, Ms. McGuire and Ms. Gibbons for their hard work all year, it was greatly appreciated.

*Joanne Cregg*



**Junior & Senior Girls G.A.A.** *Back row:* Fiona Brady, Niamh Cunnane, Dervla Phillips, Sinéad Garvey, Pamela Ubazuonu, Áine Lilly, Stacey Hayden, Anne-Marie Heneghan. *Middle row:* Joanne Cregg, Aoife Murray, Lisa O'Connell, Shauna Morley, Róna Joyce, Aisling Lynskey, Shannon Keadin, Aoife Cassidy, Sharon Lynskey. *Front row:* Rona Burke, Sonia Henry???, Aisling Tarpey, Claire Moran, Anne O'Gara, Sile Brady.

## Ballyhaunis ABC (Aid for Belarusian Children) Chernobly Project

The Chernobyl disaster was a nuclear accident that occurred 25 years ago at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine. The disaster began during a systems test on 26 April 1986 at reactor number four of the Chernobyl plant, which is near the town of Pripyat. Large areas in Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia were evacuated, and over 336,000 people were resettled.

The Chernobyl disaster triggered the release of substantial amounts of radiation into the atmosphere in the form of both particle and gaseous radioisotopes, and is the most significant unintentional release of radiation into the environment to date. It has been suggested that the Chernobyl disaster released as much as 400 times the radioactive contamination of the Atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Some children in the contaminated areas were exposed to high radiation doses because of an intake of radioactive iodine-131 from contaminated milk produced locally. These children suffer from life long health problems that are attributable not only to the Chernobyl accident, but also to the poor state of post-Soviet health systems.

Twenty five years after the catastrophe, restriction orders remain in place in the production, transportation and consumption of food contaminated by Chernobyl fallout.

Ballyhaunis ABC (Aid for Belarusian Children) organizes various fundraising activities during the year to bring children from Belarus to Ireland. Twelve children arrive every summer for a months rest and recuperation. They are hosted by families in Ballyhaunis and the surrounding areas.

During the month of May a lorry travelled to Belarus to bring much needed supplies to various orphanages there. The 4A class with Mrs. S. Mulroy and Mrs O. Lyons organized a collection of items to be sent to a teenage orphanage in Belarus. Many thanks to the students and staff who were so generous in donating unwanted items to these very deserving young people.

## 4th Year Girls Fitness Classes

Mayo sports partnership has introduced a new grant scheme for schools to get girls active in sport. The partnership provides schools with a grant of €600 to bring instructors of all disciplines into the school for one hour per week. This new initiative has been offered to 4<sup>th</sup> year girls and they will enjoy the following fitness classes, zumba, aerobics, boxercise, dance and pilates. This scheme emphasises the importance of fitness among girls in a fun and safe environment. It has been a great success here in school with over 30 girls participating.





## 4th Year Trip to Achill

On the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, the most talked about school outing arrived.....the fourth year trip to Achill!!! Fifty lucky students were paid up and ready to go. The sun was shining and the three day break from school sounded great! When we finally arrived at Achill Outdoor Education Centre, we got settled into our rooms and we were put into our teams. This was a great opportunity for us all to bond, particularly with the T.Y students that had joined our year.

We then set off on our first activity. Each group did something different each day for example hill walking, surfing, archery, canoeing, jumping in bog holes and team challenges. Evening entertainment included a walk to the beach and of course the infamous Miss. Achill contest and not forgetting Mr. Achill. Seven brave souls entered the contest, the five boys were transformed into lovely young ladies while two girls made fine young men. Each contestant thoroughly entertained us as did the judges and the very witty MC. However only two could be crowned Mr and Miss Achill 2010 and this prestigious honour went to 'Miss Luke McDermott' and 'Mr Laura Culliney'!!!!!!

Our time in Achill was brilliant fun, we missed it hugely when we left but certain catch phrases carried on such as 'it wasn't me..... it was Conor'. We would like to thank Ms. Gibbons and Mr. Murray for organising and accompanying us on the trip.

Sinéad Garvey.



## Creative Writing

Dear Diary,

I read today this quote in a book and had to share it with you.

"The greatest accomplished is not in never falling, but in rising again after you fall."

It reminded me of us. Our family and how things have changed. It's hard to believe that it's almost two years since that dull, September's night when the person became a shadow walking away. I still look at mum sometimes and think, when will she break down? The look of fear and anxiety in her eyes and the bitter feeling of inadequacy. Does she find it all too much diary? Does she feel regret? Without my family and friends I wouldn't have been able to be as strong as her. She is an inspiration. She was knocked down but to this day she continues to rise above it all and protect us from how she really feels. The fear of losing those who are closest is the greatest fear of all!

Until next time diary,

Gx

## History Trip to Derry

On the morning of the 24<sup>th</sup> March, my history class and the Leaving Cert history class met at the school at 7am. None of us were exactly bright eyed or bushy tailed and the prospect of over a three hour journey on a bus to Derry was not exactly delighting us! Soon however we realised it was to be one of the best school trips we had ever had! When we arrived in Derry the first place we visited was the Museum of Free Derry. Here we learned about the hard hitting story of Bloody Sunday 1970. The man that showed us around had a very personal view of the event as his brother had been shot dead on that day. What we saw and heard in the museum was not pleasant, it was however very much a reality. From here we did a walking tour of the Bogside. This gave us a further insight into Derry and Bloody Sunday. Our guide told us about the riots and the stories behind the murals on the gables of the buildings. We then had a well deserved break for lunch before heading to our next stop, the Tower Museum. Here we learnt about the story of Derry, from its foundation right up to present day. Our guide here, "Gerry from Derry", was very funny and had the craic with us! We then walked a short section of the walls of Derry on our way to the Apprentice Boys Hall. Here we were told the history

behind the Apprentice Boys, how during the siege of Derry, thirteen of them shut the gates on King James and those thirteen are still commemorated today. From here it was on to the shopping centre for some retail therapy or in most cases to eat again! Our day in Derry was the best fun we have had in a long time with the bus journey home containing many memorable moments including guest appearances from Justin Bieber, Janice from Friends and Roz from Monsters Inc.! An excellent day was had by all and I would like to thank Ms. Mooney and Ms. Monaghan for organising the trip and accompanying us on the day.

