



## Principals Message

As we are about to enjoy the Festive Season, after a long first term, my thanks to all for the hard work throughout the school year. Congratulations to all on your achievements and successes in both the Secondary School and the College in 2011. May you realise all your hopes dreams and ambitions for 2012.



Christmas is a time of joy and happiness and in the words of Sir Walter Scott

*Heap on the wood; -the wind is chill*

*But let it whistle as it will; we'll keep our Christmas Merry and still.*

Wishing all students staff and you families joy and peace at Christmas and throughout the New Year. A special good wish to all the exam classes and to remind you that there is still plenty of time, so use it wisely!

**kindest regards – Mrs Marion Cummins.**



**Mrs. Mary Kavanagh, German Teacher who organised the Food Hampers for St. Vincent de Paul with Mary Quinn 6th year and her grandad, Mr. Tony O'Neill, volunteer with St. Vincent de Paul.**



**Left: Speakers from LIT Law & Accounting with Alla Novikova and Natalia Lenart during a guest talk with 6th year students.**

## **Dublin Art Trip** Laura Iorgulescu 501

On 27th of October, 5th and 6th year students, accompanied by our Art teacher Miss Hennigar, we were taken off to an amazing experience in Dublin, the Irish capital of Art.

We took the train early in the morning and arrived in Dublin city at 10am. Our first stop was at the National Gallery of Ireland, right in the heart of the city. We went on a fascinating tour of the Gallery where we saw many works done by national and international artists such as J.B. Yeats, Picasso and Carravagio. After the National Gallery our next stop was the National Museum. The visit was very engaging and inspiring. The museum holds a numerous collection of Celtic Art Crafts and it gives a real sense of how pre-historic life was in Ireland. We were completely shocked at the "bog people" naturally preserved human corpses dating from 4th Century BC. It was an amazing experience which won't be forgotten by anyone who travelled on this trip.

After the National Museum our next stop was at the Old Trinity Library. The library is the new home of the Book of Kells, a breath taking work of art done by the early Christian Monks from Ireland.

The art trip was an amazing experience for everyone and it will never be forgotten. I would like to thank Miss Hennigar and Miss Cummins for making it possible.



# Comhghairdeas



## **Maths Week 2011 at Presentation 17th Oct – 21st Oct 2011**

Maths week in Sexton Street began on Monday 17th October with our 2nd year students enjoying a fun hands-on "Anyone 4 Maths" workshop which was run by Christine Cambell organised by the University of Limerick. The workshop was built around quirky and interesting numbers and tables. The students were shown how one of the earliest calculators in the 16th century was created by Napier. An investigation also took place using bowling balls, from a mathematical perspective – the question being – "do they float in water....?"



On Wednesday our Transition and 5th Year students took part in a very competitive Maths Table Quiz. The Teams were made up of 4 students per team and we had 14 teams. The winners of our Table quiz were: Shanice McNally, Lynda Slattery, Ciara Judge and Vanessa Blake all from Transition Year – well done girls. Finally our First year students undertook a Maths project entitled: "How has Maths Changed", where our students were encouraged to complete their projects in pairs where they were asked to design a project to show how



the teaching and learning of Maths has changed over the last century. The finished products were of the highest standard. Projects consisted of: PowerPoint presentations, posters, charts, surveys, questionnaires and even a life size die was created. All of these are displayed in our Halla an tSolais in the school. The first prize: went to Lin and Natnisha of class 102, Second prize: Antoinette and Nuschka of class 101 and joint third prize: Beni & Allanah of class 101 and Philomena, Breda and Amy of class 102. A special prize went to the creators of 'Our Life Size Dice' – Chloe and Colette in class 102. Thank you to all the staff and students who took part in our Maths Week at Presentation, and we look forward to new ideas and projects for next year. Special thanks to Ms. C. Hudson and Ms. C. Hutchinson who co-ordinated the week.



