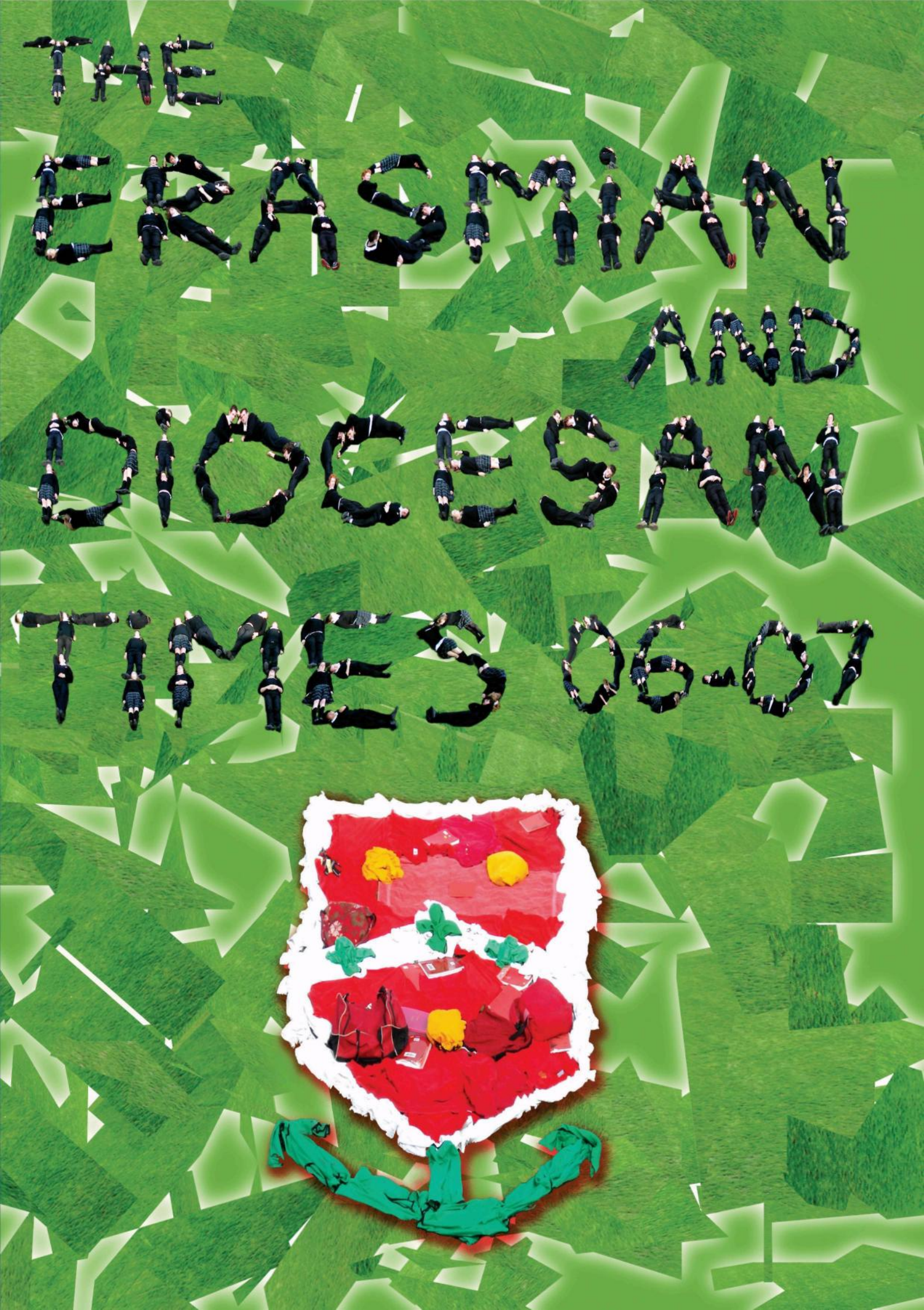




THE

BRASSIAN

AND

DIODES

TIME 306-07



THE ERASMIAN **AND DIOCESAN TIMES** **2006 - 2007**



SCHOOLS FOUNDED BY ERASMUS SMITH, ESQ.

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 107th edition of the Erasmian! The yearly release that students, parents and teachers alike anticipate, however many do not realise what it takes to put it together...

Only when the production is down to you, do you realise how much actually goes on around the school. The effort that goes into writing single articles (you know who you are!), pales into insignificance in comparison to the work that goes into getting the entire production into print. Typing, proofing, editing – no-one realises the

amount of time and effort a few select people put into getting a single article perfect, and ready for publishing.

However, the sense of achievement gained once all the articles are ready is immense. Friends wonder what pushes us to spend hours of our time (yes, including hot summer's days!) cooped up in a computer room, captioning, scanning, proofing and altering... but ultimately it's worth it. To hear the praise, and to see the finished product is what it's all about.

So enjoy. For that is what we do it for.

Sian Cooley, Co-Editor

EDITORIAL

THE 107TH ERASMIAN

I suppose one would describe the Erasmian as a sort of glorified scrapbook, a compilation of The High School students' achievements, interests and day-to-day activities. Yet the vast majority of us only read about a quarter of its contents, flicking over the rest as articles of no consequence. An interview with a skilled musician – 'great!'. An account of last year's Debs – 'boring'. I find it fascinating that the lifelong achievement to one person means absolutely nothing to another. But why is this? Why is it that a hobby that means everything to one seems like hell to another? If we were given the chance to experience everything, would we still be the same person?

School is not only about developing our knowledge, but shaping our mentalities, personalities, ambitions and attitudes to life. Through it we meet new people and undergo new experiences. Does the school pride at hockey and rugby matches come from the knowledge that The High School is shaping us into who we are? Or is it our pride in being part of a close community. In truth it is probably a combination of both.

The personalities that we develop come largely from the people that we meet – our parents, friends, teachers and all those we encounter in our lives. Our differences, as well as our similarities bring about an acceptance of others. Our need for a social environment is developed day-to-day through our interaction with all sorts of individuals. Schools and the education they provide play a huge part in the development of Ireland's society. Without them, we wouldn't have today's diverse society, helping us to appreciate, understand and cherish also the rich culture that we have inherited in Ireland.

And so it comes to the end of the year. It was an eventful year in which we saw sixteen ambitious High Schoolians travel to Romania to build homes for the homeless; a year which saw the development of a successful racing sailing team; and a year that saw the orchestra triple in size to win both the Wesley Interschools and Feis Ceoil School Orchestra competition, as well as a host of other achievements for the school and for individual students.

We will gain so much if we learn to embrace others for their differences of interest and opinion, for we can never fully appreciate the journey through which they have travelled. Take a chance and read a 'boring article' for you never know what interest it may spark. Value High School for what it makes you, because after all, 'nous sommes les rouge et noirs', and no matter what you do or where you go, that'll never change.

Alice Wyse Jackson
Co-Editor

Artwork below by Eva
Richardson McCrea.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year Sian Cooley and Alice Wyse Jackson acted as co-editors of the school yearbook. The amount of work that is involved in putting together a production of this quality is immense, and the girls showed their patience and good humour... especially during long days of typing, scanning, proof-reading and captioning photos! They proved themselves to be good leaders – highly organized, committed, and motivated. They worked well together, sharing out responsibility evenly and deserve to be very proud of the finished production. Well done!

Alice and Sian were assisted by quite a sizeable team of competent 5th years who helped in various ways throughout the year. Ruth Senior, Louise Blakely, Siobhan Margolis and Laura Cooley took responsibility for taking the photographs for the cover – not an easy organisational task! Together with designer Alan Phelan, they have done a great job and have managed to put together a most original cover. Ruth also involved herself in conducting staff and student interviews, whilst Louise and Laura worked at typing and writing articles. Triona Connell, Niamh Kenny, Aisling Barry and Claire Guy put a lot of work into arranging staff interviews, captioning photographs, writing articles and typing. Sarah McDermott compiled the 6th Form Memorabilia and assisted in captioning the seemingly endless number of photographs as well as helping with the typing. The above students also gave up time from their summer holidays to come into school to finish off the production.

Marcus Spray, Jamie Comerford and Ross Hanan gave a hand during the year by carrying out staff interviews. Sinead Nolan helped out also by typing and was involved in first year interviews.

Due to the size of the yearbook and the amount of information in it, there may be some errors and inconsistencies despite the multiple proof-readings it has undergone. I apologise for any of these in advance.

There are many people whose assistance has been invaluable over the past few months as we have been putting the yearbook together. Thanks to Mr B Duffy, Mr R Davies, Alan Phelan (designer), Mr J Davis, Mr J Swan (for providing so many of the transition year photographs), Ms V King (for help with the library section and providing poems), Mr P Prendergast, Ms A Poff (Past Pupil's Union), Ms N Harty (Parent's Association), Ms D Shaw, Mrs H Kane, Mrs V Barry, and Mrs J Sadlier (for their patience over the past few months as I've been in and out of the office requesting all sorts of information), Mr L McBride (for willingly giving a hand with the scanners) and Mr G Draper. Lastly, a big thank-you goes to Mr B McNamara who has been incredibly generous with his time and advice over the past year.

I hope you enjoy this year's production.

Louise Watson

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 05-06

B.T. Duffy, M.A., H. Dip. Ed.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Since the National Education Convention in 1994, successive governments have followed many of its recommendations, enacting a number of statutes and establishing many quasi-independent bodies to implement the legislation and to take on many previous functions of the Department of Education & Science. The desire to implement many of the findings of the Convention is laudable since this was an unprecedented exercise in consultation with every stakeholder in the education system. It was conducted in a very professional manner, chaired by Professor John Coolahan of Maynooth University, and there was substantial follow up consultation and the publication of an excellent report and subsequent expert papers.

Out of it have come the State Examinations Commission, a reformed and enlarged Inspectorate, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, the National Council for Special Education, the National Educational Psychological Service, the National Education Welfare Board, the Teaching Council, the Financial Services Support Unit, among others. Although each of these bodies would claim to be under-resourced and unable to fulfil its mandate properly, each has implemented a substantial number of changes, compiled detailed guidelines and regulations governing schools, communicated these to the education sector and begun to enforce them. However, little has been provided in the form of resources to schools to enable them to comply with what has been an exponential increase in workload, particularly in the managerial and administrative section of schools. The Department of Education & Science has by now divested itself of most of its functions except for the most important one - the provision (or rather lack of provision) of resources. While the Department retains a watching brief over each of these worthwhile bodies, it is now in a position to be able to distance itself from the work undertaken by them so that when a weakness is exposed due to lack of resources, it can state that the problem is the responsibility of the body concerned rather than the Department itself. The primary weakness which is becoming painfully obvious is the shortage of personnel in each of these organisations. When schools need help from one of these bodies, it is sometimes very difficult to procure an adequate response.

Once again the OECD "Education at a Glance" report (2006) has shown how poor investment in education in Ireland is when compared with the other countries in the OECD. It is questionable as to how long the teaching profession in this country can manage to keep achieving such highly respected outcomes from a system which is not being adequately resourced by government. The pupil teacher ratio for normal classes was 1:16 in the 1970s and is now 1:18, despite the unprecedented economic success of the country. It has become political habit to try to mask the poor level of investment by referring to the pupil



teacher ratio in terms of all staff employed in a school, including teachers allocated to children with special learning needs who are now correctly in mainstream schools by virtue of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act of 2004 (EPSEN). Providing additional teachers for children with special needs is essential and schools could not hope to cater for these children without the additional staff, but there has been no improvement in the government's provision for class sizes for all pupils. To say that we can still only afford a worse ratio than existed thirty years ago is simply preposterous. When the Task Force on Student Behaviour reported last year, it made a number of recommendations. Some of these have been implemented but the most important one, the reduction of class sizes, has not.

One of the areas of resourcing which appears, at a superficial examination, to have improved is that of provision for children with special needs to attend mainstream schools. The EPSEN Act already referred to has resulted in the appointment of a group of administrators known as Special Educational Needs Organisers (SENOs) who examine requests from schools for additional teachers or special needs assistants when students with particular needs attend the school. Most schools have received increased allocations of resource teachers and special needs assistants as a result. However, at the same time, regulations have been changed to exclude students with previously recognised learning difficulties from assistance which they would formerly have had. In addition, mainstreaming has resulted in less expenditure on special schools. I suspect that, although there has been a significant shift in the destination of resources, the amount of money actually being spent nationally on children with special needs has probably not increased to any great extent.





The OECD report particularly highlighted the lack of investment in Information & Communications Technology in schools. The national rate of computers to students is about 1:9, compared with 1:3 in the USA. Government last made a substantial investment in computers in schools in 2000 when the IT 2000 plan was announced. Since that plan, the only further investment which has occurred has been in the provision of a basic broadband connection to each school, costing about €400 per year, and in the development of network infrastructure within schools. The grant on that occasion covered only part of the cost, with schools having to make up the remainder. There has been no provision for the obvious tools of teaching and learning in the 21st century - data projectors, laptops, technical support, technical management, curricular integration of ICT, software leasing and the replacement of ageing desktop computers. In this school we provide all of those from fee income. Can you imagine the state of a PC bought in the year 2000 after six years of constant use in a school? In this school, all such equipment has long since been replaced but with no government investment. It is high time that the Minister for Education realised that the goals of Irish society and the Irish economy simply can not be attained without increased investment.

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment is continuing to develop a substantial reform of the senior cycle which will begin to impact on schools next year as new units for Transition are developed for certification at the end of the senior cycle. Between 2007 and 2010 there is to be an "intensive phase of school planning and teacher professional development" and new syllabi are to be introduced across the senior cycle from 2010. Part of the rationale given in NCCA publications for this enormous change is that it will assist Ireland's emergence as part of the "knowledge society". The NCCA recommends that there should be ICT equipped independent learning areas in schools. Nobody would argue with that but it will require investment in ICT equipment and in new, or redesigned buildings. Recent calculations undertaken as part of the pre-budget submission of the Joint Managerial Body for voluntary



secondary schools have estimated that it costs approximately €142 per pupil per year to provide a ratio of one computer to five students and to fund the necessary software, infrastructure, staff and technical support. At present, the government is providing no specific funding for this at all.

The government circulated schools during the summer to announce that, at last, a vetting system was being introduced whereby An Garda Síochána will check whether prospective school employees have a criminal record. Unfortunately, the system introduced was so badly designed that it has been inoperable up to the date of writing. This has been a request of schools for decades in order to improve child protection and it is hoped that the system will be rapidly sorted out and will operate in the near future. The new child protection guidelines which were introduced last year have been circulated to staff in schools, a training course has been held and the government is providing further training for school principals in the near future.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS

The inspectorate carried out an evaluation of provision in the French language during the last academic year and a very favourable report was received by the school. Great credit is due to the teachers of those subjects for maintaining excellent standards. Such inspection reports are now available on the Department of Education & Science website.

The work of the committees of the Board of Governors is a vital part of the long term planning processes undertaken in the school. Staff and parents are represented on all Board sub-committees and make valuable contributions to the work of the Management Committee, Finance Committee, Education Committee, Grounds and Property Committee and Sports Committee. So much work is undertaken by the Board committees that it can not be listed here, but one example is the ongoing refurbishment and buildings development work undertaken by the Grounds and Property Committee.

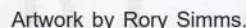
In addition to normal painting and maintenance, new windows have been installed on the east, south and north facades of the school. Associated removal of asbestos has taken place in the office, library, art rooms and two laboratories. Handbasins have been replaced and tiling redone in some of the toilets and in various locations around the school. Five new data projectors have been fitted, air conditioning has been fitted in the server room for the computers. These jobs were completed according to an almost impossible timetable within the few weeks between the end of the exams and the beginning of term so congratulations are due to John Davis, the Administrator, Dr John Reid of the Grounds & Property Committee, all of the grounds and maintenance staff and to our contractors.

The Education Committee supervised the preparation of a number of new policies during the year, concerning Special Needs, Guidance, Crisis Response and Child Protection. The Sports Committee maintains a watching brief on sports policy and developments, the Finance Committee plans the school budget and supervises the accounts while the Management Committee is the body to which the sub-committees report.

The school council is a very valuable body which is elected directly by all of the pupils,

The Guidance Department is staffed by two qualified guidance counsellors. Guidance is a process which begins before the pupils enter the school with a visit by a Guidance Counsellor to the feeder primary schools and a talk for incoming parents. All pupils in Form 1 are interviewed and assisted with their transition to secondary school. Guidance continues with a course in Forms 4 and 5 and individual career interviews with the guidance counsellor for pupils in Form 6. Pupils in Form 5 also have individual interviews with another member of staff to focus their attention on preparation for third level applications. Form 4 pupils undertake differential aptitude tests and interest inventories to assist them to make subject choices for the Leaving Certificate. They also study the operation of third level education and the opportunities available. Students are encouraged to begin thinking about potential career areas, to use work experience as a time to focus on future pathways, to consider possible college applications and to prepare accordingly. Students in Form 5 attend a variety of career talks held in the school, carry out a career project, visit UCD open day and familiarise themselves with relevant college websites and career related computer programs such as Qualifax. Students are also advised on curriculum vitae, job applications and interview technique. We are grateful to the Parents' Association for its assistance with the organisation of a mock interview evening. A study technique course is organised by a member of staff for Form 5. Form 6 students have the opportunity to attend the Higher Options Career Exhibition, the TCD open day as well as to select other college open days of particular interest to individuals. For the parents of Form 6 there is an evening set aside in December where applications systems for all colleges are explained. The guidance counsellors are available to parents and pupils by prior appointment for career and psychological advice.

The contribution of the Parents' Association to the school is greatly appreciated. We are fortunate to have one of the most active associations of any school. Members now (among other things) assist the Guidance Department with mock interviews, hold talks on suitable topics with visiting speakers, facilitate the parties which are held to celebrate the graduation of Form 6 and the receipt of Junior Certificate results by Form 4, organise the parent-teacher meetings in Forms 1, 2 and 5, meet with the Principal and Chairman of the Board to discuss school policies, organise evening meetings for parents on educational



The school is grateful to the Past Pupils' Union for its continued financial support, through prizes and bursaries as well as special fund-raising projects. Although much of this work is unseen, it is certainly appreciated. An online network exists on the school website at www.highschool dublin.com so that past pupils can register their e-mail addresses by year of graduation, thus keeping in touch with their peers and enabling the school to keep in touch with them. This year the Union held a summer barbecue, two dinners, carol singing and a golf outing.

We have welcomed Mr B. Kinsella who joins us in English and ICT, Mr A Malin in PE, Ms M. White in Music, Ms A. Wilson in RE and History, Mr L. Cullen in History and RE, and Ms M. Murphy as an additional Special Needs Assistant. These vacancies arose through two career breaks (Mr M. Wisener and Mr R. Walker) and some teachers being on temporary leave.

The number of pupils enrolled in the school for the year 2006-2007 is 786. In the Junior Certificate 2006, 137 pupils presented 1105 papers where different levels are available and 137 papers at common level (CSPE). 922 papers were taken at higher level and grade C or better was obtained in 83% of these. Grade E or less was obtained on 2% of all papers. The percentage of papers gaining a grade C or better at higher level is as a percentage of the total number of papers was 69% - an excellent figure.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

6 ERASMIAN AND DIOCESAN TIMES

PRIZE DAY AND PARENTS' EVENING

PRINCIPAL'S SPEECH

25 October 2006

Mr Chairman, distinguished guest, ladies, gentlemen and pupils of the school,

You are all very welcome here this evening, as the Chairman has said.

This is a pleasant occasion when we celebrate many different kinds of achievement. We have a big emphasis on academic success, needless to say, but also other awards for hard work, for making progress, for sporting prowess and leadership, for artistic contribution, for initiative and entrepreneurial spirit. We try to recognise the different ways in which people succeed and contribute in the school and I congratulate all pupils receiving prizes tonight for the great effort they have put into their work and activities.

Tonight is one of the occasions during which we can demonstrate our very real commitment to the mission of the school, with so many different kinds of awards.

"Our mission as an educational community is the pursuit of excellence and the development of the full potential of all. We emphasise values such as integrity, kindness and respect. Our aim is to enable pupils to take their place in society as responsible, informed, thinking and tolerant human beings."

I would like to welcome our guest speaker, Kieran O'Connor, who has been receiving some considerable press coverage recently as a successful entrepreneur. We are looking forward to hearing from you shortly, and the Chairman will introduce you in more detail then.

When The High School was founded in 1870 one of the reasons that the Board of Governors of the Erasmus Smith Trust was seeking to start a school in Dublin was to satisfy the need of the rapidly growing middle class for educational services for its children to assist them into commercial and professional careers. The old Grammar Schools had laid their primary emphasis on the classics and there seemed to be a need for a more modern type of education, although the classics were also then provided in the curriculum, although not in as dominant a position as in the Grammar Schools.

The growth of business education in the 20th century led to many challenges for schools and universities, not least the decision on how far the provision of education should be linked to the needs of the economy, a debate which still continues. While the needs of business have their place, it would, in my own view, be quite wrong to

SCHOOL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS 2006

Dr Ralph Reynolds Memorial Scholarship:
Conor Sexton
Rathfarnham Educate Together National School

School Scholarships:
Cian Dowling-Cullen
Ranelagh Multi-Denominational School

Ferdia Soper MacCafraidh
Rathfarnham Educate Together National School

Zoe Dolan
Zion Parish National School

Johnny McNulty
Taney National School

Gavin O'Toole
Rathfarnham Educate Together National School

Music Scholarship:
Anna Keary
Kildare Place School

Carl Adams
Sandford Parish National School

place too strong an emphasis on vocational education. Human beings are more than economic units and it is necessary through the breadth and depth of the experience which students have at school to develop and draw out every facet of the human being in us. Would we be happy, for example, if we paid no attention to history and philosophy and the great lessons to be learned from the experiences of the past and the thought of the past? Neglecting the artistic, musical, dramatic, spiritual and moral sides of our characters would also be a crime against ourselves.

So, here at this school we attempt to provide a broad and balanced experience, through the curriculum and also through what happens outside the classroom. The wide variety of activities on offer allows every student to find something of interest. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of the staff whose dedication to providing those activities creates the exceptional experience which students here can have.

However, business education also has its place and nowadays it is quite common to find entrepreneurial education programmes in secondary schools, including in this school. It is, of course, arguable as to how far you can train people in the entrepreneurial spirit by studying it. One of the key elements of business success is often the willingness to take risks, as Kieran will probably mention later. This can be developed in schools by having a culture which accepts that students can take risks in all aspects of learning, offer ideas, discuss those ideas, make mistakes and be congratulated for trying, instead of jeered or criticised for their failures. This culture should permeate every aspect of a school, not just Business classes.

One of the other very valuable roles which I believe schools can play in assisting towards preparation for a life in business is to place economic activity within a moral framework. The purposes of a business are to provide a product or a service and to make a profit. Unbridled capitalism, where the profit motive is the only motive can lead to very poor conditions for workers, exploitation of producers, inadequate attention to safety and environmentally acceptable production techniques, political corruption, and perhaps goods which are not of the highest standards. Education in morality leads people to question the conduct of business and to seek to surround it with a framework of standards which lead to the general betterment of society.

Such attention to ethical and moral standards has led to the

development of all sorts of regulatory frameworks for businesses and for people who work within them, a good example being the strict regulation of the accountancy profession. The principle of corporate responsibility is taking hold, with large companies paying heed to the welfare of their workers, to environmental concerns and to the conditions in which their products are manufactured. I was impressed with a very small example last year when we bought a new printer from Ricoh – the printer which now produces the weekly newsletter. The company explained to us that we were part of their carbon neutrality programme, by which they planted trees in a forest near Dublin to neutralise the carbon which is put into the atmosphere in the manufacture of their printer. They also gave us the percentage of materials in the printer which were recycled and recyclable (it was almost 100%) and they encouraged us to use recycled paper. Only a short time ago no attention would have been paid to such matters but education has resulted in a growing attention to the common good by business.

As well as covering these concepts in the curriculum, at this school we have developed a number of concrete ways in which we encourage students to put them into practice. It is always difficult to choose examples because there are so many, so forgive me for concentrating on two examples, the Fair Trade Fair and the Greenschools Project. The Fair Trade Fair showcases and sells products which have been bought from producers who are offered fair trading conditions laid down in a code of conduct. This code provides the producers in developing countries with a guarantee of continuing income and a fair price for their products, thus protecting them from the instability of unregulated capitalism whereby large corporations continually seek cheaper producers to maximise profits and may also use their buying power to ensure that producers remain permanently impoverished. The school sells Fair Trade products all year in the cafeteria and all of the tea and coffee used here is Fair Trade. It has been interesting to observe the growth of the Fair Trade movement over the last ten years and to see its incorporation into mainstream supermarkets due to the pressure of an educated consumer population. There is still a long way to go in encouraging more and more purchases of an increasing variety of fairly traded goods, but, looking at the success of the last ten years, we can now actually begin to see a future where all goods are fairly traded. That will have a profound effect on the wellbeing of people all over the world and should contribute to the resolution of many conflicts in previously impoverished areas. This has and will be achieved by the pressure of individuals, like you and me.

The Greenschools Project plays a practical role in the school also by highlighting the importance of recycling and by having the students organise paper recycling around the school on a weekly basis. There is a lot of good work going into the project on a consistent basis and it offers plenty of scope for expansion into other environmentally conscious projects in the future.

Ambrose Bierce, an American columnist and writer of horror stories wrote in his book "The Devil's Dictionary" in 1906, that a corporation was "an ingenious device for obtaining profit without individual responsibility", while the founder of the Bahai religion expressed his confidence at about the same time that people could arrive at an ethical



PRIZES 05-06

FORM 1 CLASS PRIZES 1-G <i>Robert Emo, Katie O'Brien</i> 1-H <i>Naoise Dolan, Matthew Smyth</i> 1-M <i>Jessica Buttanshaw, Eve Roseingrave</i> 1-R <i>Seraphim Dempsey, Sophie Lee</i> 1-T <i>Mark Gaynor, Mollie-Kate Richardson</i> PROGRESS PRIZES 1-G <i>Seán Adye-Curran, Michael Leith</i> 1-H <i>Aimee Bannister, Catriona Spoor</i> 1-M <i>Sarah Keating, Ryan Kirwan</i> 1-R <i>Robbie Carson, Aisling Naylor</i> 1-T <i>Christopher Drakeford, Emily Dunleavy</i>	FORM 2 CLASS PRIZES 2-C <i>Aoife Kearney, Sadhbh Soper Ní Chafraidh</i> 2-G <i>Alex Dakin, Stephanie Lodola</i> 2-T <i>Michael McNulty, Tom Roseingrave</i> 2-W <i>Diarmuid Kennedy, Laura Martin</i> 2-WK <i>Iain Irvine, Andrea Murray-Byrne</i> WILFRED LOWRY PROGRESS PRIZES 2-C <i>Rebecca Mills, Stephen Whelan</i> 2-G <i>Vanya Eccles, Katie Hyland</i> 2-T <i>Aisling Kiernan, Sarah Kate McConnell</i> 2-W <i>Kevin Browne, Stephanie Moore</i> 2-WK <i>Milo Mays, Georgie Twamley</i>
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framework for the conduct of business when he wrote that "commerce is as a heaven, whose sun is trustworthiness and whose moon is truthfulness." (Bahá'u'lláh 1817-1892, Persian nobleman.) Which concept succeeds is up to us.

It is possible, I think, for schools to have a lasting effect on business and how it operates by encouraging the drive for success but also through creating a set of expectations among the young people here today that the future will not just be the "me" society but that we will all appreciate that fairness for everybody leads to increased security, happiness and wellbeing for everybody too.

Peter F. Drucker, the American management guru wrote that "management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things".

These young ambassadors receiving their prizes and our congratulations here tonight will, I have no doubt, do the right things in the future and make us very proud of them in the process.

Thank you.

SPEECH GIVEN BY MR KIERAN O'CONNOR ON PRIZE DAY, 25 OCT 2006

Board of Governors, Mr Duffy, ladies and gentlemen, students, I would like to thank Mr Duffy for inviting me along tonight to this prestigious event in the High School Calendar. I am deeply honoured to be here and for the chance to congratulate all the prizewinners on your accomplishments.

As the chief executive officer of a multi national company that employs over 1800 people world wide in 20 different companies in 12 different countries – I stand up on a daily basis in front of staff, colleagues and bankers, business men, potential investors talking about the business, the profit and loss, the strategic direction of the company etc. By now this is second nature – yet to stand up in front of you all tonight, an audience where many of you have your lives and dreams before you, confident and full of the youthful exuberance, many of you brimming with expectations of going to college, getting a degree, qualifying for a job – this talk tonight is a completely different challenge for me. And so it is to the students here tonight that I primarily address these few words.

I would like to put into context four personal experiences that illustrate anything is possible, that life and jobs or careers are full of twists and turns, that nothing is set in stone irrespective of your qualifications, that we have to be flexible and take advantage of opportunities. That we need to focus on what it is we are trying to accomplish, that we need to innovate and move forward, and that mistakes are the platform of our next success.

Over the last 25 years I have been a soldier, a teacher, a UN diplomat, and a businessman, during that period I have also lived in six different countries for prolonged periods. During that time as an army officer in Lebanon I had a gun put to my head by a Lebanese militia man – where I fully expected him to pull the trigger, I have sat in a room at United Nations headquarters with the Secretary General of the United Nations discussing budgets for landmines, and as an entrepreneur with the security company I currently run in early 2000 I drove for 18 hours a day for more than 6 weeks escorting trucks with Dell computers across America.

I will tell you about each of those stories in a minute, but I think it is very important to explain the context of how such a diverse career can unfold, and of the 6 fundamental principles that I have applied which has resulted in such diversity and range of seized opportunities. Indeed these have become the principles of my business life and have guided me.

Be passionate in everything you do
Believe in yourself
Take calculated risks
If you fail to plan, plan to fail
Never take anything for granted
Learn by your mistakes

It is important to follow whatever your passion might be in life; do something you love. It will make you proud. If you are not passionate and committed in undertaking something or anything you will not execute



Above: Mr K O'Connor with Catriona Spoor (left) and Mark O'Kelly (right).

it well. It doesn't matter whether it is in education at school, or the rugby or hockey field or in your professional career.

Enthusiasm and passion is one of the most powerful engines of success. When you do a thing, do it with all your might. Put your soul into it. Stamp it with your own personality. Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and you will accomplish your objective.

I always remember while overseas as a captain in the army in South Lebanon with the UN in the late 80's, which was considered a combat zone and was a dangerous and hazardous place to work, I was proud to wear the uniform, to be doing the peacekeeping work that we were doing, in particular I always remember the sense of pride that would come over me whenever we stood to attention at the beginning of the day as the Irish flag was raised over our camp. You often hear about the fabulous reputation that the Irish army has while in service with the UN, and I believe, having experienced it myself that it was as a result of the passion and pride associated with the work that the army was doing there. Indeed I recall an incident where I was called to a checkpoint to deal with a Lebanese man, who had been stopped at an Irish checkpoint having been found to have a landmine in the boot of his car. The Lebanese man refused to turn around and insisted to travel towards an Israeli position where he more than likely would have tried to set up a roadside bomb. When I reached the checkpoint I told him in my pigeon Arabic that it was 'mis misceala rawa thon' – which means in Arabic not possible to go there. At that point he became very irate, took out a pistol, cocked it and put it to me head. The most frightening sound I ever experienced in my life was after that when the Irish soldiers who were gathered all on the checkpoint immediately cocked their weapons and pointed them at him. It was a clear signal to him that if he killed me they would kill him. Thankfully, he put his weapon down, got into his car, turned around and went back in the direction that he came. I know it would be gruesome to think but if I had been killed at that time, I guess people may have said that Kieran O'Connor died what he loved doing best, and I don't think there could be a higher barometer of passion than that.

If you believe that you can do something, then the chances are that you can do it.

If you do not believe that you can accomplish something then you most certainly will not. Self-belief is the cornerstone and a foundation of success. Success may be any number of things, it may relate to education, which, in itself, is a concrete step on the path to many wonderful achievements. It may be success in a race or an event. It may be success in business or the achievement of a lifetime ambition and dream. The truth is that for any of these things to happen, you must have the belief that you can do it.

However very often fear raises its head and causes hesitation and doubt. Fear comes in the form of fear of embarrassment, failure, and injury. These are the some of main fears that keep people from achieving their dreams. But my advice is to go for it, if you want to do something, don't let fear get in your way. Follow your dreams, make them come true. If you spend your life living in fear, you won't accomplish anything, because to achieve your highest goals you must take risks.

In 1991 when I again was in Lebanon as an Army officer working for the UN, and getting a good first hand knowledge of peacekeeping and how the UN operated, I had the idea that I actually would like to join the UN – a complete change of career from where I was! The fact that I was going to have to be get this job through the UN HQ in NYC was never going to be an obstacle. To keep a long story short, within six months of apply-

ing to the UN for a job, I started out as a civilian administrator with the UN in south Lebanon. By leaving the Army I left behind a permanent pensionable government job, and also my family in Ireland for a one-year contract with the UN. I believe it is important to roll the dice and take some risk; otherwise your life may be a litany of 'what could have been'. This is a good example of taking a calculated risk. We took this opportunity with the UN and for nine years I travelled the world as a UN official specialising in UN Finance. During 1998 while I was working as a budget officer in New York administering a \$40M fund dealing with the eradication of landmines, I met with the UN SG Kofi Annan. In fact I was summoned to the 38th floor of the UN building which is where the SG has his offices to update him on how the UN donations for the landmine initiative was being spent, how we were engaging demining teams, (which were specialist military engineer teams) and what geographic regions the money was going. It was an overwhelming experience and encounter; a long way from being an army officer on the hills of south Lebanon, or Collins Barracks Cork and certainly a position and situation which would never have occurred without first having the self-belief and confidence to believe anything is possible. Indeed in 2000 I had been appointed as the finance officer to the office of High Commission for Human rights, which was Mary Robinson's office in the UN, but I had decided to leave the UN, for another challenge. Some thought I was mad. But also I needed to put in perspective the amount of time I was travelling, especially with a young family in Ireland.

And so I returned to Ireland to be with my family and took the calculated risk to get involved with a start up company that at that time had only seven employees based in Dublin.

So how does an Army officer with plenty military training and UN diplomacy international experience but no commercial security expertise manage to build such a successful global business in a very competitive industry? In a word: planning.

I am a strong believer in the old military adage of if you fail to plan, plan to fail, a phrase that you will all be familiar with. Most of the success of the business we have built up stems from planning and the degree of commitment we have. We have approached the business in a methodical and planned manner, and by being able to multi-task and stay focused, something you have to do in business. In the six years that I have been with my company we have set up and established full time offices in 12 different countries, with all the local prerequisites that are required to set up a business; obtaining business licenses and security licenses, hiring staff and premises all from scratch – we have had to know upfront what the potential pitfalls were. From the outset we set our goals as to what we wanted to achieve...goal setting is a powerful tool, whether applied to one's studies, professional life, personal aspirations or health objectives. In fact, goal setting can make the critical difference between success and failure. As many of you who are doing your exams this year know – you have to plan your time, you have to balance your work and your leisure – that is all planning – but you have to take a medium to long term view of these things, and irrespective of whether it is planning for business or exams, if you fail to plan – plan to fail.

In June 2000 our company was awarded a short-term security contract in Texas – basically making sure that trucks carrying Dell Computers valued at 5m dollars and more travelling from

FORM 3

Rogers Memorial Prize
(best performance in Junior Certificate):
Jack Kelly

Art - Miss Mitchell's Prize:
Clare Cryan

Business Studies - S.S. Evans Prize:
Debbie Blair

Civic, Social & Political Education
- Parents' Association Prize:
Stephen Shaw, Emma Connell, Graham Young

English - Emily Latimer Memorial Prize:
Debbie Blair

French - Carpenter Memorial Prize:
Aidan Cowlard-Joyce

Geography - Miss Latimer's Prize:
Debbie Blair

German - German Government Prize:
Joan Somers Donnelly

History - Casserley Prize:
Jack Kelly

Home Economics - Dr Maurice Anderson's Prize:
Olwen Smith

Irish - Jellett Memorial Prize:
Jack O'Kennedy

Latin:
Jack Kelly

Mathematics - Dillon Prize:
Jack Kelly

Materials Technology (Wood)
- Parents' Association Prize:
Robert Browne

Music - Diocesan School Prize:
Gillian Carr

Religious Education- Parents' Association Prize:
Olivia McEvansoneya

Science - Dorothy Blakeney Prize:
Jack Kelly

Technical Graphics - Parents' Association Prize:
James Ryan

PROGRESS PRIZES

3-D
Kevin Smyth,
Jessica Gamble

3-OH
Jonathan Walker,
Aoife McGovern

3-G
Fiona Flaherty,
Peter Hunt

3-P
Charlotte Leonard-Kane,
Hanna Phelan

3-H
Rachel Bishop,
Jake Jackson

Austin to Nashville were delivered safely and on time. A colleague and myself went out to Texas with minimal resources and experience to do this work. Although the business we were establishing was new conceptually, with inherent risk, we shared a hotel room, drove for over 18 hours a day five days a week, and slept for less than four hours a night for 6 weeks in order to get the business established. But we planned every step of the way meticulously. Each night we updated our short-term objectives, which were clearly written out. We kept revisiting the list regularly. Whenever we weren't driving, every hour of everyday was accounted for in terms of our productivity, meetings to be held, banks, cars, offices, stationary, recruitment, uniforms, licenses, accountancy, and incorporation. We continuously monitored our progress against our stated goals we drove ourselves, literally into the ground. Indeed during that 6 week period we succeeded in getting a \$50k overdraft from a bank we had never dealt with before, we hired 4 cars and we managed to persuade the manager of a national petrol company to give us fuel cards which allowed us to drive all over America for 45 days without having to worry about paying for fuel. At the end of the day we achieved exactly what we had set out to do and today the business operates in more than 30 states in the USA with over 120 people employed – and I attribute that success to the planning we undertook to achieve our goals – success just does not happen.

Now I would hate to think that it would appear that we could do no wrong. It is important to emphasise that during my army career and UN career I made many mistakes, and I am sure that in the future I will make some more. We all make mistakes.

Most people are afraid to fail. We worry constantly about not meeting expectations. Because of this, many never get started on the path toward reaching their goals. However in order to become successful at anything you must fail a few times, whereby you learn from these mistakes and only then be able to come through a winner. While you don't have to take wild chances, you do have to take calculated and educated risks.

But it is very important that we learn by our mistakes; that we understand what went wrong, and how do we fix it going forward. I have made wrong decisions in selecting wrong managers within our company, decisions that has cost our company tens of thousands of euros to rectify. The biggest commercial mistake from which I have learned and recovered was in 2003 when I got a call at 3am in the morning from the US manager who advised me that we had lost a \$2 million contract. We had taken the client for granted, had under serviced them, did not pay attention to some early warnings, did not put the required resources or equipment in place. It took us along time to recover from that blow, but internally it fortified our management team and management practises to ensure that nothing like that can ever take place again without us reacting first. And so what we have formulated with all our clients across the world is to get them to score us every three months – more or less like a term test – whereby we get them to score the quality of our service and performance across a number of different parameters, so that that if there is any area where we are slipping or required to focus we are made aware of it early on in the process. And so I reiterate again, don't be afraid to make mistakes, consider them as stepping stones to finding new ways, ideas, pathways and solutions.

If there's one quotation that sums up my journey through life and the choices I've made,

FORM 5

Mitchell Scholarship (best overall in Form 5):
Beth Kelly

Class Prizes:

Jessie Elliott, Claire Fergus, Joelle Grogan, Hannah Jennings, Toby Lyons, Alison May, Jack Mays, Deirdre McClean, Gemma McRann, Killian Rogan, Eoin Silke, Andrew Stevenson

FORM 6

(Normally a pupil is eligible for only one of the first six awards below)

High School Exhibition:

(best Leaving Certificate performance of a pupil who enters T.C.D.)

Frank Moriarty

John Thompson Scholarship:

Geoffrey Keating

Glorney Exhibition and Cup:

(next best performing pupil who proceeds to further education)

Timothy Harris

Mildred Latimer Memorial Prize:

(next best performing pupil who enters further education in Ireland)

Christopher Blair

Abraham and Charles Spiro Prize:

(next best performing pupil)

Ruth Roseingrave

John Bennett Memorial Prize:

(next best performing pupil)

Megan Leonard-Kane

Rawdon Taylor Memorial Prize:

(best pupil who studies Engineering at T.C.D.)

Danny Finn

Accounting:

Laura Mahon

Applied Mathematics - Evelyn Riley Memorial Prize:

Christopher Blair

Art - Miss Mitchell's Prize:

Ruth Roseingrave

Biology - Miss Jagoe Prize:

Frank Moriarty

Business - S.S. Evans Prize:

Avril Nolan

Chemistry - Dr Start's Prize:

Timothy Harris

Classical Studies - Etheline Brady Prize:

Geoffrey Keating

Construction Studies - Parents' Association Prize:

Ciaran O'Callaghan

Economics - Ivan King Memorial Prize:

Robert Bradish



it's the closing lines of a poem by Robert Frost, which I know most of you know:

"I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I---
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference."

Goodnight, God bless and good luck.