*-Sinead Garvey*



## History Trip to Derry

'You are now entering free Derry' written on the remnants of a house marked our arrival at the 'Bogside' overflowing with history and scarred by the Troubles. Our first stop was a tiny hidden museum that commemorated the horrific events of Bloody Sunday, when the British army fired upon a crowd of unsuspecting civil rights protestors and killed seventeen of them. The museum contained some priceless memorabilia from that tragic day; it even had coats of the murdered men with bullet holes in them. We were guided through the museum by a brother of a man who was ruthlessly murdered that day. His recollection of the events left us shocked as we stood there wondering



'should someone be punished for this?'...

A brilliant speaker brought us to key areas of the Bogside bringing the Troubles back to life on that sunny Thursday morning. He told us the stories behind the huge murals that the area wears as its battle scars and after a while I think we all got a feel of what it was like to be down in the Bogside looking up at the city walls, while being held under the oppressive grasp of unionists. It was a truly valuable experience that definitely enriched our knowledge of the Troubles.

After a quick lunch and a brisk walk through the city we reached the grand Tower Museum. There we were met by an excellent speaker who with the aid of short films and artefacts built up Derry's history from its very first days. He also traced the deep rooted tensions that were rife in the city for centuries back to the plantation of Ireland.

We even got the chance to walk on the historic walls of Derry city which provided us with an absolutely breathtaking view of the Bogside. The

Apprentice Boys of Derry museum was our last educational stop before the trip was crowned with a swift shopping trip and a sprint back to our bus. The excitement of the trip was evident on our bus which was filled with chatter of all that we saw and got the chance to experience. It was a true help for the exam as it put the Troubles in perspective and made us all realise it's not all black and white.

Thank you to Ms. Monaghan and Ms. Mooney for making the trip to the beautiful city of Derry possible.



- Greta Domarkaite

## Cricket

The school cricket team travelled to Castlebar on Tuesday 12/04/2010 to play the hosts of the game, St. Gerald's, in the Castlebar Rugby Grounds. It was a historic day for BCS as this was the first ever cricket team and match since the school was established. Ballyhaunis won the toss and elected to bowl. Conditions were tough as a strong wind dominated most of the gameplay. Ballyhaunis got off to a poor start with just two overs played, St. Gerald's were 38-0. Ballyhaunis soon found their rhythm and began to reduce the amount of runs St. Gerald's were clocking up. Conor Lyons produced a man of the match performance by getting three wickets in just four overs. Haseeb Arshad also got two wickets to his name while Muzammal and Shiraz Ul Hassan both got one wicket. St. Gerald's were all out for 93 after 15 overs played with five overs still remaining. It was Ballyhaunis up next to bat and they were chasing a winning target of 94. Hassan Alam was first up to the stumps and got Ballyhaunis off to a good start. After four overs Ballyhaunis were 27-0. Ballyhaunis were looking well on target of reaching 94 but St. Gerald's got a life line by bowling Neil Lyons and Shiraz Ul Hassan out in succession. The game rate was evenly tied up as both teams were 53-3 after seven overs. The batting performance of Hassan Alam and Haseeb Arshad got Ballyhaunis to their target of 94. Haseeb Arshad got the winning four while Hassan Alam produced batsman of the match performance by hitting 45 not out. Final score of the match St. Gerald's 94 all out (after 15 overs),



**School Cricket Team:** Back row: Neil Lyons, Shahzad Rehman, Ciaran Brennan, Hassan Alam, Muzammal Yaqoob, Conor Lyons, Rory Mannion, Waseem Ashraf. Front row: Sheraz Ul-Hassan, Haseeb Arshad, Waqas Rehman, Qasim Nazir, Azhar Tayyab, Bilal Amin. **Missing from photo:** Hannan Iqbal, Luke McDermott.



Ballyhaunis 94-4 (after 14 overs). The team would like to thank Mr. Woolley and Arslan Afzal for all their efforts with the team during the course of the year.

The Team: Hannan Iqbal, Haseeb Arshad, Sheraz Ul Hassan, Shahzad Rehman, Waqas Rehman, Neil Lyons, Conor Lyons, Ciaran Brennan, Azhar Tayyab, Qasim Nazir, Waseem Arshad, Luke McDermott, Mohammad Ahmad, Hassan Alam and Bilal Amin.

