

ATHLETICS

Last week our junior and intermediate Athletes travelled to Nenagh to take part in the Munster Athletics Indoor Competition. Congrats to Emma Grant, Niamh Lawlor, Nessa Towey and Casey Crous who won gold in the Munster relay competition while James Devaney, Jimmy Mullen, David Quinn, Jordan Collins were silver medalists in the Munster intermediate relay.

Congratulations to Jack Ryan, a 3rd year student, who on 10th March, came 18th out of 146 athletes in the junior boys All-Ireland Cross Country in Waterford Regional Sports Centre. Jack ran an amazing race in very poor conditions.

DR HARTY CUP

Our Lady's Harty Cup team were drawn to face St. John the Baptist from Hospital in the quarter –final after leading their group. Following a close contest which was played on a very heavy pitch the boys in maroon put their noses in front, deep in injury time to emerge one-point winners.

The semi-final saw Templemore pitted against Middleton CBS who had defeated Thurles CBS in the quarter –final. Our Lady's got off to a poor start and found themselves nine points in arrears after the opening ten minutes. To their credit they dominated the remaining twenty minutes and were only two points behind at half time. The second period was one Templemore will want to erase from their memories. Middleton dominated the half and came out comfortable winners bringing our Lady's Harty Cup campaign to a disappointing conclusion.

JUNIOR LADIES FOOTBALL

The Junior Ladies Football team played their Munster Semi-final on Thursday 22nd of February in Páirc Uí Chaoimh on the 4G AstroTurf. They were up against Youghal and came out on top with a win of 2-10 to 2-06. It was an impressive display of football from the girls who certainly deserved their place in the Munster final. After many disruptions with snow and unplayable pitches, the Munster final was set for Wednesday 14th of March on the 3G AstroTurf in Rathkeale. We were facing Presentation Castleisland in the final. The weather on the day was appalling with gale force winds and heavy rainfall. The girls played to the best of their ability in these testing conditions but unfortunately were not successful in securing a win. The girls showed great commitment to their team throughout this whole campaign and no doubt will be back again next year with the hopes of making it to the final and coming home with a win.

SPORTS AT OUR LADYS



BADMINTON

The U14 and U16 boys and girls school badminton competition took place in Our Lady's. The U14 boys team was comprised of first year students Cameron Flemming, Michael Delaney, Cormac Deegan and Paddy McCormack while on the U16 team were third year students, Paddy Hassett, Scott Pearson, Rafiq and Conor Cadell. Both teams played well on the day and came out runners-up in the competition.

Our U14 girls team was comprised of first year students, Avril Tangri, Norah Breslin, Sarah O'Brien and Niamh Egan. While the U16 team were second year students Kate Delaney, Niamh Lawlor, Chloe Nolan and Erin McMullen. Both teams made a strong effort but unfortunately they did not qualify for the next round.



BASKETBALL

On Saturday 13th of January our U16 girl's basketball team travelled to Castlerea, Co. Roscommon to take part in the All-Ireland basketball playoffs. The top team on the day qualified for the All-Ireland Semi Finals. Our Lady's won two out of the three games, beating St. Oliver's Drogheda 49-44 and Castlerea CS 17-14. Unfortunately, the girls lost their second game to St. Catherine's Killybegs. The girls displayed great skill, determination and spirit. We congratulate them on getting so far in the competition.



SPORTS AWARDS



Nenagh Guardian Sports Award—March 2017
honouring both Harty & Croke Cup victories



Roscrea Sports Awards
Our Lady's received an 'Outstanding Achievement Award'



Tipperary Athletics Star Awards
Overall Best Girls for their performance at the Munster Championships



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Cumarsáid

Welcome from the Principal

I am delighted to introduce the Easter edition of *Cumarsáid*. The newsletter provides a brief summary of the co-curricular and the extra-curricular programme which enhances the educational experience for students at Our Lady's. I acknowledge the work of teachers who give generously of their time and expertise for the benefit of students.