English - Bessie Bury Prize:
Sam Fitzpatrick

French - McNay Prize:
Ruth Roseingrave

Geography - Miss Latimer's Prize:
Megan Leonard-Kane

Geology - Ivan King Memorial Prize:
Timothy Harris

German - German Government Prize:
Sarah Lodola

History - Ivan King Memorial Prize:
Frank Moriarty

**Home Economics - Dr Maurice
Anderson's Prize:**
Avril Nolan

Irish-Casserley Memorial Prize:
Úna Ní Éigeartaigh

Mathematics - Foster Memorial Prize:
Christopher Blair

Music - Diocesan School Prize:
Aisling Bridgeman

Physics - Campbell-Crawford Prize:
Timothy Harris

Spanish:
Ruth Roseingrave

Technical Drawing - Miss Mitchell's Prize:
Daragh Walsh

Class Prizes: *Roxanne Brownlee, Ailbhe
Donnellan, Jill Harding, Mengxi Hu, Ruth
Jones, Davey Kelleher, Emma Laing,
Rachel O'Byrne, Phelim O'Reilly, Shane
Sargeant, Amy Ward, Michael Willoughby*

Special Category Prizes
Alan Peters Memorial Prize:
(Prefect who has made the most helpful
contribution to school life)
Robert Hunt

P.P.U. Debating Medal:
Joelle Grogan



Top left: Mrs C. Duffy, Mr K. O'Connor, Mr L. Ruttle (Chairman),
Ms T. Jones, Mr B. Duffy.
Prizer winners from top left: Katie O'Brien, Carl Adman,
Anna Keary, John McNulty,
Zoe Dolan, Cian Dowling Cullen
Conor Sexton, Robert Farhat and Beth Kelly
Joelle Grogan, Robert Hunt
Killian Rogan, Toby Lyons.



From top left: Jessie Elliott, Beth Kelly, Hanna Phelan, and Jack Kelly receiving their prizes from Mr K O'Connor.



Left: Brian Priestman (Joint-President PPU, 06-07), Frank Moriarty, Karen Sutton, Avril Poff (Joint-President PPU, 06-07).



Left: Karen Sutton with Avril Poff (Joint-President PPU, 06-07).

McDonnell Prize for the Arts:
Robert Farhat, Beth Kelly

Foundation Day Initiative Award
Robert Bradish - commitment in organising drama productions in the school
Beth Kelly - commitment as Editor of *The Erasmian* & *Diocesan Times*
Alison May - commitment as Secretary of the School Council

Past Pupils' Union Awards
The following awards are made to the pupils who are considered to have made the best contribution to the school. In the case of the Head Boy and Head Girl the award is automatic and in the case of the other two awards a vote of staff and Form 6 pupils takes place from which the Head Boy and Head Girl are excluded.

Head Boy: *Shane Sargeant*
Head Girl: *Ruth Roseingrave*
Jean Scott Trophy: *Karen Sutton*
Old Boys' Cup: *Frank Moriarty*

GOVERNORS OF THE SCHOOLS FOUNDED BY ERASMUS SMITH ESQ

Leslie Ruttle, A.I.I.P.M.
- Chairman and Treasurer
The Lord Primate of All Ireland
The Lord Archbishop of Dublin
The Lord Bishop of Tuam
The Provost of Trinity College, Dublin
W. G. (Harry) Booker, M.A., P.C.
Ian G. Burns
Annette Camier
T. Owen Driver
Constance Fraser
Richard Graves
Rev. Wilbert J. Gourley, B.D.
R. Graham Heather, F.C.I.I.
Ruth Hunter
Ken Hunt, A.R.I.B.A., M.R.I.A.I., F.S.C.D.
Valerie Jones, M.Litt., Ph.D.
Norman D. Kilroy, F.C.A.
Standish Mason
- Chairman Finance Committee
Dr Philip Matthews
- Chairman Education Committee
T.W. Roland Meates, B.Dent.Sc., Chairman Sports Committee
Susan M. Parkes, M.A., M. Litt.
John Reid, B.A.I., Ph.D., C.Eng., M.I.E.I., M.B.C.S. - Chairman Grounds and Property Committee
Gladys Ruddock, M.A., H.Dip. Ed. (T.C.D.)
Frank E. Sowman, B.A. (Mod), LL.B.
Salters Sterling, M.A.,
Charles T. Watson
Robert P. Willis, M.A., F.I.A.

Librarian
Mrs V. King

NON-ACADEMIC STAFF

Administration Staff
Mr J. Davis, B.B.S. (T.C.D.), A.C.A.
Mrs V. Barry, Mrs H. Kane, Ms D. Shaw

Principal's Secretary
Mrs J. Sadlier

Nurse
Mrs G. Rath, R.C.N.

Catering Manageress
Mrs J. Gillis

School Sergeant
Mr G. Draper

Groundsman
Mr B. O'Donovan

Security
Mr T. Neiland

Erasmus Smith Trust Archivist
Mr A. Phelan, B.A. (First Class Hons.)
(D.C.U.), M.F.A. (R.I.T., N.Y.), Cert.
Archival & Preservation Studies (G.E.H., N.Y.)

Special Needs Assistants
Ms E. Delaney, Ms M. Murphy

Supervisors
Ms M. Garvey, Mrs B. Carty, Mr J. Egan,
Mr S. McDonnell, Mrs C. Smyth

SCHOOL STAFF 2006-2007

Principal

Mr B. Duffy, Moderator, M.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Deputy Principal

Mr R. Davies, B.A. (Mod.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Ms B. Bourke, B.A. (Hons.) B. Mus.(N.U.I.) H.Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (NUI)

Ms N. Boyce, B.A. (N.U.I.), M.A., P.G.C.E. (Q.U.B.)

Ms C. Breen, B.A. (Hons.), (N.U.I.)

Ms S. Brennan, B.A. (Hons.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Ms M. Burrows, B.A. (First Class Hons.) (D.C.U.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), Dip. Comm. (D.I.T.)

Mrs V. Carson, B.A. (Mod.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Mr K. Clarke, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), M.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mr C. Cryan, Cert. in Woodwork Teaching (Cork)

Mr L. Cullen, B.A. (Hons.), (T.C.D.)

Ms D. Fahey, B. Ed. Home Economics (T.C.D.) (Hons), M.A. (First class hons.) (N.U.I.)

Ms G. Fitzgerald, B.A. (Hons.) (D.C.U.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.), M.A.(Hons) (N.U.I.)

Mr P. Fitzpatrick, B.A. (Hons.) (Glamorgan), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons), (T.C.D.)

Mr C. Flynn, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.), M.A. (Hons) (N.U.I.)

Miss R. Galligan, B.Des. (Hons.) (N.C.A.D.), Dip.A.D.T. (L.S.A.D.) (Hons.)

Mr R. Giles, M.A. (Hons.) (Oxford), PGCE (King's College)

Mr T. Gill, B.A. (Mod.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Miss P. Graham, B.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed.

Mr M. Griffin, B.A. (D.C.U.), P.G.C.E. (Leeds)

Ms M. Hearne, B.A. (Mod.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (T.C.D.), M. Sc. (U.C.C.)

Mr J. Hickey, B. Sc. (First Class Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.), A.L.C.M.

Mrs V. Humphreys, B.A. (Hons), P.G.C.E. (Liverpool)

Mrs S. Hutchinson-Edgar, B.A. (Hons.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Mr P. Irwin, M.A. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (N.U.I.)

Ms S. Jones, B.A. (Hons.) (Lancaster), P.G.C.E. (Liverpool)

Ms T. Jones, B.A. (Hons.) (Limerick), H. Dip. Guidance (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mr A. Kelly, Foundation Scholar, First Class Moderator, M.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Ms H. Killane, B.A. (Hons.) (N.C.A.D.), M.A. Fine Art (First class honours) (Univ. Ulster), H. Dip. A.D.T. (Hons.) (N.C.A.D.)

Mr M. Kirby, B. Comm. (N.U.I.), B. Ed. (Strawberry Hill)

Ms D. Levis, B.Sc. (Hons.) Loughborough, P.G.C.E. (Loughborough)

Ms M. Lynch, B. Tech. Ed. (Hons.) (U.of L.)

Mr A. Malin, B.A. (Hons.) (Newman), Q.T.S. (UK)

Mr L. McBride, B.Sc. (Hons.), H. Dip Comp. Sc. (Hons.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mrs C. McCartney, B.A. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mr P. McCaughey, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), M.A. (Budapest), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mr L. McClure, B.A. (T.C.D.), Cert. Ed. (Aberdeen University)

Ms M. McKevitt, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), M.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mr B. McNamara, B.B.S. (U. of L.), Dip. in Ed. (U. of L.)

Mr D. Miller, B.A. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (N.U.I.)

Mrs M. Milne, B.A. (Rutgers University), M. Litt. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed.(Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Ms R. Missen, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Ms A. Ni Chonchubhair, B.A. (First Class Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Mr B. O'Hanlon, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (N.U.I.) (Hons.)

Miss A. Parle, B.A. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (N.U.I.), Dip. Counselling Skills (N.U.I.)

Mrs L. Pearce, B.A. (O.U.), Cert. Ed. (London), H. Dip Ed. (N.U.I.)

Mr P. Prendergast, B.A. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed.(N.U.I.)

Mr B. Quinn, M.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Ms S. Quinn, B.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Mrs C. Reilly, B. Sc. (Hons.) (Loughborough), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Melle E. Rouillet, B.A.(Hons.) (Angers), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Ms P. Saville, Moderator, B.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

Mr P. Sheridan, B.A. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Miss A. Stevenson, B.A. (Mod.) (T.C.D.), P.G.C.E. (Q.U.B.), T.E.F.L. Cert., Dip. Rem. Ed. (C.I.C.E.)

Mr J. Swan, B.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.), Dip. B.S. (Magee)

Ms D. Thorp, B.E. (First Class Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (First Class Hons.) (N.U.I.)

Ms S. Toolan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), M.Sc. (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (T.C.D.) (Hons.)

Ms L. Watson, B.A. (Mod.) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (T.C.D.) (Hons)

Ms M. White, B.A. (Hons.) (N.U.I.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.), A.L.C.M., Dip. Leg. St.

Mr R. White, B.A. (Hons.) (Lancaster), P.G.C.E. (Liverpool)

Dr C. Whitford, B.Sc. (Hons.), PhD, P.G.C.E. (Newcastle)

Mr I. Wilkinson, B.A. (First Class Moderator) (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.)

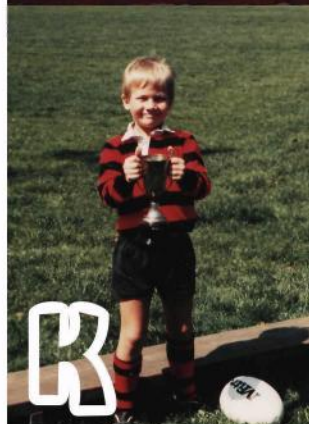
Mr D. Wright, Moderator, B.A. (T.C.D.), H. Dip. Ed. (Hons.) (T.C.D.), M. Sc. (Hons.) (Alberta)

Answers to 'Guess Who?'

A: Dr Whitford, B: Ms Watson, C: Mr Gill, D: Flynn, H: Mr Griffin, I: Mr Kelly, J: Mr McNamara, K: Mr Malin, L: Mr McBride, M: Mr O'Hanlon, N: Mr Wilkinson, O: Ms Boyce, P: Ms Fahey, Q: Ms Graham, R: Ms Hutchinson-Edgar, S: Ms Heame, T: Ms Levis, U: Ms McKevitt, V: Ms S Jones, W: Ms Saville, X: Ms T Jones

guess who?

answers on page 14



Principal: Mr B. Duffy
Deputy Principal:
Mr R. Davies

PASTORAL CARE FORM 1

Year Head: Ms A. Parle
Form teachers: Mr B. O'Hanlon,
Ms L. Watson, Ms M. Hearne

FORM 2

Year Head: Ms P. Graham
Form teachers: Ms S. Toolan,
Ms M. McKevitt, Ms R. Missen, Mrs C. Reilly

FORM 3

Year Head: Mr R. Giles
Form teachers: Ms S. Jones, Ms D. Thorp,
Ms G. Fitzgerald, Mr R. Giles, Mr P. Sheridan

FORM 4

Year Head: Mr D. Wright
Form Teachers: Mr M. Griffin, Ms D. Levis,
Mr J. Swan, Mrs S. Hutchinson-Edgar

FORM 5

Year Head: Dr C. Whitford
Form Teachers: Mr C. Cryan, Ms D. Fahey,
Mr P. Prendergast, Mr B. McNamara,
Mr B. Quinn, Mr C. Flynn

FORM 6

Year Head: Mr T. Gill
Form Teachers: Mr B. Kinsella, Mr A. Kelly,
Ms M. Lynch, Mr D. Miller, Mrs M. Milne,
Mr L. McClure

SUBJECT CO-ORDINATORS

Art: Ms R. Galligan
Business subjects: Mr P. Sheridan
CSPE: Mr P. Irwin
English: Ms M. Milne
Geography: Mr J. Swan
History: Miss P. Graham
Irish: Ms A. Parle
Mathematics: Mr I. Wilkinson
Modern Languages: Mr B. Quinn
Music: Ms B. Bourke
Religious Education:
Mrs S. Hutchinson-Edgar
Technological Subjects: Mr C. Cryan
SPHE: Ms T. Jones
Science: Mr T. Gill

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES TEAM

Mr L. McBride (**overall co-ordinator,
European Computer Driving Licence in
Form 4 and 5**)
Mr I. Wilkinson (**supervision of facilities
and staff support**)
Ms M. Hearne (**students' website**)
Ms M. Hearne (**European Computer
Driving Licence and computer club after
school**)
The Principal (**school website**)

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES 06-07

SPORTS

Sports Co-ordinator: Ms S. Jones
Adventure Sports Co-ordinator: Mr C. Cryan

Rugby: Mr D. Wright, Mr A. Malin, Mr P. McCaughey,
Mr M. Griffin, Mr B. Kinsella, Mr B. McNamara, Mr K. Clarke,
Mr L. McBride, Mr T. Gill

Hockey: Ms D. Levis, Ms S. Jones, Mr I. Wilkinson, Mr D. Miller,
Mr R. White, Mrs V. Carson, Mr C. Flynn, Mr D. Miller, Mr T. Gill,
Ms T. Jones

Cricket: Mr A. Malin, Mr P. McCaughey, Mr T. Gill, Ms D. Thorp

Tennis: Mr R. White, Ms S. Jones, S. McDonnell, Mr C. Flynn

Badminton: Mr C. Flynn, Ms D. Thorp

Athletics: Mr P. Irwin, Mr M. Griffin, Mrs S. Hutchinson-Edgar

Basketball: Mrs K. Kavanagh, Mr J. Boylan

Canoeing: Mr J. Swan, Mr C. Flynn, Mr C. Cryan, Ms T. Jones

Caving: Mr D. Wright

Cross country: Mr P. Irwin, Mrs S. Hutchinson-Edgar

Hillwalking: Mr C. Cryan, Mr J. Swan, Mr C. Flynn, Ms S. Toolin

Rock climbing: Mr C. Cryan, Mr C. Flynn

Soccer: Mr M. Griffin

Swimming: Ms T. Jones, Mr A. Malin

Table-tennis: Mr P. Sheridan

Additional part-time staff are employed in many sports.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Art Portfolio Development:
Ms H. Killane

Assembly Co-ordinator:
Mrs S. Hutchinson-Edgar

Booklists: Mr L. McClure

Choir: Ms B. Bourke

Christian Union: Mr I. Wilkinson, Ms L. Watson, Mrs V. Carson

Co-operation Ireland: Mr P. Irwin

Curriculum Co-ordinator:
Mr J. Hickey

Debating: Mr D. Miller (Senior),
Ms S. Hutchinson-Edgar (Junior)

Detention System: Ms M. Garvey

Drama: Mrs M. Milne, Ms M. McKevitt, Ms C. Breen

Enterprise Education: Mr M. Kirby

Erasmian & Diocesan Times: Ms L. Watson

European Youth Parliament: Mr D. Miller

European Studies information exchanges: Mr P. Irwin, Mr J. Swan

Examination Organisation: Mrs C. Reilly, Mr J. Swan

European Exchanges and Links: Mr B. Quinn

Form 5 course on college applications, UCAS applications: Mr A. Kelly

Guidance Counsellor: Ms T. Jones

Induction of New Staff: Miss P. Graham

Lockers: Mr M. Kirby

Lost Property: Mr L. McClure

Media Club: Ms R. Missen

Model United Nations: Mr D. Miller

Orchestra: Ms M. White

Photographic Club: Ms H. Killane

Photography of School Activities, Publicity: Mr P. Prendergast

President's Award: Mr J. Swan, Mr D. Miller

Prize System: Ms P. Saville

Punctuality: Mrs C. McCartney

Scholarship Examinations: Mr J. Hickey

School Council: Mr B McNamara

School Steward: Mr P. Irwin

Science Club/Young Scientist: Dr C. Whitford

Special Needs: Mrs L. Pearce, Ms A. Stevenson, Ms V. Humphries

Staff Services: Miss A. Stevenson

State Examinations: Mr P. Sheridan

Stationery: Mr J. Hickey

Study Skills Seminar: Mr L. McClure

Supervised Study: Ms M. Garvey

Timetable: Mr R. Davies

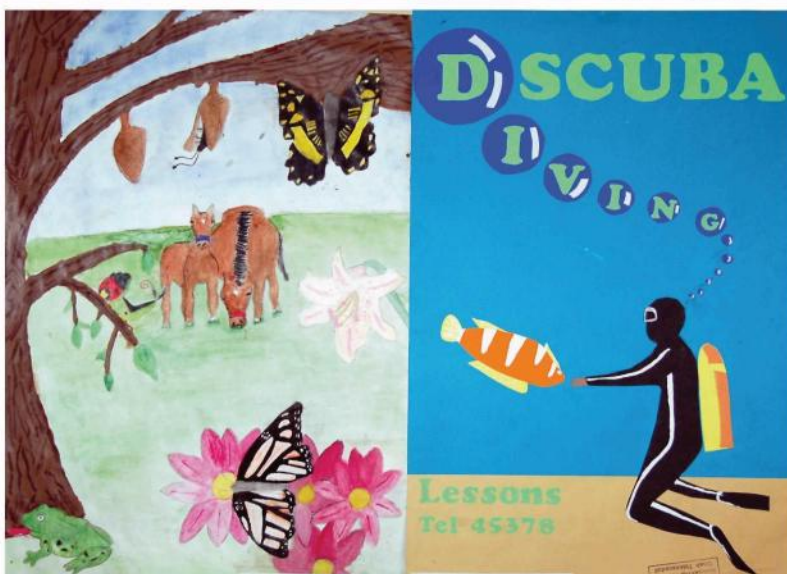
Transition Year Co-ordinator: Mr P. Irwin

Trophies: Mr J. Hickey

Video Equipment and Recordings: Mr D. Wright

Green Schools Group: Mr P. Irwin

Artwork on left from top by: Rhiannon Ryan and Jack O'Kennedy; Zoe O'Regan and Kevin Smyth; Rhiannon Ryan; Sean Keating.



STAFF INTERVIEWS

Mr Clarke

1. Could you introduce yourself please?

My name is Kevin Clarke, and I'm a guidance counselor here in High School and also Stratford College. Two days a week I teach SPHE and careers, but mainly with Junior Cert years.

2. What school did you go to?

I'm from Cavan and went to school in Bailieborough Community School. I went to college in DCU, and I went back to college in Maynooth after teaching for a while to get an H.Dip in school guidance.

3. What were you like in school?

Erm, what was I like in school? It was kind of different then I suppose. It wasn't really a sporting school, even though we played sport. And it was before the whole band era so there weren't as many cliques.

4. What sports do you play?

I'm into quite a lot of sports. I like to play Gaelic football, I enjoy rugby, and soccer, cycling and I like to play pool and golf. I used to play a lot of golf when I was younger.

5. When you were in school did you have any embarrassing moments?

Let me see... *(laughs nervously)*... I can't really think of any embarrassing moments.

6. What about those stories about your 'friends'?

Oh yeah, there were some funny stories... would you believe... yeah. It's been a while since I told it... let me see... *(trails off and can't remember the story)* ...

7. What do you like about this school?

I like the way the kids actually like the school and that a vast majority of students would hold the school in reasonably high esteem. You probably don't realize how unusual that is until you go to some other schools.

8. Any negative aspects?

I don't really think so, I think the teachers are great and I like the students too.

Interviewed by Ruth Senior, 5th Form



Mr Kinsella

1. What subjects do you teach?

English and Media studies.

2. Why did you decide to teach English?

Because I love English and I love it when someone who doesn't like English all of a sudden understands something that a writer or a poet is trying to say and they can relate to it. *Aww, isn't that cute.*

3. What secondary school did you go to?

St. Michael's.

4. And what college did you go to?

Trinity.

5. Do you have any favourite sports?

Gaelic and rugby.

6. What positions do you play in those sports?

I play center and on the wing in rugby and in Gaelic I play half-back.

7. What is your most embarrassing moment in sport?

The year Trinity got promoted to division 2 in our first game I threw an intercept pass when we were on their line and they scored from it. It was Barry Murphy the Munster center who scored it. *Yes, because we know exactly who Barry Murphy is...*

8. What is your greatest moment playing sport?

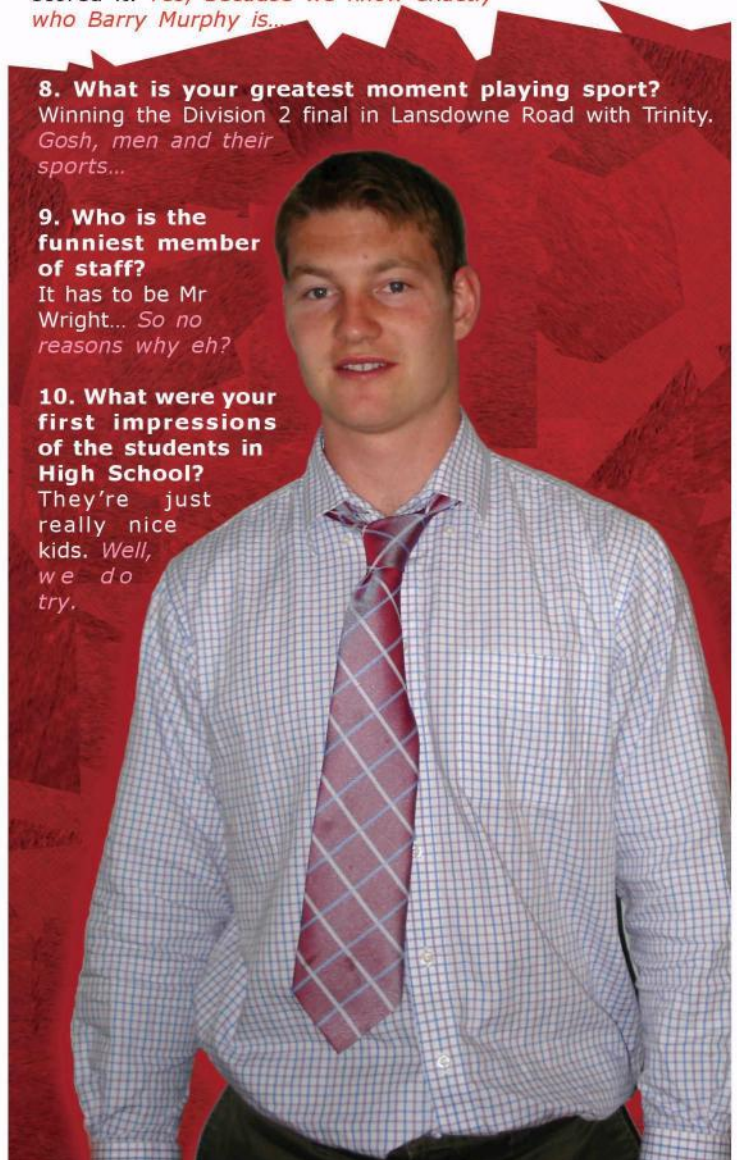
Winning the Division 2 final in Lansdowne Road with Trinity. *Gosh, men and their sports...*

9. Who is the funniest member of staff?

It has to be Mr Wright... *So no reasons why eh?*

10. What were your first impressions of the students in High School?

They're just really nice kids. *Well, we do try.*



Mr Malin

1. So Mr Malin! Where are you originally from?

Birmingham. *Short and sweet, but okay...*

2. How come you decided to come to High School then?

I saw it being advertised and I wanted to teach rugby and cricket and they were the jobs listed as well as PE. I'm sure there are some hidden motives.

Or maybe not...

3. Do you like teaching here?

Yeah I do, it's really good. The staff and the pupils are really nice, and I seem to get on with everyone well.

cough cough

4. Is there anything you don't like about High School?

No not at all, I've only been here about 6 or 7 months though...

5. What's your most embarrassing moment while teaching here?

I haven't really had any... *We don't believe you!*

6. What subjects do you teach?

P.E., Games, and E.C.D.L.

7. What sports do you play yourself?

Rugby, cricket, football, everything really.

Don't we know it!

8. What brought you to Ireland?

There were a few things. One was that my girlfriend lives here and the other is because I liked the job. *Awww*

9. If you could bring one teacher to a desert island who would it be?

I can't answer because I don't want to offend anyone!

10. If you could take three things to the island what would they be?

Eh... a rugby ball, my girlfriend and a stereo with batteries.

11. What's your favourite year group to teach?

Probably the fourth years.
Sir! We're 5th years, change your answer!

12. What's the best trip you've been on with the school this year?

The rugby tour to Wales and the caving trip to Lisdoonvarna.
Go on caving!

Interviewed by
Ruth Senior,
5th Form

11. What do you think of sport in High School Mr Kinsella?

Sport has its place here. High School is not a rugby school; it is a school that plays rugby which is the way it should be.
Don't say that to Mr Malin!

12. If you were stuck on a desert island what three items would you bring with you?

One of those Swiss penknives with a million gadgets on it because Hugh Hogan told me to say that. Then I'd bring a book that I've never read before like the Bible, and my i-pod. *The i-pod's all very well whilst it has battery, but then what do you do?*

13. If St Michael's were to play High School tomorrow who would you support?

Undoubtedly High School. *We didn't tell him to say that...*

Interviewed by
Ross Hanan, Jamie
Comerford and
Marcus Spray,
5th Form



Above: Staff vs Parents Cricket match.

Mr Sheridan

Our interview with Mr Sheridan was conducted in a rather rushed manner. Our short questions didn't leave us with much insight into the magical world of C8... but what we have will have to suffice...

1. How long have you been working in The High School?

Over 30 years now!

2. What is your favourite subject to teach?

It really does depend on the class...an enthusiastic lively class is a pleasure to teach, no matter what the subject.

3. What is your fondest memory of the school?

Moving from a prefab into C5!

(Now for the stereotypical question...)

4. If left stranded on a desert island, you can bring three things, what would you choose?

-An Irish Red Setter

-A high-speed internet connection

-All the recordings of Maria Callas (For those who do not have a notion who Maria Callas is...she was an American-born Greek dramatic coloratura soprano and perhaps the best-known opera singer of the post-World War II period).

5. Who is your favourite teacher and why?

All the teachers are actors and some play many different parts

6. Would you send your children to this school?

Yes... and I did so.

7. Where did you grow up?

On the banks of the Shannon, halfway up a mountain.

8. Who is your favourite student in 5Y Economics (other than Daragh Byrne, of course!)

No comment...

9. What do you like/dislike about the school?

For me, I like the pupils and the verbal "spalling" of the 'cornerboys' (they know who they are...!) in the staff room. Although the vending machines really do aggravate me!

10. How has High School changed since you have taught here?

The staff now do not smoke and are physically much fitter. The students have become more socially aware.

*Interviewed by
Clare Guy and Laura
Cooley, 5th Form*

Ms Browne

1. Where are you originally from?

Co. Clare.

2. What other schools have you taught in?

Mount Temple and Loreto Beaufort.

3. Are you happy here in High School?

'Ah yeah, it's grand!'

4. What has been your most embarrassing moment while teaching here?

I've called students by my brother's name and I came to an interview drenched by the rain, looking like a drowned rat. It was awful – but obviously my beauty shone through...

5. What's your reason for teaching maths?

I enjoy science subjects so maths is the next best thing.

6. What's your favorite year group to teach? Why?

5th years of course! (she's being interviewed by a 5th year)
There's a great student-teacher relationship.

7. If you had to be a superhero, which one would you be?

Wonder woman because she has a deadly costume and cool powers, and she gets to kick ass!

8. What teacher would be your sidekick?

I'd need more than one

-Mr Gill because he knows it all!

-Mr Quinn because he can speak every language

-Ms Bourke for the theme tune

and finally, Ms Thorp for the secret agent equipment.

Well, that was informative... Thanks Ms Browne!

Interviewed by Louise Blakely, 5th Form



Ms White

One not-so-sunny day in November, we met up with Ms.White, to ask her a few things. We decided we'd start off nicely, before getting to the hard-hitting, intrusive questions! *

1. So, where did you go to school?

Well, for primary I was in Portmarnock Community School and, oh, I went to three secondary schools, but I'm not a bold child, I swear!

2. Don't worry, we believe you. If you ever decided that molding young minds wasn't for you, what would you be?

Emm...a lawyer? Yeah... definitely.

3. Now, for the really-not-that-juicy question: What's your most embarrassing moment?

I don't really have many...I did a trolley-dash live on TV in tesco jervis street when I was in college, I got into a bit of a brawl with a presenter over by the frozen foods...you'll do anything for free food when you're broke!

Since Ms.White is starting to look a little scary, we moved onto safer ground.

4. If you had to be one famous person in history, who would you be?

Rosa Parks, she was generation changing.

Panic over, the slightly manic look is gone from her eyes.

5. Any nicknames?

The fifth and sixth years call me 'Whitey'... It won't stick though!

6. And, for traditions sake, if you were on a desert island what teachers would you bring?

Ms.Bourke, to talk to, and Mr.Cryan to build us a raft and get us off!

Well, I'll never look at Ms.White in the same way again...

*I lied about the intrusive questions.

Interviewed by Aisling Barry, 5th Form



Ms Wilson

After playing a twisted game of hide and seek with Ms Wilson, we finally got her alone in her room... Ooer I know. A few probing questions led us to a side of Ms Wilson's personality that we never expected. Though she may seem like an innocent teacher, by night she likes to ride her little blue moped about, fighting crime. Well, I made up the fighting crime bit, but she was a waitress in Eddie Rockets for a while, which is vaguely similar. Supposedly she was terrible though, once falling down a flight of stairs.

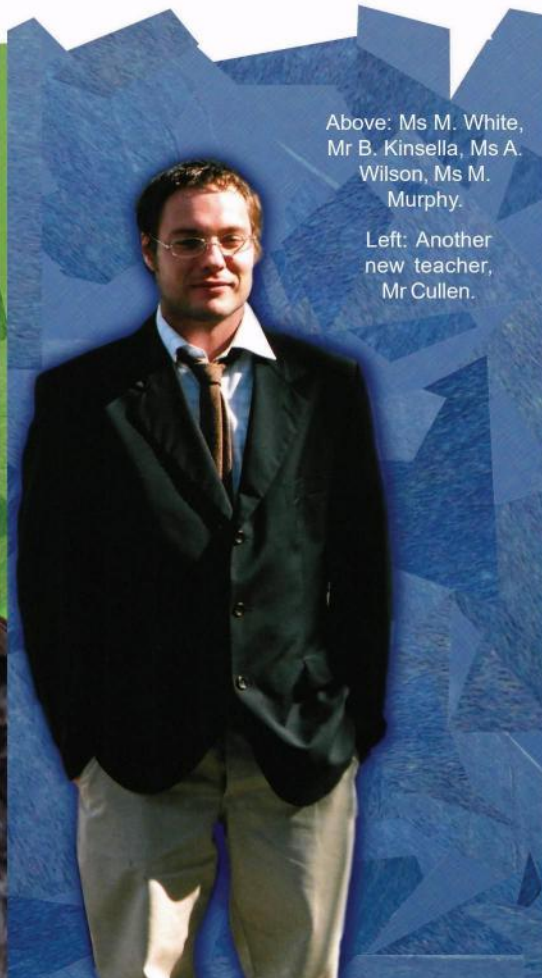
Her favourite joke involved her waving her hand manically at our faces. It turned out to be her version of a 'vicious circle!' Hahahahaha... I guess you had to be there. We'll miss you Wilson, our time with you could never have been long enough.

Interviewed by Aisling Barry, 5th Form



Above: Ms M. White, Mr B. Kinsella, Ms A. Wilson, Ms M. Murphy.

Left: Another new teacher, Mr Cullen.



Library News...

The High School Library has many functions. It is a creative place, somewhere to discover things in books, online, or through impromptu conversation. It is a thinking place, which allows time to develop ideas, which may have just occurred to you. It is an inquisitive place, enabling facts to be checked and opinions to be verified. It is a relaxing place, where you can temporarily forget about the outside world. It is a social place where friendships are established and advice is dispensed.

Libraries have always possessed these wider roles, which go far beyond the collation of books and information sources. Different libraries have different characteristics depending on their location and clientele. A good school library should always be more eclectic than a public or university library due to its position as a hub and facilitator of many different opportunities.

The High School library works because it provides something for everyone. It strives to be a place which is interesting and useful to those who come in, whether often or infrequently. The library's place as a central feature of the school is helped enormously by the four heads of the library committee: Catriona Spoor, Jessica Patterson, Amy Deverell, and Aimee Bannister. They ensure that it continues to reflect the needs of its users and maintain its cherished role as a true 'multifunctional' entity.

Ms Valerie King, Librarian



Above right: Girls on World Book Day.
Right: Enjoying Shakespeare's birthday.

The High School Library The Hub of Student Life

September '06 – June '07 has been yet another busy yet successful school year in the library. The Treaty of Rome has been celebrated, Shakespeare's birthday has been and gone, but with happy memories of that lovely cake – compliments to Aisling Barry, who beautifully decorated it with a scene from A Midsummer Nights Dream, and to

Mrs Gillis for making it. Daffodil Day was brilliant with €750 raised, €150 over our target. All year round riddles were solved, games were played and prizes were won but, of course, we couldn't have done anything without Mrs King. Thanks to all and enjoy next year.

Jessica Patterson, 2nd Form

Happy 443rd Birthday Shakespeare

A trio of cake, competitions and drama were enjoyed on the 443rd celebration of William Shakespeare's birthday on April 23rd. 2T's English class visited the library to honour this celebration. It was clear that much effort had been put into the displays and posters decorating the library, and in the scene from Romeo and Juliet acted by Julie Farrell and Kate Hennessy and then again by Emma Hogg and Aisling Reina. Thanks to Ms King and everyone involved. Hang in there, Shakespeare, 547 years until quadruple-digits!

Mark Gaynor, 2nd Form





Top: 2nd Form girls and Ms King selling daffodils.
 Middle: First form celebrating Europe Day in library.
 Above: Having fun in the library.
 Left: Ms Milne's 5th year English class on Shakespeare's Birthday.
 Right: Artwork by Iain Lane.

Poems...

I Am

In the burrow,
 In the tree,
 In the jungle,
 In the rainforest,
 In the town,
 In the country,
 In the continent,
 In the world,
 In the milky way,
 I am.

Kevin Smyth, 4th Form

What Am I?

What am I?
 I am a stone sinking in water –
 She is the ocean, surrounding me
 I am submerged in her beauty

Rowan Stokes, 6th Form

Safe Place

Where the seagulls fly
 across the coloured sky,
 Where the sunsets
 are as beautiful as a sunflower,
 Where the ships sway back
 and forward with the waves,
 Where the dolphins and
 whales frolic out at sea,
 Where the salty seaweed
 gets tangled around the coral,
 Where the fish swim
 freely without any fear,
 Where the hot sand
 touches the cooling sea,
 Where the shells and stones
 get placed upon a sandcastle,
 Where the tourists stand
 and watch in amazement,
 That's the safe place I see.

Sophie Wann, 1st Form





Poetry Day at the Library



In Spite of the Raven - For Barry Dunne RIP

As the hours pass -
As the hopes dampen -
As the tears fade,
And are replaced;
His twisted rivers,
The thump; thump; thump
Which is barely audible.

Red, the heart tightens;
Anger doth find its way through,
What is now a feeling stronger
than sorrow wound grief.

The remorse and hollow
Hope-blanket that clothes the
naked cross-like wounded body
Crying for the days now gone,
Never to be memories, laden with
What-ifs?

Can happiness ever completely colour-in this
Hollow, lonely, hapless creature at a time
When bloodshot eyes, terrified hand and
Pitched cries of
"Mercy"

Doth pierce the ears of even the deafest
Souls on
Heaven
And on
Earth
This is a son et lumiere, the in-between.

In this hour,
Nay, this infinite nanosecond,
Or shortened century,
Can hope to blow away the wetted cheek
And croaky voice and bring forth
An unmuted dove who is lullabying:
"Life is love is present"?

Time shall tell what the stopwatch
raven did when it cried "nevermore".

Olwen Reina, 5th Form

Giving Me New Life

I was in a world where no one understood
I think I was really just misunderstood.
Wanting to act or play in a band,
There was still no one there to understand.
Until one day everything changed.
I found a new place
A big blue door
I'd never felt as nervous before.
That was in the year 2004.
After a while, little did I know.
There was a confidence which I started to grow.
It made me feel great
It helped me to make new mates.
2005 I came alive, that's when I began to thrive
I even started to play the guitar,
That brought me really far.
Now it doesn't matter what happens to me,
Because all of the help and support
That someone gave to me.

Katelyn Fagan, 1st Form

Ode to Water

The water is crystal blue
People dive in expertly, their bodies slipping
smoothly through the skin and then their heads
rising abruptly
People lie and soak in hot baths, surrounded by
the bubbles that disappear before their eyes
People dash through the rain with newspapers
and umbrellas over their heads and children
cycle their bikes through puddles,
People fill glasses with water transparent
And tasteless and I look out the condensated
windows as rain pours down.
My ears are waterlogged.

Lisa Sheerin, 1st Form

FIRST YEAR



Interschools' Show Jumping

First cousins Alanna Kavanagh (1st Form) and Maoliosa Nugent (2nd Form) took part in the interschools' show jumping competition held in Killosary Stud in early December 2006. Alanna and Maoliosa have been riding since they have been walking all thanks to Alanna's father who has put in a lot of time and effort. They started competing at an early age succeeding in show jumping, eventing and cross-country.

At the interschools' competition Alanna succeeded in claiming 4th place and Maoliosa was just unlucky not to get into the jump-off. Both girls did very well and are already looking forward to next year's challenges. I look forward to hearing from them and wish them the best of luck!

*Interviewed and Written
by Louise Blakely, 5th Form*

Top left: Chillin' in the sun.
Middle left: A rowdy group of Form 1 boys (plus one).
Left: Some young, fit things at the Mini-Marathon.
Above: Irish Dancing fun.

1H



Back Row: Aisling Darby, Hazel McHugh, Zoe Dolan, James Hennessy, Niamh Kearns, Ciarán Bradish, Fiona Mitchell, Jordan McQuaid. **Middle Row:** Ciarán Flaherty, Luke Hudson, Megan Kilpatrick, Stephen Alexander, Thomas Clancy, Carl Adams, Jamie Connell, Robert Styles, Katelyn Fagan, Alice Somers Donnelly. **Front Row:** Stefano Fuscuardi, Hannah Olliffe, Peter Adye-Curran, Grace Morris, Sophie Wann, Lisa Sheerin, Joseph Finn, Matthew Mullan. **Absent:** Kenneth Mason, Oisín Hogan.

10H



Back Row: Eamonn McKee, Cian Dowling Cullen, Lorcan Reidy, Conor Sexton, Cian Noone, Thomas Moore, Ryan O'Malley, Kunal Kapoor. **Middle Row:** Harry Jones, James Fleming, Niamh Murphy, Amy Lyons, Morwenna Gentile, Rebecca Dalton, Rebecca Tully, Alannah Burdon, Emma Feely. **Front Row:** Conn Loane, Rebecca Garland, Adam O'Malley, Niamh Smith, Elizabeth Mc Guinness, Stephen Reid, Beth Dakin, Aidan O'Byrne, Oisín Devilly. **Absent:** Luke O'Donnell.

1P



Back Row: Isabella Domville, Fabian Mak, Ethan Conroy, Jack McGrath, John Bradish, Sam Killeen, Ferdia Soper MacCafraidh, Mark O'Kelly, Sarah Grehan. **Middle Row:** Deborah Burke, Jenifer Whelan, Emma Devine, Kirsten Kinch, David Fox, Will Rolfe, Jack Molony, Sarah McKenna Barry, Lauren Wade, Sarah Howell. **Front Row:** Rachel Burke, Nicole Connolly, Cormac Jordan, Mark Deegan, Jim Fogarty, Max Drakeford, Saiful Haque. **Absent:** Emily Atkinson, Brendan Murray-Byrne.



Back Row: Ellen Cunningham, Richard Gough, Judith Harrington, Elodie Christle, Kristian Chisholm, Thomas Wyse Jackson, Lauren Walsh, Janice Whyte. **Middle Row:** Ms V Carson, Jane Ward, Maeve Daly, Karl Huggard, James Kinlan, Jamie Elliott, Daniel Turner, Katie O'Connor, Kari Andrésson. **Front Row:** Jennifer Rynne, Michael Treacy, Jack McCabe, Denis Casey, Sam Lunn, Colm Finlay, Jessie Meeke, Sophie Collins. **Absent:** Adam Heaton, Alanna Kavanagh.



Back Row: Thomas McCune, John McNulty, Leanne McDonnell, Darragh Twomey, Gavin O'Toole, Sylvan Benaksas, Karl Barnes, Shane Walker. **Middle Row:** Martha Barber Hume, Shane Connolly, Niamh Moran, Aoife Moroney, Patrick Hanlon, Neil Cosgrove, Una Keller, Anna Keary, John Martin, Ian Sheridan. **Front Row:** Peter Douglas, Niall O'Callaghan, Ian Crimin, Mara Barrett, Laura Duggan, Emer Dixon, Daniel Kernan, Niall Burke.

INTERVIEWS WITH FORM 1

Over a series of Monday afternoons, a group of 5th years went to various 1st year CSPE classes to find out their impressions of High School. As we entered each classroom, there was a frenzy of excitement as all the students tried to tell us their stories; it was clear that this year definitely want to make their mark on the school. We were bombarded with reports of children falling off chairs in tears at the mercy of a fly or a wasp - and they claim to be tough....

When asked what their first impression of the school was, the general consensus was good, with some in 1W even going so far as to say "off the chain". It was also agreed that High School is a lot better than primary school... 1R were somewhat less enthusiastic though, saying it was "alright, I guess". The poor kids in 1H are not happy about being at the bottom of the food chain and are looking forward to moving up and getting to beat up 1st years. You'd think they'd have some empathy, but clearly not. Their very first day was petrifying, with one member of 1H even walking into a group of 5th years...shock horror, because we are just, oh so scary.