**Rory Mannion.**



# leaving Cert Photos



Adams Hollie



Alam Hassan



Arshad Zaira



Asilia Sammy



Brennan Celine



Brennan Ciaran



Byrne Kevin



Carrick Gareth



Cassidy Aoife



Caufield Sarah



Conboy Siobhán



Conroy Celine



Conroy Katie



Cregg Joanne



Crinnigan Dermot



Cunnane Niamh



Dee Ciara



Deegan Emma



Deegan Sarah



Devaney Patrick



Domarkaite Greta



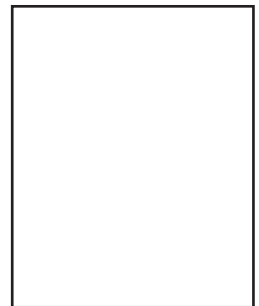
Duffy Danielle



Egan Elaine

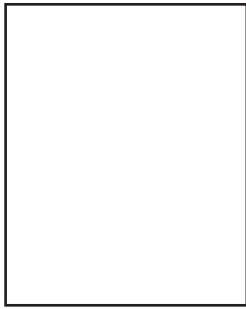


Egan Padraic



Laura Kilgarrieff

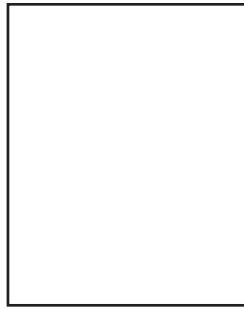
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Laura Kilgarriff



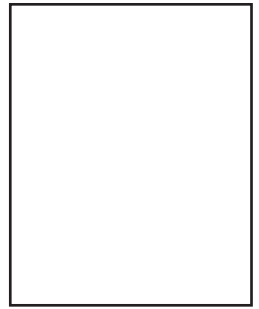
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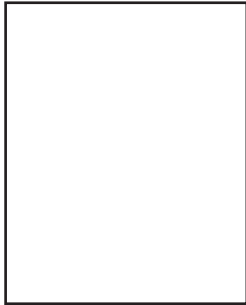
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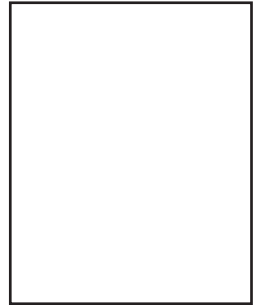
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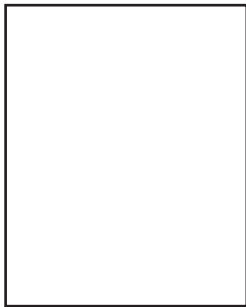
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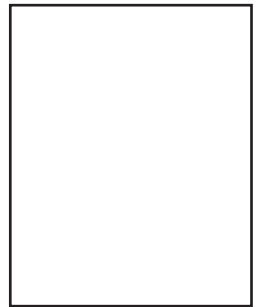
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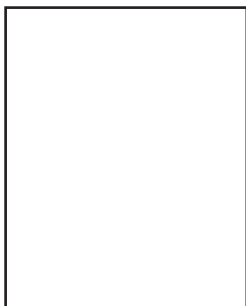
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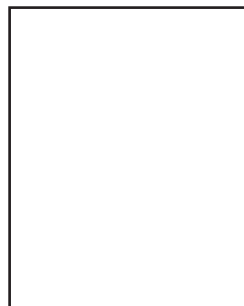
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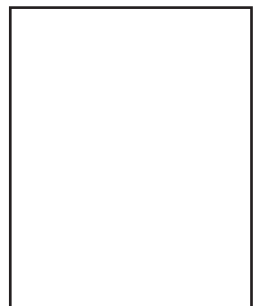
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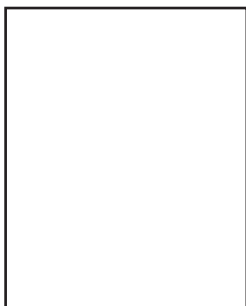
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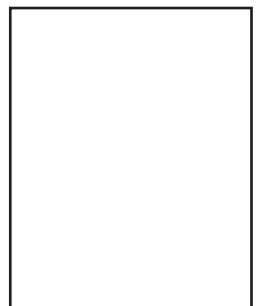
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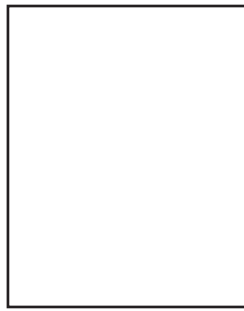
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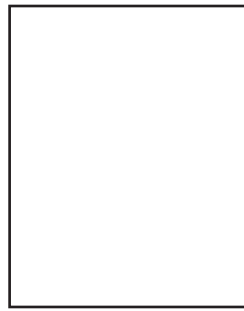
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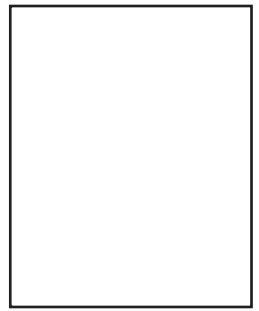
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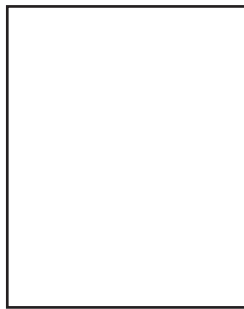
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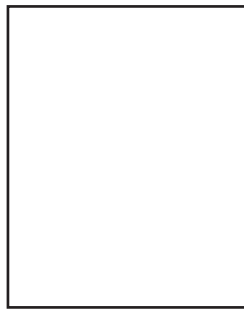
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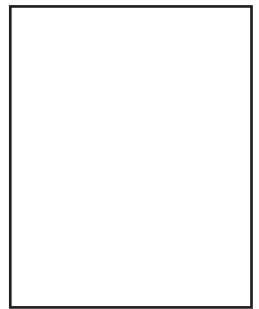
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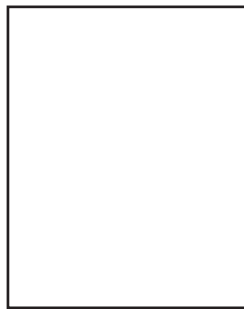
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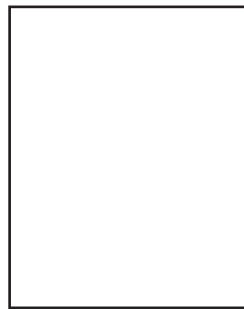
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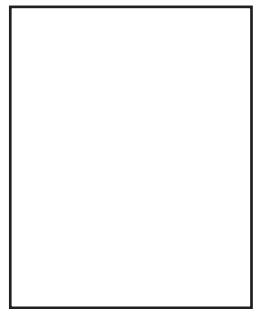
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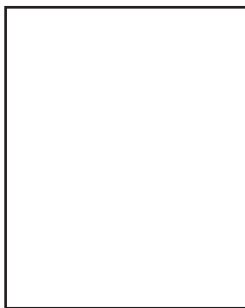
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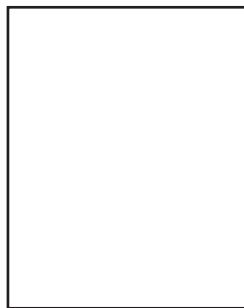
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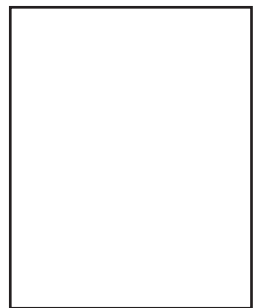
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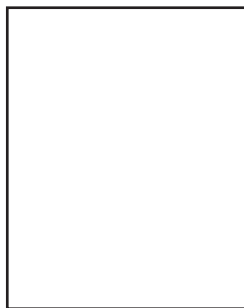
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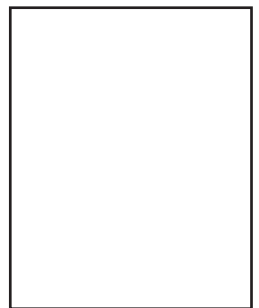
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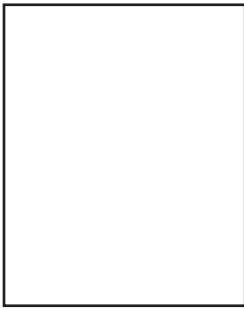
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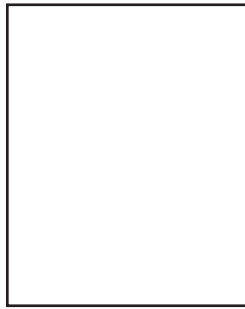
# leaving Cert Photos



