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Cumarsáid

Newsletter December 2018



OUR LADY'S TEMPLEMORE

Welcome from the Principal

I am delighted to introduce the Christmas edition of *Cumarsáid*. Some of the highlights this term include the School Tour to Germany, Inclusion Week, the completion of Class Based Assessments (CBA's) in Second and Third Year and the continued implementation of the Learning to Learn programme. We congratulate students who attained Entrance Scholarships, Gold Gaisce Awards and Pope John Paul II Awards.

The extra-curricular programme has enhanced the school experience for students this term. Our Lady's was well represented at the Seinn Concert in Thurles last week and our Siansa Gael Linn competition entry has been submitted. Students have represented Our Lady's with pride on courts and pitches. The Junior Camogie team has secured a place in the Munster semi-final which will take place after Christmas. The Harty Cup team will play Middleton CBS in the quarter-final in January. The Junior Ladies Football team has secured a place in the quarter-final and the Senior Ladies Football team will contest the Munster semi-final after Christmas. Athletes from Our Lady's performed extremely well at the Tipperary Schools' Athletics Cross Country earlier this month. Students are also doing well in the UCC Philosophical Debating competition and preparations are underway for the Knights of St. Columbanus competition. Co-curricular activities in Science, Home Economics, Business, Religion, French, German and Chinese have also enriched the student experience.

As we approach the Christmas break, I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

Beannacht Dé oraibh go léir um Nollaig,

Patricia Higgins

TY GOES INTERNATIONAL



In 2019 Paddy Ryan, Shane Ryan, Aoife Shelly and May Farametz McLoughney along with Ms Mary Byrne and Ms Yvonne Meade will attend the Easter programme at Shanghai University.



In January 2019 fifteen TY students, Ms Aileen Cashman and Ms Therese Boland will travel to Kolkata in India as part of the Schools Immersion programme.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARDS

Congratulations to Niamh Hogan, Marie Ryan, Nicola Buggy, Bronagh Bergin, Shane Lowe, James McDonald and Claire Maher who received the Pope John Paul II Awards at a ceremony held in the Anner Hotel Thurles on Thursday, 8th November. Well done to you all on a wonderful achievement.



SHOE BOX APPEAL

First year students with a selection of the shoeboxes they collected for Team Hope in November.



SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Joseph Boyle and Áine Treacy who both received Entrance Scholarships to Third Level.

Joseph who is now studying Law and Politics in UCD was presented with the award on Wednesday, 14th November. Áine a student on the B.A in Education in Business Studies and Accounting Programme was awarded an Entrance Scholarship at Mary Immaculate College on Monday, 19th November. We wish both students continued success in the years ahead.



- **UPCOMING EVENTS:** Information Session - For Parents/Guardians of incoming First Years - Thursday, 7th March
Pre-Examinations - 4th February— 15th February Cognitive Ability Test (C.A.T) - 9th February



Open Night at Our Lady's



TRIP TO GERMANY

Forty-five pupils and seven teachers travelled from Our Lady's to Munich for five days during the October break. On arrival we travelled to Dachau and visited the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site where we got a guided tour, it was a very poignant and enlightening visit. From there we went to the Hofbrauhaus in Munich, which is an infamous Beerhall.

On the second day, we went to the Allianz Arena which is FC Bayern Munich's home grounds. It was a magnificent stadium and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. We then visited the Marienplatz which is the central square in Munich. We finished our night by going up the Olympic Tower to experience a beautiful view of the city at night.

On the third day, we travelled to the BMW Museum which was full of many fascinating cars. Afterwards we went to the Munich Documentation Centre where we had a very interesting tour on World War II. That evening we had great fun at a Bowling Alley in Munich.

The following day, we had a long trip to Austria where we visited the Obersalzberg Bunkers that Hitler used in World War II and the Berchtesgaden Salt Mines. This was the highlight of the trip, travelling down the slides at speed, to the lovely sound of Austrian music.

