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GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL



The majestic manoeuvring of the starlings in the crisp March evenings is a wonder to behold but it is also a timely reminder to me that it is time to be putting pen to paper. Every March a legate or two from the Magazine Committee ask politely if I would have my few words prepared by St Patrick's Day or shortly thereafter. This year Asia Tayyab approached me with the same request and has smiled at me since every time we meet on the corridor as much as to say "I'm still waiting"!

Our School Magazine each year is a snap shot of the school community at a given moment in time and if you peruse the magazines of yesteryear a picture emerges of the life of the school down three and a half decades at this stage. Teachers come and go, students make their journey through the educational system and each adds in a unique way to the sum of the entity that is Ballyhaunis Community School.

Ms Mary Mooney has a lot on her mind this year but she still wanted to produce and manage the Magazine and did not want to disappoint the editorial crew because of her own personal commitments. Ms Mooney is a powerhouse of energy, organisation, dedication and enthusiasm. For the past several years she has spearheaded the production without a moment's hesitation or a word of complaint. I wish Mary and Daniel every happiness in their lives together.

The Yearbook committee this year was outstanding, they met, made decisions and went about their tasks like professionals, I feel several of them have a future in print journalism. The proof of their labours is in this Magazine which I hope will bring enjoyment to you the reader wherever you are on the Globe.

Time marches relentlessly on and each year brings its own partings. This year three exceptional people took their leave of us. Mrs Eileen Byrne, Guidance Counsellor retired and with her left a body of knowledge, empathy, advice and caring that is difficult to replace. Eileen exuded calm and control.

Her philosophy was that there is a solution to every problem although we may not have found it yet but we will. She is a marvellous listener; she takes in the essence of the message, processes it in her formidable brain and then offers options that leave everyone a winner. Mrs Peggy Egan, an English and Business teacher also retired. Peggy was the personification of compassion and always saw the good in every student. She was a Year Head like Eileen Byrne and they both took a personal interest in each student in their charge. Peggy Egan was so approachable and kind that each student gave of their best so as not to disappoint her. They knew that Mrs Egan wanted and expected the very best from them and they didn't want to let her down. To have that effect on young people is a rare gift indeed. Mary Frances Cleary also left her administrative position. Mary F and I met every morning and had a chat on a wide range of topics while we were going through the morning's Post. She is a woman of many talents; her administrative skills were such that even the nightmare that is the "October Returns" was completed without fuss and always before the deadline. Mary F had many interests apart from her skill as a consummate administrator. She is a very accomplished golfer; she is much travelled and is widely read. She will have many things to occupy herself with in her well deserved retirement.

I thank the sponsors for their generous help in these difficult times, please support their businesses. I also want to thank the Production Company for the quality of the Year Book they have produced. I especially want to thank Fr Stephen Farragher for his general support of the School as Parish Priest but in particular I want to say how much we value his skills as a photographer and technical wizard, a latter day Lord Snowdon.

I wish the Leaving Certs of 2013 well as they embark on life's journey; they are a confident group who will succeed in whatever tasks they set their enormous talents to. On my own behalf may I thank the entire school community for the wonderful support they have given to me not just this year but over many years. May the school and all associated with it continue to blossom and grow in the times to come.

**Pat McHugh,
Principal.**

STAFF 2012/2013



Pictured is Patricia Gaughan -
Administrative Staff.



Pictured are Sharon Gibbons & Justina Lyons
- Administrative Staff.



Pictured are Bernie Lyons (Special Needs
Assistant)
Eileen Jennings (Caretaker)
& Cáit Webb (Supervision).



Back row: Mr. Raymond Woolley, Ms. Siobhán Mannix, Ms. Geraldine Finn, Ms. Áine Fallon, Ms. Aisling Comer, Ms. Ann Varden, Ms. Claire Caulfield, Ms. Gillian Madden, Ms. Edel Cunniffe, Mr. David McDonagh.

Middle row: Mr. Pat McHugh, Ms. Anna Henry, Mr. Colm Quinn, Ms. Aoife Keane, Ms. Éadaoin Flynn, Ms. Olive Lyons, Ms. Orla Macken, Mr. Padraig Shannon, Ms. Antoinette Lennon, Ms. Anne-Marie O'Reilly, Ms. Catherine Monaghan, Mr. Michael Murray, Ms. Bernadine Waldron, Ms. Josephine Loftus, Ms. Geraldine O' Loughlin, Mr. Seán McHugh, Ms. Concepta Moran, Mr. Patrick Noone.

Front row: Ms. Genevieve Murray, Ms. Bernie Osgood, Ms. Eva Brogan, Ms. Sharon Mulroy, Ms. Mary Mooney, Ms. Caitriona Murphy, Ms. Patricia Hargaden-Whyte, Ms. Colleen Hayes, Ms. Sinéad Britton, Ms. Cathriona Leonard, Ms. Siobhan Devine, Mr. Patrick McGarry.

Missing from Photo: Ms. Mairéad Conway, Ms. Anne Grogan.

STAFF NEWS

The school year 2012-2013 welcomed Ms Sinead Britton and the return of Ms Edel Cunniffe to the teaching staff. Summer 2012 also marked the retirement of Ms Eileen Byrne & Ms Peggy Egan from the teaching staff. The entire school community wish to thank most sincerely both ladies for their hard work and endless dedication down through the years. During December 2012 Mrs Mary Frances Cleary retired as school secretary & we welcomed Ms Sharon Gibbons to the administrative staff. We wish Mary Frances every happiness in her retirement.

We would like to congratulate Ms Edel Cunniffe on her wedding which took place during the summer of 2012.

We extend our best wishes to our Yearbook Editor Ms Mary Mooney on her upcoming wedding day & also to Ms Sinead Britton. We hope the sun shines brightly on both ladies as they walk up the aisle!

Congratulations to Mr David Mc Donagh on the birth of his daughter Saoirse, Ms Anne Grogan on the birth of her son Oisín and Ms Mairead Conway on the birth of her daughter Aoibhínn.



Pictured are H.Dip students Evelyn Kearns, Simon Walsh & Nicola Nolan.



Pictured is Marge Hierons (2012) with the Principal, Deputy Principal and members of the Social Committee on the occasion of her departure from the Administrative Staff. She returned home to South Africa.



Pictured are Mr & Mrs. John Burke on the occasion of their wedding.



Pictured is Oisín Grogan - son of Mrs Anne Grogan.



Pictured is Saoirse McDonagh - daughter of Mr. David McDonagh.



Pictured is Aoibhinn O'Flaherty - daughter of Ms Mairéad Conway.

RETIREMENTS - EILEEN BYRNE



Pictured are Mrs Brogan,
Mr Murray, Mrs O'Reilly
& Mrs Byrne.

PAT MCHUGH

I feel very secure being a friend of Eileen Byrne because I know that if ever I need sound advice I can call on Eileen, explain my predicament and within a short time she will give me a number of options. I know this because she has done it so often in the past. As Principal and Guidance Counsellor we worked closely together and I grew to value Eileen's opinion more and more. She was incisive and decisive but she always left it to me to make my choice, she never forced her opinions on me or anyone else, they were offered but it was always up to the listener to take or reject what she had to offer.

Eileen was a respected colleague of the teaching staff of this school and she listened without judging to many a tale and offered options at the end. She has the marvellous capacity to see the big picture and she has vision, she can see what the consequences of various options are and advise on the

most appropriate. She exudes calm and that is a quality that that professionals in her area need more than most else. The Guidance Counsellor needs to be in control, to be able to sooth shattering nerves, to give young people the self belief which is often all they need. Eileen Byrne always remained serene, she is courteous to all, she is the soul of discretion and she is so well briefed in her topics.

Eileen Byrne is much more than a teacher however, she is a wife, a mother, an avid reader, an accomplished golfer and a good friend to many. She taught in Ballyhaunis Community School for many years and is missed by her colleagues now she is retired. She has developed her interests, has enjoyed many games of golf in Ballinrobe and farther afield, she hill walks her beloved Partry Mountains and I imagine life is very good for Eileen and her husband Tom at the moment and long may it remain that way.

ORLA MACKEN

As the 2012 school year was drawing to a close it was with surprise that I learned that my colleague Eileen Byrne was going to retire from the staff of BCS. Eileen took it upon herself to quietly make it known that she had made her decision to take her leave from the school. I have to admit that I was a little daunted at the prospect of returning to school the following September without Eileen being there because she was very much part of the fabric of our school. As this year draws to a close... we have survived... but it is definitely a new chapter in BCS.

Eileen began her career in Ballyhaunis Community School teaching Religions Education but her greatest contribution was in the whole area of Pastoral Care and Guidance Counselling. She was instrumental in establishing the Pastoral Care team in the school, drawing on management and staff to share the care of the students that attend our school. Eileen was student centered and when it came to dealing with situations her philosophy was always the 'Glass Half Full', she looked for the positive in every situation and she always strived for the betterment of the school.

Eileen and I had our offices back to back with an adjoining door between us. It was very reassuring for me to know that Eileen was next door – always available for sound advice and a calm response. When I took up my role as School Chaplain, Eileen was instrumental in helping to shape my role within the school. She was a true supporter of the many new initiatives and I could always count on her level-headed advice.

One of Eileen's many characteristics was that she evoked confidence and motivated those around her. Through her quiet dignity, gentleness and leadership the well-being of staff and students was always top of the agenda. Eileen was very much a team player, she was approachable and her years of experience made her an ideal mentor to many who had the privilege of working with her.

Eileen I wish you well as you begin a new chapter in life's journey. I hope you have many long years of health and happiness to enjoy your hobbies in particular golf and also to spend time with your beloved family.

The words of author and poet John O'Donohue perfectly reflect my wishes for Eileen now and always.

*This is where your life has arrived,
After all the years of effort and toil;
Look back with graciousness and thanks
On all your great and quiet achievements*

*You stand on the shore of new invitation
To open your life to what is left undone;
Let your heart enjoy a different rhythm
When drawn to the wonder of other horizons.*

*Now is the time to enjoy your heart's desire,
To live the dreams you've waited for,
To awaken the depths beyond your work
And enter into your infinite source.*



Pictured are Mrs. Peggy Egan, Ms. Bernie Osgood, Mrs. Eva Brogan and Ms. Mary Mooney.

RETIREMENTS - PEGGY EGAN ONE IN A MILLION

JOSEPHINE LOFTUS &
BERNIE OSGOOD

When we hear the name Peggy Egan fond smiles appear reflecting the kind and caring nature of this inspirational woman. Where can we start? Peggy was a gifted teacher, a valued colleague and a dear friend. It was a privilege and a pleasure to have worked alongside her for so many years. She is greatly missed by the whole school community since the announcement of her retirement in 2012.

As a teacher of Maths, English and Business Studies, she worked diligently and tirelessly for the good of her students. She was always conscientious. She was extremely organised in her work and always well prepared and it must be said so efficient and dedicated. Peggy made the complicated simple. She understood that many students found Maths difficult and always found a way to make the subject as clear as possible for the student. She will be remembered by students for her caring, kind and compassionate nature. Peggy always treated every student fairly and made each and every student feel special in her class. She was an extremely patient teacher who always remained calm and always encouraged every student to work to their full potential. Students have said that Peggy instilled a sense of self worth in every student and regardless of their ability made them believe that they could achieve whilst in her class.

Peggy held the role of year head for many years. Indeed the role of year head could have been modelled on her. She made it her business to get to know all about each student and took a genuine interest in each one. This made all the difference when and if problems arose. Owing to her exceptional interpersonal skills, she rarely had to resort to the disciplinary procedures. Students and parents respected her, for her pastoral approach to all situations.

Her care for students went far beyond academic. She always saw the good in students and was slow to judge. She had a special rapport with her LCA students. She was sympathetic to the problems and vulnerabilities of young adolescents and was there to guide them in times of trouble, always in a discreet and professional manner. Her vision was to protect the dignity of the student at all times and her care for students went far beyond the call of duty or the confines of the education system. She was an excellent role model to young people. Her past pupils will look back with fond memories of her classes and with the upmost respect for her. People often say that you may forget what a teacher said but you never forget how they made you feel. Peggy always made you feel that you could do anything and that you were important and special. She took the term of 'Locus Parentis' to a whole new level, she was teacher and parent rolled into one. This makes her truly one in a million.

She loved being involved in the life of the school and would often accompany students on school outings. She was a great fan of sport often spending a free class out in the pitch, cheering on teams from the sideline. She helped out with and supported all school events from graduation masses to talent shows or musicals. You would hear her say 'Sure isn't it lovely for them' when students got the chance to use their talents outside of the classroom.

As a great friend and confidant she was always there to listen and to offer advice. In some ways she was more than a friend, always there if you needed her in the tough times and the fun times too. You always left Peggy's company with a brighter outlook on your day. She was a very positive person with a sunny disposition and always saw the good in everyone and the positive in every situation. She was fun loving with an excellent sense of humour and always enthusiastic about staff social occasions, from golf outings to Christmas parties.

We miss you Peggy, it was an honour to work with you and call you a friend. On behalf of the staff of Ballyhaunis Community School we would like to take this opportunity to wish you, Austin and your family every happiness in your retirement.

E. BROGAN

Just after the dawning of the new millennium, I took up my teaching position in B.C.S. Among the first people to greet and welcome me to the school was Mrs. Peggy Egan and I am pleased to say that we have remained close friends ever since.

When I joined B.C.S I was employed to teach Business and having being away from the classroom for some time, Peggy was a tremendous help to me and she introduced me to and guided me through the Junior Cert business syllabus. Peggy had a wonderful mantra "don't get stressed"

I still try to work by this mantra but these days it seems to get tested with ever increasing frequency!!

Peggy and I were both economics graduates and we would often marvel at the relevance of "the Keynesian Theory of Economics" to the junior cert students. Perhaps if we had jobs in the Dept. of Finance we might all be in a better position today. I can recall one occasion when our economics let us down and that was on a staff night out at "the dogs" in Galway. We certainly didn't come home with a surplus. However Peggy decided to cut her losses and made a rather large investment in the French firm "LE CREUSET" a decision she later came to regret on her way from Anthony Ryan's, up through Shop Street

to the Imperial Hotel. Her investment carried more weight than she had anticipated. Peggy was a wonderful and dedicated teacher. She was always eager to get the best that each student could achieve, be that a D3 or an A1. However Peggy placed far more emphasis on the student's happiness and wellbeing than on results. She was always very quick to recognize when all may not be well with some students and she would go out of her way to help and support such students. In true Peggy fashion this would be done with absolute integrity and disgression. Equally at staff meetings and school planning meetings, Peggy was always at pains to ensure that the students were at the heart of all policies and that any decisions taken impacted positively on the student.

Added to all the above attributes, Peggy is one of the wittiest and fun loving people that I know and when I recall our time together in B.C.S. I only remember the laughs and they were numerous but not to be shared in this article!!

Peggy you are very much missed in the staffroom and I have no doubt in the classroom too. I know I speak for the entire school community in wishing you a long healthy and happy retirement and please pop in and see us now and then!!

RETIREMENTS - MARY FRANCES



Pictured is Principal Pat McHugh with Mary Frances Cleary on the occasion of her retirement.

Pictured are:
Mrs. Mary Frances Cleary and Mrs. Justina Lyons.

FAREWELL TO A WONDERFUL FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE MARY FRANCIS CLEARY.

JUSTINA LYONS.

Having listened to Mary Frances joking about retiring over the last number of years, I would turn a deaf ear and laugh that "it was a long way off". However the 14th December 2012 finally arrived and with some sadness but a lot of optimism for the future Mary F. bade farewell to B.C.S. Mary Frances and I worked together in the one office for 23 years and I can honestly say that our time together was nothing but harmonious. Mary Frances is a true and loyal person and the best friend you could have when most needed. I miss her very much. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mary Frances, John and Family every happiness in the years ahead.



SCHOOL WEBSITE - BLOG

www.ballyhauniscs.ie will have undergone a revamp when this article goes to print. The need to improve and redevelop the site is aligned with a number of changes planned in ICT within the school. Currently a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is being implemented. The hope is that this software will enable remote access by both students and teachers to materials that will enhance teaching and learning. VLE Learning platforms commonly allow:

- **Content management** – creation, storage, access to and use of learning resources
- **Curriculum mapping and planning** – lesson planning, assessment and personalisation of the learning experience
- **Learner engagement and administration** – managed access to learner information and resources and tracking of progress and achievement
- **Communication and collaboration** - emails, notices, chat, wikis, blogs

In principle a learning platform is a safe and secure environment that is reliable, available online and accessible to a wide user base. The school blog www.ballyhauniscs.scoilnet.ie keeps up to date with the current events within the school. Access to the blog can be had via either of the web addresses in this document.

POST LEAVING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

Ballyhaunis Community School is a fully accredited FETAC training centre. We are running a FETAC (QQI) Business Studies Level 5 course.

The modules studied are as follows:

- Business Administration skills
- Marketing Practice
- Communications
- Work Experience
- Database Methods
- The Internet
- Spreadsheet Methods
- Word Processing
- Text Production

On successful completion of the course a candidate can achieve 400 CAO points. Grant aid is available for eligible candidates. This course is a perfect preparation for college where students will have to deal with intensive ICT issues. On completion of this course students will not only have achieved a FETAC/QQI qualification but will be fully ICT literate. If a student needs to repeat a subject this possibility can be accommodated.

For Information Contact Bernadine @ 086 0341072 or the school office or www.ballyhauniscs.ie



Pictured is Damien McGowan 1st Year - Winner of the Talent Show.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS OUR SCHOOL'S GOT TALENT



Pictured are: Oisín Coffey, Damian McGowan, Kaitlynn Clarke, Claudia Glavey, Rachel Lyons, Geger Ali Ahmed.

Last year there were many entries from our school into the Our Schools Got Talent competition. It was a very eventful and exciting experience for all the competitors involved. Great practice and preparation was put into all acts and when things went wrong or we needed guidance Mrs Devine was always there to help! Every night there was a great turn out of BCS supporters from students and teachers making sure that the BCS competitors had the loudest cheers when on stage. The whole experience is one we will never forget. It was a really great way to build confidence and enjoy ourselves while expressing all our talents. One thing is for sure, BCS is certainly not short of talent and we never will be!!



MAYO YOUTH ORCHESTRA PLAYS THE NATIONAL CONCERT HALL.

GABY MURPHY

I have been playing the violin since I was seven years old and I have committed to the Royal Irish Academy of Music grades since then. I am currently on Grade 7.

I joined the Mayo Concert Orchestra in 2010. Mayo Concert Orchestra practices every Wednesday night in St. Patrick's boys national school in Castlebar. We practice for an hour and a half.

The Mayo Concert Orchestra is linked with the Mayo Youth Orchestra and Castlebar Marching band. Last year I was asked to join the Mayo Youth Orchestra on their trip to the National Concert Hall. Practice for the Mayo Youth Orchestra are held on Saturdays in the St. Patrick's boys national school in Castlebar and typically lasts for an hour.

We practiced very hard for the National Concert Hall every Saturday. The National Concert Hall concert was for Youth Orchestras all over Ireland and only eight youth orchestras would play on the night. It was an honour that Mayo youth orchestra got picked to play. On the 9th of February we made the trip up to Dublin for the big concert. The performance went exceptionally well and it was an honour to see other orchestras perform also. I felt very privileged to play in the National Concert Hall and the whole orchestra enjoyed this memorable day.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS - RYAN KILBANE

RYAN KILBANE

My class was greatly intrigued by a competition which was to be held by NUI Maynooth, a prestigious college which is recognised as the best law college in Ireland. The competition was entitled "A Mandate for a Better Ireland". The essay that I submitted into this competition discussed the effects of cyber-bullying in our country. I researched many incidents relating to cyber-bullying and linked these facts with my thoughts on the matter. A number of weeks later Mrs Henry received an email stating that one of her students had received a special merit award. When she told us this we were excited and rather curious! I was deeply shocked when I learned that my essay had been selected for a prize. Dr Louise Kennefick (a lecturer in law) sent my prize to our school. I won a N.U.I.M. hoodie, a certificate and a letter of congratulations. I was very proud of this achievement.



Pictured are: Ms Concepta Moran (Dept. Principal), Ryan Kilbane & Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal)

ERIC HYNES - FUNDRAISING

ERIC HYNES



Pictured are: Eric Hynes & (Principal) Pat McHugh

I've always wanted to do a number of fundraising events for charity. This year I got to fulfil that aspiration. The first event I participated in was the Kilmovee Annual 10km road race. This race takes place every Holy Saturday and it is in aid of Mayo/Roscommon Hospice.