Laura Kilgarriff



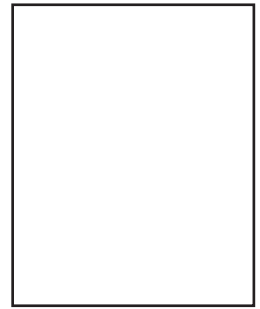
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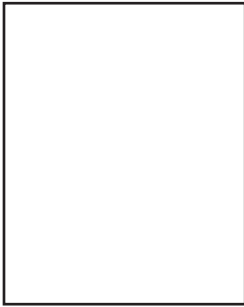
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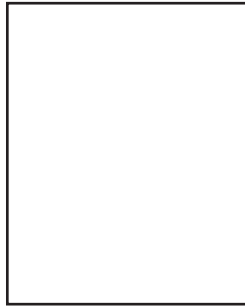
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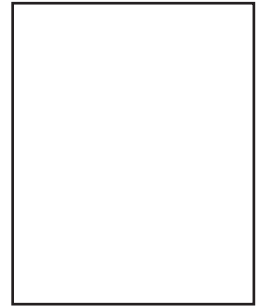
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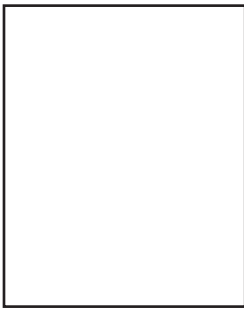
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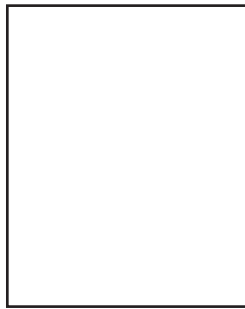
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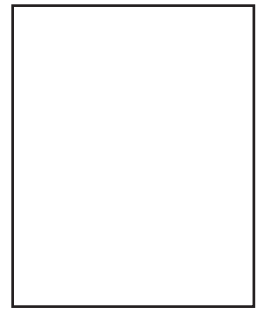
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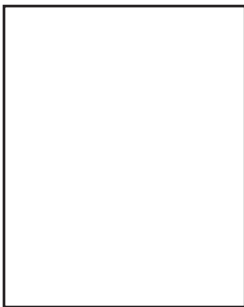
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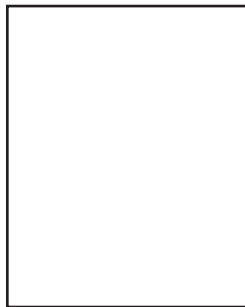
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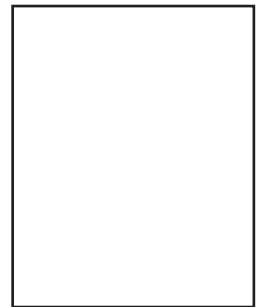
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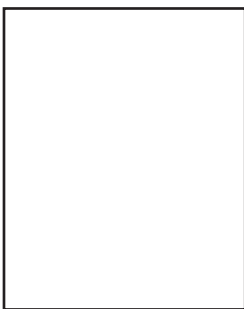
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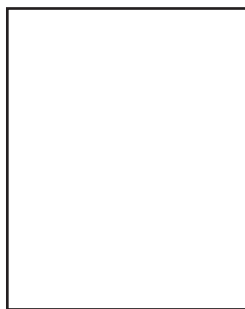
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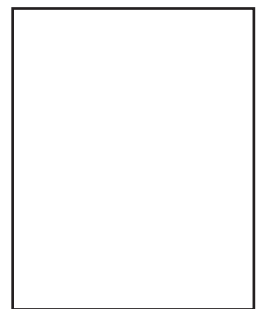
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Laura Kilgarriff