We asked them to recount some of their funniest moments so far to us, and they sure had plenty. Various members of 1P were given "atomic wedgies" by 3rd years. How pleasant. 1H were full of tales, reporting how exploding chocolate milk drove a boy to strip off! But this was not the only incident with milk related traumas as the innocent first years seem to be target practice during lunchtime.

This is one loved up year for sure. I couldn't list all the couples that we were told about, but I'll give a taster: Richard & Fiona, Jenny & James, Carl & Debbie, and so on. But as the turnover rate with couples appears to be quick, it's pretty much guaranteed that these ones will be very out of date by the time this is printed.

First years definitely don't get enough respect (according to them). They're constantly beaten up and abused by third years! When a third year skipped in the line, Steven tried to stand up to him and got punched! (We're fairly sure this has been incredibly exaggerated). That'll be a lesson to anyone planning to be brave or heroic in the future.

In 1P there's a serious demand for some fine Italian cuisine to become available; we'll notify the lunch ladies immediately. And on a less healthy note, the first years really want a tuck shop, trying to undo all the hard work done by the healthy eating campaigners! They're also not happy with the lack of soccer teams, first year common rooms and parties in this school and are in favour of a "no work" policy. I have to say I strongly agree. They're also not completely happy with the uniform and want to wear hoodies and dubs (D4 much?) and for the boys to wear skirts... Well whatever floats your boat I guess. And if brought on a school trip their most desired destinations would be Old Trafford or Alton Towers... Ms Parle take note.

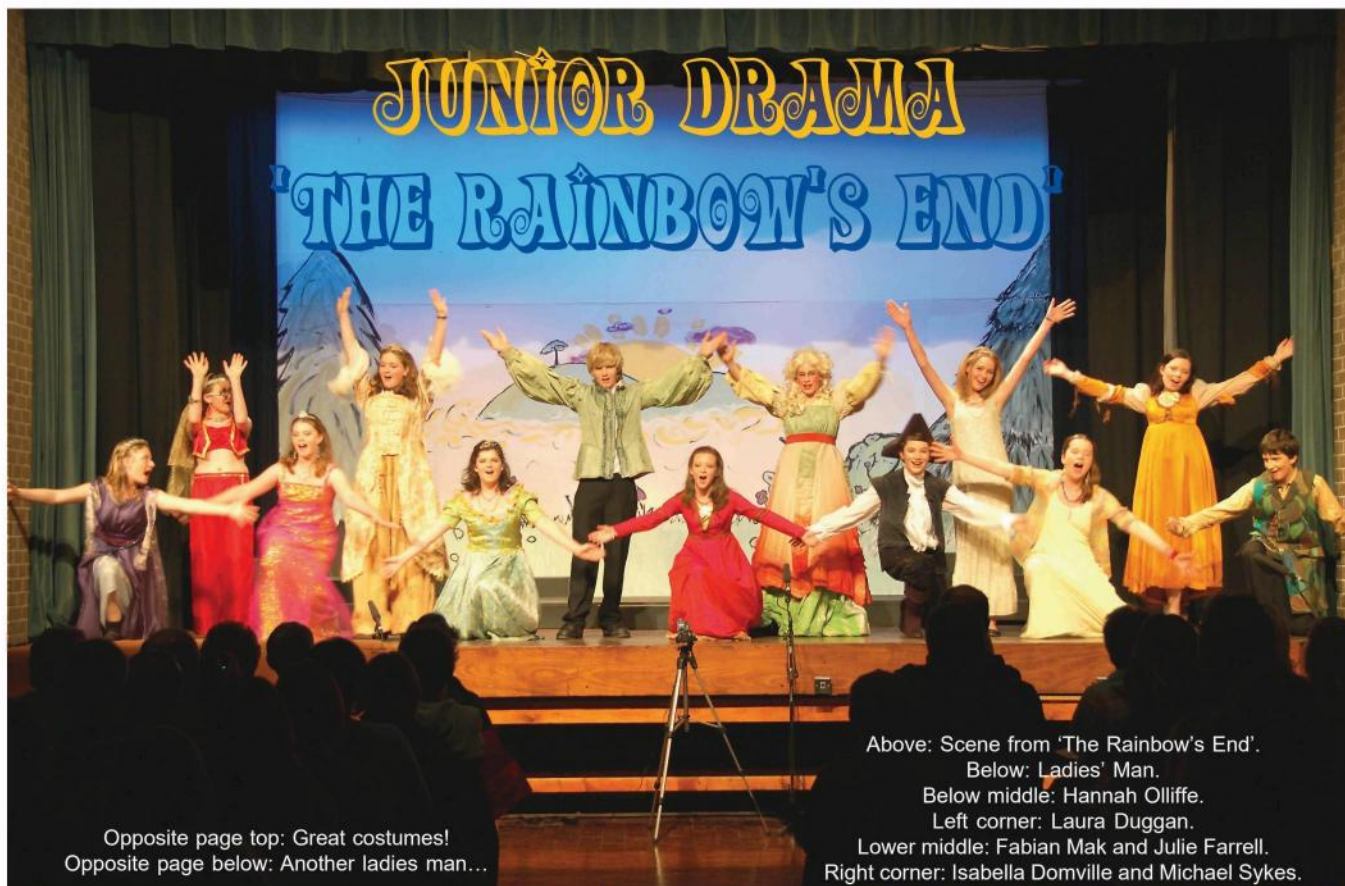
In the upcoming race for Head Boy and Head Girl, 1P are backing Brendan and Isabella. 1R are more in favour of either Paddy O'Hanlon,

James Kinlan or Conor Sexton for Head Boy and Judith or Jessie for Head Girl. I can tell it's going to be a tough competition; they had better start campaigning ASAP.

As our time came to a close, the first years were desperate to tell us more stories, but we had a sneaking suspicion that this may have had something to do with wanting to get out of maths class. On a final note, well done to Kirsten Kinch who is already on the Minor A hockey team. Congratulations Kirsten, you're an inspiration to us all.

**Interviews by the Erasmian Team,
article by Niamh Kenny, 5th Form**





Opposite page top: Great costumes!
Opposite page below: Another ladies man...

Above: Scene from 'The Rainbow's End'.
Below: Ladies' Man.
Below middle: Hannah Olliffe.
Left corner: Laura Duggan.
Lower middle: Fabian Mak and Julie Farrell.
Right corner: Isabella Domville and Michael Sykes.

On Thursday the 19th of April, we put on our presentation of 'The Rainbow's End'. We had a great start, with classes every Thursday and soon began putting forward ideas for the plot. After everyone had contributed their ideas, Leslie Lalor, the director, began making the basic storyline for 'The Rainbow's End'. We received our scripts in January and began rehearsing. Niamh Hogan was drawn in for the rehearsals to help with the singing and choreography in the play.

We started practising over once a week and got into the swing of learning scripts! Apart from the stress of rehearsing we received our costumes and last scenes only a few days before the play. It was a hectic time!

On the 19th April we were all ready for the play to commence. Backstage everyone had nervous butterflies, but thankfully managed to stay calm. The curtain opened at 7.45pm and was a great success. We all thoroughly enjoyed it.

We would like to thank everyone who took part; back stage people, the Abbey theatre for our costumes, Craig Rankin for lighting and Bosco and Niamh Hogan.

A special thanks has to go to Leslie Lalor for all her help and support, even though we know we annoyed her sometimes... Thank you!

**Laura Duggan
and Megan
Kilpatrick,
1st Form**





MARA BARRETT MARIMBA PLAYER

I was born in Botswana and lived near the capital city, Gabarone, for 12 years, moving to Ireland in August in 2006. It's a lot colder and the accent is really different. The city centre here is far bigger and a lot busier – so finding my way around is always a problem. I've been playing the marimbas since I was 8, an instrument similar to the xylophone with mallets to hit the keys. It is a very common instrument in Botswana with most schools having a marimba band. There are 14 marimbas in a marimba band, 4 sopranos, 6 tenors, 3 baritones and 1 bass. The marimbas are played alongside drums and shakers.

Mara Barrett, 1st Form

The science club is a Monday after-school activity in C2. People who like science or a challenge would like it. In the science club this year, we have carried out fun experiments such as making bottle rockets and bath bombs. We also have competitions where the winner often wins a fabulous prize. If you have free time or like science, then you should check it out! The more the merrier...

Luke Hudson, 1st Form



Above: The men of the future.

World Book Day Visit of Aubrey Flegg

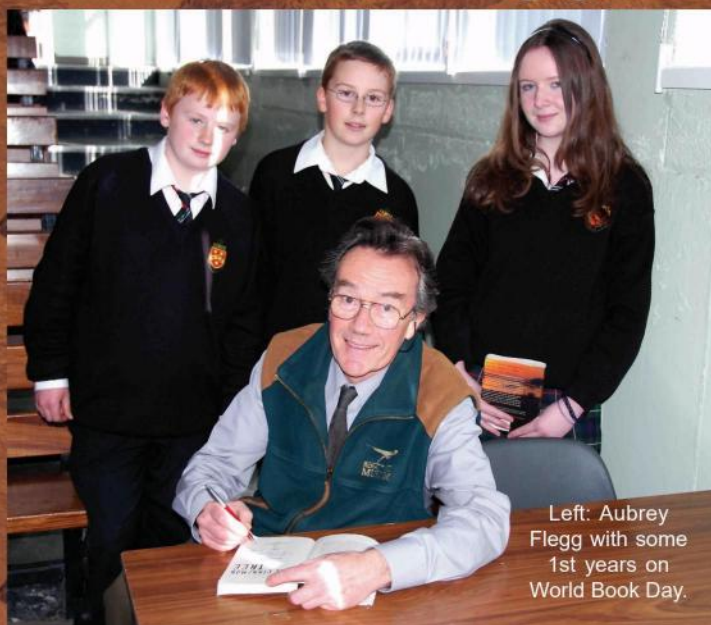
On the 1st of March 2007, World Book Day, Aubrey Flegg (author of 'The Cinnamon Tree', 'Katie's War', 'Wings over Delft' and other books) came to visit 1st year to give us an explanation on how to write books, how to get inspiration, and to tell us about little tricks authors use.

Mr Flegg started by telling us how authors write their books. He said that some authors collect together all their ideas and put them onto a table in front of them, and pick up random pieces and put them together, like a puzzle, and eventually these will start to form a picture, which they can add to or take away from.

He then told us about his visit to Africa where he got his inspiration for 'The Cinnamon Tree'. He told us of how he got ideas for Hans, Yola, and other characters in the book. He passed out a land mine (thankfully deactivated) and 1 million Kwanza (Angolan Currency – which as much as that sounds, unfortunately is only 2 euro).

Mr Flegg over ran his time slightly and regrettably we weren't able to ask the many questions that we were storing up. However overall, everyone enjoyed the presentation (I hope anyways!) and maybe he has inspired a few authors for the future... We shall wait and see!

Thomas Wyse Jackson, 1st Form



Left: Aubrey Flegg with some 1st years on World Book Day.

Alex Deane
Karate King:
Las Vegas March 2007

SECOND YEAR

My name is Alex Deane and on Wednesday 21st March 2007 my dad and I set out for Las Vegas, Nevada. Our objective was for me to test for my Junior Black Belt in Kenpo Karate in front of 10th Degree Black Belt Senior Grand Master Paul Mills, founder and president of the American Kenpo Karate International (AKKI) association.

I have been training in Kenpo Karate since April 2000 when I joined Steadfast Kenpo Karate club in Lucan Co. Dublin. My instructor is Mr Ger Hickey, who is now a 5th Degree Black Belt after successfully testing in the same test as me. In all, 16 members of the club were grading in Las Vegas. This included five juniors, four of us going for Junior Black Belts. The test was held on Friday 23rd and lasted 3 hard hours. At the end of the test all of the students from the club were promoted to their next belt. Myself and the three other Junior Black Belts became the first students to achieve this rank in the AKKI Ireland. We celebrated that night with a dinner for all of the 42 people who travelled from the club to Vegas.

The journey was hard and tiring, we flew direct from Dublin to Los Angeles, then drove the 500 kms to Las Vegas. We stayed in Samstown Hotel and Casino, the test and the seminars were also held

there. The hotel while small compared to some in Vegas was absolutely massive, with features including 700 rooms, 18 screen cinema, 56 lane bowling alley, indoor park, over 3000 slot machines as well as the usual gaming tables. It even had its own Chinese and Italian takeaway, and to top it all its own McDonalds as well as the usual restaurants found in any large hotel.

Saturday saw the end of the camp, with a Hawaiian Luau (feast) and speeches. This camp was special as it was the 10th anniversary of the founding of the AKKI, the 40th year Mr Mills is practising Kenpo and his 60th Birthday.

Sunday morning and only 8800 kms to get home, first off a 500 kms drive through the Mojave desert including going over the Sierra Nevada mountain range 1200 metres high, we had travelled this road on our way there but it was dark and we saw nothing. Then a 10-hour flight home to Dublin.

It was an amazing trip, I am now a Black Belt (my dad graded for his green belt). Las Vegas is really amazing to see, and I'm very lucky to have had the opportunity to reach this milestone in Kenpo on such a special occasion.

Alex Deane,
2nd Form



2G



Back Row: Gary Beardsley, Michael Leith, Jamie McAvinue, Emmet Dwyer, William Anglim, David Cosgrove, Seán Adye-Curran, Dhruv Kapoor. **Middle Row:** Ms P Graham, Jessica Patterson, Kira Mulhere, Ella O'Leary-Watson, Paul Deering, Michael Sykes, Ellen Carney, Robert Emo, Eva O'Byrne. **Front Row:** Maeve Sweetnam, Caolán Boyce, Shauna Maguire, Jennifer Byrne, Katie O'Brien, Mark Swords, Kateline Men, Geoff Gamble. **Absent:** Chloe Mc Hugh, Robert Lowry Walshe.

2H



Back Row: Matthew Smyth, Colm Moran, Stefanie Wynne, Megan Skelly, Oliver Walsh, Catriona Spoor, Ryan Farrell, Alan Weekes.
Middle Row: Lynn Murphy, Megan Lynch, Alan Young, Emma O'Rourke, Dean Whelan, Kate O'Marcaigh, Elena Reed Schmied, Barry Frizzelle, Lee Campbell. **Front Row:** Sean Warren, Aimee Bannister, Faye Leitch, Sheila Brownlee, Alex Deane, Kate Hennessy, Naoise Dolan, Shane Whooley, Amy Cripps. **Absent:** Daniel Clarke, Patrick Foster, Joshua Kennedy.

2m



Back Row: Laura Forsythe, Cillian McCann, Pdraig Harrison, Maresa McElvaney, Ronan Lowther, Daniel Meijer, Eleanor White, Jennifer Keogh. **Middle Row:** Cian O'Neill, Ryan Kirwan, Eve Roseingrave, Rachael Spray, Jack Doyle, Megan Rayner, Christopher Downey, Ms R Missen. **Front Row:** Ella Scanlan, Jessica Sargeant, Sarah Keating, Sarah-Jane McCrann, Sarah Quirke, Jessica Buttanshaw, Ian Stevenson, Olivia King. **Absent:** Johnny Brennan, Ferdia O'Brien, Ronan O'Byrne.

2R



Back Row: Laura Pearson, Sadbh O'Brien, Stephen Watts, Finn Murphy, Daniel Jones, Patrick Wilson, Sorcha FitzGerald, Seraphim Dempsey. **Middle Row:** Cian McDonagh, Shane O'Reilly, Cliona Rogan, Amy Deverell, Sarah Lucas, Megan Daley, Joan McCarthy, Clodagh Sleator, Sean-Tee Lim, Graham Campbell. **Front Row:** Hugh Macken, Sophie Lee, Aisling Naylor, Niall Hickey, Conor Broderick, James Sadlier, Hannah Browning, Robbie Carson.

2T



Back Row: Christopher Drakeford, Rona O'Donnell, Patrick Dennis, Joshua Wiler, Mark Gaynor, Troy Gallagher, Aisling Reina, Nicola Ryan. **Middle Row:** Julie Farrell, Mollie-Kate Richardson, Robyn Carey, Lauren McGarry, Drew Haig, Sammi Esghyer, Andrew Stein, Emily Dunleavy, Neil McGinley. **Front Row:** Alan Hughes, Rose Halpin Duffy, Niall O'Leary, Emma Hogg, Laura Mills, Eli Haines, Keri Sheehan, Simon Jackson. **Absent:** Maoliosa Nugent, Eiméar O'Brien, Aislinn Twamley Levins.

Science Week

This year saw the inaugural High School Science Week with a variety of events taking place. Form 1 excelled themselves by producing a range of informative and eye-catching posters on the theme of "Energy". A lunchtime chemistry demonstration was held amidst much smoke and stunning visual effects. The finale of the week was the eagerly awaited paper airplane competition, which followed hard-won heats during the week. The winners were emphatically named as Thomas Wyse Jackson (Form 1), Colm Moran (Form 2) and Michael McNulty (Form 3). Congratulations for their ingenuity and talent in aeronautical design. Thanks to all who took part and to Mr McBride, Mr Gill, Ms Watson, Ms Thorp, Ms Hannon and Dr Whitford for organising the activities during the week.

Above: Dr Whitford demonstrating an experiment during Science Week.
Right: Ciaran Bradish demonstrating aerodynamics.



Sophie Lee A Feis Ceoil Violinist

Sophie Lee of Form 2 is one of the school's new, up-and-coming musicians, having played the violin for just over eight years! As a member of the Royal Irish Academy of Music, she is studying for her grade eight to be completed this year. With up to an hour's practice a day, Sophie started preparing last November to compete in the Feis Ceoil, Junior Violin B division. What does the B stand for? Only Sophie knows...

When asked about the competition, Sophie was full of admiration. 'The adjudicator and accompanist were nice, and I knew a lot of people playing from the Academy and other competitions. It was fun! We all had to play the same pieces, so it was really interesting to hear other ways of playing them. Everyone played so well.' Not well enough obviously... seeing as Sophie came second. Well-done Sophie!

Sophie is a keen member of the Academy, attending their Orchestra, and taking piano lessons, often spending up to an hour-and-a-half a day practising. I'm impressed. Asked where she sees herself in five years she was surprisingly open. 'I might go into music, but I want to try some other things before I'm sure. Possibly zoology?' I don't know how you can combine the two, but this girl is so talented, she'll probably find a way.

Form 2 Trip to Collins Barracks

One windy day in November, Mr Irwin took us to Northside's Collins Barracks to see the War exhibition. Getting off the bus, Mr Irwin handed us all clipboards with questions about the exhibition, and told us to get into groups of three. He promised us a prize for the group with the best answers, but he seemed to forget about it afterwards! We learned some fascinating facts and saw a UN van. We also enjoyed the land mines and some recruiting posters.

After the exhibition we all got ice cream (in November, I know...) and became crazy lunatics running in the square in Collins Barracks. We had an excellent trip and would like to thank Mr Irwin for bringing us.

Eleanor White, 2nd Form

Interviewed by Alice Wyse Jackson,
Written by Niamh Kenny, 5th Form



THIRD YEAR

An Inconvenient Truth

In early October, the 3C and 3WK science classes went on a trip to see the film documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" as part of the Junior Cert ecology studies. This is based on Al Gore's global warming presentation and offered many new and shocking facts on the subject (scary stuff!). To learn more about global warming you can see the film or visit its website www.climatecrisis.net. It was an enjoyable experience and on behalf of 3C and 3WK we would like to thank Ms Watson and Ms Toolan.

Sadhbh Soper Ní Chafraidh and Aoife Kearney, 3rd Form



Above: Some Form 3 boys celebrating World Book Day.

Far left: Junior Cert Art: Keenan Lacey.

Left: Artwork by Graham Flaherty, 3rd Form.

Right: Home Economics projects.



3C



Back Row: Michael Adye-Curran, Cameron Ridyard, Gareth Carragher, Brian Liston, Craig Hanan, Keenan Lacey, Stephen Whelan.

Middle Row: Ben Harding, Martin Flower, Sophie Mitchell, Richelle McDonnell, Luke Byrne, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Sadhbh Soper Ní Chafraidh, Nicola Durrant, Joshua Reichental. **Front Row:** Aoife Kearney, Alex McLaughlin-Callan, Luke Evans, Rebecca Mills, Holly Taylor, Susan Kinlan, Neal Hickey, Michael O'Shea, Naomi Reid. **Absent:** Steven Chapman, Hugh O'Marcaigh.

3G



Back Row: Darragh Tate, Cian Twomey, Josh Purcell, Vanya Eccles, Aaron Sturdy, James Hawe, Eoin Keenan, Mark Evans.
Middle Row: Mr T Gill, Katie O'Connor, Eva Nugent, Tess McCann, Andrew Gilbert, Daire Hunt, Louis Gregg, Stephanie Lodola, Lorcan Murphy, Mr R Giles. **Front Row:** Peter Williamson, Marie-Claire Foley, Ian Duggan, Nicola Spendlove, Niamh McDonagh, Alex Dakin, Freya Breen, Daniel Connell, Sam Williamson. **Absent:** Katie Hyland, Robert Savage.

3T



Back Row: Aisling Kiernan, Simon Smith, Tom Roseingrave, Liam MacNamara, Owen Carroll, Dylan Farrell, Mark Coffey, Nicholas Jones. **Middle Row:** Micheal McNulty, Archie Heaslip, Aoife Ryan, Aimee Jones O'Connor, Matthew Ware, Gavin Mullan, Rebecca Conalty, Suzanne O'Connor, Lisa Meehan, Daniel Cooke. **Front Row:** David Kernan, Sarah Kate McConnell, Aoife Loftus, Stuart Gray, Guy Prendergast, Sarah Burns, Nicole Campbell, Mohammad Kabadaya. **Absent:** Robbie McGuinness.

3W



Back Row: Miles Reilly, Patrick King, Diarmuid Kennedy, Cal Howick, Emmet McBride, Alex Daly, Mark Weston, Josh Tobin.
Middle Row: Kevin Browne, Laura Martin, Molly Hughes, Sebastian Adams, James Harding, James Beahan, Graham Flaherty, Stephanie Moore, Sarah McCoy, Adam Ryan. **Front Row:** Aoife Gordon, Kit Connolly, Clive Drakeford, Una McSharry, Alan Ball, Bill O Cleirigh, Etán Kinsella McLennan, Stephen Dowling. **Absent:** SORCHA CRILLY.

3WK



Back Row: Daniel Corbin, Simon Ludden, Darragh Herlihy, Mark Horgan, Stephen James, Oscar Bowling, Milo Mays, Andrew Donovan. **Middle Row:** Danyal Fox, Susan McRann, Simon Wright, James Liddicoat, Mark Rogan, Brian Speller, Ruari Nugent, Ellen Walsh, Camilla Hanney. **Front Row:** Sarah Brennan, Zara McElvaney, Christopher Wyse, Georgie Twamley, Andrea Murray-Byrne, Lorcan Ahern, Megan Earls, Iain Irvine. **Absent:** Sarah Cunningham, Lara Madden.

THIRD FORM CSPE ACTION PROJECT ON THE RIGHTS OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS



Left: Mr Irwin getting the party started...!

Right: Romano Fuscicardi with Roll Back.

Below: An up-and-coming musician

The Reason Behind the Lunchtime Gig

As part of our CSPE Action Project we (students from 3G) interviewed two girls from Guinea, aged 17 and 18, an 18 year-old girl from Ethiopia and two 17 year-old boys from Angola. They all attended the same school; only one of them had refugee status here in Ireland.

When asked why they came to Ireland the refugees told us that it had 'just happened'. They did not want to go into much detail about their past situations, except to tell us that they had no contact with their families back home. We later found out from the deputy principal in their school that many of them were likely to have come from situations of torture, although he had never asked them about their lives. He also told us that some of the refugees we talked to are prone to becoming depressed and suffer badly from homesickness.

The language barrier did not seem an issue for the refugees as they spoke very good English. They currently live in hostels.

When asked what they thought of Irish people, they said that some Irish people had been very welcoming towards them whilst some had not. One girl told us about a particular incident when she and a friend were on a bus and were victims of racial abuse: a woman swore at them and told them to 'go back to their own countries' as they were 'taking our jobs'. This is not the only incident where these young people have been victims of racial discrimination; they told us they get it all the time, on public transport and on the streets.

We asked the refugees if they would like to return home if possible and their reply was instant and unanimous - yes.

We showed the refugees the survey we'd made as part of our action project. We were shocked to find out that they were totally unaware of their rights as people living in Ireland. In fact, they seemed oblivious to the

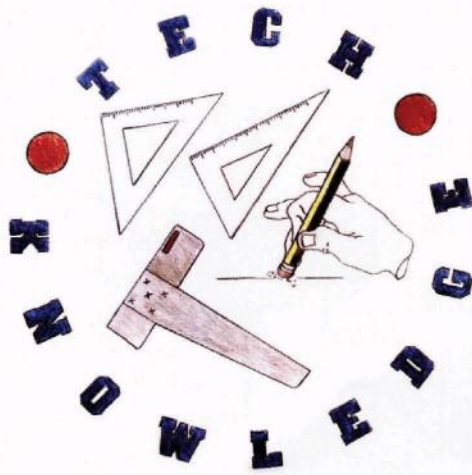
fact that they had any rights at all. They didn't know which government department dealt with refugees and asylum seekers, or of whether refugees could vote or not. When we asked them how long it takes to get refugee status, a question we had asked on our survey, they told us it's different for every person. One boy had applied four times and still doesn't have it.

After interviewing the refugees we then spoke with the deputy principal of their school. He told us of how one of the girls had recently gone missing and the hostel had made no attempt to trace her as she had just turned eighteen. The school was worried about her and had decided on their own initiative to chase up her situation, only to find she had become very ill and had ended up in hospital. Had her case not been investigated by the staff at the school, her whereabouts might still have been a mystery today.

The deputy principal told us that the refugees are very enthusiastic pupils who work hard in school. Although some of them are eighteen years old, many chose to be in Transition Year as they saw the benefits it would have on their language and communication skills. They are all very intelligent students who do well in the subjects they take. Sadly, if they do not achieve refugee status, there is a high chance that these students will be deported back to their home countries straight after the Leaving Cert., regardless of their home situation.

In conclusion, we found this interview to be an excellent source of information about a more personal side to refugees and asylum seekers in Ireland. The information we gathered made us decide to put on a lunchtime gig in aid of the charity CARI, which works for asylum seekers in Ireland.

Nicola Spendlove, 3rd Form



Congratulations to Oscar Bowling (Form 3) who came second in a nationwide competition to design a logo for the new Techno Teacher's magazine. Not only did his design appear in the magazine but he also received a €200 Xtra Vision voucher, a certificate for himself and another for the school. Well-done!

TECHNICAL GRAPHICS LOGO WINNER



Far left: Oscar's prize winning design.

LUNCHTIME GIG IN AID OF CARL

3G contacted CARL because of our concern for young asylum seekers needing support as a result of our CSPE Action Project. As a class, we believed that the best way to raise money was to have a lunchtime concert in the school that would attract a large crowd. Our year has a band that would play and we also got 'Rollback', a band from 5th year, to join us. As my own contribution, I nervously did a solo piece, singing Johnny Cash's 'Ring of Fire'. However, seeing how asylum seekers manage being lonely and homesick I decided to overcome my own nerves and go for it. The concert was a great success and we raised over 300 euro for CARL!"

Robert Savage, 3rd Form

THE SIMON COMMUNITY FUN RUN

The Simon Community is an organisation, which works with the homeless in the city, and once again the school entered a team for the annual Fun Run fundraiser in the Phoenix Park. We had a record number in our school team with 76 pupils, 3 teachers and 2 parents all signing up to compete. The pupils then set about the task of gathering in the sponsorship money. When it was counted it came to a sum of 5759.38 euro, a record amount! This was a terrific total for one school community to raise and a big thank-you goes to all those pupils who gave up their Sunday afternoon to enter the run and to all the pupils, teachers, office staff, supervisors and parents who sponsored and encouraged them. Your help and support was much appreciated and we will see if we can improve on the total next year!

Mr L McClure

Josh Purcell made the Leinster hockey team this year, after narrowly missing out last year. He's been playing hockey for six years, but would like to get back to rugby again. He plays any back position and trains up to six times a week. He plans to keep it up in the future, but doesn't see a career in it, however he will be coaching younger hockey players next year as part of the President's Award. His before match ritual is to drink a pint of milk and stay focused. His worst injury was having his chin split open which was glued back together. His pet peeves include people calling hockey a girl's sport, as he claims the scars make it more masculine. His biggest claim to fame is scoring against our very own Mr Fitzpatrick in a club hockey match. His favourite aspect of hockey is just going out onto the pitch and getting into the game. After witnessing accidents like ears being torn during short corners, his worst fear is getting hit in the face. Josh doesn't even let his studies interfere with his hockey, now that's dedication!

*Interviewed and written
by Triona Connell, 5th Form*



INTERVIEW WITH JOSH PURCELL

KING: A NAME TO REMEMBER

On a hot, stuffy Thursday afternoon, I was greeted in my usual Library period by a grinning 3rd year: Patrick King, hyped up and ready for answers. My heart skipped a beat. Darn! I'd forgotten about his interview and didn't have anything prepared! In the midst of my panic, I fired off the word "Instruments!" Little did I know the answer I was looking for would take a full ten minutes to explain.

It turns out Patrick, or 'Paddy' as he's more commonly known, plays a total of eight instruments (well... seven if you don't include Beat-boxing. After listening to his rendition – I do). He's generally associated with Piano (played for ten years), Clarinet (7 years) and Singing (7 years on-and-off); but also dabbles in the Drums, Guitar/Bass and Percussion. That's one talented boy!

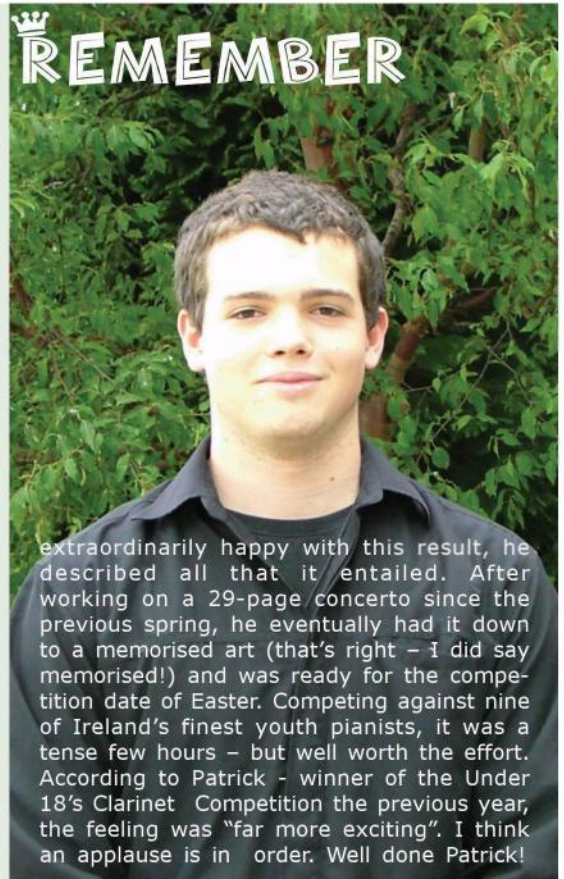
Of course the piano is his first love, being the one that he puts the most work into – but this boy isn't a one-trick pony. Entering the school as a 13st, 5'10" first year, he admits to "causing serious harm" to more than one willing first-year 'rugger' (rugby player). He was eventually forced to retire from the game due to limited time (and several complaints about his size), but keeps up tai-kwon-

do to keep fit.

Unlike most 15-year-old boys, Patrick has a more refined taste in music than just 'The Chillis' and 'Foos'. Flicking through his i-pod, I was struck by the amount of classical music on it. 'Rage against the machine' meets 'Beethoven'... interesting mix Patrick! Commenting on performing, he said "playing in a band is fun, but I find Classical music more interesting". So he plays in a band? Excellent! More questions...

It turns out that Patrick is the founder of a four-piece group, artistically named 'The Reveries'. After the failing of his 1st year band 'Civilian', Patrick scouted around for 3 other suitable members to play guitar, bass and drums, whilst he took the vocals and song-writing responsibilities. Unfortunately he wasn't 'at liberty' to say much else... but hinted at something big... Watch this space I'd say.

Although Patrick clearly gets distracted easily (we had a good 5 minute conversation about my bracelet, in which I discovered all was not what it seemed...), he recently took part in the Feis Ceoil, where he took 2nd in the Under 18's Piano Concerto Competition. Being



extraordinarily happy with this result, he described all that it entailed. After working on a 29-page concerto since the previous spring, he eventually had it down to a memorised art (that's right – I did say memorised!) and was ready for the competition date of Easter. Competing against nine of Ireland's finest youth pianists, it was a tense few hours – but well worth the effort. According to Patrick – winner of the Under 18's Clarinet Competition the previous year, the feeling was "far more exciting". I think an applause is in order. Well done Patrick!

So my time with the up-and-coming music genius was over, and I was left with a strange, defeated sort of feeling. This boy is 15 and already winning regional competitions? Oh well, I suppose not everyone has a 'King' in them.

*Interviewed
and Written by
Alice Wyse Jackson,
5th Form*

Junior Debating

This year's debating season was shorter than usual and only kicked off in January. It included many heated debates such as 'Youth is wasted on the young', 'Should gays be allowed to marry', and many more interesting topics. The Easter competition debate, 'Should the Easter Bunny have a naughty or nice list' was won by Mark Horgan with Patrick King coming in second place. I would like to thank all that participated in debating this year and a special thanks to Mrs Hutchinson-Edgar.

Keenan Lacey, 3rd Form



Left: The junior debaters.

TY Awards 05-06

Gaisce-President's Award Bronze

Daniel Alkin
Gareth Austen
Hannah Bishop
Rebecca Burke
Daragh Byrne
Sarah Byrne
Robert Callaghan
Pauline Carney
Susan Casey
Sarah Corbin
Mark Collins
Jamie Comerford
Sian Cooley
Desmond Cox
Mark Evans
Romano Fusciardi
Clare Guy
Ross Hanan
Stan Harding
Shane Hickey
Amy Hughes
Richard Jones
Judy Kelleher
Niamh Kenny
Miriam Kerr
Rowan Lacey
Alex Lawson
Tom Lohan
Alain Lui
Euan Mackay
David Meade

Hanah Mesallati
Evanna Mills
Anita Murphy
Sinéad Nolan
Ellen O Cléirigh
Olwen Reina
Christine Rorke
Valerie Sexton
Colin Sheridan
Amy Smart
Marcus Spray
Andrew Stevenson
Darragh Sweetnam
Daniel Twomey
Aaron Ward
Harry Ward
John Woolhead

Young Entrepreneurs Scheme

Daniel Alkin
Jordan Aslanis
Gareth Austen
Louise Blakely
Barry Brady
Daragh Byrne
Mark Collins
Triona Connell
Laura Anne Douglas
Romano Fusciardi

Andrew Gray
Stan Harding
Saoirse Hickey
Conor James
Daniel James
Darragh Keller
Rowan Lacey
Hannah Lunn
Jack Madden
Sarah McDermott
Caoimhe McDonnell
Evanna Mills
Niamh Mitchell
Barry Moran
Laura Oliver
Ruth Senior
Luke Staines
Andrew Stevenson
Sean Tevlin
Harry Ward

Canoeing Awards Level 2 Kayak

Proficiency Award
Robert Callaghan
Rowan Lacey
Alain Lui
Daniel Tuomey
Harry Ward

FOURTH YEAR

Judo White Belt Awards

Katie Anglim
Aisling Barry
Robert Callaghan
Caoimhe Carty
Susan Casey
Sian Cooley
Marc Evans
Fionan Keenan
Ross Hanan
William Hanlon
Stan Harding
James Hickey
Amy Hughes
Judy Kelleher
Tom Lohan
Alain Lui
Euan Mackay
Karina McConnell
Bruce Misstear
Barry Moran
Annalise Murphy
Ellen O Cleirigh
Christine Rorke
Valerie Sexton
Amy Smart
Luke Staines
Sean Tevlin
Brian Traynor
Aaron Ward

Bursaries

We wish to acknowledge with gratitude the generous McDonnell and B'nai Brith bursaries. The names of the recipients of these bursaries are confidential and are not recorded in this publication.

Above:
Stephen
Carter battles
against all
odds!

4G



Back Row: Jamie Ryan, Robbie O'Brien, Jack O'Kennedy, David Kavanagh, Ciarán Collins, James Barber, Keith Gray.
Middle Row: Fiona Flaherty, Alicia Smyth, James O'Connor, Ian Levine, Abigail Shanley-Thian, Clare Cryan, Sophie Madigan.
Front Row: John Willoughby, Zoe O'Regan, Sinead Smith, Emily Kinlan, Aoife McGovern, Aoife Daly, Rachael Bishop, Ruth Bourke.

4HE



Back Row: Gráinne O'Brien, Gareth Fallon, Alan Day, Miles Campbell, Colin Ledwith, Simon Kinneen, Matthew McKenna Barry.
Middle Row: Niall Smith, Sam Kavanagh, Gillian Carr, Stephen Carter, Justin Zehnder, Saurin Kenny, Lydia Cosgrove, Paul O'Kelly.
Front Row: Grace Collins, Rachel Regan, Alison Walker, Jane O'Donohoe, Sarah Cox, Michael Metoudi, Ruth Shannon-Doyle, Denis O'Connor. **Absent:** Lucy Bennett, Jessica Gamble, Jonathan Kinlan, Daniel Moore.

4L



Back Row: Linda Silke, Patrick Butler, Thomas Burke, Daragh Monaghan, Cólín O'Connell, Robbie Browne, Ross Finn, Iain Lane.
Middle Row: Emma Connell, Matthew O'Rourke, Adam Elliott, Candace Horton, Jonathan Walker, Rory Simms, Ryan Morgan.
Front Row: Ayesha Carrim, Karen Lew, Laura Garland, Catriona Grimes, Thérèse Anglim, Shona O'Toole, Katie Murtagh, Emma Satchwell. **Absent:** Benjamin Boles, Niall Noonan, Mark Savage.

4S



Back Row: Aislinn Coghlan, Alex Conroy, Shane Grehan, Bentley Allison, Graham Young, Sean O'Riordan, Olwen Smith.
Middle Row: Jack Kelly, Damiano Fusciardi, Peter Hunt, Graham Mills, Michael Gray, Aidan Cowlard Joyce, Hilary Cole Pidgeon, Ishbel McGuckin. **Front Row:** Alison Meeke, Leah Quirke, Tierna Brazil, Stephen Shaw, Phoebe Laing, Joan Somers Donnelly.
Absent: Grant Murphy, Rhiannon Ryan, Helen Speller, Richard Whelan.

4W



Back Row: Charlotte Leonard Kane, Conor Frizzelle, Declan Fergus, Conor McGinley, Jake Jackson, Joe Comerford.
Middle Row: Kieron Men, Conor Craig, Saoirse Hogan, Joshua Burdon, Tom Emo, Samuel Moore, Shay Arias-Paz, Rebecca Wright.
Front Row: Tessa Meade, Debbie Blair, Linda Callaghan, Ronan Hennessy, Olivia McEvansoneya, Hannah Leavy, Hannah Phelan, Amy Jones. **Absent:** Conor O'Donnell, Mattias Slattery, Kevin Smyth, Katie Tallon.



December 28th saw an excited crowd of High School students and teachers in Dublin Airport. We checked in and boarded our long-haul flight to Boston, Massachusetts. After a while the novelty of in-flight movies wore off and everyone was impatient to reach our destination. The bus ride to our hotel in New Hampshire was an experience in itself with lots of new sights to see. By the time we got to the hotel everyone was wrecked after a long days travelling but we couldn't wait to start skiing the following day.

It was an early start with much enthusiasm. We got our bus up to the Loon Mountain ski resort where everyone was kitted out with the right skis or snowboards and we were ready to go. We split up into classes and the fun began! While the experienced skiers were flying down slopes like Upper Bearclaw, we (the beginners) were trying to come to grips with having six-foot planks strapped to your feet, which as you can imagine is not the most natural thing. Talk of sidestepping and parallel skiing was way over our heads. However, by the end of the week, although still clutching our poles tightly, we were catching up with the experienced skiers and were tackling hair raising blue slopes like Exodus and Lower Picked Rock. The chair lifts were another thing to negotiate; needless to say there were many funny falls...

There were also many activities that didn't involve quite so much snow. There were videos playing most evenings and there was always the opportunity to go swimming. There was even bowling, shopping in New Hampshire and a New Years Party/Céilí among other activities.

We left on the 3rd of January after saying our last goodbye to 'gravity's playground' and piled into the bus back to Boston. We had a chance to



Top: Tired, happy skiers.

Left: The boys get ready to set off.
Right: Fashionable skiing.



do some shopping in Boston as well. Suitcases were crammed with last minute purchases from Aeropostale, American Eagle, Pacific Sunwear and lots more. Everyone watched with bated breath as their bags were weighed in the airport but all turned out for the best! We arrived back into Dublin Airport on the 4th of January putting an end to a fabulous trip! A big thank you to everyone involved especially Ms Thorp, Ms Watson, Ms Fahey, Ms Levis, Mr McBride, Mr Flynn and Mr Cryan!

Clare Cryan, 4th Form



Left: On the slopes.
Right: Scary masks.

FAIR TRADE FAIR

This year, as always, the 4th years organized the annual Fair Trade Fair. Fair Trade is a way of insuring that the producers of the goods will receive a fair share of the profits. It enables them to create a better life for themselves and their families.

There were lots of jobs to do and we split into two main groups; publicity and stock. Publicity was in charge of advertising the upcoming fair and raising awareness about Fair Trade. The stock group ordered goods from various charities such as Matilda, Oxfam, Tearcraft and Concern.