The next event was organised by my head Athletics coach, Michael Lane. He decided that the members of the National Squad would do a full body wax in aid of Special Olympics Ireland. It was a sore experience but I got used to the pain. With 12 lads getting waxed we raised nearly €900.

I then committed to a 10km race that was again organised by Michael. I decided to raise money for Temple Street Children's Hospital. With very little time available to collect money for the race, I was able to raise nearly €400.

I am now in the process of collecting for my next event which is for Suicide Awareness and Pieta House West. I am going to run the 5km road race in Aghamore. If anyone would like to sponsor me for this event or any event I will do in the future, please let me know. With all the fundraising and voluntary work that I do, the school nominated me for the Pramerica Young Volunteer of the Year Awards. I feel very privileged to have earned this nomination.

THE 2013 PRAMERICA SPIRIT OF THE COMMUNITY AWARDS

O. MACKEN

The Awards were launched in Ireland in 2006 to recognize second level students for volunteer work carried out in their communities. Eric Hynes a Leaving Cert student was nominated by the school for this award because of his volunteer work in both parish and community. Eric has dedicated many hours of his free time to helping out in the Shrine at Knock especially during the annual novena in August and also in his community through his involvement with the Athletics club. Eric also assists with the training of athletes for the school.

Eric received a Certificate of Merit for being nominated by the school which was presented to him by Mr. McHugh. Well done Eric – we hope that you will continue to make a valuable contribution to the communities you find yourself in next year and for many years to come.

TEEN IDOL FINALIST - PAMELA UBAEZUONU



Pamela Ubaezuonu a Leaving Cert student of Ballyhaunis Community School made it through to the All-Ireland Final of Teen Idol Competition. The Final took place on Sunday, Dec. 12th in the Red Cow Inn, Dublin. Teen Idol is a singing competition for 13-18 year olds and is open to both male and female competitors. The competition has been running for the last 4 years. For Auditions the contestants are asked to sing Acapella in front of 3 judges, part or all of one song. the judges treat each act fairly and decide on the day if they are going through to the heats stage. Pamela was successful in making it all the way to the final. Erik Browne the Shows Presenter says, Our aim is to showcase the hugely talented Irish teenagers and give them the opportunity to preform on stage. It is a brilliant way for teenage singers to take their first steps into the world of entertainment and its a great way to make friends. Teenidol is a stepping stone and a start to your singing career. Unfortunately for Pamela she did not scoop the title but her achievement in making it so far in the compition at such a young age is an indication of the bright future this talented student has in front of her.

PAMELA UBAEZUONU.

Teen idol took place in the Red Cow Inn, Dublin in October 2012. It was my first time taking part in a competition outside of school. I auditioned for the competition during the summer holidays of that year and got a call in September to come back for the heats. It was so exciting and nerve-wrecking at the same time. I entered in the Dublin region because at the time I didn't know that you could enter in Galway, but I was determined to go all the way. I couldn't believe it when I got to the Dublin Final. It was an amazing experience. I waited back stage nervously for the results. After the excruciating wait they finally called out the results. I was delighted when they called my name as one of the six Dublin Teen Idol winners.

I was so shocked when I got the chance to be in the Teen idol All Ireland Final. Even though I didn't win it was certainly a great experience that I will always remember. I would like to thank my friends and family that supported me. I gained so much from the experience.



GAA STAR AWARD FOR AISLING O. MACKEN

Congratulations to Aisling Tarpey Leaving Cert, who received a place on the Connaught Ladies GAA Post Primary Schools Elite Star panel. Aisling received her award at a presentation ceremony at Breaffy House Hotel, Castlebar, on Sunday night, January 20. At the awards ceremony, the Connaught line out was named with Aisling named in the number one position, keeping goal for the Connaught All-Star team. Little wonder that Aisling was chosen ahead of a big field of contenders, she has been in sparkling form in recent months, and has had a very commendable career so far, playing in goal at minor and senior levels for the Mayo Ladies football teams. Winning honours at this level is nothing new for the BCS sports girl, Aisling claimed a Post Primary Schools Elite award in 2012 as well; she has won Gaelic football honours at under 14 and under 16, as well as claiming a National Football League (Div 2) medal in 2012, and Minor A Connaught player of the match, in 2012. A superb record at any rate for a young sports lady, and with determination and commitment which Aisling has in abundance, she's bound to add much more silverware to her cupboard in the future. Aisling was supported at the Awards ceremony by the school's Ladies GAA coaches Ms. Bernie Osgood, Ms. Mary Mooney and Ms. Orla Macken. Well done and congratulations on a wonderful achievement Aisling.



CONNACHT PPS ELITE STARS AISLING TARPEY

For many the prospect of being selected as an All-Star is merely more than a childhood dream, similar in calibre to those in which you aspire to be an astronaut or a famous pop star. But recently, Connacht Ladies Gaelic have recognised the extensive potential for the development of ladies Gaelic football in the

province and along with their counterparts elsewhere in the country, have devised a tournament in which the cream of the provinces take each other on in a one-day blitz with the winners crowned All-Ireland champions. The eligibility requirements: to be an active ladies Gaelic footballer and to be in the senior category of your school's football team. Basically, any girl who kicks a football on a regular basis and meets the age requirements can be entered to receive an All-Star award. Luckily, I met both of these requirements and was chosen as one of the representatives from Ballyhaunis Community School. The rigorous selection process of narrowing a group of seventy eager girls down to a panel of just twenty-five was an onerous task and occurred over the duration of four weeks where each of us were pushed out of our comfort zone to display our cumulative range of skills that we had built up over years of playing Gaelic football. Each week, the panel was cut further until eventually the final thirty-five players were invited to a banquet dinner where the All-Star team was to be announced. Inhabiting the position of goalkeeper is generally an arduous task but this is exacerbated when playing a Munster outfit which had been training together for over two months. Unfortunately, we conceded the game to a stronger opposition but regained composure in the consecutive matches against Ulster and Leinster. In the final, we again met Munster, but on this occasion the opposition had a difficult task of getting the ball into our half. However, a series of penalties and a bench-full of injuries that had accumulated over the day lead to our defeat.

At the end of the game, each of us was presented with an All-Ireland Runner-Up medal which is a prize in itself. Although our aim was to achieve victory, as a team that had only been training for four weeks, it was exclaimed on several occasions that we exceeded the expectations of our managers. Being on a panel crowned as the second best provincial team in the country is certainly a brilliant achievement that I will never forget and I would encourage everyone playing ladies Gaelic football at senior level in secondary schools to participate in the Connacht Post Primary School Elite Stars.

SPONSORED HAIR DYE FOR MAYO-ROSCOMMON HOSPICE

MICHAEL FLANAGAN

My decision to raise money for Mayo-Roscommon Hospice was prompted by someone I knew who had been diagnosed with cancer. I had always wanted to raise money for charity since I was young. I got sponsorship cards made by Mayo-Roscommon Hospice so it would be easier to collect the money. I went around from house to house looking for sponsorship and of course I got the teachers to sponsor me too! After many weeks, I had raised €733.05. I contacted "Triona's" hairdressers to dye my hair. She was more than happy to help. The day in question soon came and I got my hair dyed pink as it is the colour associated with fundraising for cancer. Granted it raised a few eyebrows around the town!!! Andy Moran, the Mayo footballer, arrived in school where he was presented with a cheque for €733.05 for Mayo-Roscommon Hospice. It was a worthy cause to support as everyone has been touched in some way by this cruel disease. I would like to thank Triona for dyeing my hair and I would also like to thank Mr. McHugh and Ms. Moran for granting me permission to carry out this worthy charity event. Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everybody who generously supported this cause.



OPEN EVENING – MONDAY JANUARY 28TH 2013

Last year brought a new approach to enrolling 1st years into our school, an open evening was organised where 6th class students and their parents were invited into the school to visit the classrooms, meet the teachers and see the facilities and everything the school has to offer.

4th year students had a huge role to play on this evening as they took on the role of senior mentors for the evening. They welcomed the students and parents, took them on a guided tour of the school to meet the teachers and see the facilities and served some light refreshments for everyone at the end of the evening. These students are truly a credit to themselves, their parents and the school. They did an excellent job on the night.

There was a lot of positive feedback about the open evening from parents who were delighted with the opportunity to see the classrooms and meet with the teachers who will be teaching their son/daughter over the coming years.

Many thanks and well done to each subject department for all of their hard work in preparing their classrooms and showcasing their subject on the night. Many thanks also to the Home Economics department who facilitated the refreshments being served.

Although it was a long evening for everyone involved it was a very worthwhile exercise - one that we hope will pay dividends and go some way in helping to ease the anxieties of our incoming students.



THE STUDENT COUNCIL

COLLEEN HAYES

The student council has had another productive year. Generally students requests and recommendations for improving students life in the school are reasonable and we welcome their input.

The first year class representatives have taken on a new role this year as class librarians. As part of the school's initiative to improve literacy levels in the school, library books have been provided to first years during titor classes. It is hoped that we will expand the library to all students in the school next year. This exercise has proved successful with the students. It is envisaged that the student council will run the small library.

A small classroom has been refurbished recently to provide a reading room, complete with large comfy bean bags for relaxed reading. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who have helped create our reading room. Produced murals in the reading area and helped make and decorate our mobile book trolleys. A large number of books have been donated to the school library and for this we are grateful. We will gladly accept book donations suitable for our students.

As the end of the school year draws near I would like to thank all of the student council representatives for their contributions to the council. They are a great group of young people brimming with ideas to make their school a better place for everyone. Their initiative and co-operation is greatly appreciated. Enjoy the summer.

A WORD FROM MS. MACKEN - SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

ORLA MACKEN



As you are aware the Chaplain's office is a place for any student or staff member needing a listening ear. I am very privileged to have this role in our school. I am deeply humbled by the openness, trust and sharing of difficulties that many of you have shared with me throughout this year. Oh how I would dearly love to take out a magic wand from the filing

cabinet and wave it over those who are in pain, those who have for various reasons reached out for help. I don't have a magic wand but I do have time to listen. I hope I have been able to provide this opportunity to anyone who needed it during the year.

On a lighter note this year brought some new projects... Transition Years produced a DVD of the Community Care Programme. It is a wonderful showcase for future T.Y. students and their parents to see what the programme entails and how rewarding it is for the students to volunteer in their local communities. Who would have thought that Mrs. Murphy has such a natural aptitude for T.V.? She has the perfect image too! The T.Y. students played the leading roles, demonstrating their 'potato peeling skills', their work in the playschools and crèches as well as walking the dogs with MSPCA. Well done to Gearoid Connaughton (past pupil) for recording and producing this very professional DVD.

Also the John Paul II Awards is in its second year in our school. I am delighted that the number of participants has doubled this year with 21 T.Y. / 4th year students currently completing their hours in their parishes and communities to fulfil the requirements for their award. The students will be awarded their medals at a ceremony in Tuam Cathedral next November. Well done and keep up the good work over the holidays.

I was blessed to have Ms. Glavey complete her Chaplaincy placement in the school this year. She was a brilliant help throughout the year getting involved in lots of projects. I would like to wish her well in whatever role she finds herself next September. I am in no doubt she has a wonderful career ahead of her.

During the summer of 2012 we bid farewell to colleagues Mrs. Eileen Byrne and Mrs. Peggy Egan and last December to Mrs Mary Frances Cleary. I would like to wish them well as they each begin a new chapter in their lives. On a sad note this year we learned of the passing of retired staff member Maura Griffin, former English teacher. We pray that Maura has found her eternal reward.

As the last term draws to a close, the school community is coming to terms with the news that Mr. McHugh our Principal will retire in August after many years of dedicated service to our School. I would like to wish Pat a long and happy retirement. At last he has the time to give to his many and varied hobbies and interests. Another chapter in BCS's history is drawing to a close, the fabric of the school community is evolving, but one thing I hope that remains constant is the sense of spirit and goodwill in our school, a sense of openness and welcome that is very evident to all who have been part of our school. I pray that this spirit will continue to live on. Let us all endeavour as educators to nurture this spirit. Finally May brings the usual examination fever with practicals and orals as well as the build up to the longed for summer holidays. This year has been a busy and eventful one, and at this stage we all deserve a much-needed rest until we meet again at the end of August. For all the Junior and Leaving Cert students our thoughts and prayers will be with you as you begin your state exams in June.

In signing off I leave you with a reflection which asks each of us to make our lives the best they can be...we are the authors of our own happiness.

Have a lovely summer!

O. Macken

Make Your Life the Best it Can Be

Each day is a blank page in the diary of your life.
The pen is in your hand,
but the lines will not all be written the way you choose,
some will come from the world and the circumstances
that surround you.

The secret of your life is in making your story as
beautiful as it can be.
Write the diary of your days
and fill the pages with words that come from the heart.

As the pages take you through time, you will discover paths
that add to your happiness and your sorrows,
but if you can be aware of a Greater Hand guiding
yours as you write
there will always be hope in your tomorrows.

Follow your dreams, Work hard, Be Kind.
Remember goodness will reward.
Smiles will pay you back.



Prayers for the Leaving Cert Class

It's always nice to be thought of by others but for the Leaving Cert students at Ballyhaunis Community School there is a religious order praying for them during this stressful exam year. Sr. Margaret and her fellow sisters of Mercy have an active prayer group who have included Ballyhaunis Leaving Cert students in their intentions. They contacted the religion department and enquired if our students would like to be remembered in their prayers. The religion teachers informed their Leaving Cert students and they were delighted to be included in the prayer group's intentions. It was overwhelming for some students and they were very grateful as they feel it is a stressful and difficult time in their lives. A representative from the order, Sr. Margaret herself came to visit and meet with the students. She also distributed a prayer card for each student to carry with them or to read before their exams. A sincere thank you to Sr. Margaret and her fellow sisters from the Leaving cert class of 2013.

Ms. Murphy

CLASS 1A



Back Row : Piotr Cieslikowski, Maedhbh Caulfield, Richard Boyle, Conor Coll, Jordan Burns, Christopher Bann, Lindiwe Dhlamini-Knosi, Colin Byrne. **Middle Row:** Denver Coyne, Rory Bowen, Thomas Doherty, David Cunnane, Marina Carney, Katelyn Concannon, Olivia Cleary, Eoin Delaney, Alex Peter Adeyinka.

Front Row: Caoimhe Coyle, Elaine Collins, Shaheen Ashraf, Lauren Casey, Jade Cunnane.

Missing: Sameer Ali, Maja Cieslikowska, Edward Cleary.

CLASS 1B



Back Row: Hmad Farooq, Evan Fitzmaurice, Kevin Heneghan, Mohammad Zohaib Gulzar, Williams Ganley, Michael Freyne, Patrick Forde. **Middle Row:** Brendonas Graf, James Duggan, Saoirse Hagney, Mary Flynn, Shauna Fleming, Aibhinn Herr, Liam Herr, Aaron Heelan.

Front Row: Wiktoria Szkatulnik, Áine Duffy, Helen Gallagher, Emer Forde, Niamh Flanagan, Ciara Flanagan.

Missing: Rebecca Finn, Keith Forde, Aoibheann Gallagher.

CLASS 1C



Back row: John Kenny, Andrew Hickey, Evan Henry, Muhammad Nascir, John Madden, David Mitrovic, Conor Hunt.

Middle Row: Harry Kemp, Cathal Hosty, Courtney Macewan, Fatima Mahmood Ul Hassan, Roisin Lyons, Selina Mulkeen, Darragh Kilkenny, Tahseen Tahir Mahmood.

Front Row: Mary McLoughlin, Roisin Hussey, Orna Hession, Luke Mannion, Damien McGowan, James Keadin

Missing: Filip Hutman, Thomas Maughan, Mounza Muneer.

CLASS 1D



Back Row: Jan Szebesta, Conor Sloyan, Colm O'Gara, Rachel Timoney, Aoife Nolan, Adam Webb, Cormac Phillips, Joseph Wagacha.

Middle Row: Kevin Neenan, Stephen Staunton, Lorcan Ronan, Cara Niland, Joicy Nunes, Kibo Utete, Zouhir Rahmani, Zouhir Rahmani.

Front Row: Gráinne Robinson, Megan Regan, Chantal Ubazuonu, Laura O'Connell, Chloe Ryan

Missing: Benas Pakonis, Georgia Peake, Dylan Ruane.

FIRST YEAR MERIT AWARDS

This is the second year of the 1st Year Merit Awards systems. It is a great way of encouraging good manners and positive behaviour. The students were awarded merits by their class teachers for a variety of reasons including punctuality, completing quality homework, doing one's best in class, being pleasant and courteous etc.

Mrs. O. Lyons with the help of the L.Cert Mentors organised the awards ceremony on three occasions throughout the year. The categories were Gold, Silver and Bronze – students looked forward to the awards ceremony during which they received their certificates and prizes. Many first years managed to receive all three gold awards during the year. A very well done to all first year recipients.



1ST YEAR SKIP OFF

As part of their fundraising during Lent each of the 1st year classes participated in a Skipping Competition to find the top boy and top girl skippers to represent their class group.

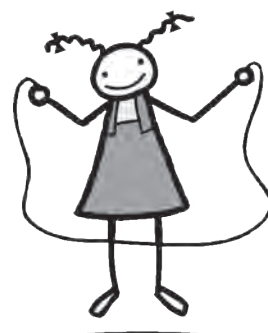
1A was represented by Thomas Doherty and Lauren Casey

1B Williams Ganley and Aine Duffy

1C Orna Hession and Evan Henry

and 1D was represented by Joseph Wagacha and Chantal Ubazuou

The competition this year was of a very high standard and the lead up to the final was very tense. On final day the atmosphere was electric and the 1st years had great fun as they prepared banners in support of their classmates, hoping that the coveted title would be bestowed on their class. Well done to all the students who took part and especially to our finalists who did their class proud.



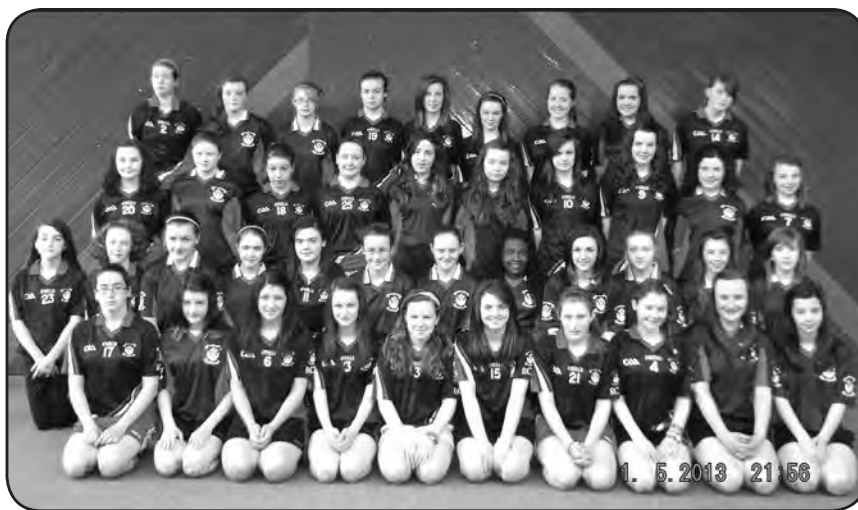
U-14 GIRLS FOOTBALL AOIFE MURRAY AND ASHLING LYNSEY

The U-14 girls began training in early September under the knowhow of Ms Mooney and Ms Osgood. There was great interest from the girls with over 30 players out at every training session. Due to a huge amount of girls coming out to training, Ms Osgood and Ms. Mooney were assisted by Sheila Brady, Ashling Lynskey, Aoife Lilly, Dervla Phillips and Aoife Murray. The girls got their campaign underway with a home game against Ballinrobe Community School in September. With such a big panel it was difficult to pick a starting 15 but the girls who did play the game did ever so well beating this Ballinrobe side very convincingly.

In Round 2 the girls travelled to Castlebar to take on Davitt College. It was a very damp day and this took its toll on the pitch as well as the game. However the girls soldiered on in bad conditions and came away from the game with a hard fought draw.

Next the girls were set to take on their fierce rivals of Swinford. The girls were eagerly anticipating this match and their determination to win showed as they came out on top, beating a very strong Swinford side.