## 4th Year fancy Dress Sponsored Walk

What has now become an annual event – each year the fourth year students and their religion teachers organise and complete a 5km sponsored walk in aid of the Henry Madden Tanzania Fund. The school has been involved in fundraising for the people of Tanzania since 2002.

Henry Madden is a local man, he lives with his wife Kathleen in Gurteen. Henry describes himself as a simple farmer, he is shy speaking in public yet when he comes into the classrooms to speak to the fourth years about life in Tanzania he really gives students an insight into what life is like for their peers living in desperate poverty. This is a valuable lesson no textbook can teach. Henry has visited Tanzania on several occasions, he has recorded through pictures the life of the people living there.

Every cent of the money raised by the students goes directly to the communities of two towns in Tanzania. In 2010 the fourth years, through their creative and colourful endeavours raised 1,500 euro.

*Well done to the students and R.E. teachers.*



## Trick or Treat for Temple Street

Trick or Treat for Temple Street is an annual fundraising campaign that takes place at Halloween every year in aid of Temple Street's children university hospital in Dublin. This year the students and teachers of B.C.S. raised €350. The leaving cert class of 5C wish to thank all of you for supporting such a worthy cause.

Temple Street is the first port of call for tens of thousands of children every year suffering from every kind of illness and injury imaginable. This fundraising helps sick children by making their stay in hospital less distressing for them and their families, by funding the purchase of medical equipment, developing new services, funding research and developing new treatment facilities. They need our continued support.

## 5th Year Retreat

On the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 the Leaving Cert classes had the honour of going on a retreat with Fr. Benny McHale and his good friend Johnny McCarthy. Over the course of the two days we were told stories which were truly inspirational and even life changing.

Johnny told stories of his past when he had a problem with alcohol and drugs. He also told us about his remarkable recovery and his gift to heal people. However, this sad story was brightened up by Johnny's unique way of telling it and his unforgettable laugh.

On the other hand, Fr. Benny told 'spooky' stories with a funny twist. It was clear that every student was captivated by these tales. He told us about his personal life experiences and how he miraculously saved peoples' lives when they had no hope left.

Both men spoke to the students in ways they never thought possible. By using facts and real life experiences students listened and absorbed life lessons. Some were reduced to tears, both of laughter and sadness.

The retreat impacted so much on students that they can now look back on it when times are bad and know they can give Fr. Benny a call any time. It is fair to say that we would have spent more than two days with Fr. Benny and Johnny!

*Laura Haverty and Jenny O'Neill.*

## Creative Writing

"Dalitica city. What a dreary place." Icy blue eyes scanned the area. Wrinkling her nose at the scene of dismay, Exxie tried not to retch. The city definitely wasn't how she remembered it. Things must have really changed in the past five years. Exxie hadn't been around for these changes. In fact, Exxie hadn't been around for anything. The intellectual woman had actually been in prison since the tender age of eighteen. She was known as one of the most notorious serial killers, the world had ever seen but after a fatal slip, she had been locked away. She was back now, however, this time, she was an escapee. A shrill giggle pierced through the area, surprising a few passing people. The killer ignored them. None of them would recognise her anyway. The first thing she had done was disguise herself. She was not being thrown in jail again. She was born to change the world and she was determined to do such an act. Thinking over her past actions, Exxie's pale, pink lips stretched into a malicious smirk. Her victim's screams echoed in her head. She cherished every single one of them. They were precious memories, ones that couldn't be forgotten even if she wanted to. Crinkling her inky, ebony hair, it started to look as though she had just got out of bed. It framed her porcelain features perfectly though and swayed with every movement she made. The twenty-two year old stared out over the city. Polluted clouds of ash and smoke drifted over the American city. People milled about in the streets, bumping into one another but not even bothering to apologise. "What an abysmal place."

- Hollie Adams

## Senior Boys Gaelic

The year that could have been. We had our sights set high and we got off to a blistering start to the year with comfortable wins over Charlestown and Gortner Abbey in the Flannagan Cup. In the final of this competition we played Kiltimagh, in Kiltimagh. We had to play them in the league as well, so we put the two games into one. Once again we ran out comfortable winners on a scoreline of 1-17 to 2-3. After losing to them in last years championship, we weren't going to lose to them again. Our next outing was in the league against Strokestown. Even with a poor display we gathered two valuable points. In the first round of the Connacht Championship we were pitted against St. Nathy's of Ballaghderreen. Again, we put two games into one, this time the league and the championship. We won and were through to the quarter finals. That match was coming fast approaching and we were well prepared with two "friendly" games against Dunmore and Claremorris. A good omen for us seemed to be playing two games in one. We did it against Carrick-on-Shannon and it seemed to be working as we were five points up with ten minutes remaining. We threw that lead away and extra time was needed. One point up at half time of extra time and we lost. A devastating end to what was going to be a promising year. On behalf of the team, I would like to thank all the players for their effort throughout the year and also to the two John's on their tough work as kitmen. A special thanks to Mr Mc Donagh who put so much of his own time and effort into this team.

