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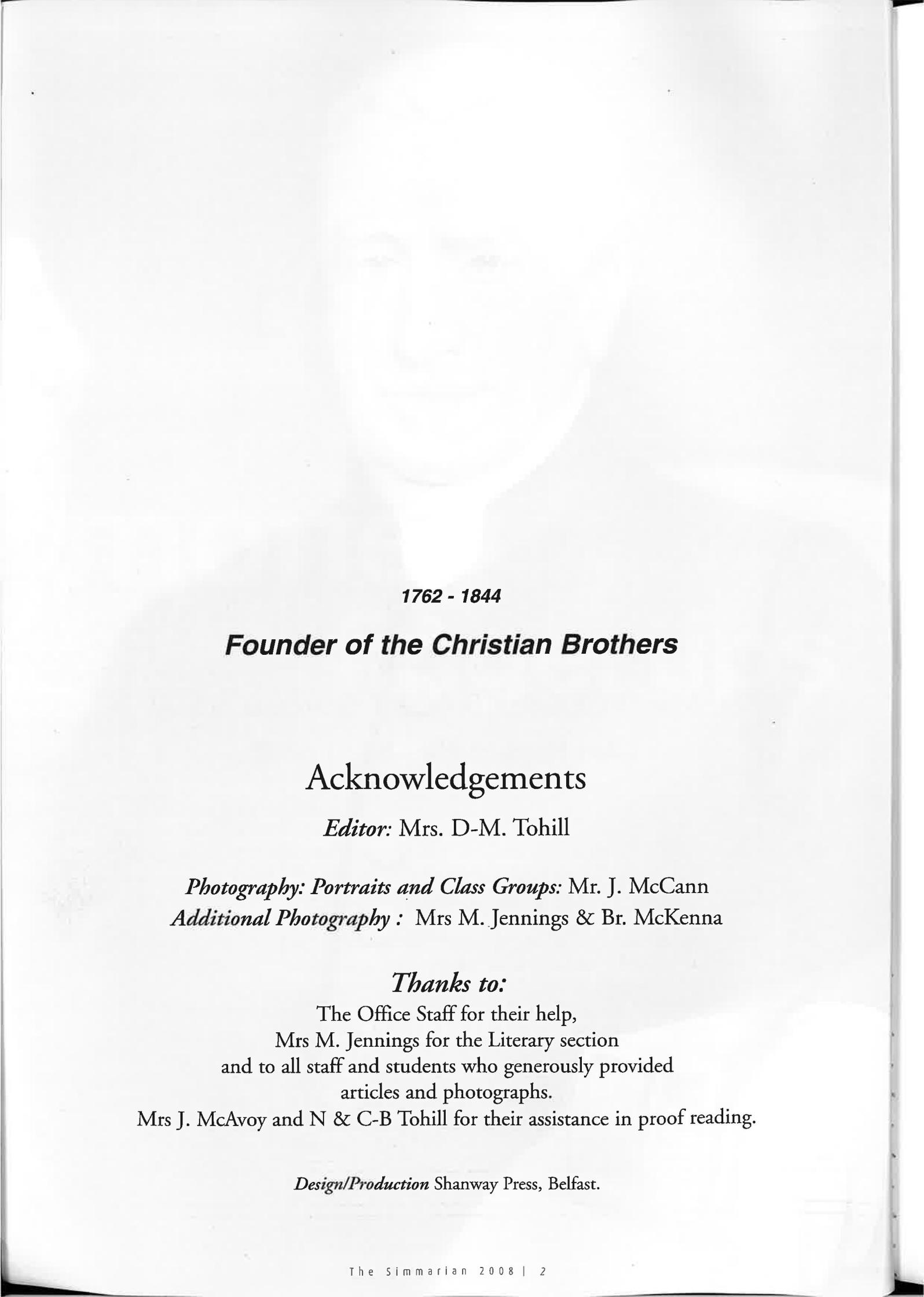


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The Magazine of
St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School
Glen Road, Belfast BT11 8NR

Principal
Mr. K. Burke, B.Ed, Dip. RE.



1762 - 1844

Founder of the Christian Brothers

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Simmarian 2008

At the end of another school year I take this opportunity to thank all those staff, pupils and parents who contributed so much to the school community throughout the year. I congratulate the staff and pupils for all their achievements, curricular and extra-curricular, since our last publication.

The school's academic results are now all recorded for this year and these show a tremendous achievement by A level and GCSE students. Again, many congratulations to all involved and I extend my best wishes to those returning to school for A Levels and those who are heading off to higher and further education or to work.

It has been a remarkable year for extra-curricular successes. These achievements included, hurling and football Colleges All-Stars, BT Winning Captain's Awards, Antrim Schools' All-Star Teams, in hurling - The Mageean Cup, The Gallagher Cup, The Mc Namee Cup, The Leonard Cup, in football - The Mac Larnon Cup, Year 9 Antrim Football Blitz, Year 8 Antrim Football Blitz, Year 8 Antrim Football League, in soccer - the Under 18 N.I. Title, the Under 16 N.I. Title, the Under 13 Belfast Title, the Irish News Gaelic Games School of the Year, several successes at the Holywood Music Festival, the Year 9 Basketball Title, the Under 19 All-Ireland Waterpolo Title, the U19 and U16 Ulster Waterpolo Titles, the top school for Life Support Awards, the Gael-Linn Irish quiz title, the Senior N.I. Schools Debating Title and Runner-Up in the Carrickfergus Castle History Competition. Well done to all pupils, mentors and parents involved in all the extra-curricular activities in the school. Congratulations and many thanks also to all involved in the Annual School Concert, the various Prizegivings, the Leavers' Mass, the Mencap, Trócaire and Zambian Fundraising and the school trips - Skiing, Paris and Zambia. Reports on these and on a plethora of other events are to be found in this Simmarian and on our website - www.stmaryscbgs.com.

We offer our best wishes and sincere gratitude to those teachers who are retiring from St. Mary's this year - Mrs. Sheila Devlin, Mr. Hugh McBarron, Mr. Eddie Collins and Mr. Séamus Crilly who have spent their working lives in the service of St. Mary's. The school is greatly indebted to these retiring members of staff. Best wishes also to Ms. Áine

Byrne who is moving on to St. Dominic's. May all of the above have many fulfilling years ahead. Again, best wishes to Colette Deery who was with us this last year on a temporary basis.

We extend our congratulations to the members of staff who were married recently and to those who have had births in their families.

We ask you to remember in your prayers two past teachers, Br. Mallon and Mr. Hugh Heery who died recently. Our school community also mourned the tragic early death of Dominic Shannon from Year 11 and Pdraig Burns from Year 12. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a n-anamacha dílse.

I wish to sincerely thank all those who have contributed to this Simmarian, including those who submitted articles, our sponsors and all those who were directly responsible for producing this magazine, in particular, Mrs Donna Tohill.

And, finally I take this opportunity of bidding you all farewell. After thirty years in St Mary's, eleven as Principal, I have decided to pursue a different career path for a while.

I have greatly treasured and enjoyed my relationship with St Mary's and have taken particular satisfaction in the great number of pupils who appreciated their time in the school and progressed to fulfilled and successful lives thereafter.

I am very grateful for the support and dedication of the staff and the support and cooperation of you, parents and pupils. Go raibh céad míle maith agaibh. I send you, parents, pupils and Mr Jim Sheerin, the new Principal, my sincere best wishes for your future association with St Mary's and for your future happiness.

May God bless you all.

Guím gach beannacht ar phobal na scoile. Go n-éirí go geal libh ar an bhliain seo chugainn agus, le cuidiú Dé, sna blianta atá romhainn. Go dté sibh slán.

*Caoimhín de Búrca.
Príomhoide.*



Retirements

Mr. K. Burke



We say farewell to Kevin Burke who has retired after serving an eleven year stint as principal. Kevin was appointed to this position in 1997 having come onto the staff of St Mary's nineteen years earlier as an Irish teacher. A past pupil of our close neighbours Christian Brothers Secondary School, he then went to Dublin to join the Christian Brothers. He remained in Dublin for seven years and then returned to Belfast to train as a teacher in what at that period was St Joseph's Training College. He taught for a brief period in John the Baptist Primary School before arriving at St Mary's.

Kevin led the school during a period of unprecedented reform in the world of education. He seemed to take things in his stride and never appeared flustered, but the stresses and strains of the rapid pace of change were evidenced in the retirement of no fewer than eleven principals in the Belfast area. Kevin's demeanour was always upbeat and his keen sense of humour was ever present. He was patient and always preferred conciliation rather than confrontation. Those he dealt with were always treated with respect and dignity.

On his classroom visits pupils were frequently amazed at his in depth knowledge of their family history ; who their fathers were, where their mothers had previously lived and what the maiden name of their grandmother was. He also addressed pupils in a range of languages and they wondered at the versatility of this polyglot. Those of us who occasionally socialised with Kevin also witnessed his skills in conversing with waiters and waitresses in Lithuanian, Polish and myriad other tongues.

Kevin had a very hands on approach to the various extra curricular activities carried on in St Marys. He had a special interest in the Zambian Project, not only encouraging its development but personally going out on the annual visit to Zambia on a number of occasions. The contribution of this venture to the lives of the local people, as well as the students and members of staff who participated is incalculable. And typically Kevin always returned with more stories to add to his repertoire and of course a selection of local languages to quote from.

He was a regular attender at extra-curricular events; football, hurling, soccer, basketball, waterpolo as well as debating , drama and music. Usually he was taking photographs to record the event for the school website. And the website was an innovation which Kevin was responsible for introducing to promote all the activities of the school. He also used it to build a substantial archive of our past pupils. This is an important legacy to leave behind. Kevin had always a cheery word for staff and students as he walked along the corridors and was always approachable to all members of the school community. The old mantra 'my door is always open' was certainly true in his case. As he now rides off into the sunset, Brenda will no doubt be relieved that the nocturnal phone calls from a night watchman reporting 'mysterious sounds' coming from the N block, will be a thing of the past. Kevin's wide interests and zest for life will ensure that he will not be putting his feet up with his slippers and pipe. We wish him well wherever his future journey takes him and we thank him for his enduring contribution.

Retirements

1974 was a big year in Ireland. In the charts we had 'Tiger Feet' by Mud, 'Waterloo' by Abba and admit it some of you even remember 'Kung Fu Fighting' but as for who sang it, it was some crazy guy with a head band. Politically wise it was interesting here in Norn Ireland; we had the Ulster Workers' strike.

Worldwide the balance of power was shifting too, in August President Nixon resigned and in September Seamus Crilly started teaching here in St. Mary's. Nixon lasted five years in office, Seamus lasted an amazing thirty four and leaves without being 'impeached' or whatever that big word is for being thrown out.

Bearing in mind that Seamus resides fifty miles away in the holy ground of

Mr S. Crilly

Maghera, Co.Derry it is a great testament to him that he has only missed a handful of days during his illustrious career. Such was his determination to enlighten the youth of West Belfast that one day it took him three cars to get to school. He crashed the first in the snow, the second wouldn't start but unfortunately for Jimmy who hadn't his homework done it was third time lucky when he borrowed a neighbour's car.

Seamus started teaching Latin (South Derry is well known for its cultured Latin scholars) and then progressed to the English Department where his knowledge, good humour and discipline delivered with a click of the fingers became legendary over the years. Always ready to oblige and unflinchingly

optimistic his presence will be missed by all his colleagues in St. Mary's next year.



Life goes on and after a recent pilot study Seamus will be holding monthly Latin classes in the Thatch pub, Castledawson. If you can't make one of these you can be sure to meet up with him again in September when his beloved Derry will be celebrating the return of Sam to the Sperrin hills.

*Go n-éirí an bóthar leat, a Shéamais
Le grá o achan duine i Scoil Mhuire
G. Quigg and colleagues in ST. Mary's.*

Mr Hugh McBarron

St Mary's lost a fantastic Mathematician in June 2008, when Mr Hugh McBarron began his retirement after devoting 33 years to the school. Hugh started teaching in St Mary's long before anyone can remember; in fact it would seem to some of us mere mortals like a lifetime. The exact date that Hugh first joined the staff as a fresh faced, clean shaven, naive country boy from the wilds of Fermanagh was in fact September 1975. With his encyclopaedic knowledge of music, Hugh will no doubt recall that Rod Stewart, with a similar hairstyle, was Number 1 in the charts at the time with "We are Sailing".

Hugh was primarily employed in the school as a teacher of Mathematics which he taught to all levels, however as a multi-talented man Hugh could apply his vast knowledge of Mathematics to any subject. Hugh therefore became involved in teaching several other subjects including Technical Drawing and Physics, and he also assisted one of his then mentors Mr Woods in the mathematical elements of the A-Level Psychology coursework. In his later years Hugh was heavily involved in the organisation of the timetable and

cover rota.

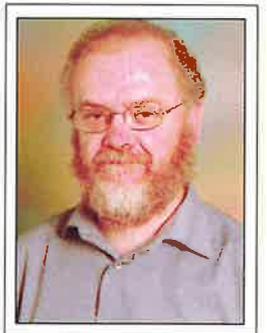
Hugh's contribution to the extra-curricular life within St Mary's can only be described as vast. Most notably, Hugh started and led the famous "Young Enterprise Mini Company" group within the school between the years 1991 - 2004. Memorable moments for the school were in 1992 and 1998 when the school's team won the UK National finals (winning £1000 1st prize for the school), and the 1992 team were also runners up in the European Finals in Malta. Considering that over 40,000 students throughout the UK are involved each year in Young Enterprise, the successes of these years were exceptional. As well as the trip to the European Finals in Malta in 1992, the group travelled to London on a number of occasions for the UK finals, one of which included the infamous "Bad Burger Trip". Hugh has given up many hours of his time in his involvement in the Young Enterprise and the phenomenal successes of the St Mary's companies over the years are a credit to his commitment, dedication and sheer hard work.

Despite his commitment to Young Enterprise, Hugh managed to find some

spare time to assist with school trips, including the Drama trip to London and History trip to Belgium. Hugh was also very active socially and was a regular at staff association social events. Hugh will always be remembered for his exemplary timekeeping and attendance - he was always the first member of staff in school, and even when his car was broken down for a number of weeks Hugh left home before 6am to ensure that no-one managed to steal his 'early riser' mantle.

Hugh was a very well liked and respected member of the school community, held in the highest esteem by present and past staff and pupils alike, and will be sorely missed. As Hugh will continue to help with timetabling from time to time in the school, we look forward to seeing him in the staff room. We, however, hope that Hugh will finally manage to enjoy some free time (and lie-ins) and have a very long, happy and healthy retirement.

Mr Garvan O'Connor



Retirements

Au revoir, Sheila



On behalf of the entire staff of the school we extend our best wishes to Sheila who retired at the end of the last academic year after a long and illustrious career in St Mary's.

Sheila joined St Mary's in 1976 and taught French, primarily, for 32 years. She was Head of the French Department since September 2003 and then became the first female Senior Teacher in St Mary's

following her successful appointment in March 2005. Sheila was also a valued Year Head for many years. In all these positions Sheila performed with distinction and her contribution and dedication to St Mary's has been tireless and exemplary.

Sheila's quiet and pleasant disposition endeared her to staff and pupils alike and she was much admired and respected by all. She was always available for guidance and support for both pupils and staff and was committed to helping in whatever way she could. In short, Sheila was kind, gentle and caring and she will be sorely missed by all.

As a devotee of the French language, she instilled this devotion and enthusiasm among the many students she taught during a very successful and rewarding career. She encouraged all her pupils to achieve to their full potential and aim for the best grades possible.

We wish Sheila a long and happy retirement in the company of her husband Paul and the rest of her family.

Mr Eddie Collins



June 2008 saw the retirement of Eddie Collins who tirelessly served as Year Head, Head of Careers and teacher of French since joining the-staff of

St. Mary's in 1979.

As Year Head, Eddie was respected by pupils and staff alike as a fair minded, conscientious teacher with the best interests of the pupils at heart. Eddie Collins is a name synonymous with the UCAS process in St Mary's.

patiently guided hundreds of appreciative pupils through the university application process, showing a meticulous attention to detail in order to help secure all pupils a place in third level education.

Eddie fully embraced the European dimension, its languages and cultures, instilling in his pupils a similar love of language in its spoken and written forms. Eddie was never more relaxed than on holiday in France or Spain, sitting in the early morning sunshine, drinking a strong coffee, reading the local newspaper and watching the world go by. Back home, Eddie and the boys, Brendan, Paul and Eamonn indulged in another of his great

passions - Glasgow Celtic. As regular visitors to Parkhead, Eddie's demeanor in the staffroom on a Monday morning would indicate whether the match result on the Saturday afternoon had been positive or not. Even if the three points were not secured, Eddie would not be deterred but would be seen excitedly planning his next trip to 'Paradise' i.e: Kerrydale Street, Glasgow.

A true gentleman and friend to all, Eddie will be greatly missed but he can now relax and appreciate the time he will enjoy in the company of his wife Barbara and family. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Bonne Chance, Eddie!

In his role as Head of Careers, Eddie

In Memoriam



Dominic Shannon R.I.P.

Dominic Shannon walked up the school lane and took his first tentative steps as a Year Eight student at St Mary's in late August 2004. Little did we know the unforgettable contribution this little boy would make to our school community over the short time we would know him. I was lucky enough to have taught Dominic for Religion and watched him grow from a small, red-haired, timid little boy into a mature, warm, intelligent and articulate young man. It was the pleasure of all those who knew him to watch his talents and abilities as an artist grow immeasurably over his junior school years. This was Dominic's most obvious talent but this was only part of his greatness. One of my

fondest memories of Dominic was on the occasion when he publicly, yet humbly, showed the selflessness and concern for others with which he was blessed. The class was busy preparing for their summer exams and were most impressed with the fantastic set of RE revision notes Dominic had produced for the exam. These had clearly taken several hours of intensive planning and effort but in a moment of total concern for others he quietly asked me if he could sell his revision notes to the class for 50p per student with all the money being donated to Project Zambia. Every member of the class bought these notes, I suspect, not only for their quality but

also in recognition of the selflessness of this young man.

I know that many others will have similar memories of Dominic and that he is greatly missed by our entire school family.

Life should not be measured in the number of years but in the quality of the relationships we had with those around us. Dominic lived only a short time but I am certain that he is now enjoying his eternal reward and will continue to inspire us by his example to achieve all we can and to use our God-given talents wisely in this short life.

Rest in peace Dominic

Mr M. Robinson

Teaching Staff 2007/2008

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Mr. K. Burke B.Ed., Dip. in R.E.

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Mr. F. Woods B.A., Adv.Dip.Ed., Cert in Mgmt. St., M.Ed.

Mr. J. Sheerin B.A., Dip.Ed., D.A.S.E.

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Mr. J. Martin B.Sc., M.Sc., P.G.C.E., Adv. Cert. Ed., Cert. Sp.LD. P.Q.H.

Mrs S. Devlin B.Ed., Dip.Ed., Dip. R.E., Dip French Studies.

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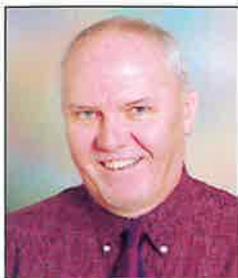
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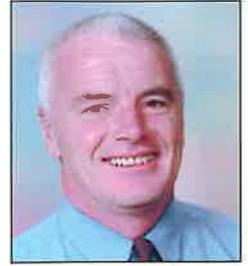
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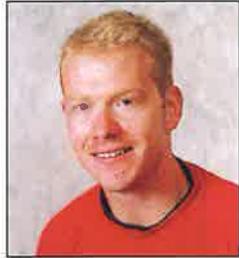
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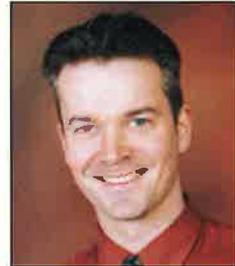
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Mrs D Hamilton
Art

Junior Prizewinners

Subject Awards

Spanish	Christopher Pendleton	11D
Irish	James Farrell	11C
Italian	Patrick Lundy	11G
French	Jack Gunn	11C
	Brendan McCloskey	11C
Geography	John McGlone	11D
English	Declan Scullion	11C
Theatre Studies	Dominic Sherry - Adams	11B
Music	Brendan McCloskey	11C
Art	Eamon Cooke	11D
Religion	Jack Gunn	11C
Science	Thomas Burns	11F
Maths	Jordan Fitzsimons	11D
Technology	Ryan Kavanagh	11D
History	Connor Banon	11A
Information Technology	Matthew Cosgrove	11C
Physical Education	Jude Savage	11F
Learning for Life & Work	Kevin Curran	11A

Most Consistent Performance in Junior School

Michael Atcheson	11G
Peter Forde	11C
Aidan McDonald	11D
Stephen McGuigan	11D
Michael Smith	11D



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Ryan Christie	11A
Stephen McElwee	11A
Matthew O'Grady	11A
John O'Neill	11E
Gerard O'Rawe	11E
Ciaran Orchin	11C
Martin Shortt	11H
Michael Smith	11D

Outstanding Performance

Tyrone Irwin	11D
Conor Mullan	11H
Ciaran Orchin	11C
Ryan Carleton	11H
James Downey	11D
Stephen McElwee	11A
James Crilly	11E
Connel McKeown	11E

Bobby McCargo Memorial Trophy

Darren Franklin	11D
-----------------	-----

Sporting Awards

Gaelic Football - Michael Lyons	11E
Hurling - Jude Savage	11F
Basketball - Peter Carson	11G
Soccer - Neil Slane	11D
Water Polo - Cathal Fitzpatrick	11G



Congratulations and best wishes to all our pupils who
completed their G.C.S.E. examinations in 2007.

Armstrong	Christopher	Glennon	Ciaran	Mc Laughlin	Emmanuel
Armstrong	Michael	Griffin	Michael	Mc Laughlin	Gary
Atkinson	Niall	Hamilton	Niall	Mc Laughlin	Sean
Barnes	Thomas	Herity	Ciaran	Mc Mahon	Ryan
Bell	Ryan	Herron	Patrick	Mc Manus	Conor
Best	Rory	Hesketh	Stephen	Mc Polin	Bryan
Bonner	Philip	Hughes	Martin	Mc Quaid	Daniel
Boyce	Liam	Johnston	Paul	Mc Shane	Darren
Burke	Niall	Kelly	Aaron	Mc Varnock	Conor
Cachart	James	Kerr	Lorcan	Mc Veigh	Dermot
Caldwell	Ciaran	Larkin	Niall	Mc Williams	Niall
Casey	Peter	Leonard	Matthew	Meir	Colm
Cassidy	Matthew	Lewsley	Gerard	Mohan	Michael
Clarke	Charles	Lewsley	Paul	Moyna	Christopher
Clarke	Stephen	Lundy	Brendan	Mullan	Daryl
Connolly	Conor	Lundy	Patrick	Mulligan	Matthew
Copeland	Cormac	Lunney	Ronan	O'Hara	Mark
Corrigan	James	Lynass	Darren	O'Hare	Patrick
Cosgrove	Tomas	Mackin	John Paul	O'Kane	Patrick
Courtney	Connor	Magee	Ciaran	O'Neill	Connor
Cousins	Mark	Magee	Eoin	O'Neill	Mark
Cullen	Conor	Maguire	Barry	O'Reilly	Jonathan
Cullen	Padraig	Maguire	Ronan	Pabilona	Lester
Cummings	Daniel	Martin	George	Ramsey	Martin
Curtis	Colum	Maskey	Daire	Ramsey	Simon
Daykin	Conor	Mc Ardle	Matthew	Randall-O'Neill	Gary
Devlin	Matthew	Mc Cafferty	Sean	Reid	Carl
Diamond	Daniel	Mc Carthy	Thomas	Rice	Matthew
Doherty	Manus	Mc Croy	Niall	Richmond	Conor
Donald	Martin	Mc Croy	Paul	Roberts	Brendan
Donnan	Paul	Mc Crudden	Francis	Rocks	Conor
Donnelly	Anthony	Mc Erlean	Christopher	Rooney	Calum
Donnelly	Faeral	Mc Garrity	David	Rooney	Eamon
Donnelly	Pearce	Mc Gettigan	Gerard	Shanks	Daniel
Duffy	Aaron	Mc Glone	Niall	Shields	Paul
Ferguson	Christopher	Mc Grath	Sean	Slack	John
Fitzpatrick	Christopher	Mc Greevy	Paul	Sloan	George
Fitzpatrick	Michael	Mc Kee	Michael	Sloan	Joseph
Flack	Paul	Mc Kenna	Ryan	Smyth	Joseph
Flanagan	Graeme			Teeney	Matthew
Floyd	Kevin				
Gaskin	Conor				

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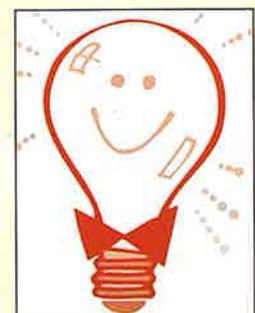
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*We offer a special welcome to our new students who joined
Year Thirteen in September 2007.*

Stephen Brennan - C.B.S.

Kevin Morgan - C.B.S.

Niall McAlea - Coláiste Feirste

Conal McCorry - Crumlin High School

Declan Reynolds - Crumlin High School

Robert Regan - Rathmore Grammar School

Christopher White - Rathmore Grammar School

Jonathan Neeson - St. Aloysius High School



Academic Awards at G.C.S.E.

G.C.S.E. Art

(Murphy Associates Medal) Sponsored by the contractor for the Edmund Rice Complex

Ronan Lunney - St. Anne's P.S.

G.C.S.E. Business Studies

Killian Doherty - St. Joseph's P.S., Carryduff

G.C.S.E. Drama & Theatre Arts

Charlie Clarke - St. Oliver Plunkett's P.S.

G.C.S.E. English

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. English Literature

Conor Courtney - Holy Child P.S.

G.C.S.E. French

(Rev. Bro. Nannery Memorial Medal)

This medal is dedicated to the memory of Bro. Nannery, a distinguished past teacher who gave significant service to pupils in St. Mary's throughout the '60's and '70's

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. Gaelic

Conor Richmond - Scoil Na Fuisseoige P.S.

G.C.S.E. Geography

Conor Cullen - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. History (The Oliver McCann Medal)

Named in honour of a highly respected former Head of Department

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.



*Ronan Lunney, Brendan Lundy,
Conor Courtney & Charlie Clarke
G.C.S.E. award winners.*

G.C.S.E. Info. & Comm. Technology
(The Staff Memorial Medal)

Matthew Leonard - St. Bride's P.S.
Niall Burke - St. Anne's P.S.

G.C.S.E. Irish
(The Joe Devlin Medal)

Conor Connolly - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. Mathematics
(Rev. Bro. L. F. Ennis Medal)

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. Music

Matthew Rice - St. Teresa's P.S.

G.C.S.E. Physical Education

Conor Cullen - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. Religion
(The Kevin Dunne Memorial Medal)
This medal is dedicated to the memory
of a pupil who died tragically
in 1988 during his Year Eleven in St. Mary's

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.

Father Sean O'Neill Memorial Cup
Presented by the Mervyn Family of Tornaroy
whose son Thomas earned the
highest marks in Religion in the inaugural
year of the G.C.S.E. examinations

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. Double Award Science

Brendan Lundy - St. John the Baptist P.S.

G.C.S.E. Spanish

Emmanuel McLaughlin - St. Kevin's P.S.

G.C.S.E. Technology
(The Ford Perpetual Trophy)

Colm Meir - St. Bride's P.S.



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Graeme, Rory, Paul & Matthew celebrate their sporting achievements.

Outstanding Performance at G.C.S.E.

Michael Armstrong - St. Teresa's P.S.
 Seamus Corrigan - Holy Child P.S.
 Anthony Donnelly - St. John the Baptist P.S.
 Paul Johnston - St. Oliver Plunkett's P.S.
 Lorcan Kerr - Scoil Na Fuiseoige P.S.
 Niall McCrory - Ballymacward P.S.
 Gerard McGettigan - St. Teresa's P.S.
 Michael Mohan - St. Anne's P.S.
 Conor Rocks - St. Gall's P.S.
 Calum Rooney - Holy Child P.S.
 Matthew Teeney - St. Anne's P.S.

Attendance Awards

Tom Barnes - St. Teresa's P.S.
 Aaron Duffy - St. Kieran's P.S.
 Gerard Lewsley - St. Anne's P.S.
 Barry Maguire - St. Anne's P.S.
 Francis McCrudden - Holy Child P.S.
 Simon Ramsey - St. Bride's P.S.
 Paul Shields - St. Luke's P.S.

Sporting Achievements

BASKETBALL

Rory Best - St. Anne's P.S.

GAELIC

Paul McGreevy - St. Teresa's P.S.

HURLER

Matthew Devlin - St. Anne's P.S.

SOCCER

Niall Atkinson - Our Lady of Lourdes P.S.

WATERPOLO

Graeme Flanagan - St. John the Baptist P.S.



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C.B.P.P.U. GOLD MEDAL



awarded to

Brendan Lundy

St. John the Baptist P.S.