**1st year Activity Maths project on "How has Maths changed" over the past century.**



## **Junior Certificate Business Studies Table Quiz.**

On the evening of the 19th of October, six Junior Certificate students came together to represent Presentation Secondary School at the Chartered Institute of



Management Accountants (CIMA) and Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland (BSTAI) annual Junior Certificate Business Studies Table Quiz. The students, Rachel Doyle, Elaida Vandalauskaite, Daria Biel, Chloe Ahern and the super sub's Yvonne Keogh and Sabrina Roche worked very hard, staying behind after school to do extra business studies revision with Ms. Noone. The quiz was held at the Limerick Institute of Technology, and twenty teams participated in the event. The questions covered a vast amount of the Higher Level Junior Certificate Business Studies syllabus and also some extremely difficult general knowledge questions. The girls performed excellently, coming 12th in the overall competition. Outstandingly, they achieved third place out of the seven Limerick teams that entered the competition. The girls were also commended on having the most pleasant manner and behaviour on the night by the Judges of the competition. Congratulations and Well Done again Girls!! Thank you Ms. Noone for your time and effort in this project.

# Comhghairdeas

## Transition Year Update

Transition Year students have been quite busy of late! We have been occupied with class-work, projects (both in -school and externally), trips and extra-curricular activities.

In English class we have been looking at poetry and the similarities between poetry and song lyrics. We decided as a class we would write a poem. We called our poem 'This Moment' which was inspired by the tragic events of 9/11. We really wanted to bring our poem to life so we decided that we were going to create a film to accompany it. While making the film we used the school camera and our film was based on the reactions of people when the crash occurred. We rehearsed the emotions we were trying to portray. Our English teacher Ms O' Brien filmed each shot. Now that we have it all recorded we are in the process of editing it. We are planning to create a soundtrack to accompany the film, which is Iris by the Goo Goo Dolls, and we will be singing and playing the track ourselves. We are going to enter this film into the Fresh Film Festival in January.

On the 1st of December 2011 the transition year class and Ms. Leahy went to a life-saving course in the South Court Hotel. There were many other schools involved. There was a talk and demonstration of road safety and highlighted the consequences of accidents on the road. When we arrived, we were brought outside where there was a demonstration of a car accident, where one car was flipped upside down and the other was severely damaged. The actor were very believable, there was a man lying dead on the ground, a woman stuck in the car and a man who was over the limit of alcohol. The demonstration and the talk which followed were really effective and highlighted the dangers on the road.

There are a number of upcoming fund-raising events on the transition year calendar..The bag-packing on the 15th and 17th of December in the We Crescent Shopping Centre in Tesco were a great success. On Christmas Eve, the 24th of December our English teacher Ms. O'Brien has arranged for us to go down to the Milk Market in Limerick to do some carol singing. We hope to dress up in Santa hats and spread some Christmas cheer in order to try and raise money for our school but also for a charity that is close to our hearts.

As part of our IT & English & Communications modules, we are planning to set up our own blog which can keep you updated on what we're up to. The blog will feature news updates, pictures and videos and will hopefully be connected to the school website, so in the near future everyone can log on to see what we're up to!



TY students - Community Day of Action



Transition Year students completed a paired reading programme with the first class primary school students (Anastasia Novikova, Dorothy Pickford and Alanna Mullaney).



Transition Year Students at the Cliffs of Moher in Clare



TY students - surfs up in Lahinch!



The Mini Marathon in UL

# Sport

## **Central College Limerick compete in first intervarsities competition in the history of the college.**

CCL competed in the Interschools Futsal Tournament which was held in University of Limerick on 28th Nov 2011. The college were delighted to be part of this tournament and compete in the first 3rd level competition. They beat Limerick IT, Carlow IT, drew with University of Limerick and unfortunately lost out to Mary Immaculate on a scoreline of 1 0. The team represented the college very impressively and congrats to all the girls on the team. Well done!!