On our final day, we travelled to the Zugspitze Mountain which is the highest point of the German Alps, 2962m. We travelled to the top by train through the mountains and a cable



car. We had our final meal in a Gaststube in the beautiful town of Garmischpartenkirche. An experience of a lifetime! Es war eine wunderbare Erfahrung!

INCLUSION WEEK

Our Lady's celebrated Inclusion Week (12th – 16th November). The aim of the week was to increase awareness of the difficulties experienced by individuals and to encourage inclusion and participation for all.

We were delighted to welcome documentary maker Nicolas Ryan-Purcell. Sixth year students viewed the documentary 'This is Nicolas - Living with Autism'. It told the story of Nicholas Ryan-Purcell and his experience of life as an autistic person.

Fr. Joe Walshe visited the school to meet with first years. Fr. Joe encouraged students to do their best in all aspects of their lives be it in the classroom, on the pitch or in the parish. Kathleen Carroll (Visiting teacher for the Blind) also delivered awareness training to second year students. During the sessions students wore sleep shades and carried out simple tasks without the aid of their sight. This stimulated rich student discussion on the subject of blindness.

We welcomed Adam Harris, the founder and CEO of 'AS I Am' who met with second, third, transition year and fifth year students. His presentation provided students with a greater awareness of the challenges faced by individuals diagnosed with autism. Also third and sixth year students were very fortunate to hear Peter Ryan's story. He described his incredible journey from his time playing with the Tipperary Minor Hurling team to his life as a Paralympian cyclist. He described the highs and lows which he has faced and the lessons which he learned along the way. His message was simple; no human being is perfect, everybody has challenges and that it is how we overcome these challenges that teaches us to deal with life's problems.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

SIANSA

Siansa is one of the country's most prestigious competitions for young traditional Irish music and singing groups. Organised by Gael Linn with support from RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta and Irish Music Magazine, Siansa provides a platform for talented teenage groups who aim to emulate groups such as Téada, Altan, Danú, Dervish etc. While Siansa is essentially a competition, the groups are helped and encouraged along the way by highly regarded traditional musicians. The event is run entirely through the medium of Irish.



SEINN

"Seinn Cashel and Emly" is a project promoting and encouraging liturgical music in secondary schools and on Wednesday, 5th December, 600 students from ten schools raised their voices and their hands in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Thurles at 7.30 pm.

This was the third time ever that such an event was staged in the Archdiocese, and it builds upon the success of similar ventures, including Emmanuel in Dublin and Seinn in Killaloe and Limerick Diocese. The schools involved cover the breadth of the diocese while Our Lady's attended with a choir of over 35 students. A great night of song was enjoyed by all.



CORK POPS ORCHESTRA

All 1st & 2nd year music students attended the Cork Pops Orchestra in UL this year in November. These concerts are presented in association with CIT, Cork City Council and RTÉ Lyric FM. The programme is curriculum-based. The concert focuses on active and attentive listening, encourages audience participation, and is a multi-media experience. Classroom resources are provided to participating schools. Students were introduced to the world of "Rhythm" and famous pieces from the world of film and television were performed.



SPORT AT OUR LADY'S

JUNIOR CAMOGIE

Well done to Our Lady's Junior Camogie team who had a great win over Carignavor Cork in the Munster quarter-final. They now progress to the Munster semi-final.



BASKETBALL

The Cadet Basketball team enjoyed mixed success with a close win in the quarter-final over the Presentation Ballingarry. The final score was 62-61. This saw them qualify for the semi-final against Tullamore College where they lost to a stronger side. Unfortunately, the Senior Team did not progress to the knockout stages but thoroughly enjoyed the competition. A huge thank you to their coach Lorraine McGinley.



COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to our students who took part in the County Cross Country event which was held in Thurles Crokes on Tuesday, 27th November. Congratulations to Ciara Kennedy, Keisha McCabe, and Ciara Ryan who were 4th in the overall Team in Tipperary Cross Country. Congratulations to Marty Váradi, David Quinn, Tommy Martin, Fionn Kavanagh who were awarded 2nd in the overall team in the Intermediate section.