The fair was held on Saturday 2nd December. Everyone involved was assigned to different stalls. The stalls ranged from selling tea and coffee to children's games. Everyone got into the Christmas spirit and as a result the Fair was a huge success. We raised over €6000 – an all time record from the school! Many thanks to all the students and teachers involved especially Ms Reilly and Ms Pearce and thank you to all those who supported this worthwhile cause.

**Debbie Blair
and Olivia McEvansoneya,
4th Form**



Above right: Saoirse Hogan, Emma Connell and Sophie Madigan helping at the Fair Trade Fair.
Above left: Gillian Carr and Aoife McGovern in festive spirit.
Below: Emma Connell in the sorting warehouse.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year 36 transition-year students took part in helping the Samaritan's Purse, 'Operation Christmas Child' Shoe Box appeal. Samaritan's Purse is an organisation which sends shoeboxes to underprivileged areas where children do not receive Christmas presents. The shoeboxes are filled with children's toys, hats, scarves, gloves, sweets and other goodies to help spread the Christmas spirit.

The children who receive these shoeboxes live in poverty stricken areas torn apart by war. The organisation hopes that when they give these children the shoeboxes it brings them hope and relief from their usual negative environment. Children of all religions and races receive the shoeboxes and where appropriate learn about the Christmas story.

This year the High School sent over 150 boxes, filled to the brim, abroad to boys and girls between the ages of 0-14. The transition years went to the warehouse to help sort through all the boxes making sure there was no war related items and ensuring they were all closed properly with nothing in them that could break or spill.

The whole operation was a complete success and everyone really enjoyed themselves, and would like to make a special thanks to everyone who donated a box or gave up their spare time to help us. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Fiona Flaherty, 4th Form



TRANSITION YEAR TRIP TO ROME AND SORRENTO



At 4.00am on Monday 2nd of April, a group of tired but excited 4th years gathered together to board a plane at Dublin Airport. After checking in, a wait occurred until we boarded the plane. When we arrived in Fumicino Airport in Rome, our bus driver collected us for the day. He drove us to Mt Vesuvius where we walked up to the top of the crater. From the top we had an amazing view of the Bay of Naples. After we had spent some time at Mt Vesuvius, we continued our journey to get to our hotel in Sorrento.

The next day we went to Pompeii and Solfatara, a volcanic crater where the over-confident boys scared the terrified girls. But it was all okay by the next day, where on the way back to Rome, our tour guide greeted us. She showed us around the Forum and Coliseum, and on the Thursday morning we went to The Vatican, The Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain. Afterwards we got to go off on our own to go shopping. Friday came all too soon, and it was time to leave the beautiful country. It was a fantastic trip, and we all had a fab time. Thank you to the teachers who brought us, Mr Wright, Mr Malin, Mr Griffin, Ms White and Ms Lynch, it was amazing.

Emma Connell, 4th Form



Above left: The group fight against the steam on Mt Vesuvius.

Above right: Beach rave!

Above: Rome's Next Top Models.

Below right: Transition year hit Rome.

Below left: The group in Rome.



Climbing

CARRAUNTOOHIL



On Thursday 22nd March, a large group of rowdy 4th years (and Mr Cryan) packed up the back of the school bus, and set off for Co. Kerry. Exuberant singers amongst the group kept us all entertained for the first few hours, and irritated for the last... but finally we arrived mid-evening. After checking rooms and roomies, we trooped off to cook dinner. The kitchen got fairly hectic, but after an hour or so of stressed cooking, everyone was fed, watered and headed off to the sitting room.

The next morning there were mixed emotions amongst the group. We drove up to the base of Carrauntoohil and commenced on the three-mile walk to... The Devil's Ladder! It was a long (not to mention rocky) way up, but we all proceeded steadily. After stopping for lunch we continued up the mountain making good use of all the snow, when suddenly we found ourselves at the top! Spirits were high, but lessened as we walked up a neighboring peak; only to come back down the same way due to worsening weather.

We were almost running out of songs (or maybe just breath) on the way back down the Devil's Ladder but the rapid descent was enjoyable. Roughly nine hours after we set off, we got back to the buses. There was a race back to the showers and then for the gas cookers in the kitchen. We then had a relaxed evening before collapsing into bed.

The next morning we did an amazing job of cleaning up the hostel before heading off to the Gap of Dunloe. We had been a bit distracted to take in the scenic MacGillicuddy's Reeks the previous day, but enjoyed a gentle walk on a lovely sunny day. It was a long journey back to Dublin, and thankfully less singing occurred because everyone was so tired! But we had a great time and thank you so much to all the teachers that had to put up with us!

*Joan Somers Donnelly,
4th Form*

Top: Climbing up the Devil's Ladder.
Middle left: Hilary Cole Pidgeon and Jane O'Donohoe - intrepid mountaineers.
Left: Taking a well deserved break.
Bottom left: The group outside the hostel...about to set off!





THE ROCK POP SHOW 06

This year's rock pop show was a great success to say the least. In the lead up to the show tensions were high as the product of half a years work edged closer. Adrenaline was pumping as the first act waited patiently behind the curtain to be introduced by James Barber and AJ Mulcahy.

The curtains opened and the crowd erupted to (with surprise) a rock version of Canon in D by Robbie O'Brien, Denis O'Connor, Gareth Fallon and Josh Burdon. Next up was a group consisting of Alex Conroy, Robbie O'Brien, Denis O'Connor, Gareth Fallon and Josh Burdon, singing 'Dancing in the Moonlight' by Phil Lynott. The show slowed for a bit with a duet by Gill Carr and Gareth Fallon before Alex Conroy braved the crowd again singing 'Ooh La' by The Kooks.

To mix up the collection, a bit of pop-punk with 'I'm Just a Girl' was performed by Gill, Denis, Robbie and Josh before The Demers showed us what they could do with a Christmassy number complete with 'Mean Girls-esque' Santa outfits. A cheesy dedication followed by Alex singing 'Brown Eyed Girl' with a little help from Adam Higgs on Bass. This was met with such enthusiasm from the crowd that they even started to sing along!

Dance time followed for the last few acts with excellently choreographed pieces to various artists, before Denis, Ross, Ryan and Josh played 'Shadow' by Rory Gallagher – the perfect piece for the perfect end!

The whole year group really enjoyed themselves and would particularly like to thank James and AJ, the presenters, Stephen Carter and Ruth Shannon-Doyle for the lights, Adam Higgs for setting up the sound system and at last but not least Ciarán Collins, the last minute curtain puller (the most important job of all). A very special thanks must go to Ms Bourke for all her help!

Alex Conroy, 4th Form

Top: Rocking out!!
Below: Getting jiggy with it!





Early on Friday the 22nd of March, four High School students departed from Dublin Airport on an all-expenses paid trip to London to compete in the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Top of the Bench Competition. During May of 2006, the two second years on the team, Seraphim Dempsey and Aisling Naylor had competed in an event in Trinity to decide who would represent Ireland in London. They had triumphed over a roster of about twelve other teams.

The moment we landed, we hopped on the Tube and headed for the Science Museum. We spent a lot of the day here, and there were a lot of activities available. Afterwards, we walked down the street to have a look at the Natural History Museum, which was also very interesting. After going out for dinner in Leicester Square, Dr Whitford suggested we go to the cinema before heading to our hotel. Everybody enjoyed the film, and we reached the hotel at about 10 o'clock.

We got up early the next morning for the reason we had traveled to London – our competition. We returned to the Science Museum and received a timetable of events for the day. The competition began at 11:45 with a very challenging written test. Afterwards we ate our packed lunches, provided by the RSC. The second portion of the competition involved answering questions based on exhibits scattered around the museum. This was the most enjoyable part of the afternoon. When we had finished, we were escorted to the nearby university labs for the final act – a practical exercise. The competitors were presented with a very difficult task: we were each given four chemicals, with which we had to create a mixture of temperature of 6 degrees Celsius. Unfortunately, we did not complete our objective.

Although we did not win, the trip was a very enjoyable experience. On behalf of the entire team, we would like to thank Dr Whitford for choosing us to accompany the qualifiers, and for organizing a great trip.



Above: Jack Kelly and Stephen Shaw with their project at the Young Scientist's Exhibition.

Young Scientist

From the 9th to the 13th of January 2007, we exhibited our project 'An Investigation in the cause of house fires due to the build up of static electricity in laundry' in the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2007, in the RDS in Dublin. There were a record 1270 entries for the exhibition, with only 500 being accepted in four categories: Physical, Chemical & Mathematical; Biological & Ecological; and Social & Behavioral; and Technological – the category that we applied for.

Our project involved investigating the phenomenon of the breakdown of air, which has been known to cause sparks jumping from clothing. Our research involved testing static build-up on various fabrics in different laundry baskets, different dryers, and on different drying times to determine the most likely situation that a spark could be created. In the end, we managed to scientifically prove that such a spark could be created from just-dried clothes sitting in a laundry basket.

At the start, we never imagined how much work that we would have to put into our project. In testing the clothes, it was essential that they did not touch anything electrically conductive before their level of static build up was measured. On more than one occasion, simple things such as forgetting to take off our watches ruined hours of experiments.

Despite the tedious nature of our experiments, on the last day of Christmas term we put the finishing touches on our report.

The highlight of the young scientist experience was the exhibition itself. After an enjoyable opening ceremony on the Wednesday afternoon (which ended with a live performance from Director), the three rounds of judging began. Having prepared what we were going to say, and having made sure that we knew all of our formulae properly, we felt that we were ready.

The judging itself was a lot easier than we had thought it would be. Each round had a similar procedure: We would greet the judge, explain the basis of our project and then answer any questions that they had. At the end of the second round our project report was taken for judging. Our judge remarked that we had structured our project very well and that we had a good understanding of the work that we had done.

We divided our free time into viewing some of the other projects, our favourite being a new type of bionic arm that had almost the same freedom of movement as a human. We got to view the technology exhibits run by various companies and universities at the back of the exhibition. At our stand, we ran simple demonstrations to explain the concepts of static electricity. One of our more amusing tasks was to assure visitors that their house wasn't going to burn down.

To anybody who is considering entering the exhibition, we offer the following advice:

- Start as early as you can. Preparation is the key.
- Work consistently throughout the year to avoid running out of time and having to rush towards the end.
- In your report, be sure to include why your findings are significant, rather than just stating your results.

We owe a huge thanks to Dr Whitford who coordinated the project and helped us to analyse our results. Most importantly she supported, encouraged and advised us throughout the year.

We also express our gratitude to Mr Kelly, who assisted us in perfecting our methods and in properly writing our report. Finally, thanks are needed to Mr Duffy and the office staff who helped publish our report.

Stephen Shaw and Jack Kelly, 4th Form



FUND RAISING FOR THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



ROMANIA TRIP

Left: The entire group on the last day on the work site
Above: Darragh Sweetnam and Amy Smart – digging!

In order to raise enough funds for the trip to Romania last Easter, there were huge efforts made by students participating, our generous sponsors and other high school students. A total of over 40,000 euro was raised - an incredibly impressive sum. Some of the in-school fundraising events were a football tournament, a bake sale, carol singing and a non-uniform day, all of which were a great success. Many students also took time out of their busy schedules to run in the Dublin Minithon to help raise money, which was enjoyed by all. Another event we organized was bag-packing in Tesco in Nutgrove for three afternoons. This made for some great experiences as we all got to know one another better and encountered some interesting and occasionally difficult characters.

There were also projects organized by people on the trip to raise money themselves, such as Aislinn's house party and Sam's Pub Quiz, which brought in a phenomenal amount of money. Individuals and business generously sponsored the trip, and names were then displayed on the houses overlooking the Reynolds Hall. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the fundraising for the trip. All of your support was very much appreciated.

Mark Savage, 4th Form



Above right: Sinead Smith and Abi Shanley-Thian help shoppers.
Right: Rebecca Burke fundraising in Tesco.

Below right: Carol-singing to fundraise for the Habitat trip.
Below left: A few pounds gained...in every sense.





HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

ROMANIA EASTER 07



After getting off the what can only be described as an adventurous start, with a missed flight in Amsterdam, which resulted in the group getting split up, and a couple of spontaneous flights to Paris, we finally arrived Romania, tired but happy.

The next day we toured Bucharest, where we were all shocked by how different their culture is. We had a thrilling seven-hour train journey across Romania the next day, to reach the northern town of Radauti (pronounced ra-da-oots). We were all excited to finally be starting a varied choice of work; digging foundations, twisting iron for the foundations or preparing the polystyrene insulation. Fascinating, no? So we split into groups and set to work. Most of us found it to be a tough first day, but once we got the hang of it we were like professionals! That evening a group of local teenagers gave us an enjoyable night, showing us the town and hanging out with Romanians our own age.

The next day most of us tried our hand at the other types of work, really getting into the swing of things. That night we had dinner at "The National" in town to try some "traditional" Romanian cuisine, including pig brain and cow testicles. You sure don't get cooking like that at home! We made great progress on the building site as the days went on, and Ryan's jokes never got old... *ahem*.

We took part in some traditional Easter festivities like painting eggs (not what it sounds like!), visiting monasteries, going to an Orthodox mass and, the best part, the soaking of the boys and girls on the two days after Easter Sunday! That added a bit of chaos to our farewell barbeque, which consisted of a good lunch, a Romania vs. Ireland football match, face painting and games with the kids on the site. Working on our last day and we put our all into it knowing that we would be leaving the site for the last time.



We all took away different things from this trip but I think everyone who was on it agrees that it was an amazing experience. NEARLY all the Romanians we met were welcoming and friendly with a great sense of humour! We had great fun being together as a group and doing something as worthwhile as this.

Thank you so much to everyone who gave their time and money and assisted our fundraising, and thanks to Ms Watson, Ms Thorp, Ms Carson and Mr Wilkinson - they were great!!

Joan Somers Donnelly, 4th Form



Top left: Abigail Shanley-Thian, Ruth McAuley, Sinead Smith and Aislinn Coghlan building structures for foundations.

Top right: Erm?!

Above: Tessa Meade and Rebecca Burke getting their hands dirty.

Right: Mr. Wilkinson taking it easy...get back to work!

Below left: The group mucking in. Below middle: The group building the foundation structures.

Below right: Face painting with local children.



Ali Meeke was recently selected to be a player on the Ireland Hockey U16s AND Leinster U16's squad, a great achievement; and one she certainly deserves. Ali hit her first hockey ball at the tender age of five when most children of the same age were eating glue. She played with Leinster for two inter pros before making it onto the Irish team, loving all the players on her team, saying, "everyone is really friendly"... Ahhh bless.

Although the team has played a series of matches against England they haven't actually travelled abroad yet but according to Ali there is a four nation's tournament in Wales coming up. So far she has played three matches with the team but unfortunately lost them all, although she's very keen to point out that one should have been a draw. We demand a rematch! But despite that traumatic event, Ali hopes to continue playing international hockey in the future, and we wish her all the best.

**Interviewed by Ruth Senior,
Written by Niamh Kenny,
5th Form**

INTERVIEW WITH ALI MEEKE HOCKEY LEINSTER U16S AND IRISH TRAINING



English Class 4L Visits

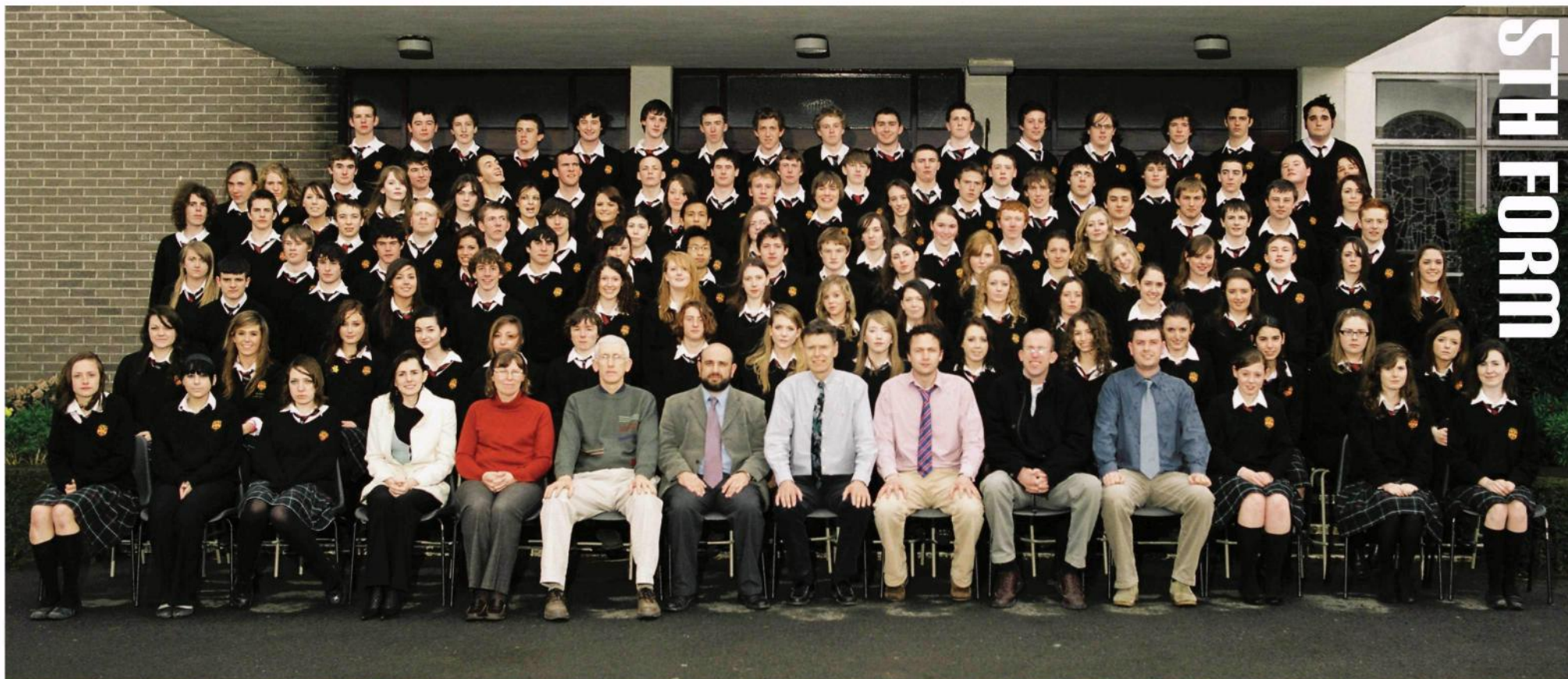
Mr McClure's English class went on several trips during the year. We visited Mountjoy prison in November, in connection with a project we were doing in class about crime and punishment. The men's prison which is in a state of decay contrasts with The Dochas Centre, the women's prison, which is relatively new with excellent facilities. In December we went ice-skating in the RDS where all had great fun. Needless to say some pupils preformed better than others on the ice but the chocolate covered strawberries available at one of the stalls met with everyone's approval! In the summer term we had a class outing to Dundrum in the evening to watch Spiderman 3, which was very enjoyable. Thanks 4L for making this year so enjoyable!

Mr L McClure

TY OPTIONS



Above: Since when did we do archery?
Top left: Pilates - some of the boys taking it easy...
Middle left: Pilates is very up-lifting.
Bottom left: 4th year girls taking some time to stretch!
Top and middle right: TY Judo - filled with enthusiasm on the judo mats.
Bottom right: Battling it out for queen of the karate mat...



Back Row: Harry Ward, Conall Walsh, Brian Twamley Levins, Darragh Keller, Daniel Alkin, Daniel James, Richard Jones, Gareth Austen, Robert Callaghan, Jack Madden, Gavin Thornberry, Conor James, Ronan Fox, Jack Hickey, William Hanlon, Jordan Aslanis.

Second Row: Órfhlaith Noone, Aaron Ward, Adam Higgs, Romano Fuscuardi, Mark Cabena, Luke Staines, Rowan Lacey, Fionan Keenan, Graham Field, Aron Wade, James Hickey, James Comerford, Thomas Lohan, Barry Brady, Daniel Sheridan, Fiona Collins.

Third Row: Annalise Murphy, Sarah Donnelly, Clare Guy, Anna Earls, Naomi Cooper, Niamh Mitchell, Louise Blakely, Marc Evans, Colin Sheridan, Evanna Mills, David Kenny, Alexander Lawson, Alain Lui, Ross Hanan, Mark Mesbur, Aisling Barry.

Fourth Row: David Whyte, Nick Fitzpatrick, Marcus Spray, Bruce Misstear, Andrew Stevenson, Shane Hickey, Cherith Cooper, David Meade, Grainne Milton, Caoimhe Carty, Christine Rorke, Euan Mackay, Miriam Kerr, Adam Drakeford, Andrew Howell.

Fifth Row: Emma Tallon, Andrew Gray, Edmund Butler, Judy Kelleher, Richard Harrison, Saoirse Hickey, Gordon Lai, Dermott Jewell, Barry Moran, Genevieve Deeley, Ruth Murphy, Ciara Butler, Olwen Reina, Alice Wyse Jackson, Graeme O'Meara, Katie Anglim, Laura Cooley.

Sixth Row: Ian Singleton, Brian Fitzpatrick, Jade Breen, Darragh Sweetnam, Pauline Carney, Niamh Kenny, Eve Horgan, Karina McConnell, Hannah Bishop, Tanya Allison, Joann O'Meara, Sian Cooley, Sarah Byrne.

Seventh Row: Laura Oliver, Valerie Sexton, Helen O'Dea, Siobhan Margolis, Alexandra Taylor, David Mulholland, Daniel Tuomey, Susan Casey, Sinead Nolan, Ruth Senior, Sophie Higgs, Leah Moore, Hanah Mesallati, Ruth McAuley, Amber Brownless.

Front Row: Ellen Ni Cleirigh, Norah Mooney, Christena Wiler, Ms D Fahey, Dr C Whitford, Mr C Cryan, Mr R Davies, Mr B Quinn, Mr C Flynn, Mr P Prendergast, Mr B McNamara, Amy Smart, Sarah Corbin, Amy Hughes.

Absent: Daragh Byrne, Kimberly Evans, Sarah McDermott, Sarah May Clarke, Mark Collins, Gavin Sadlier, Triona Connell, Hannah Lunn, Caoimhe McDonnell, Rebecca Burke, Peter Cox, Stephané Hanly, Donal Moran, Alison Walsh, Sean Tevlin.

SENIOR DEBATING

Debating for the senior cycle was held in Mr Miller's room every Friday at half one. Devoted students attended it from 4th, 5th and 6th year. I played the roles of chairperson and secretary. Every week I chose topics for debating, usually from The Irish Times or the Irish Independent online, or took suggestions from fellow students. The informal set-up of the debating sessions allowed the students to freely contribute their opinion.

We took part in a Concern debate against John Scottus and won but unfortunately (and unfairly in my opinion!) were beaten in our second debate against St. Michael's. However the judge there did say that Aisling Barry had talent! G-wan!

I greatly enjoyed debating and would highly recommend all those entering or currently in the senior cycle to take the time to try it out. Thanks to all those who showed up regularly! And thanks to Mr Miller for allowing us to use his room! Big up to my debating homies, whoop whoop!

Olwen Reina, 5th Form

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

The student council this year set goals to improve the school as a whole and to make it more environmentally friendly. After speeches and secret ballots the chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary were chosen. Tamryn Reinecke was chosen as Chairperson, Olwen Reina was elected vice chairperson and Tom Roseingrave as secretary. The Chairperson was to lead the meetings and research information of issues raised. The Vice Chairperson would sub-in for the Chairperson if they were absent and last but not least the secretary would record the minutes and type them up so they would be available in hard copies for the next meeting.

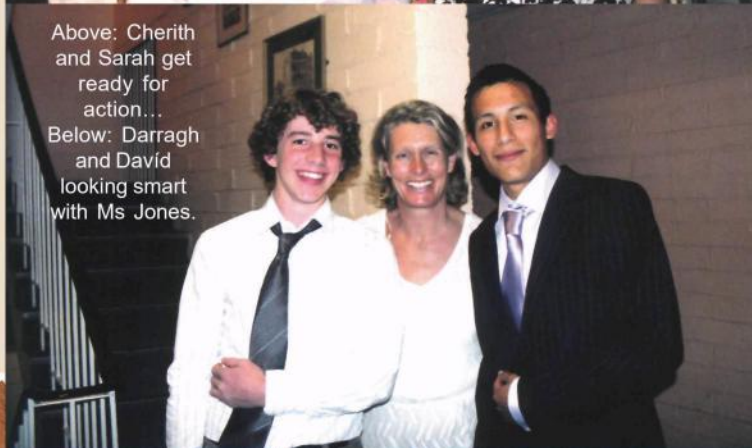
Many suggestions were put forward as to how to improve the school from solar panels on the roof to an improved vegetarian option in the cafeteria to providing more bins around the school. Towards the end of the year a meeting took place between the school council and the management of the school. A number of important issues were discussed and we would hope to see them put into action next year. All in all the student council was a great success and I look forward to continuing its role as voice for the student body in the school.

Olwen Reina, 5th Form

MOCK INTERVIEWS



Above: Cherith and Sarah get ready for action...



Below: Darragh and David looking smart with Ms Jones.



A French Theatre Group Visit High School

Lundi dernier, un groupe de théâtre est venu à La High School. Trois acteurs et une actrice ont donné pièce Française. Il s'agissait d'un groupe d'amis qui veulent aller en Irlande pour voir un match de rugby entre l'Irlande et la France, mais tout d'abord il faut qu'ils gagnent un peu d'argent. Ils ne peuvent pas décider comment le faire. Finalement, ils décident de s'inscrire à un concours de talent qui offre aux gagnants une grosse somme d'argent. La pièce était très agréable et quelques élèves ont participé à la danse et ont joué des rôles. Je voudrais remercier les acteurs pour un spectacle chouette, et les profs qui l'ont organisé.

Cíara Butler, 5th Form

Seachtain na Gaeilge Abú

Is í seachtain na gaeilge an fhéile Ghaeilge agus chultúrtha is mó a bhíonn in Éirinn gach bliain. Tá sí ag dul ar siúl ar feadh níos mó ná céad bliain anuas agus maireann sí coicí sna laethanta díreach roimh Lá Fhéile Pádraig.

Inár scoil féin, bhí gach rang Gaeilge páirteach in imeachtaí a bhí á n-eagrú ag na múinteoirí; céilithe, seisiún, ceoil, tráth, na gceist san áireamh.

'Tír gan Teanga, Tír gan anam'...mar a deirtear. An bhfuil aon chiall ag baint leis an ráiteas seo, dar libhse, sa lá atá inniu ann? Is dóigh liom, go bhfuil cinnte. B'fheidir, is tír idirnáisiúnta í Éire, agus níor choir dúinn an Ghaeilge agus an cultúr gaelach a chur chun cinn, agus deis a thabhairt do dhaoine iad a bhlaiseadh (go háirithe na himircigh).

Bhí craic agus spraoi le feiceáil i measc na ndaltaí i rith SnaG. Bhí daoine ag glacadh páirte i rincí agus bhí said ag éisteacht le ceol binn angus suaimhneach. Chun an fhírinne a rá, táim den tuairim go raibh formhór na ndaoine, a ghlac páirt sna himeachtaí, ag baint taitnimh as na rincí níos mó ná an Ghaeilge. Is scéal truamhéalach é seo, ach is léir gur chiall an teanga an cumhacht agus an tionchar a bhíodh aici in Éirinn.

Ar an drochuair, tá tuairim diúltach ag daltaí maidir leis an nGaeilge. Maidir leis an gcúrsa ardleibhéal don ardeiste, bíonn mionlach ag leanúint ar aghaidh ag foghlaim na teanga ar an leibhéal seo.

Rinneamar suirbhé chun fail amach an beadh na múinteoirí go léir iarracht iontach na ceisteanna a fhreagairt, ach is léir ón suirbhé nach bhfuil tuiscint bunúsach ag múinteoirí áirithe. Bhí tuiscint chuimsitheach ag Mr. Ó Seireadaín agus é ag labhairt na teanga go líofa. Bhí scéal eile maidir leis Mr. Ó Gríofáin. Nuair a d'iarr dalta amháin air: -"An bhfuil aon dhearthair nó deirfiur agat?" D'fheagair sé le: -"Ar ndóigh, tá triúr íníon agus mac amháin agam." Maith thú!

Is aoihbhinn liom an Ghaeilge. I breá le mo chroí í. Is breá liom an cultúr, an teanga, na gaeilgeoirí agus an tír. Nuair a bhí mé ag éisteacht leis an radio lá amháin, bhí John Moriarity ag rá go raibh an traidisiún ag fail bháis. An raibh an ceart leis? An bhfuil an fhadhb seo ag tosnú sa bhaile nó ar scoil? Beidh ár gcultúr imithe go deo, ach níl tada á dhéanamh chun é a shabháil.

'Croí na Teanga' mana na seachtaine. Ceard atá i gcéist leis an mana seo ná a thaispeáint gur féidir le gach duine úsáid a bhaint as an teanga agus as an gcultúr, agus go mbaineann athbheo na gaeilge le gach duine. Tá an Ghaeilge thart timpeall orainn, agus í an-bheo i saol na hÉireann. Má tá tú ag iarraidh suntas ar bith a thabhairt d'imeachtaí Gaeilge i mbliana...Roghnaigh SnaG...Gaeilge Abú!

Clare Guy, 5th Form

LANGUAGES

Un Ano en HSD

Dentro de las puertas de la HSD la atmósfera zumba con actividad. Durante todo el año los deportes y actividades diferentes tienen lugar por la escuela. Hay algo que interesa todos. Cuando la escuela vuelve a abrir en septiembre, varios atletas compiten por los equipos de deportes de invierno. Con hockey de chicas, hockey de chicos, rugby, fútbol, badminton, el piragüismo, correr, tenis de mesa, natación, y judo, todo el mundo se pone activo. Cuando las competiciones de la copa y de la liga empiezan el sentido de compañerismo y el espíritu de equipo son innegables.

Cuando todo esto pasa, los profesores y los alumnos en la clase 5 son muy ocupados creando el espectáculo que es el desempeño anual, realizado a fines de noviembre. El trimestre se acaba lentamente cuando las vacaciones de navidad se acercan. Todos vuelven a relajarse en casa y para recuperar por unas pocas semanas.

El regreso para trabajar y los meses van rápidamente. Los finales de las copas y de las ligas traen las multitudes de partidarios fuera en el húmedo tiempo de febrero. No tarda mucho hasta que los terrenos de rugby llegan a ser terrenos de juego de críquet y los campos de hockey llegan a ser los campos de tenis. Cuando los juegos de verano comienzan, todos están de buen humor. Cuando el sol brilla, los alumnos pasan sus horas del almuerzo tumbados en los terrenos, jugando al frisbee, jugando al rugby y al fútbol. Todos trabajan duramente y la clase 6 se prepara para terminar el instituto. Cuando los días llegan a ser más largos y el verano se acerca todos los deportes, las actividades y los estudios paran y las vacaciones de verano empiezan.

Valerie Sexton, 5th Form

„Der Kuss“ Gustav Klimt

„Gefühl ist alles“ sagt Goethe.

Wenn man sich in jemand verliebt, ist nichts anders wichtig. Ich meine, das ist die Aussage des Bildes, „Der Kuss“. Gustav Klimt sagt uns, dass niemand den Kuss verbieten kann.

Die Liebe sind im Gold und Gelb umgeben. Es ist eine warme Farbe; man erkennt, dass ihnen ihre Liebe am wichtigsten ist. Das Rot wird oft in der Kunst benutzt, um die Liebe zu zeigen, aber ich denke, es würde „Dem Kuss“ nicht passen. Die Liebenden würde im Rot ersticken.

Blumen sind auch ein romantisches Bild; die Frau sieht schön aus, weil sie die Blumen an ihrem Kleid und in ihrem Haare trägt. Klimt zeigt, dass sie so schön wie die Natur ist, und das Muster an ihrem Kleid ist auch schöner als die Blumen auf dem Boden.

Aber der Kuss ist das Entscheidende des Bildes. Die Frau geht in die Knie, weil sie so hilflos ist. Sie macht die Augen zu, und der Mann umarmt sie. Es ist ein kräftiger Anblick.

Nach meiner Meinung ist es ein fantastisches Bild. Es ist nicht naturgenau, aber das Gefühl ist mächtig.

Ich stimme mit Goethe zu.

Andrew Howell, 5th Form

CAVING TRIP TO (Lisdoonvarna 07

The lack of caving due to bad weather had on the last trip meant that the group decided to brave the caves once again! On the 18th of May the group (along with a few newbies) headed for Lisdoonvarna. The weather was promised to be bad but we kept our hopes up for good! Again we had a long journey down but this time we packed the bus better and everyone got a seat...no more sitting on floors! We arrived around ten, got our rooms and settled down for the night.

The next morning we were eventually joined by Mr McBride, Mr Kinsella and Hugh Hogan who'd taken a 'little' detour on the way (via Longford). Everyone got kitted up and we headed for the caves. This was the cave we had all waiting for but unfortunately we had to wait another day as there was cave rescue training going on. Mr Wright drove us to another cave and our journey began. I would like to congratulate Hugh as he managed to keep his feet dry throughout our time in the cave! How did he do it? The evening was spent with the girls cooking fajitas for the twelve "gentlemen" on the trip. It was not an easy job let me tell you as we had a nine inch pan to cook 17 chicken fillets! But we got our own back with the clean up...

So on the Sunday we finally got to abseil the 80 foot drop to the cave entrance. It took about an hour for everyone to get down, but we eventually headed into the cave. The walls were covered in some sort of "clay" (supposedly used in cosmetics) and by the time we got out, everyone was covered in the stuff (not helped by Mr Wright!). Mr McBride, Mr Kinsella and Hugh didn't come into this cave as they wanted to watch the rugby match instead (typical!), but we sloshed through waist deep water for 2 hours, and were all very pleased to finally see light. But that wasn't the end of it... We still had a tough job ahead of us though to climb up the 80 foot drop. When we got up the sense of achievement was unreal, made all the much better for the good weather!

All in all we had a great time and I would like to thank all the teachers that came with us. We have some unforgettable memories and hope you don't mind bringing us again next year!

Laura Cooley, 5th Form



Top: Sian Cooley, Laura Cooley, Niamh Mitchell, Alice Wyse Jackson, David Meade.

Above: Darragh freescales what no-one else would attempt.

Below left: Laura, Aisling and Stefan.

Below: Mr Wright enjoying the chocolate!





CAVING TRIP TO DOOLIN '06

It started out with the 14 of us, in the rain, ready to get on the bus to make our journey down to The Burren, Co Clare. We managed to pack the back of the bus out so much that Laura had to sit in a ball at the back of it! It took us over five, long but entertaining hours to get there, but we did eventually.

A few card games were played on the first night and A LOT of laughs were had. After only a few hours sleep, we eagerly made our way to the caves. We were down there for a good few hours, making use of chocolate, climbing through holes and having a fair few 'Cave Raves' - but somehow we managed to get out alive.

The evening was spent watching the toy show and recovering from our physical day. Unfortunately due to bad weather, we were not able to go down again on the Sunday, instead taking the scenic route back home to Dublin. We stopped off at a beach, where with the 35+ knot winds, we all had trouble standing and were almost swept away by a HUGE wave... but not quite.

Before making our way onto the motorway, we checked out the cave that we would have been exploring. Consisting of a 80 foot vertical drop into the mouth - it looked amazing, but unfortunately we had to carry on due to the flooding (of course not before Alice fell down into a huge pile of 'mud' in the name of checking out another cave). We arrived back at school late on Sunday, exhausted from our exciting expedition. We would like to thank Mr Wright and Mr Flynn for making it such a memorable trip!

Conall Walsh, 5th Form



Top: Andy Stevenson, Conall Walsh, Peter Cox, Sian Cooley, Amy Hughes, Alice Wyse Jackson, Darragh Sweetnam, Donal Moran, Laura Cooley, Christine Rorke, Mr Wright.

Above: Cavers with attitude!
Right: Sarah McDermott looking a little lost.

Below: The group made it out alive.

Below: Alice Wyse Jackson, Darragh Sweetnam, David Meade, Conall Walsh.





1. How long have you been sailing for?

I have been sailing since as long as I can remember! I used to go out sailing with my parents and siblings from when I was about four, sailing in their Hurricane (a type of catamaran). My mum and I even broke the speed record from Cong to Galway (a race) when I was seven where we got up to 28 knots! I didn't get my own boat till I was nine. I did the junior section sailing course in Dun Laoghaire in an Optimist, where I did the junior regatta and won it. From then on I was hooked!

2. What was the progression that you made through the different classes of boats?

I started sailing on my own in the Optimist, which is a bathtub with a sail stuck on it. Then I moved into the Laser 4.7 (the smallest of the Laser class), mirrors, 420s and 29ers. Eventually I moved into the Laser Radial, the women's Olympic Single Handed Dingy. This will be my third year sailing in the Radial Competitively.

3. Impressive! So which do you prefer and why?

I would have to say the Laser Radial, because it has got the biggest fleets, some of the best sailors in the world sailing them and they go pretty fast too! But if I wanted to have a laugh I'd pick the 29er for its speed and no hiking!

4. You sound pretty experienced, but where are you now with your sailing?

I have been on the Irish Youth Academy for the past two years, last year winning the top U-18 girls place for Ireland to go to the ISAF Youth Worlds - the biggest event on the Youth Calendar, held in Weymouth, England. I also finished first youth girl in the Irish National Championships and 20th at the Worlds.

5. Sounds like hard work – so how often do you train?

I normally sail 3 days a week during the winter and then 6 or 7 days a week in the summer. I also go to the gym 2 days a week and try to get in as much running and cycling as possible.

6. Being the middle child of 3 sailing children, do you ever feel pressured by your sibling's achievements?

Yes definitely! It's difficult racing against my older sister because I want to sail my best, but if I beat her it leads to off the water arguments!

7. Sounds stressful. Ever feel like it all gets too much?

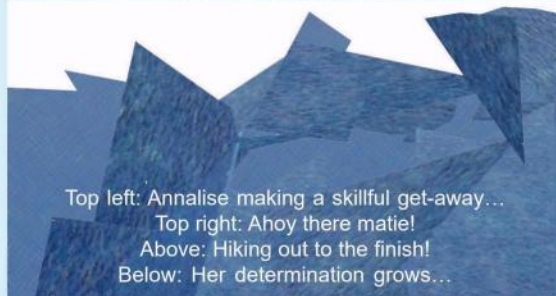
Yeah! During the winter, when I come in and can't feel my hands or feet, I wonder why I'm doing it. It gets really intense at big International events too, when something goes wrong – but then you win a race and realise that it's all worth it.

8. Any advice to those wanting to get into sailing?

It's the most exhilarating sport you can do, and the social scene is brilliant! If you're interested, don't hesitate to try it out - you won't regret the experience!

Thank you for your time Annalise, and keep up the good work!

Interview conducted by Alice Wyse Jackson, 5th Form



Top left: Annalise making a skillful get-away...
Top right: Ahoy there matie!
Above: Hiking out to the finish!
Below: Her determination grows...

The Sensational

Written by our very own Mr Prendergast, "Taps" promised to be a completely new experience for both the teachers and the students involved. It would be the first 5th year play to use fresh material written specifically for the 5th year play and for that reason we all knew that we were taking a big risk. The play could have gone one of two ways: it could have been a disaster, or it could have been brilliant. I think that anyone who attended the performance will agree that it was definitely one of the best plays the school has ever put on.

"Taps" is a story based in the modern day, in a school which is similar to our own. It centres on a girl called Jessie, who is regularly visited by her recently deceased brother James (now a ghost). Jessie is a fantastic dancer, but struggles to live in the shadow of her brother's success as a young rugby star. She constantly makes mistakes and lets her nerves get to her, while the teasing of the dance team captain, Louisa, and her friends Lizzie and Amanda doesn't help when she gets an important position on the dance team following Amanda's injury. The arrival of a new student to the school, Alan, gives the reluctant Jessie a companion as her brother coaches her on how to let go and become a better dancer. Meanwhile, Louisa's tough boyfriend Richie loses money in a bet with the dangerous Big Sam, and asks Louisa to throw the upcoming National Dance Competition in order to escape his debt. This makes for a tense and emotional play climaxing in an intense dance-off at the end.

Each of the actors brought a special quality to the mix and was perfectly cast. Laura Oliver played Jessie, creating a believable character who apparently managed to draw a tear or two during the emotional scenes. Her dead brother James was played by Jack Hickey who slipped effortlessly into his role and connected with the audience superbly. Fionan Keenan played Alan, who probably drew the biggest laughs and cheers and delivered the jokes with ease. His singing performance at the end of act one also caused some tears in the audience. Louisa was played by Sophie Higgs who became the perfect balance for Jessie, delivering each line with just the right amount of unpleasantness along with her sidekicks Amanda and Lizzie, played by Caoimhe McDonnell and Hannah Lunn. Sophie's performance of "I'm Beautiful" (a different take on James Blunt's "You're Beautiful") wowed the crowd. Romano Fusciardi was equal parts threatening and cool as Richie along with sidekicks played by Gordon Lai and Stan Harding, while Daniel Alkin was suitably dangerous-looking as Big Sam with his ruffian handyman played by Conall Walsh. Every other actor was equally as convincing in their roles.

The dance scenes deserve special mention because of how important they are in the play. The actors danced to such classics as "Fame" and "Grease", and more modern tunes such as "Suddenly I See", each expertly choreographed by Ms Breen and added colour and a unique style to the play.

The whole cast and crew worked really well as a team and because of this the play ran extremely smoothly on all the nights. The costume and set changes were



Above: Sinéad Nolan...if only she was to study as much as she sings.

Below: The pink ladies.



lightning fast, the lighting and make-up worked brilliantly together to highlight the actors, the sound was fantastic thanks to the new microphones and the live band was very professional. The two student producers Sarah Corbin and Aisling Barry, who worked so hard and kept all the teams working efficiently and on time, managed all of this. Everyone involved agrees that "Taps" was a great success and a wonderful experience.