**Best G.C.S.E. Student
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e-mail: kevin@kevinjennings.co.uk

*We wish God's blessing on and every success to
our 'A' Level students of 2007*

Jamie	Agnew	Liam	Green	Connor	Mc Mullan
Anthony	Alwell Herdman	James	Grieve	Conall	Mc Nally
Brendan	Barnes	Ciaran	Hall	Patrick	Molloy
Ciaran	Bellew	Lorcan	Hanna	Kieran	Moore
Christopher	Black	Paul	Hanna	Conall	Mulhern
John	Boyle	Ciaran	Heatley	Brian	Nelson
Patrick	Boyle	Colm	Herdman	Aodan	Newell
James	Brennan	Robert	Irwin	Piaras	Nolan
Gavin	Bunting	Conor	Johnston	Fergal	O'Donnell
Martin	Butler	Michael	Kelly	Darren	O'Neill
Brian	Byrne	Richard	Kelly	David	O'Neill
Alan	Campbell	Conor	Kerr	Shane	O'Neill
Christopher	Campbell	Bernard	King	Martin	O'Prey
Kieran	Carson	Mark	Lennon	Pearse	O'Prey
Rory	Clarke	Mark	Lynagh	Niall	Porter
Matthew	Collins	David	Lynch	John	Quinn
Niall	Connolly	Daniel	Macklin	Matthew	Regan
Brendan	Connolly	Michael	Mc Anoy	Noel	Rock
Conor	Cregan	Michael	Mc Aree	Barry	Rooney
Kenneth	Cruz	Stephen	Mc Atackney	Brian	Rooney
Gareth	Cullen	Garry	Mc Atamney	Thomas	Ryan
Mark	Cullen	Christopher	Mc Bride	Brendan	Shannon
Seamus	Cullen	Jonathan	Mc Cann	Gary	Shaw
Damien	Currie	Michael	Mc Cann	Kevin	Shearer
Patrick	Davidson	Stephen	Mc Cann	Gareth	Shortt
Eamonn Og	Denny	Ross	Mc Comish	Joseph	Shortt
Jonathan	Devine	Colm	Mc Corry	Simon	Sloan
Christopher	Devlin	Sean	Mc Corry	Niall	Smart
Christopher	Donnelly	Niall	Mc Creanor	Brendan	Smyth
Ciaran	Duffy	Brendan	Mc Croy	Stuart	Smyth
Patrick	Dutton	Aidan	Mc Cullough	Anthony	Stafford
Gerard	Farrell	Fionnbharr	Mc Curdy	Gerard	Sullivan
James	Ferguson	Daniel	Mc Donagh	Matthew	Taggart
Liam	Ferrin	Peter	Mc Garrity	Conor	Toal
Brendan	Fitzpatrick	Jack	Mc Garry	Daniel	Toner
Conor	Flavin	Gerard	Mc Geown	Christopher	Valente
Dominic	Fryers	Aidan	Mc Ilhennon	Eamonn	Walls
Alan	Gallagher	Kevin	Mc Kegney	Colm	Walsh
Conor	Gallagher	Aaron	Mc Kenna	Stephen	Walsh
Adam	Galway	Gavin	Mc Kenna	Christopher	Weir
Shaun	Graham	Cormac	Mc Laughlin		

Comhghairdeas

Academic Awards at A2

A2 Art <i>(The Graham Harron Medal)</i> <i>Sponsored by the goldsmith who designs and produces the school medals.</i>	- Conor Toal <i>(St. John the Baptist P.S. - now studying Architecture at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Biology <i>(The Thompsons McClure Medal)</i>	- Daniel Toner <i>(St. Gall's P.S. - Gap Year)</i>
A2 Chemistry <i>(The Northern Bank Medal)</i>	- Christopher Black <i>(Holy Trinity P.S. - Gap Year)</i>
A2 Computing <i>(The Kevin Jennings Medal)</i> <i>Sponsored by St. Mary's Auditors</i>	- Aidan McCullough <i>(Holy Child P.S. - now studying Mathematics at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Business Studies <i>(Ulster Business Equipment Medal)</i>	- Stuart Smyth <i>(St. Teresa's P.S. - now studying International Bus. & Mod. Lang @ Strathclyde)</i>
A2 Drama <i>(The Billy Adams Medal)</i>	- Matthew Regan <i>(St. Gall's P.S. - now studying Music at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 English Literature <i>(The Serridge Medal)</i>	- Christopher Black <i>(Holy Trinity P.S. - Gap Year)</i>
A2 Geography <i>(The Francis Rice Memorial Medal)</i>	- Daniel Toner <i>(St. Gall's P.S. - Gap Year)</i>
A2 Government & Politics <i>(First Trust Bank Medal)</i>	- Martin O'Prey <i>(St. Anne's P.S. - now studying Politics at N.U.I., Maynooth)</i>
A2 History <i>(The Bank of Ireland Medal)</i>	- Conor Kerr <i>(St. Luke's P.S. - now studying Ancient / Modern History at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Irish <i>(Cumann Gaelach Scoil Mhuire)</i>	- Seán MacCorraidh <i>(Meanscoil Feirste - now studying Sports Studies at U.U.J.)</i>
A2 Mathematics <i>(The Rev. Bro. McGreevy Medal)</i> <i>The name of Brother McGreevy was synonymous with the teaching of Mathematics in St. Mary's in the '50's.</i>	- Aidan McCullough <i>(Holy Child P.S. - now studying Mathematics at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Music	- Dominic Fryers <i>(St. Joseph's P.S. - now studying Music at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Physical Education <i>(Glenn O'Hare Memorial Medal)</i>	- Brendan Connor <i>(Ballymacward P.S. - now studying Sport and Exercise Sciences at U.U.J.)</i>
A2 Physics	- Aidan McCullough <i>(Holy Child P.S. now studying Mathematics at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Psychology	- Christopher Weir <i>(St. Paul's P.S. now studying Psychology at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Religion <i>(The Brother Mallon Medal)</i> <i>Named after a distinguished former teacher and donated by an ex-pupil John Larkin, former Reid Professor of Criminology at Trinity College, Dublin.</i>	- Gerard Costello <i>(Holy Child P.S. - now studying Music at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Spanish	- Brendan Barnes <i>(Holy Child P.S. - now studying Computing & I.T. at Q.U.B.)</i>
A2 Technology	- Niall Connolly <i>(St. Colman's P.S. - now studying Mechanical Engineering at U.U.J.)</i>

The Brother Monaghan Cup

Presented to the outstanding pupil who entered Senior School from our associated Secondary Schools.

- Seán MacCorraidh

(Meanscoil Feirste - now studying Sports Studies at U.U.J.)

Bonn Sheamais Mhic Eachaidh

- Robert Irwin *(St. Teresa's P.S. - now studying Irish with Computing at U.C.C.)*

Sporting Achievements

Gerry Magennis Memorial Award

(Gaelic Footballer of the Year 2007)

Mark Cullen

(Good Shepherd P.S. - Employment)

Forresters' Medal

(Hurler of the Year 2007)

Seán MacCorraidh

(Meanscoil Feirste. - now studying Sports Studies at U.U.J.)

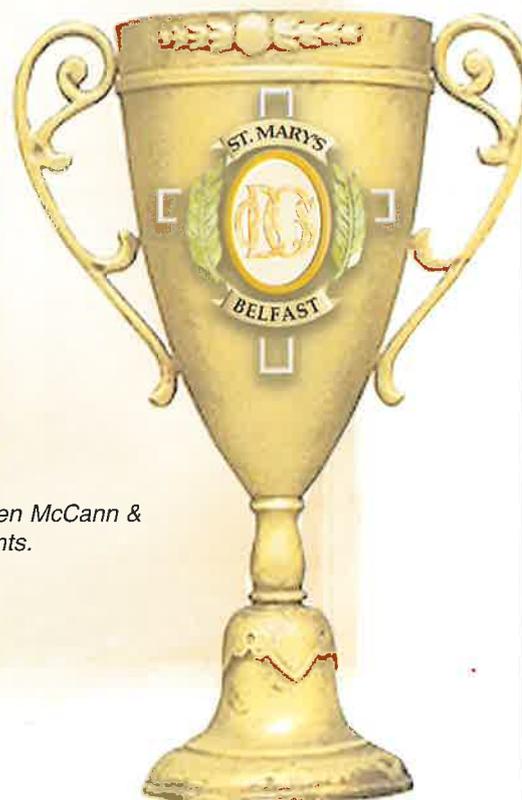
Bank of Ireland All Stars Hurling Award

Conor Rocks

(St. Gall's P.S. - now studying at AS level)



Mark Cullen, Seán MacCorraidh, Christopher Devlin, Stephen McCann & Conor Rocks celebrate their Sporting Achievements.





Water Polo

(Player of the Year 2007)

Christopher Devlin

*((St. Peter's P.S. - now studying
Construction Engineering at U.U.J.)*



*Peter McGarrity - now studying Medicine
At Leeds University.*



Top Art student Conor Toal.



Sean Finch & Seam McHugh celebrate outstanding success at AS.



Outstanding Performance at A2

Mark Lynagh - (*St. Anne's P.S. - now studying Modern History at Q.U.B.*)

Michael McAnoy - (*Holy Trinity P.S. - now Actuarial Studies at Q.U.B.*)

Peter McGarrity - (*Holy Child P.S. - now studying Medicine at Leeds University*)

Attendance Awards

Patrick Boyle - (*Holy Child P.S. - now studying Civil Engineering at U.U.J.*)

Brian King - (*St Teresa's P.S. - now studying Philosophy at Q.U.B.*)

Conall Mulhern - (*St. Colman's P.S. - Gap Year*)

Gary Shaw - (*St. Peter's P.S. - now studying Quantity Surveying at U.U.J.*)

Gerard Sullivan - (*St. John the Baptist P.S. - now studying Latin American Studies at Liverpool University*)

Outstanding Performance at AS

Sean Finch - (*St. Anne's P.S.*)

Eoin Holland - (*Meanscoil Feirste*)

Paul Lyttle - (*St. Teresa's P.S.*)

Sean McHugh - (*St. Aidan's P.S.*)

Christopher O'Kane - (*St. John the Baptist P.S.*)

Darren Ward - (*St Aidan's P.S.*)

Edmund Rice Perpetual Trophy

Edmund Rice Gold Medal

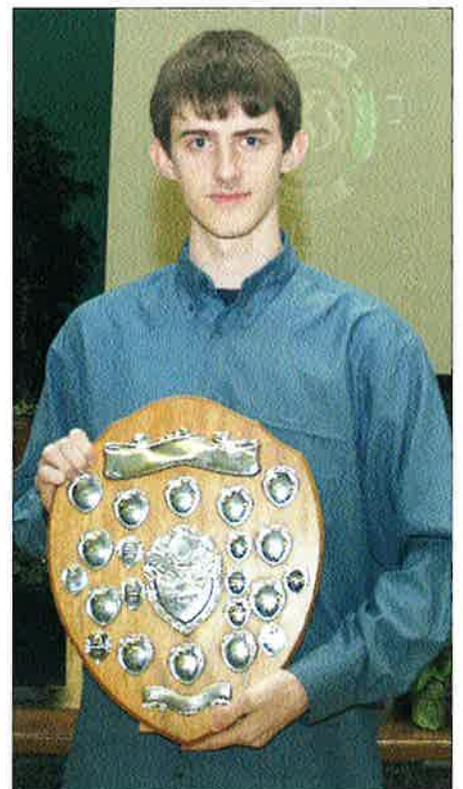
(Named in honour of the founder of the Christian Brothers)

awarded to

Aidan McCullough

(Holy Child P.S. - now studying Mathematics at Q.U.B.)

Best 'A' Level Student 2007



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GEOGRAPHY



Climate Change - An Inconvenient Truth

In November 12A visited the Queen's Film Festival to attend a screening of Al Gore's award winning documentary 'An Inconvenient Truth' hosted by Friends of the Earth.

'An Inconvenient Truth' is an American documentary film about global warming, presented by former United States Vice President Al Gore and directed by Davis Guggenhe.

'An Inconvenient Truth' focuses on Al Gore and his travels in support of his efforts to educate the public about the severity of global warming.

So what is global warming?

Carbon dioxide and other gases warm the surface of the planet naturally by trapping solar heat in the atmosphere. This is a good thing because it keeps our planet habitable. However, by burning fossil fuels such as coal, gas and oil and clearing forests we have dramatically increased the amount of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere and temperatures are rising.

The vast majority of scientists agree that global warming is real, it is already happening and that it is the result of our activities and not a

natural occurrence. The evidence is overwhelming and undeniable.

We are already seeing changes. Glaciers are melting, plants and animals are being forced from their habitat, and the number of severe storms and droughts is increasing. If the warming continues, we can expect catastrophic consequences with deaths from global warming doubling in just 25 years -- to 300,000 people a year. Global sea levels could rise by more than 6 metres with the loss of shelf ice in Greenland and Antarctica, devastating coastal areas worldwide. More than a million species worldwide could be driven to extinction by 2050.

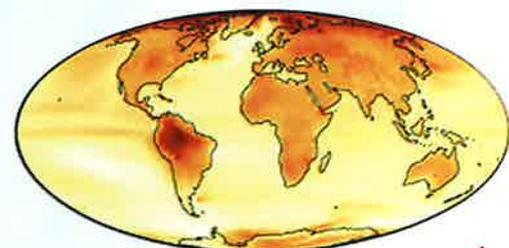
There is no doubt we can solve this problem. In fact, we have a moral obligation to do so. Small changes to your daily routine can add up to big differences in helping to stop global warming. The time to come together to solve this problem is now -

SO TAKE ACTION NOW!

Donal Feeney 12A
World-wise Quiz

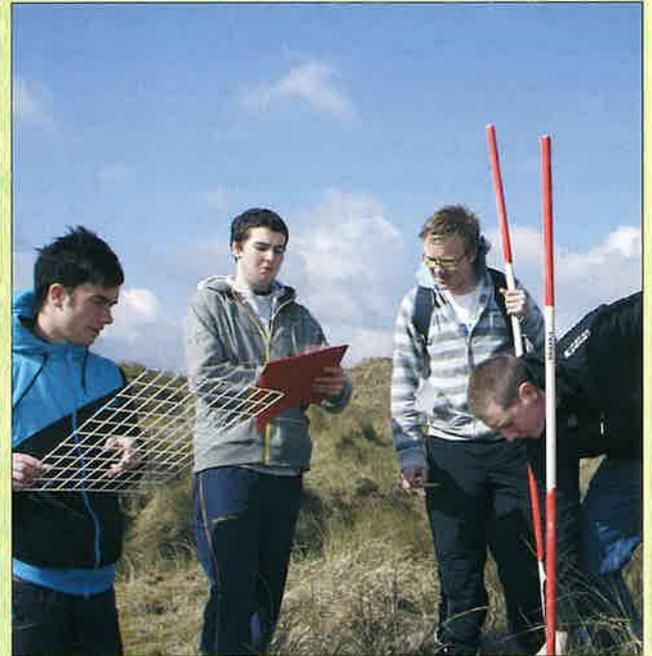
WORLD-WISE QUIZ

Year 12 Pupils Damian Boyle, Donal Feeney and Thomas Armstrong under the supervision of Mr Watson represented St. Mary's CBGS in the prestigious World-wise Quiz 2007 held in Queen's University. The World-wise Quiz is an annual event which takes place throughout the UK and is contested by the leading schools. The St. Mary's boys narrowly missed out on a top three position in Northern Ireland having battled their way through three rounds of challenging questions. As always the St. Mary's boys were a credit to the school and were quick to adapt to such a demanding environment. Well done boys!



Geography *Fieldwork*

The Geography Department had another busy year with all years involved in field work. In March thirty three Year 13 pupils took to the schools mini buses and made their way to Murlough Co. Down to complete their fieldwork for A/S Geography.



Earlier in the year Mrs Murray's Year 12 class also visited Murlough and Tryella Beach as part of their GCSE coursework. Co. Down proved very popular this year with the Geography Department. Mr Mc Flynn's Year 12 class visited Newcastle whilst Mr Watson's Year 12 class visited Downpatrick. Both classes studied land use in each town. Mr Mc Goldrick's Year 12 class however

opted for a more exotic location and went to Crumlin in Co. Antrim to study changes in the village.

The annual visits to the Tayto factory with the Year 10 pupils once more proved to be the most popular fieldwork exercise organised by the Geography Department. Even Mr Pat Tayto was overwhelmed by the

Year 10's new found interest in Geography.

In May the Year 8 pupils visited Colin Glen as part of their river investigation. This was the first time that a Year 8 group visited the forest park and the trip proved a big success. Thank you to all the teachers, pupils and guides involved in organising each trip.



Zambia

In February the Geography Department ran a competition for all Year 8 pupils to promote the issue of poverty in Zambia. The competition formed a part of a larger project based on connected learning. The winners of the competition were 8E's Brendan Loughran, Kevin Madden and Joseph Magee.

The winning article printed here goes a long way in helping all of us understand the problems faced by Zambia and the importance of St. Mary's very successful 'Project Zambia'.

St. Mary's Project Zambia 2008

This Easter witnessed the latest visit of St. Mary's students and staff to our partner communities in Zambia. The group departed from Belfast City airport on March 12th arriving in Lusaka as dawn broke on the following morning. As we were coming into land the effects of a very severe rainy season were all too evident with flooding apparent throughout the country. After settling into our accommodation in Ku'Omboka Backpackers Hostel we set out to survey the projects which we would be working on over the following fortnight. Brother John McCourt (our main contact in Zambia) had warned us in advance about the difficulties we would encounter. As we made our way through the swamp water in Kamwala and Misisi slums towards the St. Lawrence's Centre we realised that Brother John had not been exaggerating. All of the pit latrines had overflowed, many of the water supplies were submerged

and crops had been destroyed by the heaviest rains in decades. Such is the result of climate change with the poor suffering the brunt of eco-destruction.

Fr. Oswald met us at the St. Lawrence's Centre with his usual friendly and hearty welcome. He then outlined the programme of work he had prepared for us. It was great to see the progress which has been made in the Centre. One wing of the medical centre is complete, additional classrooms at St. Catherine's School under construction and the piggery almost finished. We also had the privilege of carrying 24 computers into the new computer suite – the result of our partnership with the charity Camara and Springvale. John Cooley, Chairperson of our Board of Governors, had the honour of opening the computer suite. Perhaps the most pleasing development has been the completion of our work with the villages around Old



St. Mary's Project Zambia 2008

Kabweza. Over the past few years we have facilitated the building of a school, teachers' houses, income-generating projects, a medical centre and water supplies. The village headmen feel that 'they can now walk on their own feet' and that, in future, we are very welcome to visit as guests. This has allowed us to move onto a new project in Mapepe – of which Mr. Robinson (or Mr. Mark as he is called there) will be the co-ordinator. Mapepe is a rural slum located approximately 20 miles south of Lusaka. Working with the community there we intend to build a new school, install water supplies, and start income generating programmes such as block making, agriculture and a piggery.

Much of our time was spent in the middle of Misisi slum, helping to build a classroom, digging storm drains to divert flood water away from the St. Catherine's Centre and putting down chlorine to help prevent a cholera outbreak. I marvelled at our young men from St. Mary's as they got on with their tasks in the middle of such adversity with such enthusiasm and humour and reflected on how the early Christian Brothers faced up to similar conditions in Ireland in the early 19th Century. This is what immersion is about. It is a response to a calling to go out from one's comfort zone, to abandon the old certitudes and ways of looking at oneself, others, the world, creation and, ultimately God; it is not simply about trying to make a difference but crucially about allowing a difference to be made to you. Immersion is not a passive visit or 'trip' but is a revolutionary turning of the world – including one's own world – the right way up. Through becoming immersed one allows oneself to be

invited by the marginalised and forgotten into a new community or Kingdom – the community of brotherhood, solidarity, mutual affirmation and love. Quite simply, to become immersed is to say 'no' to the world the way it is and to begin to create a new world built not on injustice, greed, individualism and passivity; rather it is to become a co-creator of a world based on justice, community, solidarity, action and love of the other. To allow oneself to become immersed in the margins is to abandon and reject the power structures and social practices that keep the Third World poor and oppressed and to become part of something much bigger, infinitely more intelligent and rational, and certainly more real, necessary and true than anything the false world we live in can ever offer. In short, immersion is nothing less than building the Kingdom of God. Everyone has their own favourite time on immersion. Mine was listening to the talk Brother Jasak (a White Brother) gave us about the plight of street children and the tragic lives they live on the streets. It brought it home to all of us just how unjust the world is for those at the margins and how we, as an Edmund Rice-minded school community on the Glen Road, are, indeed, living out the vision of Blessed Edmund and the generations of Christian Brothers who have made such a difference to people throughout the world. On behalf of those who travelled to the margins in Zambia and especially the marginalised people of Misisi, Kabwata and Mapepe, I would take this opportunity to thank everyone from the school and the wider community for their magnificent support and encouragement.

Dr. Aidan Donaldson



Kevin Auld
St Teresa's PS



Nathan Crudden
Good Shepherd PS



Ciaran Gallagher
Holy Trinity PS



Brian Gibney
St Mark's PS



Tiarnan Healy
St Anne's PS



Niall Hughes
St John The Baptist PS



Connell Jackson
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James Johnston
Holy Trinity PS



Michael Kennedy
St Teresa's PS



Peter Lynch
St Mary's Star of the Sea



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Christ the Redeemer



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Conall Brazier
St Joseph's PS, Crumlin



Crawford McAree
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Kieron McAuley
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Ciaran McCabe
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Darren McDonagh
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Gareth Murphy
Good Shepherd PS



Robert Murtagh
St Joseph's PS, Lisburn



Patrick O'Connor
St Kieran's PS



Conor O'hare
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Sean O'Neill
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Sean Owens
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Paul McAleese
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Matthew McBride
Our Lady Queen of Peace



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Ryan McAreavey
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Ruairi McGrath
St Aidan's PS



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Caolán Park
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Eamonn Shannon
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Seaghan Shannon
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James Stott
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Ronan Hanna
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Séan Irvine
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Proinsias Malocco
St Teresa's PS



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Malachy Nolan
St John the Baptist PS



Darren Pollock
Good Shepherd PS



Anthony Roninson
Holy Trinity PS



Carl Toner
Holy Trinity PS

The Old Derelict House



It was almost dusk as I crossed the road to the entrance of Milltown Lane. The tall overgrown trees made the walkway look dark and disturbing and the sounds of the night made me shiver as I approached the gate to the old Walker house.

I struggled with the handle because of the build-up of rust that had eaten its way through the wrought iron, making an orangey substance come away in my hand. Wiping it on my trousers, I continued up the mossy footpath. The house, which now looked grey in colour, had old wooden frames which reminded me of a horror movie. I pushed the front door which creaked loudly and peered inside.

I crossed the hallway and something ran over my foot, causing my blood to run cold with fear. My heart pounded in my chest but I regained control when I realised it had only been a rat. I continued along the dim lit corridor and noticed a large brown oak door to my right. I tried opening it but it wouldn't budge. I moved on to the next room. This had no door, only an archway leading into what looked like some sort of dining room with a large stone fireplace at one end. Some parts of the walls were discoloured, leaving patches where paintings had once hung. I exited a door at the far right corner and entered an old fashioned dusty kitchen, taps leaking from bad plumbing as water slapped the base of the sink.

A staircase from the kitchen led up to the second level of the house. There were two empty bedrooms with old net curtains still hanging from the windows. The floor boards were worn and rotted. I looked out of the back window into the overgrown garden with the outhouse barely still standing. The moon shone brightly and I realised it was time to leave. I thought of the family who had once lived here all those years ago and was no longer afraid of the stories used to frighten children away from the old derelict house.

Conor Dodds 8D



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Horror at California's Long Beach



Sandy lay on the soft, damp sand, breathing in the salty air. He looked up at the clear blue sky, the seagulls cawing and flying over him. He lifted his head off the beach, sand particles clinging to strands of his hair. The sand covered his wet shorts and vest, because he had been surfing in the ocean during his break. He closed his eyes and listened to the sound of the seagulls and the children's laughter.

All of a sudden, the laughter ceased and instead was replaced by screams that shot his head up. Children and parents ran past him, horrified. He sat upright and stared down at the ocean. To his horror, he saw arms flailing out on the horizon; it was a sixteen-year old girl. His heart leapt into his mouth. He stood up in a daze, frozen to the spot.

Sandy flashed back to a year and a half ago. He had been working on a different beach at the time. On his break, he had lifted his surfboard off the sand; the waves perfectly high, just as he had wanted. He was about to put his surfboard on the clear blue water, when suddenly a voice shouted behind him. "Hey!"

He turned round anxiously, and then laughed. It was his friend Luke. Luke ran up to him, a surfboard clamped under his arm, and a big grin on his face. "Where you going without me?" he asked, pretending to look hurt.

"Yeah, sorry Luke, but you should stay. The waves are dangerously high. No offence, but you don't know how to surf properly," Sandy said, an apologetic smile on his face.

"None taken," Luke replied. "But let me come, please."

Sandy hesitated, "Ok, but stay close, alright?" "I won't salt your game, man," Luke said. "Promise" "Please don't," Sandy replied, grinning widely at his friend.

They lay on their fronts on their surfboards and started paddling. They paddled out far, so when Sandy looked back, the beach looked like a distant yellow blanket.

Suddenly, he jumped up and rested his feet on the surfboard, with his hands still grasping the sides of the surfboard. He got ready for the big wave ahead of him. When the wave met the tip of the surfboard, he stood up and skidded along the wave, as if he was skating on a skateboard along a pavement.

Water splashed around him, cooling off the heat of the sun. When fifteen minutes had passed, he let the waves carry him back on his surfboard to the sandy beach. As his feet made contact with the soft, yellow sand, he looked around for Luke, but he was nowhere in sight. On his right, however, a surfboard bobbed towards him. He stared at it in horror, fear icing the blood in his veins. He looked frantically over the water and saw splashes of water, beside the face of Luke who was crying out. Sandy, threw his surfboard aside. Cursing, he ran into the water, with the speed of a bullet. "Hold on! I'm coming!" he shouted, then dived into the water and swam like hell. The salt water stung his eyes as he swam but he ignored it and kept going. His arms blurred with speed as he strained every muscle in his body. Under the water, he distinctly made out Luke's legs flailing around like mad. All of a

sudden Luke's head came into focus ...under the water. He had stopped struggling and his eyes were closed. Sandy kicked his legs hard underneath the water. His legs started to go numb, but he forced them to keep going. Until, at last, he reached up to Luke, grabbed his arm and started to kick up towards the surface of the water. His face broke the surface and he gasped for the warm air. Luke looked no different above the surface than he did below. Coughing and spluttering, Sandy pulled his arm and started swimming back to the beach with one arm, his feet kicking under the water. As soon as he reached the sand again, he looked at Luke, who still didn't open his eyes. He dragged Luke up the beach and crouching over him looked for a pulse. Concentrating hard, he searched and searched, but nothing. He hung his head, tears escaping from his eyes. "Why?" he sobbed, "Why?"

After the funeral, he had walked home. It had taken him some time before he reached his street. His feet had dragged along the pavement that night. He reached his house; he slipped the key into the lock and turned. His house had welcomed him into a warm hallway. He staggered up the stairs and turned right into the doorway of his room. Opposite him had been a wall with photos of him surfing, with his girlfriend and ...and... That night he ripped the photos off the wall and swore never again to look at the face of his dead friend. He had even grabbed a vase that was sitting on the dressing table and flung it across the room, shattering it on the wall behind his bed. He had even grabbed his guitar that had sat in the corner and swung it so hard that it smashed against the wall.

Horror at California's Long Beach *contd.*

"STUPID, STUPID, STUPID!" he had yelled. There was nothing left, but the fret board of his guitar that he held in his white shaking hands. He had thrown the piece of wood away, leaned with his back to the wall, and slid down to the floor sobbing.

Now, Sandy watched as the young girl struggled to stay above the water. Her gurgled calls for help carried across the soft sand. Sandy knew what he had to do; "I'm not going to let this happen again," he said, and sprinted into the

water where he dived headlong into the cold surf and swam as he had never done before. It was not difficult and he reached the girl in seconds. He wrapped the girl's arms around his neck and paddled back to the beach. The girl coughed hard but, other than that, she was fine. Sandy laid the girl down on a beach towel. Her friends and parents rushed over to her and huddled around her making sure she was not hurt. Sandy meanwhile slipped away and went into the staff beach hut, to gather his strength.

Literary Section

Entering his office, he closed the door and sat on a chair, dripping with water. Opening a drawer, he reached his hand into the darkness and withdrew a framed photograph of himself with his arm wrapped around a smiling Luke. Sandy studied his friend's handsome, vibrant face.

"You didn't die in vain," he said, his hands gripping the silver frame. Making his decision he set the photograph on the desktop and swore to himself he would never hide it away again.

Nicholas Tracey 12G.



TRICKED

One hot, sunny day a boy called Sammy was walking down King's Road. King's Road was a long narrow road that was situated in the heart of London. He had his head down and was walking very drowsily as he had not had any sleep the night before. He tilted his head up and out of the corner of his eye he saw a wallet that looked to be filled with money lying in a garden. Sammy was a muscular boy and had always worn fashionable clothes. He had quick feet which made him good at running and playing other sports.

He walked casually over to the fence which was keeping the garden from being part of the street. He threw himself over the fence as he didn't want to open the gate and create noise which might attract attention. He tiptoed over to the wallet and bent down very slowly to pick it up. It moved. He was scared and his heart missed a beat. He looked up and he saw that the house was no ordinary house. It was a house that no human had lived in for many years. Everybody said that there was a ghost

who wandered the house. He ran frantically out of the garden, jumped the fence and bolted down the street.

That night he was lying in bed with the wind beating against the window panes. He thought to himself about what had happened that day with the wallet. He decided that he was going to go back the next day to try and retrieve the wallet.

The next day it was raining heavily as Sammy walked down King's Road towards the garden. He was very nervous because he didn't know what to expect. He walked over to the wallet and to his astonishment the wallet moved again. He wanted to see what was in the house so he walked around the back to see if the back door was open. He had a suspicion that he was being tricked. He crept into the house very quietly, walked up the stairs and saw his friends laughing at him about the wallet. He tiptoed into the room where his friends were and when he was close enough he shouted,

"Boooooooooooooo!"

His friends jumped and one of them started crying. Sammy laughed loudly at his two friends. He said to them, "Haha you thought you tricked me but the gun backfired and you got tricked!"

His friend replied, "You definitely got us there!"

But Sammy was still in hysterics at what he had just done to them and when he stopped laughing he said, "That'll teach you to try and trick other people."

Suddenly the boys saw the string that was attached to the wallet slide out of the window. Sammy said, "That's three people who have been tricked, you two and the person away with the wallet."

No one was upset that the wallet had gone because it was filled with fake five pound notes. All the boys started laughing and walked home knowing that if you trick people it can only backfire.

Joe Robinson 9B

The Call



It was a dark, dreary and damp winter's night in Berlin. A lone figure walked through the empty streets, his face half covered by his duffle coat. He approached an ATM machine and watched as the icy chunk of metal ate his bank card. He looked at the screen and observed his balance of twenty-five thousand euros. He accepted his card back and started the journey through the barren city to his hotel.