DR HARTY CUP

Our Harty Cup team has qualified for the last eight of the competition. En route to the quarter-final they played John the Baptist, Hospital, Blackwater CS and Lismore. The quarter-final is scheduled to take place in the New Year.



LADIES FOOTBALL

Our Junior Ladies Football team has advanced to the quarter-final. They will play Pobalscoil na Tríonóide Youghal, in the New Year. The team had fantastic victories over Loreto Fermoy (4-17 to 0-6), Ursuline Thurles (8-10 to 0-10) and Loreto Clonmel (6-18 to 0-2). The Senior Ladies football team comprehensively won all their group matches. They progressed to a quarter-final where they enjoyed a great win over Coláiste na Toirbhirte (Presentation College, Bandon) with a final score Our Lady's 4-9 to 2-7. They have secured a place in the Munster semi-final. The very best of luck to the both juniors and senior teams as they progress in their competitions.



Junior Ladies Football



Senior Ladies Football

FIRST YEAR CHRISTMAS TRIP

Wednesday, 12th December saw first year students travel en masse to Dunmore Caves and Kilkenny on Ice. The group were accompanied by their tutors, year head and most importantly by their fifth year Cairde. The Cairdeas group were fantastic, they helped to ensure all our students had a great time, bonds between the first years and these, their fifth year mentors, were strengthened as skates were fastened and bruises nursed. The prowess of many of our students on the ice was remarkable, their tutors, not so much. A wonderful festive experience was enjoyed by all.

TRANSITION YEAR

SCHOOLS DIGITAL CHAMPION

On Tuesday, 6th December seven TY students (Aisling Meehan, Aoife Devlin, Mireia Chambó Domingo, Kathleen Quinlan, Ines Torres, Carmen Negrin and Brid Ryan) were very fortunate to take part in the Schools Digital Champion training day. The group had the opportunity to take part in workshops which included the following: Communications and Presentation skills, Principles of good Web Design, App Development and Video Editing.



ZEMINAR

Transition year students enjoyed a great day out at Zeminar in the RDS on Wednesday, 14th November. Zeminar helps to introduce young people to some of the best and most innovative organisations in Ireland. Throughout the day students participated in workshops and attended lectures with influential speakers including Jack Kavanagh. The speakers showed commitment to the development and well-being of our young people and the motto for the day was "Be yourself - everyone else is already taken" *Oscar Wilde*.



COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

Comhairle na NÓg is a youth council which gives young people a voice in the community. This year the AGM was held at the Anner Hotel on Thursday, 25th October. Sarah O' Sullivan, Sarah Holly and Anna Ryan attended the AGM for Our Lady's. The groups discussed a range of topics such as Mental Health, Diet, Sexual Orientation, Social Inclusion and Body Image. In the afternoon an election took place & 20 students were elected from different constituencies. Sarah O' Sullivan was delighted to be elected as a Comhairle member. She will continue to represent both her school and community at further meetings and training days.



GERMAN AT OUR LADY'S

A wonderful celebration of German Culture took place at Our Lady's this week, when TY German students together with 2nd year students of German organised the Annual Weihnachtsmarkt ie Christmas Market. With festive German Carols and themed outfits worn by TY students, the Apfelstrudel and Sachertorte tasted even better. Students also loved the German Wurst and Bratkartoffeln. All first and second years really enjoyed having their Photos taken with Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus.



FRANÇAIS – L'ÉCOLE PRIMAIRE

Since September, two groups of TY French students went to local primary schools to introduce 5th and 6th class pupils to the French language, traditions and culture. Ms. Griffin's class went to St. Colmcille's and Ms. Harding's class worked with pupils in St. Joseph's. Each week they prepared PowerPoint presentations covering different topics such as French cuisine, French fashion, le Noël en France and French songs. The pupils had the opportunity to use the language as much as possible while also being introduced to French culture and tradition. The pupils took on the task of researching famous French monuments and preparing projects which were displayed on Open Night. We hope that this gave pupils some basic knowledge of the language.



GERMAN CLUB

Commences in Room G26 on Wednesday, 23rd January 2019 from 4 pm to 4.50 pm. 5th and 6th class pupils are welcome to attend.



PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