On behalf of the cast and crew, I would like to thank the three teachers who were central to the production: Ms Breen, whose experience and choreography skills were essential for the stunning dance scenes; Ms McKevitt, who gave the play the right look and feel from the start; and Ms Milne, who put so much faith in us and helped us to create one of the best performances the school has ever seen.

Thanks to Mr Prendergast for writing such a super play and to all the other teachers, staff and students who helped out too.

Andrew Howell, 5th Form

TAPS!

It all started with an idea. A hare-brained scheme on the part of a certain Irish teacher/literary expeditionary. A plan to have a live band in the fifth year play. No mean feat...

And so we began to put together a musical ensemble, capable of doing justice to such wonderful songs as 'I'm Beautiful' and in-time enough for people to dance to. Once again, no mean feat. Initial practice sessions fell under the 'going nowhere' category, but once we started playing with the actors and dancers on stage, things began to take shape. With an All-Star line up of Rowan (Piano), Adam (Bass), Euan (Drums), Marcus (Lead Guitar), Alice (Flute and Clarinet), Eve (Violin), and two guys from somewhere-that-just-isn't-High school doing a fine job on trumpet and trombone, we were in business.

As 'Taps' itself began to come together, we, the band, were in the interesting position of being able to watch as scenes were essentially figured out from scratch. Under the expert guidance of the teachers involved, and thanks to the never-failing energy of Aisling and Sarah, events onstage were coming to life.

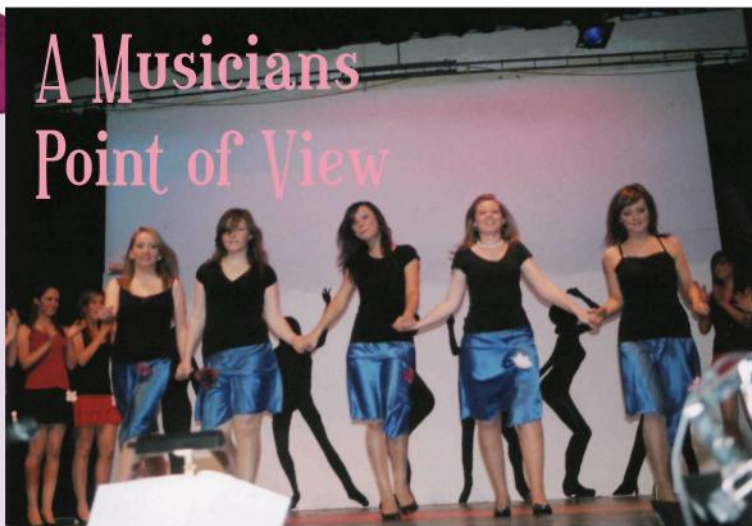
So when the time came to perform in front of over two hundred and fifty people each night, things went very well. The curtain opened on the first night and despite a dodgy headset and a few between-scene hiccups the bands duties were performed with style and grace. Meaning, we came in (mostly) in the right places and finished (again, mostly) together. Hallelujah.

Of course the show itself went brilliantly also. Everyone that came appeared to enjoy themselves a lot and the play was performed with humour, sensitivity and efficiency by all. The crowd laughed at the appropriate moments and, despite seeing the play many times during rehearsals, so did I.

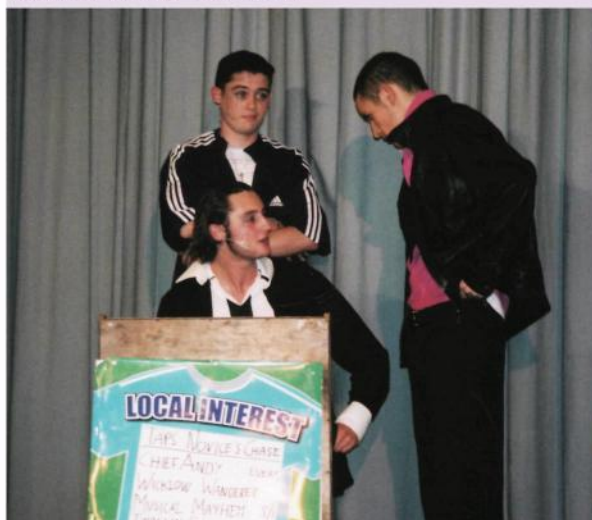
Being directly in front of the stage meant that the band could see just how well all aspects of the happenings on stage were performed. Hats off to all involved! I really enjoyed being part of the production and I know that despite a lot of stressful moments, the rest of the band did too.

Rowan Lacey, 5th Form

A Musicians Point of View

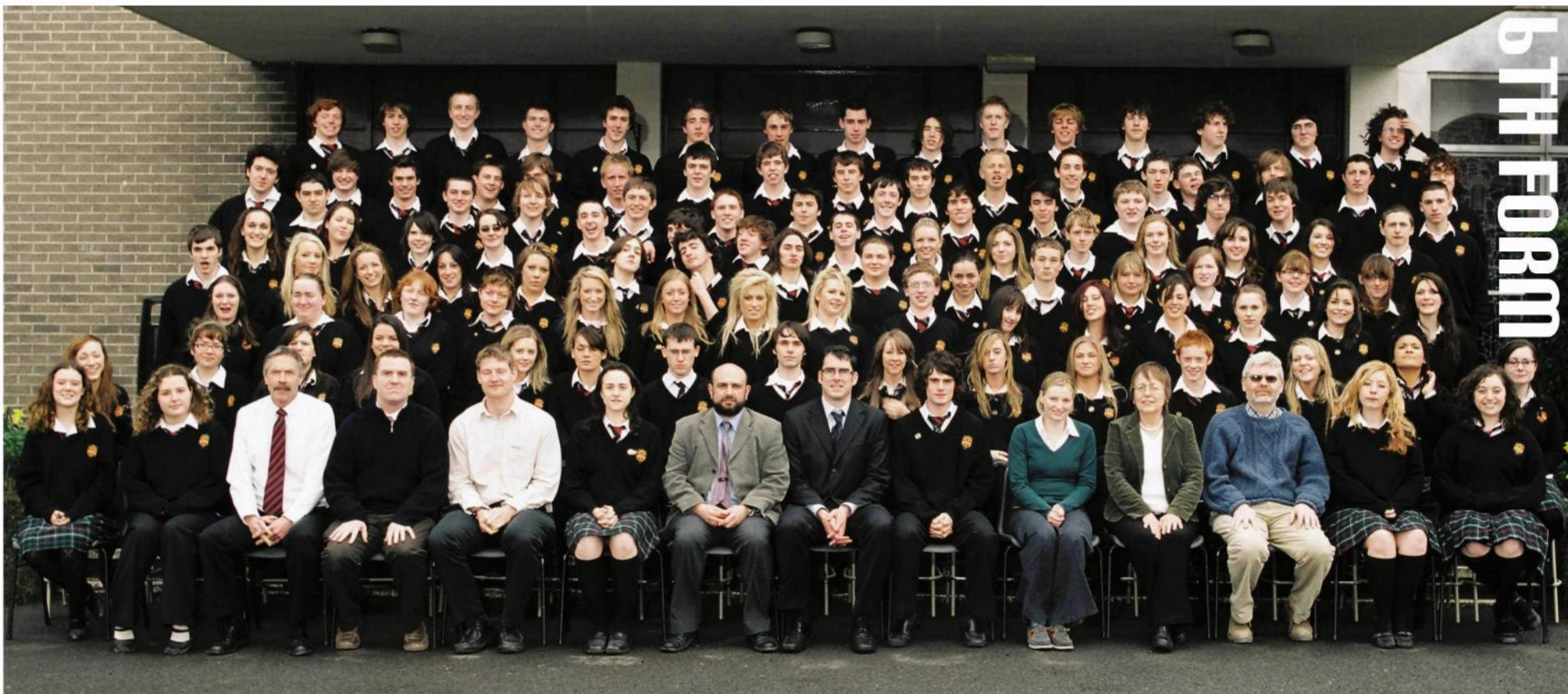


Top: The White Chapel High girls.
Above right: Pauline Carney, the enthusiastic dance teacher.
Above: Sophie Higgs and Laura Oliver in the dance-off.



Left: The bruisers.
Right: The Taps cast.

6TH FORM



Back Row: Sam McKenna Barry, Max Prendergast, Alan Cairns, Patrick O'Connor, Andrew Stevenson, Andrew Smyth, Graham Johnson, John Kilbey, Kyle Gleeson, Tycho Armstrong Block, Darren Edmondson, Jonathan Browne, Jamie Wright, Killian Rogan, Eoin Silke.

Second Row: Andrew Caulfield, Fergal O'Connor, Robbie Rath, Nigel Kinlan, Sean Nicholson, Tony Lee, Max Lane, Eoin O'Leary, Robbie Bannister, Alan O'Keeffe, Mark McNulty, Jack Mays, Rowan Stokes, Sam Horgan, Fionn Fitzmaurice, Flynn Benaksas, Shane Herlihy.

Third Row: Jamie Kelleher, Colin Keegan, Tom Meredith, Jonathan Sargeant, Alan McMurray, David Lusby, Toby Lyons, Iain Cobban, Sean O'Donohoe, Keith Ellman, Conor Barry, Ciaran Maginn, Roger Persechini.

Fourth Row: Aicha Aboudinar, Kate Lyons, Barbara Daly, Katie Jane Barry, Jonathan Senior, Kier Johnson, Harri Grunitz, William McConnell, Caitriona Ryan, Katie Marconi, Larry O'Connell, Gemma McRann, Jennifer Murphy, Julie Kavanagh, Jonathan Mathers.

Fifth Row: Eneko O'Carroll, Kate Ryan, Jessie Elliott, Kim Taylor, Alex Carey, Nicholas Stevenson, Jack Kavanagh, Cian Kinsella McLennan, Stephen Spoor, Nicola Cantan, Shane Gould, Tamryn Reinecke, Niamh Sleator, Beth Kelly, Ruth Hunter.

Sixth Row: Lynsay McFarland, Madeline Boyle, Joelle Grogan, Lauren Turner, Jennifer Flanagan, Lucy Keogh, Stella Hawe, Sadhbh Donnellan, Evan O'Callaghan, Deirdre McClean, Hannah Jennings, Robyn Fitzpatrick, Claire Fergus, Kathy Kiernan, Isobel Scally.

Seventh Row: Elizabeth Surgeon, Katibeth Rendek, Susan Brusey, Denise Fagan, Carol-Ann Sherlock, Lana Loane, Richard Kiernan, Cameron Brownlee, Lana Mitchell, Anna McNally, Anne-Marie Jordan, Simon Burgess, Melissa Hanney, Karen Meade, Katie McCann.

Front Row: Janine Levine, Faye Simms, Mr L McClure, Mr D Miller, Mr B Kinsella, Alison May, Mr R Davies, Mr T Gill, Andrew Lohan, Ms M Lynch, Ms M Milne, Mr A Kelly, Laura Mellor, Debbie Newman.

Sixth Year Memorabilia

Thanks to the 6th years who took the time out of their busy schedules to fill in our questionnaire on some of the memorable aspects of their time here at The High School... all seven of them that bothered.

For "most embarrassing moment", on Tamryn Reinecke's first day of school she was directed to the office to ask for Mr Toomey, but due to what I can only assume was first day nerves, she asked for Mr Poomey instead... no better way to start in a new school. The most public embarrassing moment of the lot seemed to be when Katie and Beth, the student producers of their fifth year play, made half a speech to the whole Reynolds Hall before realising the microphone was turned off. It seems everyone has had their share of school-related embarrassing moments, but it's okay to laugh these moments off when you're among friends... Except for perhaps in Andy Lohan's case, who was tied up in duck tape and thrown into a class full of second years by "friends" such as Iain Cobban.

For favourite moments, everybody fondly remembers the trips such as Finland and Estonia, all but Tamryn, who's was lighting the Christmas tree. Aww, how nostalgic! Mrs McCartney seemed to be the over all most popular teacher, with the fantastic ability to "teach a rock to skip rope". Another favourite was Señor Quinn, "¡porque puede hablar muchos idiomas!" I don't speak Spanish but I'm sure that's insightful stuff.

For their final words, most of the students wished theirs to be "more tea Mr Well?" The reason for which is unknown, but these are just some of the mysteries that the class of '07 will leave behind. I don't think we've seen the last of them however, as they've left a warning to look out for the High School pirates supporting at next years rugby matches... "High School don't lose to Wesley in cup matches" - apparently...

**Information
gathered by
Aisling
Barry,
Written by
Sarah
McDermott,
5th Form**



Above: Scott O'Malley and Niamh Sleator.
Left: Aidan Hunt and partner.

Thank you so much to everyone on the Debs committee who worked so hard to provide us with this special night.

Ruth Roseingrave

The Debs 2006

The Debs. One night of fun, fancy dresses and a breakfast roll. Right? Wrong. The truth is, the Debs is much more than a good night out. It's our last event together as a year, and it's a symbolic transition from school into adult life. It's not just a disco.

Debs frenzy starts properly in May, when the one topic of conversation for sixth years (that doesn't involve textbooks or calculators) is who everyone is going to the Debs with. Every day there is a new couple to chat about, and finding a partner is just the tip of the iceberg for most. The partner crisis is proceeded by intense planning for – not necessarily in this order – the hair, the make-up, the bag, and the jewellery (for the girls), the fake tan (mostly just for the girls), the limo/chariot/helicopter/hot-air balloon, the tux, the tickets, the corsage, the shoes and the seating plan...it's an absolute miracle if you arrive on time with your dress on the right way round! So why did everyone I talked to afterwards say that the Debs was the best night of their lives?

It started out at seven pm on Wednesday the fourth of October 2006 with a drinks reception in the Reynold's Hall and was attended by many of the staff. The atmosphere was one of anticipation, thrilling excitement and warm nostalgia as, one by one, the class of 2006 trickled in through the front entrance. Let me tell you, Hello! magazine definitely missed out on a few photo ops by not turning up to this gig. The girls were beautiful in flowing, full-length ball gowns or short, sassy cocktail dresses, and the guys looked like movie stars in smooth-fitting tuxes, some decorated with coloured waistcoats and bowties. It was clear from the start that the invisible 'adult barrier' had finally been removed for us as we chatted to teachers and parents like equals, instead of like the young, unworldly students that we used to be. And after a quick glass of wine and a flash of the photographer's camera we were off, piling back into our limos/carriages/hummers/hovercrafts with our teary parents waving us on our way to the venue where the night would really begin.

Huge tables of ten had been set up all around the Leopardstown Pavillion, and we wasted no time in sitting down and tucking into our meals. And then came the moment we'd all been waiting for – the dancing! Almost everybody made to get onto the dance floor, accompanied by an enthusiastic Mr Gill who impressed us all with his stamina and smooth dance moves.

The band played on until twelve, and for those of us who were still going, the DJ started up to play until the early hours. In general, people came and went on the dance floor, while the others enjoyed the remains of the summer evening outside, and yet more decided to test the comfort of the chairs and tables as an alternative to sleeping in their own beds.

And then the announcement came all too soon that it was time to order taxis, as our breakfast would be served shortly. Only one more song to go, and we knew what it would be – "Never Forget," our year's self-chosen anthem. The dance floor filled up as everyone filed in to put their arms around each other and sing the lyrics we really, truly meant – "And we've come so far, and we've reached so high, And we've looked each day and night in the eye, And we're still so young, and we hope for more, but remember this, we're not invincible."

And so the night ended, with a greasy breakfast roll and the scramble for taxis in the morning rain, but we will never forget that night that brought us together again as adults, and left us with fond memories of each other and the school we'll always remember.

CLASSICS TRIP TO GREECE OCTOBER 2006

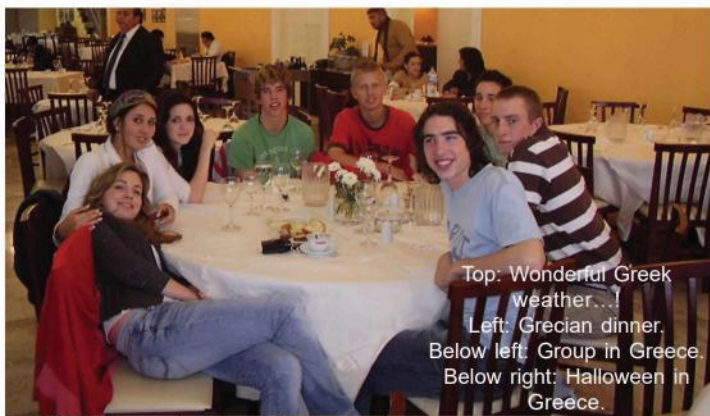


In October 2006 the classics scholars of 5th and 6th year were lucky enough to have a chance to visit Greece. 41 students along with Mrs Boyce, Ms S Jones, Mrs Carson, Mr Giles, and of course Mr McCaughey, had the opportunity to delve into the heart of the ancient Greek world. Based in a lovely hotel in Athens, our various outings included climbing up to the Parthenon and its museum, taking the coach to Delphi, Mycenae and Corinth, whispering in an ancient theatre and huddling together inside a beehive tomb. Seeing the sculpture and artwork that we study with our own eyes and in its original context was a really valuable addition to the subject.

We also got to experience more modern Greek culture, taking part in traditional dance, sampling traditional dishes and exploring the centre of the city. It was Halloween while we were there and we celebrated it fully, costumes and all, despite being the only ones in the bowling complex, and probably the country to do so.

A huge amount was packed in, to what managed to be both a holiday and an insightful, educational few days. Thanks so much to all the teachers involved, in particular, Mr McCaughey. I hope ours was the first of many such classics trips.

Hannah Jennings, 6th Form



Top: Wonderful Greek weather...
Left: Grecian dinner.
Below left: Group in Greece.
Below right: Halloween in Greece.



Film-Makers' Competition



After coming second place last year with "A Date With Destruction" and winning an audience award for "Planehouse", on 8th of March, RE Productions won first place and were awarded the title

of "Young Irish Filmmakers of the Year 2007" in the Fresh Film Festival. First prize was a place in the Young Irish Film Makers course over the summer and a huge novelty cheque for 1000 euro. We faced stiff competition from 170 entries and the standard of films showcased this year had improved exponentially from last year. RE Productions is the brainchild of Conor Barry, Fionn Fitzmaurice, Ciaran Maginn and James McDonnell.

The film entered, titled "Hang Up Noise Man", tells the story of a man who struggles to overcome the odds and achieve greatness regardless of his communication problems. It's sort of like an Irish "Babel" (meaning film). It is an action packed explosion fest of creativity and genius of the highest calibre and it was for this reason that it was crowned first place in a competition of over 170 films by young filmmakers.

With witty dialogue and puns galore it is difficult not to fall in love with the colourful characters depicted by the fine range of actors. Other than the previously named filmmakers, Lauren Turner also makes a heart warming cameo and shows our beloved hero the way to true happiness and Katibeth Rendek's acting had us all convinced. We used a camera. RE Productions continues to push the boundaries of the medium of film and their filmmaking expertise can only go up from here. With a huge catalogue of films already and plenty more in the barrel, RE Productions really have stood the test of time.

**Conor Barry, Fionn Fitzmaurice
and Ciaran Maginn, 6th Form**

All-Ireland

Quiz Champions!

When the team of four general knowledge aficionados entered the Thomas Crosbie Holdings All-Ireland Schools Quiz, they expected at the most to win a few rounds, and have some fun in the process. Instead, the team, who were the High School's first foray into this competition, went right through to the final, where they faced previous winners, Newbridge College, Kildare. In a closely contested clash, High School bested Newbridge to bring back the Anthony Quinlan Memorial Trophy and the prestigious title of All-Ireland champions.



In the competition, teams, consisting of two junior players and two senior players, were asked general knowledge questions under the categories of geography, arts and literature, sport, politics, etc. In the later rounds, some audio questions were introduced. Each player was asked ten questions per match, and if answered correctly, the team would earn four points. The players could also confer, but a conferred answer was worth only two points.

The team, comprised of two sixth years, Beth Kelly (Captain) and Evan O'Callaghan, and two third years, Tom Roseingrave and Mark Horgan, had been chosen by Mr Kelly after an initial selection round. In the first round of the competition, played at the Montrose Hotel, High School faced St. Patrick's College and Our Lady's School. Few would have thought that the High School team would go on to surpass the 207 other teams from all over the country who had entered this year.

The team, now more familiar with the format, confidently won the second round, played against Gonzaga and Scoil Caitriona. The third round took the team to, of all places, Tullamore. This was the first of two played at the Tullamore Court Hotel, against Edenderry and Athenry, and then against Avondale Community College. The team, now into the quarterfinals at the beautiful Hodson Bay Hotel in Athlone, faced Killala. They put up a brave fight, but HSD seemed unstoppable, and their victory guaranteed them a place in the semi-finals. The team returned to Athlone and were treated to a three-course meal, compliments of Thomas Crosbie Holdings, before going on to beat Coláiste an Spioráid Naomh, Bishopstown, 104 to 88 in the 200th match of the competition.

The other team in the final was Newbridge College, who had won the competition in 2005. The High School had seen some of Newbridge's previous matches and knew they were facing a tough adversary. The final took place in the RTÉ studios on the 17th May, with a great turnout of High School supporters, teachers and students alike. With the questions considerably more difficult than any of the previous rounds, both teams failed to get a conclusive lead, and up to the very last round, the contest looked as if it could have gone either way. A few slip-ups by Newbridge in the final round gave High School a four-point lead to win the match and the entire competition, 86 to 82.

Their prizes, sponsored by Apple, included iPod Nanos for the team members and substitutes (Sam Williamson and Rowan Stokes), gift vouchers and bottles of wine for Mr Kelly and Mr

Gill and, the grand prize, an Apple iCart Mobile Classroom, consisting of six iBook laptops and a printer. The team also received the Anthony Quinlan Memorial Trophy, donated by the family of Anthony Quinlan, a boy who had captained his team to win the competition in 1996, but died in a car crash later that year.

Alf McCarthy, RTÉ presenter and producer, was the quizmaster for the final rounds, and Barry Woods was the organiser of the competition in association with the Examiner. Both were extremely helpful and friendly people whom the team would like to thank. The team would like to extend their thanks to Manuel from Valencia who not only drove the team to and from some of the matches, but also came to support them at those matches. They would also like to thank Mr Kelly and Mr Gill, whose invaluable guidance no doubt led them to their victory. Finally, the team is certain to want to thank the only supporter who was there at every single match, the dashing handsome, exceedingly intelligent and almost unfathomably modest Eoin Silke.

Eoin Silke, 6th Form



Above: The Team gets ready for battle.



Below: I don't think Mark approves of the water.

Interview with Julie Kavanagh Modeling Sensation!

1. How did you become interested in modeling?

Well, I'd never really thought about modeling before but my mum told me about an open day at Assets agency so I thought I'd give it a try.

2. How did you become a model?

When I went into the agency I was delighted to hear they'd take me on. They organised for me to get photos taken for my portfolio. After that the agency would call me if a shoot was mentioned in booking me. The work would vary from press-calls, promotions to fashion shows.

3. What are the perks of modeling?

The money is quite good and the work is really enjoyable. All the girls in the agency are lovely and I've struck up quite a good few friendships. Also, my sister and my best friend are in the agency, so when we get put on a job together it's great fun. I love getting my hair and make-up done for the shoots and making new clothes but unfortunately I never get to keep them!

4. Any downsides?

I really can't think of any!

5. Is it tough?

My parents have always insisted that I don't miss too much school. I decided not to model much in sixth year, which was probably for the best, as I couldn't afford to miss classes.

6. What do you think of size zero models?

Thankfully, Assets don't take on size zero models so the pressure isn't

there to be ultra slim. All the girls are slim and tried to I do need to maintain a healthy diet and exercise regularly to stay in shape. I enjoy playing basketball and going to the gym so I don't find that too difficult.

7. Any plans to advance your career?

Hopefully I will do some more modeling during the summer and while I'm in college when I'll have much more spare time!

Interviewed by Clare Guy,
5th Year



National Science Quiz 2006



Larry O'Connell, Beth Kelly and Eoin Silke - competitors in the National Science Quiz.

Click click click What's that noise? Why the noise of the science quiz contestants busily researching on our computers for the hottest science-off of 2006. We were really put to the test in the semi finals competing against at least nine other teams from the entire Dublin area!

After a fierce sudden death round, High School came out second. Second comes right after first! Before we knew it the whole team of Larry O'Connell, Eoin Silke and Beth Kelly were milling around in a very Brownian fashion at the National Science Quiz Finals! Once again the competition was hotter than a coronal mass ejection! We were tested on questions from the Leaving Cert Science syllabus in Chemistry, Physics and Biology. Before long all the excitement was over and we had secured our position in 12th place. We felt as depleted as uranium fuel rods! We can hardly wait the 365.25 days until the next time! My thanks go to Ms Watson and Ms Thorp respectively!

Larry O'Connell, 6th Form

Wax-A-Thon

In December 2006, four 6th years agreed to participate in a wax-a-thon to raise funds for Focus Ireland. The event was a great success raising over €600 (more than doubling our original goal of €300), boosted by the last minute addition of Mr McBride and fellow 6th year Jack Kavanagh, whose participation was unexpected, but very welcome.

We all lined up in the Reynolds Hall with one leg exposed, and had hot wax applied by Ms Garvey and a few lucky 6th year girls. The wax strips were then yanked away with as much force as the girls could manage, to the delight of the huge screaming audience. Some of us had also volunteered to go a bit further and have other parts waxed as well (backs, chests, eyebrows etc.). We were all very happy to do this for Focus Ireland, but I don't think any of us will be doing regular waxing in the future... except for Andy Smith.

Max Lane, 6th Form

Below: Max Lane, Robbie Bannister, Andy Smyth, Eoin O'Leary showing their feminine side.



HEAD GIRL

In late August I received a phone call from the High School office asking me to come in for a 'quick chat' with Mr Duffy. I had recently accepted with honour the position of Prefect for the final year and I could only imagine there had been some kind of mix up. Therefore I headed up the High School steps jittering with nerves, worrying what the outcome of the short meeting would be.

As I was offered the position of Head Girl to represent my classmates for an entire year, you can only imagine I was thrilled. Fully aware that I was taking on a big responsibility, I accepted excitedly.

Throughout the year I attended prominent events kicking off with the annual Prize Giving. Andy, the Head Boy, and myself were confronted with our first important responsibilities to greet the guests of honour and to distribute the prizes to the proud and well-deserved winners. As December approached, so did the annual Carol Service in Zion Church. Having never attended the service before, I was highly impressed by the great effort all the students involved portrayed. Graceful and festive music from the orchestra and beautiful readings collectively made the evening a great success. After the Easter holidays I was honoured to accept an invitation to the Diocesan School Past Pupils' Union dinner. It was a wonderful evening; meeting all the members of the union and hearing the stories they had to share. I was also overwhelmed when Avril Poff, the Joint President of the Union presented me with a beautiful Past Pupils scarf, that no doubt I will wear with pride in the years to come!

Overall, the year has been a great success. The prefects created an easier job for Andy and myself as they willingly helped out whenever they could and the year group as a whole behaved extremely – excluding the fact that some pupils had severe littering problems, making the common room cleaning duty an even greater scourge than it already is! All in all, that's the only complaint I would make!

It was truly a privilege to be given the title of Head Girl, or as I am now used to the abbreviated 'HG', for the final year of a great 6-year period. I would like to thank Andy for all his wonderful help, including taking on the intricate Prefect Duty schedules, Mr Gill our year head, Mr Davies, Mr Duffy, all the talented teachers, staff and pupils, all together creating such a memorable year, making it all the more difficult to leave in May.

Ali May, 6th Form



SCHOOL PREFECTS



Robbie Bannister, Simon Burgess, Alan Cairns, Nicola Cantan, Iain Cobban, Jessie Elliott, Robert Farhat, Claire Fergus, Robyn Fitzpatrick, Joelle Grogan, Hannah Jennings, Anne-Marie Jordan, Julie Kavanagh, Beth Kelly, Lucy Keogh, Katherine Kiernan, Toby Lyons, Sam McKenna Barry, Anna McNally, Gemma McRann, Thomas Meredith, Laura Nelson, Sean Nicholson, Fergal O'Connor, Patrick O'Connor, Max Prendergast, Tamryn Reinecke, Jonathan Sargeant, Eoin Silke, Andrew Stevenson.

HEAD BOY

It was at the end of august that I received a phone call from the office staff asking me to come in for a chat with Mr Duffy. When I arrived I couldn't believe it when he asked me if I would like to be the next Head Boy, and of course I accepted.

In taking on the positions of Head Boy and Head Girl, Ali and I took on some responsibilities. The biggest one of these was organizing the prefect duties every morning. Each month we created a new prefect rota outlining everyone's duties. Duties included recording the names of those students who were late for school every morning, ringing the bell in assembly and clearing the corridors of students.

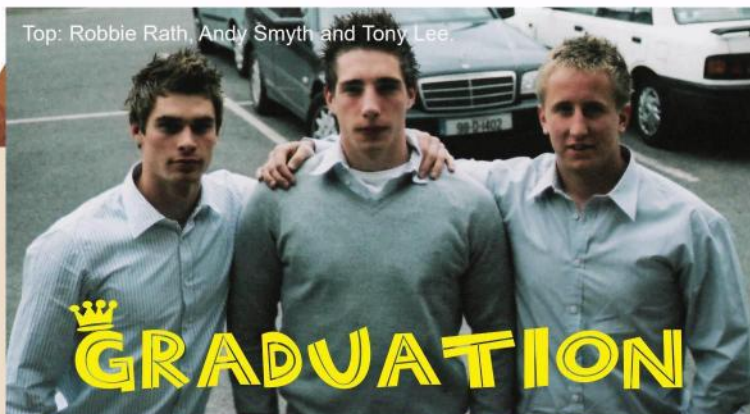
Our first important duty of the year was at the annual prize giving. All the prefects were involved in helping set up the gym and direct guests to their seats. Ali and I had the responsibility of welcoming the guest speaker, Mr O'Connor, and helping him to distribute the prizes.

As Christmas approached we had the honour of being chosen to read at the Carol Service in Zion Church. All the prefects were again involved in setting up the church, in handing out hymn sheets and in directing guests to their seats.

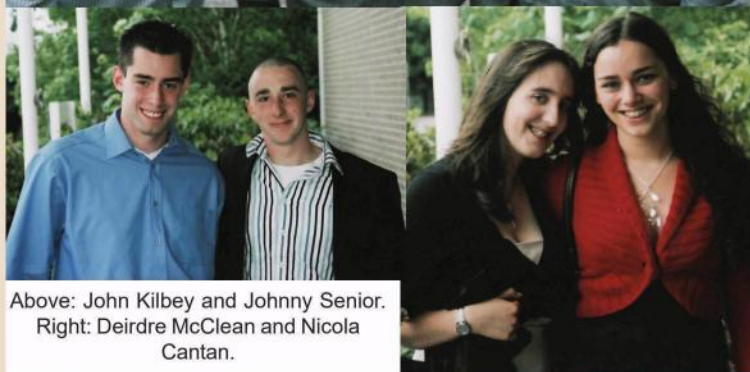
After Christmas, Andy Stevenson, Sam McKenna Barry and I were asked to help out at the Old Boy's dinner. We had to hang up the coats and all the guests tipped generously!

As sixth year is almost over we just have our speeches at graduation left to do. I would like to thank all the prefects for all their hard work and Ali for being so easy to work with. I would also like to thank Mr Duffy, Mr Davies and Mr Gill for all their support and advice and for giving me the opportunity which has been amazing.

Andy Lohan, 6th Form



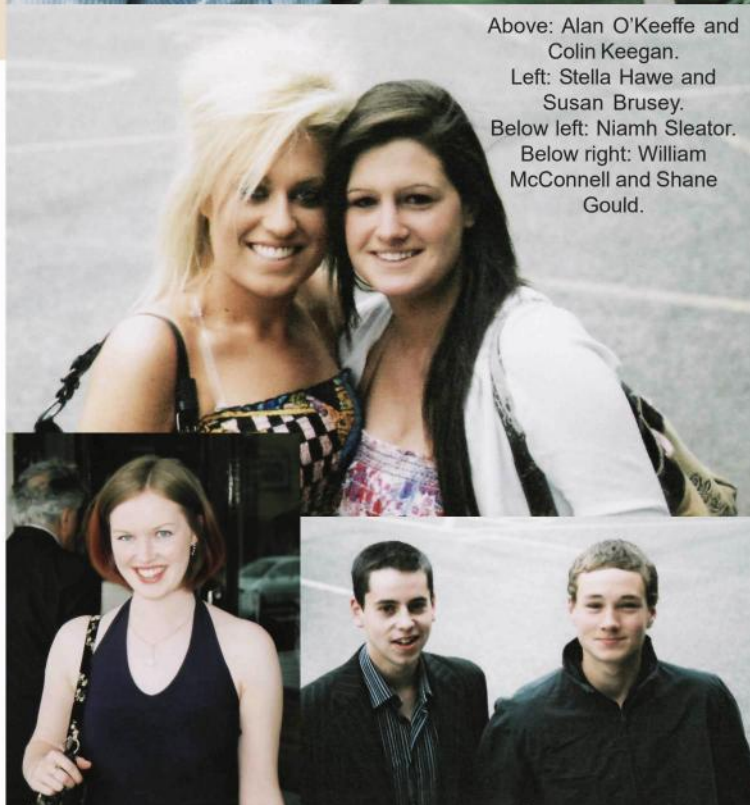
Top: Robbie Rath, Andy Smyth and Tony Lee.



Above: John Kilbey and Johnny Senior.
Right: Deirdre McClean and Nicola Cantan.



Above: Alan O'Keeffe and Colin Keegan.
Left: Stella Hawe and Susan Brusey.
Below left: Niamh Sleator.
Below right: William McConnell and Shane Gould.



The High School Orchestra Conquers Ireland!

When Mr Wisener, the mastermind behind the High School Orchestra's many glories over the past few years; announced that he would be taking a career break last year, few expected the orchestra to achieve the sort of success that it has governed in recent times. However, any pessimist would soon be silenced after the orchestra's enthralling performance of Scott Joplin's "The Entertainer" at their first outing of the year, in the school's prize giving ceremony, under the enthusiastic baton of newcomer Ms White.

Soon after, an unexpected call came from RTÉ, and the orchestra was shipped off to the national broadcaster's studios along with the choir to record their Christmas service, which would be viewed by thousands, possibly millions of people all over the country on Christmas Day. It was a tricky procedure, which has to be completed in one long take. However, reactions were extremely positive when the programme was finally aired on Christmas morning, by which time the orchestra had already cemented their excellent reputation at the school's carol service in Zion Church.

After a well-deserved break, the orchestra got back to work in January to start preparing for Ireland's most prestigious school orchestra's competitions, in Wesley's Interschool Festival and at the Feis Ceoil. Even with the awkward timing (smack in the middle of the mock exams), the full orchestra managed a world-class performance of Dvorák's "Slavonic Dance" at

Wesley and went on to win a tough competition, beating off five other orchestras.

Next up was the Feis Ceoil, and with music delivery problems, rehearsals taken by the ultra-critical, ultra-incoherent leader of the orchestra, Robert Farhat (due to staff-meetings), and mounting expectations, pressure was high. But the orchestra managed to defeat Belvedere College, and complacency to clinch their second trophy of the year.

A special mention has to be made for Ms White, who without any previous conducting experience, managed to recruit an orchestra twice the size of previous years, and inspire the talented young musicians to go on and conquer the rest of Ireland. Next up, the world.

Robert Farhat, 6th Form

Left: Good man Rowan!
Below: Adam busses away.
Right: Séan prepares for his following solo.
Far right: Eneko turns all French... Horn that is!



Top: Robert leads the orchestra to victory.

Above: Dave likes to go it alone.

Below: R Farhat, M White, G Maloney - Winners of the Wesley College Interschools' Music Festival!



High School Choir and Orchestra Record the RTÉ Christmas Service



Above: The Orchestra play for the nation.



Below: The concentration on Ms White's face is intense!



Above: Heads up boys!
Below: Ms M Garvey and Andy Lohan fitting in a few moments to practice.
Left: Taking some time out of their busy schedule to relax...



On a cold December's day, members of the High School choir and orchestra, as well as some staff, recorded a service in RTÉ studios in Donnybrook, which was to be screened on Christmas Day. It was certainly a resounding success.

We arrived at the studios excited and slightly apprehensive, keeping our eyes peeled for a glimpse of a minor celebrity or two. We relaxed in the "green-room", before being called into the main studio to rehearse before the service was recorded. We all shuffled in position, and went through the service, which was officiated by Rev Gourley. 'Silent Night', 'O Come All Ye Faithful' and 'Hark! The Herald Angels' Sing' were but a few of the pieces that were performed to an extremely high standard by the choir and orchestra. After that, we had a short break where some of the 'cast' got the full television treatment in being made-up for camera. With a bit of mascara here, and a bit of foundation there, we were ready!

Lights, camera, action and we were on. Everything went smoothly, with readings and prayers by some of the pupils. The floor manager was also an enormous help, instrumental in the success of the service and making us feel at ease in front of the cameras. I'd like to thank all those involved for a job well done, especially Rev Gourley, Ms Bourke, Ms White, Ms Garvey and Mr Duffy.

Tom Roseingrave, 3rd Form



LEAVING CERT 06

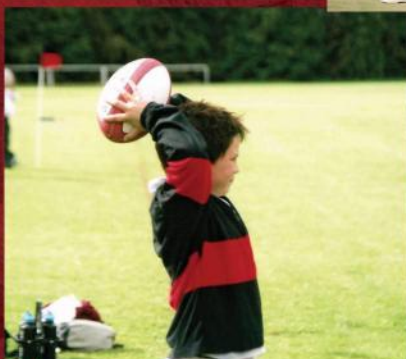
Alexander, Catherine
Barber, Nathan
Barrett, Neil
Barry, Aisling
Begley, Luke
Blair, Christopher
Boles, Samuel
Boyle, Christine
Bradish, Robert
Brennan, Amy
Brennan, Ciaran
Bridgeman, Aisling
Browne, Barry
Browne, Karl
Brownlee, Roxanne
Burke, Suzanne
Cabena, Karl
Carr, Bevan
Carrim, Naadiya
Clarke, Sarah
Cobban, Andrew
Cogan, Samuel
Cole Pidgeon, Alexander
Coyne, Simon
Cronin, Manus
Cummins, Grace
Czerniak, Elis
Daly, Nicci
Denby, Derrick
Donnellan, Ailbhe
Donnelly, Elizabeth
Eustace, Nadine
Finn, Danny
Finnegan, Kevin
Fitzgerald-Kelly, Harry
Fitzpatrick, Sam
Flaherty, Edward
Frizzelle, Sinéad
Gregory, Nicola
Harding, Jill
Harris, Timothy
Hill, Gorgi
Hu, Mengxi
Humphreys, John
Hunt, Aidan
Hunt, Robert
Hurley, Adam
Jackson, Peter
Jones, Paul
Jones, Ruth
Keane, Fergus
Keane, Jennifer
Keating, Geoffrey
Kelleher, Davey
Keller, Ronan
Kenealy, Amy
Kirkpatrick, John
Kohlmann, Scott
Laing, David
Laing, Emma
Leavy, Robin
Leonard-Kane, Megan
Lim, Mary
Lodola, Sarah
Lyons, Rachel
MacSweeney, Michael
Mahon, Laura
McCoy, Rachel
McEvansoneya, Harry
McGuire, Joseph
McSharry, Luke
Miller, Sarah
Milton, Niall
Moriarty, Francis
Murphy, Dylan
Nason, Robert
Nolan, Avril
Nolan, Mark
Nugent, Grace
Ní Eigearthaigh, Una
O'Boyle, Ruarc
O'Brien, Jake
O'Brien, Robert
O'Byrne, Rachel
O'Callaghan, Ciarán
O'Connor, John
O'Connor, Rory
O'Donnell, Freda
O'Flynn, Kellie
O'Gorman, Seán
O'Malley, Scott
O'Neill, Jamie
O'Reilly, Phelim
O'Reilly, Sarah
O'Rourke, Lorna
O'Shea, Patrick
Opdebeeck, Josef
Parkes, Billy
Plunkett, Joshua
Pollock, Andrew
Prunty, Gerard
Quinlan, Jonathan
Rahman, Tamanna
Ralph, Jordan
Rooney, Mark
Roseingrave, Ruth
Sargeant, Shane
Satchwell, Benn
Sherwood, Samuel
Slattery, Stefan
Smith, Katie
Stacey, Chloe
Staines, Daniel
Sutton, Karen
Tadros, Rebecca
Tobin, John
Walsh, Daragh
Ward, Amy
Warren, Holly
Weekes, Jennifer
Weekes, Kim
Willoughby, Michael
Wilson, Alexandra
Wynne, Nicky

JUNIOR CERT 06

Allison, Bentley
Anglim, Therése
Arias-Paz, Shay
Barber, James
Baruch, Amber
Bennett, Lucy
Bishop, Rachael
Blackwell, Ruth
Blair, Debbie
Boles, Benjamin
Bourke, Ruth
Brazil, Tierna
Browne, Robert
Browne, Samuel
Burdon, Joshua
Burke, Thomas
Butler, Patrick
Callaghan, Linda
Campbell, Miles
Carabine, Hannah
Carr, Gillian
Carrim, Ayesha
Carter, Stephen
Coghlan, Aislinn
Cole Pidgeon, Hilary
Collins, Ciarán
Collins, Grace
Comerford, Joe
Connell, Emma
Conroy, Alex
Cosgrove, Lydia
Cowlard Joyce, Aidan
Cox, Sarah
Craig, Conor
Cryan, Clare
Daly, Aoife
Day, Alan
Elliott, Adam
Emo, Tom
Fallon, Gareth
Fergus, Declan
Finn, Ross
Flaherty, Fiona
Frizzelle, Conor
Fusciardi, Damiano
Gamble, Jessica
Garland, Laura
Geoghegan, Josephine
Gray, Keith
Gray, Michael
Grehan, Shane
Grimes, Catriona
Hennessy, Ronan
Hogan, Saoirse
Horton, Candace
Hunt, Peter
Jackson, Jake
Jones, Amy
Kavanagh, David
Kavanagh, Sam
Keating, Sean
Kelly, Jack
Kenny, Saurin
Kinlan, Emily
Kinlan, Jonathan
Kinneen, Simon
Laing, Phoebe
Lane, Iain
Leavy, Hannah
Ledwith, Colin
Leonard Kane, Charlotte
Levine, Ian
Lew, Karen
Madigan, Sophie
McEvansoneya, Olivia
McGinley, Conor
McGovern, Aoife
McGuckin, Ishbel
McKenna Barry, Matthew
Meade, Tessa
Meeke, Alison
Men, Kieron
Metoudi, Michael
Mills, Graham
Monaghan, Daragh
Moore, Daniel
Moore, Samuel
Morgan, Ryan
Morgan, Sarah
Mulcahy, Alexander
Murphy, Grant
Murtagh, Katie
Noonan, Niall
O'Brien, Gráinne
O'Brien, Robbie
O'Connell, Cólín
O'Connor, Denis
O'Connor, James
O'Donnell, Conor
O'Donohoe, Jane
O'Kelly, Paul
O'Kennedy, Jack
O'Regan, Zoe
O'Riordan, Sean
O'Rourke, Matthew
O'Toole, Shona
Phelan, Hanna
Quirke, Leah
Regan, Rachel
Richardson McCrea, Eva
Ryan, James
Ryan, Rhiannon
Satchwell, Emma
Savage, Mark
Shanley-Thian, Abigail
Shannon-Doyle, Ruth
Shaw, Stephen
Silke, Linda
Simms, Rory
Slattery, Mattias
Smith, Niall
Smith, Olwen
Smith, Sinead
Smyth, Alicia
Smyth, Kevin
Somers Donnelly, Joan
Speller, Helen
Tallon, Katie
Walker, Alison
Walker, Jonathan
Webb, Shane
Whelan, Richard
Williams, Siorcha
Willoughby, John
Wright, Rebecca
Young, Graham
Zehnder, Justin

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ATHLETICS

EAST LEINSTER GIRLS' ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Girls' Schools Athletics season started this year at the East Leinster's in Irishtown Stadium, for which our athletes had been training very hard for the various events.

