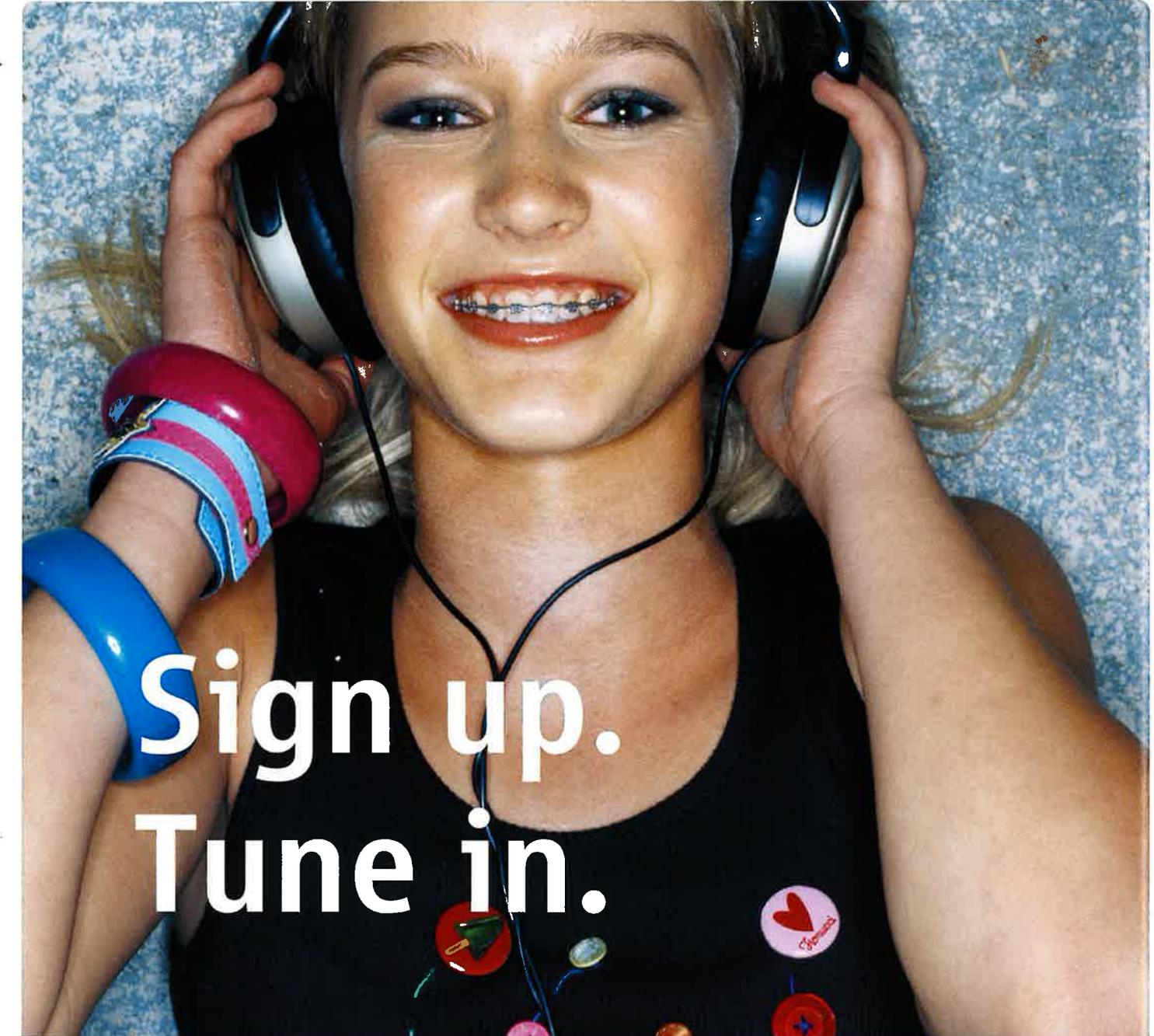


The Simmarian



2010



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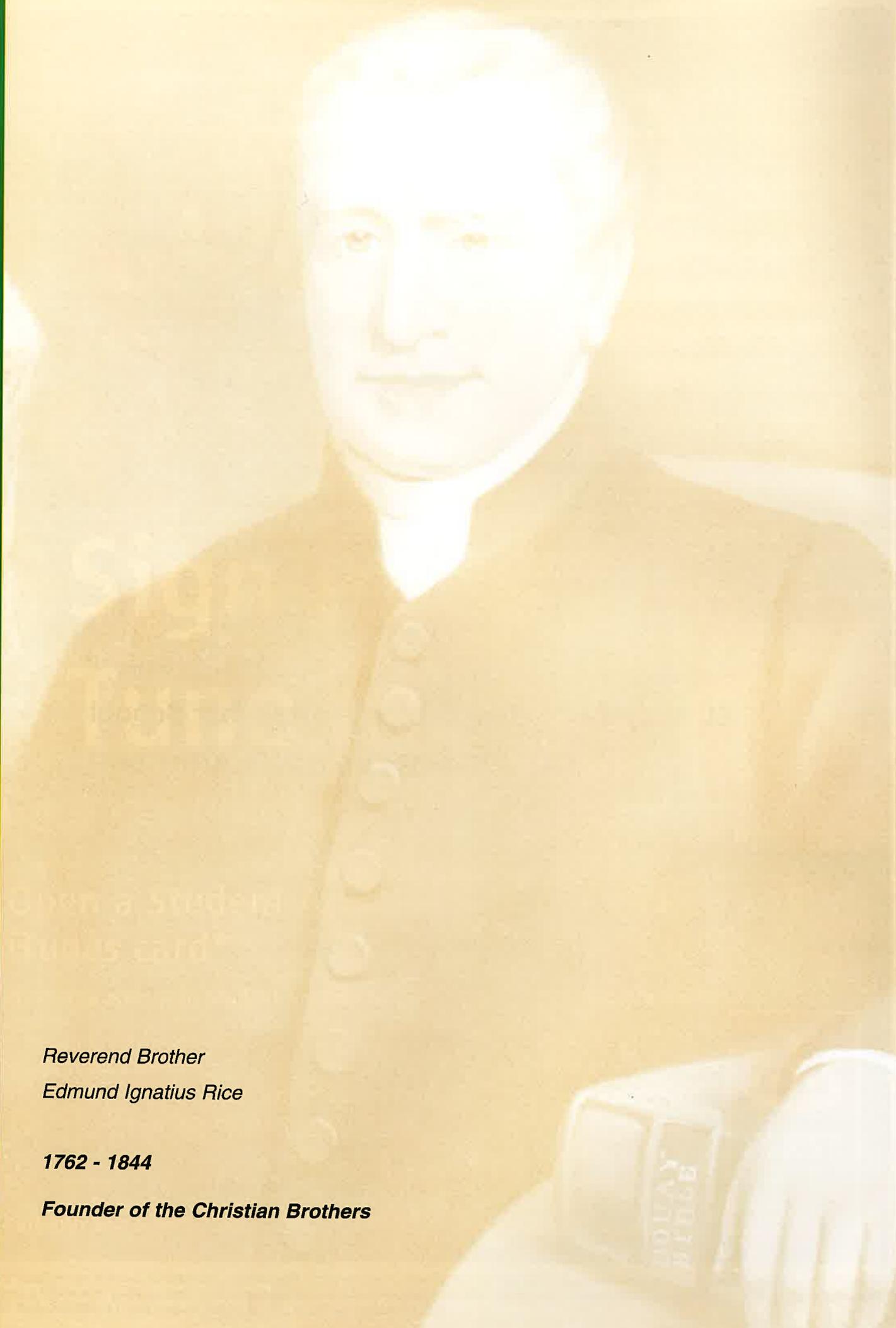


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The Magazine of
St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School
Glen Road, Belfast BT11 8NR

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



*Reverend Brother
Edmund Ignatius Rice*

1762 - 1844

Founder of the Christian Brothers

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Principal's Letter

Traditionally, the purpose of the Principal's address in the 'Simmarian' is to identify and reflect on student achievements, staff resignations and retirements and any singular notable events which marked school life in the preceding year.