As he walked, he passed a public pay-phone. It started ringing. With eyes of suspicion the man scanned the empty streets. There was no one else there. No eyes looked back at his. He was definitely alone. He answered the call. The earpiece of the phone was cold against his ear. He did not speak.

"Hello, Mister Ryan," came a voice from the other end of the phone. It was a happy tone but chilling at the same time. "Who is this?" replied Sean Ryan as he placed his hand deep into his duffle coat to gain a strong grip on the cold metal of his pistol.

"Names are not important at these early stages," replied the mysterious voice. "Well you know mine pretty well," answered a now uneasy Sean Ryan. "I have a proposition for you," came the chilling voice. "No!" Ryan replied, interested but adamant as he hung up on his mysterious caller. Just as he began his journey back to his hotel, Ryan noticed a briefcase under the public pay-phone. Now curious, he lifted it and continued back.

When Ryan eventually arrived at his room he placed the briefcase on his bed and proceeded to get undressed. He unloaded his cold silver pistol and along with the bullets placed it beside the briefcase. He then proceeded to the

shower. The hot steam of the water dripped down through the various scars on Ryan's body, particularly stinging at the bullet wound on his left shoulder. He held his breath and waited for this daily pain to end. He turned the water off and exited the shower to the refuge of his malt whiskey and aspirin. He stood in the bathroom looking at his reflection in the steamed mirror. He wasn't a tall man, standing at five feet and nine inches. He had jet black hair with a receding hairline and grey tints. His face was not very distinguishable. It was very average; maybe that is why he has never been seized by any authorities. He looks like an average man and because of this he is overlooked and underestimated which makes him one of the most feared assassins in Europe. After over two decades of being a professional hit-man he has acquired many scars and injuries, the most recent of which is a bullet wound in his left shoulder which still contains the painfully lodged bullet.

Ryan placed a towel around his soaking wet body and continued into the bedroom. He examined the black box on his bed; the shiny gold buttons did not have numbers like the traditional briefcase but letters instead. Ryan thought for a moment. There were eight gold buttons, eight combinations to figure out. He approached the briefcase. It smelt of new leather and was obviously recently bought. Ryan turned the gold buttons to the combination of 'S-E-A-N-R-Y-A-N' and waited as the briefcase continued to open. "How predictable," Ryan commented out loud.

The briefcase was empty but for a small portable DVD player. Ryan opened it and pressed 'Play'. A voice came from the DVD but no video. The voice was happy but also chilling. It was the same voice that spoke to Ryan earlier in the night.

"Hello, Sean. If you are watching this then you are curious about my offer." A picture then appeared on the screen of an old man with grey hair.

"This is Peja Stevovich, I want him dead," the voice determinedly continued. A phone number then appeared on the screen,

"Call this number and I will give you further instructions." (A picture then appeared of a young girl) "or I will kill your daughter." The DVD cut off with a chilling silence.

Ryan sat on his bed looking at the blank screen. His hands were shaking. For the first time in years he was nervous. He had something to lose. Ryan thought of his now seventeen year old daughter. She had never seen him but he had never let a day pass without thinking about her. "I'm so sorry, Shauna," Ryan said to the blank DVD player as a tear rolled down his face. Ryan wiped away this rare emotion as his body filled with rage.

After a few minutes of composing himself, Ryan continued to get dressed, once again placing his duffle coat over his lower face. He loaded his pistol and confidently placed it into his right pocket with his finger on the trigger. He then left the hotel to once again venture into the cold Berlin streets. The weather outside was now worse with sleet and snow falling all around. Ryan was oblivious to the weather as all feeling in his body was intent on revenge. Ryan approached the now familiar pay-phone and dialled the number that he had previously seen on the DVD. The earpiece was once again cold against his ear. The phone rang twice until someone answered.

"Mister Ryan..." said the happy but chilling voice.

"Where are you? I'm coming to get my daughter," said Ryan with a cold and edgy tone.

"First you must do something for me," the voice now ceased to be happy but remained chilling.

"Where is she?" Ryan screamed with no control over his emotions. There was a silence that, to Ryan, seemed like a lifetime. It was abruptly interrupted by a loud gunshot then another, shorter silence. The voice returned to the phone, with an unmerciful tone, "You had your chance. She's dead."

Jamie Smyth 12D

School Trip



Every year, during the summer term the Year Eleven History class get the chance to take a step out of the classroom to take part in a more hands on and applied lesson so as to understand the subject to a high level. I am a year eleven history student and this year we were going to visit Lakeview castle by Lake Secret on the outskirts of the City.

This particular day the sun was anchored high in the luxurious rich blue sky. Wisps of bright white illuminated clouds floated softly through the atmosphere. Mountains usually hidden by the distance had come to surface with undeniable beauty and distinction.

I, along with the rest of the class, waited very eagerly for the arrival of the coach to take us to the castle. As the bus pulled up to the front gates of the school, our class sprung off the seats and dashed for the door in a excited manner. It seemed that this school trip had come at the perfect time of the year to escape from the books and lectures of the classroom. We made our way to the front gates and onto the coach one by one and got seated.

The bus had a very modern interior with black suede seats with a custom logo of the bus company stitched onto the headrest in an eye-catching royal blue. As soon as you entered the bus you could feel the dramatic change from the warmth of outside to the cool breeze from the air conditioning inside.

It wasn't really a long bus ride. We stopped once at a filling station as the bus needed to reload. We came down a dusty, bumpy road which led to a grand black and gold gate. The impressive gate opened and we followed on through to a car park. We stepped off the bus and could feel the warmth of the sun once again. We were welcomed by our guide and escorted down an old dusty path, leaving a cloud of smoke behind us. This led us down to the castle.

As spring had left us for summer the castle looked as if it had been reborn. Splashes of colour spread up the side of the walls. A satisfying scent of lavender drifted through the air in the gentle breeze. The warmth of the

sun took hold of you and the castle was buzzing with people enjoying the day and the magnificent views of the lake from the castle gardens. The gardens looked alive again. Hordes of different colours and shapes of flowers had poked up through the grass.

The school had sent us here today, not to dwell in the scenery but to try and learn and experience the historic past of the castle.

We were brought into the grand entrance at the front of the castle and images of what the castle may have been previously used for in the past flooded everybody's mind. We were taken up the grand staircase and presented with a great hall. Around the room there were great pieces of art work depicting the different parts of the castle. There was a row of small windows which circulated the room. The rays of light that shone through these showed up small grains of dust floating in the air. The roof of the great hall had been cleverly painted with pictures of clouds and sky as if the roof wasn't there at all.

Whilst in the hall we were instructed about the different activities that we would be doing today. From here we were escorted out of the hall down great wide corridors, filled with paintings and other impressive pieces of art.

One piece in particular got the attention of the class. It was a mannequin of a knight wrapped in silver armour. In one hand he held an Irish flag, whilst in the other was a sword. The sword caught the light of the sun and really made the knight come alive in our imaginations.

We followed the guide on down the hall and entered another large room. This room was the castle's arsenal and seemed to have a vast collection of medieval guns, gathered through out the ages. These impressive bits of machinery gave the look and feel that they had been once used in a great war which left the thought in our minds that maybe there were some hidden secrets of this castle that you don't learn about in History class.

We were taken swiftly away from the arsenal

by the guide. He explained to us how those weapons had been recovered throughout the castle from Medieval times when the Lakeview clan were superior throughout the island of Ireland. We were led out onto a great wide and spacious balcony. You could feel the refreshment of the breeze yet again.

The balcony had a smooth cream marble floor and was enclosed by a blood red brick wall. The marble and brick clashed, giving an eerie feel to the balcony. At the end of the balcony you were in full aim of the sun which was lingering in the sky above us. The balcony was closed off at the end by a large, well crafted fence at the perfect height to lean your forearm onto comfortably. It was coated in a cream and marble effect skin which shone well in the sun.

From here you could see an impressive panoramic view of the mountainside falling into the lakeside. You could have a full view of the castle grounds plus miles more. The castle was surrounded by great masses of gardens that reflected the beauty of the edifice. The flowers swayed and danced in the breeze whilst a ring of strong enforcing guards of large chestnut trees looked over the rest of the gardens. There was an arch at the end of the garden leading onto a stone cave. This is where our guide escorted us to after the balcony.

The guide warned us that this cave went against all scientific knowledge and how it may take us from our everyday world. The cave was dark and grey with a bad damp smell lingering about its walls. I stepped on into the cave and moved further and further into the cold dwelling. Large gusts of strong, almost gale force, winds began to swirl around me. Against my own will my body began to spin. I raged into a panic and I felt the ground below me escape my grasp and

My school goes on normal school trips. Well at least I thought we did.

Adam O'Hare 12D



Serial Killer

I've killed many in my prime,
Now I'm in here doing time.
Sitting here in this dark cell,
Really does feel like hell.

I've shot, stabbed and even strangled,
I've left people completely mangled,
I've murdered, stalked and even molested,
That's why I got arrested.

People beware,
Do not fall into my snare.
I'm wicked and wild,
Not innocent like a child.

Matt Sloan and Paul McCann 10G

Hellraiser



The trees were bare, just merely hanging onto survival. Fear nestled among the branches, watching and waiting for the deadened spirits who wish to venture into this lost and forgotten property. Altogether there was an immortal atmosphere to the house. The darkened eerie clouds were hovering overhead, spitting out their gloomy rain. Then as the thunder rolled and the lightning struck the house was illuminated and the overgrown garden emerged.

The bricks of the house were entrapped by the demoniac green moss which seemed unwilling to part from the exterior of the house. The roof tiles had smashed and parted from their righteous position and many were situated among the limply hanging vegetation of the garden.

The boardings on the windows and doors of the house looked like a prison confining a monstrous creature that had appeared from the depth of the underworld.

The interior of the house had a strong potent stench of damp and death. The walls and floors had a spikey dungeon-like feel and the whole house was in sheer darkness. This darkness supported the life of many unearthly, underworld creatures with ferocious and uninviting features. Then from under a pile of decaying limbs and the faeces of these unearthly creatures emerged a pathway to hell!

This portal to hell was a pool of blood red and jet black colours that led to a labyrinth of treacherous tunnels and caves. Within these tunnels and caves there was a strong pungent odour of sweat and fatality. The deceitful mirages that one would encounter upon entering this labyrinth were quickly abolished by the intense breathing of the ghostly beast. This monstrous beast was in place to test

any being who wished to enter into the infernal regions of torture and misery.

The fiery region was stricken by the entrance that was submerged in blood and guts. At the entrance anyone who dared enter was greeted by a head of a demon impaled on an immaculate sword.

This demon had blood like ice hanging from its severed neck. The demons stare was so intense and excruciating that it would turn you to stone. The demon's face was sizzling in the warmth of Hell. Throughout this bubbling area, rivers of poison and lava flowed into a lake of corpses and limbs.

Overhead large carnivorous bats were gliding, stalking any living matter and terrorising the damned people of hell. The screech and squealing of the bats was so intense it could slice through you. They flew confidently, watching and waiting for the right time to strike.

The strong stench of decomposing and sizzling bodies engulfed the whole of the underworld. The heat of the lava that filled caverns and rivers only intensified this horrific smell. The sound of grinding bones and squealing beings cracked the walls and caused people to collapse with insanity.

The Devil was sitting on his throne of thorns, horns and bones but only bones of beings not known to man. This throne was woven together with the skin of a blood red snake.

Beelzebub indulged in his evil reign of pain and suffering, giving vent to the anger of being the subordinate influence of savagery in our once religious and harmonious world.

Ryan Morgan 12D

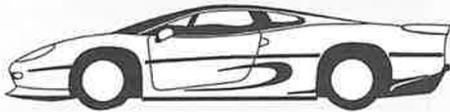
My Future

We'd all like to be a movie star,
Have a massive house and a Ferrari car.
In the daily magazine,
Nearly as popular as the queen.

But my father didn't raise me to,
Be greedy and look down on you.
He taught me manners and respect too.

So what I really want to be,
Is like the man who taught respect to me,
But not only that man but also like his
wife,
She taught me love and how to live life.

Donhnall Quinn 9E



My future, my future
Who knows what it will hold?

Will I be small and geeky?
Or big and bold?

Will I be rich?
Or will I be poor?

Will I have children...?
Well that's for sure!

Will I be a singer?
Will I die young?

Will I be remembered?
With the songs that I've sung.

Will I play for Barca?
On the right wing? Or will I
be a rapper
With all the bling bling?

Will I drive a Lambo?
Or a battered up car?
(That couldn't even get me-
Down the road to the Spar.)

My future, my future
Who knows what it will hold?
All I am hoping for
Is a future made of gold.

Raymond McGeough H9E

In the future I don't want to
Have fame,
I don't want thousands of
People to know my name.

I want a simple life,
A life free from stress,
I don't want to have to go on TV,
like some comedians would,
wearing a dress.

I want a house with solar panels,
And a special Sky box,
With numerous TV channels.

The future for me
Looks bright,
But I'm still too young
To see my future right.

Curtis Millen 9E

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Library Section
Green Issues

The world is not a happy place,
With guns and drugs and wars,
And they are not the only things,
That are knocking on our door.

I'm talking about recycling,
We all don't do enough,
The world is heating up a lot,
Because of smoke-puff puff.

Then there's things like forests,
That are being cut down,
And when the sea levels rise,
Way up high,
We'll all be left to drown.

But people still don't listen,
World leaders turn a blind eye,
Well, they'll be very sorry,
When the world ends and we die.

So listen to me please,
Come out of all your trances,
Clean up your act and save the world,
We've wasted nearly all our chances!

Caolán ÓCoisneacháin 9E

Green Issues and Recycling

The issue is very worrying.
And you ask what can we do?
We need to stop carbon dioxide
emissions,
So that we can save you.

Global warming heating the earth.
The heat may be nice,
But if we don't stop it,
It will melt the caps of ice.

Global warming is an issue,
And one that needs to be stopped.
The heat continues to rise,
And soon it will get too hot.

Littering is another issue,
People throw rubbish on the street.
If we do not recycle,
The sea will sweep us off our feet.

Seamus O'Neill 9E



God is not to blame

People thought it once was good;
To throw away their waste.
But now that the effects are shown,
It's turned into a race.

It's turned into a race to rid;
The world of all its waste.
And all of this has happened,
Because of people's taste.

The problem is the motor car;
That people like to drive.
Turns out if it wasn't there,
People still would be alive.

People put the blame on God;
The one they call our Lord.
The one that really should be blamed,
Is Mr. Henry Ford.

Padraig Scott 9E



S.O.S. Mother Nature

Recycling your waste,
Makes the world a better place,
Clean your carbon foot print,
And put on a Green Face.

Decaying food can be
Recycled too,
You can make some compost,
To help the flowers bloom. We can save
our world,
We can slow Global Warming down,
By recycling our waste and,
Taking it out of the ground.

The water would be clear,
The air would be fresh.
No more litter would damage,
The Earth's flesh.

If you don't recycle
It's an environmental sin,
So put your recyclables,
In your recycling bin!!!!

Mother Nature needs to save us,
Our heads are in quite a spin.
Our Earth is going to waste,
People do not use their recycling bins.

Mother Nature please,
Encourage people more.
Because if we don't stop soon,
The waters will cover our floors.

Curtis Millen 9E

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Save The Earth

Global Warming it's hard to explain,
Lives suffering, excruciating pain.
It's hurting the world in a number of
ways,
It's starting to get worse, day after day.

Temperatures are rising,
The ice caps are melting,
The ozone layer is fading away,
So stay out of the cars, walk, enjoy the
day.

People damaging the world for greed,
That's the last thing that we all need.
They need to stop and give it a rest,
Do what's right, do what is best.

Lives are at risk day by day,
When will this stop? It has to go away.
The Earth is spectacular and cannot be
replaced,
So save it now and put a smile on my
face!

Patrick McBride 10E

Deteriorating

Today we need to clean it up,
Not just our streets but the world we live in.
Stop dropping the litter on the floor,
Put in the bin, that's what they're for.

We are melting caps by the hour,
Soon we will be under water.
And by the year 2050,
The oil, it will not matter.



What is the world going to do?
When the resources all run out?
When the litter starts to pile up,
And we all suffer a drought?

Global warming, it's getting worse,
We need to cut down on the energy we're
using,
Because the bomb that's going to blow the
world,
Badly needs defusing!

David Nelson 10E

Global Warming

Global warming hurts,
Our planet everyday.
It leaves Mother Earth,
In pain and in dismay.

Ice caps are melting,
This is really bad.
Animals will go extinct,
This is really sad.

We use too much oil,
We are not very smart.
This will lead to sea levels rising,
And flooding will start.

We need to stop the tidal waves
Tsunami and earthquake.
So come on people,
Give Planet Earth a break.

Increasing our emission,
Decreases the Ozone Layer.
Adandon your car, take a walk,
And become a global player.

Reuse, reduce, recycle,
Your rubbish and your waste.
Before it is too late,
To save the Human Race.

Ruairi Fisher 10E



Alone

Abandoned by their mother,
Left in the street,
With no food to be had,
And no place to sleep.

A new morning is dawning,
They search for a place to stay,
No one will accept them,
Everyone turns them away.

Alone and Hungry,
They need to be fed,
If not soon
They'll both soon be dead.

The night is drawing closer,
They need a place to stay,
An abandoned house looks promising,
Tonight they will not play.

Alone they are,
With no others,
Two people, two friends,
Two brothers.

Anthony Shortt & James Reid 10F



Loneliness

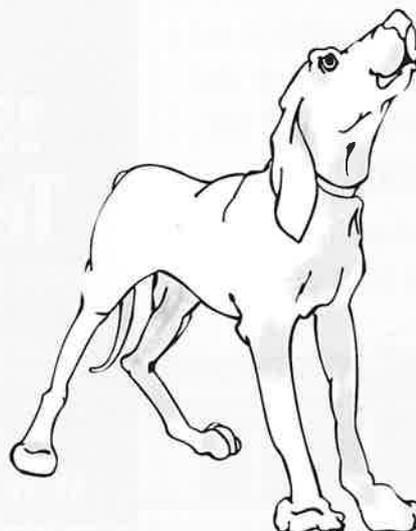
Loneliness

It sits there alone
All day and night,
Behind the Gate
Barking at all in sight.

It guards the house,
Keeping thieves away,
Making sure its owner
Keeps it to stay.

It howls at the moon,
In the middle of the night,
Hoping its owner
Comes back into sight.

Piers Cormican 10G



WAR

War

Bang goes the sound of shells exploding,
The crackle of overhead machine gun fire,
The sound of man weeping and wailing.

The sights of limbless men lying,
The sight of men hanging on the wire,
How enthusiastic the people back home
would be now!

Those with their war antics
Those who believe that this place is a
good place to die
I would hope that hell would not be like
this.

Christopher Moore 11H

The Real Truth

The stench of disease ridden corpses,
Lingered constantly in the air.
I hope hell will smell better,
For winning this war I do not care.

I look back on what I was like,
Full of joy and happiness,
Eager to leave the safety of my home.
For I was just a boy,
I envy that person I left behind.

I try not to make friends,
For I know only too well,
My friend is out there,
On that brown horizon,
Tangled in jagged silver thread,
Staring mindlessly at the ground.

Kevin O'Brien 11H



Dark Ditches

I'm back in the days of distant memory
Sitting in a peaceful church with my
family.

Thinking how I truly miss them,
And cursing the day I enlisted.

I thought war was a bit of a game
Like a quick stepladder to fortune and
fame.

Oh how childish I have been!
For this was something not foreseen.

On my God what have I done?
Signing up for this morbid "fun"
Shooting, killing the blasting of shells
War has forsaken these men to hell.

Daniel Glover 11H



Wars And Fights

Wars, fights and arguments are like a dark
cloud

Who will be affected?

Many will die,

Others injured.

It is for no reason,

People still fight,

Your enemy is still human,

They are not different.

War happens because of greed, race and
because of religion

Don't start fighting.

Think before you act.

Padraig Brady 9G

Nightmare

In war you fight and die.
Some people may think that's heroic,
But when it comes to the end,
It takes a long time to mend.

But in the Iraqi war,
It could be your last shot,
Fight against Osama's team,
Or you lie there and rot.

But you pick yourself up,
And shove yourself out,
But you see 100 men running,
And that's when you start gunning.

50 calibres here,
And 40 calibres there,
That's when you got shot in the leg,
This is more like a nightmare.

Crawl to the trench,
And get fixed up,
By the medical team.
But when you get there you fall asleep,
Or is that what it seems?

Two months later,
Back at home,
Stars and stripes over your coffin,
And a helmet on your gravestone.

So war is bad,
And no one's a hero,
And if you get involved,
You will stoop to zero.

Gerard Joyce 9G



War

War, oh, war
What is it for?
Children dying,
Mothers crying,
War, oh, war
What is it for?

Guns are not toys,
They can cause the death of young boys,
War, oh, war
What is it for?

People in pain,
Dying in vain,
Bombs are dropped,
Guns are cocked,
War, oh, war,
What is it for?

Countries in ruins,
Lying in rubble,
War is the cause
Of all this trouble.

Jack McCrea & Niall McMahon 10F



The Many types of Conflict

Conflict comes in many forms of use
Like the war in Iraq
It's physical abuse.
Bullying in school, it's just not right,
Or families having feuds, starting fights.

Catholics and Protestants
Can't keep peace.
Blacks and Whites,
Skinny and the obese.

War is indiscriminate,
It doesn't matter who you are.
If you survive it,
You'll still have that personal scar.

Conflict can be resolved,
With one simple sentence.
Accepting an apology,
Or accepting independence.

Danny McBride 9G

Hurling

A hurling stick has got good grain,
It's simple, it's easy, it's heavy and plain.

Playing the game is so much fun.
Adrenalin pumping, you just want to run.

The ball is thick, the ball is thin
Put it in the net and you're sure to win.

Determination, courage, pride and skill.
You need all these to have the will!

Conor O'Callaghan 10F



The Big Game

Football is our heaven
Football is our joy
Champions League final
A dream for a young boy.

United v Chelsea
What a game it would be!
You or me?

Waiting in suspense
The game yet to commence
The players arise
The whole crowd in surprise.

They all look tough
Shake hands and stuff
The ref starts the game
Chelsea bears the shame.

Brian Donnelly & Conal Sheppard 10G



The Wonderful Game

Hurling is passion,
Hurling is drive,
Hurling is discipline,
I yearn to strive.

I jink right, I jink left,
I leave the defender without a breath.
I puck the ball,
Over Croke Park's wall.

The crowd roars,
As the ball scores,
The manager screams,
I'm living in my dreams.

*Stephen Rooney
& Thomas Manning 10G*



Poetry – My Image Childhood

Childhood, Childhood!
It's a lovely thing.
Both for the bad times,
But also for the joys it will bring.

It all starts at your birth.
When your mothers go through excruciating pain.
And you'll learn to never take her name in vain.
Then, finally you get to go to the comfort of home.

Time progresses and you'll get older,
You will leave your baby behind and become a toddler.
You'll get bigger, smarter and maybe even bolder,
But time waits for no man and soon everything will change.

As quick as you think, you're off to school.
You'll make new friends, then learn something new.
School continues throughout the years.
Now once again everything will suddenly change.

You're now starting First Year.
You'll become even smarter and more mature.
You'll move on to second year when you'll turn thirteen.
Your childhood has ended and now your slate is wiped clean.

Joseph Cunningham 10G

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Teatime with a Hobbit

I knew straight away that once the old, rusted, green, horse-pulled wagon had made it over the steep hill that I would be treated to a wonderful sight that had never been seen for over twenty years. The Shire was both a beautiful and mystical land that was always lit up by the bright sunlight by day and decorated by the stars at night. It was also very dense with hills and fields, and had a river running through it. If you looked very carefully at the vivid green hills, you could see the colourful, flower-packed gardens and wooden front doors of the creatures who own this scenic region.

These creatures are the little people known as the hobbits. Hobbits are strange creatures as they are just like us in physical form, apart from their height. They dress in tweed jackets or cotton jackets; baggy, long sleeve shirts or blouse (for a lady hobbit) and three-quarter length trousers or skirt. Yet they do not wear any shoes, sandals or slippers, for they prefer to walk about with their bare, hairy feet. They also appear to have a cheery disposition as they always have a smile on their faces and always invite strangers or non-hobbit people to join in with all the iridescent and fun-filled community parties for holidays, birthdays and especially when it comes to the anniversary of the end of the 'War of the Ring' and the new rule of the Free Peoples.

The horse took the wagon down the path on the steep hill at a slow, snail-like pace that travelled towards the large village where the majority of the hobbits live. The wagon went over the river by the River Bridge that separated Hobbiton from the rest of the Shire. The homes of the hobbits were all beside the slow-moving and peaceful-sounding river that

flowed down from the mountains above the Shire. I came to visit an old friend whom I have known since I was a young man of twenty, and after passing many hobbit homes, I found his pretty little home as it was the only one that had a dark scarlet shade with a dragon's head knocker made out of gold.

His name is Igor Haggot and he is one-hundred and thirteen years old and still looks like a toddler of about three years of age. He is only three feet tall and wears a thick, curly, grey wig. His face is wrinkled, bombarded with freckles. He has wide deep blue eyes that are very noticeable. He is already standing at his front door having spotted me sitting on the old, rusted, green horse-pulled wagon at the top of the steep hill. He is wearing a white shirt that is too big for him, and a pair of dark, earth brown, three-quarter length trousers. He had the most amazing smile on his face that is the most welcoming sight I have seen in such a long time.

I get off the wagon and tied the horse up to Igor's fence. Igor's house like the rest of the hobbit's village is built underneath the hills. The smell of the flowers that are in Igor's garden is very sweet, almost like honey. The garden is full of them. His garden also has a burrow, where some rabbits were popping in and out like a jack-in-the-box being used for the first time by a child on the morning of Christmas day. The front door frame that Igor is standing under is round, wooden and painted a bright yellow. The door itself is dark scarlet and has a gold door knob. Igor shakes my hand warmly and welcomes me into his house. As he closes the door, the chill of the hallway is like ice that puts a shiver down my bony spine (as if someone had

walked over my grave). The long hallway is completely satiated with coat hangers that are in the shape of a fist. Igor leads me down the cold hallway with some trouble, for the ceiling is at the height for a hobbit to waddle under, not a man.

I can then feel a sudden blast of heat as we come closer to the round living room entrance. It feels as if we are in a furnace that has been burning for over a week. White hot. We stop at the living room entrance and savour the warmth of the fire as we have been ever so cold in the long hallway. The open fire's heat possesses us both. The living room is vibrant yellow and has two very soft comfortable chairs; a large frosted-glass coffee table on a rug that is made from bear fur is positioned to the right of the living room and about two metres in front of the smouldering fire. The room also has a large wide bay window on the left hand side. You can see the mist of the tall Misty Mountains from it. There is also a bookcase, two cupboards and three shelves spread with four paintings across them opposite the entrance. We then sit down on the two Comfort Chairs (they were true to their name) and chat about our delightful, fearful, exciting and sad experiences since the time we saw each other. That was over three years ago, due to me moving to another part of the country. I have been so kindly welcomed into Igor's wonderful home at around twelve o'clock in the afternoon. The conversation does not finish till half past six. Hobbits could possibly tell stories for the full length of a lifetime if they had the chance.

Igor then made his way to the kitchen to prepare the teatime meal that we have both been longing for. We had both missed lunch due to the ever so long conversation. Igor's cooking is said to be the most famous cuisine of the Shire because of the food tasting so delicious and succulent. It is also said that he makes the best 'Hobbit soup' in the entire Shire as well. While I am waiting, I gaze upon the magnificent paintings that are on the shelves, in the living room. They are two paintings each of the river and the River Bridge, the Misty Mountain. They are all watercolour paintings, showing the beauty of these places from a Hobbit's point of view. They are painted with so much detail; with the river paintings you can see all

the long, green blades of grass, the bright sunlight hitting off the river water and the white and grey blends that represent the mist of the mountains and the formations of the rock in the Misty Mountain paintings.

It seemed that I had only arrived at my friend's front door and now it was time to say our goodbyes after three long years. With a long silence within my heart I knew that this could be the last time that I would ever set foot in my friend Igor's home before he takes the ship from the Grey Havens to the Land of the Fairies, the Land of Eternal Life

(due to his old age). I am dreading the fact that I am about to leave the warmth of the living room, upon entering the cold passage of the hallway which led to the front door. I soon realise my own age knowing that this could be last parting of ways between me and my good, old friend, Igor. We slowly walk up the hallway, to the round front door past all the coat hangers in complete silence. One day when I become completely silver-haired, as wrinkled as my cotton clothes and rely on a rosewood cane or staff, I too hope to take one last journey on the ancient Golden

ships of the Grey Havens and meet up with my old friend in the Afterlife where we can once again relive our past adventures and savour our happy moments.

Christopher Pendleton 11D



Katrina Hell

They call me New Orleans. My open-armed welcoming nature entices thousands of people to visit me. My vibrant music of Mardi Gras and jazz makes a festive atmosphere for those who need it. The easy-going nature of my people is what brings you here. They have loved me for hundreds of years for my protection and guidance over their lives. I am responsible for the birth of thousands of beautiful children. My most famous son, Louis Armstrong personifies what I stand for, happiness, joy and love of music. By day I am quiet and peaceful but by night I am a city of sound, a city of people and a city of Soul.

On the 23rd of August 2005, the height of hurricane season, Katrina began to build up a storm that would change and devastate the lives of thousands of people. Out at sea she devised a plan to destroy the happy home of Mardi Gras and jazz. Without delay or consideration she swept across the north-central gulf coast like a plague and almost annihilated everything and everyone in her path.

People were warned to evacuate but years of hurricane warnings had made them become complacent. People were too calm; no-one took very seriously the numerous warnings given out over the radio. They had no idea Katrina Hell was on its way.

As Katrina sneaked in, the winds picked up. Waves ran riot out at sea. They roared at me from the distance. And I could but watch with despair as my once beautiful city crumbled beneath me. Waves swirled, swished, crashed and bashed until my levees gave way. Death drew in stealthily disguised as waves lapping at doorways, rising higher and higher.

