



Our Lady's Secondary School

Mid-Term Newsletter

October 23rd 2009

Oireachtas Outreach Programme

On Monday October 12th Deputy Noel Coonan and Deputy Maire Hctor visited Our Lady's as part of the Oireachtas Education Outreach Programme. The purpose of the programme is to promote interest in Democracy among students through the school's CSPE Programme. An Oireachtas Session attended by Third Year CSPE classes was convened in the school library and Padraig Hogan from Templederry was elected Ceann Comhairle for the session. After the assembly was addressed by Deputy Hctor and Deputy Coonan there was a well informed question and answer session during which students raised issues as diverse as the crisis in farming and the cost of curtains for the Ceann Comhairle's office.



Ceann Comhairle, Matthew Hogan presides during the Oireachtas Session at Our Lady's on October 12th .



Students and Teachers taking part in the fun-walk on October 2nd—Mr O' Meara, Mr. Fogarty, Tara Treacy and Gillian Gleeson.



First Years Listening Attentively During Induction at the Beginning of School Term This Year

Don't Forget - "The Wiz"
School Gym—November 12th and 13th

Mass and Annual Sponsored Walk

The Mass to celebrate the opening of the school year and the Annual Sponsored walk took place on Friday October 2nd. Thanks to Fr. Eugene Everard who celebrated the mass, to the R.E. teachers, music teacher Ms Minchin and to Sr. Helen who prepared for this very important event in the school calendar.

In the afternoon staff and students took part in the Annual Sponsored walk around Cloone. Thanks to students and their parents who worked so hard to make this fundraising event a great success. Thanks also to members of the public who were so generous to our fundraisers in the weeks leading up to the event and on Friday while the walk was going on. The money raised by this event is used to fund buses and defray other expenses associated with the promotion of sports in the school.



Congratulations to Fifth Year German student, Lorraine Morrissey who was selected recently as this year's individual winner in the Modern Languages in Primary School & Goethe Institut sponsored project "An Early Experience in German-2009". Lorraine will be presented with her prize at the annual German Teachers' Conference in Trinity College on November 14th. Lorraine is pictured here with her German teacher, Ms Tina Fogarty.

Geography Field Trip

Geography teachers Mr. Batt O' Meara and Ms. Marion Quinlisk availed of the welcome spell of good weather during September to complete the fieldwork for the practical component of the Leaving Cert Geography exam with their students. The theme of the study was the geomorphic processes of erosion on the River Suir and the investigations were carried out on the lands of Sean Kenneally of Borrisnoe and Tom Larkin of Lougmore. For the fifty or so Geography students involved this practical element of their course accounts for 20% of the final Leaving Cert. mark. Thanks to both land-owners for their co-operation with this work.



Discussing their Findings during the Geography field Trip: Emma Maher, Orla Hennessy, Grainne Bohan and Sorcha Hennessy.

The Crocus Project

During September Transition Year students at Our Lady's planted yellow crocuses at different locations around the school grounds. Yellow crocuses are planted in many countries in memory of one and a half million Jewish children who died during the Holocaust. When the flowers bloom in spring we remember the yellow Star of David that Jews were forced to wear under Nazi rule.



Crocus Planting under the direction of Ms Anne Kiely

Junior Cert Results



Delighted Junior Cert Students, Mairead Delaney and Claire O' Meara discuss their results with Science teacher Ms Breda Maher on September 9th. Congratulations to all Junior Cert students who did so well in this year's exam.

Guidance

One of the first tasks of the Guidance Department this year was to work with the Cairdeas Team to assist first year students with what can be a daunting transition from primary school. All students were met individually by either the Guidance Counsellor or their Year Head Mr. Butler to assess how well they were adapting to the many changes that come with secondary school life. The vast majority of students appear to have coped really well with the move and almost all students speak frequently of how happy they are in secondary school.

Sixth year students have had a busy term as they prepare for the important year that lies ahead. Since the beginning of the year, students have been encouraged to put a study plan in place and to set realistic goals for themselves. To assist students, a study skills workshop was held in the school last week. The one hundred and ten fifth and sixth year students who availed of this, spoke very highly of the tips they picked up during the three hour session.

During the first part of the term, sixth year students also began their exploration of third level courses. To help students, a number of college representatives have delivered presentations to the year group; students were given the opportunity to attend the Higher Options Conference in Dublin and to visit the three Limerick third level colleges during the Open Day last week. In addition to these events, students have started to complete a very detailed interest test and many students have met the Guidance Counsellor to discuss their options next year. This is an ongoing process and students are encouraged to explore all their options before making their final CAO choices. By Ms Boland

U 16 1/2 Ladies Football Blitz

Fethard

Our ladies football team got off to a flying start in the group stages of the championship, in Fethard on Thursday 22.10.09. This was run in a blitz format for the first time ever.