However, I am confident that the editor will ensure that these important items are appropriately recognised elsewhere in this edition so I am not going to recite the achievements of our wonderful students and staff.

I wish instead to offer a brief reflection on the current review of post-primary educational provision which will define our school in the long-term future.

In St. Mary's we are not adverse to change or the need for change. We have been extremely active in changing and improving our service to students and parents for the past two years. We remember the words of Pope John Paul 23rd:

"I'm not here to guard a museum but rather to cultivate a garden."

St Mary's has an incredibly rich legacy and a vast diaspora of past pupils prominent and successful from America to Hong Kong to South Africa to Europe. We are proud of this heritage and at the same time, remain flexible about change and diversity.

Seamus Heaney's poem "From the Canton of Expectation" describes the previous seismic changes of the last century in our society when education became available to those marginalised by history.

"... suddenly this change of mood.
Books open in the newly wired kitchens.
Young heads that might have dozed a life away
against the flanks of milking cows were busy
paving and pencilling their first causeways
across the prescribed texts. The paving stones
of quadrangles came next and a grammar
of imperatives, the new age of demands.
They would banish the conditional for ever
this generation born impervious to
the triumph in our cries of de profundis.
Our faith in winning by enduring most,
they made anathema, intelligences
brightened and unmannerly as crowbars.
What looks the strongest has outlived its term.
The future lies with what's affirmed from under."

Although he was writing about a different timeframe, Heaney's theme of raising up communities and the possibility of advancement still resonate for St Mary's as we face the challenge of change and continuity in the provision of ERST education in West Belfast.

We are determined to work in partnership with our Trustees to ensure that the powerful brand of St. Mary's is retained because we know the future wellbeing of so many pupils depend on us.

Our English department will be delighted that, in closing, I rely again on a great Irish poet, W.B. Yeats, to articulate the importance of our task as we work with our Trustees to meet the aspirations of boys yet to enter this great school.

"But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams."

Jim Sheerin May 12th 2010

Retirements and Moving On



Mr. Eamon McFlynn

On the 28th of May 2010, Eamon announced his desire to retire from St. Mary's. This coincided with the announcement that José Mourinho would also be leaving Eamon's much loved Inter Milan and like his most recently adopted hero, Eamon has departed company with St. Mary's at 'the top of his game'.

Eamon Mc Flynn started teaching in St. Mary's in September 1978 having previously worked in St. Louise's for two years. As a teacher of Geography and Geology Eamon's talents were quickly recognised and he was appointed Head of Geography in 1983

Eamon's pupils had already anointed him 'The Special One' long before Jose would stake such a claim. For these pupils he was the 'King Motivator', the 'Master of Banter', and for some pupils his lessons were the zenith of their learning experience in St. Mary's. Eamon's ability to teach was only surpassed by his depth of knowledge and understanding of his subject. Eamon's style of teaching reflected that of the tactical system known as

Catenaccio in Italian football with the emphasis placed on the pupils to be highly organised and effective in defending against his consistent bombardment of questions in his bid to ready them for their exams. With nowhere to hide in P33/E13 pupils quickly armed themselves with the necessary knowledge to ensure success in the classroom and ultimately in the exam hall. The pupils under Eamon's stewardship more often than not produced results that were amongst the most successful in the school.