However, due to St.Louis of Kiltimagh being unable to field a side, Ballyhaunis were unable to progress and the u-14 girls season game to an abrupt end. A huge thank you to Ms Osgood and Ms Mooney for their commitment to the team throughout the year. The season was thoroughly enjoyable and everyone looks forward to next year.



Back row: Selena Mulkeen, Megan Regan, Laura O' Connell, Roisín Lyons, Aoife Nolan, Marina Carney, Rachel Lyons, Korina Meehan, Meadhbh Caulfield.

Second back row: Caoimhe Coyle, Mary Flynn, Katelyn Concannon, Niamh Flanagan, Sive Duffy, Claire Fahy, Shauna Murray, Dervla Phillips, Michelle Lyons, Megan Morley.

Middle row: Jade Cunnane, Ciara Flanagan, Rebecca Finn, Helen Gallagher, Saoirse Hagney, Kara Niland, Lauren Casey, Chantel Ubazuonu, Áine Duffy, Emma Lyons, Orna Hession, Emer Forde.

Front row: Cassie Niland, Olivia Cleary, Chloe Ryan, Danielle Coyne, Gaby Murphy, Eleanor Harrison, Gráinne Robinson, Saskia Kirrane, Roisín Hussey, Shauna Fleming.

FIRST YEAR BOYS FOOTBALL

SHEILA BRADY AND KELLY DONEGAN

The year started off with a tremendous win for the first year boys against Bellmullet in the Mayo league. The final score saw Ballyhaunis claim victory (6-14 to 3-7). They qualified for the Mayo league final. After this great win they advanced to take on Ballinrobe in the Connacht league which ended in a draw. On a cold morning on the 15th of November the team headed off to face St.Nathy's, Ballaghaderreen in the Mayo league final. Despite a great performance it wasn't to be their day.

The team bounced back in the Connacht league with a great win over their local rivals Kiltimagh, with a score line of Ballyhaunis 4-13 Kiltimagh 1-5. They then faced tough opposition in Ballinrobe for a play off to gain a place in the Connacht league semi-final. It was a close encounter but Ballyhaunis came out on top and they moved forward to the next match. The championship kicked off in the New Year when Ballyhaunis travelled to Elphin to play Carrick- on- Shannon. There was no stopping the lads, as reflected in the final score (Ballyhaunis 6-4 Carrick- on -Shannon 1-0). This win saw them advance into the quarter finals of the Connacht Championship. This was a wonderful achievement.

In early March the team set off to Dunmore to play Mountbellew. This match would decide who was going into the Connacht league and the Connacht championship final. Unfortunately the pressure was too much for the Ballyhaunis boys as Mountbellew took most of the possession, but the score didn't reflect the determination and skill the players showed. It finished with a score of Ballyhaunis 1-8 Mountbellew 5-5. Sadly this great season came to an end. However the team had many high points throughout the year. We would like to thank Mr. McHugh for his hard work throughout the year and for his wise words as a manager. Also, sincere thanks to the 4th year and Transition year students who helped out with both the training and matches.

**Back L-R**

Evan Henry, Conor Hunt, Dylan Ruane, James Keadin, Andrew Hickey, Williams Ganley, Patrick Forde, Evan Fitzmaurice, Cormac Phillips, John Madden, Zouhir Rahmani, Colm O'Gara, Kevin Henaghan, Michael Frayne

Front L- R

Adam Webb, Like Mannion, David Cunnane, Miohammad Nazeer, Keith Forde, Lorcan Ronan, Kevin Neenan, Damien McGowan, Conor Sloyan, Zouhir Rahmani, Eoin Delaney, Liam Herr, Edward Cleary.

1ST YEAR BOYS SOCCER

JAMES LYONS AND SEAN SUTTON

Training started early in October. The squad soon looked very promising under the guidance of Mr.Noone and some of the T.Y. students. The first match was a home match against St.Mary's. The match didn't go to plan and all the hard work didn't pay off. They lost the match (2-1). Liam Herr scored the goal and the whole team played very well for their first match.

Their second match against Clifden ended in a better outcome. The Astroturf pitch in N.U.I.G set the scene for a quick and skilful game of football. David Cunnane headed in a Dylan Ruane corner, but Clifden quickly equalised. Then late on in the match Thomas Maughan scored the winner to leave Mr.Noone and his team delighted with the result. They claimed victory (2-1).

The last game of the league was against a strong St.Muredach's team. David Cunnane again scored the goal but unfortunately the game finished 2-1 to Muredach's. On behalf of the team we would like to thank Mr.Noone for his commitment and dedication throughout the year.



Back row: Cormac Phillips, Dylan Ruane, Evan Henry, John Madden, Joseph Wagacha, Luke Mannion, Damien McGowan, Christopher Bann,

Front Row: David Cunnane, Zouhir Rahmani, Zouhir Rahmani, Kevin Neenan, Alex Adeyinka, Michael Frayne, Liam Herr

1ST YEAR INDOOR SOCCER

THOMAS COLL

As per usual the indoor soccer league was among the most highly anticipated competitions in the 1st years eyes. The first game saw 1A rival 1B. Both sides were eager to win but goals from Mikey Frayne and Keith Ford let 1B advance to the finals. The next game saw 1C playing against 1D. The game was intense from start to finish with great strikes from Zouhir Rahmani and Conor Hunt. However, no team could out-perform the other. Conor scored in the last kick of normal time. Extra time still couldn't separate them and it went to penalties, with a great save from Cormac Phillips. 1D were delighted to advance to the final.

1ST YEAR EXPERIENCES

**JADE CUNNANE, SHAHEEN ASHRAF, LINDIWE DHLAMINI-KNOSI, RORY BOWEN,
CHRISTOPHER BANN, MEADHBH CAULFIELD, CAOIMHE BOYLE**

First year may seem like a big change at first but you quickly get used to it. Nine classes each day may seem long but, it's only 35-40 minutes per class. It usually flies by! The school might seem really big but at the beginning of the year, it's actually small when you get used to it. You can always ask a student or a teacher for directions if you are unsure of what direction to go in. It really helps to have your locker organised so you can find all your books for your classes. Before small break (10:55-11:15 am) there is an assembly with your Year Head. A roll call is taken each day.

At break and lunch (1:10 -1:50 pm) the shop opens to all students and staff. It sells bars, sausage rolls, crisps and drinks. There are lots of different awards like the Merit awards, talent Shows and beep tests. The Merit system rewards student behaviour and commitment to work, while the Talent Show is just for fun. The Beep Test depends on how long your class can run for and when your class wins you get to go somewhere during school. There are also so many different events to enjoy outside of the classroom. These include bake sales, jersey days, skipathons, school tours, lunch time extra-curricular activities and Secret Santa!!!

1ST YEAR TOUR 2012

LAUREN GALLAGHER & JENNY GOLDEN

When Ms. Macken mentioned the 1st year tour to us in March it seemed like years away. But the time flew and before we knew it there was over 90 excited 1st year students (current 2nd years!) waiting to board the bus. When we finally arrived at Westport Woods Hotel, we were divided into groups each getting to do three different activities such as the climbing wall, fencing, trampoline basketball, archery, climbing frame and several other group games. Even the yearheads had a go! Some brave students (Brian O'Neill) completed the climbing wall blindfolded.

Overall we had a wonderful day free from books and school work and 3 long months of holidays to look forward to. On behalf of the year group we would like to thank Ms. Macken, Mrs. Mulroy and Mr. Noone for accompanying us. It was definitely one of the highlights of 1st year.



TWINS



A first for Ballyhaunis Community School. Pictured are 3 sets of twins who began 1st year at Ballyhaunis Community School in 2012. Liam and Aibhinn Herr, Ciara and Niamh Flanagan and Piotr and Maja Cieslikowski, along with Principal Mr. Pat McHugh and 1st Year- Year head Ms. Geraldine O'Loughlin.



CLASS 2A



Back row: Ibrahim Ashraf, Seán Herr, Calum Gardiner, Stefan Forteig, Darren Coyne, Aifobhokhan Ebeleghe.

Middle row: Jennifer Cleary, Daneille Coyne, Claire Fahy, Chloe Greenwood, Abasafynn Ahned, Patrick James Burke, Diarmuid Duffy, Geger Ali Ahmod, Hamza Muhammed Azhar.

Front Row: Joanne Coffey, Ciara Delaney, Laura Gallagher, Jennifer Goulding, Jasmine Chong, Sana Almas, Abigail Adams.

Missing: Jessica Carroll, Dearbhla Phillips, Robert Douglas, Jason Cullinane, Ellen Maughan, Sive Duffy, Liam Foody.

CLASS 2B



Back row: Stephan Morley, Karam Kezze, Tiernan Murphy, Seán Kenny, Caoimhe Lilly, Brian Morley, Gary Higgins, Oisín Lloyd, Michael McGarry.

Middle row: Princess, Aleena Khalid, Saskia Korrane, Gemma Lilly, Eleanor Harrison, Michaela Kilkenny, Korina Meehan, Ellie McDonagh, Rachel Lyons.

Front Row: Nadine Mangan, Michelle Lyons, Katie Henry, Diarmuid Keane, Seán Mannion, Robert Lilly.

Missing: Emma Lyons, Faysal Kezze, Connor Macewan, Martin McDonagh.

CLASS 2C



Back row: Callyn Murphy-Maitland, Eoin Morris, Dylan Niland, Brian O'Neill, Aoife Mulrennan, Jordan Squire, Eamonn Phillips, Adam Hickey, Cian Ruane.

Middle row: William Walsh, Cassie Niland, Shauna Murray, Peace Omotayo, Mudasir Rehman, Patrick Niland.

Front Row: Chloe Naughton, Gaby Murphy, Aisling O'Gara, Laura Mulkeen, Megan Morley, Brendan Waldron.

Missing: Jade Lawrence Crosby, Ellen Maughan, Aisling O'Boyle.

MAYO CAMOGIE REPORT 2012

ELEANOR HARRISON AND RACHEL LYONS

Mayo U-14's had a number of training sessions and were managed by Peter and Aoife Cassidy. We took part in four Connacht blitzes in Oran over the year and were very successful throughout. On September 15th we travelled to Dublin for the All-Ireland competition. We progressed to the semi-final but narrowly lost out to Kerry. We spent the night in Dublin and travelled to Croke Park on the following day to watch the All-Ireland Camogie finals. At half-time of the senior match (Wexford vs Cork) we paraded around the pitch. It was a remarkable experience which we will never forget.

The Mayo U-15's were again managed by Peter and Aoife Cassidy and had a number of training sessions in Tooreen. We travelled to Portlaoise to compete in the All-Ireland blitz. We defeated Roscommon and Cavan but unfortunately lost out to Laois. However, we thoroughly enjoyed the sporting year.

MAYO GIRLS CAMOGIE



Back Row: Danielle Coyne, Eleanor Harrison, Rachel Lyons, Gráinne Robinson.

Front Row: Laura Mulkeen, Ciara Delaney, Orna Hession, Sive Duffy.

RETREATS 2012 - 2013

A 'Retreat' is an opportunity for students to spend a day in the company of classmates, away from school, classes etc. The day usually has a theme – helping students to discover a little bit more about themselves, others and the world.

2ND YEAR RETREAT –

DANIELLE COYNE & CIARA DELANEY

The 2nd year students Retreat day was facilitated by the Youth Ministry team in Knock. "On the 7th February we headed off to Knock at 9am. We walked in and were greeted by Nicola and Helen. We started off the day by playing a game together, after the game we were separated into two groups. Helen told us about her experience in secondary school and how she tried to fit in and how she turned to God. Then we wrote a letter to God which wouldn't be seen by anyone. We then went to Nicola who told us about her experience with bullying. She told us how she turned against her family but then ended up turning to God. Eventually she turned to her family for help.



The informal part of the day - the visit to the local chipper and the long walks around Knock during lunch-break all added to the experience of the day. Part of the retreat day was meeting with young people from Cenacolo – which is a centre for young recovering drug addicts. The young people shared their story of how they fell into the drug trap and how faith has been an important part of their recovery. Afterwards Fr John came to say hello and we said a prayer together. Overall, it was a great day and everyone found it enjoyable.

SECOND YEAR FOOTBALL

MARK PHILLIPS AND STEVEN NOLAN

The second year season started on October 2nd with a tough away game against St. Attracta's, Tubbercurry. In the previous year this team was very successful and were hoping to get off to another good start. Ballyhaunis took the lead early on and at half time were dominating the scoreboard, 4-7 to 2-1.

Ballyhaunis failed to keep up the intensity in the second half and struggled to get the ball out of defence for long periods of time but yet managed to hold onto the lead with an inspirational double-save on the line from centre-forward, Gary Higgins. Cian Ruane and Brian Morley also set the example for the new season with an end scoreline of 5-10 to 4-5.

Ballyhaunis' winning ways could not be replicated in the second game Vs Roscommon CBS on the 16th of October. From the start Ballyhaunis dominated possession but failed to dominate the scoreboard. At the interval 'Haunis found themselves narrowly behind. They hit back in the second half scoring 4-6 with good work from Sean Kenny, Brian Morley and Brian O'Neill but unfortunately this was too little too late losing out by 2 points.

The third league game took place on the 23rd of October against a strong Ballinrobe team. The first home game proved to be a cracker. Although Ballyhaunis commanded the play they failed to convert crucial scoring opportunities they again found themselves trailing by a single score at half time. After an excellent team effort they found themselves one point up with seconds to go, when the 'Robe were awarded a scorable free, was this the equaliser to diminish Ballyhaunis' hopes of victory? Fortunately the reli-

able Ballinrobe Free-taker missed his first free of the day and Haunis emerged victorious!

Ballyhaunis' next match was against Ballaghaderreen in Began on the 2nd of October. The quick surface of the astro-turf was to Haunis' liking, bringing them back to their winning ways, defeating St. Nathy's 5-10 to 4-4.

The championship was quickly approaching and Ballyhaunis, with the help of Hugh Rudden, trained hard. Disaster struck when the all important 1st round of the champion arrived. Brian Morley, Brian O'Neill, Tiernan Murphy, Michael McGarry and Adam Hickey all were not available to play. The depleted team took the field against Athenry on the 1st of February to start their championship campaign for 2013. Unfortunately this proved to be their first and last match. A strong Athenry team ran out easy victors crushing Ballyhaunis' hope of championship success.

On behalf of the Second year football team and Ballyhaunis Community School we would like to thank Jimmy Lyons and Hugh Rudden for their Commitment and enthusiasm throughout the year.



Back left to right: Bobby Douglas, Jason Cullinane, Eoin Morris, Aifo, Cian Ruane, Calum Gardiner, Callyn Murphy, Michael McGarry, Gary Higgins, Eamonn Phillips, Adam Hickey, Mac Angel.

Front left to right: Diarmuid Duffy, Tiernan Murphy, Brian O'Neill, William Walsh, Sean Kenny, Brian Morley, Peace, Sean Herr.

The Under 15 boys started off very well with a victory in their first match of the year which took place on the 14th November 2012. The match was against St. Gerald's in Celtic Park, Castlebar. Great scores from Cathal Carney (2) and Carlton (1) put Ballyhaunis in the lead with a half time score of 3-1. Cathal Carney then got his third goal in the second half and St. Gerald's found it hard to come back. It was a great win for the Ballyhaunis boys with a final score of 4-3.

Their second game took place at home with the boys playing against Headford. The lads didn't get off to such a great start and Headford were up 2-0 at half time. Into the second half the lads picked up their game. Carlton scored the first goal and this gave the lads the boost they needed. With 5 minutes to go Conor Hunt was brought on and he scored the equaliser, making the final score 2-2.

The next match was against St. Muredach's of Ballina in Celtic Park, Castlebar. With very bad weather conditions on the day Tiernan Murphy, Carlton Ubaezuonu, Sean Kenny and Cathal Carney did very well to make the score 4-2 at half time. The defence was excellent for the Ballyhaunis side throughout, with Michael McGarry, Cian Ruane, Niall Dunleavy and Tom Murphy working so well together. Carlton then scored another two goals to make the final score 6-2.

The boys were then through to the Connacht Quarter Final against Summerhill which took place on the 13th March 2013. The lads got off to a magnificent start with Carlton Ubaezuonu and Brian Morley scoring 2 goals in the first few minutes of the game. The first half ended 2-1. Ballyhaunis had an excellent second half and scores by Carlton (2), Gary Higgins and William Walsh meant that the lads would advance to a semi-final.

The Connacht semi-final took place in Ballyhaunis on the 15th of March 2013 against St. Joseph's of Galway. The game started well for Ballyhaunis and Carlton hit the back of the net with a cracker of a shot and managed to get past three St. Joseph defenders. Five minutes after the first goal, Tiernan Murphy also hit the back of the net. The Galway side then came back with a goal nearing the end of the first half. The first half ended 2-1. In the first few minutes of the second half Tiernan Murphy came back with yet another goal. St. Joseph's were eager to make a comeback but they couldn't get past the Ballyhaunis defenders. In the last few minutes of the second half Gary Higgins scored an incredible goal and the game ended 4-1 to Ballyhaunis.

The Connacht A Final took place in Milebush, Castlebar on the 22nd of March 2013 against the Presentation College, Athenry. The game started brilliantly for the Ballyhaunis side with magnificent goals from Cathal Carney and Brian Morley. But the Athenry side were not backing down and came back into the game with 3 goals, making the score 3-2 at half time. The second half began well for Ballyhaunis when Carlton hit the back of the net just minutes into the second half, levelling up the score. The game was nip and tuck as both teams tried their best to get the winning goal. Tiernan Murphy then scored in the last few minutes of the second half and Ballyhaunis were the Connacht champions! The Ballyhaunis side then advanced to the All-

U-15 BOYS SOCCER

Dervla Phillips and Aoife Lill^y

Ireland Semi Final.

The All Ireland Semi Final took place in Sligo I.T. on the 9th of April 2013 against St. Eunan's College, Letterkenny. The opening minutes of the game were very tense with shots at both sides and both teams battled hard. 20 minutes into the game Cathal Carney scored an almighty goal when he managed to get past three St. Eunan's defenders and hit the back of the net. The first half ended 1-0. Ballyhaunis managed to maintain the lead for the second half with great saves from John Cunnane and excellent work in the backs. A victory at this match meant that the lads were through to an All Ireland final!

The All Ireland A final took place in Athlone Town F.C. on the 23rd of April 2013. Ballyhaunis were to play Gorey of Wexford. 250 students travelled from Ballyhaunis who created a great atmosphere on the day. The match started very well for the Haunis boys with great chances up front with shots on goal from Brian Morley and Cathal Carney but were denied by the Gorey keeper. Gary Higgins hit the back of the net in the 10th minute but unfortunately was offside. The Gorey team had numerous chances up front but were saved by John Cunnane. After 15 minutes Gorey got their first goal followed by another 2 goals just minutes later. However the Ballyhaunis side didn't give up and within a few minutes Brian Morley scored, this boosted the lads confidence. Unfortunately Gorey got another goal in the last few minutes of the first half. The first half ended 4-1. The second half started well for the Haunis lads and they tried their best to come back but Gorey got another goal. But the boys didn't give up and were determined to make a come back. Brian Morley got his second goal of the match when he beat three Gorey defenders. The game finished 5-2. It was a great year for the Ballyhaunis U-15's. It was an outstanding achievement to win a Connacht Final and to get to an All-Ireland Final. They done themselves and the entire school and the community proud.

Management: Patrick Noone and Michéal Murphy



Back row: Seán Ruane, Cian Ruane, Aifo Ebeleghe, Brian Morley, Macangel Ubaezuonu, Michael McGarry, John Cunnane, Cathal Carney, Thomas Murphy, Darragh Crawley, Carlton Ubaezuonu.

Front row: Eamonn Phillips, Gary Higgins, Dylan Ruane, Tiernan Murphy, William Walshe, Seán Kenny, Niall Dunleavy, James Reynolds, Shane Crinnigan.

NA BRÍDEOGA CAMOGIE 2012

ELEANOR HARRISON & RACHEL LYONS

Na Brideoga's U-14 started training in early February and were managed by Declan Cox, Marty Harrison and Martina Keadin. We started off the year with a win against Abbeyknockmoy (6-5 to no score).

With a panel of 24, we set off to Dublin on the 5th of July for Féile na nGael. That day we came away with a victory against our host team Ballyboden-St. Enda's (7-7 to no score). The next day we won our second game against Whitehall of Dublin but unfortunately lost in our final game against a team from Westmeath who prevented us from progressing to the All-Ireland semi-final. This was the only match we lost all year.