There was a feeling of confidence on the day as we had high hopes for our athletes. The championships started off well with Chloe McHugh winning bronze in the Junior High Jump, just missing out a place in the Leinster Championships. Evanna Mills jumped excellently in the girls Seniors Long Jump to win a gold medal and a place in the Leinster Championships where she jumped well to get a very credible fifth against extremely tough and experienced competition!

Our senior sprinters, Valerie Sexton and Ellen Ní Cleirigh, had a brilliant performance in the 100m. Valerie won the gold, in impressive form, and a place in the Leinster Championships in which she was unable to compete. Unfortunately and

unfairly Ellen achieved fourth, although the general feeling in the camp was that she had won the bronze.

We had Minor (1st Year) and Junior (2nd year) A and B relay teams. All ran excellently, reaching the final and just missing out on the medals! Our main team the Senior Girls Relay, who had trained very hard, were expected to win by a large margin. The team consisted of Evanna, Ellen, Judy and Valerie. In the race they were winning as predicted, but due to a misunderstanding, the baton was dropped during the third changeover much to the devastation of the team and coaches!

I would like to thank Mrs Hutchinson-Edgar, Ms Jones, Mr Irwin and all the girls who gave up their time to coach and participate in athletics this year and my apologies for not competing this year due to injury.

Leah Moore, 5th Form



JUNIOR AND SENIOR GIRLS ATHLETICS



Back Row: Valerie Sexton, Chloe McHugh, Lauren McGarry, Nicola Ryan, Ruth Senior, Rona O'Donnell, Ellen Ní Cleirigh.
Front Row: Rose Halpin Duffy, Maoliosa Nugent, Katie O'Brien, Leah Moore, Sarah-Jane McCrann, Kirsten Kinch, Mrs S Hutchinson-Edgar.

BOYS ATHLETICS TEAM



Back Row: Liam MacNamara, Ethan Conroy, Jamie Ryan, Robbie Rath, Emmet Dwyer, Robert Lowry Walshe, Seán Adye-Curran.
Front Row: Mr P Irwin, Colm Moran, Bill O'Cleirigh, Stuart Gray, Cian O'Neill, Conor Sexton.



Back Row: Aidan Cowlard Joyce, Chloe McHugh, Rona O'Donnell, Nicola Ryan, Anna Keary, Sarah McKenna Barry, Kate O'Marcaigh, Niamh Murphy, Bill O'Cleirigh.
Front Row: Mr P Irwin, Emma Devine, Alice Somers Donnelly, Kirsten Kinch, Lauren McGarry, Stefanie Wynne, Mrs S Hutchinson-Edgar.

MINOR GIRLS CROSS-COUNTRY



Back Row: Mrs S Hutchinson-Edgar, Judith Harrington, Stefanie Wynne, Kate O'Marcaigh, Leanne McDonnell,

Sarah McKenna Barry, Emma Devine.

Front Row: Anna Keary, Niamh Moran, Niamh Murphy, Martha Barber Hume, Megan Kilpatrick, Sophie Wann, Niamh Kearns.

ATHLETICS AND CROSS -COUNTRY

This year's training season went very well! We were pleased to see many new faces and it was clear that there is great talent and potential in the school; this has certainly shown itself in championship events over the season.

As well as the competitive aspect of cross-country it's a great way to socialise. This year the group has really developed and the students from all years have really enjoyed it. We would like to thank the teachers who have given up their time to cross-country both during games and after school. We would particularly like to thank Mr Irwin, Ms Hutchinson-Edgar, Mr Griffin and Ms S Jones. Without their help it would not have been possible to achieve what we have.

We would like to encourage anyone (boy or girl) interested in cross-country to come try it out. You won't regret it!

Aidan Cowlard Joyce,
4th Form

UNDER 19 BOYS

This year was a very enjoyable experience for everyone involved in senior badminton. The team was comprised of Toby Lyons, Rowan Stokes, Graham Field and Jordan Aslanis, whose first league match was against Wesley College. Unfortunately we lost 4-2 despite performing well in doubles. The next match was against Blackrock College, which we won 4-2, and our final league match was against St Andrews, which we needed to win to have any chance of qualifying for the quarter-finals. However it ended in a heart-breaking 3-3 draw. We ended our season on a high beating St Mary's College 5-1 in a friendly. The team would like to give a special mention to Toby Lyons for his excellent performance throughout the season and many thanks to Mr Flynn and Ms Thorp for giving up their spare time.

Rowan Stokes, 6th Form

UNDER 16 A

This year we brought two new players to the team, Simon Jackson and myself. We trained more intensely and we all improved greatly during the year. Unfortunately we didn't come out on top this year but all of us made a very good effort. It was hard for us (us all being second years) to win against teams of up to fourth years. Thanks to Ms Thorp and Mr Flynn for driving us and collecting us from our matches. Bring on next year!

Niall O'Leary,
2nd Form

UNDER 16 B BOYS

This season we had a good run, playing to our best. Though we didn't win, we often put the opposition under pressure, with some excellent plays and tackles. With more practice, next season looks promising for the team.

Sam Williamson, 3rd Form

U19 BOYS



U16B BOYS



Above:
Back Row: Patrick Dennis, Christopher Drakeford.
Front Row: Simon Jackson, Shane Whooley, Mr C Flynn.
 Left:
Back Row: Jonathan Browne, Jordan Aslanis.
Front Row: Rowan Stokes, Toby Lyons, Mr C Flynn.

U15A BOYS



Back Row: Niall O'Leary, Simon Jackson.
Front Row: James Sadlier, Cian McDonagh, Mr C Flynn.

THE GIRLS



Back Row: Aoife McGovern, Niamh McDonagh.
Front Row: Rose Halpin Duffy, Sarah Lucas, Aoife Loftus, Mr C Flynn.

UNDER 16 GIRLS BADMINTON

The girls' badminton team of 2006/2007 consisted of Niamh McDonagh, Aoife Loftus, Jessica Patterson, Rose Halpin Duffy, Sarah Lucas and Aoife McGovern. We drew most of our matches and lost and won a few. All of the team enjoyed playing the matches. We trained every Tuesday and Thursday in the gym for an hour. On behalf of the team I would like to thank Ms Thorp and Mr Flynn for their coaching throughout the year.

**Sarah Lucas,
2nd Form**

JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL



Above: The Junior Girls Basketball team who reached the final of their league!

The Juniors did really well this year. In the SDBL we won all of our matches and got into the semi-final against Cabinteely – which we won 17-16! Our final was the next week and we trained

really hard, but unfortunately we lost against Loreto Dalkey. In the SBAI we won two out of four matches. The team played really well all year and I would like to thank Ms Kavanagh for getting us so far!

Clodagh Sleator, 2nd Form

SENIOR GIRLS

The senior girls began their competitive season with a loss to Presentation Terenure. We also lost to St Dominic's from Cabra and St Joseph's Stanhope Street. Still, we did manage to end on a high note winning our last league game. This was the last competitive basketball game for the sixth years on the team, so we were a bit sad. However, we have some great memories of our time playing basketball for The High School and we were glad to go out with a win.

I wish all the best to all the HSD basketball girls! I hope next season goes well for you. Finally, thanks a million to Ms Kavanagh for being a great coach! She has really helped us to improve our game and we have definitely had success and fun over the years. Thank you!

Beth Kelly, 6th Form

MINOR GIRLS

This year we had a great turnout for the 1st year basketball team. We started off with a very strong team and won our first match 18-17 against Muckcross thanks to a great comeback in the last quarter. With the help of our great coach Ms Kavanagh we succeeded in getting into two semi-finals this year but unfortunately didn't qualify. We had a lot of fun this year and hope to do as well next year. We would like to thank our coach again for making the year so enjoyable!

*Leanne Mc Donnell,
1st Form*

CADETTES

It was a very exciting year for our Cadette basketball team. After a disappointing start, we soon achieved our first victory against St Josephs. This set off a very successful chain of matches.

Our season climaxed with our semi-final match against St Joseph of Cluny in the South Dublin League. It was a breath-taking match that had both teams battling closely until the end. We played our very best and we are all very proud of the progress we made this year.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without our coach, Ms Kavanagh. Thank you for everything you have done for us this year and congratulations to my fellow Cadettes on their victories and progress.

Aislinn Coghlan, 4th Form

SENIOR GIRLS



Back Row: Ms K Kavanagh, Candace Horton, Aislinn Coghlan, Julie Kavanagh.
Front Row: Jennifer Murphy, Sophie Madigan, Beth Kelly, Alison Walker, Katie Murtagh.

JUNIOR GIRLS



Back Row: Ms K Kavanagh, Leanne McDonnell, Joan McCarthy, Rachael Spray, Stefanie Wynne, Jennifer Keogh, Laura Pearson.
Front Row: Eve Roseingrave, Jessie Meeke, Clodagh Sleator, Rose Halpin Duffy, Sarah Quirke, Eiméar O'Brien.

MINOR GIRLS



Back Row: Ms K Kavanagh, Katie O'Connor, Niamh Kearns, Judith Harrington, Una Keller, Niamh Moran, Maeve Daly, Sarah Grehan.
Front Row: Martha Barber Hume, Alanna Kavanagh, Jessie Meeke, Leanne McDonnell, Jennifer Rynne, Rachel Burke.

CADETTES



Back Row: Ms K Kavanagh, Eve Roseingrave, Sarah McCoy, Aoife Ryan.
Front Row: Etan Kinsella McLennan, Alison Meeke, Aislinn Coghlan, Candace Horton, Sarah Burns, Richelle McDonnell.

MINOR BOYS



Back Row: Jim Fogarty, Ferdia Soper MacCafraidh, Thomas Wyse Jackson, Ethan Conroy, James Kinlan, Kunal Kapoor.
Front Row: Mark O'Kelly, Ryan O'Malley, Fabian Mak, Kári Andr sson, Saiful Haque.

SENIOR BOYS



Back Row: Romano Fusciardi, Jack Madden, Conor James, Daniel James, Mark Collins.
Front Row: Marc Evans, Andrew Stevenson, Stephen James, Ronan Fox.

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

This year, the senior boys' basketball team progressed to the U-19 'A' League - it was a tough season. With no 6th years on the team, we mainly were made up of 15,16 and 17 year olds, and this showed throughout our games. It was a mixed season with victories over St Marian's and Belvedere but our losses against Templeogue and Colaiste Eanna left us in 3rd place overall.

Our cup run was a different story with comprehensive wins including one against Castleknock, which put us forward to the quarterfinals of the All-Ireland. Unfortunately, here we lost narrowly to St Benildus College.

There were some great performances this year from Conor and Daniel James, Ronan Fox and Brian Twamley Levins.

We look forward to next year as we will have all of this season's players still and will be hoping to win the league. Lastly on behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr Joey Boylan (our coach), Tommy, Mr Malin and everyone else who have helped with the team.

Andy Stevenson, 5th Form

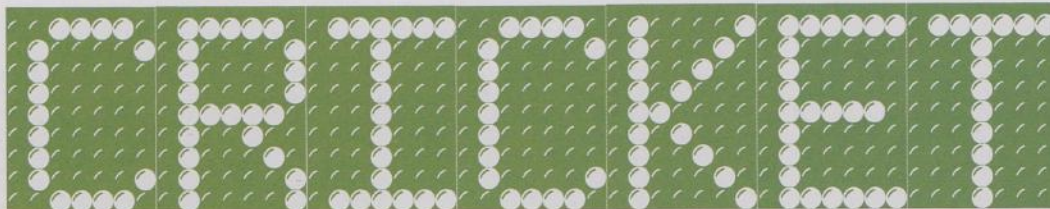


Above: Row, row, row your boat.



Right: Peter Hunt,
Ms T Jones and Stephen
Shaw set off for a
canoeing trip...
Below: Coming ashore!





JUNIOR BOYS



1ST XI BOYS

We started off our year with a friendly training match between a team of sixth years against a team of fourth and fifth years. After a solid defensive effort of Robbie Bannister hitting just one run of 36 balls, we set a respectable total of 100 runs off 20 overs. With spectacular bowling efforts and dedicated fielding, we managed to bowl them out on 99 leaving them one run short of our unmatchable total. When the league soon began we found ourselves up against talented opposition including Wesley and CUS. Even with a special appearance from world-renowned darts player Dennis Ovens, and an immeasurable batting performance for a young aspiring player Jonathan Sargeant, we still fell short of their demanding totals.

Late in the season we played Kings Hospital and quickly found ourselves taking key, early wickets. With committed fielding efforts from Colin Sheridan and a superb diving catch from Kier Johnson, we looked set for a first league victory but unfortunately due to top class international players, we just fell short of their 147 total. Our last league game against St Columba's, under our inspirational coach, Mr Malin, was a sad yet enjoyable end to our season. Only managing 97 runs including a duck from Thomas Meredith and Colin Keegan they quickly caught our total with a few overs to spare. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated coaching staff of Mr Malin, Ross Johnson and the ever-present Mr Giles for giving us yet another enjoyable season here at The High School.

Alan Cairns, 6th Form

2ND XI BOYS

The second's season began in late April with a match against CUS. A young, enthusiastic side took the field as underdogs, and thanks to the same accurate bowling from Niall 'Dennis Ovens' Noonan and lusty hitting from the 1st's regular Eoin O'Leary we were able to punch well above our weight. Due to these cameos we were victorious.

Our next game was against archrivals Wesley College, and despite losing Captain Tom Meredith to the firsts; we won once more with Paul O'Kelly taking an excellent catch. Our final match saw us venturing out to St Columba's. This time, with Niall and Eoin back in the saddle, and some fine batting from Colin Sheridan, we compiled a huge total and won. I would like to thank Mr Malin and Mr Giles for all their time, effort, and expert tutelage.

Tom Meredith, 6th Form

Our season began with a home game versus Belvedere. Our team was inexperienced and had only played a few matches in 1st year, so unfortunately we lost, despite the excellent bowling by Alan Hughes and Lee Campbell. The highlights of our season had to be matches against the 3rd Years and against Clongowes. In the match against the 3rd years we put up an excellent score of 95 with good performances from myself, scoring 50 runs, and from Ferdia O'Brien. With the ball we were excellent and bowled them out for 80 runs. Our final game of the season was against Clongowes. We batted first and scored 84 with fantastic play from Sean Warren scoring 43. Then we rattled the Clongowes batting line-up with our excellent bowling, with Michael Sykes taking 5 wickets and ended the season on a high. Thanks to Mr Malin and Niall McDarby for coaching us throughout the season.

Dhruv Kapoor, 2nd Form

Unfortunately the promising Junior Cricket team had a disappointing season this year. Our first game was a friendly against St Andrew's. We batted first with 94 runs but they won with one wicket to spare. Our second game was in the league against Gonzaga. We got 69, and they struggled to catch up.

Next up, we travelled to Malahide to play another league game. We started well with Gareth Carragher getting 30 runs. We finished with a small 97 but nonetheless we fought on. When Malahide came into bat they had strong batsmen who got 60 between them. Then we got the crucial catch and they started dropping wickets quickly. It came to when we needed four wickets and they needed two runs. Through the bowling of Mark, Ian and Gareth, we got three wickets without them getting a single run, but luck wasn't with us and they got the winning runs.

Our final game was against our rivals St Mary's. We lost the toss and they chose to bat first. They had a very strong batsman who hit several sixes getting 79 runs in total (half their teams score). They got 156 in total, and their bowling was too tight for us to score, leaving us with 90.

All in all it was a disappointing season but many thanks have to go to Mr McCaughey and Mr Gill, also special thanks to Niall McDarby and Stephen Walsh for coaching us this year.

Mark Rogan, 3rd Form

UNDER 13 BOYS

We have had a great season this year getting to the semi-final of the cup. We began our season with a few friendly matches. The team started off with most of us learning how to play. These matches helped the team improve and gave us the skills to win our first cup match against Sandford Park. We had a good game in which the team played well, which put us through to the semi-final. The semi was tough, against a strong CUS side. They batted first putting up a good total. We batted well but unfortunately ran out of time to get the total needed. I'd like to thank Mr Quinn for coaching us and helping us get to where we did.

Stephen Alexander, 1st Form

UNDER 14 BOYS

1ST XI BOYS



Back Row: Mark Mesbur, Niall Noonan, Brian Twamley Levins, Sean Tevlin, Eoin O'Leary, Robbie Bannister, Mr A Malin.
Front Row: Andrew Gray, Tom Meredith, David Meade, Alan Cairns, Gareth Austen, Johnny Sargeant.

2ND XI BOYS



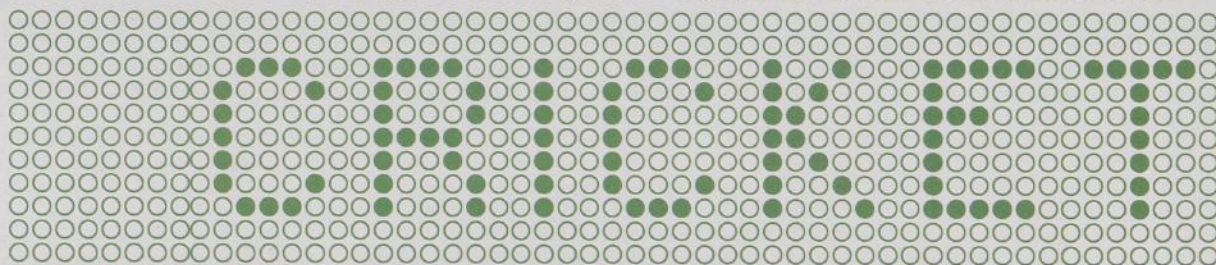
Back Row: Graham Mills, Mark Mesbur, Niall Noonan, Sean Tevlin, Brian Twamley Levins, Robbie Bannister, Mr A Malin.
Front Row: John Willoughby, David Meade, Tom Meredith, Gareth Austen, Eoin O'Leary, Johnny Sargeant.

JUNIOR BOYS



Back Row: Mr T Gill, Robbie McGuinness, Ben Harding, Hugh O'Marcaigh, Mark Coffey, Brian Liston, Oscar Bowling, James Hawe, Milo Mays, Mr P McCaughey.

Front Row: Josh Purcell, Ian Duggan, Gareth Carragher, Mark Rogan, Iain Irvine, Steven Chapman, Daniel Connell.



U14 BOYS



Back Row: Mr A Malin, Mark Swords, Hugh Macken, Ferdia O'Brien, Patrick Wilson, Sean-Tee Lim, Shane O'Reilly, Daniel Clarke, Caolán Boyce, Michael Sykes.

Front Row: Finn Murphy, Cian O'Neill, Alan Hughes, Dhruv Kapoor, Sean Warren, Ian Stevenson, Patrick Dennis, Lee Campbell.

U13 BOYS



Back Row: Brendan Murray-Byrne, Luke O'Donnell, Mark O'Kelly, Darragh Twomey, Denis Casey, Ryan O'Malley, Matthew Mullan, Mr B Quinn.

Front Row: Ian Sheridan, David Fox, Conn Loane, Stephen Alexander, Stephen Reid, Kunal Kapoor, Will Rolfe.

This year's senior girls had a very short season with only two other teams in our section. We won our first match against Alexandra College, getting the whole team out, a first for us! If we won our next match against Kings Hospital we went straight through to the final. Unfortunately we lost this match, however we later found out that we made it through to the semi-final and were to play Wesley. We played our best against them, but sadly it wasn't enough and we were out of the league.

1ST XI GIRLS

All in all everyone had a really enjoyable season and on behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr Fitzpatrick for coaching us, and maybe next year we'll make it to the final!

Sian Cooley, 5th Form

1ST XI GIRLS



Back Row: Amy Hughes, Evanna Mills, Caoimhe McDonnell, Judy Kelleher, Aoife Daly, Valerie Sexton, Mr P Fitzpatrick.

Front Row: Laura Cooley, Alison Meeke, Sian Cooley, Jade Breen, Christine Rorke, Ruth Senior, Ayesha Carrim.

MINOR GIRLS



Back Row: Nicola Ryan, Katie O'Brien, Jessica Patterson, Stefanie Wynne, Sadbh O'Brien, Kate O'Marcaigh, Maolíosa Nugent, Eve Roseingrave, Mr P Fitzpatrick.

Front Row: Sarah Quirke, Rose Halpin Duffy, Jessica Sargeant, Cliona Rogan, Sarah Keating, Aisling Naylor, Sarah-Jane McCrann.

FIRST YEAR GIRLS



Back Row: Lauren Walsh, Martha Barber Hume, Rachel Burke, Kirsten Kinch, Niamh Moran, Rebecca Dalton, Alannah Burdon, Mr P Fitzpatrick.

Front Row: Alanna Kavanagh, Jessie Meeke, Jennifer Rynne, Rebecca Garland, Maeve Daly, Laura Duggan, Niamh Murphy.

On the first day of summer games, a good turn out of 16 1st year girls arrived to play cricket. Our first match was against Wesley, which despite our best efforts and two wickets from Niamh Murphy, the better team won (them). We trained hard for a week and were confident heading into our next match against Rathdown. With superb batting from Maeve Daly and Niamh Murphy (20 runs between them!), excellent bowling from Jessie

Meeke and great wicket keeping from Jenny Rynne, we won.

Our final match against St. Andrew's was played in the rain. Despite the cheering of Zoë Dolan, to keep us on our feet, we unfortunately lost. On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr Fitzpatrick and Mr Walsh for all their training and support and we're hopeful to have more success next year.

Martha Barber Hume, 1st Form

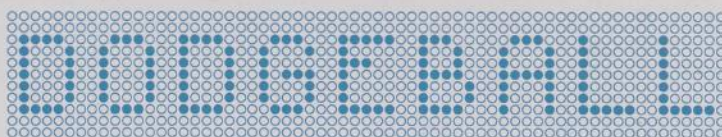


Above: The Cobras.

It was Wednesday the 18th April. A group of about twenty-five students from 5th and 6th year gathered in the gym, anxiously awaiting the start of the inaugural High School Dodgeball Tournament which had been organised by the good people of the student council to help raise money for charity.

The teams consisted of 'Team Pink', a collection of athletically challenged 5th years who had been bound together at the start of the tournament; 'Team Brown', a group of 6th years with a lot of hopes and ambitions but very little physical skill; and lastly, 'Team Grey', more commonly known as 'The Cobras', a team of hardened semi-pros who ply their trade at dodgeball clubs all over the city. These three teams would play each other to decide who was the crème-de-la-crème of dodgeball.

Under the watchful eye of Mr McNamara the first match got under way. After a hard fought match the Brown Team eventually scraped a victory over the Pink and left the court for a much-needed rest. 'The Cobras' then took to the court with their usual pre-match intimidatory ritual, known to many as the Cobra's 'hiss'. 'The Cobras' remembered the five D's of dodgeball - dodge, duck, dive, dip and dodge. It was all over in a matter of minutes, with 'The Cobras' inflicting a crushing defeat. The next match featured the lowly Pinks pitted against a formidable Brown opposition. After a highly competitive and entertaining match, even the skill of Ross Hanan couldn't help his team. However, the Pink Team stayed on the court to play their last game of the competition against The Cobras. The Pinks were determined to go out on a high. In no time at all 'The Cobras' were down to two against the oppositions eight. Nick Fitzpatrick and

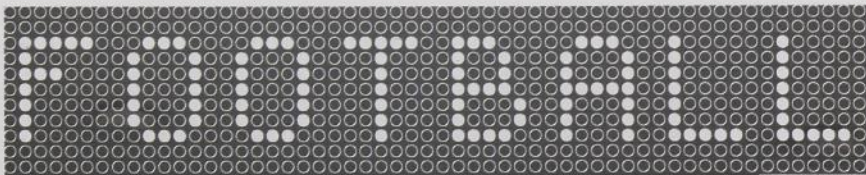


Andy Stevenson remembered the old Cobras saying - 'catches win matches' and through outstanding play were responsible for 'The Cobras' remarkable comeback. Team Brown took to the court, buoyed by the support of the crowd and referee alike. Soon, the only Cobra man left standing was Will Hanlon, and what happened next would go down in history forever. Fending barrage after barrage of balls from 'The Browns', he coolly took a catch from Tom Meredith, eliminating him from the proceedings but more importantly bringing key pace thrower Romano Fusciardi back into the game. Showing the skills that forced the 'Dundrum Dodgers' to splash out 6m euros for this devastating partnership, they launched an attack, which caught the Browns off guard.

This incredible victory meant 'The Cobras' captured the inaugural High School dodgeball trophy. Will Hanlon duly received the MPV award for his sterling performance, while Nick Fitzpatrick picked up the 'most catches taken' award, 8 in total.

On behalf of everyone who took part, I would like to firstly thank Mr McNamara for the time and effort he put into organising and refereeing the tournament, The Student Council for their efforts in raising money for charity, and lastly, everyone who contributed money towards that cause. The tournament was a great success and we look forward to playing again next year.

David Kenny, 5th Form



6-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Below: 'Team Beater'.



'Team Beater' won the six-a-side tournament this year quite comfortably winning all eight matches, including an 11-0 win in the semi-final over team 'KB'. Team manager and captain, Colin Sheridan, finished as the tournament's top goal scorer, mainly by robbing everybody's open goal opportunities. With speedy winger, Mark Collins, being such an impact bench player, the team easily accomplished an emphatic goal difference. With Daniel James with his savage hair, and Marc Evans, tournament MVP acting as playmakers and a defence partnership of Conor James and Sean Tevlin, 'Team Beater' were comfortable winners in all matches. Darragh Keller also played for 'Team Beater'.

The final was won 6-1 against a Cleveland Steamers side that were beaten three times in total by 'Team Beater' but managed to score a penalty in the final after Conor James was judged to have handled the ball in the box. Two goals from Daniel, Mark and Colin ensured that 'Team Beater' took home the title. On behalf of the team and all other players, we would like to thank Mr Griffin and Mr McNamara for putting the tournament together.

Colin Sheridan, 5th Form



GIRLS' GOLF TEAM

The Eastern District qualifier for the Irish School's championship took place last September in Clontarf Golf Club. Each team consisted of two players and the team with the lowest combined gross score qualified for the Leinster section. Unfortunately, the High School team of Ciara Butler and Jade Breen narrowly missed out, coming second place to a strong pairing from Dundalk Grammar School. Nevertheless, we both enjoyed the day and hope to do well next year.

Jade Breen, 5th Form



BOYS' GOLF TEAM

Above: Back Row: Gavin Sadlier, Alan Cairns, Richard Jones.
Front Row: Patrick Butler, Jonathan Sargeant.

GIRLS' GOLF TEAM

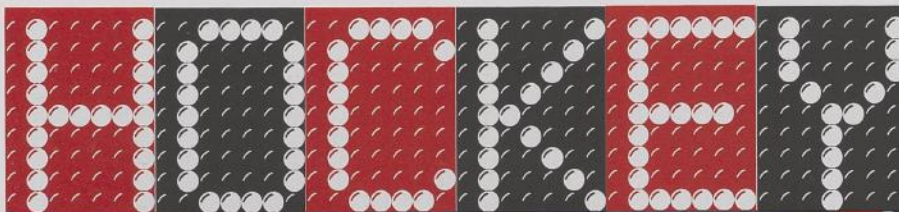
Right: Ciara Butler, Jade Breen.





Top: Transition year on night walk.
 Middle: All wrapped up - Ciaran, Iain, Michael and Keith.
 Above: The girls relaxing.
 Right: Ryesha and Debbie.
 Below left: Shay, Hannah and Karen.
 Below: Phoebe and Emma, all smiles.





SENIOR 1ST XI GIRLS

The 1st XI hockey team this year was less experienced than previous years, having retained only four players. However this didn't hold back

our determination, for we made changes early on until we had a committed squad full of enthusiasm and talent. Leading our defence was our great goalkeeper, Jessie Elliott,

who made some super saves throughout the year. Next in line was our unbeatable sweeper, Debbie Blair, on whom we relied on many occasions and who performed brilliantly in every match. Holding the centre back position was Ellen Ní Cleirigh, whose strength, resilience and sheer determination was invaluable to the team. At left back, both Christine Rorke and one of our junior stars, Eva Nugent, made some great tackles and got us out of trouble on numerous occasions with their thunderbolt strikes. Completing our defence was Evanna Mills at right back. Evanna was our source of energy and fitness, beating everyone, including our coach, in the fitness tests and setting up many great opportunities driving up the right side of the pitch.

At left mid, Ciara Butler and Ali Meeke, both proved to be very dangerous attacking forces. Ciara's speed and powerful strikes and Ali's ability to run rings around the best of players gave us a great advantage. I took up the centre mid position with Susan McRann or Ali May on the right. Ali set up some excellent moves and was determined and reliable in mid-field. Susan, another junior star, showed super skill and was an important addition to the team, pushing out the short corners. Karen Meade was unfortunate to break her thumb early on in the season, but was skilful and strong in mid-field.

Our forward line consisted of the speedy and skilful Valerie Sexton, who scored many goals throughout the season and was a great asset to the team. At right wing, Sarah Donnelly was our main goal scorer. She showed great skill and improvement during the year. We also had Judy Kelleher and Anne-Marie Jordan up front, both of whom worked excellently with the other mids and forwards and set up great pieces of play. Another speedy forward was Aimee Jones O'Connor who also played on the Junior A team and was unstoppable in her attacks.

Our diligent training at the start of the year won us our first few friendly matches, but we faced a difficult league group of, Mt Sackville, Wesley and Holy Child Killiney. Much to the disappointment of the whole team, we didn't manage to win a match but were proud of the determination that we put in. Dissatisfied with our league results, we began intense training for the Cup. After drawing a bye in the first round, our motivation grew, and

after facing an aggressive St Columba's team in the second round we succeeded in beating them 1-0. With a winning streak on our hands and not having lost a match in weeks, and were determined to ensure this continued.

St Andrew's were favourites to win the Senior Cup, but we showed off our improvements in an evenly matched, nail-biting game, shocking St. Andrew's with an outstanding performance, running rings around their solid defence. This resulted in a 3-3 tie with a replay in St Andrew's. Unfortunately, the preceding match was lost 2-0, and ended our Cup winning dreams, but we were proud of our quarterfinal placing.

We would like to sincerely thank Mr Fitzpatrick for never giving up on us, and for his hard work and commitment throughout the year. Also a big thanks to the supporters who came to encourage us and to all the staff who were very helpful and co-operative, in particular, the other hockey coaches, Ms Jones, Ms Levis and Mr Wilkinson.

As captain of the 1st X1, I would like to thank each of my team members who have all improved enormously throughout the season and have been a pleasure to play hockey with. I feel proud and honoured to be part of such a dedicated team and I wish you all the best of luck for next year.

Gemma McRann, 6th Form



Above: Head girl and top hockey player? We salute you.

JUBILEE CUP

A team of fourth years took part in the Jubilee Cup in Rathdown. We played a round of matches against five other teams. We played well and we were joint second with St Gerards. A round of flicks decided who was in the final and we won 3-2. In the final against Rathdown we dominated the match. Two goals from Ali and Candace put us ahead and we won the match and therefore the cup. We all had great fun and would like to thank Ms Levis for organizing it and for coaching us.

Debbie Blair and Tessa Meade, 4th Form

SENIOR 1ST XI GIRLS



Back Row: Mr P Fitzpatrick, Susan McRann, Aimee Jones O'Connor, Eva Nugent, Alison Meeke, Christine Borke, Ali May, Judy Kelleher, Valerie Sexton.

Front Row: Jessie Elliott, Debbie Blair, Ellen Ní Cleirigh, Gemma McRann, Evanna Mills, Anne-Marie Jordan, Karen Meade, Sarah Donnelly.

SENIOR 2ND XI GIRLS

This year's 2nd XI hockey team was a change for everyone who took part. We started a brand new year with a brand new team and I think I can speak for everyone in saying it took a bit of getting used to. Things started off rocky, as few of us had played together before. Then along came Steven, our new coach, who showed nothing less than dedication and devotion towards our team.

His interest and encouragement brought our team closer together and by the end of the season we were all close friends and not just teammates. Each training session was filled with fun and laughs and each match, no matter how we played, full of enthusiasm.

Despite the bad start to our season we kept our head high for the duration and fought our way through just missing our chance to play in the quarterfinals. Our last match was against Alexandra College and I think it's safe to say we gave them a tough match and we were all very proud of our performance.

I would like to thank Mr Fitzpatrick, Ms Levis and Ms Jones for all the organization and effort put into this year's hockey season and most importantly Steven for believing we could make it that extra bit further.

I would also like to thank the whole team, I have never had this much fun working with a group of people and it was truly a privilege being your captain. Thank you all for putting up with my lack of organizational skills, and Jade for all the help you gave me, we would have fallen apart without you. You have been an amazing team and amazing friends. I wish you all the best of luck in the future and next years team, which I will definitely miss being a part of.

Lana Loane, 6th Form

Right: Gareth Carragher, Alison Meeke and Josh Purcell –
Leinster players!

SENIOR 3RD XI GIRLS

This year was a very exciting year for the 3rd XI. There was great team spirit and we trained well, which encouraged us through our league.

Our league started bad, losing to Dominican Wicklow, but after that we were determined to play better and did so... We won our next matches against St Gerards 1-0, Loreto on the Green 1-0, and Newbridge College and drew with Holy Faith Clontarf but our hard work paid off and we made it to the play-offs against St Raphael's. It was a hard match with the ball in both halves and it went into extra time. We scored in the first-half of extra time but they counter-attacked and scored when we let our guard down. It then was left to penalty flicks and although we hadn't prepared for this we came out 1-0.

We were so excited for the quarter-finals. We were playing against Alexandra College; we knew it was going to be a hard match. We played well but we could have played much better, they got a goal in the first half from a short corner. We were determined to play better but they scored again and our hopes were dashed which didn't help us in the match.

As captain of the 3rd XI, I would like to thank our excellent coach Ms Levis and the rest of the team who put in 110% throughout the whole season; and finally to our great supporters Mr McCaughey and Mr Malin. 'Cheers' guys!

Katie Tallon, 4th Form



SENIOR 2ND XI GIRLS



Back Row: Mr P Fitzpatrick, Sarah Donnelly, Amy Hughes, Jade Breen, Saoirse Hickey.
Front Row: Tessa Meade, Shone O' Toole, Grace Collins, Katie Murtagh, Aoife Daly, Alison Walker.
Absent: Lana Loane, Niamh Mitchell, Ruth Senior, Niamh Holohan, Laura Garland.



SENIOR 3RD XI GIRLS



Back Row: Ms D Lewis, Laura Garland, Katie Murtagh, Annalise Murphy, Triona Connell, Saoirse Hickey, Joann O'Meara.
Front Row: Laura Cooley, Emma Satchwell, Phoebe Laing, Katie Tallon, Sian Cooley, Lydia Cosgrove, Hannah Leavy, Karina McConnell.

We met at High School at 6.45am on Friday morning, where we got the coach to Dublin Port and boarded the Stena Line ferry to Holyhead. We arrived in Wales at lunch time and went straight to Rydal High school in Rhyl. We played two matches against their senior teams but, unluckily, lost both. We then went to our hotel to collapse before heading out that night to see 'Dream Girls' at the cinema.

The next morning some of the group got up and went shopping, while other lazier members stayed in bed relaxing. Then we played another match, which we won 9-2! Next some brave people went for a swim in the sea while others did more shopping! (What can we say? We're girls...). That night we went bowling and afterwards watched a DVD.

The next morning we went tobogganing, which was great fun. We had lunch, and headed back to the ferry on our coach. It was a brilliant trip and everyone really enjoyed it. Thanks to the teachers Ms. Levis and Ms. Jones and of course to 'Kinger', our bus driver.

Olwen Smith and Phoebe Laing, 4th Form

GIRLS WALES HOCKEY TRIP 16-19TH FEBRUARY 2007



Above: The girls on the Wales trip.



Above: The Junior A hockey team
Left: Olwen Smith runs away with the ball.

We started the season strongly playing many friendlies in preparation for the league. We won most of these but unfortunately lost the all-important ones. We drew against Beaufort, Cabra, Our Lady's Terenure and Mt Anville in our group for the league. We played Cabra first, away on their grit pitch, and we were nervous having never played on grit; nevertheless we came away with a 1-0 win. Next up was Beaufort. This was the hardest match, and it ended up as a draw. Facing Terenure, our confidence paid off as we beat them 2-0. Our next match needed a win to get us into the quarterfinal; unfortunately we were defeated by a determined Mt Anville. This only made us more determined to win the cup.

Again, we played Cabra and won, this time 4-0. The next game was against Bray. Thanks to Eva, we won in extra time. A tense match against Muckcross came down to the final minutes but again we won. The match we all were dreading was next. Thankfully we held strong against a good side from St Andrew's and reached the final. We were up against Alexandra College, and we knew it would be tough. Eventually they won 1-0.

We couldn't have got anywhere without the whole team; the super keeper, wall of defence, skillful midfield and quick forwards all played their best. I wouldn't want to captain any other team! Thanks to Ms Jones for all her hard work throughout the year.

Ali Meeke, 4th Form

Below: Some enthusiastic supporters at the Junior A Hockey final.



JUNIOR A GIRLS



Back Row: Ms S Jones, Emily Kinlan, Sarah McCoy, Aimee Jones O'Connor, Olwen Smith, Debbie Blair, Susan McCrann, Una McSharry, Sarah-Jane McCrann.

Front Row: Eve Roseingrave, Maoliosa Nugent, Freya Breen, Alison Meeke, Ayesha Carrim, Eva Nugent, Aisling Naylor, Sadhbh Soper Ní Chafraidh.

JUNIOR B GIRLS



Back Row: Ms S Jones, Susan Kinlan, Aoife Ryan, Lisa Meehan, Ruth Shannon-Doyle, Rebecca Conalty, Ellen Walsh.

Front Row: Candace Horton, Sarah Brennan, Karen Lew, Amy Jones, Naomi Reid, Hannah Phelan, Sadhbh Soper Ní Chafraidh.

JUNIOR B GIRLS

This year the Junior B hockey team had a great year. We made it to the pre-quarter finals against Loreto Mullingar. We ended the match in penalty flicks winning 4-2. Our quarterfinal was played against Loreto Beaufort, which unfortunately we lost 1-0 in a nail-biting match. I want to say a big thank you to all the girls on the team and our coach Ms Jones for all her help.

Amy Jones, 4th Form

JUNIOR C GIRLS

The Junior C team had a great team spirit. Throughout the year we put in an excellent effort. We played against Mt Anville, John Scottus, Alexandra College, Holy Cross Killiney and St. Raphael's and in February we all enjoyed a superb trip to Offaly, playing Tullamore. In the Leinster League, we weren't as successful as we would have hoped, although we had a terrific victory over Cross and Passion, Belfast. Thanks to Ms Jones and Ms Levis for all their coaching and support during the year. We are all eagerly anticipating a great season next year.

Georgie Twamley, 3rd Form

JUNIOR C GIRLS



Back Row: Ms S Jones, Zara McElvaney, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Katie O'Connor, Laura Martin, Katie Hyland.
Front Row: Gillian Carr, Holly Taylor, Georgie Twamley, Tess McCann, Hannah Phelan, Jane O'Donohoe.

MINOR A GIRLS

This year's Minor A's have been a very strong team, training hard every Tuesday and Thursday to build up our ability. Our first league match was against Holy Child Killiney, which ended in our favour at 2-1. Next, we played Alexandra College. This was a tougher match, but we held them off and the final score was 0-0.

Our next match against St Andrew's saw nerves on the part of all players – yet we went out and played to the best of our abilities. We had some excellent saves from our goalie Eve Roseingrave and impressive shots from our forwards, but unfortunately it didn't go our way, ending at 2-0 to them.

Next up was an incredibly successful match against Kings Hospital, ending in a 4-0 win to High School. Now all we needed to get through was for St Andrew's to beat Alexandra College... Tensions were high.

