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Cumarsáid

Newsletter December 2019



OUR LADY'S TEMPLEMORE

Welcome from the Principal

I am delighted to introduce the Christmas edition of *Cumarsáid*. We enjoyed a busy and productive term at Our Lady's with many successes and achievements to report. We take pride in the success of our Leaving Certificate class of 2019 and we extend special congratulations to recipients of Entrance Scholarships to Third Level Colleges: Conor Ryan (UCD), and Eva Rush (Trinity College) and Brian Gleeson (University of Limerick). We also offer our congratulations to Aisling Meehan, Anna Ryan and Erica Bourke who received Pope John Paul II Awards from Archbishop O Reilly in November. An *Evaluation of Provision for Students with Additional and Special Educational Needs* was conducted by inspectors from the DES in early October. The Board of Management welcomes the report and in particular, the observations relating to high quality learner outcomes and learner experiences at Our Lady's. The Board acknowledges the very positive reinforcement by the inspectors of the "very good and established structures in place to support the effective inclusion of all students". The Board is pleased that the inspectors noted that the school has in place "a very effective, highly-skilled and experienced core team of Special Education Teachers". The full report will be published on the DES website in the New Year. In November two teachers travelled to Kohfidish (Austria) to participate in an Erasmus Programme with four other European schools. This is a prestigious programme which attracts significant EU funding. The duration of the project is two years and the aim of the project is to build up cultural and educational links between teachers and

students throughout Europe. The focus of our project is teacher collaboration based on the flipped classroom methodology. The extensive extra-curricular programme continued unabated this term. The music department was well represented at the Seinn Concert in Thurles last week and our Siansa Gael Linn competition entry has been submitted. Sporting achievements this term include the Junior Ladies Footballers securing a place in the Munster semi-final, the Harty Cup team securing a place in the quarter-final, the Intermediate Camogie team securing a place in the Munster semi-final, Cadet and Senior Basketball teams qualifying for the All-Ireland playoffs as well as gold and silver medal winners in the county badminton championships and Tipperary Schools' Athletics Cross Country. Co-curricular activities in Science, Home Economics, Business, Religion, French, German and Chinese have also enriched the student experience. Success has also been achieved in the area of debating with three teams representing Our Lady's in the Munster Schools' Debating competition organised by the Philosophical Society in UCC.

As we enter the season of Christmas, I take this opportunity to thank students, parents/guardians and staff members for their contribution to Our Lady's this term. I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Beannacht Dé oraibh um Nollaig.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARDS

Congratulations to Anna Ryan, Erica Bourke, Aisling Meehan, Gráinne Deegan, Clodagh Bergin, Ciara Dunne, Róisín Keyes, Enda Ryan and James Maher who received the Pope John Paul II Awards at a ceremony held in the Anner Hotel Thurles on Thursday, 21 November. Well done to you all on a wonderful achievement.



SHOE BOX APPEAL

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



SCHOLARSHIPS

76% of students in the Leaving Certificate class of 2019 transferred successfully to third level education with the remainder of students taking up apprenticeships, undertaking PLC courses and entering into the world of work. We wish students well as they pursue their chosen courses and careers. We extend our congratulations to students who were awarded Entrance Scholarships this year. Well done to Conor Ryan who was presented with an Entrance Scholarship in the O Reilly Hall, UCD on Wednesday, 13th November. Congratulations to Eva Rush who was awarded an Entrance Exhibition Award in Trinity College Dublin on Tuesday, 19th November. Conor and



Eva are both studying physiotherapy. Congratulations to Brian Gleeson who was presented with an Entrance Scholarship at University of Limerick on 2nd December. Brian is studying Biological and Chemical Science.



• UPCOMING EVENTS:

Cognitive Ability Test (C.A.T) for Incoming First Years Saturday, 8th February 2020

Pre- Examinations - 4th February— 15th February 2020



Open Night At Our Lady's

SCIENCE IN OUR LADY'S

Science Week

Science Week 2019 was action packed. This year the science department at Our Lady's took on the theme of climate change. Our students took part in a variety of activities. First Year students created posters on Climate Change which are on display outside our science laboratories. First and second year students attended a science quiz in the social area, with prizes given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All 5th Yr Biology students watched a documentary on the potential effects of climate change on life in Ireland in 2050.



Science Club

In the first term, Mr Dáire Quinn, established our new Science Club. The purpose of the club is to give students a safe environment to learn, explore and discover the world of science. It is also a great way to spark students interest in learning. Every Wednesday students from first, second and third year have carried out a variety of science activities, some of which include Elephant toothpaste, Fingerprinting, lighting students hands on fire, reacting metals with water and making lava lamps. A trip to the BT Young Scientist Competition in the RDS has been organised for Science Club members early in the New Year.



During the Easter Break Our Lady's will host a **Science Camp**. It will take place from 14th to 16th of April 2020 and is open to pupils from 3rd to 6th class. The Science Camp will provide exciting, engaging, experimental, interactive STEM experiences which will be professionally delivered in a Structured, Safe, Supervised and Educational environment. Our camp will help pupils discover how fun science can be!!

ERASMUS

The Erasmus coordinators, teachers, and principals meeting took place in Kohfidish in Austria in November. The schools involved are Peyo Yavorov school in Varna in Bulgaria, Anna Frank school in Agrigento in Sicily, Osonova Sola school in Krizevci Slovenia, Neue Mittelschule in Kofidisch in Austria and of course Our Lady's Templemore. This meeting was spent planning and preparing the next two years of student and teacher mobilities.