In the first game the girls came up against a strong Killenaule side. The Our Lady's girls proved the strongest on a scoreline of 4-5 to 0-2.

In the second and final game of the day we encountered St. Paul's Community College from Waterford city. This game, for Our Lady's tested the strength of our panel and Templemore overcame the challenge 5-6 to 0-1.

There was an impressive total of 8 scorers between the two games. Top scorer of the day was full forward Mairéad Eviston with 5-1.

Panel: Caroline King, Síle Keely, Arlene McGrath, Loredana Sulas, Maura Bergin, Ciara O'Toole, Elise Byrne (0-1), Anne Eviston (1-1), Gillian Gleeson (capt.) (0-1), Róisín Kilmartin (0-3), Patricia McGrath (1-3), Tara Treacy (1-0), Fiona Treacy (0-1), Mairéad Eviston (5-1), Laura Allen, Niamh Greed, Leanne Collins, Emma Mulally, Sinéad Morgan.

Well done to the team and to manager Ms Kay Walsh.

Basketball

The Cadet and Senior Basketball teams began training for their upcoming League early in September. Our Lady's are in a group of five including Presentation, Thurles, Borrisoleigh, Borrisokane and Roscrea Community School.

Our Lady's have played two matches to date against Presentation, Thurles and Borrisokane. Both the Cadets and Seniors have been successful in all their games. Their next match is against local rivals, Borrisoleigh on Friday, October 23rd and it will be a tough encounter. With only one team to come out of the pool, Our Lady's need to win this one as Borrisoleigh are also unbeaten. Best of luck to them and to coach Ms Fitzpatrick in their remaining fixtures.

Senior Team: Emma Russell, Karen Costigan, Grainne Maxwell, Orla Fogarty, Claire Fitzpatrick, Marie Sheedy, Michelle Collins, Una Butler, Aisling O'Shea, Patricia McGrath. Cadet: Louise Delaney, Ciara Ryan, Claire Fitzpatrick, Saoirse Timmons, Gillian Gleeson, Emily Crawford, Patricia McGrath, Ciara Bourke, Síle Keely, Shauna Geary.

First Year Soccer Tournament

Since the early September first year boys have been working off their excess energy in a highly competitive lunch time yard soccer league. After several weeks of league rounds Eric Quinlan's team defeated Michael Greed's team in the final on Monday October 12th on a scoreline of 3 goals to 2. Michael Greed, a real star for the future, was player of the tournament while Darren Crowe took the prize for goal of the tournament.



Gaelic Games

The Gaelic Games programme got off to a busy start again this year in the first term. The **Harty team** recorded a victory in the first round against a very poor Doon C.B.S. side on Friday, October 16th. Though training commenced in early September the absence of many key players through club commitments meant that preparation for the competition was less than ideal. Useful challenge games against Thurles C.B.S and Cashel Community school gave mentors, Mr. Noel Fogarty and Mr. Willie Butler and opportunity to spot replacements for the vacancies left by students who graduated in June. We played another worthwhile challenge game against Johnstown V S on October 21st.

The **Corn Uí Chatháin** First Year Hurling team under the management of Mr Rory Prucell and Mr. Sean Johnston began their campaign with a 5-10 to 2-5 victory over Thurles C.B.S. In their second game they had a 3-4 to 2-4 victory over a spirited Borrisokane team. The team that defeated Borrisokane is as follows: Dylan McLeish, Martin Scully, Brian Shanahan, Shane Manton, Michael Greed, Phillip McCormack, Lee Fennell, Thomas Nolan, Jordan Moloney, Liam Glasson, Sam Devaney, Brian Roche, Robert O'Connell, Richard Kennedy, Joe Leahy, Subs: Kieran Maher, Jack Smith, Michael Maher, Martin Delaney. Unfortunately Our Lady's came up against a very strong Nenagh team in the third league round at Templemore on October 20th and suffered a 3-8 to 1-5 defeat.

Our **Dean Ryan** hurlers were unlucky to be drawn against St. Flannan's in the opening game.. In spite of the good work done preparing the team by Mr. Gerry Ryan and Mr. Martin Bourke we were well beaten by a strong Clare team. Team: Shane Ryan (M-Templetuohy), Brian Kennedy (J.K.B.) Liam Mullally (Clonakenny) Tommy O' Halloran (Drom-Inch), Matthew Hogan (Templederry), Tom Meade (M-Templetuohy), Shane Cashman (J.K.B.), Jason Bergin (M-Templetuohy) Alan O'Riordan (J.K. Brackens) Shane Kinane (Templederry) Thomas Hamill (J.K.B.), John McGrath (L- Castleiney), Pierce Meade (M-Templetuohy), Shane Hassett (Drom Inch) Sean Bourke (Borris-Ileigh). Subs: Brian Dunne (Toomevara), Tommy Buckley (Killea).