Unfortunately, later that day we heard that St Andrew's and Alexandra College drew. We resigned ourselves to the fact that it wasn't to be; yet we'll be back with a vengeance next year. On behalf of the team, I would like to thank Mr Fitzpatrick for all the help and encouragement he gave us throughout the year.

Maoliosa Nugent, 2nd Form



MINOR B GIRLS

The Minor B team had a great hockey season this year. We had many great victories, and only a few odd losses! We made it to the semi-quarter finals in our league but were sadly beaten by Muckross. We really played our hearts out in our league going out to the pitch with full confidences. But I think we underestimated the strength of our opposition.

I was so proud of being the captain of this hockey team. Everyone always played brilliantly! I'd like to thank Ms Levis for showing us lots of new moves and tricks.

We played and got on well as a team. In our last match of the season we played so amazingly! At the last minute, we were informed that we no longer had a goalie – and so Chloe McHugh had to come to the rescue having never played the position before. You wouldn't know it to look at her in action...

We all really wanted to finish our season on a good note and thankfully we beat Alexandra College. On a final note, thank you so much to all those that scored in our games!

Ella Scanlan, 2nd Form

MINOR C GIRLS

The Minor C's started this year without a full team, and different coaches, but quickly got a full team together and a new full-time coach, Steve. We had a lot of skillful and helpful training sessions finished off with the odd box of chocolates... After all, we do need to keep our energy up! In our league we got to the quarterfinals, which was only possible with our wonderful squad! I would like to thank our coaches Steve and Ms Levis for organizing our games – and Ms Jones for taking us when Steve was unavailable! Well-done Minor C's for a great year's play!

Amy Cripps, 2nd Form

MINORS



Back Row: Mr P Fitzpatrick, Sadbh O'Brien, Stefanie Wynne, Katie O'Brien, Cliona Rogan, Maeve Daly.
Front Row: Eve Roseingrave, Aisling Naylor, Sarah Keating, Maoliosa Nugent, Jessie Meeke, Rose Halpin Duffy, Sarah-Jane McCrann.
Absent: Kirsten Kinch, Jessica Patterson.



Back Row: Ms D Lewis, Sadbh O'Brien, Robin Carey, Lauren McGarry, Kate O'Marcaigh, Rona O'Donnell, Megan Rayner, Megan Lynch.
Front Row: Martha Barber Hume, Maeve Sweetnam, Jessica Sargeant, Ella Scanlan, Jessica Buttanshaw, Rose Halpin Duffy, Sarah Keating.



Back Row: Ms D Lewis, Hannah Browning, Megan Skelly, Mollie-Kate Richardson, Ellen Carney, Chloe McHugh, Rona O'Donnell, Amy Deverell, Emily Dunleavy.
Front Row: Laura Mills, Shauna Maguire, Keri Sheehan, Amy Cripps, Lynn Murphy, Sophie Lee, Olivia King, Sarah Quirke.

FIRST YEAR A GIRLS



Back Row: Mr P Fitzpatrick, Emma Devine, Laura Duggan, Niamh Moran, Maeve Daly, Niamh Murphy, Elizabeth McGuinness, Megan Kilpatrick.

Front Row: Martha Barber Hume, Alanna Kavanagh, Debbie Burke, Jessie Meeke, Jennifer Rynne, Rebecca Garland, Rachel Burke.

FIRST YEAR A GIRLS

First year A girls' hockey didn't get off to a great start but we trained hard and won most of our matches. We had a very important match against Wesley, which if we won meant we went into the quarter-finals and if we drew meant a play off against Mt Anville.

We were determined to win the Wesley match, but we drew with them 0-0 with many great saves from our sub goalie, Zoë. This meant we had to play Mt Anville in the play-offs. We were nervous but very determined. The match ended up going into extra time and in the second half; Mt Anville got a very lucky goal. In the last 2 minutes of the match we got a chance, but couldn't put it in the goal. So it finished 1-0 to Mt Anville.

Thanks to everyone who played, the hockey coaches, and especially Mr Fitzpatrick. We hope to do much better next season!

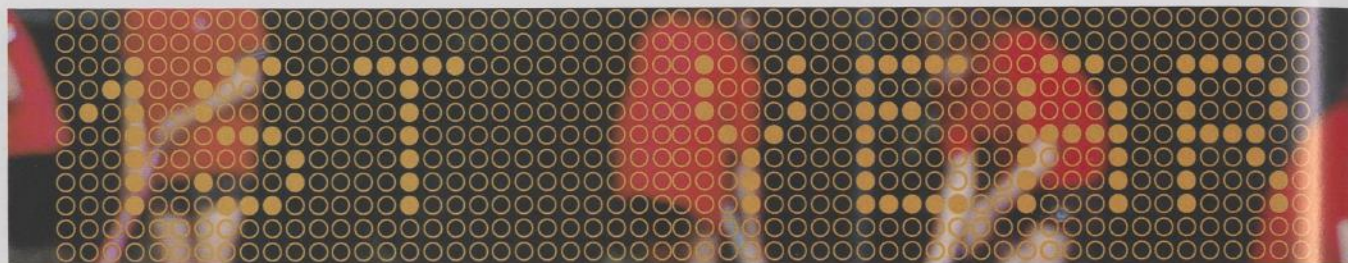
**Kirsten Kinch,
1st Form**

FIRST YEAR B GIRLS

The B team began well this year, and we only got better. A winning streak led us to the quarter finals, which was unbelievably close, finishing 1-1. It went into extra time, and from there it went to penalty flicks. We scored one, but sadly Naas scored two. We would like to thank Ms Levis and Ms Jones for coaching us, and well done to the team, this year was amazing!

Niamh Moran, 1st Form





FIRST YEAR B GIRLS



Back Row: Ms D Lewis, Katie O'Connor, Lauren Walsh, Fiona Mitchell, Leanne McDonnell, Judith Harrington, Alannah Burdon, Mara Barrett.
Front Row: Grace Morris, Sarah McKenna Barry, Jane Ward, Alice Somers Donnelly, Niamh Moran, Emily Atkinson, Deborah Burke, Una Keller.

FIRST YEAR C GIRLS



Back Row: Ms D Lewis, Aisling Darby, Jane Ward, Elodie Christle, Fiona Mitchell, Hazel McHugh, Emer Dixon.
Front Row: Sophie Wann, Ellen Cunningham, Katelyn Fagan, Niamh Smith, Isabella Domville, Zoe Dolan.



Left: Shane Gould giving it his all.

This year's hockey season has been one of the most successful in recent time, but of course this revival did not happen overnight. It started back in September 2001 when Mr Wilkinson took us under his guidance as hockey coach – it was the start of a sporting journey to re-establish high standards of boys' hockey in High School. The foundation of this year's senior team was based on the stronger, fitter, more focused boys – training harder than ever before. We had a great spirit, camaraderie and a winning attitude – winning all of our league games and scoring 32 goals in the process.

Having lost 3-1 in a warm up game against St Andrews we realised that we had a long way to go. The loss gave us the desire to succeed and in our first league match against Wesley College we came out with all guns blazing eventually only letting in 1 to our 3 goals. Next it was to Kings Hospital, where our hard training paid off scoring 5 goals without reply.

The following week Sandford Park came to our sand-base and once again we scored 5 goals without conceding any. Our next match was one that we had been looking forward to all season – the rematch against St Andrews. After our earlier defeat we were determined to reverse the result. A plan to use our speed of counter attack to overwhelm them, and thanks to the acrobatic antics of David in goal putting life before limb, the final whistle blew at 5-1 to us.

Kilkenny's results in the league had been weak, so we decided to use this opportunity to develop and practise different facets of our game to great success, winning 5-0. Against Killians, our game plan was to shut down their star striker, (who had previously proved dangerous) – a task we succeeded in doing and they remained scoreless. Halfway through the season we were proving our worth! Dundalk travelled to HSD with a tough and aggressive reputation. At a 1-1 half time, they lost their discipline, focusing their aggression on Shane Gould who soon scored, followed by a classic David Lusby flick.

We travelled to Monkstown where we played Newpark Comprehensive, making hard work of winning 3-2. The Cup match interrupted our league run. Drawn against Sutton Park, we put in some extra training sessions having never before seen such focus in the eyes of HSD players. Unfortunately, being nervous, our communication broke down and they pounced for an early opportunity. Early in the second we applied constant pressure, and over the next twenty minutes we ran ourselves into the ground. Our defence held strong, but there is only so much a team can handle from top class strikers and on the fourth short corner in a row that they received – they scored. With only thirty seconds left there was time for only one more attack, swamping their

goal area looking for that all-important touch, which we did not get – and with the team fully committed, they managed to score a breakaway goal in the dying seconds.

In sport there is always a loser, and against Sutton it was our turn. Their captain congratulated us on a fine performance and admitted that the score line did not do us justice. In our team huddle after the match Mr Miller praised us for our performance saying, "never before had he seen a HSD team play so hard and not be the victors." It was true, and although disappointed we realised that we should have no regrets as we had nothing more to give and were beaten by stronger opposition.

Our last league match against John Scottus was my final match, as captain and representing High School. I was determined not to let this final match destroy what we had worked so hard for – an undefeated league run. We won the match 2-1 playing the fast pace counter attack hockey we had perfected. As the whistle blew, we realised that we were the first High School team to be undefeated in league history! As a mark of this achievement High School had school ties made for the team with the boys hockey logo printed beside the crest as recognition of our feat. I would like to acknowledge that Mr Miller kept us focused and on our toes during days of hard winter training, continuously creating interesting drills to develop our skills and pitch awareness.

Mr Wilkinson, as coach, applied his mathematical mind to strategise each and every game we played. He prepared us professionally, methodically and tactically – nothing was left to chance, and we would like to thank him for that and all his work behind the scenes. He also made it good fun and we all enjoyed ourselves, laughed ourselves stupid and we will all take away happy memories of hockey in High School. Thank you Mr Wilkinson and thanks to you all!

Paddy O'Connor, 6th Form



Above: Get in there Paddy!

SENIOR 1ST XI BOYS

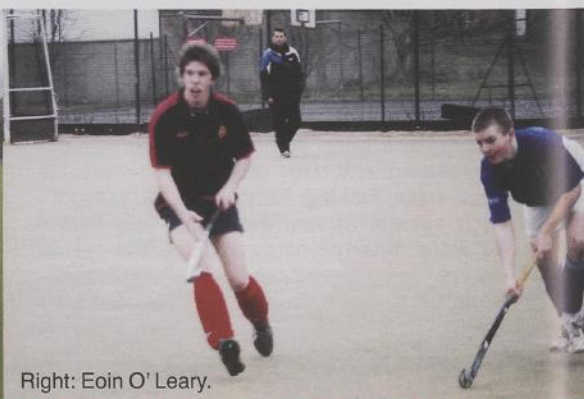


Back Row: Mr I Wilkinson, Mark McNulty, Patrick O'Connor, Shane Gould.

Front Row: David Meade, Evan O'Callaghan, Richard Jones, Joshua Purcell, Stephen Spoor, Niall Noonan, Jonathan Walker.



Above: Senior boys versus Senior girls.



Right: Eoin O'Leary.

JUNIOR A BOYS



Back Row: Mr D Miller, Keith Gray, James Barber, Paul O'Kelly, Mark Evans, Michael McNulty, Daniel Connell.

Front Row: Mark Rogan, Gareth Carragher, Joshua Purcell, Jonathan Walker, Niall Noonan, John Willoughby, Robbie McGuinness.

JUNIOR B BOYS



Back Row: Mr D Miller, Thomas Burke, Daniel Connell, Darragh Herlihy, Mark Savage, David Kavangah.
Front Row: Kevin Browne, James Harding, Iain Irvine, Paul O'Kelly, James Liddicoat, Keenan Lacey, Andrew Donovan.

JUNIOR B BOYS

The 06/07 season was an interesting year for boys' hockey. It saw the birth of the first ever boys' hockey B – Team in the school's history. Our season began with a match against the mighty Columba's, we were very excited and gave it our all, losing 3-1 but producing a good performance. Things didn't seem to go our way from that day on.

Our next match was against old rivals Wesley where we were

unlucky to lose 4-1, taking comfort from our well-worked short corner. We faced Andrews in our next game, one of the best teams in our league who beat us despite our best efforts. Our next two matches involved trips to Kilkenny and Dundalk respectively which we gained valuable experience from, especially James Harding, our goalie, who put in two memorable performances as well as exciting play from Daniel Connell and Jack O'Kennedy.

The low point of our season came when we played Sandford away. We were expecting to get the first win of our season but we underestimated our opponents and lost 1 – 0.

The team took this defeat badly and our season ended on a disappointing note in Columba's, where we lost 5 – 0. Overall it was an enjoyable if not successful season. A special mention needs to go to Iain Irvine who went on to be our top scorer with a grand total of 3 goals – thank you Iain! We would also like to thank our coaches Mr Miller, Mr McSharry and Mr Davis as well as all the players who put in a lot of time and effort.

**Paul O'Kelly
and Jack O'Kennedy,
4th Form**

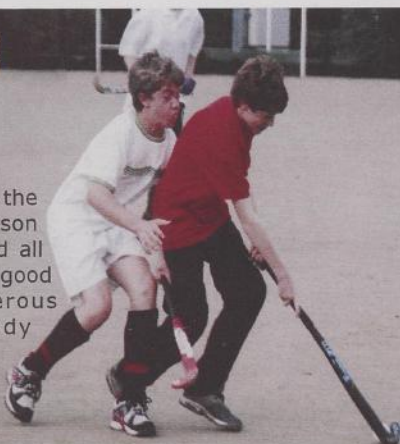
U14 BOYS



Back Row: Mr R White, Finn Murphy, John McNulty, Christopher Drakeford, Sean-Tee Lim, Cian O'Neill, Colm Moran, Shane O'Reilly.
Front Row: Ryan O'Malley, Stephen Reid, Cillian McCann, Alan Hughes, Ian Stevenson, Simon Jackson, Jack Doyle.

JUNIOR A BOYS

This year was the Junior A's first season in the A league and all in all we gave up a good fight with numerous draws and steady improvement throughout the season.



The seasons started brightly with a promising 0-0 draw away to Wesley in a friendly and after this spirits were high. However we were quickly brought back down to earth with back-to-back defeats against a strong St Andrew's team who eventually went on to win the league.

We had high hopes for the cup but unfortunately we did not perform on the day against a well-organized Kilkenny team. We bounced back however and got our season back on track with a 2-2 draw against Kings Hospital with the ever-reliable Niall Noonan, Josh Purcell and Mark Evans having excellent games.

On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr Miller for all his hard work during the season. Many thanks also to Mr Wilkinson for organizing the matches and to Mr Davis and Luke McSharry for the training throughout the season.

**Jonathan Walker,
4th Form**

UNDER 14 BOYS

The boys Under 14's had a good start to the season by beating Wesley College 6-3. Unfortunately we lost out next three matches... but only marginally. Our next match was a cup match against St. Andrew's A team; we played as well as we could but they had the upper hand on us with a strong attacking play and so unfortunately they came out victorious.

Our final away match was against a tough competition, Mt Temple. They put us under great pressure but goals from Ryan O'Malley, Ian Stevenson and great saves from Jack

UNDER 13 BOYS

This year the first year boys' hockey team had a reasonable season reaching the quarter-final of the Cup and almost getting to the semi final of the league. Our first match was against St. Columba's which we drew 3-3. We then had to play them in the league, which we unfortunately lost. We played St Andrew's next, it was a tough match and we drew 2-2. Our next match was against Sanford, which we also drew 2-2.

In February we travelled to Dundalk, knowing that if we won we would be in the semi final of the league. We all played our best against a tough opposition, but lost 4-2. We beat Rathgar 7-1 in the Cup.

We had a quarter final of the Cup against St Andrew's A's where unfortunately they went on to win the Cup. We then had a friendly match against Chigwell (England) where we won 2-1.

Considering a lot of our team hadn't played hockey before we did very well this season. We had a great team spirit and are looking forward to improving. I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Wilkinson for coaching us over the season.

Stephen Reid, 1st Form

Doyle, our goalkeeper sealed us the deal to win. Our last match of the season was not so successful (we lost) but we enjoyed it none the less.

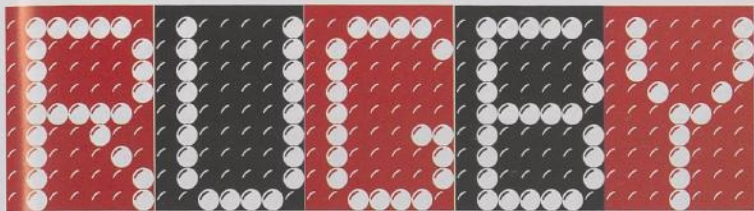
All in all it was a very good season and I would like to thank all the staff that helped us, and a special thanks to Mr White and Will Mitchell.

**Alan Hughes,
2nd Form**

U13 BOYS



Back Row: Mr I Wilkinson, John McNulty, Ferdia Soper MacGairaidh, Conor Sexton, Lorcán Reidy, Ryan O'Malley, Gavin O'Toole.
Front Row: Oisín Devilly, Adam O'Malley, Jim Fogarty, Stephen Reid, Shane Connolly, Harry Jones, Kenneth Mason.



1ST XV RUGBY SCT

After a long pre-season training period we had our first match in early September against Templeogue in Danum. In a very competitive game between two evenly matched sides Templeogue won with a few incredible tries. Our next game was an away fixture against St Columba's. Tries, conversions and a penalty from David Kenny gave us a 17-0 victory.

This excellent team performance was followed by a 29-0 victory over Rydal, a Welsh touring side. These two wins left us in a confident mood entering the league campaign. In our first game against CUS we were fortunate to be 14-8 ahead with a few minutes to go. However, a concentration lapse left the score 15-14 to CUS.

A daunting fixture against Kilkenny College away then followed resulting in an unfortunate loss of 10-0. A run of poor performances against Gonzaga, Kings School Worcester, Kings Hospital and The Royal School Armagh then left us exasperated, knowing that we had the potential to play much better. An excellent performance against Blackrock College followed, and then again with our next fixture against Marian College.

On the back pitch of Lansdowne Road, seven tries resulted in an amazing 41-0 victory. Our next game saw us face a strong St. Mary's at Kenilworth. Even with strong performances from Tom Emo and Tony Lee, we were beaten 28-10, a score line unreflective of the closeness of the match. The long bus journey to our next school Roscrea left us unfocused and unable to prevent a 28-12 loss.

The following week, in almost subzero conditions and on a waterlogged pitch we ground out a 14-0 victory against Sligo Grammar School the following week. Finally in our third away match we faced Campbell College in Belfast. Due to the Christmas break, we only had a panel of 17 players

traveling to play the most successful team in Ulster Senior Cup history. It didn't look promising as we took to the field with Stormount in the distance. However, we performed excellently and it was only a last minute try from Campbell, which gave them a 7-0 victory. Finally in a home fixture against Sligo Grammar School, a close game saw us win 8-0.

In our first cup game, we faced Mount Temple. We went in as favourites. In a nerve filled game, we came out on top and progressed to face Clongowes. In front of a large crowd, Clongowes took advantage of lapses in concentration to extend their lead by 23 points in the second half, leaving High School with a poor loss. To finish off our season we took part in the plate. After overcoming Newbridge and St Columba's in the first and second rounds respectively, we took on St Gerard's in the semi final in Bray. However on the day Gerard's were too strong and they progressed to the final.

On behalf of there team I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr McBride Mr Wright, Mr Kinsella, Mr Malin, Hugh Hogan, Sammy Dowling and Killian Duffy for all the work they did with us over the last year.

Andy Lohan, 6th Form



Top: Unstoppable Robbie Rath battles past a Mount Temple player!

Above: High School line-out. Below: The High School scrum.



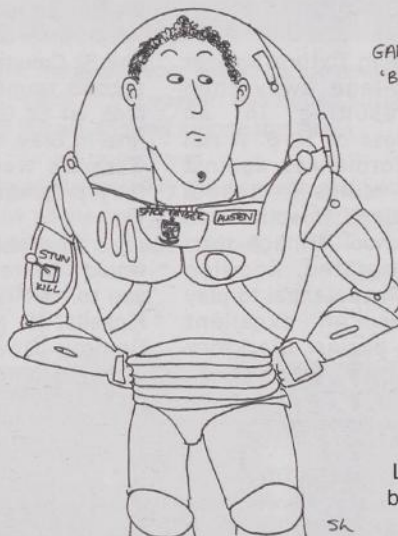
SENIOR CUP TEAM



Back Row: Mr D Wright, Robbie Rath, Conor O'Donnell, Mark Collins, Gavin Thornberry, Sean Tevlin, Jamie Wright, Darragh Keller, Gareth Austen, Tony Lee, Alan O'Keeffe.

Middle Row: Mr B Kinsella, Ross Hanan, Nigel Kinlan, Johnny Sargeant, Andrew Lohan, Tom Meredith, Colin Sheridan, Robbie Bannister, Mr L McBride.

Front Row: David Kenny, Marc Evans, Andrew Smyth, Ciarán Collins, Tom Emo.



Left: Drawings by Sam Horgan, 6th Form.



Left: Andy Smyth looking for the ball. Right: Tony Lee taking one for the team!

SCT VS MT TEMPLE 22.1.07



Above: Running for the line.



Above: Nearly there!



Above and below: Trys!!



Above: Line-outs and scrums.



Right: a word of advice.





Top: Scrum-off!
Middle: Pass
Above: A Smith with a
successful pass.
Below: Celebration!



Above: Mr Wright doing this duty.



Above and
below:
Concentrating
supporters.



2ND XV



Back Row: Alan McMurray, James O'Connor, Conor O'Donnell, Mark Collins, Conor McGinley, Gavin Thornberry, Darragh Keller, Shane Webb, Stephen Carter, Alex Conroy, Mr B Kinsella.

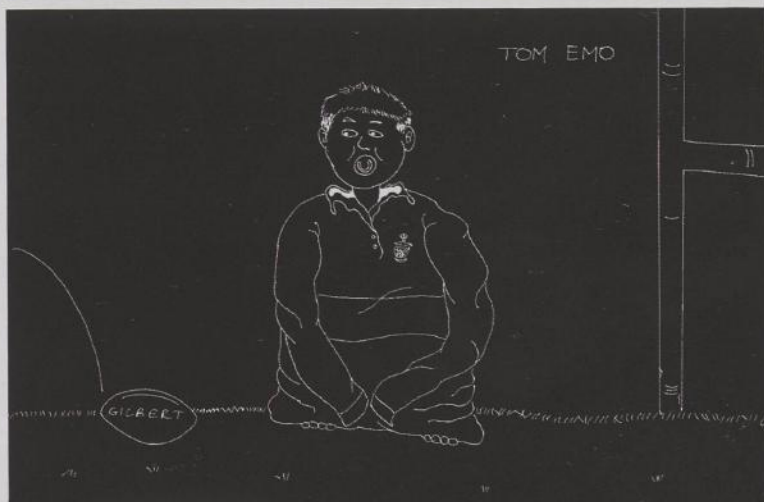
Middle Row: Mr D Wright, Matthew O'Rourke, Ross Hanan, Sean O'Riordan, Sean Tevlin, Tom Emo, Ciarán Collins, Jack Madden, Mr L McBride.

Front Row: Samuel Moore, Simon Kinneen, Iain Lane, Ian Levine.

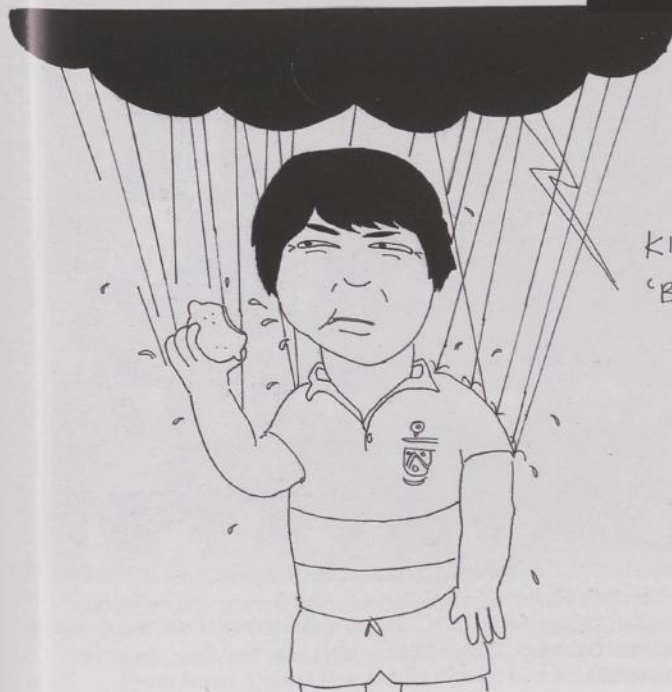
2ND XV

This season, the 2nd XV had an unsuccessful run of games, despite the high intensity and work-rate of the squad throughout. As a team, we faced tough opposition such as Terenure College, Blackrock College and The Royal School, Armagh, though through memorable appearances from Marc Evans, Alex Lawson, Kier Johnson and Shane Webb with his explosive tackles, the team remained highly motivated and a threatening force to be reckoned with. I would like to thank Mr McBride and Mr Wright on behalf of all the team for giving us such an enjoyable season.

Seán Tevlin, 5th Form



Left and above right: Drawings by Sam Horgan, 6th Form.



KIER
'BITTER'
JOHNSON



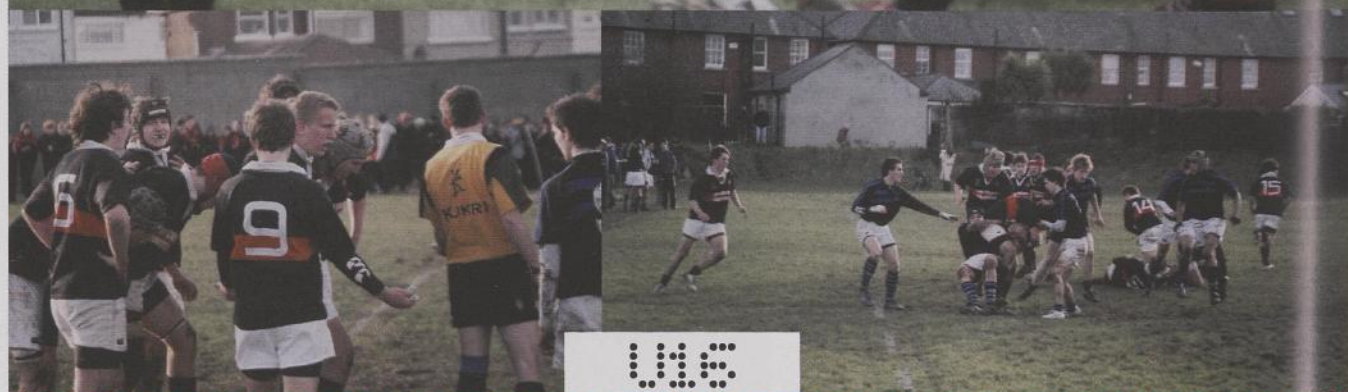
RUGBY WALES TRIP 07



In 2007, a group of 4th and 5th year rugby players went on a successful rugby trip to Wales. We left Ireland on Friday morning; several hours, and one massive game of poker later we arrived at the grounds of Rydal School. In poor conditions we won the game 10-0 with Gareth Austen and Sean O'Riordan scoring tries. Gareth Austen was named man of the match by the Rydal team.

The next day we played Colwyn Bay. This time the conditions were perfect and again we won - this time 27-0 with Thomas Emo and Gareth Austen among the try scorers. Gareth excelled himself by making the only conversion on tour. Overall the tour was a great success and was really enjoyed by all. We would like to thank Mr Wright and Mr Malin for organizing the trip and coaching us while we were away.

Ross Hanan, 5th Form



UE



Back Row: Alan McMurray, Samuel Moore, Sean O'Riordan, Conor McGinley, Conor O'Donnell, Alex Conroy, Shane Webb, Stephen Carter, Ian Levine.

Front Row: Mr D Wright, Matthew O'Rourke, Simon Kinneen, James O'Connor, Ciarán Collins, Iain Lane, Tom Emo, Jonathan Kinlan, Mr A Malin.



JUNIOR CUP TEAM

Above:
Graham Young
— unstoppable!

In the year of the JCT, all the rugby we played in 1st and 2nd year was a warm-up for what was coming in the cup. We had quite a successful season, beating most of the teams we played, including teams we had previously lost to like Blackrock and Templeogue College. Our coaches Mr McCaughey and Mr Griffin improved our chances of winning the cup by making us work extremely hard at every training session. But it all paid off...

The day of the cup match came and we were nervous and excited, knowing we had to put in everything we had in order to beat St Andrew's. We had a bad start making all the wrong moves and making many mistakes. At half time we were disappointed with our performance and determined to work hard in the second half. We began to work as a team and forced St Andrew's back, scoring a few tries. We had some tricks up our sleeves, including Cian Twomey kicking the ball over the defence with Nicky Jones running onto it! Unfortunately we lost against St Andrew's but the team put up a strong battle, doing our school proud. Thanks to all that played throughout the season, and thanks to the coaches for putting up with so much hassle!



Mark Weston, 3rd Form

JUNIOR CUP TEAM



Back Row: Steven Chapman, Eoin Keenan, Nicholas Jones, Diarmuid Kennedy, James Hawe, Liam MacNamara, Gavin Mullan, Brian Liston, Graham Young, Graham Mills, Hugh O'Marcaigh, Alex Daly.

Middle Row: Mr M Griffin, Mark Coffey, Oscar Bowling, Simon Ludden, Mark Weston, Mattias Slattery, Cian Twomey, Adam Ryan, Mr P McCaughey.

Front Row: Danyal Fox, Martin Flower, Michael O'Shea, Gareth Carragher, Ian Duggan, Luke Evans, David Kernan.

U14 A



Back Row: Mr A Malin, Sean Adye-Curran, David Cosgrove, William Anglim, Ronan Lowther, Emmet Dwyer, Padraig Harrison, Finn Murphy, Barry Frizelle, Christopher Downey.

Middle Row: Dhruv Kapoor, Colm Moran, Alan Young, Cian McDonagh, Cillian McCann, Andrew Stein, Robert Erno, Sean Warren, Patrick Wilson.

Front Row: Joshua Wiler, Graham Campbell, Mark Swords, Paul Deering.

UNDER 14

We welcomed a new coach to the U14 team this year, Mr Malin. We were looking forward to this season as we had ended last season quite strongly. A large number attended the early training sessions as well as a few new players.

Even though we were training well our results did not show on the pitch for our first few matches. As we went through the season we played better as a team. We had a couple

of great wins against Sandford Park and St Columba's, but unfortunately we were unlucky against Newpark. One of our best matches that we played was against Blackrock College, but unfortunately the result didn't show this as we only had fourteen players for most of the match.

During the season we learnt a lot about rugby from our coaches and we feel we have become better players as well as a better team. We would like to thank our coach Mr Malin who stuck with us through it all, and also Ross Traynor. We would also like to thank the parents who supported our matches.

Sean Warren and Cillian McCann, 2nd Form

U14 B



Back Row: Mr A Malin, Daniel Clarke, Sammi Esghyer, Daniel Jones, Patrick Dennis, Micheal Sykes, Barry Frizzelle, Alan Weekes, Eli Haines.

Middle Row: Dhruv Kapoor, Ian Stevenson, Graham Campbell, Cian McDonagh, Mark Swords, Paul Deering, Hugh Macken, Finn Murphy, Sean -Tee Lim.

Front Row: Shane O'Reilly, Colm Moran, Sean Warren, Patrick Foster.

U13 TIGERS



Back Row: Mr B McNamara, Peter Adye-Curran, Sylvan Benaksas, Mark O'Kelly, Max Drakeford, Shane Connolly, David Fox, Carl Adams, Darragh Twomey, Jordan McQuaid, Mr K Clarke.
Front Row: Peter Douglas, Matthew Mullan, James Fleming, Brendan Murray-Byrne, Stephen Alexander, Cian Dowling Cullen, Conor Sexton, Denis Casey, Ian Sheridan.

UNDER 13

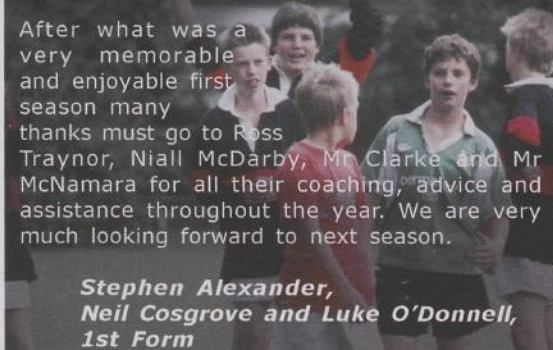
We started the year with two full weeks of training sessions for the initial 45. Consisting mainly of fitness and ball skills, it was well needed as most of the boys had spent the summer eating pies! We had two ten-a-side tournaments in Gonzaga and St Columba's and were delighted to win both! Our first full game was against Sandford Park which we won 48-5 and this was followed by wins over Newpark and a touring English school called Ranby House.

Over the next few weeks we played a number of games against Newbridge College, Kilkenny College, CUS, Gonzaga and St Michael's. In all of these games we competed exceptionally well only to suffer narrow defeats at the end of it all.

At the start of our league campaign, we were placed in a very strong group consisting of CUS, St Gerard's and Wesley College. CUS proved far too strong for us and beat us easily. The game against St. Gerard's was very exciting with the lead being exchanged on several occasions with us losing out by the odd score by the finish.

So that leads us on to the game against our old rivals Wesley. Scoring a couple of early tries, we set up a good lead but made the fatal mistake of thinking the game was won. This allowed Wesley back in, but thankfully not enough and the honour went to High School.

After what was a very memorable and enjoyable first season many thanks must go to Ross Traynor, Niall McDarby, Mr Clarke and Mr McNamara for all their coaching, advice and assistance throughout the year. We are very much looking forward to next season.



Stephen Alexander, Neil Cosgrove and Luke O'Donnell, 1st Form

U13 STARS



Back Row: Mr K Clarke.
Front Row: Karl Hughes, 5th Form

... to zero the following day where top 8 schools - including us!) and silver
 ... any worse weather-wise with light and
 ... ratingly difficult to catch up if mistakes
 ... time the decision was made to discontinue
 ... fair conditions, instead basing the finals on
 ... e previous day. Due to our admirable perform-
 ... e made it through to the quarterfinals from
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 ... nd so we set off to prove our worth against
 ... y we were beaten and our concentration lapsed
 ... ull One to see who would take third and fourth
 ... e were only placed fourth with three other Co
 ... is. We hope to compete again next year in what
 ... and we did manage to get a page of the
 ... ed to us!

Above: Amy Hughes and Darragh Sweetnam looking hot in their attire.

Below: Finn Murphy and Ferdia O'Brien trying to keep warm.





ISA LEINSTER SCHOOLS TEAM RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

Above: Leinster Sailing Team:
Darragh Sweetnam, Amy Hughes, Annalise Murphy, Finn Murphy, Ferdia
O'Brien, Alice Wyse Jackson.

Early morning Saturday 27th January and the trek out to Dun Laoghaire Harbour for the annual Leinster Schools Team Racing Competition had been made. The air was cold, the sea was choppy, and the wind was blowing 30 knots – yet eighty-four eager sailors representing fourteen various schools were up and ready to hike out to the finish.

There was a challenging day lined up with the briefing at 10 and the last race to commence before light and time waned. Our team consisted of six pupils – Annalise Murphy (team captain), Amy Hughes, Alice Wyse Jackson, Darragh Sweetnam, Finn Murphy and Ferdia O'Brien to sail in a league against six other schools in RS Fevas and Fireflies – both provided by the event organisers. In our league we had Dundalk Grammar School, St Conleth's College, St. Michael's College, Gonzaga College, Alexandra College and CBS Monkstown. The first race began and we were off.

Our first race was against Dundalk GS. We anticipated an easy race but we were wrong. Only thanks to some... and... and...

Below: The team in action.



Back Row: Mr A Malin, Daniel Clarke, Sammi Esghyer, Daniel Jones, Patrick Dennis, Micheal Sykes, Barry Frizzle

Middle Row: Dhruv Kapoor, Ian Stevenson, Graham Campbell, Cian McDonagh, Mark Swords, Paul Dee, Finn Murphy, Sean - Tee Lim.

Front Row: Shane O'Reilly, Colm Moran, Sean Warren, Patrick Foster.

A cheerful Amy Hughes
ready for the next race.



Above: The team proudly collect their prizes.

After coming second at the Leinster Schools Sailing Championships, we secured a position in the All-Ireland Team Racing Championships. In preparation, we made a slight adjustment to the original team of Annalise Murphy (Captain), Amy Hughes, Alice Wyse Jackson, Darragh Sweetnam, Finn Murphy and Ferdia O'Brien, bringing in Ed Butler, and changing helm Alice to crew for Ed.

The favourites for the overall winners were Schull Community College's first team (as they had two) from Cork. We knew they'd be a tough opposition because they all had the option of taking sailing as a school sport! Saturday went incredibly well with lots of shouting and some good tactical decisions being made. This meant that we won all of our races bar the last against Kinsale due to confusion on the finish line. Unluckily for us, our scores went back to zero the following day where we were divided into gold (the top 8 schools - including us!) and silver fleets.

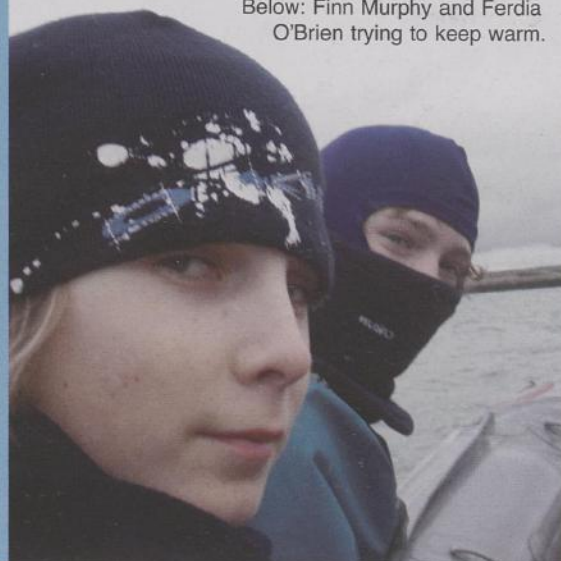
Sunday could not have been any worse weather-wise with light and shifty winds making it frustratingly difficult to catch up if mistakes were made. Finally at lunchtime the decision was made to discontinue the day's races due to unfair conditions, instead basing the finals on league standings from the previous day. Due to our admirable performance the previous day, we made it through to the quarterfinals from sixteen competing schools. We easily won first, second and third out of six ensuring our place in the semi-finals. It was decided that these would be out of three and so we set off to prove our worth against Schull Two. Frustratingly we were beaten and our concentration lapsed for our race against Schull One to see who would take third and fourth place. Unfortunately we were only placed fourth with three other Co Cork schools ahead of us. We hope to compete again next year in what should be a good event... and we did manage to get a page of the Evening Herald dedicated to us!

Annalise Murphy, 5th Form



Above: Amy Hughes and Darragh Sweetnam looking hot in their attire.

Below: Finn Murphy and Ferdia O'Brien trying to keep warm.





Above: And they're off!

SPORTS DAY 02



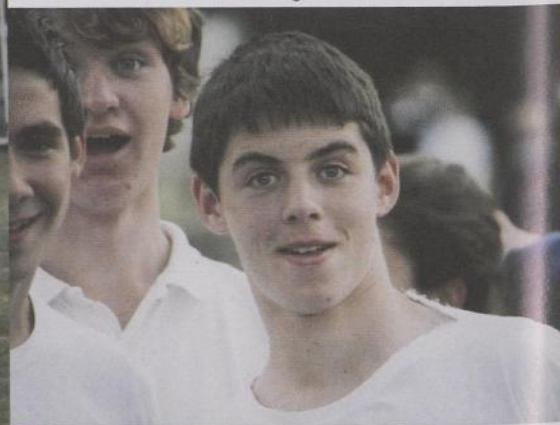
Top: Alan Cairns using all his strength (and that's a lot).
Above: Colin Keegan looks on in awe of Max Prendergast...



Above: Keeping things under control.



Above: 1st Form inter-class relay.



Above: Sean and Stephen shocked, Simon cool as a breeze.
Far left: 1st years chillin'.
Left: And pose...
Below: Giddy girls!





Top left: Beastly teachers!
Above: Andy Smyth getting into it with the help of Max Lane.
Far Left: Ms Killane trying her best.
Left: HEAVE!!



Left: Karina and Joann looking slightly confused.
Below: Spectators.



Below: Conor Sexton winning the boys junior 100m.



Smyth, Nigel Kinlan, Paddy O'Connor, Killian Rogan, Robbie Bannister, Eoin O'Leary, Kyle Gleeson.

JUNIOR SWIMMING

TEAM



Back Row: Neil McGinley, Michael Leith, Sarah Quirk, Monwenia Gentile, Sean-Tee Lim, Ryan Kiwan, Maeve Daly, David Fox, Brendan Murray-Byrne, Cian Dowling Cullen, Darragh Twomey, Jack Doyle, Niall Hickey, Ryan Farrell.
Middle Row: Laura Duggan, Denis Casey, Joseph Finn, Aimee Bannister, Max Drakeford, Hannah Browning, Laura Mills, Kate Hennessy, Jennifer Byrne, Simon Jackson, Megan Rayner, Shane Whooley, Megan Kilpatrick, Ms T. Jones.
Front Row: Mr A Malin, Sophie Wann, Peter Douglas, Katelyn Fagan, Matthew Mullan, Ella Scanlan, Amy Deverell, Emily Atkinson, Niamh Smith, Emma O'Rourke.

Above: 1st Form inter-class relay.



High School swimming resumed eventually (!!) this year in the newly upgraded Terenure College Pool. Both first and second years were well represented taking part in large numbers and with great energy. They ably demonstrated both their stroke techniques and stamina and we managed some improvements on pool entries. We were lucky enough to have the benefit of demonstrations from Laura Duggan and Peter Douglas (1st Form), Ryan Farrell (2nd Form) as well as displays from superb swimmers such as Dylan Farrell (3rd Form). The lane swimming formula allows for all abilities to swim at the same time and so our juniors started off with a splash setting themselves up for lots more pool activity in September.