*Coach Miss Sara Donnellan, Head of the Sports and PE Presentation with some of the players*

## **Camogie**

Thursday 17th November 2011, 16 students from 1st and 2nd year took part in a blitz in Ahane GAA pitch. All together 14 teams from in and around County Limerick took part. Presentation had to play 3 schools.

- Hospital: unfortunately we lost.
- Gaelcholáiste Luimní: a tight game but ended in a draw
- Laurel Hill: we had a brilliant game with 4 goals from Sasha Doyle.

Other girls scored also, well done to them and a very well done to the girls who put in a great team effort. Our Presentation player of the tournament is Aimee Falahec. On behalf of the team we would like to say thanks very much to Ms. Donnellan for all her help and taking us to Ahane. This event was co-ordinated in Limerick by past pupil Ms. Edel O'Brien who teaches in Castletroy College.

*Laura Moloney 201*

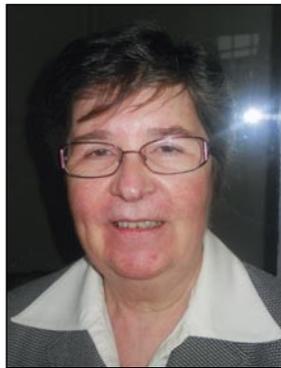
## Liturgical Celebrations

### Presentation Day

21st November we celebrated Presentation Day. For the first time the Primary and Secondary Schools came together to celebrate. The primary school under the Directorship of Miss Orla Deegan acted out the life of Nano Nagle. The secondary school co-ordinated by Sr. Colette and Ms. O'Brien conducted the Prayer services, where we heard the



Miss Orla Deegan



Sr. Angela Leahy, Deputy Principal on Presentation Day.

history of the Presentation Order in going to the various missions around the world. We also learnt our own history here on Sexton St. and how the two schools were founded. A beautiful and simple powerpoint illustrated in pictures and what everyone was saying in words. As always the choir under Mrs. Casey and Ms. Kitching on guitar sang so beautifully and nearly lifted the roof off the primary school hall. A huge thank you must go out to all the teachers involved and the students from both the primary and secondary schools who were involved in the prayer service.

### 6th Year Retreat

"I really enjoyed my 6th year retreat. It was a day for just the 6th years to be together. The best part of my day was meditating with Sr. Mary Downey as it was relaxing. I also really enjoyed being in the gym with the girls saying nice things about each other. It give one a good feeling knowing that someone thinks you are nice or kind etc. Fr. Frank O'Connor ended our day with a beautiful liturgy. Overall it was a great day away from the stress and studying for the Leaving Cert."

### 3rd Year Retreat Rachel Doyle

The theme was 'footprints in the sand'. We had to pretend we were on a beach. We listened to a song called 'footprints in the sand' and did Thai Chi with Sister Ann with Ms. O'Brien. We did our handprints in the Clay and then went to the oratory and drew pictures with Sister Colette. We watched a bit of a movie called 'Marley and Me'. We finished by having mass with Father Chris.

### Healing Ceremony

Fr. Noel Kirwan led our Healing Ceremony Tuesday 13th November. He was accompanied by priests from parishes that our students come from: Fr. Frank O'Connor, Fr. Brendan Purcell, Fr. Leo McDonald, Fr. Seán Harmon, Fr. Pat O'Sullivan.

Fr. Kirwan spoke about forgiveness and the Gospel that we heard was based on the Lost Sheep. We had a beautiful image of the Lord as the Shepherd. This image reminds us the Lord is our shepherd and we are all his flock that he looks after all of us and we must remember to look out for one another also. Students and staff were given the opportunity to go to confession in preparation for Christmas.