At the end of January, Catholic Schools Week was celebrated with reflections each morning and further exploration of the themes during religion classes. Wellbeing week provided a little time out from the busyness of school life. Students attended a number of presentations and took time to reflect on their own mental health and wellbeing. The highlight of the week was a visit from Fr. Mc Verry who shared with us his experience of working with homeless people and those marginalised in society.

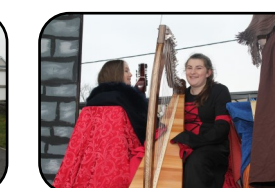
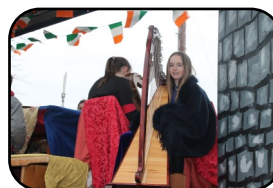
Bhí áthas orainn Seachtain na Gaeilge a cheiliúradh i mí Márta le ceolchoirm, cluichí agus tráth na gCeist chomh maith le cuairt ó "Caith Amach É" le haghaidh daltaí sa séú bhliain. Celebration of our tradition and culture continued when students represented Our Lady's with great pride at the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Templemore. We were delighted to be awarded first prize by the distinguished panel of judges on the day.

Transition Year students continue to enjoy the Chinese programme. Celebrations for the Chinese New Year and Kung Fu lessons formed part of the work this term. During the Easter period four students will represent Our Lady's on a cultural exchange programme to Shanghai. This project is sponsored by University College Cork and Shanghai University. The students will attend Chinese lessons in the morning and cultural events each afternoon.

The music department had a busy term which culminated in a most entertaining lunchtime concert at the World Academy of Music and Dance in the University of Limerick.

ST.PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

On 17th March students and staff braved the cold and took to the streets of Templemore to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. This year we celebrated 'Ancient Ireland'. Our Junior Ladies Football team led the entry carrying our school crest and flying with pride our school colours. They were followed by Pirate Queen Maeve, her lady in waiting along with Setanta and the legendary Cuchulainn. It didn't stop there, students from every year group donned their costumes, put on their dancing shoes, took out their musical instruments and celebrated our patron saint. We were thrilled to have been awarded 1st place for our float entitled Medieval Ireland. We are delighted that the work carried out by students and staff was recognised.



The programme spanned the genres from popular to traditional and extended to hit songs from recent musicals. Well done to all performers on the day; you were a credit to our school. In February "Glór" gave a wonderful performance at the All-Ireland semi-final of the Siansa Gael Linn competition. The group received great praise for lively performances at St. Patrick's Day celebrations earlier this month. In conclusion, I take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and enjoyable Easter break. Beannachtaí na Cásca oraibh go léir.

Patricia Higgins

JUNK KOUTURE

Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture is a national contest which encourages young designers to create striking couture designs and impressive works of wearable art from everyday junk that would normally find its way into the bin. 'Trashy with a Dash of Classy' was the brainstorm of Design Team Emma Grant, Naoise Barrett and Sorcha Fogarty. It is made from coloured bin bags and builder's wire. Our 'fantastic plastic' ensemble, modelled by Emma, won the hearts of the judges and was selected from 1,400 entries nationwide to go forward into the Junk Kouture Regional Final extravaganza on March 9th in University Concert Hall, Limerick. Our day in UCH was spent finalising dramatic hair and makeup glamour for the show, deciding on dance moves to the music and practising in those super high heels. In the evening Emma strutted her stuff on the catwalk under the scrutiny of a distinguished line-up of judges. Overall it was a fantastic day and we are so thankful to have gotten the chance to participate in such an amazing event.



UL CONCERT IN THE WORLD ACADEMY OF IRISH MUSIC AND DANCE

On Wednesday 15th Our Lady's had the privilege of performing at a lunchtime concert in the World Academy of Irish Music and Dance. A group of 50 students showcased what the Music Department at Our Lady's has grown to over the years. The audience were treated to a variety of styles of music beginning with our 'Glór' the Siansa group who performed a lively opening to a wonderful concert. They were joined by five super Irish dancers that displayed a variety of dances to their tune selection.