The senior swim time is directly after the junior on Tuesdays and this year as the group was made up of sixth years we tailored our sessions accordingly. The focus for this group was on fitness followed by water polo (much to the dismay of the new windows!). Students said it helped to relax them. There was much camaraderie and healthy competition in 'timed swims' between Nigel Kinlan (our upper body strength but no legs man!), Paddy O'Connor and Johnny Sargeant (both needing to wait for the go whistle but demonstrating admirable determination). Robbie Bannister, Eoin O'Leary, Max Prendergast and Max Lane never failed to complete the lengths, and though their lungs were failing, still managed to smile. There was lots of huffing, puffing and shouting but Kyle Gleeson, Alan McMurray, Andy Smyth, Kier Johnson and Killian Rogan still managed to maintain their dignity although frequently exhausted. Our sessions with the seniors proved without a shadow of doubt that Archimedes' Principle is correct in case any persuasion to the contrary was needed! It was never less than a challenge - they all redefined the meaning of streamlined!

I'll miss that positive, fun and enthusiastic group and hope that they too have left High School with fond memories of our swimming sessions since 4th year.

**Ms Thelma Jones,
ably aided and abetted by
Mr Malin,
with a special thanks
to Mr McBride.**

CLUB SWIMMING TEAM



Back Row: Lisa Meehan, Andrea Murray-Byrne, Brendan Murray-Byrne, Niamh Murphy.
Front Row: Keith Gray, John Martin, Dylan Farrell, Laura Martin, Michael Gray.



WATER POLO TEAM

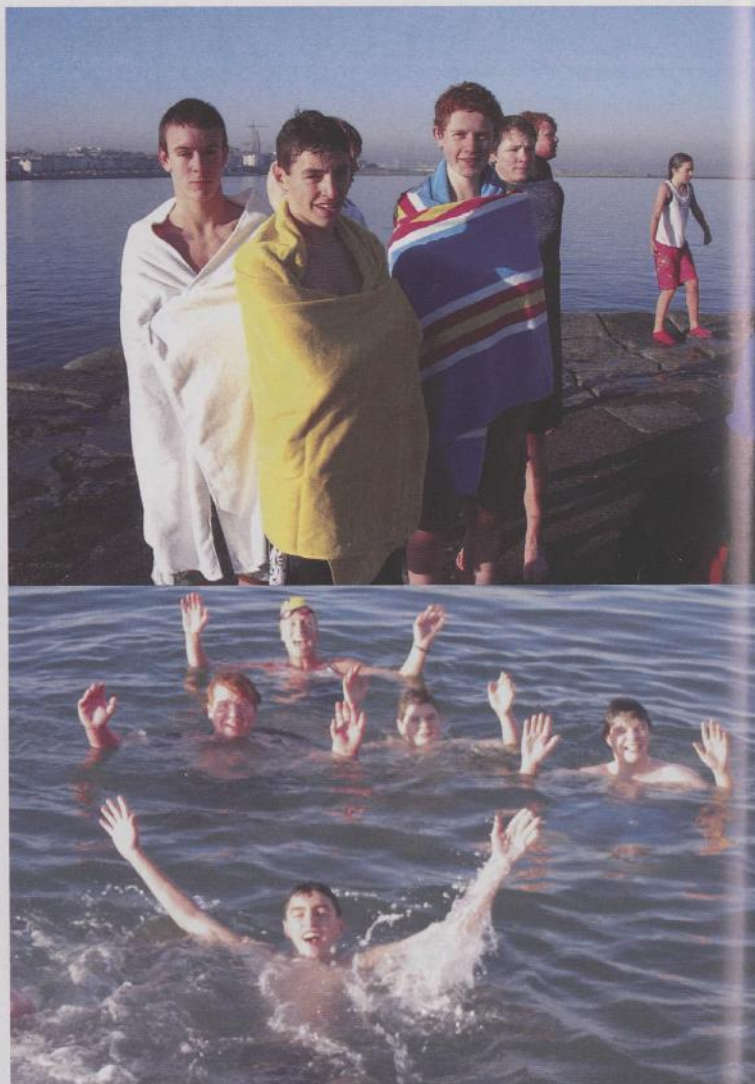


Back Row: Max Prendergast, Kier Johnson, Andy Smyth, Nigel Kinlan, Paddy O'Connor, Killian Rogan.
Front Row: Alan McMurray, Johnny Sargeant, Robbie Bannister, Eoin O'Leary, Kyle Gleeson.

FORTY FOOT SWIM

On the 20th of December, students from 4L and 4S went swimming in Sandycove at the Forty Foot in aid of St. Luke's Hospital. Having submitted our sponsorship cards and committed ourselves, we had mixed conversations in school that morning. Some insisted that they would be the first to jump in. Some were adamant that the water would kill them. There were even a select few (who unfortunately must remain nameless) that cowered and said that they wouldn't be getting in at all. We arrived at the Forty Foot at around 10:20 on the school buses and an additional coach provided (for free) by Finnegan's of Bray. We had barely arrived at the pier before the first splashes could be heard. The splashes were generally followed by screams, snorts, and various other sounds too obscene to mention here. The swimmers demonstrated many approaches to getting in. Most people simply charged in from the edge, wanting to get it over with quickly. The fearless took to the more elegant method of diving in. A few sensible people walked in from the side, and the aforementioned cowards just sat at the side fully clothed (not to mention warm). Finally we all came to our senses and got out. We were then greeted with a much need cup of hot chocolate each after we had dried off and warmed up. In total the two classes collectively managed to raise €2710 for St. Luke's. On behalf of everyone who took part, I would like to thank all of the teachers involved, and Finnegan's of Bray for providing their coach free of charge in aid of this important cause.

Stephen Shaw, 4th Form



Top right: Mad!

Above: The boys warming up.
Left: Olwen Smith and Ryan Morgan present the cheque to St. Luke's.

Right: Brave swimmers.

Below left: The 4S and 4L students who took part in the swim.

Below right: Hot Chocolate, mmmm!

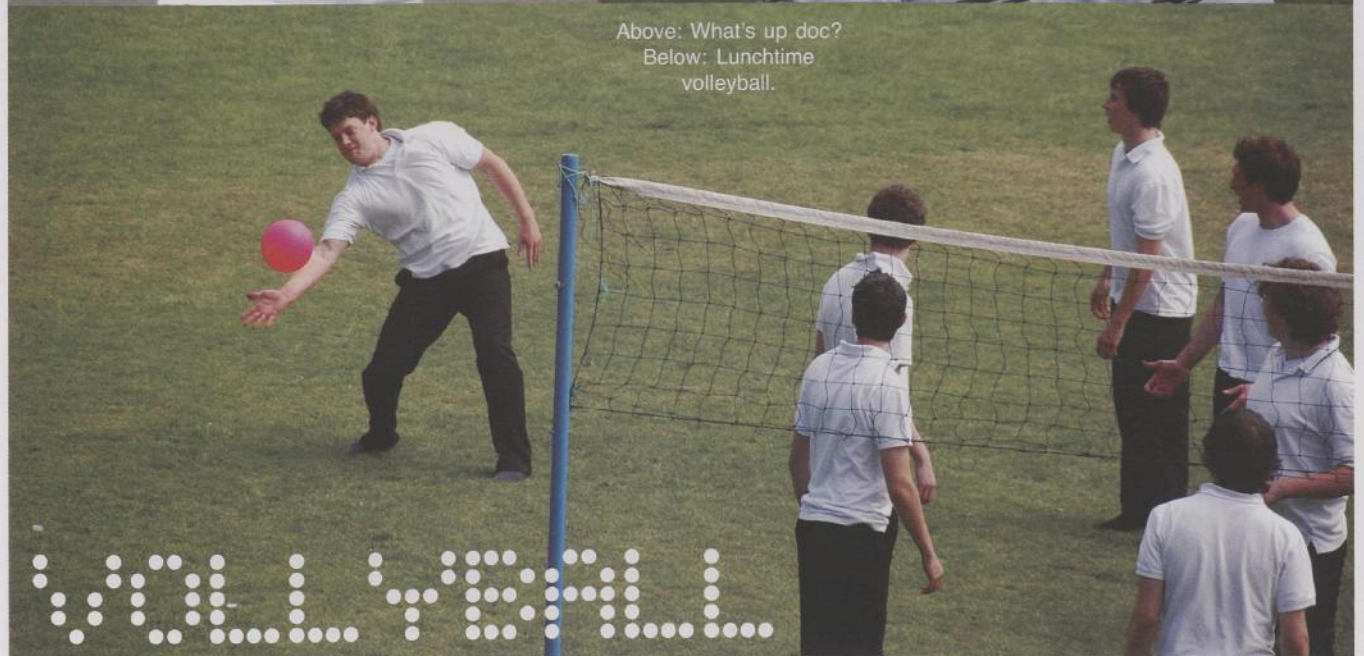




Above left: Isobel Scally: next stop Table Tennis World Championship '08.
Above right: Niamh Sleator.
Left: Sam Horgan: Champ of the World... (well HSD '07).



Above: What's up doc?
Below: Lunchtime
volleyball.



ERASMIAN

SENIOR BOYS

This year's tennis team had a good season. We won our first three matches but were unlucky in losing our fourth match against a good Naas team. The team had an excellent season, and would like to thank Mr White for his support. I would also like to thank Mr McDonnell for coaching the team and all his support and effort during the season.

Richard Harrison, 5th Form

JUNIOR BOYS

This year we had an enjoyable tennis season, starting the season off with a tough away match away against Clongowes, which we marginally lost, 3-2. Our next match was against Castleknock, which unfortunately we lost 4-1. Our final match of the season was a loss against the very strong St Gerard's team. Regrettably this meant our season was over for this year, with a none-too successful streak. The team would like to thank all the players and subs and Mr White and Mr McDonnell for their time and effort.

Robbie McGuinness, 3rd Form

MINOR BOYS

This year's tennis team was quite promising. The team consisted of Max Drakeford, Richard Gough, Shane Connolly, Stephen Alexander, Jack Doyle, Cian Dowling Cullen, Conor Sexton, Peter Adye-Curran and myself. Unfortunately we got off to a bad start losing to Malahide and St Gerard's but we ended the year on a high beating Blackrock College. On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr McDonnell and Mr White for their help and support.

*Mark O'Kelly,
1st Form*

SENIOR GIRLS

The senior girls' tennis team played four league matches this year. The team members were Karen Meade, Tessa Meade, Katie Tallon, Clare Guy and myself. I would also like to thank Amy Jones, Louise Blakely and Susan McRann for filling in for our matches. We had a good group of schools in our section but unfortunately didn't manage a win until our last match against Holy Child Killiney. This meant we finished the season on a high. I would like to thank Ms Levis for bringing us to all of our matches. Good work girls!

*Annalise Murphy,
5th Form*

SENIOR BOYS



Back Row: Romano Fusciardi, Fionán Keenan, Daniel James, Paul O'Kelly.
Front Row: Jonathan Walker, Gareth Austen, Brian Twamley Levins, Mr S McDonnell.

JUNIOR BOYS



Back Row: Andrew Donovan, Luke Byrne, Niall O'Leary, Lorcan Ahern, Daniel Cooke, Bill O'Cleirigh, Guy Prendergast.
Front Row: Mr R White, Iain Irvine, Robbie McGuinness, Michael Adye-Curran, Daniel Connell, Mr S McDonnell.

MINOR BOYS



Back Row: Mr R White, Stephen Alexander, Conor Sexton, Richard Gough, Peter Adye-Curran, Mr S McDonnell.
Front Row: Jack Doyle, Mark O'Kelly, Max Drakeford, Shane Connolly, Cian Dowling Cullen.

JUNIOR A GIRLS

This season was relatively short but the fabulous weather gave us great enthusiasm. Unfortunately we lost our first match against Rathdown (lets not mention the score!) and our next match against Loreto Foxrock. However success followed when we won our last match against Loreto Dalkey. It was great fun and the whole team really enjoyed the season. We would like to thank Ms Levis and Ms Jones for coaching the team and organising the matches.

Zoë O'Regan,
4th Form

JUNIOR B GIRLS

It was a relatively short season for the Junior B tennis team, in which we played against Alexandra College, St Killian's and Kings Hospital. We showed that we have the potential to go on to greater things in school competitions in the future. The three teams consisted of myself, Joan Somers Donnelly, Emily Kinlan, Suzanne O'Connor, Ali Meeke, Aisling Naylor and subs Lisa Meehan and Tess McCann. All teams played well and enjoyed the competitive spirit of the matches we played. I would like to thank Ms Levis and Ms Jones for their coaching and for organizing the matches. Well done to everybody!

Linda Silke, 4th Form

MINOR B GIRLS

This summer I was captain of the Minor B tennis team. My partner was Mollie-Kate Richardson and the other doubles partners were Megan Rayner & Ella Scanlon, and Aislinn Twamley Levins & Emily Dunleavy. Our two subs were Clodagh Sleator & Sarah Quirke. We went into our first match feeling nervous and unfortunately a better team beat us, but it was still a lovely day out!

Our second match was away against Sancta Maria and this time we were all determined to win. Mollie was unable to play and so Clodagh stepped in. It was a very close and exciting match. Fortunately we all won and came out of it feeling delighted! Our third and final match was at home against Holy Child Killiney. We were all feeling very positive after our win the day before. Clodagh played for the unavailable Ella. We all put up a very good fight and the matches were very close but unfortunately Emily and Megan were the only pair to win. Playing for the Minor B team was a very enjoyable experience and I would like to thank our coaches for all their help.

Ellen Carney, 2nd Form

SENIOR GIRLS



Back Row: Ms D Levis, Karen Meade, Annalise Murphy.
Front Row: Susan McRann, Tessa Meade, Clare Guy.
Missing: Katie Tallon.

JUNIOR A GIRLS



Back Row: Ms S Jones, Susan McRann, Aimee Jones O'Connor.
Front Row: Amy Jones, Zoe O'Regan, Lauren McGarry, Eve Roseingrave.

JUNIOR B GIRLS



Back Row: Suzanne O'Connor, Emily Kinlan, Alison Meeke.
Front Row: Aisling Naylor, Lisa Meehan, Linda Silke, Ms S Jones.

MINOR A GIRLS



Back Row: Mr C Flynn, Sophie Collins, Rebecca Garland, Jessie Meeke, Jenifer Whelan.
Front Row: Maeve Daly, Jennifer Rynne, Lauren Walsh, Alanna Kavanagh.

MINOR B GIRLS



Back Row: Aislinn Twamley Levins, Megan Rayner, Clodagh Sleator, Emily Dunleavy, Ms D Lewis.
Front Row: Ella Scanlan, Mollie-Kate Richardson, Ellen Carney, Sarah Quirke.

SCHOOL TROPHY WINNERS 05-06

ATHLETICS

Belgrave
200 Metres - Senior Girls
Ciara Butler

Cornick
400 Metres - Senior Boys
Graham Johnson

Cunningham
Points - Junior Boys
Liam MacNamara

Diocesan Staff
Points - Intermediate Girls
Megan Earls

Magill
100 Metres - Junior Boys
Liam MacNamara

Mathers
Points - Junior Girls
Megan Lynch

Moore
200 Metres - Senior Boys
Thomas Meredith

Pakenham Hamilton
High Jump - Junior Girls
Sophie Mitchell

Sloan
Long Jump - Senior Boys
Max Prendergast

Southam
800 Metres - Senior Boys
Max Prendergast

Taylor
100 Metres - Senior Boys
Robert Rath

Taylor
Points - Senior Girls
Holly Warren

Walker
1500 Metres - Senior Boys
Thomas Finn

War Memorial
Points - Senior Boys
Alan McMurray
Max Prendergast

Whyte
Field Events - Boys
Alan McMurray

BADMINTON

Evans
Mixed
Aidan Hunt, Toby Lyons

Factor
Junior Boys
Cian McDonagh

Hennessey
Senior Boys
Benn Satchwell

Junior Girls
Jessica Patterson

CANOEING

Broad Cup Form 1
Conor Broderick

Canoeist of the Year
Rowan Lacey

Junior Liffey Cup
Rowan Lacey

CRICKET

Davies
Second Eleven
Andrew Gray

Dawson
Form 2 - Boys
Mark Coffey

de Vere Shortt
Batting - Boys

Ciarán Collins

Hanly
Fielding - Boys
Benn Satchwell

HOCKEY

Neville Davin
Senior Boys
Sam Cogan, Luke McSharry

Diocesan
Minor Girls
Aimee Jones O'Connor

Karen Eppel
Sportmanship

Christine Boyle

Jean Scott - Junior Girls
Debbie Blair

Jean Scott - Senior Girls
Alison May

RUGBY

Dawson
Form 2
Mark Weston

de Vere Shortt
Player of the Year
Patrick O'Shea

Turner
Most Deserving Team
Colin Sheridan (capt.)

SOCCER

Shield
League
Colin Sheridan (capt.)

TABLE TENNIS

TENNIS

Evans
Stefan Slattery

TENNIS

Harcourt
Junior Boys
Robert McGuinness

Jagoe
Junior Girls
Amy Jones

Smith
Senior Girls
Kate Lyons

Cricket - Boys
Alan Cairns

Cricket - Girls
Amy Kenealy

Tennis - Boys
Seán O'Gorman

Tennis - Girls
Jessie Elliott

Athletics - Boys
Robert Rath

Athletics - Girls
Holly Warren

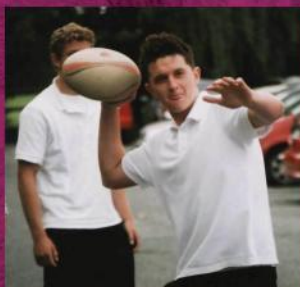
Basketball - Boys
Karl Browne

Basketball - Girls
Úna Ní Éigeartaigh

Hockey - Boys
Luke McSharry

Hockey - Girls
Nicci Daly

Rugby
Patrick O'Shea



CAPTAINS

05-06

High School Parents' Association

Committee for 2006-2007

Alan Browning, Peter Cabena, Caroline Cantan, Ken Farrell (Hon. Treasurer,) Eamon Flaherty, Niamh Harty (President,) Angela Harding, Brian Hunt (Hon. Secretary,) Ian MacKay, Eileen O'Driscoll, Bernie Quirke

The High School Parents' Association Committee was very busy in the 2006-2007 session. As in previous years, the Association

- assisted in the running of the Parent-Teacher meetings
- organised the Mock Interviews for fifth year students together with Thelma Jones
- arranged the food for the annual Staff vs Parents cricket match (with a fantastic spread of desserts and cheeses donated this year by The Butler's Pantry, Rathgar)
- organised a private party in Old Wesley for the sixth years on their graduation night
- arranged for tickets and buses to a function in Bondi on the night on which the Junior Certificate results were published
- organised a talk for parents on Internet Safety. The talk was given by Paul Durrant of the Internet Advisory Board, and was very much appreciated by the many parents who attended

In addition to the above events, the Committee also had the following representatives on school committees:

- Finance Committee – Ken Farrell
- Grounds and Property Committee – Eamon Flaherty
- Education Committee – Caroline Cantan
- Sports Committee – Eileen O'Driscoll
- Board of Governors and Management Committee – Niamh Harty and Ken Farrell
- National Association of COMPASS (Co-operation of Minority Religions and Protestant Parent Association (Post Primary) – Brian Hunt

These committees meet several times during the school year and provide a very useful opportunity for the Parents' Association to make a contribution to school life.

The committee also held an informal meeting with the Principal, Brian Duffy, to discuss a broad range of topics, including the function of the Parents' Association, sports policy, option choices for fourth years, and computers in the school curriculum. We would like to thank Brian for his willingness to meet and talk to the committee.

This year, it was decided that the ad-hoc system of sponsorship of students which the Parents' Association has operated for many years should be formalised. We produced a document which outlines the way in which applications for sponsorship may be made. Examples of the types of activities which would be eligible include representation at provincial or national level in sporting or cultural events. The committee would like to encourage students to avail of this scheme and the document will be available on the website.

The Parents' Association sponsors a number

of prizes at Prize-giving and Sports Day. This year, the committee decided to provide a new Girls' cup at Sports Day.

I would like to give a special mention to Caroline Cantan and Ian McKay who have now completed the maximum four years on the committee. Both of them contributed hugely and they will be greatly missed.

It is very important that the committee should represent the parents of children from all years in the High School. Therefore, I would like to encourage all parents, but specially those who are new to the school, to attend the Parents' Association AGM. Anyone who would be interested in sitting on the committee should contact the Parents' Association on hsdparentsassociation@hotmail.com.

Niamh Harty, President HSPA



Above: Staff versus Parents Cricket Match.



Above: Naomi Cooper, Peter Cox and Karina McConnell performing in assembly.

Past Pupils Union Report

Our year in office as Joint Presidents of The High School and Diocesan Past Pupils Union was a very enjoyable and eventful term. It has been a great honour and privilege for us both to serve this past year, representing our members at both our own events, and those of other Past Pupils Organisations.

The PPU AGM is held in May each year and that is when our year started. Our first PPU event was the Mid Summer BBQ, which has been held in the School for the last couple of years around Mid Summers Day. This event is now firmly established on our calendar of events with another one held on 21st June this year. There are some photos attached to this page which were taken at both last years and this years event, where we have found that rain or shine the night is a great success (with the option to hold the event successfully indoors in the Cricket Pavilion, should the weather not be in our favour!). It's a night enjoyed by both sexes who attended the School to get together and enjoy great food, wine with a bit of light entertainment – partners are also welcome!

The Annual Golf Outing was held in the Grange Golf Club last September where 50 people played and enjoyed good golf & weather followed by a very enjoyable meal in the clubhouse, but would love to see some ladies teams participating in future outings.

In October we attended the School Prize Distribution when we presented the Jean Scott Trophy and The Old Boys Cup. These particular prizes are awarded to the boy and girl in 6th Form who are judged by their peers to have contributed most to the school during their time in the School.

We also participated in some Carol Singing in December with a group of us entertaining the residents of Orwell Nursing Home.

The Men held their annual dinner at the end of January. We had a unique situation with the two guest speakers being themselves former pupils of High School. Charles Richards (Class of



1973) was most witty in proposing the toast to the guests and Kingsley Aikins (Class of 1969) who has recently returned from abroad was very entertaining with his stories and anecdotes.

We attended the Annual Sports Service in the Christ Church Taney in March of this year and Mary Davis; CEO of Special Olympics Ireland gave the main address. This is a lovely annual service dedicated to sport in the Country and would encourage people to attend.

The Ladies then held their Annual Dinner in April in the beautiful setting of The Royal St George Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire. There are some photos also attached to this page which were taken on the night and where our guest speaker (like the Men's Dinner) was a former pupil from Diocesan, Gina Quin. Gina attended Diocesan from 1969-1973 and currently holds the position of Chief Executive of the Chamber of Commerce.

We returned to the School before the exams started and spoke with the year's school leavers to let them know there is an active Past Pupils Union encouraging them to join.

On 18th September 2004 the PPU held a very successful 30 year reunion event in the Red Cow Inn. On the success of this event we shall be holding a similar informal evening in Old Wesley Rugby Club on Saturday 10th November 2007 (see details on page 131). For more information on this and other PPU events please log on to the School website, clicking on the Past Pupil Union pages. We are concentrating on updating our database and would encourage as many past pupils to let us know their contact details. We are a very active PPU and details of current events are available on the website.

It has been a great honour to be the Joint Presidents of The High School and Diocesan Past Pupils Union. We are very fortunate to have a hard working committee and we wish them and the new Joint Presidents, Wayne Sheridan and Carole Bardon every success in their year of office.



Avril Poff
Brian Priestman
Joint Presidents 2006/07

Left: Jane Thompson, Adrian Thompson, and Avril Poff.



Above: Heather Maher, Janet Holmes, Vivienne Pigott, and Patricia Guard.
Above right: Alison Hunt and Carole Bardon.



Top: Martin Ridgeway, Avril Browning, and Alan Browning.
Above: Andrew Baird and Ray Walker.

Top: Joan Love, Linda O'Connor, and Mary O'Brien.
Above: Colin Day, Willie Campbell, and Sally Campbell.
Right: Ros Campbell, Dave Garrett, Dave Singleton, and Joan Love.





Above: Judith Wilkinson, John Lundberg, Daphne Bell, and Carole Walsh.



Above: Barbara Dagg, Alison Hunt, and Barbara Strong.



Above: Helen Sheridan, Janet Day, and Yvonne Traynor.
Below: Wayne Sheridan, Carole Bardon, Janet Day, Sandra Byrne, Colin Day, Willie Campbell, Sally Campbell.



Above: Janet McCracken and Saoirse Doheny.
Below: John Gillis and Mark Chambers.



Below: Former pupils, Claudine Murphy and Katie Hamilton, at a recent TCD Sports Scholarship Awards ceremony at which Claudine was awarded a Sports Scholarship in Sailing.

Both Claudine and Katie received commemorative plaques as members of the successful DU Sailing Club team, which represented Ireland at the 26th Student Yachting World Cup in Lorient this year. They earned their place at this competition earlier in 2006, by being the 1st ranked Irish College in the interspers team racing circuit. The team won the prestigious Yachting World Cup for Ireland for the first time, in a closely fought contest by defeating 12 teams from 10 Countries from Europe, Japan and the USA.



Above: The winners of Trinity College Entrance Exhibitions, 2006.

Ladies Annual Dinner



Top: Gina Quin and Patricia Graham.
Above: Carole Bardon and Alison Hunt.
Below: Sally Walker (ASU) and Avril Poff.
Bottom: Pauline Baldwin, Ann Walsh, and Mairead Ardill.



Above: Vivienne Pigott, Pam Riemersma, Ruth Warner, Daphne Bell, Heather Maher, Jean Wall, Jennifer Message, Denise Deane, and Sandra Watkins.
Below: Audrey Ludgate, Hilary Wright, Daphne Bell, Patricia Guard, Sandra Watkins, Pam Riemersma, and Heather Maher.



Left: Pauline Baldwin, Gillian Carson, and Breda Murtagh.



Left: Dorothea Sawyer, and Eileen Sargeant.



Below: Alison May (Head Girl HSD), and Niamh Harty (HSD Parents Association).

THE HIGH SCHOOL & DIOCESAN PAST PUPILS UNION PAST PUPILS REUNION

Come along and meet 'old' school friends in an informal atmosphere!

Why not use this event as an opportunity to get a gang of guys & girls together from your year.

Food...Wine...Music
Dress Code - Casual

Date

Saturday 10th November 2007

Venue

Old Wesley Rugby Club
Donnybrook, Dublin 4

Time

8.00 pm 'till late

For further information
please check
the Past Pupils link on
The High School website -
www.highschoolublin.com



or contact:

Carole Bardon - 086-2301232

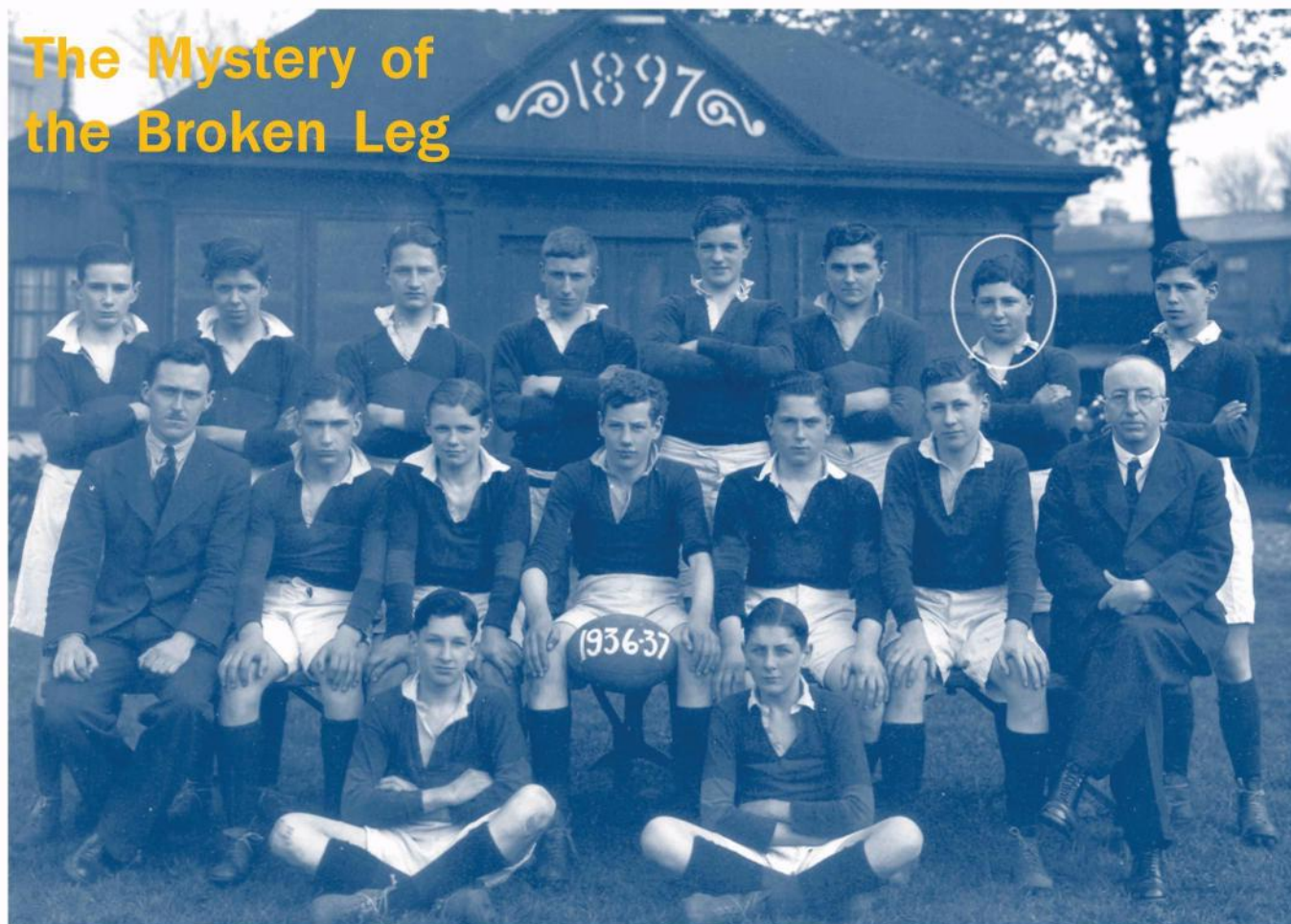
Avril Poff - 085-7057943

(avrilpoff@hotmail.com)

Wayne Sheridan - 087-2498859

(sheridangang@eircom.net)

The Mystery of the Broken Leg



I am now 85 years of ages. In 1939 I played on the High School Senior Cup Team. One Wednesday we had a match against Kilkenny College and we took the train from King's Bridge Station, now known as Heuston Station, to Kilkenny. On arrival there to meet us on the platform were our 15 opponents, each one of them being not less than six foot tall, wearing school boys' caps, giant-like boys. None of our team exceeded 5'9" in height. I was 5'6". We went to the college, had light refreshments, and onto the rugby pitch to play. I was a forward. The game developed well. Suddenly thundering down the wing towards me came one of my opponents. I immediately dived and tackled him but instead of me stopping him he brought me down and he continued to rush along the pitch. I lay on the ground. I cannot now recollect for how many seconds or minutes but I had the most terrible and horrific pain in my left knee and leg. Ultimately, I got up and resumed play. I played without interruption every match, every week for the balance of my student days in High School, including training Mondays and Thursdays. My physical life continued smoothly.

Some 30 years later in the late 1960's I was cycling across Capel Street Bridge when I was knocked down. On being admitted to hospital my legs were x-rayed and the doctor said to me, "Mr Siev, when did you break your left leg?" I replied "Doctor, I never broke my left leg." The doctor responded, "you have an old, a very old healed fracture in your left leg. When did you break it?" I replied, again denying all knowledge "I never broke my left leg." The doctor asked me no further questions. He must have assumed I was an out-and-out liar and that I had something to conceal.

On discharge from hospital later that day, my mind

Above: **The High School Junior Cup Team, 1936-37**
Back Row: GT Moore, AW Reynolds, LC Poll, FC Burge, GH Priestman, KH Long, AS Siev, EV Sutton.
Middle Row: Mr JA Storey AS Weir, J Smyth, DA Orr (Capt.), JN Allen, BF Rooney, Mr J Bennett (Headmaster).
Front Row: AG Drake RJ Beattie.

puzzled and queried: How could the doctor have asked me such a question? I never broke my left leg. I never suffered from any inability. I never had any incapacity in walking, and for some strange reason, I never paid attention to a small bone protruding from just below my kneecap. I was completely puzzled and perplexed. That night I went to bed and on awakening the following morning I suddenly remembered without being prompted the incident of over 30 years earlier on the rugby pitch of Kilkenny College. I have remembered it and see it ever since that morning in the late 1960's.

I subsequently sought information from a doctor, as to what he considered had occurred and he believed that I had broken the upper third medial or inner side of the left tibia. Good Gracious! What would my late parents have said, had I returned home that day in 1939 from Kilkenny, with my leg in a plaster? Ignorant of my injury and with no discomfort, I continued playing rugby until I was 32 before deciding that "Enough was Enough". There might not be another opportunity for a "Second Secret Injury."

For some extraordinary reason I was not incapacitated under any circumstances and I continued to play rugby and engage in other sport activities until I was 32. Thank goodness I don't suffer any pain from my former broken leg.

Asher Siev
(HSD 1934-1939)



Right: A Siev from the Senior Cup Team photograph 1938-39.

ARCHIVES

Archiving continues as ever with many of the school archive boxes from recent Headmasters and Registrars now catalogued. Other staff boxes will now be catalogued as well as the updating of the Past Pupils Database with information from an early address book.

Research requests and visiting scholars continue to be in contact with the Archive facility and over the past year these have included research into some of the following: PhD/MA research into Tipperary Grammar School; Eyre Square in Galway; other general queries include the former Harcourt Street premises; past pupils and staff from Tipperary, Galway and Ennis Grammar Schools; the Diocesan Secondary School for Girls; former Trust properties in Galway; several queries regarding former past pupils of HSD; scholarships to King's Hospital; and the purchase and donation of the Fagel Library donated to Trinity College which was acquired from a Dutch collector in the early 19th century. The Archive also contributed images of the former premises on Harcourt Street to R Todd Felton's book 'A Journey into Ireland's Literary Revival' which discussed WB Yeats at HSD. The book was published by Roaring Forties Press, Berkeley, California in May this year.

Continued correspondence with a relative of the former headmaster from the Ennis Grammar School (1776-1891) has resulted in the two adjacent photographs of students and staff from the school and the photograph of a headmaster - Rev Dr Luke White King. The Archive is most grateful to Verity Smith in tracking these images down during her research into her family history. Any similar material from High School history or Trust history is always welcome.

During the year two free workshops were given at the CityArts Archive based on Merrion Square as an introduction to Archives for people and institutions who have material they think may need archive attention. The Erasmus Smith Trust Archive serves as a great example for smaller potential archive facilities or those interested in how to attract researchers.

The archives sector has developed well over the past decade with now over 250 archives listed in the Directory of Irish Archives with a third level post-graduate course in UCD and several archive consultancy firms providing a wide range of professional services.

The workshop discussed how the process of archiving can come from several different needs, aspirations or requirements. These can be a desire to make records available to the general public or researchers; a legal requirement to provide access to material; or simply to preserve and protect a collection of records. The participants were introduced to the processes of sorting, grouping, listing, and cataloguing along with tips on the best suppliers of archival supplies.

Setting up an archive service is a long, complex and costly process. Certain legal requirements and the increased support for the



Above: School masters and pupils at Ennis Grammar School (Ennis College), circa 1872. The inscription 'DAD' in the top-middle of the photograph refers to Lucas King.

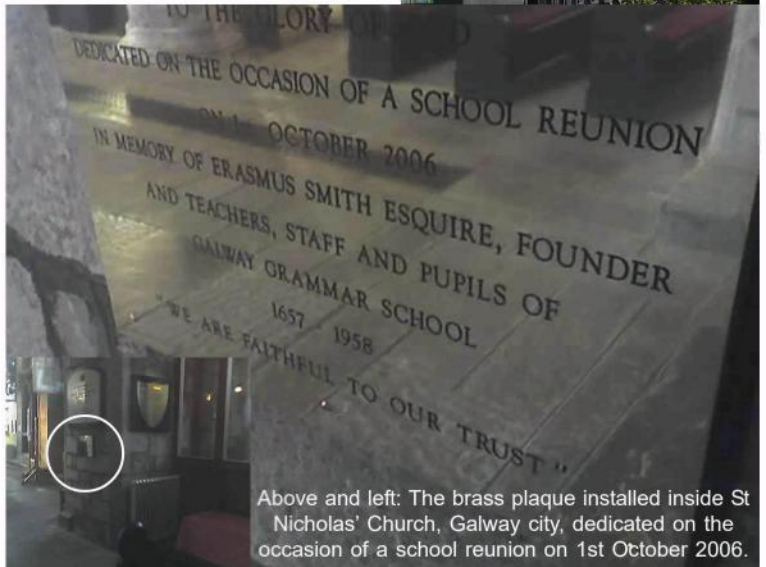
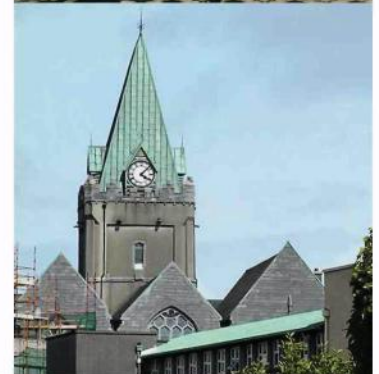
Right: Rev Dr Luke White King, Headmaster at Ennis College 1832 -1859. Great-great grandfather of Verity Smith who located these images through a relative.



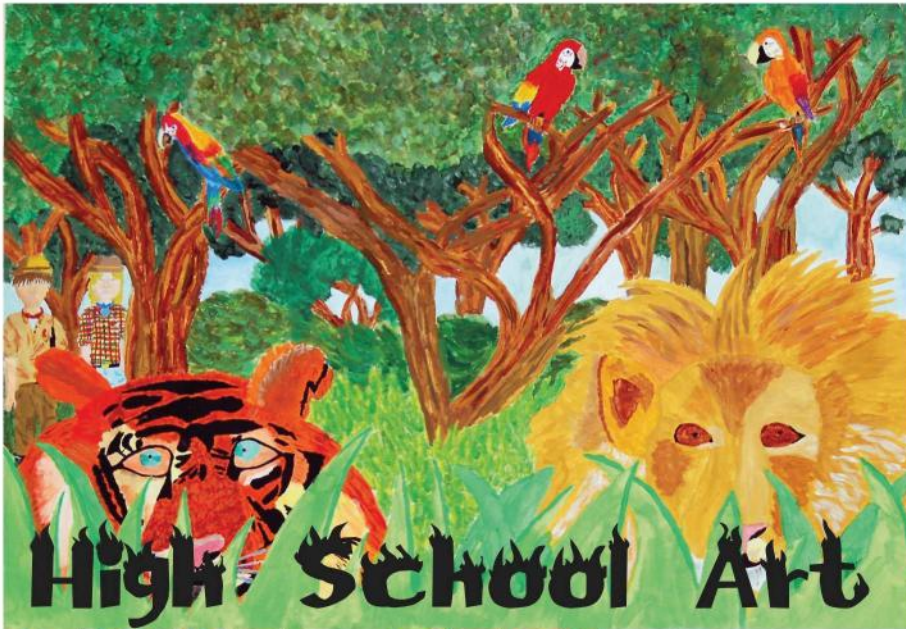
notion of archiving have meant that the term has become a buzzword. The workshop served to introduce the many issues and complexities of setting up an archive.

The continued interest in the Erasmus Smith Trust Archive from a wide range of researchers is encouraging. Future projects can only improve on this valuable resource for generations to come who need to know what happened before them.

Alan Phelan
Archivist



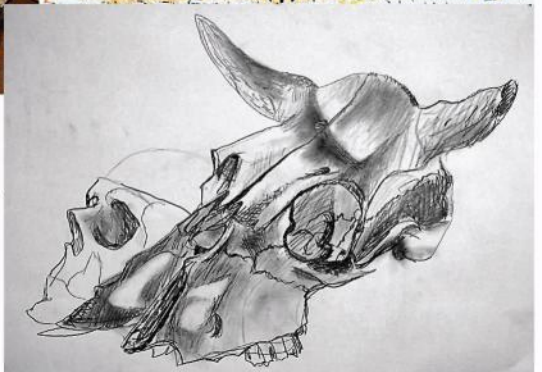
Above and left: The brass plaque installed inside St Nicholas' Church, Galway city, dedicated on the occasion of a school reunion on 1st October 2006.



Artworks by:
Above: Alison Meeke.
Above right and left: Bentley Allison.
Left: Rory Simms.
Below right: Damiano Fuscaldi.



Above: Hannah Leavy
Far left: Debbie Newman.
Left: Elizabeth Surgeon.
Right: Daniel Twomey.



Masks below
from the left:
Morwenna Gentile;
Daniel Clarke;
Lauren Wade;
Rachel Burke.



EDITORIAL TEAM 2007



Aisling Barry



Marcus Spray



Clare Guy



Jamie Comerford



Laura Cooley



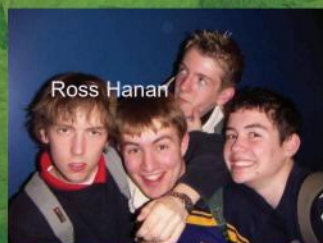
Sarah McDermott



Sian Cooley



Niamh Kenny



Ross Hanan



Sineád Nolan



Ruth Senior

Below: Blood, sweat
and old t-shirts!



Louise Blakely



Alice Wyse Jackson



Siobhán Margolis



SIGNATURES

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