In a similar vein to his classroom teaching, Eamon's role as Head of the Geography Department set the foundation upon which it has successfully grown. Eamon allowed his staff to develop as individuals whilst providing them with support and guidance before leaving his post to become a Senior Teacher in 1996

For both pupils and staff alike, Eamon was a sensational teacher and colleague whom you could trust to deliver success. Eamon never became disillusioned by his job and



consistently delivered quality lessons and exam results right to the very end of his career. He never shied away from new technology and was always willing to adapt new strategies which he recognised would enhance the pupils' experience. Eamon also organised and led numerous fieldtrips to the west coast of Ireland and throughout the north of Ireland to give his pupils first hand experience of Geography.

When Jose Mourinho left Inter Milan he boldly stated "My work here is done". Eamon can leave St. Mary's in a similar frame of mind, confident that he will be truly missed and that he was successful in all areas of his school life. Eamon is a true gentleman and we will all dearly miss him. *Mr M. Watson*

Mr. Kevin Morgan

The students and staff of St Mary's sadly bid a fond zài jiàn to Mr Kevin Morgan, who is retiring thirty years after he first started teaching in St Mary's in September 1980. Given the importance of China to Kevin's later life, it is perhaps fitting that China's first Ambassador to Ireland, Madame Gong Pusheng, arrived in Dublin on 1st September 1980, on the same day as Kevin embarked upon his teaching life in St Mary's.

Kevin was primarily employed in the school as a teacher of Mathematics which he taught to all levels; however Kevin never failed to surprise his students and colleagues with his vast general knowledge, intelligence and wit. Very surprisingly for a man who excelled in Mathematics, Kevin proved himself to have exceptional creativity and a flair for writing - talents that are generally precluded by a mathematical mind. With these gifts, it is unsurprising that Kevin had a chapbook of twenty eight poems, Woolgathering, published following his win in the Grendon House international poetry competition. He has also written some short stories, one of which was e-published by the BBC.

Kevin is also known as an outstanding athlete, having achieved many records and medals in both marathon running and the 'Ironman' long distance triathlon. One of his most notable achievements was finishing second place in

his age group in the 1998 World Ironman championships in Hawaii.

Throughout his years at St Mary's, Kevin willingly shared this vast experience and expertise in cross-country, athletics and triathlon and adopted responsibility for these sports within the school, giving very generously of his time to organise and coach the very successful St Mary's teams. Some of the stars who Kevin remembers well include Tim McCarthy, Ciaran Rogan (often seen on TV as Translink spokesman), Sean Dunne, Jim Catney and Davy Roberts. Jim Boyle ran 50.4 seconds for 400m to win the Irish Schools' Championships and set an Irish schoolboy record in the process. Kevin also recalls a youngster called Tony Austin "who could run a mean 100m".

Kevin organised some other St Mary's school sports and also organised several Ulster CBS cross-country and athletics championships, in which St Mary's dominated proceedings. In the mid-1980s, when Kevin himself began competing in triathlons, he organised several Ulster Schools' Triathlon Championships, with St Mary's again featuring strongly in each one. The biggest name from St Mary's was John McLaughlin, who also went on to win several senior triathlons after leaving school. In recent years Kevin's life has been characterised by his strong affinity with China



and Chinese culture. He completed a diploma in Chinese at the University of Ulster in June 2008, and following two visits spent exploring China, took the brave decision to spend this academic year working as a teacher in a Chinese school. With his detailed descriptions of Chinese people, culture, landscapes and life, Kevin's updates on his adventure have been enthralling. It is unsurprising that Kevin has decided to extend his time in China and allow this exciting adventure to continue.

Kevin was a very well liked and respected member of the school community, and will be sadly missed. However, we look forward to continuing to hear of Kevin's adventure and indeed to welcoming him back to Northern Ireland when he returns. Most of all we would like to wish Kevin a very long, happy and healthy retirement. Kevin is indeed proof that it is wise to pay attention to the Chinese proverb, 'better do it than wish it done'.