People congregated on rooftops, climbing and feeling closer to

heaven than ever before. Desperate faces displayed expressions of fear as the realisation of Katrina's consequences began to set in. Katrina engulfed with a sinister smile the homes of those who always dedicated their devotion to me. The people begged me to stretch out a hand of help but all I could do was cry tears of rain. People flooded toward the Superdome for protection against Katrina. The doors opened as if it were my own arms, reaching out to give my people refuge. My people were in chaos and danger while Katrina could do nothing but continue relentlessly without mercy. Children were lost and left screaming in the streets for the return of their parents. Katrina surged on, ripping houses from the ground and throwing cars high into the air at will.

The waves were called in as reinforcements to back up the already existing catastrophic events. This once sleeping giant of happy memories and enjoyment had now turned its back on its belief, and sided with Katrina to destroy those who once embraced it. Katrina and her waves continued their invasion as they moved further inland. They wiped out our city like eraser on pencil, as if it were no chore at all.

The waves ebbed out as time trailed on; it seemed to have lost its enjoyment of killing. Katrina began to subside, finally answering the prayers of the people, who once had homes and happiness here. Going down with exhaustion Katrina lost her power. Leaving New Orleans in ruins was her mission, and she completed it to perfection. Katrina combined with the waves killed thousands and destroyed countless buildings. Everything began to settle and Katrina passed with a satisfied grin on her face, proud of herself and her achievements.

Stephen McGuigan 11D

*In Loving Memory
of a Much Loved Wife and Mother*



In Loving Memory

The blazing hot sun shone in an inferno that scorched all plant-life. It fell upon and left all creatures scrambling to escape its harmful rays. None could cope with this humidity for too long and most had retired to their homes before the sun had reached its midday peak and had thrown the windows open to tempt in the slightest breeze.

On the edge of a city, a car was driving into the gravelled car park of an alluring nature reserve. As a man got out he whistled a joyful tune and picked up his backpack. Most people would have considered it odd that he was whistling if they knew what day it was.

The man took a silk handkerchief from his pocket which was embroidered with the name 'David' with a little frill around the edge. He wiped his forehead and around his nose where the sweat had dripped. David's hairline was receding and although he still held the distinct looks of a much younger man his wrinkled eyes told of his many years.

As he walked the gravel crunched beneath his feet and the sunlight gleamed off his silver hair and across his face blinding

him, and forcing him to take out his sunglasses. Once he had passed the car park gates he opted not to travel in the footsteps of the innumerable tourists who had gone before him compressing the earth into a pathway that spread, like a scar, across the hilltops, down the valleys and even changing the course of small streams.

He instead decided to make his own path through the wildlife. He had made this journey before but he enjoyed the scenery on the way up so he liked to try to take different routes up the mountain.

He took a deep breath as he crossed the trickling stream and although it was humid the air was still fresh and the fragrant aromas of the midsummer flowers overcame him.

He listened to the birds singing their euphoric tune as he walked, climbed and stumbled his way through overgrown bushes of tangled thorns, long grass and flowers, and fallen trees which had finally grown too big for their roots to hold. He waded through knee-high water and climbed rock faces until he reached the bottom of the mountain. He then stopped and took out a bottle



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Opticians

of water which he gulped down as he took his handkerchief out of his pocket again and wiped his forehead.

When he set off again the mountain inclined steadily, at various gradients, for a few miles. The clammy air was suffocating, so that by the time David had made it to the top he was out of breath and could barely enjoy the beautiful view that was slowly unfurling around him. When he finally reached the top he stopped to catch his breath and looked around. He could see the mountains that stretched before him. He looked down to the forest below and to the west where an ever growing city was taking up even more of the luscious green countryside than the last time he had been there. Then there were no crude

skyscrapers or multicoloured buildings.

To the side of the mountain was the nature reserve David had just climbed out of. Beyond that was a farm which blended into the horizon. He looked at all this for a few minutes then went and knelt in front of a huge rock. Engraved on it were the words "In Loving Memory of a Much Loved Wife and Mother." David felt peaceful as he sat there and although this brought back painful memories it also flooded his mind with the beauty of past times.

Slowly the lights in the city below began to flick on and so he said a final prayer and left for another year.

Jordan Fitzsimons 11D

Night-Walker



The golden stars glimmered sadly in the sky, their faces pointed towards the cold earth. One flickered before flitting into non-existence with a slight pip. The others cried out in mourning as their tears descended slowly from the atmosphere, their harrowing howls carrying in the wind. A sad night for the heavens, a sad night for the earth.

As if replicating this depressing feat, a streetlight thousands of miles below ceased to be. The crisp light that had enveloped the area faded into eternal darkness.

Gargantuan gargoyles gazed greedily over the grey gates, as a rat ebbed into the nearest gutter. It began nibbling on a set of rags that were crumpled along the kerb.

Their acrid stench enraged even the mightiest nostrils, the smell overcoming a need to breathe. You were able to taste it, a frenzied flavour of raw liver bouncing sharply on your tongue. Even the rat couldn't stomach such a meal and quickly scurried across the road. For a moment it appeared as if this heap began to levitate – in fact, it was just a homeless man picking himself up from his drunken stupor.

His dark knotted hair swung violently in the breeze, beating off his scarred face. His china blue eyes leered meaninglessly above to the fresh, gaping hole in the vast emptiness of space. A crooked nose was set pointedly above a tight drawn mouth, a lengthy beard itching against his chin. A fur coat draped his hunched back and shoulders and his ribs were clearly visible through the open front. Chicken legs and knobby knees carried him tortoise-like along the cracked pavement, clubbed feet tripping over each other.

The vermin that had tried to feast on this beast watched as its champion crossed towards it hazily. An infant in life, the rat gave off a squeak and attempted to flee. Its final act was in vain. With surprising agility, the starving hunter pounced on its prey, stabbing it in the side with a penknife. The trained killer, who was feigning drunkenness, assembled a few sticks and some paper, set them alight with matches and tossed the carcass of its victim atop it.

A few minutes later, the cheetah skinned its food with its sharp teeth, spitting the fur into a ball on the road. In one fluid

movement, the silent predator brushed the blood from its face with its right paw, and cracked its jaw with its left. It arched its back and slowly strutted down the pathway.

Noticing the chill of the December night, the man drew his rabbit-skin jacket tighter around himself. The strong body odour emanating from him was as sickening as the skin that was tight along his spine. It was just visible through the mist and the hold in his covering. The lines and wrinkles on his face made him look at least sixty. In reality he was thirty. Constantly sleeping rough and hunting food had taken its toll on him.

The unloved, unknown being rounded a stone corner, then crept along furtively. He made his way to the rubbish bin in the centre and began scavenging amongst the trash. After a delay of a few minutes, he returned his hand from within and conceded defeat to this particular enemy. For the next few hours he roamed the empty streets in search of trash cans, and hopefully food within.

The worn soles on his bruised and battered shoes finally gave in to the effects

of friction. They ripped open and tore along the seams. Dirty toes poked through holes from what once were white socks. Used to pain and discomfort, he kept walking, oblivious to the fact his feet were a bloody wreck.

A sign that read "Carlinton Crescent" stood strong-as-an-ox upon a pole. Behind this was a row of semi-detached houses, with high-class cars in the driveways. A perfume of freshly cooked meat and corn on the cob floated sweetly in the night. Mesmerised, the cheetah stalked down the well-kept lawns towards the light of a nearby bay window.

Greedily, incessantly, it pressed its face up against the glass and began to rap slowly, in a slow syncopated rhythm. The family inside spun to the cause of this racket and screamed in disgust at what they saw: a crazed animal with a crazier look in its eyes.

The father, a great lump of a man, pulled a shotgun from a shelf and cocked it. Sensing failure and impending doom, the beast fled into the night, sprinting on all fours.

Eventually it found refuge in a dark alleyway. As it trotted out an hour later, it had returned to its human stature. So he walked solemnly along the middle of the main road, along the dull cat's eyes. A desire for food and a willingness to live drove this stranger on towards the next town.

Slowly, the man weakened and his speed deteriorated. The morning sun was beginning to rise behind the mountains. A glowing scarlet beamed across the ground. A THUD and a gasp pierced the eerie silence.

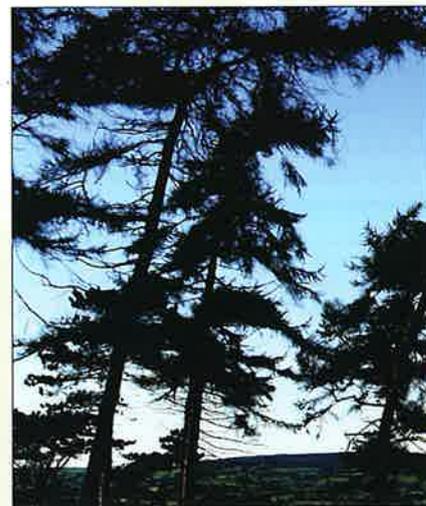
A driver exited his lorry and shuffled to the back, a magazine in one hand and a phone in the other. He stared at the corpse lying spread-eagled under his back wheels.

Later, the police released the driver as the homeless man had apparently jumped into his way at the last moment. A falsehood it was, a shame it was too. A crime? Apparently it was not. The "Daily Times" was delivered to most of London's homes the next day. "Posh and David's New Home" was splattered

across the front page. On page twenty-seven, a homeless John Doe's death was reported in fifteen words: "An unidentified man, believed to be homeless, has been found dead on a London street."

That night a star was born, thousands of miles above the cruel thing that is Earth. Its peers celebrated and shone brightly. Below, a drunk rose from his stupor.

Darren Franklin 11D



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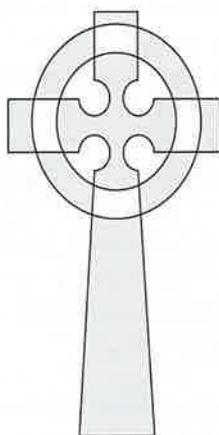
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Eoin Holland
Meanscoil Feirste



Michael McCarthy
St John the Baptist PS



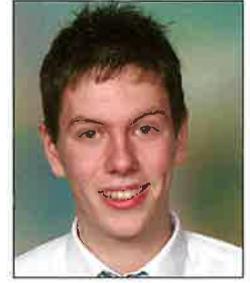
Aidan McKiernan
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Sean Muldoon
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Seamus O'Rawe
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste

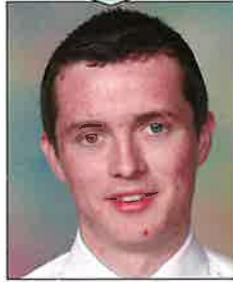
YEAR 14B Form Tutor: Mr F Manning



James Reilly
Scoil Na Fuiseoige



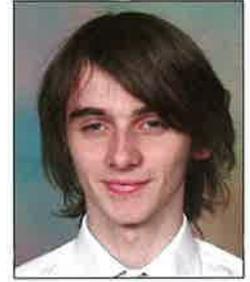
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Damian Cousins
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Anthony Fenton
Holy Child PS



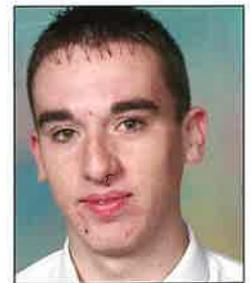
Ciaran George
Good Shepherd PS



Connor Heaney
St Gall's PS



James Kerr
St Joseph PS, Crumlin



David Loughran
Good Shepherd PS



Paul Lyttle
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Philip McCabe
Bruce College



Christopher McGrath
Holy Trinity PS



Robert McLister
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Francis Mezza
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste

YEAR 14C Form Tutor: Mrs J McEvoy



Mark Prior
St Gall's PS



Michael Allison
St Anne's PS



James Cassidy
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James Darragh
Holy Child PS



Robert Gillespie
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Eoin Heatley
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Martin McNally
St Anne's PS

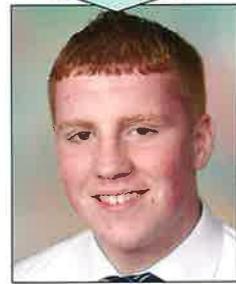


Darren Savage
Rathmore Grammar School

YEAR 14D Form Tutor: Mr D Campfield



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St Aidan's PS



Christopher Connolly
St John the Baptist PS



Daniel Diamond
Holy Child PS



Patrick Fitzpatrick
St John the Baptist PS



Adam George
St Anne's PS



Christopher Gilmartin
St Anne's PS



Conor Kearney
St John the Baptist PS



James Massey
St Kieran's PS



James McCullagh
St Joseph's PS, Crumlin



Sean McHugh
St Aidan's PS

YEAR 14E Form Tutor: Mrs C Gillespie



Oisín O'Murdu
Gaelscoil Na Bhfal



Michael Sweeney
St Anne's PS



Gareth Watters
St Anne's PS



Deaglan Agnew
Holy Child PS



Conor Diamond
St Anne's PS



Sean Finch
St Anne's PS



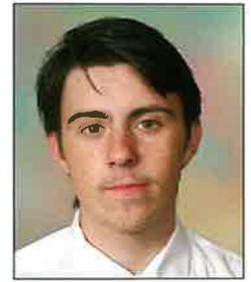
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Joseph Guiney
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Ciaran Connolly
Rathmore Grammar School



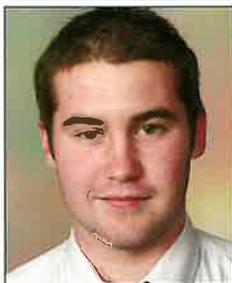
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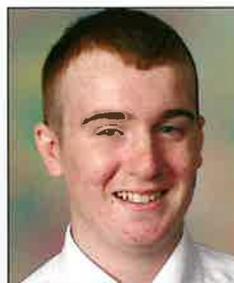
Rory Mac Manus
St Teresa's PS



Christopher Mallon
Good Shepherd PS



Stephen McKeever
St Joseph's PS



Christopher Murphy
St Teresa's PS



Gerard Peake
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Conall Reilly
St John the Baptist PS

YEAR 14G Form Tutor: Mr H McGettigan



Brian Rooney
St John the Baptist PS



Ciaran Stone
St Aidan's PS



Michael Christie
St Aidan's PS



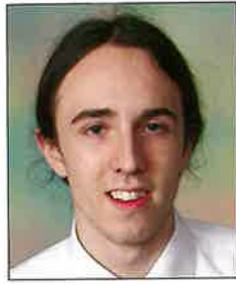
David Crawford
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Christopher Diver
St Peter's PS



Adrian Hanna
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Conor Hill
St John the Baptist PS



Mark McCallum
St Mark's PS



Michael McMahon
St Kevin's PS



Ciaran Murphy
St Gall's PS

YEAR 14H Form Tutor: Miss O Convery



David O'Neill
St Teresa's PS



Michael Dines
St John the Baptist PS



James Ferrin
Holy Child PS



Sean Flynn
St Anne's PS



Eamann Herron
St Paul's PS



Andrew Magee
St Joseph's PS, Lisburn



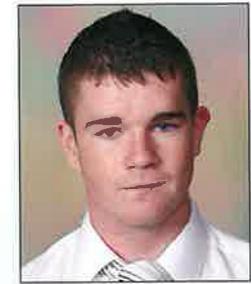
Ryan McCreanor
St Joseph's PS, Crumlin



Colm McGoldrick
Holy Child PS



Emmanuel McGuinness
St Aidan's PS



Paul McMullan
Corpus Christi College



Gavin Megahey
St Anne's PS



Maurice Murphy
St Anne's PS



Conor Quinn
St Mark's PS



Christopher Smith
Holy Child PS



Special Olympics



Special Olympics World Summer Games 2007 Shanghai, China.

I first started to volunteer for the Special Olympics in June 2006 for the 2006 Belfast Games. I then started volunteering weekly for Lisburn together Special Olympics Club. And over the last 3 years it has become a big part of my life.

In March 2007 I was asked to become part of Team 2009 which was the name given to the team of 142 athletes, representing Ireland in many different sports from Bocce and Basketball to Swimming and Football, 55 coaches 100 volunteers and 500 family members all going to the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Shanghai, China. I was overwhelmed as I was nominated by the club which I volunteer for to go. But I was also honoured at this opportunity and after getting the permission to take almost 3 weeks of school, I was going to China. I had to raise £6000 and after the help of my friends, family and the local community, a few bag packs, raffles and

street collections I was over my £6000 target.

So on the 29th of September I set off from Dublin Airport to Shanghai. I didn't know what to expect there. I was on a plane with hundreds of people who I had only meet briefly at training sessions. But after a 20 hour flight, Irish people being Irish, everyone was soon well acquainted and by the time we were getting off the plane everyone knew each other on a first-name basis.

After a day of settling in to the very hot and humid new surroundings, we got straight to work. I was with the Bocce team which was made up of 4 girls and 4 boys from all over Ireland who were all fantastic at sports and even brought the first gold Medal to Team Ireland. They each took the Special Olympics Motto "let me win, but if I cannot, let me be brave in the attempt," and used it to get through the whole competition; they won Gold, Silver and Bronze.

It was a pleasure to assist them throughout the whole 3 weeks.

Throughout the whole three weeks I learned so much not only about different disabilities which some of the athletes had but about so many different countries and their cultures. It was an indescribable experience and I was truly honoured to be given the opportunity to witness the achievements which Team Ireland made-memories, which I shall cherish forever.

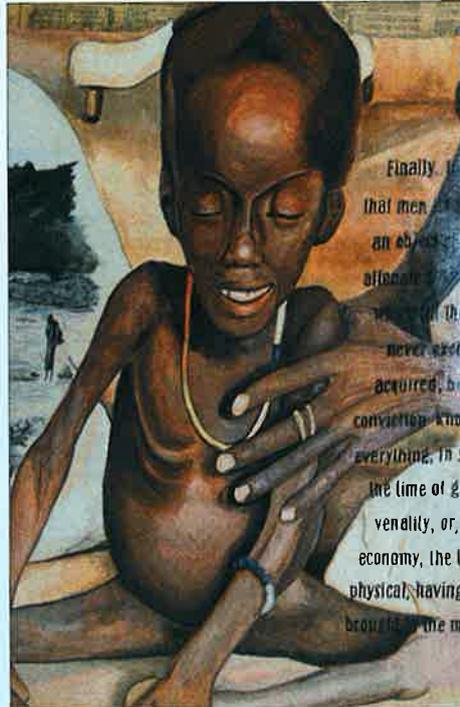
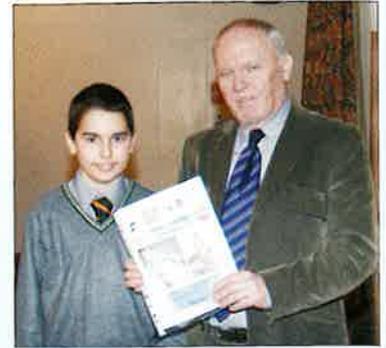
This is the reason why Special Olympics has become such a big part of my life, it provides athletic training to more than 2.5 million people with intellectual disabilities in more than 150 countries. It gives people with disabilities who aren't as lucky as you or I, the chance to experience joy and share their gifts, skills and friendship with the world.

*James McCullough
Year 14*

Connected Learning Year 8 - The Underprivileged

In April Year 8 pupils presented work they had undertaken in a number of subjects on the theme 'The Underprivileged'. The pupils delivered ICT presentations,

exhibited Art work and recited their own poems and participated in a prayer service during what was a very enjoyable assembly.



The French Department



They enjoyed the French specialities at the continental market

Year 11 students chatted to a French baker as they queued up at a pâtisserie

The French Department returns to the Continental Christmas Market: December 2007

Following the success of last year's visit, the current year 11 students of French were invited to the Continental Christmas Market at City Hall, Belfast. This took place on Friday 14th December 2007.

Following a guided tour of the Christmas Market, which included gifts, crafts and food from many European countries, pupils had the opportunity to try some famous French cuisine! The pupils were fortunate to have good weather in December for the outdoor market.

They sampled Belgian waffles, cheeses from Normandy, typical French charcuterie and pâté, and biscuits and cakes from Brittany. They were able to practise their French speaking skills as they conversed with native French speakers at the market stalls.

One of the French stalls visited by the pupils at the market



Niall, Joe and Ciarán even made a new friend at the market!





European Day of Languages



Q. What is the European Day of Languages?

A. The European Day of Languages is held each year to celebrate languages. The Day was first celebrated in 2001 and it involves millions of people every year.

Q. Why do we celebrate a European Day of Languages?

A. To let people know how important it is to learn a language, to appreciate that languages are essential in today's world and to encourage people of all ages to learn a new language.

Q. Where does it take place?

A. The European Day of Languages is celebrated throughout the UK and in forty-five countries across Europe. It is celebrated throughout the Modern Languages department in St. Mary's.

Q. When is it happening this year?

A. 26th September 2008.



Check the calendar for events celebrating the European Day of Languages!

The French-speaking Language assistants at St. Mary's

The French department has welcomed French-speaking assistants to St. Mary's for the past two years. Last March, Daphne Delvaux worked with our GCSE French pupils. Originally from Belgium, Miss Delvaux was not only a native French speaker but fluent in five languages! She was training to become a teacher of History and French in

Belgium and was visiting Northern Ireland as part of an exchange programme. She proved to be invaluable in helping our year eleven pupils with their French conversation skills.

This year, both year eight and year twelve students welcomed Alexandra

Verschaeren into their French classes. Also from Belgium on the same exchange programme, Miss Verschaeren worked with GCSE students to help them improve their pronunciation and fluency in French. 8G were fortunate to be taught by a native French speaker during this year and they were very sorry to see Miss Verschaeren leave.





Some year nine pupils enjoyed the French breakfast



Monsieur Quigg adore le pain au chocolat!

French breakfast on the European Day of Languages

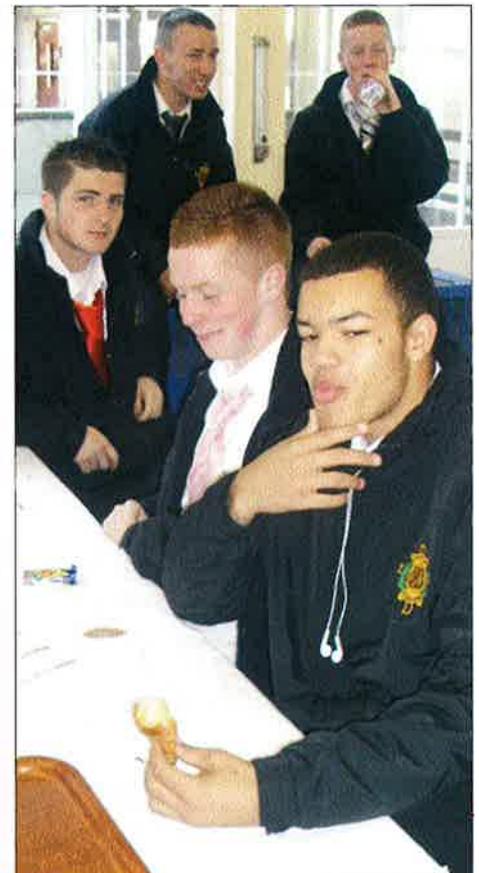
Wednesday 26th September 2007 saw some extraordinary changes at the breakfast club in St. Mary's. Pupils celebrated the European Day of Languages in a very continental style, beginning their day with a typical French breakfast.

Instead of the usual tea and toast or cereal, pupils were queuing up to ask for croissants and hot chocolate! They practised their best French accent as they ordered their breakfast, in the true spirit of the European Day of Languages. The French breakfast proved to be extremely popular, with over four hundred boys attending the event.

The Breakfast club in the school canteen was decorated with the flags of Europe and the pupils listened to French music in the background as they ate their breakfast. Despite the initial fears of some year eight pupils that frogs' legs or snails might feature on the menu, they very much enjoyed the alternative chocolate croissants!

John Carson 11A and Joseph McCall 10A attended the French breakfast

Even the Sixth Years seemed to approve!



Pupils in waiting,

"Opportunity Europe" Languages Fair

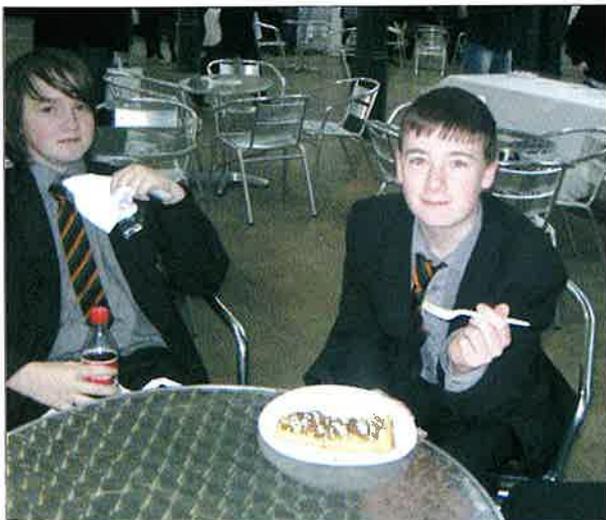


St. Mary's French "Euro Quiz" team

A group of fifteen year ten students of French visited the "Opportunity Europe" Languages Fair on Tuesday 13th November 2007. This languages exhibition offered pupils an opportunity to find out more about learning languages, European countries and culture. There were many different stands giving information, advice and even free gifts!

On entering the exhibition, each pupil received a "European passport", which entitled them to enter a draw for a prize. The only disadvantage was that they had to answer a question at each stand! The third-year pupils represented St. Mary's in the "Euro Quiz" with Cool FM and competed against schools from all over Northern Ireland.

Conor Brennan 10A samples the Belgian waffles



Our pupils showed that they were willing to find out new facts and discover more to the European Union. They entered fully into the spirit of the day by trying Belgian waffles, German hotdogs and French "crêpes".



"Les crêpes": French pancakes prepared by a French chef at St. George's market.

Some of them (who will remain nameless) even tried to Salsa dance! The pupils were entertained by the magician and juggler and thoroughly enjoyed their morning at St. George's market.

Entertainment was provided for our pupils



Nathaniel Daye 10D and Sean Maguire 10E with their goodie bags



French Department visit Paris



In the very early hours of Saturday morning on the 9th of February, St Mary's was a hive of activity as forty second and third year students of French eagerly gathered to begin their journey to Paris. Excitement was in the air as the boys prepared for a four day trip to the capital of France. On the itinerary were all the "must-see" sights of Paris, including a guided tour of the city, a boat trip along the River Seine, a visit to Notre Dame and spending time in Sacré-Cœur and Montmartre.

The pupils spent an action-packed four days in Paris as they saw the Mona Lisa when they visited the Louvre, walked along the Champs-Élysées, saw the Arc de

Triomphe and experienced the magic of Paris at night from the dizzying heights of the Eiffel Tower. Not forgotten either was the fun of Space Mountain at Disneyland Paris or our group photograph taken during the guided tour of the Stade de France.

The pupils had the opportunity to check out guns and weapons at "Les Invalides" military museum, to climb aboard Concorde at the Air and Space Museum and to try optical illusions at the Cité des Sciences Planetarium. Mr. McGreevy, Miss Murphy, Mr. Heaney, Miss Lavery and Miss Lawless accompanied the boys during their stay in Paris and returned to Belfast possibly even more tired than the pupils! However, all

the teachers agreed that the pupils were a credit to the school and to their family while they were in Paris.

Miss Lawless

The trip to France, from my point of view, was one of my top highlights at St. Mary's CBGS. The trip was a great experience and a good opportunity to meet new people, learn about the French culture, and most importantly, speak French!

One of my favourite locations was the Stade de France, as it is one of the best stadiums in Europe. I learned a lot about the team and the country's football history. Another great experience that I had was walking down the Champs-Élysées, which is one of the longest streets in Paris. It was packed with tourists and it took about thirty minutes to walk down the street. I would recommend anyone who gets the chance to go to Paris with the school to take the chance and go. It was a great experience for me and I'd definitely go again.

Danny McBride 9G





On the second last day of the French trip we went to Euro Disney. I thought it was one of the best days there. There were millions of rides, it was so much fun! The best ride I got on was Space Mountain. We went so fast, my face was sore! I'm glad I went to Paris!

Danny Sloan 9A

The French trip to Paris was a very enjoyable and educational trip with the school. We did many fun and enjoyable trips like visiting the military museum, which was very interesting. We saw the different tactics and weapons of the French army over a period of three hundred years.

We also took a trip to the Louvre, which was very interesting but tiring as we were walking around for ages trying to get out! One thing that I liked was seeing the huge paintings and the Mona Lisa by Leonardo

Da Vinci. This was surprising as it was much smaller than I expected.

Gerard McMurrough 9A

The Disney experience is one to remember. I would advise this trip to anyone who is offered the chance.

Daniel Rogan 9A

I loved Disneyland, it was really cool and I met some characters from Disney movies and cartoons. It was awesome! I loved the atmosphere of the theme park, it was just so happy. I also loved going on my own and having my own independence in Paris. I'm glad I went, it was a big experience for me and I would go again.

Martin O'Prey 9A





In Disneyland we all met up with each other and got on all the roller coasters like Space Mountain and Indiana Jones. We all had an amazing experience. If I could go back, I would spend a week there as it was really fun with all my friends.

Stiofan Trainor 9A

It was brilliant. I hope that I get to go back to Paris, it was the best trip of my life.

Paul Bell 9A

The French trip was a once in a lifetime experience because we basically did everything you can do in Paris. We were well looked after by our teachers everywhere we went but we were allowed to split up into groups and go about ourselves in Disneyland. We also went to the Louvre and saw the Mona Lisa and the

glass pyramid. We went to a war museum where we saw life-size statues of soldiers.

We saw guns, swords and cannons and we also saw pictures of famous French leaders like Napoleon. We also walked down the big famous street of the Champs Elysées and there were all these famous buildings around it, but the main thing was at the top, with the Arc de Triomphe. It was massive and inside there was a buried soldier, with the eternal flame. I would really recommend Paris, it's fun.

Gerard Joyce 9G

On the final day of our trip we went to the Stade de France. I was amazed at how big the stadium actually was, it held around 85,000 people.