### Christmas Prayer Service

Tuesday afternoon we came together as a community to celebrate Christmas. Sr. Colette invited Mrs. Cummins to light the Advent Wreath in our school on behalf of all who were present. We were reminded of the Birth of Jesus from the Gospel of St. Luke beautifully read by the girls. When the Baby Jesus was born in the Gospel, the choir under Mr. Casey and Mrs. Kitching on guitar, sang so beautifully whilst Head Girl Leonie Bennett and Alanna O'Neill the youngest student in our school placed Baby Jesus into the crib. Symbols were brought up that we are all familiar with at Christmas e.g. cards, music, tree, crib, advent wreath, Santa Claus, Christmas Candle. Students read prayers for all our families to have a safe and healthy Christmas. Sr. Colette in her homily reminded all of us the importance of light and the candle. She also drew our attention to the beautiful candle on the wall created by Mrs. Henniger and her art classes. At the beginning of her homily she invited Ms. O'Brien to light the Christmas Candle in the school. There was not a word uttered in the room as everyone realised the significance that Jesus is the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). As the choir sang their final hymn a very special person led in by Head Girl Leonie Bennett and Deputy Sinead McGuane. Santa Claus only was able to join us for a few minutes and also brought sweets for everyone. A huge thank you to all teachers who were involved in the preparations and to all students who sang and read so beautifully. Thanks to Ms. Maura Kitching who has taught guitar to Vanesse Blake, Lynda Slattery, Olivia Shanahan and the transition years whose first performance playing Silent Night was on Tuesday 13th December 2011.



TY students who were involved in the Shoe Box Appeal: Laura Bennett, Hayley Gardiner, Alanna Mullaney and Megan Waters

### Christmas Shoe Box Appeal by Megan Waters

The TY's have taken part in the Christmas shoe box with Ms. O'Brien this year they collected empty shoe boxes in town, bought presents such as toothpaste, soap, face cloths, pyjamas, toys, t-shirts etc. to put in and wrapped. Some other students also took part in it throughout the school. Four students were picked by random and they were Megan Waters, Hayley Gardiner, Alanna Mullaney and Laura Bennett. The girls brought the shoe shoe-boxes out to the warehouse to find out what really happens and to see how much progress they were making. It was a great experience seeing the warehouse and that our shoeboxes can make a difference because every child only gets one shoe-box in their whole life time. Altogether between our school and CCL college we have made 106 kids happy this Christmas who would not have received a Christmas present otherwise. 64 boxes went from the secondary school and 42 from the CCL College. Happy Christmas

# Comhghairdeas

## Junior Achievements with Dell - right

Brendan Gordon from Dell worked with 102 for the last number of weeks with the Junior Achievement Programme. At the end of the programme Brendan handed out Certificate of Achievement to all the girls and a selection box in recognition of all their hard work.

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Proceeds from the Pink Ribbon appeal for Breast Cancer amounted to €112. Pink ribbons, badges, biros and key rings were bought by staff and students. Thank you to all who donated.

**M.S. Readaton** took place in the school. Many first and second years took part by raising money for Multiple Sclerosis.



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I know that you are all excited that the biggest Birthday of our Christian Family is so near. Happy Christmas to all our Presentation Community, Staff, Students and Parents. Christmas is more than the feast of Christ's birth - it is the feast of human dignity - that every person born on this earth is loved and cherished by God.

I have some news for you from Ecuador as I was on Skype to some friends last night. You may remember a place called 30 de Marzo as our school helped the women there to build a centre a few years ago. This group of very artistic women have now gone professional, and were recently visited by the minister for Enterprise and got a prize for the only group to have survived and developed in the Province of Manabi. These women now have funds to clothe, feed and educate their children. Thanks for giving them a start in life. As we come near Christmas the words of Silent Night echo what we all long for in our hearts this Christmas: silence, peace, calm, tenderness and light. May it's words become our words too this Christmas.