On July 21st we beat Kilconieron in the Galway County Championship semi-final. Two days later, after an exciting match in Loughrea with a score line of 2-7 to 2-2, we came out victorious against Cappataggle to be crowned Champions. We were welcomed home to a large crowd waiting with bonfires and banners in Tooreen. To add to our success, on the 22nd of September we beat Pearse's of Galway (5-5 to 2-3) to win the Galway North Board final. We were the most successful age group in the club and thoroughly enjoyed the year.



Back Row: Sive Duffy, Jessica Carroll, Lisa O'Connell, Shauna Morley, Sonia Henry, Riona Joyce, Aisling Tarpey, Laura O'Connell.

Front Row: Danielle Coyne, Laura Mulkeen, Ciara Delaney, Eleanor Harrison, Orna Hession, Rachel Lyons, Gráinne Robinson, Megan Morley, Aoife Nolan.

BADMINTON

Badminton training has taken place at lunchtime on Mondays this year, supervised by Mr. Shannon. The sport has proven to be extremely popular with both juniors and seniors – with students even practically at the back of the court waiting for their turn to play.

On Friday March 15th, over 30 students set off early in the morning for the Galway Lawn tennis club, where the Connacht division C Badminton finals were held. Ballyhaunis delivered five capable teams: two U-16 boys team and a U-16 girls team and two U-19 boys team. The senior boys U-19 "A" team enjoyed a successful run of matches, beating Coleman's "D" in the Quarter final, only to be narrowly beaten on points to Dun more in the Semi-final. All players competed to a high standard and did Ballyhaunis proud on the day.



BCS GOLF



Pictured are: Evan Henry, Joseph Lyons, Conor Lyons, Oisín Henry, Cian Henry.

SCÓR NA NÓG

MICHAELA DURKIN

As 2012 was nearing its end, for myself and the other members of the Aghamore ballad group what would be an unforgettable year was only beginning. After ten years together competing in the Scór na nÓg traditional music and dance competition, for three of us, myself, Michaela and Sinead, it would be our last. After gliding through the first two rounds of the competition unopposed, our first test came at the county final. Luckily we added a seventh county title to our list of accolades and with no time to waste preparations were being made for Connaught.

Determined to go out with a bang, we enlisted some expert help and it was back to the TF for a second year in a row. Against stiff competition from around the province we finally secured a provincial victory along with the set dancers also from Aghamore and after short celebrations our next stop would be the

RTE studios in Donnybrook, where a whole different leg of our journey would begin and end. Similar although separate to the Scór na nÓg competition, 'Scor Encore', a traditional talent show run by TG4 was another experience I am sure we will never forget. Despite being unsuccessful, it was an exceptional accomplishment to be able to roam the halls of RTE rubbing shoulders with the famous!

On the 23rd of February with our television experience over us it was off to Derry for the much awaited All Ireland finals. With worn out voices and a new guitar we descended on 'The Venue' where nerves and tensions were very much present. After a final performance on a Scór na nÓg stage the results were eagerly awaited and with such a high standard it would be a close call. Much to our surprise, we really did go out with a bang, and added a final achievement to our names, this time as All Ireland Champions! Although the dancers were not victorious, we have no doubt that they'll be back again next year for their share of All Ireland glory. A huge thanks has to go out to all who have supported us and helped us, not only this year but throughout the years- our parents, Rosario Heaney, Grainne Kelly-Frayne, Brian Duffy and Bord na nÓg, Aghamore GAA, Mrs. Devine and all our friends and families who travelled to Derry to support us.



PLC CLASS

Pictured are:

Back row-Conor Fitzgerald, Vytautas Kaminskas, Carole Keane, Kathryn Trias, Manal Kezze, Roisin McDonagh, Mrs. Bernadine Waldron.

Front row-Galina Georgieva, Paula Grogan, Yana Jurakova.



CLASS 3A



Back Row : Thomas Connell, James Cribbin, Killian Brehony, Rebecca Bowen, Orla Cleary, Cathal Brady, Stephen Collins, Darragh Crawley.

Middle Row: Fraz Ahmed, Kieran Lawrence Crosby, Oisín Coffey, John Cassidy, Seán Carrick, Azad Ali Ahmed, Radek Cerevenak, Adrian Boyle, Piarais Caulfield.

Front Row: Huma Arshad, Emer Daniel- Dempsey, Kaitlyn Clarke, Sarah Behan, Hina Ali.

Missing: Daniel McCormack.

CLASS 3B



Back Row: John Cunnane, Sinéad Horan, Maura Forde, Amy Giblin, Hayley Conroy, Damien Egan, Aleksandras Graciovas.

Middle Row: Daniel Greally, Oisín Henry, Niall Dunleavy, Radoslaw Grezdzinski, Padraic Duffy, Tommy Folliard, Barry Forde, Shane Cribbin, Shane Crinnigan.

Front Row: Meadhbh Glavey, Claudia Glavey, Roisín Fitzmaurice, Leanne Henry.

Missing: Niall Fitzgerald, Milena Gawlowska, Lewis Gourlay, Dylan Maughan.

CLASS 3C



Back Row: Michael Hill, Matthew Grogan, Cian Henry, Carlton Ubaezuonu, Aiden Henry, James Lyons, Darragh Hunt.

Middle Row: Patrick Keadin, Saoirse Caulfield, Anna Khromova, Serena McLoughlin, Katie McKay, Shannon Keadin, Sorcha McNamara.

Front Row: Hassan Mahmood, Emer Kiely, Laura Lavin, Roisín Byrne, Cathal Carney, Mohammad Zaid Gulzar.

Missing: Riona Kearney, Conor Lenehan.

CLASS 3D



Back Row: Jahangeer Javaid, Martin Mulkeen, Sean Ruane, Robert Naughton, Thomas Murphy, Robert McCormack, Cormac Reidy.

Middle Row: James Reynolds, Roisín Ní Shuilleabháin, Shona Niland, Lucy Moss, Katie Moran, Zuzan Ali Ahmed, Tayba Muneer, Hillary Phillips.

Front Row: Aoife Nolan, Kamil Maliszewski, Ciara Mulkeen, Aimee Regan, Chantelle McDonagh, Chloe McNulty, Claire O'Gara.

Missing: Liam Cregg, Davina Morris.

CLASS 3E



Back Row: Freddie Kemp, Brendan Morrissey, Muhammad Shoaib Younas, Jonathan Ryan.

Middle Row: Mazhar Tayyab, Kevin Tighe, Brian Waldron, Emma Rowley, Demi Walsh Greally, David Webb, Aaron Peake.

Front Row: Jiya Ali, Catherine Quinn, Rebecca Walsh, Barbora Vichtova, Sarah Skeffington.

Missing: Danil Spicyn, Conor Wallace.

3RD YEAR SOCCER COMPETITION

CATHAL BRADY AND OISIN COFFEY

As part of our third year fundraiser we decided to have a soccer league to raise money for charity.

There were five teams 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D and 3E. In the first round 3A and 3C played each other and the winner would go into the next round along with the other three teams.

It was a very tight game from start to finish. Azad Ali scored for 3A just before half time. Midway through the second half James Lyons leveled for 3C and both teams held on for a draw. The game was decided on penalties. Azad Ali stepped into goal for 3A and Darragh Hunt for 3C. Darragh Hunt took 3C's last penalty and was denied by Azad Ali which gave 3A the win.

In the first semi-final 3B played 3D. 3D had the better team on paper had the most possession on the field. However some missed chances by 3D and a diving header from Niall Dunleavy to gave 3B the win. Some credit has to be given to John Cunnane for an outstanding performance in goal where he pulled off some magnificent saves.

The other semi was to be played between 3A and 3E. The game started with some tense moments as both sides tried to break the deadlock. Soon 3A's Cathal Brady scored the opener. From that moment 3A were cruising and it was not long before James Cribbin finished a rebound from 3E keeper Shoaib Younas. After the half time interval it was clear it was

clear that 3E had a serious half time team talk as they came back out with all guns blazing. 3E soon had an opening chance at goal from a risky kick out from 3A keeper Oisín Coffey which maizer rebounded to hit the post. 3A's Stephen Collins punished this mistake with another smashing goal. 3A held on for a 3-0 win.

The final was played on the Wednesday before the Easter Holidays. 3A and 3B took to the pitch on a miserably wet and windy day. Both teams knew it was going to be a close encounter. 3A broke the deadlock with a fine finish from James Cribbin to get his third goal of the competition. A short time after Cathal Brady scored for 3A. The first half ended with 3A two nil up. 3B came back out at half time fighting for the win. A few minutes into the second half James Cribbin this time with an own goal. This gave some confidence to 3B. However Stephen Collins scored another goal for 3A. 3B showed their mettle and they did not give up, they kept plugging away but unfortunately they suffered a blow again as Tomas Connell scored a goal in the dying moments to give 3A a convincing win. When the final whistle blew 3A won on a score line of 4 - 1. They were delighted to have won the competition. We would like to thank all the RE teachers that allowed this to go ahead and to organise it for us.



3RD YEAR RETREAT –

ROISIN NI SHUILLEABHAIN

Last November third year students visited Ballintubber Abbey for their annual retreat. This retreat to Ballintubber Abbey has become a highlight of the third year calendar. In fact, it has become legendary and we couldn't wait to go.

We left bright and early in the morning and when we arrived we were impressed by the idyllic setting of Ballintubber Abbey. As we walked through the narrow gates and carefully picked our way passed the graves, we took note of the Abbey itself. We were instantly struck by its medieval beauty and its neatly kept grounds. Straight away, we knew we were somewhere different. As we were ushered quickly into the warmth and comfort of the chapel by Fr. Fahey, we were given a short summary of the history of the Abbey. We were accompanied up into the retreat room above the church and were generously given a cup of tea and several biscuits. As we sat down, tea in hand, we all could sense we had a great day ahead of us.

The retreat began with an exercise designed to help us discover our inner selves! My friends and I cowered with embarrassment

when we were asked to read our own opinions to our class. We were put on the spot, but everyone grew in confidence as we spoke aloud. We were all asked to unravel an imaginary mask that we put on to hide our true personalities in order to fit in with our peers. We also discussed the evolution of man and how each and every one of us is unique. After lunch we took part in the Tohar walk. The Tohar walk is a pilgrim walk from Ballintubber Abbey to the peak of Croagh Patrick. Thankfully, we only walked 2 miles of it. But those two miles were unforgettable!

Dressed in water-proof gear and our "flower power" wellies we waded through pools of water. We slipped, slid and splashed through the mud, helping each other out of each and every tricky situation. The walk really strengthened friendships and made our year group even closer. After the walk, we had a brief discussion on how fun, friendship and God can transform us. It was an enlightening experience and really made us think about ourselves and our relationships with others and with God. After the long journey home, everyone was exhausted after our exciting and eventful day. We all truly enjoyed our retreat and it was more than worthwhile. I can confidently say that third years will eagerly anticipate future retreats.



The 3A class of CSPE students organised a member of the Irish army to come to visit our class for our action project. We invited in a past pupil Mr Byrne. We were all excited on the day and it was

a great success as we learned a lot from him about the life of a cadet in the Irish army and their missions. We also learnt about the requirements and training involved. It was great fun as we took turns trying on his army equipment. The time went to fast but it was very enjoyable and we are happy that everything went so well. We hope we do as well in our CSPE results for our junior cert.

3A CSPE ACTION PROJECT

SARAH BEHAN



3B CSPE ACTION PROJECT

MEADHBH GLAVEY, NIAL DUNLEAVY AND PADRAIC DUFFY

T.D's, Farmers and Lots More!!!!

As third years, 60% of our C.P.S.E Junior Certificate is made up of an Action Project. This year our class of 3.B decided to do a project on Democracy, which resulted in a visit to Dáil Éireann. Our project involved a lot of work and commitment. Our class had to be divided into five committees. The Research Committee, The Organising Committee, The Day of The Visit Committee, The Record of The Visit Committee and The Thank You Committee. These were our five dedicated committees. Each student in their committees had an important role to play. After our preparation was completed we were ready to roll! On the day of our visit we were ecstatic! We got the shock of our lives when we turned the corner and saw 15,000 farmers protesting outside the gates of the Dáil. It really added to the excitement of the day because we got to witness a protest in action, which was a perfect example of Democracy in our country. After soaking up the atmosphere, we were greeted by John O'Mahony's secretary who brought us into the Dáil. In Leinster House we met John O'Mahony, where we presented him with a Mayo flag signed by our class of 3B. He was very hospitable towards us and made us feel very welcome. We were then given a tour, which opened our eyes to the history of our country. We saw Enda Kenny and other T.Ds in the chamber. We saw the Seanad, portraits of retired Taoisigh and other historic icons of the Leinster House including the original copy of The Proclamation of The Irish Republic.

Overall, our trip to the Dáil was an immense success. We learned so much about the Dáil and the history of our country. It gave us the best possible chance to achieve 60% in our C.S.P.E. Action Project. We would definitely recommend this Action Project to future classes. Our experience will never be forgotten. On behalf of class 3B we would like to thank our teacher Ms. Mooney for all the work, dedication and time she put into our Action Project, solely for our benefit. We are truly grateful.

3E CSPE ACTION PROJECT

SARAH SEFFINGTON

Our CSPE class, 3E organised a visit from a member of An Garda Síochána. We had a busy time working in our committees but the work paid off. Everything ran smoothly on the day of the talk. The welcome committee met Garda Murphy and escorted him to our classroom. He was an excellent speaker as we all listened attentively. He spoke about his background and qualifying as a Guard and training in Templemore College in Tipperary. He showed us his baton and his badge. We were all very impressed by him as he was a past pupil of Ballyhaunis Community School. We learnt a lot from the action project and Garda Murphy and we also had great fun. He could have inspired many of us to become Guards in the future.



Back Row L to R: James Cribben, Tom Murphy, Sean Carrick, Thomas Connell, John Cunnane, Calum Gardiner, Cathal Carney, Robert McCormack, Darragh Hunt, Stephen Collins, Cian Ruane, Padraic Duffy, Darragh Crawley and James Lyons.

Front Row L to R: Oisín Henry, Aiden Henry, Carlton Ubazuonu, Sean Ruane, James Reynolds, Robert Naughton, Azad Ali, Patrick Keadin, Eamonn Phillips, Liam Cregg, Brian O' Neill, Michael McNieve and Cian Henry.

JUVENILE BOYS FOOTBALL

The Juvenile Boys started their season with high hopes as they had a large panel that had talent in abundance. They had the advantage of having a highly experienced management team in the form of Mr. McDonagh and Jimmy Lyons.

They kicked off their season with a County Semi-Final match against Foxford having already been given a bye in the quarter final. It proved to be a difficult match with nothing to separate the teams at half time. But Ballyhaunis came out in the second half and fought for every ball. Their inspirational play helped them slowly pull away from Foxford as the match progressed. The match ended Ballyhaunis 3-8 Foxford 1-4, with Cathal Carney scoring an impressive 1-4.

They played St. Louis Community school in the final at the start of 2013. They went into the match with great expectations, but Kiltimagh managed to narrowly see off Ballyhaunis with the match ending 5-10 to 4-10.

After their great win against Foxford they faced a stern opposition in the league when they played St. Louis Community School Kiltimagh but their fine form prevailed as Ballyhaunis ran out winners on a score-line of 2-9 to 5-10. They then continued their unbeaten run with an impressive win over Rice College Westport. It finished Ballyhaunis 4-10 Rice College Westport 3-6. This win qualified them for a league semi-final.

In the first round of the championship, the Juvenile team finally met their match when they played Roscommon CBS. Even though they were missing 5 key players, Ballyhaunis gave it everything and displayed some flashes of brilliance but they surrendered bravely and were beaten 2-9 to 1-6. But there were lots of positives to be taken from the defeat.

As this publication went to print the Juvenile team were waiting to play in the League final.

The entire Juvenile team would also like to express their appreciation to Mr. McDonagh and Jimmy Lyons for taking on the role of managing them this year.

ATHLETICS – REPORT

CAROL FREELEY AND ANNA DOHERTY.

On the 30th of April 2013 the athletics team set off to Sligo IT to compete in the Regional Track and Field Championships. 34 students from B.C.S were representing the school in many events such as 100m, 200m, 800m, 1500m, 4x100m relay, 75mx80m hurdle, shot putt, long jump, triple jump and the javelin. Our Minor relay team were in flying form and got through to the Connacht final these students were Orna Hession, Roisin Hussey, Marina Carney and Shauna Fleming.

Lauren Casey and Michael O'Rourke both got through in the 800 metres.

In the Shot putt Chantel Uba, Cassie Niland, Callyn Murphy and Martin Mc Donagh all qualified for the next round. Brian O'Neil qualified for the 1500 metres. Martin Mc Donagh also qualified for the Javelin. Morgan Lyons got through to the finals in both the 100 and 200 metres. Sean Carrick qualified for both the 100 metres

and the long jump with an excellent clear jump of 580m. Rachel Lyons got through in the Triple Jump.

Well done to everyone who competed in this day out and we would like to say our sincere thanks to Mr. Wooley for all the help and support he provided for the team



Back Row : Cassie Niland, Sean Carrick, Morgan Lyons, Michael O'Rourke, Brian O'Neill, Callyn Murphy.

Front Row : Orna Hession, Marina Carney, Roisin Hussey, Shauna Flemming, Lauren Casey, Chantel Uba.

It all began on the 11th of February 2012 when we all sleepily boarded the bus to Dublin at 3am. There was great excitement!!! We departed Dublin at 10 am, arriving in Zurich at 1 pm. However, our journey wasn't over yet, as we had a long drive from Switzerland to Austria! When we arrived in our hostel we were all wrecked. We got our rooms (which were AMAZING) and needless to say, we were asleep in no time. On the first day we received our schedule. At around half seven we were rudely woken up by our alarm clocks (a.k.a our teachers!!). At 9 am we set off up the mountain, where we met our ski instructors. We were all divided into groups. When all our gear was on we hit the slopes! We were like a set of dominoes...

By day two, we were PROS (not!). After an eventful day of falling down the slope, much to the amusement of the teachers, we were wrecked!

Days three and four on the slopes were brilliant, we were getting used to the whole experience (unlike some of the teachers!) and we were reluctant to leave. Our ski instructors (Petra, Norbert, Nikolai and others) presented us with certificates to highlight our brilliance! We said our final goodbyes and set off back to the hostel. We had some hilarious experiences up on the slopes, involving people falling, crashing into each other, falling down black slopes and

AUSTRIA 2012

CLAIRE MORAN & VIKTORIJA KONOVALCIUK

terrifying the locals and their children!

Each night we had a different treat. On our first night, being treated with a lovely dinner, we went to an ice-skating rink to perfect our falling technique even further. We met some locals and had the craic with them! On the second night we did something we were relatively better at...bowling! It was Valentine's Day and love was in the air! On our 3rd night, night some of us went swimming which was a nice change from the cold! Between day 3 and day 4 we had 3 birthdays to celebrate and the celebrations went on all night, much to the dismay of the teachers!

We were sad to leave, but home was calling! As most of us slept in after our crazy last night, panic ensued, as we all rushed to pack our bags, clean our rooms and get ready for leaving. Before we went to the airport, we got one last treat...We were brought to a shopping centre! We bought all our gifts, and we were ready to go home! On behalf of all the students, we would like to thank Mr McGarry for organising this amazing trip and Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Brogan, Ms. Varden, Mr. Murray, Ms. Comer, Mr. Quinn and Mrs. Keane, all of whom came along to keep us out of trouble! We had a great time with them!



VISIT OF MICHEÁL MARTIN

Micheal Martin – recent visit to Mayo included a visit to Ballyhaunis Community School. Pictured l-r: Damien Ryan, Lisa Chambers, Concepta Moran – Deputy Principal, Micheal Martin, Pat McHugh – Principal and Dara Calleary

CREATIVE WRITING

ASIA TAYYAB

Because I Can

Because when a heart full of fear,
Extricates your mind like a shooting spear,
Causing you to make reckless decisions,
And see the non-existent visions.
Unsure of what lies ahead,
Saying "on dreams I have fed,"
Excitement rushes through you at the speed of light,

Ingenious patterns of thoughts form,

Catching fire and water in a fight,
Attacking minds with a storm,
Nothing makes sense when the world is black and white.

Frozen In Eternity

"I'm sorry for your loss,"
is what they said while
gently patting me on my arm.

And that is when I saw,
the grief, terrible grief,
Crawling slowly up my arm
Infectiously.