We went to the stadium a couple of days after Ireland's close defeat, so we could all imagine the fans screaming for their teams. The tour guide told us that some facts, like that the giant screens on either side of the stadium were the size of tennis courts. That was probably the highlight of the trip, I will never forget it.

John Elliman 9

The Eiffel Tower was amazing. At night, when we went there, it was lit up and it was phenomenal. When I got out of the gift shop, I could see what Paris was really like. There were lights everywhere and I saw some fantastic buildings and the river Seine. At the Eiffel Tower, there were a lot of facilities both indoors and outdoors, such as cafés and telescopes which let you look all over the city. After that trip, I would love to go back.

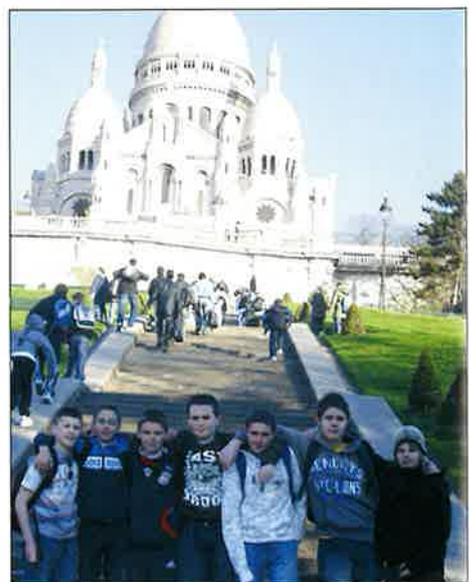
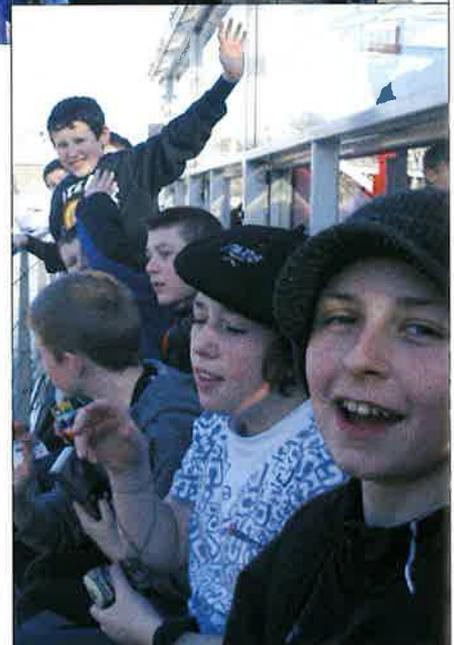
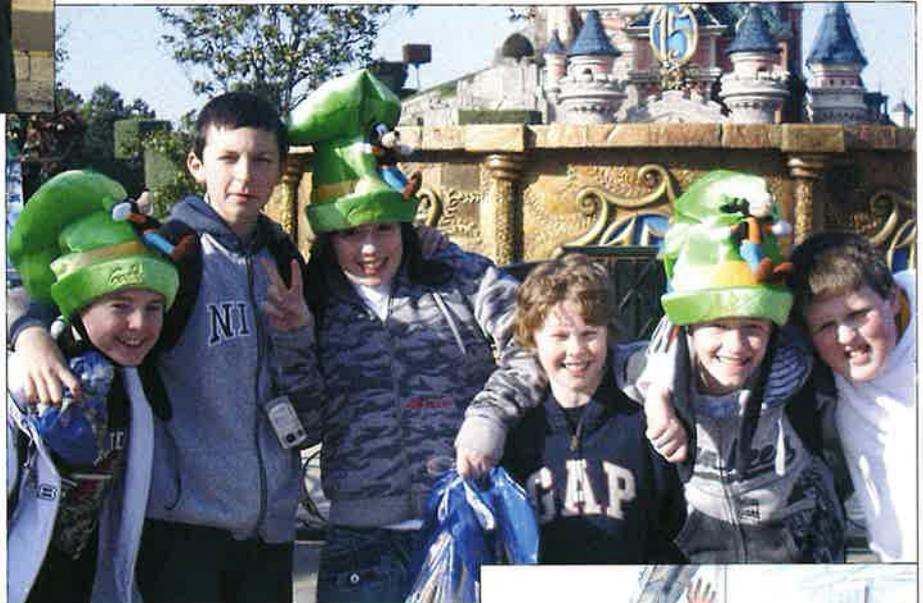
Matthew Brennan 9A





The trip was really good fun and it was an excellent opportunity to practise my French on real French people. We visited many interesting and exciting locations such as Disneyland Paris and the Eiffel Tower. These were the highlights of my trip. The Eiffel Tower was amazing and higher than I thought it would be. There were telescopes where you could look out and examine the city of Paris below. It was one of the best holidays I have ever had and I would recommend it to others as it was class.

Gerard Joyce 96



B AR an Iúl B Cool - B Cliste Muna Miste



Ní raibh orainn na ranganna a ghlacadh ar an Déardaoin 22ú Bealtaine mar bhí orainn páirt a ghlacadh i gclár teilifíse. Craolófar é i mí Mheán Fómhair. Chuaigh muid ar bhus gan díon le hamharc ar chláracha móra fógraíochta a rinne páistí agus ceann eile a rinne daoine fásta. Bhí siad beirt go han-mhaith. Bhí an teachtaireacht orthu faoi shábhailteacht ar an idirlíon.

Bhí an téacs sa chéad cheann maith - cosúil le téacs a fhaigheann tú ar rudaí digiteacha agus ar an ríomhaire. Bhí rím sa chéad cheann fosta - Stráinséar, Dáinséar! Agus bhí sé iontach soiléir. Bhí Béarla agus Gaeilge ar an chéad cheann mar sin de thiofadh le daoine eile é a thuigbheáil.

Bhí an dara ceann maith fosta. Bhí mac tíre air le cochailín dearg air. Bhí sé iontach cliste. Bhí súil mhór sa lár ag amharc amach ort agus thart ar an taobh bhí códanna téacs i nGaeilge ann.

Nuair a shroich muid an scoil bhí ár lón againn. Ansin i ndiaidh am lóin chuaigh muid chuig an léachtlan le vótáil a dhéanamh ar an chlár fógraíochta a b'fhearr linn féin. Thug mise vóta don chéad cheann. Ag an deireadh rinne muid agallamh le Ciara (an láithreoir).

Fuair muid amach ón scoil cúig bhomaite luath le suíochán a fháil ar an bhus. Bhí an lá iontach maith agus iontach greannmhar. Ní dhéanfaidh mé dearmad ar an uair nuair a bhí muid ar an bhus oscailte agus

bhuail crann an fear ceamara ar a chloigeann! Bhain mé sult mór as an turas.

Breandán Ó Luachráin 8E

Chuaigh mise agus ceathrar duine déag eile ar an chlar teilifíse Gáisce Gnó ar an BBC. Bhí orainn vóta a chaitheamh ar chlaracha fograí faoin sabháilteacht ar an idirlíon. Chuaigh muid ar bhus turasóireachta gan díon agus chuaigh muid go dtí an motarbhealach. Chonaic muid an chéad chlár fógra, "Bcool, B ar an iúl, Bslan Bsafe, Danseáir Danger, Stranseáir Stranger," a duirt an fógra.

I ndiaidh dul thart ar an chéad fógra, chuaigh muid síos go dtí an Bóthar Ormeau le feicint ar an darra fógra. Bhí pictiúr de mhac tíre I gcóta dearg agus duirt sé, "Bcliste muna miste." Ar an bhealach ar áis chun na scoile fuair muid brioscáin phrátaí agus deoch. Nuair a bhain muid an scoil amach, chuaigh muid amach di am lón.

I ndiaidh am lón, chuaigh muid chun ár vótaí a thabhairt. Roghnaigh mise an chéad cheann. Bhí orainn agallamh a dhéanamh, ach, ní dhéarna mise é. Ní raibh mé ábalta foclaí a fháil le cur síos ar na fógraí.

Curtis Millen 9E



Ag Obair Le Gaisce Gnó

Dia duit! Is mise Caolán Ó Coisneacháin agus tá mé sásta a rá go mbeidh mise ar an teilifís an bhlian seo chugainn. Ag tús mí Bealtaine, fuair mé litir ó Gaisce Gnó. Cúpla seachtain roimhe sin, tháinig siad chuig mo scoil. Bhí trialacha ann le féiceáil cé a bheidh páirteach sa chlár teilifís. Ghlach thart fá 15 duine páirt sna trialacha agus roghnaíodh mise agus Tomás amach as achan duine.

Bhí mé an-bhródúil! Cibé ar bith, chuaigh mé chuig "The Design Factory" (an áit ar thosaigh muid ag scanáinú) thart fá mí inné sin. Bhuail mé ansin le Tomás agus duine ó Dhoire darbh ainm Caolán cosúil liomsa. Ar an chéad lá bhuail muid le Ceara (an láithróir), Fiona (an stuarthóir) agus Kevin (an fearr fuaimne). Dúirt siad liom go raibh orainn bheith ag ásrtriú mar bhí siad ag dul muid a chuir ar an cheamara. Chuigh muid uilig isteach sa seomra seo agus shuí muid síos thart ar tabla.

Bhí an ceamara ar ár gcúl. Bhí Fiona ina suí in aice leis agus thosaigh an ceamara ag rolladh. Shiúl Ceara isteach le cás mór agus shuí sí síos. D'oscail sí an cás agus thóg sí amach cárta. Léigh sí ón cárta le tasc s'againne a thabhairt dúinn. Dúirt sí go raibh orainn barra fuineamh a bhí blasta agus slantiúil, rud a n-itheoidh déagorí. Fósta bhí orainn an chlúdach a dheanamh do. Bhí orainn thart fá 20 áth dheanamh di dhíth orainn!

Sa deireadh thiar thall, nuair a bhí sé I gceart, chuaigh muid isteach i seomra eile agus d'amharc muid ar ríomhaire láimhe a raibh téip air le fear a bhí ag laibhairt linn faoi déagorí nach n-itheann go leoir rudaí slantiúla agus nach n-imríonn go leoir rudaí sportiúla. Ina dhiaidh sin d'fhán muid i

seomra beag go dtí gur chríochnaigh siad rud éigin. Fuair muid amach cad é a bhí ann nuair a chuaigh muid isteach cúpla bomaite ina dhiaidh sin. Chuir siad babhlaí amach le torthaí agus cnónna. Bhí orainn na hábhair ab fhearr linn a roghnú don bharra.

Le scéal fada a dhéanamh gairid, bhain an fhoireann s'againne an comórtas - thig leat amharc orainn ar an teilifís i mí Mheán Fómhair.

Caolán Ó Coisneacháin 9E

Is mise Tomás Ó Ciaráin agus tá mé ag scríobh anseo le hinsint diut faoi na lachanta a chaith mé le Gaisce Gnó. Bheul, thosaigh sé le triail sa scoil. Tharla sé i ndiaidh na scoile. Bhí thart fá 15 duine ann. Bhí bean darbh ainm Ceara ansin ag cur ceisteanna orainn. I ndiaidh seachtain nó dhó thainig ná torthaí arais. Bhí mé iontach sásta nuair a fuair mé amach gur roghnaíodh mé féin agus Caolán Ó Coisneacháin don chlár. Bhí mé an-brodiuil asam féin. I ndiaidh dhá seachtain thosaigh an taifeadadh. Bhí buachaill eile ar an fhóireann s'againne darbh ainm Caolán. B'as Doire dó. Bhí orainn dul chuig an 'Design Factory'.

Bhí cuid mhór foirgneamh ann agus bhí muid ag déanamh taifead sa chomhlacht 'Imagine Media'. Ba í Fiona an stiúrthóir, Ceara an láithreoir agus ba é Kevin an fear



fuaimne. Ar an chéad lá ag obair le Gaisce Gnó fuair muid amach cáide a bhí orainn le cruthú. Thainig Ceara isteach le cás agus bhí an tasc s'againne istigh ann. Bhí orainn bara fuinnimh a dhéanamh. Nuair a fuair muid sin amach chuir muid ár smaointí le chéile. Ag an deireadh chuir muid páirce peile ar an cludach agus thug muid 'Cic glic' ar an bharra. Oh', agus ar an lá ceanna bhuail muid leis na 'Boic mhóra' na daoine san fhoireann eile.

Ag deireadh an chéad láe bhí muid ag caint le saineolaí bia faoin bhia slantiúil agus an bia nach bhfuil slantiúil. Sá dara lá bhí orm labhairt le déagorí faoin lón. Chuir mé ceisteanna orthu cosúil leis seo, 'Cáidé is maith leat don lón?' Chuidigh na freagraí seo linn fios a bheith againn cáidé na comhábhair ba cheart a chuir isteach sa bharra. Ag deireadh an dara lae chuaigh muid go dtí an bhialann 'Ginger' agus rinne muid an barra le cuidiú ó Éamann Ó Corráin. Don chéad úr chonaic muid an barra a rinne na boic mhóra agus nuair a bhlaís muid é bhí a fhios againne go mbainfimis an comórtas!

Tomás Ó Ciaráin



Gael Linn Quiz

Junior Winners



l-r Mark McAreavey, Ryan Parker, James Donnan & Michael White 10C.

Senior Winners



(l-r) Mr R Herron, Kylan Allsopp, Declan Lynch, Declan Creggan, Kevin Holland & Mr M Greene.



Feis Bhéal Feirste

Wednesday 19th March - Corpus Christi College

Seven pupils took part in the Poetry section of Feis Bhéal Feirste and came away the proud winners of various medals:

- Brendan Loughran 8E (pictured left) - Gold
- Cormac Bradley 8E - (pictured right) Bronze
- Ruairí Wilson 9E - Bronze
- Caolan Ó Coisneacháin 9E - Silver
- David Nelson 10E - Gold
- Pádraig McBride 10E - Gold
- Aodhán Brady 10E (pictured centre) - Silver



Gael Linn Public Speaking Competition

Abair

Kevin Holland, pictured left, speaking in the Cultúrlann.

Y Do IT Event

On Wednesday 27th February 10 Year 12 students and Miss Convery headed to Queen's University Belfast to take part in a seminar aimed at raising awareness of job opportunities in the IT sector. The event allowed students to take part in tasks and quizzes which gave them a flavour of what they may expect in future courses and jobs. This event provided a great insight to these students, most of whom felt even more convinced that they will be suited to one of the many jobs which the IT sector has to offer.



Ski Trip 2008

On Saturday 15th March 59 St Mary's students rose early and made their way to the airport. The teachers unfortunately decided to lie in and show up somewhat late! Eventually they all arrived and it wasn't long until we were all checked in. We then made our way through security where Martin Ramsay's hand luggage briefly caused a few raised eye-brows, however we soon boarded the plane bound for Venice.

When we arrived at Venice we collected our bags and made our way to the coaches where, after a long 4 hours we arrived at our hotel in Andalo. We quickly settled in and went to get fitted for our skis.

The next morning came and 59 students eagerly awaited the ski bus to bring us to the gondola. It wasn't long until we were skiing down the mountain like professionals! The resort experienced a downfall of snow a few days before we arrived, a vast improvement on last year.

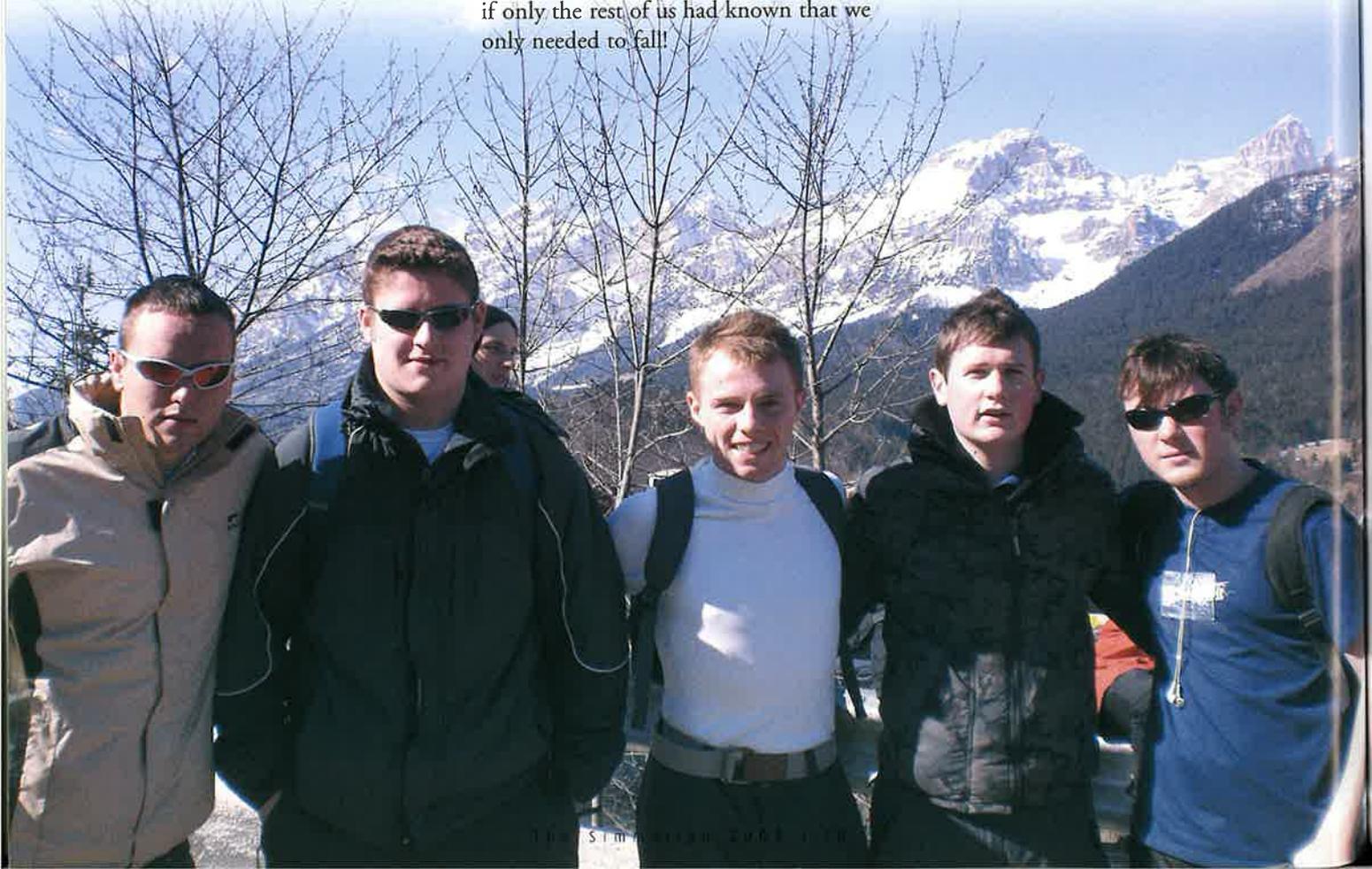
That night was the first of the evening activities which, let's just say were interesting, with Mr McGettigan organising the events! The highlight of the entertainment was a two and a half hour bus journey to a derelict bowling alley! Thanks Sir! A little bit of advice for the students going next year, Mr McGettigan's time keeping skills are legendary.

There were many falls throughout the week, however the one that has to be commended the most was Christopher McGrath's mammoth fall! While skiing in front of a Girl's School from Dublin, he decided to show off while going over a jump which ended in tragedy, with a swift tumble and a blow to the head. But it was ok because Miss Convery and Miss Curran arrived on the scene immediately and, as Chris was whisked away for a check-up, Miss Convery got an unexpected opportunity to attempt a Black Slope. Chris was given the all clear and the girls gave him a lot of attention, if only the rest of us had known that we only needed to fall!

As our trip came to an end the traditional presentation night took place. It was surprising how everyone had progressed throughout the week, beginners, intermediates and advanced! Obviously Chris McGrath received the fall of the week award, with other hilarious awards being presented.

We have been attending the ski trip for six years now and the memories and friendships that have been made are ones that will with us for a very long time. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the ski teachers for all the effort and hard work which they put into making the ski trip run smoothly right from booking the trip to the many late nights looking after both the hyper and sick students and everything always goes to plan. We wish the teachers the best of luck for next year's trip.

*Andrew Magee 14D
& James McCullagh 14H*



Senior Debaters Win The N.I. Schools' Final

Congratulations to the St. Mary's debaters, Darren Ward and Déaghlán Agnew, who won the schools' debating final on Saturday, 25th April at Stormont.

ST. MARY'S CBGS V ANTRIM GRAMMAR

The Motion:

'This house has no confidence in Her Majesty's Government'

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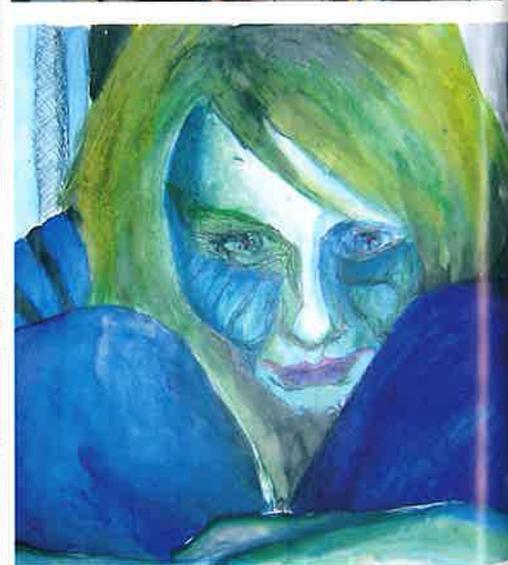
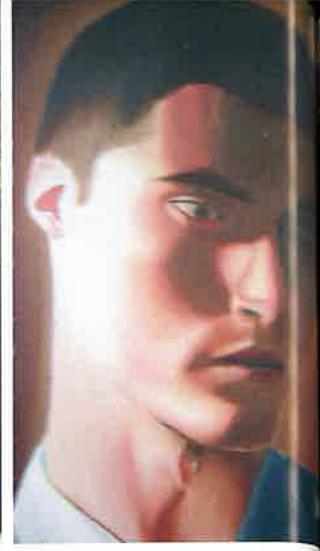
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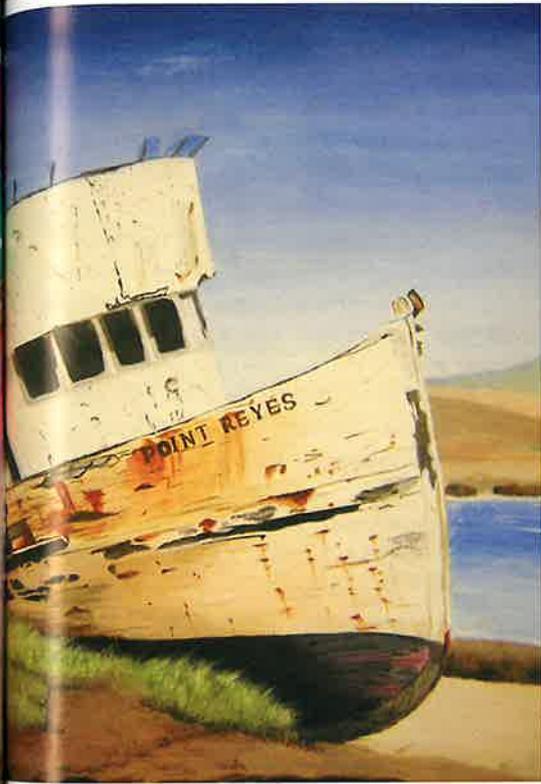
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The Art Department





Spanish Department



Reflections of a Year in Belfast

Xerach was the popular Spanish Language Assistant at St. Mary's this year and below is an article in which he shares his thoughts and experiences.

Cuando empecé a plantearme la idea de acudir a un centro en el Reino Unido como Asistente de Conversación, nunca imaginé que la experiencia fuera a ser tan gratificante y enriquecedora. Belfast no estaba entre mis opciones a priori y una vez sabido que esta ciudad iba a ser mi destino, mis expectativas sobre la misma eran muy diferentes a lo que luego resultó ser. Debo decir que Belfast me sorprendió positivamente. Es mundanamente bella, sencillamente acogedora y extranamente original y única. Su gente conforma un encuentro de comunidades y pensamientos tan dispares y diferentes como interesantes y atractivos. Su cultura y ocio se mueve y multiplica, se enseña y se exhibe a cada esquina y todo ello se ve rodeado por un gris brillante, por una melancolía optimista que hace de Belfast un

lugar romántico y bohemio con cara de ciudad y alma de campo abierto.

Dada mi escasa experiencia docente antes de convertirme en Asistente de Conversación, mi trabajo en los tres centros para los que trabajé (St Mary's CBGS, Malone Collage y Mitchell House), iban a ser mi primera piedra de choque con una profesión para la que me había preparado durante mucho tiempo. La enseñanza en general, y la de lenguas en particular, se han convertido actualmente en un desafío que exige dedicación, innovación, originalidad y mucha fe e ilusión por lo que se hace. En Belfast las cosas no han sido diferentes y teniendo en cuenta que los alumnos del Reino Unido se encuentran en el puesto 28 del ranking europeo en cuanto a conocimientos de una segunda lengua, el reto es, si cabe, mayor. Afortunadamente, he tenido la suerte de cruzarme y trabajar en conjunto con un grupo de profesionales altamente motivados que siempre dieron lo mejor de si mismos y que me guiaron y aconsejaron en mi labor respetando mi

independencia y valorando siempre mis ideas y sugerencias.

Jane McEvoy en primer lugar por ser la jefa del departamento de mi colegio receptor, y luego Joanne Mervyn, Miriam Donan y Nicola McIntyre han sido para mi una gran fuente de aprendizaje y experiencia, razón por la cual les estaré eternamente agradecido. Los alumnos no se merecen menos. He tenido la suerte de cruzarme con estudiantes de dispares niveles, capacidades y entornos sociales, pero todos ellos han tenido siempre algo en común, su respeto hacia mi persona y su dedicación y esfuerzo en la asignatura. Después de todo un curso junto a ellos observo muchas similitudes entre estos jóvenes y los alumnos españoles. Quizás la principal diferencia entre ellos sea el idioma y es por ello que considero la enseñanza de idiomas como la mejor manera de hacer que nuestros jóvenes, en Irlanda del Norte y en España, caminen hacia una verdadera Europa global.

*Juan Xerach Rodriguez Cejas Asistente de Espanol
St Mary's CBGS Belfast, May 2008.*

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Opportunity Europe Languages Fair

A group of Year 10 Spanish students also visited the Opportunity Europe Languages' Fair with Mrs J. McEvoy on Wednesday 14th November. It was a great opportunity for them to meet representatives from other countries, research and collect information, sample different food and have fun!

The students attended Art workshops, participated in role plays, watched an entertaining short Spanish play and left with an amazing collection of 'freebies' - pens, pencils, rulers, maps, notebooks and even playing cards! The students were complimented on their behaviour and were, as always, a credit to St. Mary's. Well done, 10C



European Day of Languages' Quiz



St. Mary's also celebrated European Day of Languages by hosting a Quiz for Year 9 pupils and inviting pupils from St. Dominic's to participate. The event took place in the library and each of the ten teams had a representative from the French, Irish and Spanish Departments. Mr Michael Greene prepared questions to test the pupils' knowledge of Europe on such themes as history, geography, famous people and music.

All the participants received badges,

stickers and maps of Europe to celebrate the day. The scores were very close but the St. Mary's boys claimed victory!

Congratulations to the winners - John Elliman (9A), Padraig Walsh (9B) and David O'Neill (9B).

The event was a huge success and we hope to repeat it next year.

Mrs J. McEvoy





Una Visita al Mercado Europeo

On Tuesday 11 December a group of Spanish students and I visited the Continental Market at Belfast City Hall. We began by visiting the various Arts and Crafts stalls and many boys had the opportunity to purchase their Christmas presents in peace and quiet. By then many had worked up an appetite and were brave enough to try the kangaroo and wild boar burgers which were surprisingly tasty.

The bravest among us decided to view Belfast from the Big Wheel, while the rest opted to watch from ground level. We then proceeded to the paella stall, where the boys were given a demonstration on how to prepare an authentic paella and they had the opportunity to

converse in Spanish with the chefs. After sampling some paella and tapas such as garlic mushrooms, it was time to return to school for a quick siesta before afternoon classes.

Miss J. Mervyn

El martes, once de diciembre, un grupo de alumnos y yo fuimos al Mercado Europeo delante del Ayuntamiento de Belfast. Empezamos con una visita a los puestos de artesanía y muchos chicos compraron sus regalos de Navidad en tranquilidad. Luego probaron las hamburguesas diferentes, por ejemplo de canguro y jabalí, que eran muy sabrosas.

Después, los más valientes montaron 'La Rueda Grande de Belfast', mientras miraron los otros. Luego todos fuimos al puesto de paella para aprender cómo se hace una paella auténtica y pudimos hablar con los cocineros - ¡en español, claro!

Después de comer paella y champiñones al ajo, volvimos al colegio para una siesta antes de las clases de la tarde.

Señorita Mervyn.