*Caoileann Fitzmaurice.*

## Croagh Patrick Climb 2010



*Croagh Patrick climb 2010*

*Pictured are Mr. Colin Quinn, Mr. Padraig Shannon and students enjoying the beautiful scenery throughout their climb.*



**Senior Boys Gaelic Team**

**Back Row:** Shane Muldoon, Stephen Comer, Jarlath Carney, Daniel Cunnane, Conor Hussey, Gearoid Keane, Ryan Worden, John Waldron

**Middle Row:** Joe Sutton, Niall Melvin, Fintan Kearney, Rory Mannion, Seán Griffin, John McNieve

**Front Row:** Liam Conboy, James Cribbin, Darren Duffy, Caoileann Fitzmaurice, Garry Paterson, Paul O'Gara, Eoghan Collins



# Jason Maupin

*Elevate Industries*

[www.elevateindustries.com](http://www.elevateindustries.com)

Jason spoke to 4<sup>th</sup> and Leaving Cert students on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Feedback from the students that attended Jason's talk was very positive. Students described him as a 'truly inspirational speaker – and good fun too'!

## JASON'S STORY

**Raised in a home where his father was abusive, by the age of nine, Jason had become suicidal. With his mother diagnosed with Lupus – (a disease that affects the immune system) and his brother on a downward spiral of drug and alcohol abuse, Jason concluded that his own life was worth nothing. Out of desperation, he considered suicide. With the choice of life and death in his hands, Jason realized he had to look beyond his circumstances and realize his life was for a purpose greater than he would ever know. "There's a reason why we go through trials, and it's to help others!" Jason says. "Have you ever played cards? Sometimes you get a bad hand, but you know you can't fold because if you fold you're just giving up. That's the same way life is, no matter what hand you're dealt you have to play it the best you can!"**

Several years ago Jason Maupin started Elevate Industries, a motivational assembly program designed to help students make right choices. Having the chance to speak literally around the world to schools, camps, conventions and churches Jason takes every opportunity to help students realize their full potential.

**"Your past does not dictate your future, it's how you handle the circumstances that come your way!" Jason says, "You can become whatever you want to be!"**

From his humor, to his compelling story-telling Jason takes his audience on an adventure that leaves them wanting more.

**"Every one in life hurts, every one has pain but if I can make it you can make it! Don't ever give up!"**

Jason and his wife Jessica reside in Glendale, Arizona. Jason, with Elevate Industries, is committed to helping students make the right choices, regardless of the hand they may have been dealt!



**Jason Maupin-Guest Speaker**

Pictured with Jason Maupin are Darren Tarpey (left) and Jamie Skeffington (right).

## What's behind your mask?

When you play cards 'sometimes you get a bad hand, but you can't fold because if you fold you're just giving up' and that's exactly how life is. Sometimes things don't go your way, but whatever life throws at you, you must continue to the best of your ability. That's what Jason Maupin taught me and the senior classes. His humour and compelling story telling left us all astounded. He put us at ease with hilarious snippets of his past, which made his whole story all the more shocking...

Laughter filled the room as he talked about the 'green people mover', Max's (his teddy bear) eyes full of sand, 'you like that huh?' and his days on the football pitch getting smashed by a guy called 'Adversity' until he got the guts to stand up to him, 'bring it on!'. Jason even joked about his weight, 'I breathe in the natural air and grow another butt!' The way he portrayed his 'AD-wanna ride bikes? Right now I'm serious', was genius and so was the rest of Jason's enthusiastic and energetic speech.

When the motivational speaker announced he will 'take off his mask' no one expected what happened next. Jason spoke with tears in his eyes of his difficult childhood. 'I grew up in a house where my father was abusive, everyday he would make me feel like I was worth nothing'. By the time he was nine he was suicidal, he would spend hours in his mother's room holding a revolver to his head... His older brother who was also abused became an alcoholic at the age of seventeen. The dead silence in the room made me realise that everyone was just as shocked at this as I was. Jason's happy, positive exterior would have never hinted at his tormenting past.

So what was the point of all that? To make each and everyone of us see that everybody has hurt, but it does not mean that your past has to shape your future. No matter what you are going through there is always someone there to talk to, you just have to be brave enough to take your mask off. For nine years Jason Maupin has been showing people all over the world there is a lifeline, you don't have to drown in your despair. He was truly inspirational, uplifting and unforgettable; everyone left the talk with a different perspective and a smile on their face. So remember, you are never alone, 'someone loves you, someone cares about you, today it's me. I love you'.

**Jason's website: [www.elevateindustries.com](http://www.elevateindustries.com)**

**- Greta Domarkaite**



# leaving Cert Baby Photos





# forensic Science Day

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011 senior Biology students were nonjury forensic scientists for the day as we solved the murder of an Australian schoolgirl, Sally.

The day involved an interactive presentation by James, a good humoured Australian forensic scientist. Students were presented with a crime scene where they were required to examine the evidence to solve the murder.

The presentation incorporated exhibits and displays enabling the students to understand the techniques used by forensic scientists to solve crimes. These included Processing the crime: students learned how to go about examining a crime scene using search patterns to process the scene in three dimensions

Physical fit and refractive index: students used their knowledge of physics to identify the murder weapon. DNA profiling: students assessed the results of this forensic technique to both eliminate suspects and identify the guilty party through blood and saliva evidence. Drink spiking: students were taught how to test drinks for the presence of illegal substances.