It was black.
A demonic black
threatening to consume me.
I avoid it
by looking at the white casket
where she lay,
Stiff, frozen in eternity.

The grief continues to crawl
over my shoulder and up my neck.
I shiver.
The white roses that appeared
so pure before,
Now drip the tears of sorrow
in tiny little droplets.

"Mommy I want to see," says a child,
jumping into his mother's arms.
I stare at him,
Wanting to scream out that
she is not a show-piece.
I want to call my mother too
but the words are stuck like a lump
in my throat. She can't hear me.
She won't ever hear me -because-
She is stiff, frozen in eternity.

The grief smothers me,
making everything appear black and grey,

But she remains pale.

She is stiff, frozen in eternity.

BALLYHAUNIS RUGBY CLUB

JOE LYONS & STEVEN NOLAN

Ballyhaunis R.F.C has been part of rugby in Connacht for over thirty years and currently fields an adult team in the Connacht Junior League. The underage structure continues to grow with age grade teams fielding at under 17, under 16, under 15, under 13 and minis. Ballyhaunis RFC is committed to developing its players, coaches and facilities with the help of its dedicated membership.

Senior rugby

The Ballyhaunis Senior rugby team have recently been promoted to J1B after winning the Connacht J1C title last year. Mark Sutton, Tom McDonagh and Shane Healy have recently made their way into the senior panel.

*J1B= Junior 1B

U17 rugby

The U17 rugby team has finished midway down the table as they came across much strong opposition like Castlebar and Westport.

U16 rugby

Ballyhaunis U16's are currently in the semi final of the Connacht U16 cup. They recently defeated Tuam 35-22. They will play the winners of a Monivea/Connemara quarter final .We wish them every success in this tournament.

U15 rugby

the U15 team finished in fourth position in the league .They have had impressive victories over Carrick on Shannon and Gort.

U13 rugby

This U13 team finished strongly in their league .Beating many tough teams like Monivea and Galwegians. With many young talented players and skilful plays, they managed to draw only one game in the league to a sturdy Tuam team. They have not lost a game this season.

Thanks to all the players who came out in bad weather conditions and thanks to our managers who stuck with us throughout the year.



Back row l/r :Thomas Coll,Darren Maloney,Cathal Brady,Martin McDonagh,Thomas Connell,Andrew Hickey,James Lyons,Adam Hickey.

Middle row l/r :Shane Healy,Darragh Crawley,Joseph Lyons,Martin Mulkeen,Piarais Caulfield,Darragh Hunt,Oisin Coffey ,Sean Gildea,Dave Lilly (coach).

Front row l/r : Conor Coll,Brian O'Neil,Williams Ganley,Michael Freyne,Conor Sloyan,Conor Hunt,Cormac Phillips,Evan Henry.

Missing from photo: Mark Sutton,Sean Sutton ,Tom McDonagh.

GREEN SCHOOLS

ANNA DOHERTY & LYNETTE DUFFY



Pictured are: Lisa Morley, James Lyons, Maria Waldron.

The green schools committee was formed this year and it was decided that the team would be made up of transition year students, with the help of Mrs. Brogan recycling centres were reimbursed in each area from the previous year. This was made up of a two recycling bins and a waste bin. Posters were made, making people aware of what the contents of what should be in each bin (eg. Tetra packs and plastic drinks bottles) and rotas were assigned to each area. Every day after lunch 2 students organise the bins in their own area, this consists of making sure the contents of each bin is suitable, the recycling bins are then brought to the assembly area where it is emptied.

Composting is also a big part of our green schools program and this is most prominent in the Home Economics classes, where any suitable waste such as vegetable and fruit peels teabags etc. are emptied into a separate bin. This waste when fully decomposed is then used as a valuable soil conditioner and fertilizer in our school garden. We have also along with the help of the science department planted 30 trees outside. This is the "Trees for Schools Project" and is funded by the Native Woodland Trust. The 30 trees that were granted to our school included a selection of native Irish trees such as oak, alder, hawthorn and hazel in an effort to increase the native tree count in Ireland. Since embarking on the Green School

Program the landfill bins have reduced dramatically and the recycling process has greatly improved. The compost has been very helpful as the poor weather this year left soils lacking in nutrients that were essential in the growing of plants and crops. As we are all conscious of the ever growing problem of global warming, this is an achievement we are very proud of and hope to continue this program in the school in the future!

SHOE BOX APPEAL 2013

O MACKEN

This year students and staff at BCS contributed 70 shoeboxes to the annual Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal. It's amazing what a simple gift-filled shoebox can do for a child in need. It can put a smile on a face, it can make a child feel loved, it can bring such joy into difficult circumstances. The boxes collected this year were sent all over the world including faraway places including: Romania, Transnistria, Eastern Croatia, Moldova, Ukraine, Albania, Burundi, Congo, Lesotho, Swaziland, Rwanda.

The shoeboxes bring hope, happiness and a little of God's love into desperate situations and it helps us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Well done to everyone who helped out.



SACRED SPACE

BALLYHAUNIS COMMUNITY SCHOOL GAA AWARDS 2013

Ballyhaunis Community School held its Ladies GAA awards ceremony on Thursday, May 9th. Players at all levels were congratulated for representing the school with pride and distinction and were wished good luck for next year's campaigns. The Senior Ladies Panel were acknowledged for reaching the Connacht Semi-final this year. The team put in a big effort but unfortunately it as not to be this year. Medals were presented to the Senior team members. In particular the Leaving Cert players Fiona Brady, Aisling Tarpey, Sonia Henry, Shauna Morley, Riona Joyce, Lisa O'Connell and Anne O'Gara were thanked for their contribution to Ladies GAA during their time in the school. All were wished well in their upcoming exams and wished every success in the future and to continue to fly the flag for Ladies GAA.

**Awards were made to players for their outstanding performances in their particular grade.
They were as follows:**

First Year Player of the Year:	Orna Hession
Junior Player of the Year:	Rachel Lyons
Most committed Junior Player of the Year:	Eleanor Harrison
Senior Player of the Year:	Aisling Tarpey
Most committed Senior Player of the Year:	Sonia Henry

Well done to all involved.



Pictured are Rachel Lyons, Orna Hession and Eleanor Harrison receiving their awards with Ms. Mary Mooney and Ms. Bernie Osgood (trainers) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal).



Pictured are Aisling Tarpey and Sonia Henry receiving their awards with Ms. Orla Macken (trainer) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal).

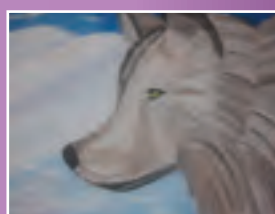
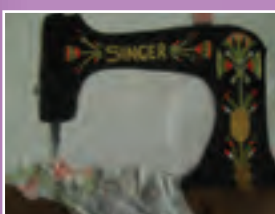
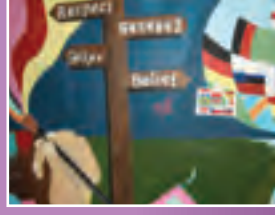
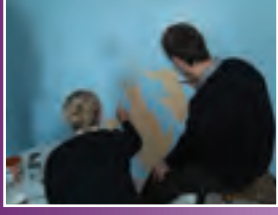
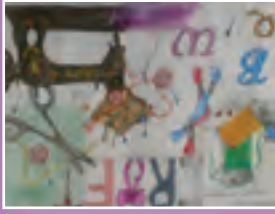
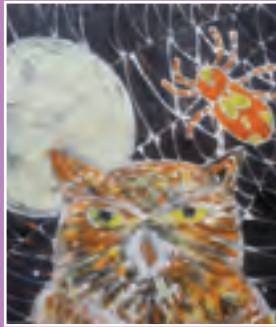
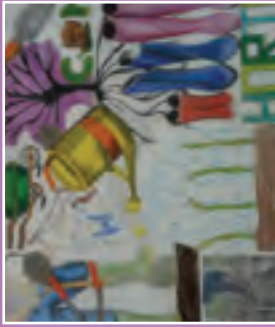
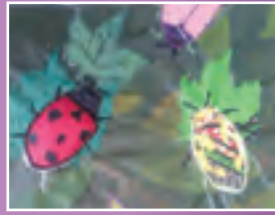


Pictured are the Senior Ladies GAA team who were Connacht 'C' runners up in 2013 with Ms. Orla Macken (trainer) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal).

TRANSITION YEAR



BCS ARTWORK



[illegible]

LEAVING CERT/MEMORY LANE



WELL BOWSERS...

Killary: Our Killary adventure began on Wednesday the 19th of September. Everyone was buzzing with excitement and we couldn't wait to start the journey. Colms timeless classics such as 'Wagon wheel' echoed around the bus. We stocked up on supplies in Westport and off we went to Killary.

We weren't long in Killary when Colm began being the "hard man" he is, he tried to impress the Claremorris ladies by doing a pull-up on the curtain railing and along with himself fell to the ground. Our first activity was an 11km run through bog, river and mud. It included a 25ft jump and many other obstacles. We had evening activities that night. On the 2nd day, we started off with laser tag and following then we did some kayaking and gorge walking with was a 'splash' with dreamy Rob. That evening Doogie showed us how to play the game Mafia which Tcoll proved to be a pro at. Then we went off to our rooms where we waxed shaved and dyed hair from ALL over the body!! On the final day, Joe led the way on the high pole but wasn't so tough when he reached the top!! Meanwhile you could hear Ash and Kelly blasting out the famous 'Listen' with their angelic voices. These activities concluded our memorable trip to Killary. We would like to thank Ms. Henry and Mr. Wooley (come on raaay) for bringing us on this unforgettable journey.

Turlough House: We broadened our artistic horizons with a trip to Turlough house. We were brought around the beautiful Turlough surroundings however things turned ugly when Steven and Tcoll took their playful wrestling a bit too far and Ollie got into a confrontation with the shopkeeper!! He was deeply angered when the shopkeeper wouldn't let him eat his homemade sandwiches and came out with his famous line 'I am SO mad'. When all differences were put aside, we weaved bird sculptures out of willow. We would like to thank Mr. Pratt and Ms. Lennons for bringing us and we brought our bird's home to add to our artistic display.

Western Care: Each year the Transition year students hold a Christmas party for Western Care. We sang Christmas songs on their arrival. We then had then had songs performed by Claudia Glavey, Oisin Coffey and Damien McGowan, Michael Waldron, Michal O'Rourke and Carol Freeley. Davog Freyne then provided some traditional Irish music. After the talented showcase we had refreshments for everyone and we all had a bit of a dance. To the end of the party we surprised everyone by giving out Christmas presents which filled the room with smiles!! We would like to thank Ms. Glavey, Ms. Macken and Ms. Murphy for hosting the event.

Liverpool: The day had finally arrived, the annual TY trip overseas. Carol tried to bring illegal substances (deodorant) through security but was stopped and nearly put in the cell along with her wingmen Kelly and Dervla who got thoroughly searched. After this commotion, we headed off on the plane to our destination singing chants galore!

At last we arrived in Liverpool, and straight to the shops we went. The huge shopping centre made us work up an appetite and we of course had to dine in the famous "Nando's". Tom decided to broaden his taste buds asking for the hottest dish, this was to prove a difficult challenge for Tom to eat "Aye Nolan I'm f***ing sweating". We saved Hollister for last, where Ollie was easily mistaken numerous times as being a model! We had shopped till we dropped and we headed to the bus. However it was typical of McGarry to come back LATE and TIPSy with Ms. Henry carrying the lightweight to the bus. Carol did a great job on the tour guide showing us the "London Eye" in Liverpool!! And Ollie joined her showing us "Big Ben".

After a short journey, we arrived at our hotel. We all rushed to our rooms and Ashling and Aoife got great excitement when they discovered they were interconnecting with Tom. It wasn't long before the boys caused uproar by locking themselves out of the room...half naked (top half, thank god!). We relived our childhood playing the old classic 'Blinds man buff' yet things got ugly Tom hit Anna, Davog hit Tom and Kelly nearly put poor James to an early grave. We then put our architectural skills to the test building forts

although some of us were gassy (Tom) and it stank out the fort. On the way to bed after a tiring day, some of us got our rooms mixed up and were quite surprised when entering their room they faced a well built man just in his undergarments!!

We were up bright and early the next morning to head to Alton Towers! Nerves were amongst many of us dreading such rides as the Oblivion and Nemesis. We all headed to the famous Oblivion, emotions were high on the way up and some tears were shed. However once done we all wanted to go on it again. Suttu was in his element when we went to the throwing games, with his powerful muscles and "accurate" aim. We then eagerly went to the haunted house where Steven emerged victorious killing zombies. Colm decided to impress the English girls on the log flume next by showing his amazing 6-pack unfortunately no 6 pack was to be seen. On the way home everyone was wrecked after the exciting day apart from Carol who proceeded to wave at every truck!

Everyone was peckish and a few decided to venture a 25 minute walk to the shop to buy supplies such as Lucozade and tattoos! The other lazy few stayed in the lobby having the bants with McGarry and Henry! When everyone was together again, Tom being Tom started the mature topic among youth of today...American Politics. After the tiring day we all headed to bed early.

Next morning we all were eating breakfast when we had to go, but where was Colm and Tom someone asked? They were no where to be seen.. Of course the zombie eyed lads were still snug like a toastie in their bed. Carol took the role of waking the boys up, but was mentally scared when she took the covers off Tom to see him lying there...naked. When everyone was woken up we headed to Anfield. We had great and historic tour around the stadium and it converted Ms. Henry to support them. We also waved goodbye to Tom there. All sad about leaving we went to the airport. No one had any energy left from all the craic we had. We had such an unforgettable trip, we will always remember this in our hearts. We would like to give a huge thanks to Ms. Henry and Mr. McGarry for making this happen. What better way could Mr. McGarry have spent his 16th birthday!!

Fundraisers: Throughout the year we had many fundraisers. These included Jersey Day on the 21st September to celebrate Mayo getting in the All-Ireland which was hugely contributed. We held a first year fancy dress halloween disco which was great fun for all the new first years! We also held the yearly Talent Show for 1st & 2nd years which the talented Damien McGowan was crowned winner. We also raised a lot of money when we did a bag pack in Londis the weekend before Christmas. We thank everyone for their co-operation. We were very proud that the U-15 soccer team got into the All-Ireland and to celebrate this we made bands and sold them for a euro each, they were all sold out very quickly and we thank everyone for the support.

Trips: During TY we went on many trips, including, Physco Spaghetti, Grease, Road Safety, Aran Islands, Religious retreats and many others. We would like to thank all the teachers involved in these trips as they added to our TY experience.

Acknowledgements: We would like to give huge thanks to:

Ms. Henry for co-ordinating the year, Mr. McHugh, Ms. Moran, Ms. Macken, Ms. Murphy, Gerry Glavey, Ms. Mooney, Mr. Dennedy and Scoil Iosa, Mary Theresa Brennan and Brickens Community Home, Rita London, Helen Kiely and the friary crèche, Marion Biesty and the MSCPA, Tracy McDermott and the friary Resource centre, Liz and the friary preschool, Mr. Wooley, Mr. McGarry, Ms. Glavey, Ms. Lennon, Ms. Devine and all Ty teachers, Fr. Farragher and Londis for hosting our Bag Pack. Also everyone who accommodated us for work experience overall. And also the students for helping our fundraisers to be a success.

TRANSITION YEAR



Back row: Joseph Lyons, Seán Sutton, Davóg Frayne, James Lyons, Niall Robinson, Colm Ronan, Steven Nolan, Evan Coyne, Mark Phillips.

Front row: Aoife Lilly, Sheila Brady, Dervla Phillips, Anna Doherty, Lynette Duffy, Grace Worden, Aoife Murray, Ashling Lynskey, Kelly Donegan, Carol Freeley.

WESTERN CARE CHRISTMAS PARTY

C. MURPHY / O. MACKEN

On Dec 13th the T.Y. students continued the long tradition in our school of organising a Christmas party for the staff and service users of Western Care. Western Care is a voluntary organisation that supports people who have learning and associated disabilities.

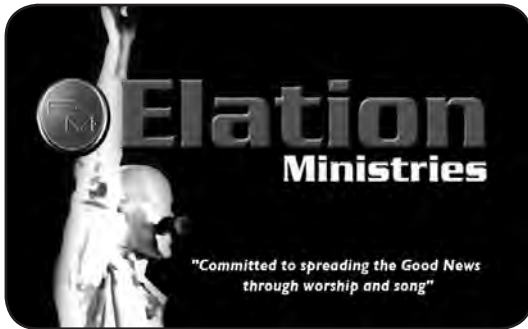
Much preparation went into organising the new and bigger venue – the Parochial Hall and transforming it into a festive venue for the afternoon. The students organised refreshments and loads of goodies for our visitors. There was even a surprise visit from our very own Santa Clause who had gifts for all our invited guests. Many thanks to all the musicians, dancers, sean nos dancers as well as the participants from the school's Talent Show. Our T.Y. students did the school proud. They were very welcoming and courteous to the staff and service users from Western Care who were impressed and delighted with the afternoon. Well done T.Y's and to all the students who provided entertainment for the afternoon.

'MOVING OF CENTRE'

Western Care moved to a new premises during the year. To mark the ending of their time in the centre located close to our school students were invited to attend a special prayer service. Mrs. Devine and the school choir really enhanced the service



KNOCK SHRINE HOSTS TRANSITION YEAR/4TH YEAR STUDENTS



Knock Shrine organised a day in Knock for all TY and 4th year students in the Tuam Archdiocese to celebrate the Year of Faith. The goal of the Year of Faith is to renew the faith of Catholics all over the world.

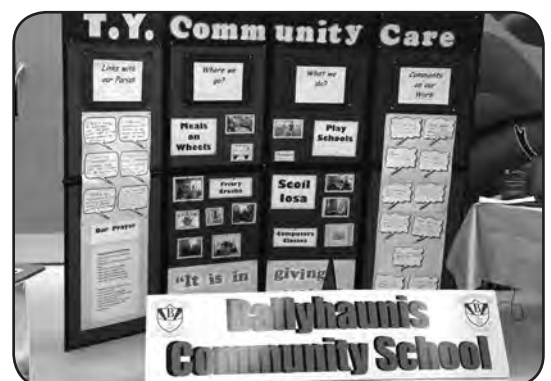
The day was held on Wednesday, February 6th. The day consisted of talks, music, prayer and mass. Archbishop Michael Neary addressed the gathering with many schools from the diocese represented including 20 students from BCS. Music was provided by Elation Ministries - a rock group who really brought the day to life, everyone was up on their feet enjoying the music. A great day was enjoyed by all. The group was accompanied by Ms. Macken. Ms. Murphy and Fr. Stephen.



T.Y. SHOWCASE AT KNOCK

O. MACKEN, C. MURPHY

On April 29th some of our T.Y. students went to Knock to join with other TY students from schools in the Tuam Diocese to present and display the variety of projects being undertaken in T.Y. religion classes in the schools of the Tuam Diocese. The Day was organized to highlight the connection between parishes and our schools. Archbishop Michael Neary attended and visited all of the stands to get an understanding of how the students are putting their faith in practice in their parishes. Aisling Lynskey and Kelly Donegan spoke on behalf of the class about what happens in T.Y. class in our school – they did a wonderful job and really explained what the community care programme at BCS is all about. Well done to all T.Y.'s for dedication to Community Care throughout the year.



COMMUNITY CARE AT BCS

**KELLY DONEGAN AND ASHLING LYSKEY ON
BEHALF OF THE TY CLASS**

At Ballyhaunis C.S. Transition Year Religion class is very different. Every Tuesday morning from 9 till 11am we take our faith out of the classroom and into the local community. Let us tell you what we do... Over the course of the T.Y. year we volunteer in 5 different placements in our community.

Each placement is a very different setting...

At Scoil Iosa the local primary school, we assist with the literacy programme, helping the children with their reading. The 1st and 2nd class students eagerly await our arrival on Tuesday mornings with their reading books, ready to take their turn to read aloud. Over the 5 weeks we can really see the improvement in their reading skills and we feel like professional teachers!

The Ballyhaunis branch of the Mayo Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals is another placement we attend. Here we walk rescue dogs, we help with cleaning out the kennels, supplying fresh food and water for the all the animals. We also learn about the responsibilities which come with owning an animal. This was the most popular experience with all the T.Y. students.

At the Meals on Wheels Service in Brickens, we helped prepare the food for the daily delivery of hot dinners and desserts to elderly people living alone. The ladies in the kitchen were so friendly and thankful for us peeling the mountains of carrots and potatoes. We were duly awarded with tea and biscuits when we had our work completed.