Cheyenne Stewart, Sinead Ryan & Niamh Kennedy then had us all tapping our feet to the lively song from Mamma Mia, "Super Trooper". The girls were joined by Marianna Arianna Parodi on drums who has just arrived to our school from Italy. Ben Collins was stunning in his performance of the classic "Empty Chairs & Empty Tables" from the renowned Les Misérables. While Adrienne Mullen entertained us to her version of "The Contender" with stunning guitar accompaniment. Our popular section was "Brothers" sung by Cheyenne Stewart & Niamh Kennedy. The audience were treated to such originality and harmonies that it would make your hair stand on your head. To complete the performance the audience were treated to a performance of "The World in Union" by our school choir. The choir displayed a very confident and powerful completion to our concert.



WELL BEING WEEK

Staff and students in Our Lady's enjoyed an action packed week to mark the annual 'Well Being' week. Numerous activities and presentations were organised to remind students of the importance of looking after our physical and mental health. Artwork was displayed throughout the school to highlight the main message of the week and some year groups enjoyed a presentation delivered by visiting speakers, including; Fr Peter Mc Verry and Seamus Hennessy an ambassador for Pieta House. Fresh smoothies were made and sold each break time, while staff and students worked together as part of a day long cycle challenge. The Transition Year YSI group known as 'Punching Positive' helped to organise much of the activities enjoyed by students during Well Being Week. From creating the 'Positive Tree' where students could leave one positive message to organising the cycle challenge in the school reception area. Well done on such a successful week.



Seamus Hennessy with 6th year students



Ms Patricia Higgins making a donation to the Fr Peter Mc Verry trust.



Fr Peter Mc Verry with a TY YSI group who donated toiletries & shoes to the homeless.



FIRST AID

On Thursday our Transition Year students had the opportunity to take part in a First Aid course with First Aid Consultants Ollie Hayes and John Boland. The students gained some very valuable lifesaving skills.



SPIKEBALL

This year TY girls were involved in a 6-week spike ball coaching programme. Spikeball is an adapted 4 v 4 player volleyball game that was introduced to Ireland in the last 3 years.

As part of the programme the girls were assigned to a local primary school where they used their skills to coach various groups of primary school pupils from St. Colmcille's NS, St. Joseph's NS, St. Mary's NS, and Castleiney NS. At the end of the course the girls will host a blitz for all the primary schools in Our Lady's gym.

TY FRENCH

In January all TY students went to The Source in Thurles to see an animated French film "Ma Vie de Courgette". It told the story of how a police officer and some new friends help an orphan adjust to life at a foster home. This film is full of charm and very appealing characters. It was certainly enjoyed by the students.



TY's receiving their Driver Theory Certs

TY GERMAN

Our TY German students along with their teacher Ms Emily Bergin have held a German club for pupils of 5th and 6th class from St. Colmcille's NS, St. Joseph's NS, Castleiney NS, Lismackin NS and Clonmore NS. The pupils are loving the introduction to the both the German and Chinese language and culture. Well done to all German TY students involved.



5TH YEAR ENGLISH

On Monday 22nd some of our 5th year English students travelled to 'The Watergate' in Kilkenny to see Shakespeare's 'MacBeth'. The show was very engaging and entertaining with lots of humour and audience interaction. A great day was enjoyed by all.



LEARNING TO LEARN

The Learning to Learn Committee have continued their work around study skills this term. Students from 2nd to 6th year have been given an opportunity to review their first term reports and again the pre exams to identify how they can improve in each subject. Students are encouraged to identify and learn from their mistakes. Goal setting and identifying specific areas of focus have been explored in an effort to help students to manage their own learning and to improve grades. Transition Year students have had a number of study skills classes. They have been introduced to the POKER study method and have spent some time exploring the theory of Multiple Intelligences. Identification of the different learning styles will enable students to identify what will work best for them in the future. As we approach the end of this term, 3rd and 6th year students are assisted with the preparation of study plans.



CAITH AMACH É

Ar an 12ú Márta rinne an séú bhliain ceardlann 'Caith Amach é' mar ullmhú don scrúdú béil. Ar dtús rinne na leids seo grinn bunaithe ar na fiche sraith pictiúir sa scrúdú. Bhí sé briomhar, barúil agus spreagúil, lán le stíleanna eagsúla dramaíochta. Bhí an cur i láthair briomhar lán le fuinneamh, agus cruthaithe sa chaoi go raibh sé oiriúnach do dhalta ar bith.



SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

Is féile idirnáisiunta Ghaeilge í Seachtain na Gaeilge. Tugann an fhéile deis do gach uile dhuine sa scoil seo sult a bhaint as an nGaeilge trí imeachtaí siamsúla agus spraoíula. I mbliana tá nasc threascúraclár idir an Ghaeilge agus an ceol agus ealaín. Ghlac na daltaí sa chéad agus an dara bliain páirt i gcómortas na bpostae. Bhí seanfhocail agus nathanna cainte timpeall na scoile, go hairithe sa halla sóisialta. Ins na ranganna bhí deis ag daltaí Gaeilge a fhoghlaim trí cluichí. Bhain said an taitneamh as na himeachtaí sin. Chomh maith le sin, chuir an rang ceol taispáintas talainne ar siúl i gceolchoirm ar Lá le Gaeilge. Bhí rinceoirí Ghaeilge, amhránaí sean-ós agus seinnteoirí tradisiúnta ag seinm. Bhí réimhse leathan siamsaíochta ar fáil den chéad scoth.



PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2017-2018

The Knights of St Columbanus is a very successful All Ireland Public Speaking Competition. This year Our Lady's Philosophical Society Coached by Ms. Tara Talbot and Ms. Natasha Keane took part in this esteemed competition. This was our first year to enter this competition. We had three teams that presented a different topic each. Team one was Rory Wilkinson, Niamh Hogan, Claire Quigley. While team two was Caoimhe Delaney, Sinead Ryan, John Buckley and team three was Jakub Staniewski, Joseph Boyle, Janos Varadi, Colm Lawlor. It was an excellent learning experience for students and Our Lady's Philosophical Society look forward to entering the competition in the coming years.



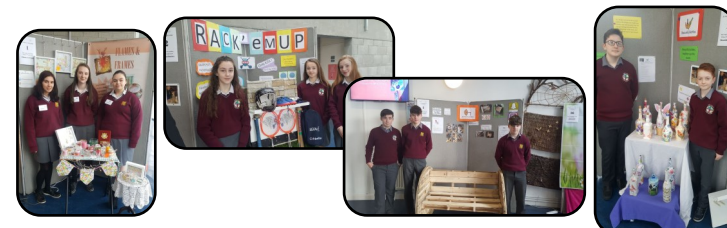
PARAIC KENNY

This term Paraic Kenny a former student of OLSS gave a presentation to 5th and 6th year chemistry students. Paraic a native of Templemore is now the Director of Gundersen Medical Foundation Kabara Cancer Research institute in University of Wisconsin. He has worked extensively in Breast Cancer research & presently skin cancer research. Paraic was delighted to return to his alma mater after 24 years. He was thrilled to see such great new labs and wonderful teachers who continue to nurture young minds. Indeed, his final words were regarding our smart and inquisitive students with such bright futures.



BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

After a busy term the enterprise activities in Our Lady's came to conclusion on Friday 9th March in LIT, Thurles at the Student Enterprise Awards. Our Lady's had a successful day with two entries taking away prizes. In the junior category Jonah Ryan & Liam O'Reilly with their company Beautiful Bottles won Best Stand. In the Intermediate category Tommy Martin, Conor Longe & Joseph Bourke of JETS Chairs won 'Best Product using Recyclable Materials'. Congratulations to all the other companies that competed, Tiletastic Coasters and Rack 'em Up in the junior category and Flames & Frames in the Senior category.



BIG ENTERPRISE EVENT

On February 26th the Big Enterprise Event commenced at Our Lady's. There was a range of talks and activities that students took part in. A massive thanks to all the businesses and guests that took the time to come and talk to our students and give them real life examples of business in actions. A special mention to John Lillis from BOI, David, Miriam and Bobby from Templetuohy Foods, Sinead Butler, Cathal Bourke from Bourke's Sports, Sue Anne O'Donnell LEO and Janette Fogarty RTB. Your contribution helped to make the Enterprise Event a huge success.