Microscopy: students used this advanced forensic technique to examine clothing fibres found on the victim linking suspects to the scene of the crime The day proved to be an enjoyable experience for all and of invaluable benefit to our study of Biology. On behalf of all the students we would like to thank Mrs. Keane, Ms. Murtagh, and Mr. Muarry for kindly organising this worthwhile event.



*Pictured are Tom Mc Donagh (past pupil) who married Winnie Mc Donagh from Castlebar in February 2011.*



**Leaving Cert Grad Committee**

**Back Row:** Lisa Jordan, Joanne Cregg, Tara Plunkett, Áine Waldron, Sarah Deegan, Maria Lyons, Sarah Grennan, Siobhan Morley. **Front Row:** Jennifer Waldron, Anne Folan, Jennifer Raltigan-



**Leaving Cert Debs Committee**

**Back Row:** Padraig Egan, Katie Conroy, Katie McKay, John McNieve. **Front Row:** John Waldron, Ann Marie Heneghan, Aoife Cassidy, Claire Kenny, Marie Staunton, Ciaran Brennan



**Leaving Cert Yearbook Committee**

**Back Row:** John McNieve, Padraig Egan, Paul O'Gara, John Waldron, Ciarán Brennan, Fintan Kearney, Dermot Crinnigan, Dylan Lynskey

**Middle Row:** Melissa McLoughlin, Michelle Neenan, Lisa Naughton, Áine Waldron, Lisa Jordan, Kelly McKay, Niamh Cunnane, Holly Adams, Sarah Grennan

**Front Row:** Celene Brennan, Tara Plunkett, Laura Haverty, Jenny O'Neil, Anne Folan, Joanne Cregg, Aoife Cassidy, Claire Kenny, Siobhain Wilcox, Brona Walsh

**Leaving Cert Yearbook Committee**

**Back Row:** Caoileann Fitzmaurice, Sammy Asilia, Daemien Keadin, Ciaran McLoughlin, Brandon Peake, Shane Murphy, Shane Muldoon

**Middle Row:** Sarah Caulfield, Greta Domarkaite, Eilis O'Gara, Sarah Deegan, Martina Mullarkey, Laura Fredreeika-lalikova, Marie Lyons

**Front Row:** Saeia Nazair, Celene Conroy, Ciara Dee, Danielle Higgins, Siobhan Morley, Marie Staunton, Kelly niland, Amana Shafique, Tracy Regan, Zaira Arshad

## Year Book Committee

This year we all wanted our yearbook to be unique and to remind us of all the wonderful times we spent in B.C.S. A huge number of enthusiastic Leaving Cert students wanted to participate in this final stage of our 'journey' and Ms. Mooney was more than happy to accommodate us. Without delay she delegated the various tasks and we diligently set about asking both students and teachers to submit relevant photographs and articles. We often met in 'E1' to discuss our progress. Article by article, photo by photo, our yearbook began to spring into life. At this point, we would like to thank all the teachers and students who submitted work for publication. We would also like to thank Ms. Mary Mooney( the yearbook editor) for her hard work and dedication in helping to make our yearbook so special, we will treasure it for years to come. At this point, on behalf of the entire committee, we sincerely hope that you enjoy reading our yearbook as much as we have enjoyed seeing it come to fruition.

**Fintan Kearney**

## A note from the Editor

With each passing year I have become increasingly aware of the earnest goodwill and co-operation required in order to produce a yearbook of this magnitude. Accordingly, I wish to pay tribute to Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal), Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy-Principal), the teaching staff, the administrative staff, the caretaking staff and the entire student body for their endless support and understanding throughout this 'journey'. In addition, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the yearbook committee for their dedication throughout. Additionally the T.Y. class were invaluable in the latter stages of the yearbook's compilation. In keeping with this trend, I want to pay special tribute to Lisa O'Connell and Edel Fitzmaurice, both of whom selflessly gave considerable time and energy to the cause! At this point I would like to congratulate the Leaving Certificate class of 2011 on reaching this milestone in their lives. I wish them every health, happiness and success in the future. It is my sincere hope that the Leaving Certificate students will look back upon this yearbook with fond memories of their days in B.C.S., just as the wider school community will enjoy reading the B.C.S. 'story' of 2010-2011. Last but by no means least, I want to express my profound gratitude to the team at Berry Print, Westport. They are a pleasure to work with, their professionalism and expertise plays a vital part in the production of this yearbook.

**Mary Mooney**

## leaving Cert Baby Names

1:Brona Walsh  
2:Aoife Cassidy & Niamh Cunnane  
3:James Simcox  
4:Conor Freeley  
5:Sarah Grennan  
6:Gareth Carrick  
7:Áine Waldron

9:Marie Staunton  
10:Kial Wallace  
11:Sarah Caulfield  
12:Katie Conroy  
13:Sammy Asilia  
14:Andrea Reynolds  
15:Anne Folan

16:Kieran Kiely & Damien Keadin  
17:Laura Lalikova  
18:Saadia Nazir & Zaira Arshad  
19:Cathal Glavey  
20:Ann-Marie Heneghan  
21:Greta Domarkaite  
22:Paul O'Gara