A New German Assistant at Our Lady's

It is now my fourth week at Our Lady's school so that it is high time to introduce myself.

My name is Anne Vohrmann (but just call me Anna), I am 23 years old and I am obviously German. I was born and raised next to Köln (Cologne). After I finished school four years ago I studied primary teaching in a town called Münster. I decided to come to Ireland for many reasons. I want to improve my English and my teaching skills. I would love to get to know parts of the Irish culture and to get meet interesting people as well.

Thank you all, especially Tina Fogarty, for the warm welcome. I feel at home already.

Athletics in Templemore –by Frances Nesirky

Ty Radio Programme!

As part of the Transition Year course we have decided to broadcast a radio programme within the school. The programme runs for half an hour during lunch-time on Fridays. It has been run for three Fridays now with two TY presenters each week. Each programme includes a variety of music, talk and a bit of fun! Preparing for the show is great fun and good experience too. The radio shows have been a great success so far and hopefully they will continue to be throughout the rest of the year.

I'd like to say a big thanks to Mr Fogarty for all his help with the broadcasting of the shows. They will be on the school website www.ourladystemplemore.ie so feel free to have a listen and enjoy!

For many years Templemore A/C and Our Lady's have shared a proud athletic history. With titles in everything from county cross-country to international meets Templemore has produced many successful athletes.

Starting with Mary Stapleton, who competed in the high jump, the school continued to produce top class athletes such as Margaret Danagher, Geraldine Ingram and the current Munster schools decathlete champion Steven O Riordan. Our Lady's Athletes have even competed successfully abroad including Liam Harty and Frances Nesirky.

With the brand-new Olympic standard track and the training facilities it offers, Templemore Athletics Club is rapidly becoming a very popular way not only to train and compete, but also just to keep fit. There is an event for everybody whether you're a runner jumper or thrower. To reach a high level of competition requires hours of dedicated training, but it is possible to use athletics as a social fun way to get fit. The floodlit track means that training is available in all weather.

Transition Year 2009

We started off the school year by being put into two T.Y classes. Everyone was very enthusiastic about beginning the new school year.

We had the opportunity to experience subjects that we had never done before such as DCG and ECDL. In our ordinary subjects we got to take part in a lot more group work than usual and for example in Irish we do mostly oral activities this helps us with our conversation skills. In science we had Larry Stapleton in to talk to us about some forensic procedures such as fingerprinting. In Business we are all in the process of setting up several different mini- companies and some pupils are awaiting interviews for positions in the student AIB bank.

Our first trip was to the Delphi adventure centre in Mayo where we spent three days. It was so much fun! We went to an enterprise day in Tipp Institute in Thurles on the 15th of October. On the 20th we all got up extra early for the train to the CSI forensics exhibition in the Embassador in Dublin we also had a trip to the zoo.

Other projects include the School Radio programme that runs over the intercom which is presented by two different T.Y students each week. There is a debating team guided by Mr Butler which is made up of T.Y's also. Transition Years have a large part to play in the school musical 'The Wiz' this year with it being a compulsory activity. A lot of the main characters are T.Y pupils that put in a lot of effort into practice to make the show a successful production this year.

By Grainne Maxwell and Aoife Ryan. TY

LCAI

LCAI students have settled in very well. They are very busy completing their key assignments and tasks. All students have been highly praised by the employers for their work experience. They have been on a guided tour of the Source Theatre. They particularly enjoyed the Tipperary Study Centre and the auditorium. They also attended the enterprise day at the Tipperary Institute. They listened to local entrepreneurs talking about their own experiences. The students are displaying a great attitude of teamwork and responsibility in the classroom.. Well done to all. Keep up your good work.

By Ms Tina Fogarty



LCA1 Students After Their Visit to "The Source".

School Musical- "The Wiz"

For the past few years at Our Lady's we have produced a school musical and this year our musical is "The Wiz". The Wiz is a two act musical by Charlie Smalls. It is a retelling of the book "The

Wonderful Wizard Of Oz" by Lyman Frank Baum. The Wiz won seven Tony awards for the original Broadway production and I'm sure our production will live up to that record.

All the students that are involved are working tirelessly to make sure that the production is ready for the nights of the show. There is a big cast for the musical this year. All thirty-three of the TY students are involved in one way or another and many other students from other years are also involved.

The story of the musical goes like this: At first Dorothy is blown by a tornado from Kansas to "The Land Of Oz".

While here she meets with a Scarecrow, a Tinman and a Cowardly Lion and they all set off down the yellow-brick road to see if they could find the wizard. While on this journey they face many challenges and no one is certain whether they will make it there at all. I suppose you're all just going to have to come and see the musical to find out how the story ends! So remember the dates 12th & 13th of November, we look forward to seeing you there and we all know that you will enjoy the show.

By James Butler TY