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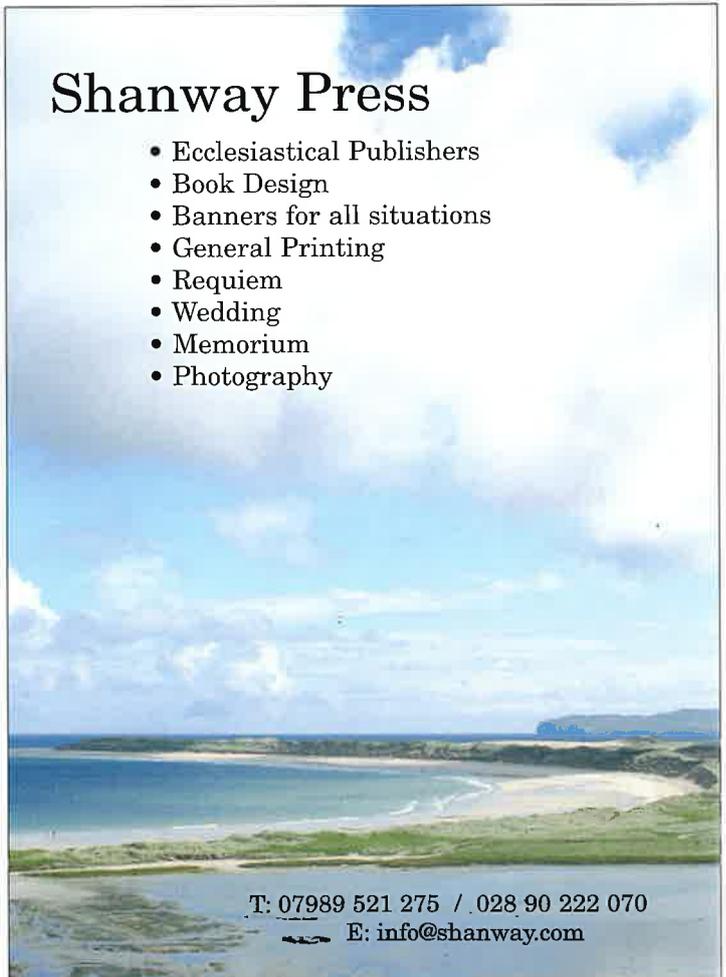
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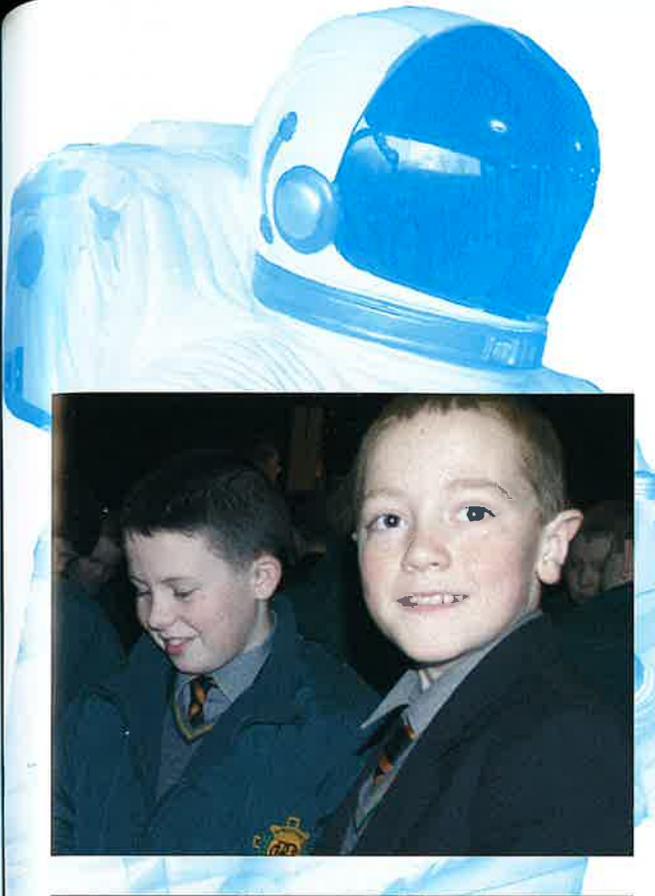
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Science

Year 8 students visit the Planatarium



Biology Field Trip 2007



Rannafast Cup 2007



Training began in earnest from the very start of September and within a matter of weeks the squad were in top form. After the usual pre-season friendly against St. Pat's Maghera (Which we all think ended in a St. Mary's win) The Group Stages got into full swing in October.

First up was the Abbey Newry on a fine Tullylish pitch. St. Mary's got off to a flyer and went in at half time 1 - 8 to 0 - 2 up. Abbey, under the watchful eye of the Antrim Manager Jody Gormley, came back strongly in the second period but St. Mary's ran out 1 - 10 to 0 - 6 winners. Gerard Torney and our Diesel (who was definitely better than their Diesel!) both had superb games.
Scorers: Diesel 0 - 6, D. Dalton 1 - 0, D Lynch 0 - 2, C McGuinness & C Kelly 0 - 1.

Next up was St Patrick's Dungannon at Glenavy. At half time St Mary's lead by 4 - 7 to 1 - 1 and closed the game out with a full time score of 5 - 15 to 2 - 7. This was a great all round team performance but D Lynch, K Parker and P Copeland were the pick of both teams.
Scorers: C Mc Guinness 1 - 2, B Conlon 2 - 0, D Lynch 2 - 3, D Dalton & P Burns 0 - 3, K Parker 0 - 2, M Rea & C Mc Clelland 0 - 1.

Mon 22nd Oct saw St Mary's suffer their only defeat in the group stages against a strong St. Patrick's Armagh side, in Craigavon. Although St Mary's opened the scoring they went in at the turn down 0 - 6 to 1 - 4. Armagh finished the match very strongly and were deserving winners at 2 - 12 to 1 - 7.
Scorers: Diesel 1 - 2, C Mc Guinness, C Kavanagh, D Lynch, K Parker and B Conlon 0 - 1 each.

St Mary's got back to winning ways in Augher against St. Patrick's Cavan. A

lacklustre first half saw St Mary's trailing by 0 - 5 to 1 - 6 but thanks to some half time words of wisdom from Big D, it was a fired up Belfast side that hit the field for the second half. D Lynch and Diesel were on song up front, C Mc Clelland and K Parker dominated the middle of the field and P Copeland and C Kavanagh controlled the back line. St Mary's finished with a tally of 0 - 14 to 1 - 9.
Scorers: C Mc Guinness 0 - 3, Diesel 0 - 6, D Lynch 0 - 3, C Mc Clelland & P Copeland 0 - 1 each.

The Quarter - Final was set for early November on a very wet, heavy Newbridge against St Pius X, Magherafelt. This was a very close fought match with neither side being able to get the upper hand. St Pius's lead 0 - 7 to 0 - 6 at the break. It ended in a draw at 2 - 8 each.
Scorers: Diesel 1 - 2, D Lynch 1 - 1, B Conlon 0 - 2, D Dalton, K Parker & C Mc Guinness 0 - 1 each.

The replay was played on an equally wet and heavy Cargin 2 days later. St Mary's made a fantastic start with quick goals from Diesel and Dalton and lead by 2 - 2 to 0 - 2 on the turn. Pius's took the second half by storm and going into the last five minutes the game was tied 2 - 3 to 1 - 6. With extra time looming, M Rea popped over the winning point to rescue some very weary legs.
Scorers: Diesel & D Dalton 1 - 0 each, C Mc Clelland, C Kavanagh, B Conlon & M Rea 0 - 1 each.

St Peter's Lurgan was the venue for the semi against St Coleman's Newry. The first half saw a very disappointing performance from the entire St Mary's squad and saw them trail by 0 - 2 to 1 - 8 at half time.

Again the half time talk was inspirational and St Mary's started an almost unbelievable fight back, with C Mc Clelland and K Parker taking over the middle completely. With only 10 minutes left on the clock St Mary's had managed to pull the score back to 1 - 7 to 1 - 11. Despite some heroics from Kiefer in nets, Coleman's managed to score a late goal. Both sides swapped late points but the first half lead proved too great to overcome and St Mary's exited the Rannafast on a score of 1 - 8 to 2 - 12.

Scorers: B Conlon 1 - 0, C Mc Clelland 0 - 3, Diesel 0 - 2, C Mc Guinness, D Dalton & K Parker 0 - 1 each.

Overall it was another great campaign with the whole squad and management enjoying the challenges of the A competition and are certainly doing the school and Antrim football proud. To a man they are looking forward to joining forces with the victorious Mac Larnon squad and making a welcome return to MacRory football after a 10 year absence.



First Ever Mac Larnon Cup Success for St Mary's

Late September in Q11, the hub of operations, is where it all began with our first team meeting. A large gathering of 30 to 40 would-be footballers ????. The stall was set out by the experienced coaching staff of Mr S Kelly and Mr D Armstrong! 'What is our goal boys?' was the first question posed to the excited and attentive group of players! A chorus of 'we want to beat Rathmore at all costs', came from the boys. This was not the response expected and from that day the two mentors stressed that this panel of players could actually win the competition. (Sure what did we know).

Plans were laid, details were set, training was called and so it all began!

Up onto the grass pitches and we were joined by a few eager players minus the hurlers and after the first five minutes it looked like no footballers had bothered either! Hard work lay ahead from both sides!

Expertly led by Maurice 'the squatter' Murphy things slowly began to pick up. The first real look at the players came in the form of a seven a-side competition run by QUB. To add a bit of spice to matters Rathmore were placed in our group, no motivational talks

needed there! It was to be a competitive day which saw the team draw with Rathmore, defeat St Michaels Lurgan and lose to eventual winners St Pats Academy (not bad considering they won McRory and Hogan competitions!). Highlights for the day were Lorcan Kerr's titanic battle with his brother against Rathmore, and a wonder strike from Conor McVarnock (we wouldn't see that again, or him come to think of it!).

Soon after this, semi-serious training began although someone forgot to tell 'Tull'(Ciaran Caldwell). This was a regular occurrence throughout the year! We did though have the hardcore which comprised some testing characters in the form of Paddy 'I'm a full back' Fitzpatrick, Michael 'the hairdo' Armstrong, Ronan 'the dander' Campfield, Captain fantastic Sean Finch and his apprentice James 'All-star' Ferrin, David X-Factor McGarrity, Conor 'Johnny Cash' Kearney and not forgetting Mark 'it wasn't me' Small!

With this fine bunch of young men/athletes/comedians we began the league section of the competition which put us up against Rathmore, St Michaels Lurgan and Downpatrick. First up was a battle with

Rathmore in De La Salle Park. Although defeated there were plenty of positives to draw as it was our first proper match with a few injuries and an under-strength team. Match number two again resulted in defeat, this time to a strong St Michael's Lurgan team who we were to meet later in the competition. The team now was beginning to take shape with the hurlers having a few football sessions behind them and the squad starting to come together as a whole. Next up where Downpatrick, this was to be the team's first win and one which they were to build upon.

After these league games it was now down to the serious business of the knockout stage, our period to get to know the team was over. We were pitted against a St Louis Ballymena who had finished second in their group and were confident of doing well in this year's competition. They were not expecting the powerful display of the whole St Mary's team in which a miserly defence including Paul Johnston, Ronan Maguire and Sean Finch playing particularly well held St Louis to a single point in the whole hour. In fact it wasn't until the dying minutes that this point was scored! The forward line had started to



look slick for the first time with Dermot McVeigh, Michael Armstrong, Ciaran Caldwell causing a lot of problems. In midfield Ronan Campfield and James Ferrin ruled the roost for the full hour. Ciaran Herrity was superb in nets making many point blank saves. This was arguably their best game of the whole competition running out convincing winners with a score line of 1-12 to 0-1, with the long haired Michael Armstrong getting the all important goal. St Louis went on to win the O'Doherty Cup showing what a strong team they were and highlighting the improvements we had made.



After a long Christmas Break, where some of the players seemed to lose their way for a while, we started to make our final preparations for the Quarter final against St Pius X Magherafelt.

The journey down to this match was to be a memorable one, but not for the right reasons. Somehow we embarked on a magical mystery tour of Tyrone countryside before getting to the proper pitch in Brockagh. Mr Armstrong denies getting us lost?? This was to turn out to be probably our toughest match all year. In this game everybody was expecting to win comfortably, but St Pius X had done their homework and made St Mary's work the whole hour with the match not looking totally secure until the final whistle had blown. Best for St Mary's that day were Michael Armstrong, Paul Johnston, Chris McGuinness, a late recruit from Year 12, and Ronan Campfield. Highlight of the game was the superb point from Niall McAlea to

stretch the St Mary's lead at the end of the game, there was some discussion whether it was a pass to the full forward! Also Daniel McQuaid came on for his customary point per game. Final score that day was 0-10 to 0-8, We had got out of jail!!

Playing our game early had left us with a bit of time before finding out our semi-final opponents. We were waiting on the result between St Michael's Lurgan and Rathmore, who both had beaten us in the league stages fairly comfortably. The team were looking for to another crack at Rathmore but did manage a smile when St Michael's turned them over. We were back in that position where nobody was expecting us to do well, it suited us having the underdog tag. All the talk in the papers was about the semi final between St Louis Kilkeel and St Colum's Derry, one of which were expected to lift the cup. We were lucky in that the game was arranged for the small pitch in Brackagh in Tyrone, which suited us as we had already played there in the previous round and knew what to expect (and how to get there!).

After a slow start the team showed great determination and scored a goal after 15 minutes and never relinquished that lead. Playing against this strong breeze we held the St Michael's team to 4 points. Half time score was 1-2 to 0-4 for St Mary's. In the second half St Mary's started in a strong fashion controlling the game well. Ciaran Caldwell was again causing problems for the opposition defence with the return of the prodigal son Peter Fitzpeter (Or is it Fitzpatrick) and James Ferrin controlling the middle of the field. Michael Sweeney who was lined out at Centre Half Forward was being asked to show his prowess in defence as well as attack. Again Daniel McQuaid came on for his customary point.

This was an all round strong performance by the team with the defence again performing at a very high level. St Michael's had a lot of pressure on the St Mary's goal but the defence were resolute. A goal was conceded with the last touch of the game to give the game a look of a close contest; again this was to suit the boys for the next stage. 'Omagh Here we come!!!'. Men on the score sheet that day included Dermot McVeigh 1-1, Ciaran Caldwell 0-3, James Ferrin 0-1, Patrick Fitzpatrick 0-1 and Daniel McQuaid 0-1.

Straight after this match when then had another difficult task to negotiate with the Skiing four! 'Would they be willing to miss the first day of their skiing trip?' never a doubt, a resounding 'YES' echoed round the changing room. Next task, 'Would it be possible to get them to the big final?' Mr Hugh McGettigan was brought in for his ability to convince anybody to do anything and along with Mr Donagh Finnegan flights were booked and the school made a request to the Ulster colleges Committee to have the game moved forward by half an hour. They gave us fifteen minutes, better than nothing! We now knew we could prepare with the services of the fantastic four Ronan Maguire, David (King) McGarrity, Conor Rocks and Michael Armstrong.

Again St Mary's were expected to be the whipping boys in the final, Oh how wrong were they!! Match report below:-

St Mary's defence seals first title

Bank of Ireland MacLarnon Cup final:
St Mary's, Belfast 1-7 St Columb's, Derry 0-8

St Mary's Belfast scored an early goal and with sheer determination held off the challenge of St Columb's Derry to win a first



ever MaClaron Cup title in Omagh. The venue seems to be lucky pitch for the St Marys as the last time they won the McCrory Cup in 1986 was at the same venue.

Delighted manager Donal Armstrong hailed the character of the whole team, but in particular his defence.

"We were really under the cosh for the whole of the second half and especially after Ronan Maguire was sent off. The goal was key to the victory. We were a bit unsettled at the start of the match and that score seemed to sort us out. Our concentration improved and



whole of the second half and especially after Ronan Maguire was sent off. The goal was key to the victory. We were a bit unsettled at the start of the match and that score seemed to sort us out. Our concentration improved and

we worked well for the rest of the game. I'm delighted for the team."

Match Report

Midfielder James Ferrin hit a fine long-range point as St Mary's proclaimed game on after that Armstrong goal. Michael, who fielded a high ball 10 metres from goal, swivelled left and right to shake off a defender and plant the ball into Ciaran Durand's net. The sides went toe-to-toe for the rest of the half and St Mary's led 1-4 to 0-6 at the turnover. Dermot McVeigh was the only St Mary's scorer in the second half - but each one of his three points piled the pressure on their opponents.

His free right at the start was cancelled out immediately by a similar score from Aaron Kerrigan, but McVeigh hit a second free in the eighth minute and his third point should have been a goal in the 47th minute, but Durand brilliantly turned it over from close range.

Nevertheless, that score put three points between the teams, and St Mary's employed a blanket defence with McVeigh often the only player inside the Derry side of the pitch.

Whether it was 14 players - or 13 after the dismissal of Maguire for a second yellow card - behind the ball, the tactic worked well with St Columb's unable to break them down.

St Columb's worked hard for the whole 60 minutes and had a lot of sustained pressure on the St Mary's goal. However, as the game wore on, they got caught up in short-passing, running

into blind alleys and then lost their radar for the posts, shooting 10 second half wides.

MATCH STATS

St Mary's: C Herrity; E Herron, R Maguire, P Johnston; S Finch, R Campfield, N McAlea; P Fitzpatrick, J Ferrin (0-1); C McGuinness, M Sweeney, D McGarrity; M Armstrong (1-0), D McVeigh (0-4, 0-2 frees), C Caldwell (0-2). Subs: C Rocks for Sweeney (11), J McGuinness for McGarrity (48), M Devlin for McAlea (50), P Donnelly for Rocks (59).

St Columb's: C Durand; K McGlinchey, K Francis, B McKeever; C Wood, M McKinney, K Lindsay; B Lyons, C Mullan; R Moore, A Kerrigan (0-2, 0-1 free), P Brennan (0-1); D Jackson, P McLaughlin (0-4, 0-2 frees), Oisín Duffy. Subs: D Quigg for Lindsay (h-t), L Moore (0-1 free) for Wood (59).

Now it was the All Ireland Semi Final stage. We got to Drogheda in good time and the weather conditions at first cold did not seem to be too bad. As the morning went on the wind started to pick up. We lost the toss and played with the wind. Portllington were a team who had been scoring at will in the previous rounds and again were expected to go all they way. St Mary's started strongly again and in a hard fought first half in which St Mary's were the better team, we turned round with a 2 point lead. Chances were at a premium due to the conditions and late in the first half Dermot McVeigh had a great chance to pick off a decisive score. He struck a strong sweet shot that was unfortunately expertly saved by a very good goalkeeper. Going in at half time there was little to separate the two teams.

As we waited to remerge for the start of the second half, weather conditions took a turn for the worse and not in our favour. The team



was now fighting against the elements as well as a very economical Portarlington team. The second half was a tale of missed chances in which the boys as always showed a great work ethic and pride for the jersey. Unfortunately these missed chances were to

come back to haunt us as Portarlington picked off points on the counter attack to which we couldn't respond. The final whistle blew and with it went the chance of a shot at an All Ireland title. The journey had ended and the dream was

over but for the boys and the management what a journey it was!

SPORTS INJURIES?

Sport Support & Advice

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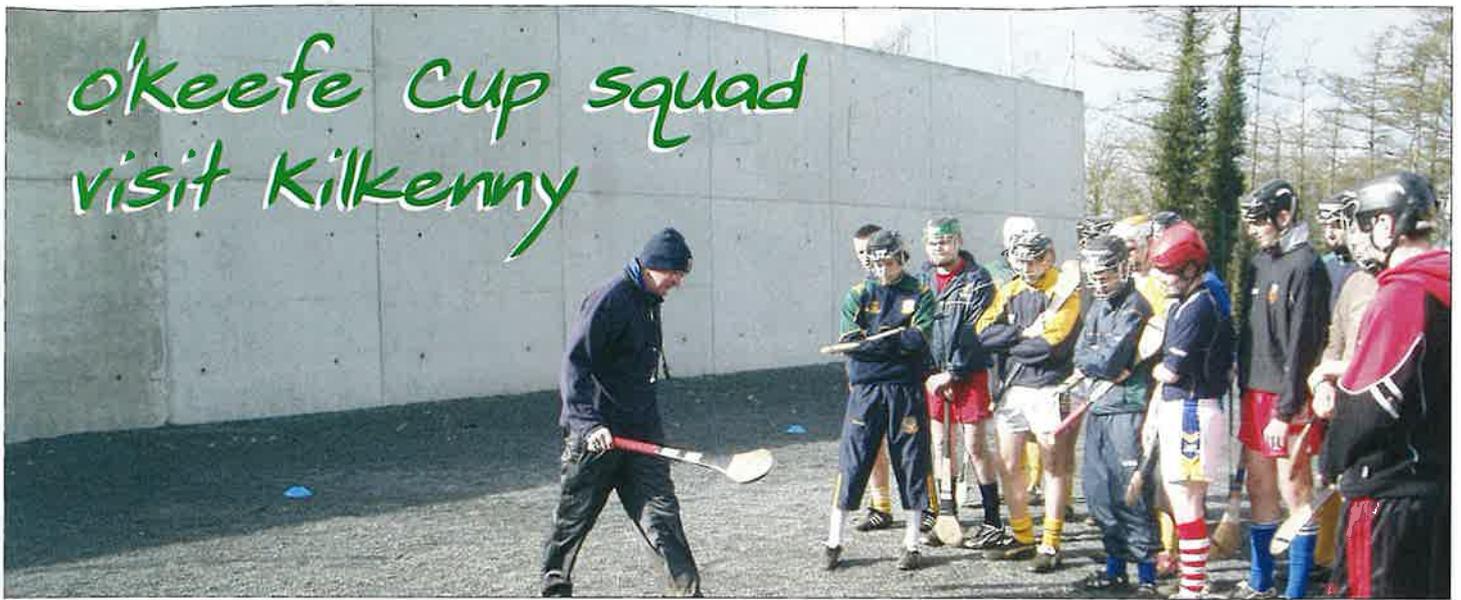
McGrath's Pharmacy

182 Andersonstown Road
Tel: 9061 6055



91-93 Glen Road, Belfast
Tel: 9061 1643

O'Keefe Cup Squad visit Kilkenny



On the 8th March 2008 the O'Keefe Cup squad visited Kilkenny for a four day intensive training weekend thanks to the money raised by numerous fundraising activities.

The boys accompanied by team manager Mr Herron and helpers Mr Moyes and Mr O'Neill set out for Kilkenny on the 6th March. It was an exciting but nervous time as most of the panel was waiting to receive their test results. The bus down was filled with nervous laughter and craic as the boys tried to pass the time waiting to hear their results.

After reaching Kilkenny the boys got their first real test of the weekend. They were trained by Kilkenny U-21 coach James Maher. The intensity was fast and the work was hard but the boys enjoyed the Kilkenny style of play. The training finished with the boys tired from a days travelling. Next stop was the accommodation when they would finally receive their results. The squad got settled in and then around nine the results were given

out. Panic time over! We could now get on with the Hurling. That night we visited the O'Laughlin Gaels club in Kilkenny, a club synonymous with Kilkenny hurling. Pictures of past All-Ireland glories hung on the walls all around the club and this helped to get the boys into the right frame of mind for the weekend.

On Friday the squad visited the Lowry - Maher hurling heritage centre in Kilkenny. It was full of information on past All-Ireland winners and also had a large number of trophies and medals on display. All Ireland medals could be seen everywhere and the boys soon realised that in a few weeks they could have one of those medals themselves.

Later in the afternoon the squad travelled to

a session with legendary Tipperary coach Dinny Maher at the ball wall. For most of the team it wasn't the first time they had seen the ball wall as Mr Herron had the Forester's Cup squad training of the school walls last year. It was an enjoyable session which was



energy sapping and relentless but it showed us the intensity of southern hurling and how we could match it. Later that night the boys were given some free time to take in the sights of Kilkenny, and then went to watch a training session with the Kilkenny senior





Hurling team. The highlight of this was meeting Brian Cody, one of the most successful and respected hurling coaches in Ireland, and listening to his words of wisdom as he addressed the lads from the Glen Road. Afterwards, the boys got the chance to meet some of their hurling heroes, including none other than King Henry (Shefflin), Fast Eddie (Brennan) and Tommy Walsh.

On the Saturday Morning a match with the Kilkenny minors was cancelled due to club fixture commitments. They obviously failed to show because they knew the Ulster Champions were in town. Instead the boys were given some free time to spend in Kilkenny then it was off to Dr Cullen Park, Carlow to watch the Leinster Colleges Hurling Final. We witnessed a somewhat scrappy match with Dublin Colleges beating Kilkenny CBS. It would be fair to say the St Mary's boys held their own in the signing competition in the stand. From Dr Cullen Park it was onto Carlow IT to watch the semi final of the Sigerson Cup where Jordanstown and current student teacher Paddy Cunningham were playing. Jordanstown won much to the delight of the boys. To end an action packed day we went to Mass (as Gaelige) and then were even treated to a few games of bowling and a few hours at the amusements. Day three ended with team spirits high.

Day four was our last day and began with an

early start at around eight. The squad travelled to Waterford to play the Waterford minors a challenge game. The St Mary's lads were really up for the match and went out and stunned the home side with an extremely intensive hard working skilful performance. In the second half the legs started to tire and the fresher Waterford boys took control but in all it was a great performance from the Belfast boys which surely bode well for the All-Ireland campaign. After the match the team travelled to Dungarvan to watch the Antrim senior hurlers play Waterford in the National Hurling League. The less said about that match the better! Let's just say that Antrim came second in that match! However getting to meet Waterford Manager Justin McCarthy and Waterford Hurling Legend Dan 'The Man' Shanahan after the game eased the pain just that little bit! The boys then began the long journey home. They reached the school gates at around eleven and the tired squad members began to filter off the bus.

A great weekend was had by all and the team would like to thank manager Mr Herron for organising the trip. We would also like to thank the people who supported the Night at the Races, the New Year's ballot and particularly to the team sponsor Cooper's Pharmacy. Also need to give a special mention to Wallsy the bus driver. Now it's down to the hard work to try and reach an all

Ireland final.

*Eamann Herron
(Mageean Cup Captain 2007-2008).*

The Mageean Cup 2007 - 2008

'Tús maith leath na hoibre' as the saying goes, 'a good start is half the work', and St. Mary's certainly got off to a flyer in this Mageean Cup Final at Casement Park Belfast racking up 1-3 before holders Cross and Passion Ballycastle got off the mark. This was not the most exciting of spectacles in terms of flowing hurling as so often happens when one team sets out to thwart the game plan of the other but St. Mary's more than made up for that with their waspish and tigerish defence which repelled a plethora of Ballycastle attacks in the second half.

Scoring from placed balls was the order of the day and a first minute goal from that exact route set the tone for the day. A long range free from influential Centre-back Dermot McVeigh found its way to the net as Carey's Ballycastle keeper appeared unsuspected. The exciting and adventurous Corner-forward Micky Armstrong swung over a delightful effort which was probably the score of the day. However for the next period of play free taking took over with successive St. Mary's attacks drawing fouls from the Ballycastle defence, and two Conor Rocks frees left the Glen Road side 1-3 to no score in front with alarm bells ringing all over the field for the champions from North Antrim.

For the next ten minutes scores were at a premium with both sides registering wides. A late challenge from behind on Mary's midfielder Matt Devlin resulted in the player requiring treatment and ultimately being withdrawn from the game for the remainder of the half. The introduction of Diesel Boyd into the forward line and the switch of Cricky





McGuinness to midfield replaced the stability of Devlin in the team. However it was all of twenty minutes before a foul on Ballycastle full-forward Mattie Donnelly saw Ciaran Clarke point the resulting free and register Ballycastle's first score of the day. A further ten minutes passed without a score before a foul by Ballycastle's midfielder Peter Dallat earned Rocks his third point from a free on 31 minutes. Ballycastle's best move of the game quickly followed as Conal Dobbin made a foraging run which followed excellent work from Gerard Lavery. The sliotar found its way back to Loughguile's Dobbin who pointed majestically. Within seconds Rocks pointed a 65 to leave the half time score; St. Mary's 1-5 Ballycastle 0-2.

With a strong wind at their backs in the second half, Cross and Passion would have fancied their chances of a comeback but St. Mary's had other plans. A point by Rocks from a 21 yard free on the sixth minute saw him increase his tally to five points. The Convent replied immediately when Stephen Smith was fouled around the midfield area and Owen Turner launched a wind-assisted strike over the bar to bring the score to St. Mary's 1-6 Ballycastle 0-3.

Scores were now coming more freely and Mary's again stretched their lead to 7 points when Rocks pointed a straightforward effort after a mazy run from Rossa's Christopher McGuinness who was eventually fouled. The reintroduction of Devlin into the St. Mary's team gave the lads a boost, and whilst introduced into the forward line, Devlin was to prove a workhorse around midfield with an

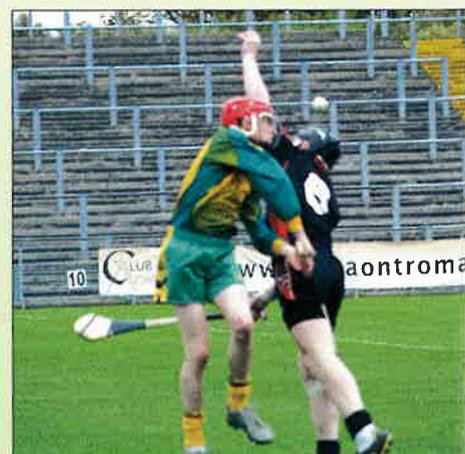
herculean display of commitment for the remainder of the game. Ballycastle were starting to turn the screw with a Clarke pointed free, but at the most crucial point of the game their accuracy let them down with Dallat notching two wides, one from a free. Undeterred, Ballycastle upped on their onslaught and were rewarded when Clarke knocked over two frees to close the gap to four points. However, Ballycastle were increasingly reliant on the young Clarke and pulled their other forwards out wide and deep in an effort to isolate Clarke on St. Mary's full back. However the St. Mary's backline which worked so impressively as a unit throughout the match was up to the task.

The Mary's defence upped their workrate and it was this tenacious approach that ultimately quashed Ballycastle's comeback and left them dispirited with time running out. A foul by Dobbin on Lámh Dhearg's Eamann Herron, the St. Mary's captain, saw Rocks hit yet another free over the bar, 1-8 to 0-6. A fantastic rearguard effort and full stretch save by stand-in keeper John Kelly kept out an almost certain goal by Ballycastle's Dallat and this was further enhanced when a speculative low effort from Armstrong, way out on the right wing, deceived the Ballycastle netminder and found its way to the net, ultimately signalling the end of the game. Lavery was unlucky not to goal and Armstrong again punished Cross and Passion when he took a clever pass from the industrious Darron Boyd and pointed, leaving the final score St. Mary's 2-09 Cross and Passion 0-9.

St. Mary's manager Raymond Herron was ecstatic with his team's victory but believes the foundations were laid earlier in the campaign. An eight point defeat by St. Louis Ballymena in the league section proved to be the turning point. That defeat brought a lot of our players back down to earth and showed them that no team has a right to win matches, let alone Ulster championships. We reapplied ourselves to our training, upped the intensity and worked on the attitude of the players.