The Friary Family Resource Centre in Ballyhaunis provides a variety of courses and facilities in the town. Our role was to provide computer lessons for beginners with the senior citizens. Here we had great fun showing them how to send an email, how to skype, shop on line, book a flight and some were very eager to go on Facebook!

We also get involved with the 3 community crèche/ playgroups in Ballyhaunis. Obviously this was the most challenging placement....who would have thought that 3 years olds can be so demanding!!! We know we have made it sound easy and enjoyable but last Sept. we were very anxious at the thought of leaving our safe classroom and being placed in local organisations. Believe us this was easier said than done. We are the social media / facebook generation of the 21st century it is hard for us to communicate with people face to face.

As a result of this fantastic experience we have developed many new skills, we have become self - assured and confident young people. Many of our classmates have said that because of this experience they are inspired to get involved in volunteering in the future. We believe we have made a difference in the placements we were involved in. We have made a valuable contribution and this has helped to strengthen our faith.

We believe that if we treat others as how we ourselves would like to be treated this will pay dividends in the future...there may be times in our lives when we will need help. In the words of St. Francis who is our inspiration and the spirit of the

community care programme in BCS
'It is in giving that we receive'

We have discovered this in abundance during the 5 weeks of each placement. We have experienced a sense of fulfillment by helping others in our community. This programme has also helped in our participation and completion of the John Paul II Awards which we was introduced to us in T.Y. Religion class. Our Community Care programme meets the criteria for the social awareness aspect of the Award.

To conclude we would like to say on behalf of all the TY students at Ballyhaunis Community School that the Community Care Programme is a very worthwhile and rewarding part of our Transition year experience. As part of this year's programme we produced a DVD of ourselves attending our various placements and carrying out our duties. It is a wonderful showcase for future T.Y. students and their parents to see what the programme entails and how rewarding it is for us to volunteer in our local communities.



TRANSITION YEAR/4TH YEAR RETREAT

The T.Y.'s and 4th years from Ballyhaunis C.S. teamed up with T.Y.'s from Dunmore C.S. for their Retreat experience this year. The day began with each school group sticking to their own in huddles in the Parochial Hall, but by the end of the day, phone numbers were exchanged and new friendships were made.



Ciara Jordan, 4th year student had this to say about the day....

Everyone was delighted to be away from school and the fact we were put together with a group from Dunmore made the experience that little bit more exciting. At first, expectations were low as everyone thinks of retreats as "long boring days regarding faith". However, we were all suddenly surprised when we spent the day drawing pictures, playing games, listening to music, partaking in quizzes and discussing precious memories. We were entertained by a friendly group from "Authentic Youth" – Rob, Valerie, Sabrina and Jude. These young, energetic people really brought about a new image of religion. Much younger than expected, they shared personal stories from their childhood and gave great advice for decision making in the future. After drawing our idea of God and a few exciting rounds of "Bang!", the day quickly flew! We would like to take this chance to thank all the religion teachers – Ms. Murphy, Ms. Macken, Ms. Mulroy, Ms. Flynn and Ms. Phillips for organising the great day out.

ABC SCHOOL BANK

At the end of October Mrs. Loftus announced to the class that interviews will be held to elect the officers to run the school bank for the 2012/13 school year. Everyone filled out their application forms and many were nervous about the interviews. They were held in the offices beside the library. That day the results were announced. Steven Nolan, Dervla Phillips, Ashling Lynskey, Carol Freeley, Evan Coyne and James Lyons all were selected to represent the school bank for the year. They quickly went to work setting up a Facebook page, Twitter page and held an opening day.

The Opening Day included an appearance from Mayo footballer Michael Conroy. Free sweets, pens and leaflets were given out to promote the bank along with posters advertising the benefits of the bank and opening hours. 'The ABC School bank' was born, opening every Wednesday, taking lodgements. They quickly got to work raising money for prizes to promote new membership. Beats By Dre were offered to new members who signed up. A Bake Sale, Valentines Rolos and Treasure Hunts were held as part of these fundraising efforts.



Pictured is Michael Conroy with members of the School Bank and Mr Stephen Rochford (Manager, AIB Claremorris).

This was all in preparation for the Regional Final in Sligo on the 4th March. A board with all the banks actions and pictures on it was arranged and a folder consisting of all finance history and work done within the bank. This all was showcased in Sligo. The six young entrepreneurs tried to convince the judges that their bank was the best. Only four out of 20 schools were to go forward to the National Finals but unfortunately the 'ABC School Bank' was unsuccessful. However the students involved gained invaluable experience and had a wonderful time. They would especially like to thank Mrs. Loftus for all her help and Mr. McHugh for permission for holding fundraising events through-out the year.



Pictured are: Ms. Finn and members of the T.Y. class



SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

Is bliain speisialta í 2013 toisc gurb í Bliain na Gaeilge agus tá súil agam go mbeidh sibh ábalta páirt a ghlacadh sa cheiliúradh Gaeilge bliana seo!. (2013 is a very special year as it is Bliain na Gaeilge and I hope that you will be able to take part in this yearlong Irish Language celebration!).

Seachtain na Gaeilge was a huge success and very enjoyable. Transition year students designed a fabulous poster with the help of Ms. Lennon and I. They also placed many Irish sayings (seanfhocail) throughout the school. Students thoroughly enjoyed reading these. First and second year students took part in a Tráth na gceist. The winning team in each class were presented with an Easter egg. I would like to thank Mr. Ryan (Super Valu) for his assistance with organising all of the Easter eggs and for his generous contribution.

Is í an Ghaeilge an tseoid is mó atá againn. Is inti atá ár scéal féin le fáil agus is orainne atá a cúram. (The Irish language is our greatest treasure. In it we find our very own story as a people, and we are its only guardian). Croí na Teanga – It's you! Seachtain na Gaeilge.

"Tír gan teanga, tír gan anam".

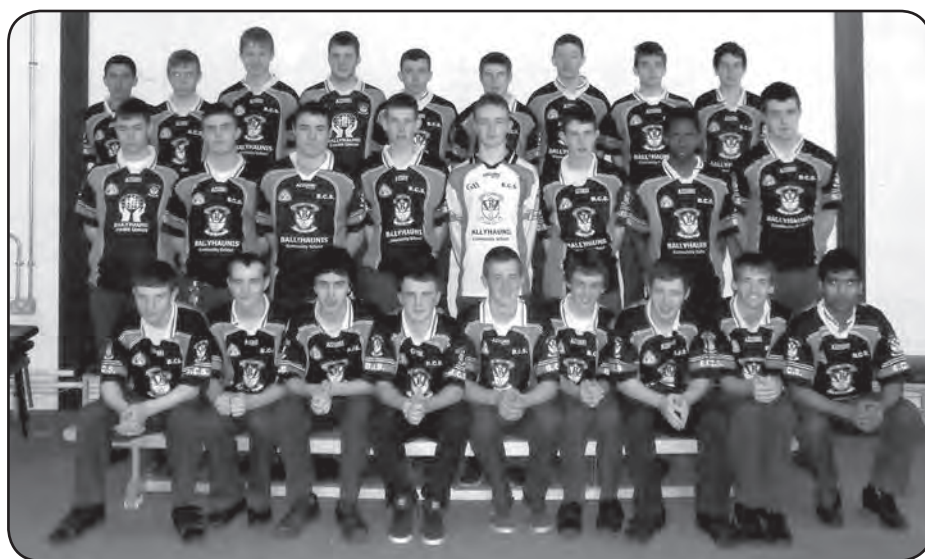
Ms. Finn.

JUNIOR BOYS FOOTBALL

The Junior team started training in early October under the management of Jimmy Lyons, Seamus Egan and Hugh Rudden. The sessions were tough with challenging drills. Unfortunately the year did not go as well as anticipated. The Mayo championship started with a loss to St. Joseph's, followed by a thrilling encounter with Foxford, although the score line did not reflect the quality of the play.

The next competition was the Connaught 'B' League which once again did not go to plan. The team played very well in the league but they just could not get the upper hand in order to beat the teams. They first faced Kiltimagh at home, followed by Foxford which was another great game. The next games were against Westport and St. Nathy's, which the team once again failed to beat even though Ballyhaunis played some great football.

The Connaught 'B' championship was knock out from the beginning and Ballyhaunis were drawn against St. Nathy's of Ballaghaderreen. The team had trained hard for this day and were well up for the match. The game took place in Loughlin and Ballyhaunis displayed a great effort but they could not get over this hurdle. It would be the last football the Junior team would play for 2013.



Back row L to R: Azad, Shawn Groarke, Cian O'Boyle, Joe Lyons, Steven Ryan, James Lyons, Davog Frayne, Michael Waldron, Ryan Kilbane.

Middle row L to R: James Murphy, Liam Duffy, James Cribben, Niall Robinson, John Cunnane, Jason Coyne, Carlton, Mark Phillips.

Front row L to R: Patrick Keadin, Sean Carrick, Stephen Collins, Cathal Carney, James Lyons, Padraig Duffy, Conor Hagney, Aiden Henry, Waqas Rehman.

JERSEY DAY



BOYS GAA AWARDS 2013



Pictured is Brian O'Neill receiving the Second Year Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh and Mr. Jimmy Lyons (Coaches), Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal).



Pictured is Conor Hunt receiving the First Year Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. Sean McHugh and Mr. David McDonagh (Coaches), Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal) and Mr Pat McHugh (Principal).



Pictured is Aiden Henry receiving the Juvenile Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh and Mr. Jimmy Lyons (Coaches), Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal).



Pictured is Waqas Rehman receiving the Junior Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. Jimmy Lyons and Mr. Hugh Rudden (Coaches), Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal).



Pictured is David Kenny receiving the Senior Player of the Year Award. Also pictured is Mr. David McDonagh and Mr. Hugh Rudden (Coaches), Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal).

Absent from the photo: Mr. Ray Woolley - Team Manager

CLASS 4A



Back Row: Cian Cunningham, Daniel McDermott, Cian O'Boyle, Stephen Ryan, Michael Waldron. **Middle Row:** Liam Duffy, James Murphy, Maryam Mahmood, Yvonne Davy, Hiba Arshad, David Regan, Dean Henry.

Front Row: Victoria Kelly, Ria Marigliano, Sarah Creighton, Labhaoise Cunnane, Aleksandra Pawlak.

Missing: Connor Hagney, Eric Fitzgerald.

CLASS 4B



Back Row: Mohammed Ahmadm, Declan Kilgarrieff, Martin O'Gara, David Frayne, Faysal Kezzeh, Darren Maloney, Mantas Agounis, Padraig Connolly.

Middle Row: Calvin Lyons, Conor McCarrick, Bilal Amin, Saleha Gulzar, Bazla Alam, Neal Folliard, Ryan Kilbane, Seán Burke.

Front Row: Ria Dunleavy, Leanne Hession, Lisa Higgins, Ciara Jordan, Áine Coyne, Mary Waldron, Amy Mannion.

CLASS 4C



Back Row: Lewis Kearsey, Seán McDermott, Qasim Nazir, Waqas Rehman, Kevin Kilbride, Cyril Collins, Hamza Yousaf.

Middle Row: Sarah Feeney, Jules Gossy, Andra Owsu, Rosina Lukoseviciute, Rhona McGrath, Maria Waldron, Ailish Phillips.

Front Row: Lisa Morley, Hannah Hardcastle, Joseph Kelly, James Burke, Ronan Forde, Phillip Fitzmaurice, Niamh Murray, Tessa Lyons.

Missing: Mark Ruane, Ronan Murphy, Stacey Hayden.

CLASS 4D



Back Row: Marlena Staszczuk, Jason Coyne, Sara Mitrovic, Kevin McNulty.

Middle Row: Morgan Lyons, Rory Nestor, Erika Webb, Tommy Kearns, Andrew Manning, Brian Gavin.

Front Row: Duha Riyaz, Caoimhe Henry, Michaela Durkin, Laoise McDermott.

Missing: Maisie Donne, Peter Dooley, Shawn Groarke, Michael O'Rourke, James Reidy.

4TH YEAR TRIP TO ACHILL

**NIAMH MURRAY, AILISH PHILLIPS,
MARIA WALDRON.**

It all began on a Wednesday morning when spirits were high and the wellies were polished and shined! DJ Ronan Murphy entertained the bus the whole way to Achill with his multi-cultural playlist along with several sing songs. On arrival the race for the rooms was on and after that we settled in quite well. It wasn't exactly a five star hotel but it did the job! Weetabix, Lettuce sandwiches and infinite amounts of sweets kept us fuelled over the 3 days.

Over the duration of our stay there wasn't a dull moment! We showed off our Surfing, Canoeing, Hill walking, Cliff diving and Wind surfing skills. It's safe to say there are no Olympians amongst us!!

Room number 3 in the boy's dorm also known as "The Disco Room" was the place to be once the sun went down. Tunes were blaring and the craic was 90 and the romance was alive and well! Bouncer Philip took his job very seriously when refusing the entrance of Mr.Murray! Nights were spent cuddled up on the couch watching movies "That's Nicccceee".

The mischievous boys went to work with the missing mattress stunt and the misplacement of Mr.Murray's door handle while Rory's creativity shone with the teabag on the wall incident!

Overall the experience was unforgettable and so were the wetsuits!! New friendships were made and bonds were formed with the former TYs. To say the least our 3 days in Achill were eventful but as the saying goes "What Happens in Achill stays in Achill!"



SHAVE OR DYE 2012



2012 T.Y. students Cyril Collins, Martin O'Gara, Cian Cunningham and Eric Fitzgerald participated in the Shave or Dye campaign and successfully raised 1,000 for Mayo Roscommon Hospice. Pictured are the four boys presenting the cheque to Andy Moran (Community Development Officer Mayo Roscommon Hospice), Mr. Pat McHugh and Ms. Orla Phillips.

DERRYGONNELLY - 4TH YEAR GEOGRAPHY

Fourth year students who travelled to Derrygonnelly in Co.Fermanagh to complete a fieldstudy on the geomorphic processes of transportation and deposition in a fluvial environment. This is a compulsory part of the Leaving cert geography syllabus and all students learned many new skills and also a had a very enjoyable day.



ORGAN DONOR AWARENESS WEEK 2013

RHONA MCGRATH AND CYRIL COLLINS.

As part of our LCVP class we 4C organized an organ donor awareness week in conjunction with the Irish Kidney Association's National awareness campaign. The aim of the week was to encourage students and teachers to discuss the topic of organ donation. We also wanted to get the general public to discuss organ donation with their families. Every member of the class was given an important job to do. The organ donor awareness week took place from March 19th-21st.

We invited six guest speakers into the school to talk about their personal stories: Mr. Terry and Geraldine Coleman, Ms. Laura Glennon, Ms. Rebecca Osgood-Daly, Mr. Billy O'Toole, and Mr. Darren Cawley. We also held an art competition that took place during the 19th and 21st of March. This competition was held for 1st years and Mr. Chris Pratt, retired head of the Art Department in the school, kindly gave his time to judge the competition. A second year student, Abbey Adams, won first place with a stunning piece. Four students from 4C went on the local radio station Midwest Radio to promote organ donor awareness week; they had an interview with Tommy Marren. With the help of our science teachers, we arranged a display wall in the assembly area of our school with various posters of the organs and their functions. During lunchtimes, forget-me-not flowers, badge pens, and car stickers were available to purchase; we made €67 for the Irish Kidney Association from the sale of these. And we also made organ donor cards available to students and staff. Currently, now there are 600 people waiting for transplants.

We would like to thank Ms. Osgood for all her help and for organizing all the events.



Back row: Lewis Kearsey, Seán McDermott, Quasim Nazir, Waqas Rehman, Kevin Kilbride, Cyril Collins, Hamza Yousaf.

Middle row: Ms. Osgood, Sarah Feeney, Jules Gossy, Andra Owsu, Rosina Lukoseviciute, Rhona McGrath, Maria Waldron, Ailish Phillips.

Front row: Lisa Morley, Hannah Hardcastle, Joseph Kelly, James Burke, Ronan Forde, Phillip Fitzmaurice, Niamh Murray, Tessa Lyons.

MOBILE PHONE RECYCLING

NIAMH MURRAY AND
RHONA MCGRATH

In February, students from 4C held a collection of old and broken mobile phones and ink cartridges in the assembly area. 72 mobile phones and 24 ink cartridges were collected for recycling in aid of the Children's University Hospital Temple St.

Thanks to all of the students and teachers who contributed to this collection.

METAL PROJECT

This metal silhouette project was designed and made by fourth year students Duha Riyaz, Brian Gavin, Joe Kelly, and Martin O'Gara. The project, titled 'Circle of Friends', was produced for the 2013 Strokestown House sculpture competition. This project will be on display on the grounds of Strokestown House from May 2013-2014.



INIS MÓR ARAN

STACEY HAYDEN

Shortly after Christmas our Geography class "got wind" of the fact that Mrs. Brogan was planning to take Transition Years to Inis Mor Aran. We set out there and then to try and convince her to take us too and thankfully she eventually gave in and on May 2nd we left Ballyhaunis at 7.00 am and headed for Rossavie.

The weather was beautiful on the day and the sailing was very calm. The search and rescue helicopter was carrying out practice manoeuvres on the ferry which made our sailing even more interesting.

Because the weather was so nice we conducted our tour of the island on foot! However Miss. Varden and Mrs. Brogan let us down and hitched a lift for the last mile!! The Irish tradition and culture are still strong and very evident on the island. The people of the Ireland were more than happy to engage in a "cupla folca" with us. The landscape of the island is mainly limestone rock, which is an extension of the Burren in Clare and once formed part of the Burren.

The highlight of our trip was Dun Aonghasa which is a fort built on the top of a 30 ft cliff. It was built 2500 years ago. It was a magnificent sight but a little scary close to the edge!!

On our return journey to Cillronan we saw a seal company with several seals playing in the sun. This area is a heaven for wild life and we saw many pairs of swans in the dunes.

It was a very enjoyable day and we were all in agreement that we would like to return there again some day.



4TH YEAR FANCY DRESSED SPONSORED WALK

O. MACKEN

This is the 11th year of the Henry Madden Tanzania Fund Sponsored Walk. It has become a tradition in the school that 4th year students fundraise and participate in the walk for this very worth charity.

Henry Madden has visited Tanzania on a number of occasions, he has recorded through pictures the life and poverty that the people of Magugu and Ntuntu suffer. Last year he donated many of the photos to the school that are used to highlight the difficult circumstances many are living in. His good friend Fr. Michael Barry who is parish priest in the villages has written many times to the school thanking the staff and students for their generous support to the work he does and for helping to provide food to the famine threatened villages.

The 4th years rose to the challenge and successfully raised a lot of money as well as having great fun on the day of the walk. Well done to all involved and especially to those who completed the walk! Thanks to Mrs. Fallon, Mrs Mulroy, Ms. Flynn and Ms. Phillips for organising the event

2ND YEAR DVD FUNDRAISING

DANIELLE COYNE & CIARA DELANEY

The annual second year fundraising event was organised for the evening of the 20th of March. A DVD evening was the event. Each student paid 2 to watch their chosen DVD together as a group in A7/B1. The DVD was called 'Grown Ups'. It is a 2010 American buddy comedy film directed by Dennis Dugan, written and produced by Adam Sandler. The audience found the DVD very amusing compared to their normal classes timetabled on a Wednesday evening. A total of 140 was raised for charity. Well done 2nd years.



5B FUNDRAISING CHARITY RAFFLE

5B RELIGION CLASS

The 5B religion class decided in September 2012 to organize a charity raffle in the school. They decided to hold the raffle the day of the Halloween holidays.



They approached local businesses in Ballyhaunis and were kindly welcomed and delighted with the generous donations which were received from these business men and women. Due to their goodwill a total of 400 was raised and donated to local charity organizations in the Ballyhaunis area. Well done students of 5B religion class. A little offering means a lot.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARDS

O. MACKEN

The Pope John Paul II Award is dedicated to the memory of the late Pope John Paul II who was very committed to young people and who had great belief and confidence in them.

In 2012 there were 10 students who completed the Awards and received either a Gold, Silver or Bronze. The Awards Ceremony took place on Nov. 27th in the Cathedral in Tuam. Special Guest on the night was Andy Moran, (Mayo Captain). A total of 120 young people from the Tuam Diocese received awards. Food was provided afterwards in St. Jarlath's College. It was a lovely occasion for the Recipients and their parents – a well-earned reward for all their hard work over the past year. This year there are 20 T.Y./4th year students participating in the J.P.II Awards, one Leaving Cert student - Eric Hynes is completing the Papal Cross Award – the highest accolade you can receive. The students will gain their Award by taking part in activities through Parish and Community Involvement.