23:Greta Domarkaite  
24:Hollie Adams  
25:Oisín McDermott  
26:Lisa Jordan

# leaving Cert Awards

<b>Babe of the Year</b>	Girl: Hannah Jumail Sarah Grennan	Boy: Tomás Morley Yasin Salem
<b>Drama Queen/King</b>	Girl: Anne Folan Siobhán Morley	Boy: Shane Murphy Padraic Egan
<b>Chatterbox of the Year</b>	Girl: Aine Waldron Laura Haverty	Boy: John McNeive Kieran Kiely
<b>Nicest Smile</b>	Girl: Siobhán Maloney Aoife Cassidy	Boy: Brian Neary Connor Freeley
<b>Sportsperson of the Year</b>	Girl: Joanne Cregg Aoife Cassidy	Boy: Caoileann Fitzmaurice Damien Keadin
<b>Hairdo of the Year</b>	Girl: Hannah Jumail Aoife Cassidy	Boy: Kial Wallace Tomás Morley
<b>First to make a million</b>	Girl: Claire O'Dwyer Kelly Ann McKay	Boy: Paul O'Gara Tomás Morley
<b>Most Distinctive Laugh</b>	Girl: Ann Marie Heneghan Laura Haverty	Boy: Damien Keadin Kieran Kiely
<b>"Soundest!"</b>	Girl: Marie Staunton Kelly Ann McKay	Boy: Brian Neary Fintan Kearney
<b>Couple of the Year</b>	Danielle and Oisin / Ciaran and Joanne	
<b>Most likely to become Taoiseach</b>	Girl: Claire O'Dwyer Siobhán Maloney	Boy: Paul O'Gara Colm Keane
<b>Musician of the Year</b>	Girl: Niamh Cunnane Siobhán Wilcock	Boy: Cathal Glavey Paul O'Gara
<b>Comedian of the Year</b>	Girl: Clare Kenny Kelly Ann McKay	Boy: John McNeive Kieran McLoughlin
<b>Facebook Addict</b>	Girl: Laura Haverty Hannah Jumail	Boy: Padraic Egan John Waldron



# Memory lane

## ***“We do not remember days; we remember moments”***

And what a lot of crazy moments we've had! From the egg throwing in 1<sup>st</sup> year to 'Get off my face!' in Leaving Cert, our life in BCS has been one hell of a ride! The crazy rollercoaster began in 1<sup>st</sup> year when we all arrived nice and early, (well, apart from a certain Someone!) terrified for our first day. After we all got to know each other, the craic Really started! We went through 1<sup>st</sup> year running into walls (ahem Stephen) and going on an epic tour to Clare, all the while making friends and having fun.

As second year rolled in, we became a little more adventurous, making human pyramids and human dominos in the B area. The girls were terrified by Gary and Oisín, who took to hiding above their lockers and scaring them every morning! With all of the highs and lows, the year flew by.

Before we knew it, the Junior Cert was upon us, but circle time really helped us to relax! As well as circle time, we also went on retreat to Ballintubber Abbey and held a fancy dress soccer competition. The lads in All their maturity held many chair races in the C area, which caused quite a few accidents to say the least! After the stress of the Junior Cert, we all headed to the park for the craic. Londis must have been happy, as the lads bought armfuls of bottles of water and declared war against the girls. Poor Katie sure had fun!

While we struggled away in Junior Cert, the Transition Years enjoyed a great year with numerous cake sales and trips to Killary and Paris. From the ghost stories in Killary to the 'Jiggy Jiggy' bus driver in Paris they really made the most of their Transition Year.

We returned after a well earned summer break to find new friends in the TY's and to learn that all of our hard work for the Junior Cert was pointless! To begin 4<sup>th</sup> year, we took a trip to Achill to bond with the new TY's. To our surprise, we bonded like a big tub of hair gel. (well, apart from Damo, who flattened Melissa while running away from Mr Murray!) Barcelona rapidly followed Achill. Mexican hate were bought and modelled, chip pyramids were made and dodgy perfume with free toasters arrived home. The trip certainly showed some people in a new light! We were then swept up in all of the preparations for the musical, 'Grease'. Some shocking haircuts left us stunned during rehearsals and some very 'unique' laughter left the performers gobsmacked and in hysterics on stage. Our 4<sup>th</sup> year ended with a relaxing retreat to knock as we began to think about the Big LC.

Our Leaving Cert year began with Fr Benny's infamous retreat. Along with his sidekick, Johnny, who enlightened us with his song "Shtay gone Baby", Fr Benny used his humour and life experience to teach us not to take life for granted and live it to the full. The Forensic Science Day brought about a new found love of science and inspired Wally to find his true calling as Horatio. We enjoyed many laughs, especially when Aoife was told to "Get in the bag!" We were touched by Jason's moving tale which inspired all of us to take our masks off and to be our true selves. We took this message with us on the final steps of our journey.

As our time here draws to a close, we look back with fond memories of our friends and of the good times we shared. Our last days are bitter-sweet as no one wants to say goodbye. But now it's time to pack up our books and hang up our uniforms. Our school days may be over, but our future is just beginning. So Leaving Cert class of 2011, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

***Aoife Cassidy, Greta Domarkaite, Siobhán Wilcock  
Dermott Crinnigan, Dylan Lynskey, John McNieve***

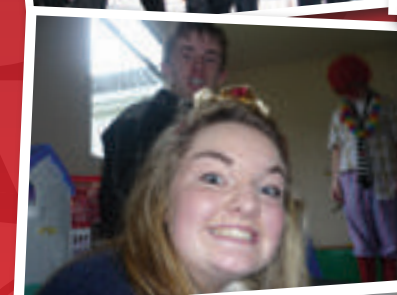


*Leaving Cert Class 2010*





# COMMUNITY SCHOOL



*Lunem Cordium*