Just ten days after that defeat St. Mary's met Ballymena again in the semi-final but this time made no mistake. Having lost goalkeeper Patrick Herron, youngest brother of manager Raymond to a training ground accident just three days previous, the team were not short on inspiration and stormed eight points to no score in front after ten minutes, running out 14 point winners, a 22 point turnaround inside just ten days..

Cross and Passion were worthy title holders





and fought to the death but were not to retain their title as St. Mary's took home the cup for the first time since 2002. What was remarkable about this side was their youth. Conor Rocks (0-7) is only 16 and will improve. All but all but three of this team will see Mageean hurling next year - a frightening prospect for all opposition.

St. Mary's will contest the O'Keefe Cup semi-final on Sunday 30th March against De La Salle College Bagenalstown, Carlow.

RH.





Basketball Season



The 2007-8 basketball season in St Mary's will be remembered for the increased participation of pupils throughout the school. Record numbers were registered with Basketball Ireland. This season saw us travel to Sligo, Dublin and of course who could forget the trip to Tipperary. Players enjoyed the Saturday evening trips to view the Super League games even if they did support Mayo and not the local teams!

All five teams received medals from their season. Highlights included two senior players making the U18 Ulster team, seven players represented schools basketball at Youth games, Donal Brady-Year 10 trained with the International squad, the Year 9 team qualifying for the Play Offs for the first time and the Year 8 team making the Ulster final for the first time. These successes are due to the hard work, commitment and dedication of the players to this sport. Maybe the hunger for success will bring some more gold medals next year.

A special thanks to Marc Mullholland who coached every Friday after school. Also to Jack Mc Garry, Brother Mc Kenna and

Brother Carlin who helped in a variety of ways. Thanks to all parents and supporters who travelled to view the games throughout the season.

U19 Season

The cup competition always provides entertainment in the basketball season. The first round saw a good preparation game against Sligo Grammar. It allowed new player Chris White to fit into the squad and the young players to adjust to senior basketball. A record 19 points from captain Robbie Mc Lister with the other eleven players scoring gave us a desire to win for the games to come. A comfortable 63-31 victory allowed a second round against St. Oliver's Drogheda. An away tie to Drogheda allowed 'veteran' Sean Finch to join us for the first time this season. He notched 13 points and lead with Chris White and Adam O'Hare in the scoring. Another comfortable victory 54-40.

Then came the All Ireland Quarter final and the components was St. Mary's Drogheda. What we didn't know about each other

wasn't worth worrying about. The games from last season were still a memory for us all. Home advantage to Drogheda. Missing was Sean Finch to injury. Nerves always were going to play a part. The semi final was to be against St. Malachy's College. It was all to play for. It saw a close first quarter with Drogheda having the edge. International Kilbride was on form in his home gym. Adam O'Hare and Robbie Mc Lister kept us in touch with them. The second quarter belonged to Drogheda. We fell apart and only notched 3 baskets. The team talk at half time was words of encouragement from Coach Doherty. (well most of them!!) The third quarter was some of the best basketball from this team all year and the score line was reversed. A score of 21 points allowed us back into the game thanks to Matthew McArdle and Captain Robbie. The last ten minutes were to prove the fate and who wanted it the most. Although we got back to within eight points, the cup run was over for another year as Drogheda emerged winners.

The competitive U19 leagues started in early October. A renewed rivalry against St. Malachy's College was always going to provide the winners of the Northern Region. A large panel of players competed for their place on the team. New partnerships were set up through David Murray and Emmet Dawson. The 'old' reliable Paul Lyttle and Robbie Mc Lister and that famous play will



U19 Team Ulster League Runners Up All Ireland Quarter Finalists

*Back l-r - Mark Devlin, Rory Best, Sean Finch, Donal Feeney, Chris White, Robbie McLister (captain), Matthew McArdle, Ryan Hyland.
Front l-r - Jamie Smyth, Adam O'Hare, Ryan Kieft, Michael Fitzpatrick, David Murray, Paul Lyttle, Kevin Milnes.*



*U16 Team Ulster League
Runners Up All Ireland Quarter
Finalists
Back l-r - Mark Jordan, Brendan
Bradley, Peter Carson, Chris
Magee, Joseph O'Neill
Front l-r - James Gaskin, Chris
McKenna, Adam O'Hare
(captain), Damien Mc Creanor,
Donal Brady
Missing: Robert Darling, Mark
Spence, Steven O'Hagan*

be remembered by all in St. Mary's as they fooled the opponents and our own players on many occasions.

December hosted the Ulster final against St. Malchys College. Both teams started brightly but a stretch from St. Malachy's early in the second half provided them with a comfortable win to qualify for the Play Offs.

St. Mary's travelled to Dublin to try the back door route. Colaiste Eoin proved winners and it was to be the last trip with Jack and on the blue bus for some of the senior players. Basketball was renewed in St. Mary's seven years ago and the founding members leave I hope with happy memories of the game. We wish Paul Lyttle, Sean Finch and Robbie McLister good luck for the future

U19 Northern Region League

*Oct 15th St. Mary's 40 vs Lagan College 30
Top Scorers: C White 8 S Finch 8 D Murray 6*

*Nov 27th Ulidia Integrated College 31
vs St. Mary's 60*

Top Scorers: R Best 11 S Finch 9 D Murray 8

Dec 4th Rathmore 53 vs St. Mary's 57

Top Scorers: A O'Hare 12 S Finch 10 D

Murray 8 R Mc Lister 8 P Lyttle 5

Dec 5th St. Mary's 61

vs St. Pat's Ballymena 55

Top Scorers: P Lyttle 16 S Finch 14

R McLister 8

Ulster Final

Dec 11th St. Malachy's 59 vs St. Mary's 53

Top Scorers: R Mc Lister 13 P Lyttle 7

D Murray 7

U16 Season

The season started with a bye in the cup. A second round game saw us at home to St. Michael's College Dublin. An early lead from

the Dubliners gave us a fright and we needed a fight back to allow us to progress. Donal Brady, Damien McCreanor and Captain Adam O'Hare provided the scoring to give us a 47-31 victory.

The All Ireland quarter final saw us away to Sligo Grammar. Having beaten them at u19 in the first round, we always knew they wanted revenge. Most of these players had come close last year with a loss in the semis. Sligo provided good opposition. We held a comfortable lead going into the last quarter. All we had to do was hold on. The events that follow will remain a mystery to the St. Mary's boys and Coach Doherty. A series of events ended with a loss. An MVP for Donal Brady was the only prize that day. Let's just say it was a long road home!!!

The league campaign allowed the U16 team to improve on last year and learn lessons from the cup games. No one would forget the 30 points from Adam O'Hare against Ulidia until the coach subbed him!! Good team defence from Peter Carson, Mark Spence and Chris Magee gave us a huge advantage under the baskets. James Gaskin and Joseph O'Neill continued to assist well. The partnership of 'D' and Bomber was causing hassle for all teams. Newry High School piped us to League winners in a great Ulster Final. The back door was the way to progress to the Play Offs and home advantage against St. Conleth's Dublin. The game was evenly matched at first and the reliable Adam was scoring a few 'threes'. We led at half time by 3 points. The Irish Internationals from the Dublin side turned on the heat in the third quarter and the partnership of Herron and Purcell gave the Dubliners the edge. St. Mary's fought back well but lost 53-50 to end the season.

U16 Northern Region League

*Oct 25th Ulidia Integrated College 40
vs St. Mary's 63*

*Top Scorers: A O'Hare 30 C Magee 12
P Carson 12*

Nov 8th Rathmore 24 vs St. Mary's 49

*Top Scorers: A O'Hare 13 C Magee 12
D Mc Creanor 6 P Carson 6*

Nov 30th St. Mary's 35

vs Newry High School 40

*Top Scorers: D Mc Creanor 14 A O'Hare 8
D Brady 6*

Dec 5th St. Mary's 46

vs St. Pat's Ballymena 24

*Top Scorers: C Magee 11 D Mc Creanor 10
P Carson 9 A O'Hare 8*

Dec 10th Lagan College

vs St. Mary's Walkover

Yr 9 Season

The Year 9 league saw competition from Rathmore, Holy Cross Strabane, Lagan College, Newry High School and Ulidia Integrated College. A shaky start in training saw the players return one by one to build on the success of Yr 8. No team caused any cause for concern and this St. Mary's team went from strength to strength. With David Durkan top scoring in every game with averages of twenty points per game, the teams support in both offence and defence saw them dominate in every game. An Ulster final was set up against Ulidia and the score line ended 26-12 to us. Coach Doherty will remember the screams of delight when the boys realised they had just



Fergus Woods, Eugene Mc Kenna and David Durkan

booked themselves two days of basketball in the All Ireland Play Offs in Tipperary. Past Pupil and basketball legend Eugene Mc Kenna presented the gold winning medal to captain and nephew David Durkan.

Rathmore 21 v St Mary's 42
 Lagan 0 v St Mary's 20 Walkover
 St. Mary's 42 v Holy Cross Strabane 19
 Newry High School 21 v St. Mary's 31
 Ulster Final
 Ulidia 12 v St.Mary's 26

The All Ireland competition would take place over two days and the eventual winners would emerge. Little was known about the opponents before we went. Brother Carlin drove the bus and they boys.

Cashel was our home for two nights. A tour of the historic town was needed to send the excited players off to sleep so a trip to the Rock of Cashel and a shop of course

provided the entertainment of the night. The next day saw the talents of all nine regions in Ireland compete. The first game was against Borris Community school, Carlow. Excellent defence from John McDaniel and Michael Ryan helped in the 9 point victory though we made hard work of it at times. Next up was Pobail scoil Kenmare. We were already through to the next day as Borris had lost to both teams. It was the first meeting of a Kerry school and we soon experienced the competitive nature of the southern team. The eventual runners up of the overall competition provided us with an excellent game. We fought hard to the end and the partnership of Peter Ferguson and captain David Durkan saw some good scores. The big men from Kerry used their zone defence effectively and were worthy winners.

So a quarter final game against Colaiste Iognaid, Galway was the test the following day. The boys were in high spirits throughout and this was a piece of history for the school at this age group. A good rest and an early morning game saw us play at our best. The Galway side controlled the boards though we fought hard at our fast break. Matthew Rainey led the scoring through assists from James Lynn and David Durkan. Michael Mc Cabe, Jarlath Mulhern and Matthew Kerr rebounded well. Galway competing for the first time held onto a lead from beginning to end and the dream in Tipperary was to end for the St. Mary's team. This was an incredible experience and one that should have us hungry for further success next season.

**Year 9
 Ulster League Winners
 All Ireland League Quarter Finalists**



*Back I-r
 David Durkan
 (captain),
 Matthew Kerr,
 Matthew Rainey
 Michael Mc Cabe,
 John McDaniel,
 Jarlath Mulhern,
 Michael Ryan,
 Conor O'Rawe*

*Front I-r
 Aidan Fitzpatrick,
 Adam Jones,
 Peter Ferguson,
 James Lynn.*

Yr 10 Season

The Yr 10 season saw us compete against Rathmore, Newry High School, Lagan College and Ulidia College. The games were of a high standard throughout and we enjoyed close victories to give us a place in the Ulster final. A team effort from all saw us improve in every game. Donal Brady led the scoring having enjoyed playing at U16 earlier in the season. Brendan Dougan and Aidan McGarrity worked at the boards. Paddy McBride used his gaelic talent to add depth to the team's offence. Eoin Mc Carry and James Browlee assisted well in offence. Having watched the Year 9 victory, the Yr 10 team wished to follow in their foot steps. It was an entertaining game from both teams. We went behind early. Scoring from Eoin McCarry and Kyle Brown gave us hope.

The height advantage of Ulidia meant we had to work so hard for every ball. Led by Donal Brady, we continued to surge forward and the clock ticked away to see that trip to Tipp go to Ulidia. These players can enjoy the thought of next year with some of the U16 players to try for that Play Off spot once again.

Rathmore 0v St Mary's 20 Walkover
 Lagan 31 v St Mary's 32
 Newry High School 33 v St. Mary's 34
 Ulster Final
 Ulidia 30 v St. Mary's 24

Year 8 Season

Saturday 17th May 2008 was the Year 8 blitz competition.

Vince Halloran, a New York fireman took part in a cross community project every summer and hosted two 11 year old children from Belfast. Sadly he lost his life in 9/11 but his memory remains in Belfast as the tournament takes place.

A hearty congratulation to the Year 8 team who reached the final for the first time. Having beaten Ulidia, Rathmore and St. Pat's Dungannon in the pool games, a semi final was set up with St. Malachy's 'B' team. It was a tense game where we led for the whole game and won on a margin of 2 points (Score 27-25).

The final saw old rivals St Malachy's 'A' team play St. Mary's. While St. Mary's worked hard in the first half and kept St. Malachy's in sight, the second half belonged to St. Malachy's and the Quinn twins

provided score after score to end up winners.

It was a tremendous team effort by all and holds much promise for the future. A special mention to captain Patrick Robinson and Paul Devlin for their great defence. Lewis McDonald, Eamonn Shannon and Ronan Hanna for their assists and Liam McLarnon who totalled over thirty points in the whole competition.



**Year 10
Ulster League
Runners Up**

*Back l-r
David Durkan,
Donal Brady (captain),
Aidan McGarrity,
Eoin McCarry,
Brendan Dougan,
Jonathan Moyna.*

*Front l-r
James Brownlee,
Patrick McBride,
Daniel Cosgrove,*

*Conor Rooney,
Michael White,
Jack Dorrian.*





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Sports Day 2008



Soccer



Under 13 Belfast Cup

St. Mary's opening fixture in this year's under 13 Belfast cup was a tough away tie against La Salle. After conceding an early goal and losing the influential Liam Conlon at half time to an injury, St. Mary's were up against it come the second half, however, a great team performance and superb individual games for Ryan McLoughlin, Domhnall Quinn and "Man of the match" Ciaran McKenna saw St. Mary's eventually win the tie 4 -2.

The second game was a more straightforward affair against Ashfield boy's second string. A solid team performance and goals from all over the pitch including a rasping volley for Centre Back Liam Conlon eased St. Mary's into the Quarter Final with a 9 - 1 victory. Ballyclare posed as a potential banana skin in the Quarter Final at Olympia leisure

centre...St. Mary's 1 - 0 half time lead was intact due to a great goal line clearance by Liam Conlon. In the second half St. Mary's turned on the style with goals from Domhnall Quinn and the mercurial Joe McManus with tireless performances from team captain Brendan Bennett, Ryan McLoughlin and Mark Lyons. St. Mary's eventually ran out 5 -1 victors.

The Semi Final against Corpus Christi was a hard fought battle between the two West Belfast giants. A Domhnall Quinn goal (and very little else) separated the teams at half time. After the break St. Mary's began firing on all cylinders with team Captain Brendan Bennett leading the charge with two clinical finishes. Domhnall Quinn scored again and Ryan McLoughlin capped off a great battling team performance. Defensively St. Mary's were on top throughout the game with excellent performances from the whole back line...in particular Ruairi Wilson and the ever



solid Liam Conlon. St. Mary's eventually ran out 5 - 0 winners to book their place in the final against Boys Model.

The Final

The Under 13 Belfast Cup final at the Blancheflower stadium against Belfast Boys Model was a high-octane battle between the competitions top two teams.

St. Mary's dominated the first half but failed to convert a number of good chances, the best of which being Ryan McLoughlin's header from a corner which drifted agonisingly past the upright.

The second half was a much tighter affair. As St. Mary's continued to misfire on goal with efforts from Joe McManus, Ciaran McKenna, Ryan McLoughlin and Mark Lyons all drifting wide, Boys Model grew in confidence and began pressing and creating a few chances of their own. As the half progressed Model were kept at bay by some dogged St. Mary's defending by Ruairi





Wilson and Captain Brendan Bennett and some top drawer goalkeeping from Michael Brady.

The deadlock was finally broken 10 minutes from time when Joe McManus scored the match's only goal. He whipped in a clever ball directly from a corner kick which eluded everyone ending up in the back of the net.

In the end the victory was deserved by virtue of the number of chances created as St. Mary's lifted the Under 13 Cup for the first time in the school's history. Well done.



*St. Mary's Under 13 Belfast Cup Final team:
 Michael Brady (GK), James Stuart (GK), John Mallon (LB),
 Liam Conlon (CB), Michael Anderson (CB), Ruairi Wilson (RB),
 Mark Lyons (RM), Piaras Webb (RM),
 Ryan McLoughlin (CM), Brendan Bennett (c) (CM), Ciaran
 McKenna (LM), Joe McManus (CF), Domhnall Quinn (CF),
 Matthew Rainey (CF), Mark Cunningham (RM).*

Soccer



2008 marks a superb year of soccer success at the school, culminating with three more cups competing for space in the already over-stuffed trophy cabinet. With the volume of victory throughout the school, it would be easy to overlook the degree of St Mary's dominance in the 'beautiful game.' Two year groups proved to be paramount in the province, and another the best in Belfast.

The Year 9 (Under 13) squad set the ball rolling, so to speak, with their defeat of Boys' Model in the Belfast Cup final. If we failed in the final to come up with the quantity of goals which had reflected the tournament experience, the winning strike, scored directly from the corner by Joe McManus compensated with quality. An irresistible mix of physical stature and strength combined with exceptional skill and creativity (and that's just the coach, Mr Malone) meant that few teams even got near to threatening the side. There is no Northern Irish Cup in this age group so the team got as far as was possible this year. There is a provincial cup for Under 14s however, so watch this space...

The first Northern Ireland trophy in our short history of soccer was won by last year's Under 16 squad, under the guidance of the enigmatic Mr Tully. If this year's Under 16s could repeat the feat, it would be a truly historical event. Trouble was, Mr Tully was busy with the senior team and the only available coach was Mr Laverty- a Drama teacher...Ok, he had led the same team to victory at last year's Belfast Cup, but this was a bigger stage- Mr Laverty apparently understood stages. In keeping with the dramatic theme, the final, against St Colm's Derry, at the coach's home venue, Ballymena Showgrounds was a spectacle.

The first half belonged to us with a questionable off side decision denying Patrick Copeland his chance for goal glory. If we could just play as well in the second.

The South Derry side however, showed why they had won their way to the final and matched our first half dominance. Extra time could not separate the sides and it went to penalties. At this point, we knew we had the upper hand, or should I say, hands - specifically those attached to Kiefer Toolan. He had already stopped several excellent shots in the match and now it was his chance to save the day. Kickers Conor McLaughlin, Oisín Rodgers and Anthony Hanna found the net, whilst Kiefer did his job keeping the ball out of same. Two heroic saves later and the day was ours.

The Under 18 final, (same venue/ same day) was a more emphatic victory. The senior team comprised a dizzying array of talent, with the likes of Colum Curtis, Niall Atkinson and Ciaran Caldwell aspiring to professional careers in the game. The quality of play in the first half was well beyond the level expected in a school final with the opponents, our namesakes St Mary's Magherafelt giving scope for some showy play.

The aforementioned Mr Atkinson scored the first, before two in the forty fifth minute from the foot of striker Liam Boyce provided a three goal cushion going into half time. The South Derry side's goalie was kept busy in the second half but managed to avoid the repeat of the first half that seemed likely. Such was the quality of our defence that goalkeeper Pierce Donnelly had nothing to do but stand on his line and chew gum. The performance was a testament to the

skill and professionalism instilled throughout the year by Mr Tully. His efforts in training and encyclopaedic knowledge of the game bore fruit on a glorious double header that put St Mary's right on top of the soccer pedestal. A hard act to follow.

Many thanks to all who helped us this year. Brother McKenna was an invaluable source of transport, photographic recording and level-headedness in times of strife. Ray Collins ably assisted with the organisation of gear and his refereeing skills were also called upon. Mr Vernon and Mr McAughey; coaches of the Under 14 and Under 15 teams respectively were not blessed with the same degree of luck this year but will no doubt prevail next year.

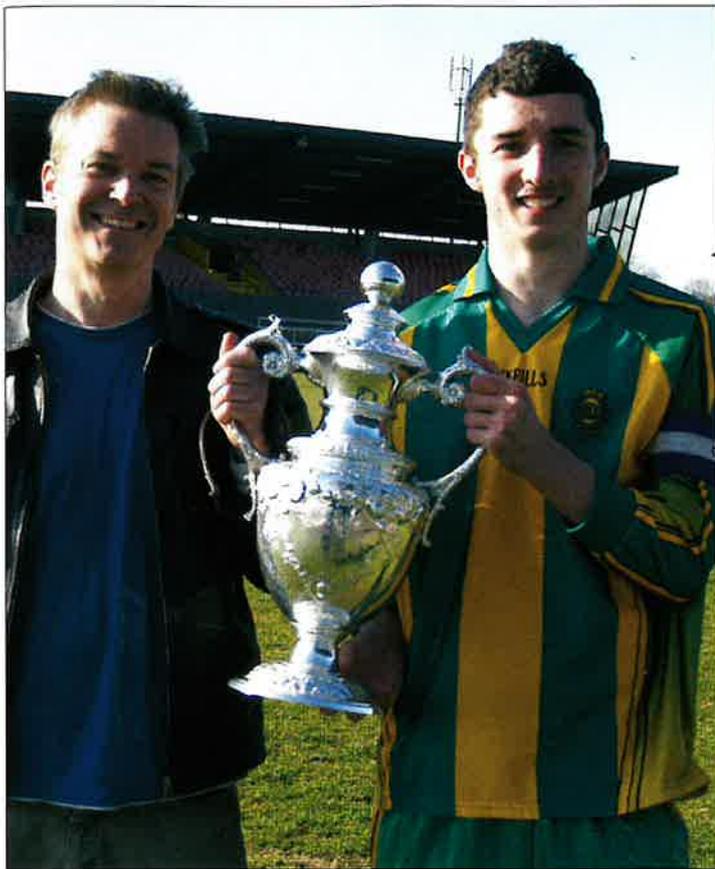
Last but by no means least as they say- all those who did not receive a mention. The squad members who turned up religiously for training every time but whose services were not called upon, yet continued, without complaint throughout the season. The stalwarts in defence, who never find their names on the score sheet etc etc. The necessity of their input is not unnoticed and highly appreciated by us all. They were, and will continue to be integral to our success.

Telegraph Cup Soccer: U16 Cup Final Win

St. Mary's (4) V St. Columb's, Derry (2)
(Penalties)

RESULTS:

St. Mary's (2) V St. Joseph's, Derry (1)
St. Mary's (3) V Boys Model (3)
St. Mary's (3) V Boys Model (3)
(St. Mary's won on penalties)
St. Mary's (4) V St. Brigid's, Derry (1)



QUARTER FINAL

St. Mary's (3) V St. Patrick's, Downpatrick (1)

SEMI-FINALS

St. Mary's (3) V Corpus Christi, Belfast (1)
St. Columb's, Derry (2) V Craigavon Senior H.S. (1)

FINAL

St. Mary's (4) V St. Columb's, Derry (2)
(After penalty shoot out)



Carnegie Schools' Cup

NI Youth Under- 18 Cup 2008



St. Mary's entered an under-18 soccer team into schools' competition for the first time in its history this year, and won the Carnegie Cup at the first time of asking. Given that St. Mary's had won the Under -16 Cup the previous two years running, it always looked like this would be a talented squad that could mount a serious challenge to the holders, St. Louis (Ballymena). A first round draw at home to Bangor Grammar, whose priority would be Rugby, was really only a training match with the St. Mary's lads hammering in seven goals and conceding none. The second round game, away to Causeway Institute, was as much a battle against the elements as it was against the opposition. Such was the ferocity of the wind that November day that our big centre-back, Dermot McVeigh, launched a goal-kick high into the air above the centre-circle only for the ball to come straight back to him on the edge of our own box.

That didn't matter too much though because most of the other players couldn't actually see the ball due to the golf-ball sized hail stones beating against their face! St. Mary's found themselves two goals down at half-time but with the encouragement of playing with the wind at their backs in the second half. Our boys scored eight goals without reply in forty-five minutes as Causeway Institute struggled to get the ball out of their own half. The squad made the long trip home from Coleraine that day knowing that if they could play football in conditions like that they could play anywhere. The third round proved to be the biggest scare for St. Mary's as Portora Royal School put on a surprise performance in a very physical game that threatened to boil over at several points throughout the match. St. Mary's were without a couple of key players but

nonetheless seemed to have the game wrapped up as they were 3-1 up with twenty minutes to go.

However, to Portora's credit they never gave up and a momentary lapse at the back turned an innocuous looking long ball over the top into a cheap goal and a life-line for the battling Omagh boys. It got worse as Portora piled on the pressure in a desperate bid for an equaliser which they managed to get with two minutes left on the clock. Luckily, the St. Mary's lads responded to the "hair-dryer treatment" from their manager, Mr. Tully, and scored in the first half of extra-time to head back to Belfast relieved and knowing that they would have to be better defensively if they were to go on to lift the Cup. The quarter-final was not going to be easy either with the draw throwing up the prospect of a local derby game against our neighbours CBS.

This was a cagey affair, played out on a third generation grass pitch due to heavy rain that week, there were few chances of note but star striker, Ciaran Caldwell, came to the rescue with fifteen minutes to go as St. Mary's edged ever closer to the prize. The draw for the semi-final signalled another tough encounter against the holders, St. Louis (Ballymena). The opposition took the lead from a dubious free-kick awarded for an alleged hand-ball on the edge of our box. That goal was cancelled out by a wonder strike from just outside the box into the top corner courtesy of the right boot of our powerful striker, Liam Boyce. St. Mary's bossed the game after that but failed to create any clear-cut chances against a resolute Ballymena defence. St. Mary's were sharper in the replay with two counter-attacking goals that St. Louis had no reply for. A special word of thanks has to be sent out

to a small group of hardcore supporters from Year 14 who made the journey up to Antrim and managed to out-sing an opposition support four times their size and help send our boys to the final.

The Final was to be against another St. Mary's from Magherafelt and whilst we didn't know them to be traditionally a strong soccer school, Manager Tully warned against complacency as this was a side that had disposed of St. Columb's College and St. Peter's, Derry, two schools with a history of success in schools' soccer. The venue was Ballymena Showgrounds and the boys headed up there with a coach filled with two teams that were to take part in a double-header with the Under-16's also in the NI Cup Final. The boys took great encouragement from our fantastic supporters who chanted incessantly for the whole ninety minutes. The players did not disappoint them with a devastating display that blew away Magherafelt with three unanswered goals in the first half.

The opener came from Captain, Niall Atkinson, one of three players who picked up their third soccer winners medal in a row this year. Atkinson stunned everyone with a disguised shot that he curled into the far corner of the net from outside the box. The Magherafelt keeper obviously did not think that Atkinson was shaping to shoot and was rooted to the spot as the ball seemed to move in slow motion as the crowd erupted upon seeing the net ripple. That goal was shortly to be topped by Liam Boyce who bent a thunderbolt from just outside the right-hand side of the box with the outside of the boot, cutting across the ball and swerving the ball away from the outstretched hand of the keeper and into the top right-hand corner of



the goal. Boyce converted a cross from outstanding Colum Curtis, whose trickery caused the Magherafelt defence untold misery all day, to make it three-nil just before half time.

The second half was also dominated by the St. Mary's from Belfast but despite having what would have been a fourth goal ruled out for an offside that never was, there were no more goals as the game as a contest was effectively strangled by our superior

possession. Liam Boyce won Man of the Match and gratefully received an ipod from the sponsors for his troubles whilst Niall Atkinson lifted the trophy aloft to the delight of the travelling band of supporters. With the Under-16 team winning their final in a dramatic penalty shoot-out it proved to be a memorable day for St. Mary's CBGS who are quickly developing a reputation in schools' soccer that means most schools will be hoping to avoid us in the first round draw of next years competition.

Meanwhile, the winning under-18's squad will be turning their attention to the trip to Leeds in September that comes as part of the prize for winning the Carnegie Cup and hopefully the experience of playing against English opposition and learning from highly qualified coaches will see to it that Tully's side can make it four in a row.





Leavers Mass

2008





Class 9A

Form Tutor: Miss K. Lavery

Front Row (l-r):

Conor O'Kane, Stiofan Trainor, Conor McGuigan, Aaron Mullan, John McDaniel, Aidan Fitzpatrick, John Elliman, Matthew Rainey.

Middle Row (l-r):

David Durkan, John Meli, Darragh Murphy, Pearse McDermott, Daniel Reid, Darren McCann, Conor O'Rawe, Daniel Rogan, Martin Sloan, Matthew Brennan, Miss K. Lavery.

Back Row (l-r)

Niall Adams, Paul Bell, Joseph Fitzsimmons, Gerard McMurrough, Daniel Sloan, Jarlath Mulhern, Conall Murphy, Martin O'Prey



Class 9B

Form Tutor: Ms. D. Murphy

Front Row (l-r):

Peter Maguire, David Burns, Stephen Hughes, James McCourt, Hugh O'Halloran, Aidan Orchin, Sean Campbell.

Middle Row (l-r):

Anthony Kelly, Tiarnan Monaghan, Dylan Neill, Aaron Garland, James Carson, Christopher McComish, Christopher Keenan, Joseph Robinson, Ms. D. Murphy.

Back Row (l-r)

David O'Neill, Anthony O'Neill, Joseph McManus, Patrick McKee, Liam Conlon, Daniel Hand, Kevin Connolly, Christopher Devine.



Class 9C

Form Tutor: Miss. C. Stitt

Front Row (l-r):

James Mallon, Simon Willis, Eoin Connolly, Sean Donnelly, Chris Boyle, Daniel Winchester, Conor O'Donnell & Bibinross Kudilil.

Middle Row (l-r):

Conor Devlin, Piaras Webb, Brendan McKiernan, Conall Lynagh, Connor McCreanor, Gerard McKiernan, Patrick McQuillan, Caoimhin Munster.

Back Row (l-r)

Aidan Cregan, John Keenan, Lorcan McKeown, Thomas Mulligan, Michael Anderson, Stephen Toner, Aidan Campbell.

Absent: Gary Farrelly, Darren Ferris, Kieran Gallagher, Ben Hesketh, Gary Mulhall.