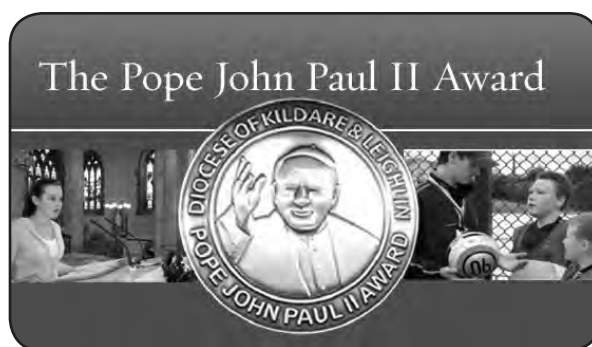
Examples of activities in the parish that can be completed for the Award are:

- Reading at Mass
- Member of choir/folk group
- Helping with Church decoration – Crib, Easter Garden etc
- Helping with the 1st Holy Communion programme
- Helping with Parish Website / Facebook page

Examples of activities in the area of Social Awareness that can be completed for the Award are:

- Working in a youth club – Foroige / No Name Club
- Fundraising for charities
- Volunteering in a local Charity Shop
- Help with Meals on Wheels / MSPCA / Western Care

Well done to the students for showing such commitment to their faith and to their community. The JP II Award will be open to next year's 4th / T.Y. students in September if they wish to take on the challenge!



4TH YEAR AWARDS



Fourth Year Awards Ceremony 2012: l-r : Students Tara Mulken, Fiona Brady, Edel Fitzmaurice and Kirsty Phillips who were presented with Certificates in honour of their outstanding performance and dedication by Mr. David Murphy –(Agri-Spread) successful entrepreneur and past student.

PARIS – UNE EXPÉRIENCE À NE PAS OUBLIER!

BY SONIA HENRY AND ANNE O' GARA

On the 20th October the 4th and 5th year Art and Music classes and some of the TY's along with Mr. Quinn, Mrs. Devine, Ms. Lennon and Mrs. Hargedán – Whyte began their adventure to Paris.

And as promised, this adventure achieved above and beyond our expectations. We made our way out to the bus park, some of us with suitcases we could just about carry, highly anticipating this long awaited adventure. We set off with sleepy heads to Dublin airport and boarded our plane bound for Paris. You wouldn't think of an airport as being a confusing place. Or would you? Well Paris proved that either airports are either confusing places or that airport staff are terrible at explaining. It may be a bit of both, but it took us a long time to leave!

When we eventually found our bus, we were brought to Montmartre. We have never seen so many people try to sell Eiffel tower key rings. 12 key rings for a euro wasn't a bad offer! We also visited the beautiful Sacre Coeur cathedral and one of us even got confessions in French! Ms. Hargedán was very proud of Anne O' Gara. We learned quite quickly that Paris does not have good food. All the menus were in French and we had no idea what the meals were. Jasmine Moss and Anne O' Gara made the mistake of thinking squid was pasta! Thank god for Mc Donald's as it was the only place that we ate for the entire 3 days.

After our eventful first day we arrived at our hotel, which was at the side of a motorway. We thought it was a nice hotel at first, but then some of the girls found out their beds weren't made and the lights didn't work.

For some reason the staff didn't like us; they weren't very friendly. They didn't seem to understand what "having the craic" was all about. We spent our first night playing pool with Mr. Quinn and Ms. Lennon and were all looking forward to the rest of our trip. On our second day, we went to the lovely Musee Rodin. After we saw all the beautiful artwork, the group split up. The art classes went to another museum while the music group went to see "Bharati" a bollywood musical. The group found it an interesting musical; a few people were so impressed they fell asleep for most of it.

On day 3 we woke up as excited as little children as it was time for Disneyland! The highlight of the trip for some and a childhood dream come true for many! As luck would have it, it was the warmest day that came throughout our trip and the day was most definitely enjoyed by all.

On our final evening, we had the biggest game of "mafia", which was one of the highlights of the trip. Friendships were made from that game. On our final morning at Paris, we got our tour of Paris. Tony, our legendary bus driver brought us around this wonderful city. We really saw the beauty of the architecture in Paris as we drove around the city. We finally saw what we were all waiting for...the Eiffel Tower. It would have been a beautiful site if it were a sunny day. But for us, we only saw the bottom of the Eiffel Tower because of the fog. Ah well, it was still a highlight to see it.

So what did we learn from our trip to Paris? Well no. 1 Paris has very bad food and thank God for Mc Donald's! No 2. French people do not like Irish students. We still wonder why. And no.3 Paris is a beautiful city!

Throughout the 3 days we had many activities lined up for us. We weren't in Paris a half hour and we were already in love with this beautiful city. Friendships were made during this trip and the 3 days won't be forgotten. On behalf of everyone that went, we'd like to thank Mrs. Devine, Mr. Quinn, Mrs. Hargedán – Whyte and Ms. Lennon for bringing us and making this trip an unforgettable one!



SCULPTURE COMPETITION

A. LENNON

On the right is art created in response to a competition titled 'The Gathering' held annually by Strokestown House.

The artwork will be on display along the forest walk at Strokestown house till September, if you or your family are visiting please leave your vote with Ballyhaunis Community School.



CREATIVE WRITING

MARLENA MARCINIAK

ROBERT MORLEY

Guilty

She walked on the side of the road
Rain was flowing down her body
And the darkness hid the tear

No other soul , no other heart
Quietness dampened her ears
While making each step she felt less

It is you who brought her here
She can no longer taste happiness
You harmed her heart making her be no longer
alive

Giving her a world of hell she stopped breathing
Her skin is burned from your touch
And hair mess after your mental storm

She still feels sorry for what you've done
You burned her for things she didn't even see
Now she lies deep within your dirty little sins

After all the devil's madness
She got tired of the weapon
And being scared of not loving her like a human
but a monster

And now under your proud steps
She began new diary skills without your ink being
blinded her head sees only one thing

The low's lights that brought her to death

He had no choice in the matter

He had no choice in the matter. Either he took the suave stranger's hand, or be left to spend the night in a barn somewhere. Alex had always been told to never go home with a stranger, but Alex was fed up of listening to his parents. That's why he ran away. Away from his pampered and sheltered life. Since he was used to having it easy, Alex went with the stranger. It's not like he had a choice, is it?

This man was tall and mysterious. His elegant stride screamed confidence with every step. He seemed like a man who was happy with his life. Puddles, rubbish or anything that could leave a stain, would never touch his expensive looking Italian shoes. Alex's family was well off, but not this well off. The heavy drizzle that fell seemed to change direction as it came close to the stranger's beige, fancy suit.

Alex was curious. Where were they going? He dared not ask out of fear the stranger would reconsider his offer to help Alex because of irritating questions. Alex bit his lip, and continued to follow the stranger. Alex found it strange that this man had no car. He was walking around in clothes you'd wear to the most important interview of your life, yet he didn't seem to mind getting wet. Then, Alex took note of his surroundings. Every person on the street seemed oblivious to the existence of Alex and the stranger. If they obscured the path, they would not acknowledge either of them, they would just glide or shuffle to another position as if it was what they were planning to do the whole time. We all get a feeling sometimes that something is wrong, and that we should turn and run.

Alex was beginning to get that feeling.

It was too late. They had reached their destination. In front of the pair stood a modern day, semi-detached two storey house. It actually looked, well, normal. A huge sigh of relief escaped from Alex's lungs. He had nothing to worry about. He was safe. For only the second time since they met, the stranger looked at Alex. He smiled, then gestured Alex inside.

Alex's once ginger hair was now a light brown from the rain. He stood shivering in the porch as the stranger gathered some old clothes and a towel. After a quick change of clothes and brush of the hair, a smile made itself comfortable on Alex's face. Once again, he felt safe. He was relaxing in a red, Victorian style armchair, when the stranger entered the room. He was now dressed in a faded black apron with red smudges on the front. His bleached white hair now fell imperfectly over his eyes. A detached smile spread from ear to ear. Again, Alex was following the stranger. Where to? Accommodation of course. At least, that's what Alex hoped. They passed two empty bedrooms before sharply turning into a tight hallway. Alex began to feel trapped, then emerged into an open space. The darkness made Alex feel like he was choking, and his eyes began to water. He lost his sense of balance. The feeling was overwhelming. A dim light flickered from Alex's left. The stranger held a candle lit lantern. The way he smiled made Alex feel at ease. Any doubts Alex had about this man were forgotten. What kind of mad man would have a reassuring smile like that?

According to Alex, none.

They reached the end of the room. Instead of finding a bed, Alex found a decayed wooden table, with splinters the size of your fingers. Instead of comfy warm bed sheets, Alex saw a series of chains covering the table. It was now that Alex began to regret running away from home. His hope for somehow surviving this was stolen when he saw a collection of skeletons in the corner. Some still with warm flesh on them. It was obvious that this stranger took pride in his work, whatever his 'work' was.

Alex didn't struggle. He knew it was futile. He accepted his dilemma. Quite mature for a fifteen year old, no? He understood he was here because he was meant to be. I mean, it's not like he had a choice. Did he?



Pictured are Mr. Patrick McGarry (Year-head) and Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal) congratulating Liam Duffy who achieved 10 A's in his Junior Certificate results last September.

'THE B.C.S. RAINBOW' ~ A REFLECTION FROM THE STUDENT CHAPLAIN

MS. GRÁINNE GLAVEY – STUDENT CHAPLAIN

Once upon a time, the colours of the world started to quarrel. Each one claimed that they were the best, the most important, the most useful, the favourite.

- *Green said: I am a sign of hope and of life for I am the colour of the grass and leaves.*
- *Blue interrupted: Consider the sea and the sky. Water is the basis of life- I am the colour of peace.*
- *Yellow chuckled: I bring laughter and warmth to the world for I am the colour of the sun.*
- *Orange spoke out next: I am the colour of health and strength. Think of the beauty of a sunset.*
- *Red was enraged: I am the best! I am the colour of life's blood! I represent danger and bravery.*
- *Purple retorted: Ah yes, but I am a sign of royalty and power, of authority and wisdom. Beat that!*
- *Indigo spoke silently: Think of me. I represent thought and reflection. I am the twilight. I am needed for prayer, for peace and tranquillity.*

The colours continued to boast of their individual roles in the world when suddenly, there was a startling flash of bright light and thunder boomed. Rain started to pour from the heavens and the colours were very afraid.