We had a most successful week planning and working on our theme of 'Flipped Classroom Teaching'. We met the mayor of the town and visited the local vineyards. We crossed into Hungary, where we saw the old border security towers still standing but no longer in use. We spent a day in Vienna where we enjoyed a visit to Stefansdom and we completed a long walking tour of Vienna, where we saw all the beautiful museums, government buildings, Spanischereitschule, and of course the Christmas markets which were just opening up. Many thanks to Irene Seier who is the main coordinator of the programme. We had such a tremendous week of participation, engagement, language and culture. We look forward to the next Erasmus meeting at Our Lady's Templemore in March 2020. We look forward to welcoming 20 students from the various countries together with teachers and principals too. In total about 32 visitors will arrive in Ireland next March on the Erasmus programme.

Hopefully long lasting links and friendships will be established across Europe.



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, Siansa provides a platform for talented teenage groups.

While siansa is essentially a competition, the groups are helped and encouraged along the way by highly regarded traditional musi-



SEINN

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

This event builds upon the success of similar ventures, including Emmanuel in Dublin and Seinn in Killaloe and Limerick diocese. A great night of song was enjoyed by all.



SPORT AT OUR LADY'S

JUNIOR CAMOGIE

Our Lady's Junior Camogie team were narrowly defeated in the Munster quarter-final by Carrigtwohill. The game finished on a scoreline of 4-11 to 3-9.



INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE

Well done to our intermediate camogie team who won their Munster league quarter final on Wednesday 4th of December, against St Caimin's on a score line of 3-9 to 3-8.

They are now through to the Munster league semi final which will take place early in the New Year.



BASKETBALL

The Cadet and Senior Basketball teams both played in the South East Finals in Waterford on Tuesday 3 December. Unfortunately both teams lost but still qualify for the All Ireland Stages of the competition which will be played in the New Year.



Cadet Team



Senior Team

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 26 November. Congratulations to Ella Fogarty who came 4th in the Minor girls 1200m individual. Congratulations to Eoin Boyle who came 3rd in the minor Boys 1200m and also to Rhys Loughnane who came 2nd in the senior boys 1200m.



DR HARTY CUP

Our Dr Harty Cup have qualified for the last eight of the competition. En route to the quarter final they played ÁrdScoil Rís, St. Francis College, Rochestown and Christian Brothers College, Cork. The quarter-final is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 8 January against Thurles CBS.



LADIES FOOTBALL

Our Junior Ladies Football team have qualified for a Munster semi-final against either St Mary's Mallow or Coláiste Mhuire Ennis. The team had fantastic victories over St Al's Carraigtwohill (4-15 to 4-10) in the quarter final of the Munster Junior C competition and look forward to the semi-final in early January.



Junior Ladies Football

The Senior Ladies Football team started the sporting year off with a very good win against Presentation Clonmel, they later received a walk-over from St. Anne's Tipp Town. This put the girls through to a Munster 1/4 final against Kanturk. On the day the girls competed with great heart and determination but were unfortunately defeated. Well done to all the girls who competed at this level.



Senior Ladies Football

BADMINTON

Congratulations to our boys and girls badminton teams who represented Our Lady's in the County competition. Well done to U14 team who won gold, to our U16 who won silver and to U19 team who also won silver. Congratulations to our girls U16 and U19 girls badminton teams who took part in league competitions this term. Well done to the U19 girls team who won silver medals on the day.



FIRST YEAR CHRISTMAS TRIP

Wednesday 11 December saw first year students travel en masse to Dunmore Caves and Kilkenny on Ice. The group was accompanied by their tutors and year head. Our students had a great time, bonds between the first years 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.



LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

This term, Helen Walshe, chairperson of the Roscrea SPCA gave a very informative talk to our LCA students on animal welfare.



Leaving Cert Applied Students got into the festive spirit when they went on their Christmas trip to 'Limerick on Ice' on Thursday 12 of December.

TRANSITION YEAR

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 the 12th of November. Three students from Our Lady's attended the meeting namely, Ailbhe Stapleton, Deirdre Bergin O'Keefe and Hannah Martin. Well done to the girls who were great ambassadors for the school and the community.



SIGN LANGUAGE

As part of the Transition Year module in Sign Language, Sargent Andrew Geary from Templemore Garda College gave a very interesting and informative presentation on I.S.L (Irish Sign Language) and access for the deaf. Students took part in role plays and practised their signing skills.



THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Transition year students enjoyed their visit to The Chocolate Garden of Ireland, in Tullow, Co Carlow on Wednesday, 27 November. It was a really informative day where students learned about the production of the many varieties of chocolate in the factory. They also learned some interesting facts relating to the amount of chocolate eaten around the world. Afterwards they had the opportunity to hand make and decorate their own chocolate.



GERMAN AT OUR LADY'S

A wonderful celebration of German Culture took place at Our Lady's this term when TY German students together with 2nd and 3rd year German students 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. Students really enjoyed having their Photos taken with Santa & Mrs. Claus.



ENTERPRISE CLUB

This year Our Lady's has four companies participating in our Enterprise Club. These companies had their products on display for Open Night. Each company put in a great effort with their products and represented themselves to a very high standard.

A special mention of congratulations to 'Made with Care', 'Draocht' and 'Printing Co.' who represented the school at the recent Taste of Roscrea, the school was very proud of all your hard-work and dedication.



GERMAN CLUB

Commences in Room G26 on Tuesday 21 January 2020 from 4pm to 5pm. 5th and 6th class pupils welcome. Cost is €2 weekly or €20 for 10 classes.