Class 9D

Form Tutor: Mr. G. O'Connor

Front Row (l-r):

Emmett Fallon, Patrick Graham,
James Farrell, David McCabe,
James McComish, Peter Ferguson,
Ciaran Doherty.

Middle Row (l-r):

Matthew Kerr, Daniel Doherty,
Mark Cunningham, Peter Lynn,
Gavin Matthews, Ethan Toland,
David Hason, John McCann,
Mr. G. O'Connor.

Back Row (l-r)

Michael McCabe, Luke Doyle,
Marc Fitzsimmons, Ciaran McAllister,
Conor Heath, John Erskine,
Simon Campbell.

Absent:

Paul Brennan, Adam Jones,
Caoimhin Cullen-O'Neill.



Class 9E

Form Tutor: Mr. V. Murphy

Front Row (l-r):

Patrick Meenan, Eoghan Curley,
Steven Morris, Curtis Millen,
Domhall Quinn, Cris Donegan,
Daniel Brownlee, Pdraig Scott.

Middle Row (l-r):

Mr. V. Murphy, Ben Teague,
Mark Napier, Tomas O'Ciarain,
Luke Kelly, Conor Loughran,
Ciaran McAnulty,
Ruadhan MacAinmhire,
Ruan McCready.

Back Row (l-r)

Raymond McGeogh, Seamus O'Neill,
Daniel McArdle, Ruairi Wilson,
Aiden Churchill, Ryan McKee,
Niall Devlin, Conor Browning.

Absent:

Sean Wylie
Caolan O'Coisneachain



Class 9F

Form Tutor: Miss I. Lawless

Front Row (l-r):

Eoin Smith, James Smyth,
Brendan Wilkinson, Gavin Ritchie,
Sean McIlhatton, Niall McDonald,
Caolan Malone.

Middle Row (l-r):

Paul McGreevy, David Meehan,
Tom Barnes, Kieran Moreland,
Michael Ryan, Eddie O'Neill,
Pdraig Walsh, James Stuart,
Miss I. Lawless.

Back Row (l-r)

Donal Rooney, Niall Hendron,
William Moore, Ciaran Murdock,
Kevin Taggart, Anthony Varndell,
Corey Smith, Deaglan Smart.





Class 9G

Form Tutor: Mrs. B. Breen

Front Row (l-r):

Daniel Lewis, Padraig Brady, Christopher King, Ciaran Doherty, Aidan Murphy, Christopher O'Connor, Conor Smyth.

Middle Row (l-r):

Michael Brady, Sam Boyle, Jason Close, Brendan Bennett, Gerard Joyce, Mark Lyons, Seamus O'Kane, Mrs. B. Breen.

Back Row (l-r)

Christopher Larkin, Colm Smyth, Mark Scott, Danny McBride, John Mallon, Niall Fitzgerald.



Class 10A

Form Tutor: Mr. P. Laverty

Front Row (l-r):

Patrick Kelly, Daryl Randall, Daniel McKernan, Joseph McCall, Padraig Holmes, John-James Loughran, Eamonn McNally.

Middle Row (l-r):

Nathan Hanley, Neil Farquharson, Declan McCavana, Brendan Donaghy, Ruairi Boyle, Gerard McShane, Pearse McKenna, Jackson McGreevy, Gerard Fegan, Mr. P. Laverty.

Back Row (l-r)

Darren Toner, Christopher McGuigan, John Nesbitt, Niall Lynagh, Liam McLaverty, Connor Brennan, Conor Connolly, Ciaran Adams.



Class 10B

Form Tutor: Miss K. Porter

Front Row (l-r):

Stephen Carson, Aidan Grant, Felix Hagan, Gareth Walker, Conor Rooney, Lee Sheridan, Jack Dorrian, Conleth Hendron.

Middle Row (l-r):

Matthew Murray, Michael McCarthy, John Lynn, Kyle Brown, Donal Brady, Daniel Cosgrove, Ruairi Devine, Miss K. Porter.

Back Row (l-r)

Eamonn Smith, Jonathan Moyna, Conor Moore, Ryan Smyth, Brendan Dougan, Matthew McKnight, Aidan McGarrity.

Class 10C

Form Tutor: Miss A. Byrne

Front Row (l-r):

James Donnan, Mark McAreavey,
Stephen Larkin, Michael White,
Brendan McDonagh, Conor Toner,
Ryan Parker, Conor Rainey.

Middle Row (l-r):

Daniel Barr, Mark McCaffrey,
David Wallace, Cormac Kelly,
Andrew Reid, Stephen McCourt,
Gerard Kelly, Mark Torbitt,
Miss A. Byrne.

Back Row (l-r)

Conor McGrath, Michael O'Neill,
Patrick McWilliams,
Cormac Livingstone, Conor Kettle,
James Hopkins, Nathan Callaghan,
Thomas McKeown.



Class 10D

Form Tutor: Mr. K. Morgan

Front Row (l-r):

Matthew Kearney, Ryan Clarke,
Nathaniel Daye, Jude Fallon,
Kevin Finnegan, Aodhan Doherty,
Paul Manson.

Middle Row (l-r):

Matthew Hill, Matthew Cassidy,
Gerard Lavery, Thomas Gourley,
Pearse Fryers, David Fraser,
Gerard Keenan, Mr. K. Morgan.

Back Row (l-r)

Marc Deighan, Brendan Haughey,
Mark Cummings, Aaron Brady,
Brendan Clarke, Stephen Courtney.

Absent: Ronan Campbell,
Hugh Doran, Sean Fox, Alan Hunter,
James McKeenan.



Class 10E

Form Tutor: Mrs. M. Gibson

Front Row (l-r):

Thomas Thibodean, Gerard O'Prey,
Patrick McBride, Paul Robinson,
Louis Donnelly, Fintan McBride,
Conor Jackson.

Middle Row (l-r):

Ciaran Kerr, Aodhan Brady,
Jack Small, Ruairi Fisher, Eoin Brady,
Eamonn Stitt, Ciaran Stewart,
Mrs. M. Gibson.

Back Row (l-r)

Shane McGarry, Conor McCaffrey,
David Nelson, Declan McCullough,
Jody Traynor, Daragh McGuinness,
Brian O'Neill.



Class 10F

Form Tutor: Mrs J Carron

Front Row (l-r):

Declan Ferguson, Paul Smith, Kevin Murtagh, Niall McMahon, Anthony Shortt, Francis McAleese, Aeden Marley, Conor O'Callaghan.

Middle Row (l-r):

James Reid, Ryan McBride, Thomas McCrory, Connell Morgan, Ciaran Rooney, Lee Taylor, Gerard McCullough, Paul McCann, Mrs J. Carron.

Back Row (l-r)

Michael Maxwell, Gerard Roberts, Jack McCrea, Niall McCann, Matthew Sloan, Daniel Smyth.



Class 10G

Form Tutor: Mrs L Cleary

Front Row (l-r):

Conor Donnelly, Cormac Flannery, Nathan Morris, Martin Hagens, Kevin Quinn, Thomas Manning.

Middle Row (l-r):

Brian Donnelly, Cormac Smyth, Conal Shepherd, Piers Cormican, Jack McKenna, Jonathon O'Donnell, Gareth Patterson, Mrs L. Cleary.

Back Row (l-r)

Joseph Cunningham, Colm Walshe, Carl Davis, Niall Quinn, Stephen Rooney, Daniel Clarke.



Class 11A

Form Tutor: Dr K Robinson

Front Row (l-r):

Conor Bannon, Connel McKeown, Sean Paul Taylor, Paul McArdle, David Johnston, Ryan Christie, Robert Darling.

Middle Row (l-r):

Stephen McIlwee, James Parker, Jonathan Doyle, Michael Montgomery, Pearse McConville, Peter Reynolds, Dr K. Robinson.

Back Row (l-r)

Patrick Hickey, Joseph McConkey, Aodhan Lynagh, Conor Mogeay, Ciaran Carville, Matthew O'Grady.

Absent: Donal Feeney



Class 11B

Form Tutor: Mr S McGoldrick

Front Row (l-r):

John Carson, Dominic Sherry-Adams,
James Lavelle, Kevin Petticrew,
Conor Pelan, Niall McGarry,
Eamon Kennedy.

Middle Row (l-r):

Thomas Murray, Conor Cunningham,
John Curran, Paraic Hannan,
Karl Shaw, Mrs F Crookes

Back Row (l-r)

Brendan Bradley, Matthew
McKiernan, Matthew Jordan.

Absent: James Todd, Anthony Todd,
Christopher Lennon, David Christie.



Class 11C

Form Tutor: Mr A Smyth

Front Row (l-r):

Ciaran Murray, James Farrell, Terry
McGrath, Thomas Morgan, Marc
Jordan, Michael Bingham, Ciaran
Orchin, Barry O'Neill.

Middle Row (l-r):

Brendan McCloskey, Jack Gunn,
Matthew Cosgrove, Tiarnan Mackel,
Elsvine Padayattil,
Emmet McPoland, Eamonn Magee,
Ciaran Slavin, Mr A. Smyth.

Back Row (l-r)

Stephen Scott, Kevin Murphy, Leo
McKenna, Declan Scullion, Ciaran
Curran, Corey McGarry, Conor
Bradley, Peter Forde.



Class 11D

Form Tutor: Mr R Herron

Front Row (l-r):

Eamonn Cooke, Jordan Fitzsimmons,
Tyrone Irwin, Christopher Pendleton,
Ryan Kavanagh, Andrew Gillen,
Brian McDonagh.

Middle Row (l-r):

Joseph O'Neill, Aidan McDonald,
John McGlone, James Downey,
Christopher McKenna, Ciaran Rice,
Darren Franklin, Joseph Maginn,
Mr R. Herron.

Back Row (l-r)

Colm Molloy, Ciaran McKeever,
Niall Ward, Michael Smith,
Michael Smart, Stephen McGuigan,
James Gaskin.





Class 11E

Form Tutor: Mrs M Murray

Front Row (l-r):

David Corbett, Fionntan Armstrong, Michael Adair, Michael Edgar, Eoin Morgan, Christopher McKeown, Ciaran Delaney.

Middle Row (l-r):

Aaron Nolan, Michael Lyons, Anthony McDonald, Eoin Crean, Christopher Maguire, Gerard O'Rawe, Mrs M. Murray.

Back Row (l-r)

John O'Neill, Ryan Hull, Tom Livingstone, Conor Mulholland, Conor McCourt, James Cilly.

Absent: Paul Collins, Neill Crudden, Andrew Gillen, Paul Raffo.



Class 11F

Form Tutor: Mrs C McCabe

Front Row (l-r):

Mark Loughran, Emmet Cosgrove, Cormac Quinn, Luke Ferguson, Emmet Cummings, Nathan McKenna, Ryan Caddell.

Middle Row (l-r):

Jude Savage, Ciaran McLaughlin, Tony McClean, Conor McGeown, Stuart Phillips, Paul McShane, Mrs C. McCabe.

Back Row (l-r)

Michael McSherry, Thomas Burns, Christopher McGowan, Pól Nolan, Peter Napier, Carl Maxwell.



Class 11G

Form Tutor: Dr E McCaffrey

Front Row (l-r):

Martin O'Neill, Patrick McCormack, Raymond Mullan, Mark Richmond, Gerard Gorman, Nicholas Hammond, Jonathan McNally.

Middle Row (l-r):

Robert Stitt, Shea McGurnaghan, Mark Rainey, Cathal Fitzpatrick, Stephen O'Neill, Niall McNulty, Mark Salters, Dr E. McCaffrey.

Back Row (l-r)

Peter Carson, Ryan Duckett, Donnchadh Fitzsimons, Sean Hamill, Patrick Van Ohsen, Joe Donnelly, Emmett Stewart.

Class 11H

Form Tutor: Miss J Mervyn

Front Row (l-r):

Ryan Carleton, Emmet Dillon,
Darren Floyd, Christopher Moore,
Carl Wylie, Michael Fallon,
Gavin McKee.

Middle Row (l-r):

Kevin Davey, Daniel Glover, Anthony
Shannon, Ryan McConnell, Kevin
O'Brien, Martan Shortt,
Miss J. Mervyn.

Back Row (l-r)

Aidan Duggan, James Magee,
Gerard Smith, Conor Mullan.

Absent: Christopher Maguire,
Anthony McDonald, David
McMullan, Dominic Shannon R.I.P.



Class 12A

Form Tutor: Mr N Ward

Front Row (l-r):

Hayden Allen, Thomas Armstrong,
Niall Smith, Niall Doherty,
Emmanuel Barkley, Calum Whyte,
Olives Gibney.

Middle Row (l-r):

Ciaran McCusker, Conal McGettigan,
Matthew Hanna, Ciaran Gormley,
Donal Feeney, Colm Dorris,
Mr N. Ward.

Back Row (l-r)

Gerard Torney, Adam Kerr,
Damien Boyle, Martin Connor,
Thomas McKibben, Stephen Durkan.

Absent: Shane McGann



Class 12B

Form Tutor: Miss C Morris

Front Row (l-r):

Jonathan Curran, Martin Campbell,
Colm McCurdy, Patrick Copeland,
Paul McDonald, Christopher
McGuinness, Patrick Moran.

Middle Row (l-r):

Neal Mulholland, George Teggart,
Gary Sharpe, Conor Murray,
Ryan Hyland, Damien McCreanor,
Stephen O'Hagan, Mr E. Collins.

Back Row (l-r)

Colm Lynagh, Cuan Price,
Daniel Moore, Michael Crossan,
Aidan Mitchell, Dominic Kelly,
Daniel Best.





Class 12C

Form Tutor: Miss A. M. Doherty

Front Row (l-r):

Ruarigh Owens, Patrick Brennan, Owen Whelan, Anthony Hanna, Ciaran Kelly, Michael Jackson, Carleton Rodgers.

Middle Row (l-r):

Matthew Gault, Brendan Conlon, Brian Corr, John Gibney, David McGeown, Ciaran Lundy, Miss A. M. Doherty.

Back Row (l-r)

Ryan Mallon, Conor Kavanagh, Ciaran Hicks, David Forrester, Anthony Brady.



Class 12D

Form Tutor: Mrs. M. Jennings

Front Row (l-r):

Conor Brophym Sean Carson, Matthew Neeson, Paul Burns, Brian Moylan, Jamie Smyth, John Paul Morrison.

Middle Row (l-r):

Darron Boyd, Conor Wisdom, Colin Toner, Sean Turley, Adam O'Hare, Ryan Morgan, Christopher Devlin, Mrs M. Jennings.

Back Row (l-r)

Tómas McKee, Mark Kearney, Kevin Hill, Mark Fitzpatrick, Christopher Doherty, Matthew Devlin, Christopher Brown.



Class 12E

Form Tutor: Mr. P. Tully

Front Row (l-r):

Aaron Nugent, Matthew McCleave, Feargal McPhilips, Ryan Boyle, Kiefer Toolan, Deaglan Black, Mark McKenna.

Middle Row (l-r):

Gregory Creaney, Oisín Roger, Conal McKernon, Kevin Milnes, Christopher Robinson, Eamon Toner, Neil McGinnity, Mr P. Tully.

Back Row (l-r)

Mark Rea, Mark McKernan, Kevin Parker, Ryan O'Halloran, Joseph McCaffrey, Kevin Holland, John Kelly.

Class 12F

Form Tutor: Mr. J. McGreevy

Front Row (l-r):

Steven Frizzel, Daniel Malone,
Declan McGeough, Declan Dalton,
Daniel Kelly, Enda Flanin,
Ciaran Floyd.

Middle Row (l-r):

Paul Loughran, Mark Spence,
Nial Cooney, Kylan Allsop,
Anthony Harte, Mark Devlin,
Emmet Dawson, Mr J. McGreevy

Back Row (l-r):

Conor Lennon, John Gallagher,
David Murray, Paul McGroarty,
Steven Kane, Declan Cregan.

Absent:

Daniel Wilson, Robert Deane.



Class 12G

Form Tutor: Ms. L. McGonagle

Front Row (l-r):

Adam Graham, Gareth McBride,
Kevin McCullough, Kevin Collins,
Padraig Burns, Stephen Maginn,
Ciaran Cushley.

Middle Row (l-r):

Ryan Farrelly, Eamon McMillan,
Michael Kane, Paul Loughran,
Matthew Megahey, Ryan Edwards,
Ms L. McGonagle

Back Row (l-r)

Nicholas Tracey, Michael Killeen,
Pierce Reilly, Stephen Colterill,
Ryan McCullough.



Class 12H

Form Tutor: Mr. T. Murphy

Front Row (l-r):

Malachy Lundy, Conor McNeill,
Séan Bradley, Thomas Harbinson,
Stephen McIlwee, John Fox,
Stephen McFadden.

Middle Row (l-r):

Christopher Murray,
Michael Costelloe, Darren Moore,
Patrick Stitt, Patrick Curran,
Liam Kavanagh, Michael McAreavey,
Declan Lynch, Mr T. Murphy.

Back Row (l-r)

Ciaran Brown, Conor Mulholland,
Thomas Heath, Karl Young,
Conor McClelland,
Christopher Magee, Nathan Doone,
Caolin O'Brien.

Absent: Darren Madden.





Class 13A

Form Tutor: Mr. C. McCann

Front Row (l-r):

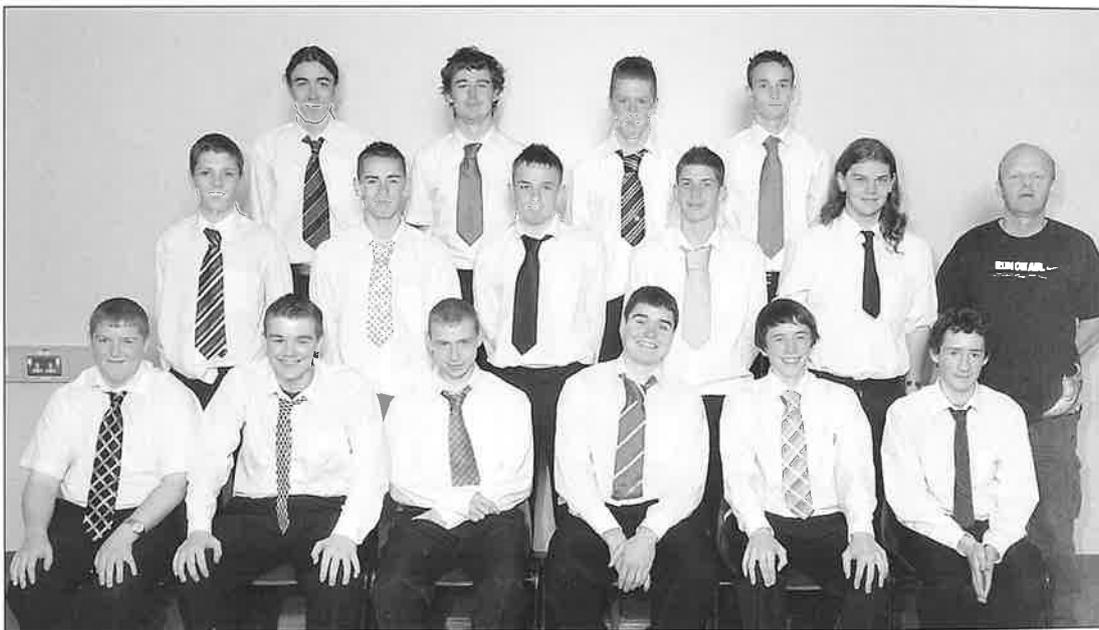
Daryl Mullan, Darren McShane, Christopher Armstrong, Pearce Donnelly, Lester Pabiluna, Jonathan McGuinness.

Middle Row (l-r):

Brendan Roberts, Patrick Lundy, Conor Gaskin, Matthew Devlin, Paul Johnston, Seamus Corrigan, Mr C. McCann

Back Row (l-r)

Christopher McErean, Daire Maskey, Niall Burke, Ryan McKenna, Niall McAlea.



Class 13B

Form Tutor: Mr. E. McToal

Front Row (l-r):

Aaron Duffy, Aaron Kelly, Ciaran Glennon, David McGarrity, Michael Armstrong, Ronan Lunney.

Middle Row (l-r):

Emmanuel McLaughlin, Daniel Diamond, Conor McVarnock, Joseph Sloan, Robert Regan, Mr E. McToal.

Back Row (l-r)

Matthew Mulligan, Thomas Cosgrove, Martin Ramsey, Matthew McArdle.



Class 13C

Form Tutor: Mr. G. Quigg

Front Row (l-r):

Calum Rooney, Niall Atkinson, Connor Courtney, Sean McCafferty, Joseph Smyth, Darren Lynass.

Middle Row (l-r):

Peter Casey, Simon Ramsay, Gary McLaughlin, Gerard McGettigan, Michael Griffin, Mr G. Quigg.

Back Row (l-r)

Dermot McVeigh, Chris Ferguson, Lorcan Kerr.

Absent:

Steven Clarke.

Class 13D

Form Tutor: Mr. M. Watson

Front Row (l-r):
Conal McCorry, Niall Larkin,
Niall McGlone, Eamon Rooney,
Mark Cousins, Gary Randall-O'Neill.

Middle Row (l-r):
Sean McLaughlin, Thomas Barns,
Matthew Teeneey, Mark O'Hara,
Matthew Cassidy,
Christopher Fitzpatrick,
Mr E. McFlynn.

Back Row (l-r)
Niall Hamilton, Manus Doherty,
Kevin Morgan, Thomas McCarthy,
Niall McWilliams, John Paul Mackin.



Class 13E

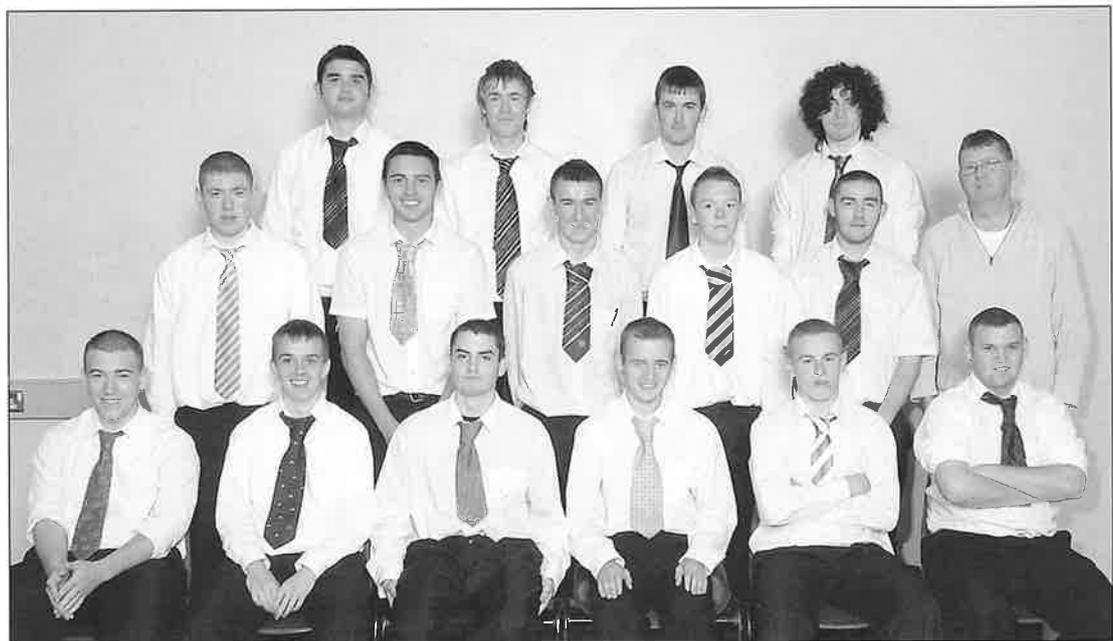
Form Tutor: Dr. A. Donaldson

Front Row (l-r):
Carl Reid, Ryan McMahon,
Michael Fitzpatrick, Ciaran Magee,
Jonathon Neeson, Eoin Magee.

Middle Row (l-r):
Matthew Leonard, Conor Cullen,
Patrick O'Hare, Sean McGrath,
Ryan Bell, Dr A. Donaldson.

Back Row (l-r)
Daniel Shanks, Ciaran Herity,
Martin Donald, Colm Meir.

Absent: Colum Curtis.



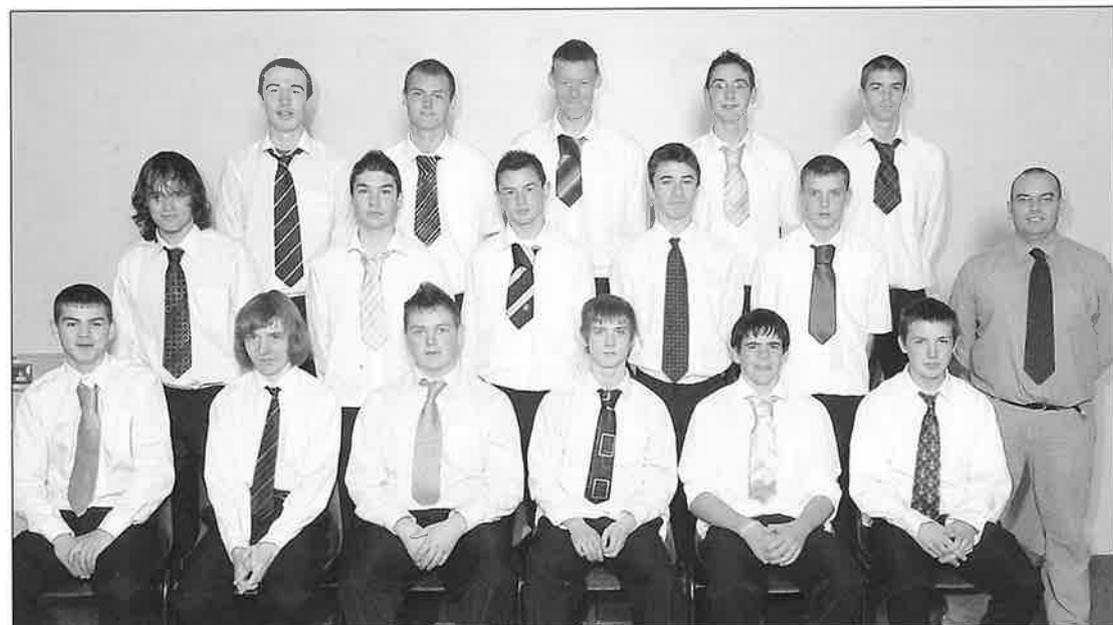
Class 13F

Form Tutor: Mr. M. Robinson

Front Row (l-r):
Paul Donnan, Padraig Cullen,
Conor McManus, Barry Maguire,
Patrick Herron, Paul Flack.

Middle Row (l-r):
Paul Shields, Charlie Clarke,
Patrick O'Kane, Michael Mohan,
Stephen Brennan,
Mr M. Robinson.

Back Row (l-r)
Rory Best, Ciaran Caldwell,
Gerard Lewsley, Niall McCrory,
Declan Reynolds.





Class 13G

Form Tutor: Mr. D. Mahon

Front Row (l-r):

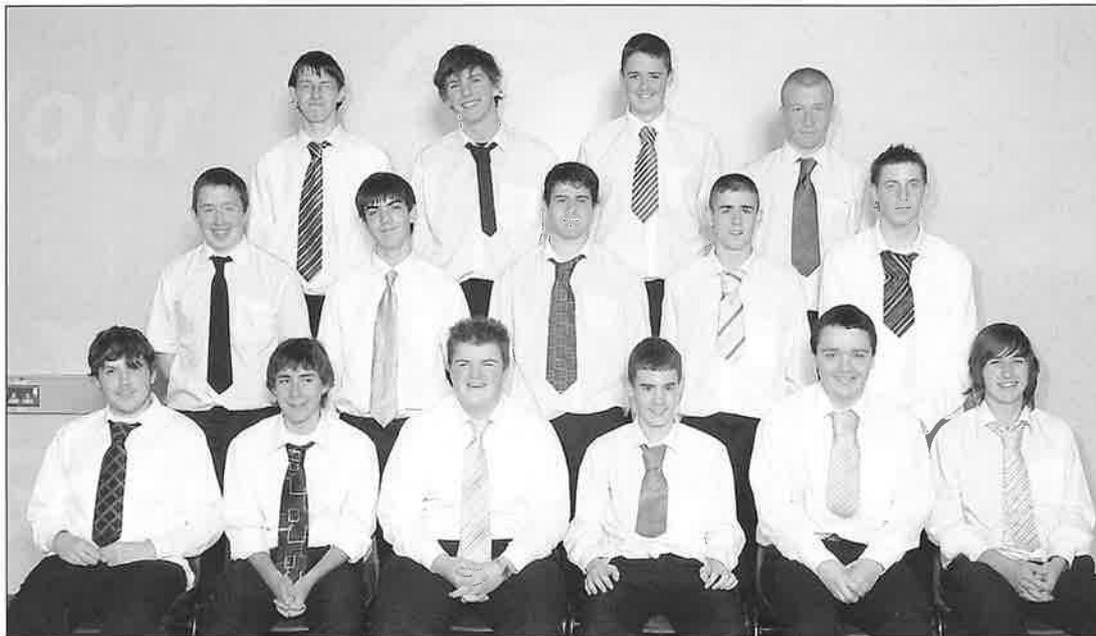
Anthony Donnelly, Mark O'Neill, Stephen Hesketh, Bryan McPolin, Paul Lewsley, Matthew Rice.

Middle Row (l-r):

Ryan Kiely, Conor Connolly, Christopher White, Philip Bonner, Graeme Flanagan, Ms G. Curran.

Back Row (l-r)

John Slack, Paul McGreevy, Ronan Maguire, Paul McCrory.



Class 13H

Form Tutor: Mr. J. Heaney

Front Row (l-r):

Conor Richmond, Michael McKee, Brendan Lundy, Martin Hughes, Daniel McQuaid, Conor Daykin.

Middle Row (l-r):

Jonathan O'Reilly, Christopher Moyna, George Martin, Francis McCrudden, Fadról Donnelly.

Back Row (l-r)

Kieran McFall, George Sloan, Cormac Copeland, Liam Boyce.

Absent:

Kevin Floyd, Mark Small.

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