*Sr. Colette.*



*The Oratory at Christmas*



*Our Advent wreath prepared by RE Students.*



*Sr. Colette Hourigan (School Chaplain) with Mr. Monaghan on Presentation Day.*



*Two ladies as Nano Nagle on Presentation Day.*

## Leaving Certificate Geography

The Leaving Certificate Geography class travelled to County Clare to compete their study of Limestone Pavements in the Burren on November 7th. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all and it was a glorious day. The Geographical Investigation accounts for 20% of the overall marks in this subject.

**Morning prayer brings us much grace and blessing and lots of information each day. Well done to all of you who put so much work into preparing**  
**OUR THOUGHT FOR THE DAY.**

# Comhghairdeas



**Teacher Ms Kavanagh and first year students with their German Christmas Card Entries**

## Welcome to

- Oonagh Collins on staff for Ms Moloney's maternity leave.
- Ms Lowney and John Cowpar on their marriage on October 21st.
- Best wishes to Ms. Hutchinson on her forthcoming wedding on December 30th.
- Welcome back to Ms. Fitzsimons from her maternity leave.
- Best wishes to Mr. Carmody who will spend Christmas in India on his travels.

2nd year students invited staff to a coffee morning on Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 14th. December. Students and staff enjoyed buns, Christmas cookies, scones and brownies. This venture was a great success. Thanks to Ms. Fitzsimons and all her students.



**Members of the Choir who sang in the Primary School Hall on November 21st 2011.**

## Poem

**by Alannah O'Neill – Class 101**

*(inspired by the bad weather we are having lately no doubt!)*

## Blow Wind Blow

Through the woods and over the brook  
Telling a story like the pages of a book  
Blows the wind moving on and on  
Whispering her whining, endless song

Through the sky and over the land  
Seeing great cities be reduced to sand.  
Softly she blows from dawn 'til dark  
On many a village she has left her mark

Through the night  
And through the morn  
Her weary song goes on and on  
Though tired, weary and forlorn.

From the dawn of time  
To the end of the world  
The song of nature slowly unfurls  
It's message to the anxious waiting world

Blow wind blow...



**Radiant couple Ms. Norma Lowney on her Wedding Day to Mr. John Cowpar on the 21st of October 2011.**

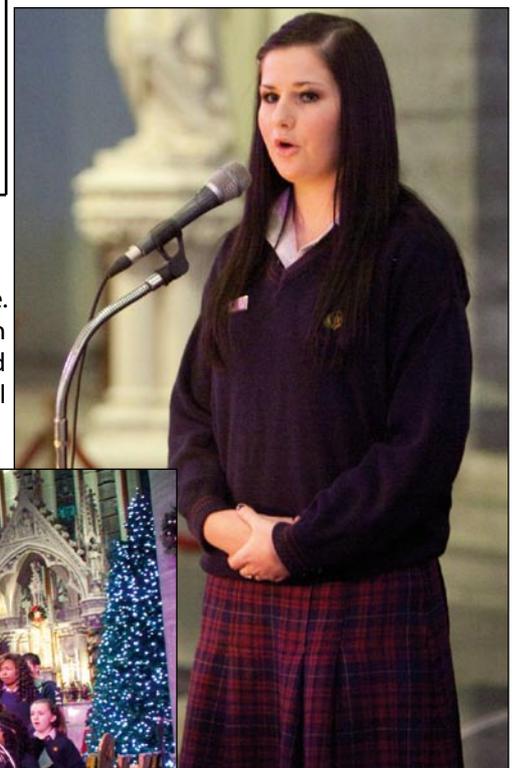
# Comhghairdeas



**Christmas Arrangements  
2011**

## ***Our school choir performed in St John's Cathedral on the 16th December.***

This was an outstanding performance that was in aid of the Lourdes Pilgrimage. The choir worked very hard to learn classic Christmas carols which the congregation joined in the singing. There were also solo performances. Bernadette accompanied on the piano and organ. Ms M Kitching also accompanied on guitar. The cathedral was filled a Christmas spirit which the audience thoroughly enjoyed.



**Head Girl Leonie Bennett 6th  
year, singing 'Silent Night'**