Then the rain spoke out: 'You foolish colours! Here you are fighting amongst yourselves, each trying to out-do the rest. Do you not know that God made you all; each with a specific purpose, unique and different? He loves you all! Join hands and come with me. He will stretch you across the sky in a great bow of colour as a reminder that you can live together in peace – a sign of hope for tomorrow.'

~~~~~

I think this is a very powerful story and one that represents my experience here in BCS over the past year. Nervous and apprehensive about how the year would unfold, the warm welcome in the staff room settled every nerve and was much appreciated. I had the opportunity during the year to work with the BCS Folk Group, go to Ballintubber Abbey and Knock retreat days, organise a Prayer Workshop, be creative with the Sacred Space board and Chapel for the various liturgical seasons, enjoy prayer services, play music with the TY's at a Christmas party for Western Care and give a hand in preparing for the Leaving Cert. Graduation Mass. Over the year I was privileged to work with the pupils of BCS, who made every day a unique and unforgettable journey.

Having been a student of BCS not too long ago, returning was always going to bring excitement and memories. It did just that and I thank the teachers for journeying with me through those years and through this. I'd like to thank in a big way Ms. Moran for her warm welcome and continued support throughout the

year. To Mr. McHugh; I wish you every blessing in your future. Thank you for continuing to give young teachers like me starting out, every possible chance.

Having experienced BCS from both sides, I can only describe its colours as earthy, life-giving, warm, healthy, brave, powerful and reflective. I count myself lucky to have worked with such a great bow of talent in students and staff members alike on my Chaplaincy placement '12-'13.

A special 'gracias' goes to the one and only, Ms. Macken, who I have seen call on the rain on several occasions, in order to remind us to appreciate one another. You are a certain co-creator of the BCS rainbow.

## BCS PARENTS ASSOCIATION ORGANISE SEMINAR

**O. MACKEN**

This school year B.C.S. Parents Association organised a successful Bullying Awareness seminar for staff, students and parents. The seminar was facilitated by Monica Monahan. Monica is a founder of the Haven Antibullying Centre and is President of the National Antibullying Coalition and a former Secondary School Teacher. She has experienced bullying in her own life and is passionate about the topic.

On Monday, Feb. 25th Monica met with students and their teachers throughout the day and then she facilitated a parents' session in the evening. The feedback from the sessions were very positive - she obviously struck a cord with the students in particular highlighting the role of the 'Bystander' in bullying behavior and the importance of breaking the cycle of bullying by telling an Adult.

Well done to the active committee: Anne Lyons, Bartley Boyle, Austin Kenny, James Reidy, Aisling Caulfield, Michael Conboy, Patricia Ui Shuilleabhan, Evelyn Douglas.





## CROSS COUNTRY

Announcements were made back in November informing students that the cross country season was beginning! All who were interested made their way to the gym to begin the long hard trek ahead to break in their muscles after a summer of relaxation. Many students attended but only the strongest 30 stuck with it and pushed their limits to stay in the lead. Teams were made for the different age categories.

On the 24th of January, 30 students accompanied by Mr Woolley set off to the CSSA North Connaught Cross Country at the Sligo Racecourse. The students were Alex Adeyinka , Dylan Ruane , Joseph Wagacha , David Cunnane , Kara Niland, Katelyn Concannon, Marina Carney, Lauren Casey , Michael Freyne , Tiernan Murphy , Eddie Cleary, Peace Omotayo , Darren Coyne , Michael McGarry , Rachel Lyons , Claire Fahy , Saskia Kirrane , Eleanor Harrison, Sive Duffy , Cassie Niland , Jason Cullinane , Niall Dunleavy , Sean Carrick , Martin Mulkeen , Sean Kenny, Hassa Mahmood, Leanne Henry , Jessica Carroll, Caoimhe Lilly and Joseph Lyons . 17 students successfully got through to the Connaught finals and celebrated their victory in the queue for KFC and McDonalds!

The 17 students who made it through to the Connaught finals began intense training sessions and with the help and support of Mr. Woolley and Eric Hynes, they reached their full potential.

On 20th February the remaining students left B.C.S feeling rather anxious about the big day in Sligo. The pressure was felt as the standard was exceptionally high and they were competing against students from athletic clubs around Connaught! Everyone preformed very well, with one student progressing onto the All -Ireland Finals. The student in question is Kara Niland (1st year). She finished in the top 15 in her race. Kara is the first girl to represent B.C.S. in the Cross Country All-Ireland Finals in many years and we wish Kara luck in Belfast in the upcoming competition. We would like to thank Mr. Woolley and Eric Hynes for their dedication and support over the past few months.



**Back row l-r:** Marina Carney, Katelyn Concannon, Lauren Casey, Rachel Lyons , Jessica Carrol, Caoimhe Lilly, Cassie Niland, Sive Duffy, Kara Niland  
**Front row l-r:** Claire Fahy, Joseph Wagacha, Michael McGarry, Eleanor Harrison, Joseph Lyons, Darren Coyne , Saskia Kirrane



Pictured is Kara Niland (1st Year)

# LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2013



Ali Almas



Laura Araviciute



Noreen Ashraf



Shannon Biesty



Fergal Boland



Fiona Brady



Anthony Brereton



Damien Callaghan



Cian Caulfield



Edel Coffey



Liam Coll



Cian Conboy



Tasha Coyne



John Cribbin



Lukasz Danilczuk



Aoife Devaney



Bongani Dhlamini - Nkosi



Emma Duffy



Deirdre Durkin



Joseph Fahy



Edel Fitzmaurice



Michael Flanagan



Shiofra Flatley



Sarah Flynn



Kieran Folliard



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2013



Gerard Freeley



Darragh Freeman



Danika Gallagher



Sean Gildea



Lauren Gourlay



Arkadiusz Grzedzinski



Zaneta Grzedzinska



Shahedullah Habibi



Shane Healy



Andrew Henry



Louise Henry



Sonia Henry



Eamon Hora



Niamh Hunt



Eric Hynes



Riona Joyce



Liam Kearney



David Kenny



Thomas Kilboyle



David Kilkenny



Viktorija Konovalciuk



Zubir Koohestani



Josef Loughran



Conor Lyons



Éadaoin Lyons

# LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2013



Hira Mahmood Ul Hassan



Haider Mahmood  
Ul Hassan



Marlena Marciniak



Jason McGoldrick



Michelle McNamara



Nicole McNamara



Thomas McNamara



Éanna McNamara



Aron Moran



Claire Moran



Colm Morley



John Morley



Robert Morley



Shauna Morley



Jasmine Moss



Tara Mulkeen



Greta Narkeviciute



Michael Naughton



Elaine Neary



Sinéad Niland



Hazel Nolan



Hussain Noor



Lisa O Connell



Anne O Gara



Kirsty Phillips



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2013



Stephen Regan



Shahzad Rehman



Momna Shafique



Sarah Staunton



Mark Sutton



Aisling Tarpey



Asia Tayyab



Mark Tighe



Pamela Ubaezuonu



Conor Waldron



Emma Waldron



Michael Walsh



Phelim Webb



Sarah Jane Woods

## TRICK OR TREAT FOR TEMPLE STREET

**ELAINE NEARY**

Once again the students in Ballyhaunis Community School were very generous towards the annual Trick or Treat for Temple Street Children's Hospital campaign. In its seventh year, the Trick or Treat for Temple Street fundraising campaign has raised funds for revolutionary new portable 3D Sensory Pain Distraction Systems that help distract and calm children during medical procedures, thereby making medical treatment less distressing for them. The badges and torches went on sale at break time and a total of €400 was raised for this worthy cause. Thank you to all who continue to contribute so generously.



Pictured are: Diarmuid Keane, Abigail Adams, Danielle Coyne, Jasmine Chang, Saskia Kirrane, Megan Morley and Teacher Ms. Bernie Osgood.

# "SCREAM FOR CHARITY"

SHANE HEALY & SEAN GILDEA

The 5D class decided on having a charity waxing event for a variety of local charities. Mrs Mulroy passed the word around to all the other religion teachers. All the religion classes designed posters and then decorated them around the school to put the word out about the event. Each class put two names forward of who would be participating in the event. Mc's for the event were Ballyhaunis's very own "Ant and Dec"- Shane Healy and Sean Gildea. All senior students contributed 2 euro each to the cause to see the magical event happen. A big thank you must go to Mrs. Mulroy for putting so much effort into organising the event, also thank you to all the religion teachers for passing the word around. Thanks also Mr. McDonagh, Mr. Noone and Mr. Quinn who got a bit of leg out for such a great cause. A huge thank you also to Fr. Stephen Farragher and Gerry "The Janitor" Glavey, our special guests for getting in on the act as well. Well done to our classmates John Morley, Joey Fahy, Michael Walsh, Cian Conboy, Éanna McNamara, Mark Tigue and Eamon 'The Bull' Hora for enduring what can only be described as torture all for such a worthy cause.

Overall the event was a huge success -people said the screams from the participants were heard down in the square in Ballyhaunis!! A significant amount of money was raised for this great cause.



# LEAVING CERT RETREAT - OCT 11TH AND 12TH Fr. Benny McHale

THOMAS MCNAMARA, JOHN CRIBBIN & ELAINE NEARY

What can I say about the 5th year retreat? It's more guaranteed than the Leaving Cert itself... and it's ten-thousand times less painful. The sun was splitting the stones, if ya know what I mean? After a quick role call in the morning, we wandered swimmingly like a flock of sheep. Two members of the Ceanaclo Community spoke to us. They revealed the troubled tales of their teenage years. And then they ended it off with a dance that 'everyone'... attempted. Then we met the wonderfully, fantastic Johnny. He was more than we expected. His opening line would put even Shakespeare to shame "Are ye HaHaHappy!" And what followed was the best chat/ counselling session we have dreamed of. We listened to the famous words of Johnny's song "Shtay Gone Baby!" and then we had a good old chat. And then he told us we were going to live to a hundred. Seemed legit and we wouldn't argue with that!

And then, we got to listen to the wise words of the legend himself... Fr. Benny McHale! He has the sort of easygoing personality that he'd mean to tell you one story, but end up telling you four others, and about a dozen jokes and then the

conversation would be longer and better. The following day, we were all anticipating his return. In the morning, a speaker visited us from the Galway Simon Community, who spoke to us about the problems of homelessness. We were shocked to hear of the problems of homelessness in Ireland.

But then we had a surprising visit from Fr. Benny again, who taught us about coping, suicide and the evil of the Ouija board, another paranormal activity. And then in the evening, Fr. Mike Murphy from the SERVE project visited us and told us how the money we raised the previous year was put to good use in the Philippines.

All in all, we all enjoyed our 5th Year Religion Retreat. And I would like to thank everyone who made it possible.

*Providing students with an opportunity for time out (retreat) is a tradition we hope to continue to offer to the students of Ballyhaunis Community School.*





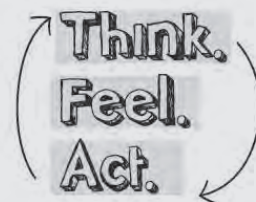
# BEAT THE BLUES- MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

ELAINE NEARY

Beat the Blues is a programme brought to secondary schools throughout Ireland by Aware. The programme explored:

- Principles for good mental health and actions that can help.
- The importance of looking at the positive aspects of their lives.
- Why similar situations impact people in different ways.
- How to prevent or recognise depression and anxiety and the importance of resilience and how to build it.
- The Coping Triangle is a useful tool which students can use in everyday situations to help relieve stress and understand what is going on for them.

Each Leaving cert student who attended the talk received a practical workbook that incorporated key elements from the presentation along with exercises for them to reflect on in their own time, so that they could form a useful resource to hold on to and revisit at times of stress in their life.



**Beat the Blues**

Aware's positive mental health programme for senior cycle students in secondary schools throughout Ireland.

Proudly supported by Tesco Charity of the Year programme 2012



## JOHN PRIDEMORE

JOHN CRIBBIN

On Tuesday the 19th of February, John Pridmore ex-gangster and international bestselling author of the book, 'From Gangland to the Promised Land' spoke to the senior students in Ballyhaunis Community School. He is a missionary who tells his personal story of his neglected childhood, hard teenage life and his involvement in the immoral world of crime, gangs, drugs and violence. He then recalls how he transformed his life when he encountered Jesus, the power of the love of Mary and the amazing work of many Christian communities.

The students were engrossed in his amazing story and his work with people such as Mother Teresa and how he spoke of his friend Pope John Paul II. They valued the experience as John has been interviewed on RTEs nationwide, BBC, ITV, TV3, UTV, American TV, Australian TV and numerous daily papers and radio shows. John had the student's undivided attention for forty minutes as he spoke of the importance of faith in a person's life and finding meaning in their own lives.



## SENIOR MENTORS 2012/2013

O. MACKEN

Twenty five senior students were selected to be mentors to the 1st year group in Sept. 2012. The mentors played an important role in helping the 1st years to settle into our school community. This year's group were a pleasure to work with. They showed maturity, leadership and were very responsible in their role. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the mentors for giving of their free time especially for the Mentor training day and the 'Meet and Greet evening' last May as well as coming back to school two days early to help with the Induction day for 1st years in August.

The Mentors were successful in facilitating various activities during the 1st and 2nd terms for the first years including Badminton, Computer room time, a Fancy Dress Halloween party, Assisting the class tutors, helping with organising lockers, lunchtime visits to the D and E areas as well as assisting with the Merit Awards throughout the year. The peer mentoring programme in our school allows senior students act as positive role models for 1st year students, YOU did this and much more.

### Well done to the following students who volunteered to be a mentor this year.

Shiofra Flatley, Emma Duffy, Shauna Morley, Sinead Niland, Cian Conboy, John Cribben, Emma Waldron, Elaine Neary, Jasmine Moss, Sarah Flynn, Niamh Hunt, Anne O'Gara, Kirsty Phillips, Claire Moran, Hazel Nolan, Shane Healy, Sonia Henry, Eric Hynes, Edel Fitzmaurice, Edel Coffey, Michelle McNamara, Asia Tayyab, Lisa O'Connell, Aisling Tarpey, Bongani Dhlamini-Nkosi.



# SENIOR LADIES FOOTBALL

It was that time of year again, September. Everyone was settling back into the new school calendar when it was time to dust off the football boots for the Senior Ladies. Training started in early September under the watchful eye of Ms. Lally, Mrs Grogan and Ms Macken with big turnouts every session. Everyone rearing to go. The senior girls started off their Division One Championship campaign with a home game against Louisburgh (Some with tired eyes from the celebrations of Junior Cert Results the previous night!) It was a brilliantly contested game throughout with next to nothing between the two teams. This was evident in the final result as the points were shared when the game ended in a hard earned draw on a score line of 2-08 to 0-14.

It was onwards and upwards from there!! The girls continued to train and were very well prepared for their next outing. In October the girls crossed the border into Galway to play a strong Headford side on a cold and foggy morning. However they were no match for our girls as they came out on top with a comprehensive win of 8-18 to 7-2.

The girls were gaining momentum and even with a change of manager as Ms Lally left, it didn't affect the teams winning mentality. Next it was onto Ballinrobe. The girls were brimming with confidence and this showed in their play as they brushed aside a determined Ballinrobe team on a score of 5-11 to 2-6.

The girls came back after the Christmas break eager for action! After two wins and a draw the girls had qualified for the Connaught Quarter Final. They were set to play Ballymote of Sligo in an eagerly awaited game. It took place in late February in Ballinlough. In what was our most difficult and physical match to date the girls eventually came out on top. It was a thrilling and close match which needed extra time to decide a winner. The girls pushed on in the last five minutes to win by three points to advance into the Connaught Semi Final on a score line of 5-11 to 7-8.

Refreshed after the Easter break, the girls came back rearing to go! On the 10th of April Ballyhaunis took on Mohill Community School of Leitrim in the Connaught Semi Final. The girls got off to a flying start with a goal but it did not upset opposition as they came back strongly. Unfortunately it was not to be their day as a very strong Mohill side denied the BCS girls a coveted place in the Connaught Final.

It was a great year for the girls and they showed great guts and determination to soldier on and get to a Connaught Semi Final. Throughout the year they showed great commitment turning up to each training session and even coming out to training during the Easter break! On behalf of the senior girls football team we would like to thank Ms Macken for taking us under her wing. Without her we wouldn't have had a team at all this year and we really appreciate her commitment to the cause! Also, a special word of thanks to Mrs Grogan and Ms Lally who were each over the team at some point in the year.



**Back:** Shona Niland, Emer Kiely, Katie McKay, Dervla Phillips, Sheila Brady, Shannon Keadin, Aisling Tarpey, Meadhbh Glavey, Leanne Henry, Michaela Durkin, Fiona Brady, Anne O'Gara.

**Front:** Lisa O'Connell, Ashling Lynskey, Aoife Murray, Maria Waldron, Pamela Ubaezuonu, Riona Joyce, Sonia Henry, Shauna Morley, Aoife Lilly.



# SENIOR BOYS GAA

BY NIAL ROBINSON AND SEAN SUTTON

The senior team who were managed by teacher Mr. Wolley, who was helped by Jimmy Lyons at the start of the year. From day one the team trained hard through breaks and stayed after school for some sessions.

The team started their campaign on the 12th of September with a win against Swinford in the first round of the Flanagan Cup. It was a wet and windy day but it wasn't long before the team settled in and won by seven points.

The team's Flanagan cup journey came to an end when they came up against the Davitt College side who unfortunately came out the better.

The league started with a great win over St. Louis Kiltimagh in the first round. Ballyhaunis were down by 4 points at half time after getting off to a slow start, but when the final whistle blew it turned out to be Ballyhaunis the victors by five points. Steven Nolan, Conor Hussey and Morgan Lyons were the goal scorers of the day. All the backs defended well with notable performances from Darragh Hunt and Sean Gildea.

The second round of the league was a game against mountbellew in the astroturf pitch in Began. The Ballyhaunis men bet the Mountbellew side which carried them through to the Connaught semi-final against St. Aloysius college Athlone.

Once again the team had to travel to face the Athlone side. The pitch was in poor condition but it did not prevent the quality of football from either side. The goals coming from Fergal Boland and Conor Hussey who both had great games. The game was tight throughout with scores each side of the pitch but with wonderful defending and some great scores Ballyhaunis secured the win by two points. Final score 2:07 to 2:09.

The team had reached the league final which was a great achievement. They played this game on the astro in the Connaught centre of excellence in Began. The team faced the St. Attracta's side of Tubbercurry. Unfortunately the Attracta's side were too strong for the Ballyhaunis men and although they played some good football throughout the game it just wasn't enough to beat them.

The championship wasn't long coming around and once again the team faced St. Attracta's in the first round. Unfortunately the team failed to cause an upset and were comprehensively defeated. Tubbercurry went on into the second round and went on to win the Connaught final. But for the Ballyhaunis side it was the end of the road.



**Back row LtoR:** Jarlath Carney, Sean Burke, Adrian Phillips, Conor Hussey, Mark Phillips, Darragh Hunt, Liam Conboy, Cian Conboy.

**Front row LtoR:** David Kenny, Sean Gildea, Fergal Boland, John Morley, Conor Lyons, Steven Nolan, Morgan Lyons.

# SENIOR SOCCER

The senior boys soccer team ended their 20 year wait for silverware with success in the Connaught B Shield Final in dramatic fashion on 27th of February. Having come through the group stages with a 100% win record the lads were confident of making up for last season's disappointing final defeat, when they travelled to Milebush in Castlebar. However they were up against a very strong St. Clare's Manorhamilton side. Ballyhaunis cause was hampered by the unavailability (through injury) of a number of regular starters including Stephen Nolan, Conor Lyons and Darren Duffy. However the lads had trained hard and the large squad meant competition for places was intense. Ballyhaunis opened the scoring midway through the first half with a thunderbolt from almost forty yards from star striker Morgan Lyons. Both sides had chances in a very open game but neither side could find another breakthrough in the first half. With ten minutes gone in the second half the match turned on its head when midfielder Joey Loughran was needlessly sent off for two quick yellow cards. Down to 10 men the Ballyhaunis lads defended resolutely despite incessant Manorhamilton pressure and looked to be clinging on for a famous victory but with 8 minutes remaining the Leitrim side scored a scrappy equaliser. Neither side managed to secure the winning goal in the remaining minutes and the game went to extra time. The Ballyhaunis side re-organised themselves and performed heroically to keep the scores level after 20 minutes of extra time. Dramatically, the match went to a penalty shoot out. In a high quality shoot out both sides scored their first 6 penalties each with Morgan Lyons, Jarlath Carney, Jason Coyne, Conor Hussey, Sean Burke, Michael O Rourke all calmly finding the net. James Lyons slotted in the 7th penalty to keep the pressure on St. Clare's. Keeper Conor Hussey was the hero of the day when he made a dramatic save from Manorhamilton's 7th penalty to send the players and fans wild with excitement and ensure the trophy would return to Ballyhaunis.

**Starting X1:** Conor Hussey, Liam Duffy, David Kenny, Cian Cunningham, James Lyons, Waqas Rehman, Joey Loughran, Jarlath Carney(c), Fergal Boland, Morgan Lyons, John Morley.

Subs used : Sean Burke, Jason Coyne, Michael O Rourke

**Unused subs :** Liam Kearney, David Frayne, Mohammad Ahmad, Shawn Groarke, Michael Walshe.



**Back Row:** Waqas Rehman, Cian Cunningham, Morgan Lyons, Conor Hussey, John Morley, Joey Loughran.

**Front Row:** Fergal Boland, James Lyons, Jarlath Carney (captain), Liam Duffy, David Kenny.



# LEAVING CERT BABY PHOTOS



1. Cian Conboy
2. Claire Moran & Caoimhe Henry
3. Colm Morley
4. Colm Morley & Cian Caulfield
5. Greta Narkeviciute
6. Hazel Nolan & Stephen Regan
7. Joey Fahy
8. John Morley, Fergal Boland & David Kenny
9. Laura Araviciute
10. Louise Henry
11. Michelle, Thomas & Nicole McNamara

12. Niamh Hunt
13. Pamela Ubaezuonu
14. Phelim Webb
15. Riona Joyce & Fergal Boland
16. Sarah Flynn
17. Shahzad Rehman
18. Shane Healy
19. Shannon Biesty & Tasha Coyne
20. Shauna Morley & Sonia Henry
21. Tara Mulkeen
22. Shane Healy & Jack Hughes

## MEET & GREET 1ST YEARS



## REPEAT LEAVING CERTS



**Back row;** Conor Hussey, Liam Conboy, Adrian Phillips, Jarlath Carney, Jason Fahy, Dean Glavey, James Cribbin.

**Front row:** Darren Nolan, Darren Duffy, Megan Carroll, Emma McHugh, Jennifer Lilly, Vicky Miskell, Shauna Kelly, Suha Riyaz, Marian Morris.

**Missing from photo:** Bronwyn Potgieter.

## DEBS COMMITTEE



**Back row:** Sarah Flynn, Aoife Devaney, Phelim Webb, Laura Araviciute, Shane Healy.

**Front row:** Michelle McNamara, Emma Waldron, Nicole McNamara, Pamela Ubazuonu, Shauna Morley,  
**Missing:** Josef Loughran, Hazel Nolan.



## YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

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**Back row:** Mark Phillips, Thomas Coll, Evan Coyne, James Lyons, Colm Ronayne,  
Seán Gildea, Éanna McNamara, Michael Walshe.

**Middle row:** Aisling Tarpey, Claire Moran, Anne O'Gara, Lisa O' Connell, Shannon Biesty,  
Asia Tayyab, Noreen Ashraf, Momna Shafique, Tasha Coyne.

**Front row:** Aoife Lilly, Carol Freeley, Lynette Duffy, Jasmine Moss, Pamela Ubazuonu,  
Viktorija Konovalciuk, Shauna Morley, Grace Worden, Kelly Donegan, Aisling Lynskey, Aoife Murray.

## YEARBOOK EDITOR

MARY MOONEY

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With another B.C.S. yearbook publication having reached its completion, I am even more acutely aware of the co-operation and collaboration required from the entire school community in order to accomplish this goal. Accordingly, I wish to express my profound gratitude to Mr. Pat McHugh (principal) and Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal) for their unwavering support throughout. I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the teaching staff, the students, the administrative staff and the caretaking staff for their goodwill and understanding. I believe this is what defines Ballyhaunis Community School-a 'community' spirit where each person endeavours to work for the good of one another. The dedicated members of the yearbook committee and the Transition Year students are testament to this ethos. They were invaluable to this year's publication and were highly motivated throughout this 'journey'.

I am very privileged to have had an expert photographer at my disposal-Fr. Stephen Farragher. He devoted considerable time and expertise to this worthy venture. He is a pleasure to work with and his commitment greatly eased the pressures of this task. I am deeply grateful for his support and expertise throughout. I would also like to thank Ms. Orla Macken and Ms. Siobhán Mannix for all their assistance-it is deeply appreciated. Finally, I wish to extend a special word of thanks to Berry Print. Their competence and professionalism ensures that each publication reaches the very highest of standards from year to year. On a parting note, I would like to wish the Leaving Certificate class of 2013 every health, happiness and success in the future. I hope they take many fond memories with them from Ballyhaunis Community School.

# LEAVING CERT AWARDS

## 2013 Leaving Cert Awards

|                                                           |                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Sportsperson of the Year</i>                           | Fergal Boland<br>David Kenny      | Aisling Tarpey<br>Lisa O'Connell     |
| <i>Couple of The Year</i>                                 | Cian Caulfield &<br>Tasha Coyne   | Cian Conboy &<br>Vika Konovalciuk    |
| <i>Personality of the Year</i>                            | Sean Gildea<br>Shane Healy        | Louise Henry<br>Michelle<br>McNamara |
| <i>Rear of the Year</i>                                   | Seán Gildea<br>Liam Kearney       | Shauna Morley<br>Nicole McNamara     |
| <i>Babe/Hunk of the Year</i>                              | Cian Conboy<br>Conor Lyons        | Zanetta<br>Elaine Neary              |
| <i>Funniest Laugh</i>                                     | Michael Naughton<br>Michael Walsh | Ríona Joyce<br>Edel Coffey           |
| <i>Einstein of the Year</i>                               | Fergal Boland<br>Cian Caulfield   | Deirdre Durkin<br>Shannon Biesty     |
| <i>Most Likely to win the lottery and lose the ticket</i> | Stephen Regan<br>Aron Moran       | Nicole McNamara<br>Claire Moran      |
| <i>Best Hairdo</i>                                        | Cian Conboy<br>Eanna McNamara     | Shíofra Flatley<br>Danika Gallagher  |
| <i>Best Smile</i>                                         | David Kenny<br>Cian Conboy        | Edel Fitzmaurice<br>Sinead Niland    |
| <i>Biggest Drama Queen</i>                                | Cian Conboy<br>Jason McGoldrick   | Danika Gallagher<br>Sarah Flynn      |
| <i>Class Clown</i>                                        | Stephen Regan<br>Joey Loughran    | Louise Henry<br>Hazel Nolan          |



# LEAVING CERT STUDENTS 2012 RECIPIENTS OF THE UCD ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP.

UCD Entrance Scholars are 1st Year students recognised for their academic achievement who achieved 540 points or more in their Leaving Certificate. This year Ballyhaunis C.S. had four students who received the Entrance Scholarship. Well done to Tomás Morley, Audrey Costello, Róna Burke and Zeenat Javaid.



Pictured are Róna Burke and Zeenat Javaid with Yearheads Mr. David McDonagh and Ms. Geraldine O' Loughlin, Mr. Pat McHugh (Principal) and Ms. Concepta Moran (Deputy Principal).

**Missing from the photo:** Tomás Morley and Audrey Costello.

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*Established 1776*

# MEMORY LANE

DEIRDRE DURKIN, SHAUNA MORLEY, SONIA HENRY,  
SINEAD NILAND, PAMALA UBA AND LIAM COLL.

*"First year strangers are  
now Fifth year friends."*

First year was a great experience as we left our cosy primary schools to enter the mass crowded corridors and variety of students and teachers in BCS. Were we nervous at first? Of course, but it wasn't long before bridges were built and friendships were formed. The craic was had and it wasn't long before we found ourselves at the end of our first year at Lough Key Forest Park. It was time to say good night to Mister Tom and hello to the "Roll of Thunder" that would be the JC.

By the time Second year came along we were no longer the innocent First years we once were; foodfights and even the odd fire became frequent events. Although study was our "main focus" with Third year came the arrival of "The Gleeks". This comic trio brought the school on a journey and put BCS on the map with their success at Our Schools Got Talent. We ended Third year in style with an unforgettable water fight, a fight to the death for each and every last one of us. Of course the rest of the school didn't stay quiet while we were slaving away at the books. While we were stuck between "An-t-ádh" and theorems, TYs were having a blast with retreats, cake sales and their success at the YSI competition. However, the following year they were glad to join a "great bunch of lads".

Fourth year began and although we were happy to finally be the "tough guys" in the blue jumpers it was hard to say goodbye to those of our year who were embarking on their new journey in TY. With the fateful day of the JC results finally here, we were off to mass for some last prayers for A's and B's. Our annual start of year mass was more eventful than we would have imagined with the mass ending in yet another fire. As if the cement the bonds of friendship we were shipped off the Achill for three days activities in the wilderness. Mud and sand weren't the only thing we were covered in as the lads showed their feminine side in "Miss Achill". Back in school, our Fourth year lunch times wouldn't be complete without the daily food fight (pistachio nuts) with the oh so mature Leaving Cert BOYS. We were then swept up in all sorts of preparations for the musical. When BCS went Broadway, new talents emerged and stars were born.

To prepare us for the home stretch to our exams we had a priest, Fr Benny who along with his side kick Johnny enlightened us with his song "stay gone baby" and "give them the boot". We probably needed more divine inspiration for our exams but we said goodbye to that when we did our "Scream for Charity" and not even Fr. Stephen could escape the deadly waxing. As our time here draws close, we look back on the friends we've made and the memories we've shared. Thanks to everyone in BCS who has made our time here so enjoyable. Good Luck to the Leaving Cert class of 2013 and remember – Some Days Stay Gold Forever.



# *Leaving Cert Students 2013*