Mr Garvan O'Connor



Mr. John Heaney

June 2010 marks the retirement of John Heaney, Head of the Technology and Design department. John's ready wit and humour helped him to form a great rapport with staff and students alike. John has made a massive

contribution to the academic and extra-curricular life of St. Mary's. Joining the teaching staff in September 1992 John worked diligently in our former Barrack Street campus to develop the fledgling Technology Department into what it is today. John's fascination for electronics and how to make things work inspired many students to embark on a career path in this field of Science. Many former pupils will remember the legendary Year 12 visits to Benburb Priory organised by John to allow students an insight into how technology has shaped the modern day world.

Staff and students will always remember John, not only as a great technologist but also as a committed and hard-working teacher striving through his involvement with careers to ensure

students had the best possible advice and support on their future career choices.

An abiding interest in nature, the environment and the great outdoors led John to form the St. Mary's walking club for staff and friends. Regular mountain walks and weekends away have been the focus of this group with John being the only member who has participated in every event organised. Many of our local mountains have been conquered and it is not an understatement to say that we are at a loss for words as to how John's sense of direction got us to the top and back!

From your many friends in St Mary's the very best wishes for your retirement John and remember,

You will never walk alone! *Mr D. Mahon*



Mr. Gerry Quigg

Gerry Quigg is off to pastures new after twenty years of outstanding service in St. Mary's. In September he is taking up the post of Head of English at St. Louis' Grammar School in Kilkeel. As a self-confessed "country boy", hailing from the wilds of Glenullin, Co. Derry, I am confident that Gerry will love living

in my own homeland at the foot of the beautiful Mourne mountains.

Gerry joined St. Mary's in 1989. A versatile and industrious teacher, he worked in the Drama, Geography and English departments. He took up the post of Head of Key Stage 3 in 2002 and graduated to the demanding position of Head of English three years ago. A conscientious, imaginative and dedicated teacher, Gerry will be missed not only by his colleagues in the English department but throughout the school. Enthusiastic, kind and unfailingly good-humoured, Gerry is highly regarded by all those he comes in contact with- staff, pupils and parents. His hearty laugh has echoed down the corridors for many long years and very few of us have not, at some

time, had the privilege of borrowing his omnipresent "Irish News". He has moulded a generation of young men, helping them not only achieve impressive exam results but providing them with guidance and wisdom while all the time fostering a love of literature.

On behalf of the English department and indeed all the staff and pupils of St. Mary's I would like to wish Gerry every happiness in his new post. I hope that he, Teresa and little Jude enjoy the delights of Co. Down and I look forward to seeing them all sporting the red and black of the county at Newry Marshes.

Good luck and God bless.

Mrs M. Jennings



Miss Fiona Ní Mhearain

Fiona leaves St. Mary's after three years of teaching. During her time here, Fiona has made various positive contributions to the Physics department. She has worked diligently in implementing changes in the revised Key Stage 3 curriculum. Through the quality of her teaching, Fiona encouraged creativity within a pleasant learning environment and integrated easily with both staff and pupils. Fiona took part in a STEM placement with ECIT in June 2009 and this opportunity sowed the seeds for a career change. Fiona leaves to pursue a Master's degree in Queen's University. The Science Department wish Fiona well and know that she will succeed in her future career.

Miss A. M. Doherty



Mr. Donal O'Neill

It is with deep regret that the Irish Department and Domhnall O'Neill part company at the end of this year. Domhnall was a past-pupil who returned to us after completing his degree in Irish in University of Ulster, Coleraine and we hoped that he would stay. The teachers in the school remembered him well as an industrious, intelligent pupil with a relaxed manner which belied his determination to succeed. University education did not change him. Later, he showed the same strengths of character with all the pupils he dealt with, which increased both the pupils' self-respect and their respect for him as a teacher. He became a role-model for them with ease. In the short

time he spent with us he inspired the pupils to enjoy their learning experience, best illustrated by the numbers he encouraged to attend Loch an Iúir Irish College in the Donegal Gaeltacht. But it is perhaps on the sidelines of the playing field that Domhnall will be most missed. He was our own version of 'The Special One' - winning the Gallagher Cup and the McNamee Cup twice each in his short managerial career. We wish him every success in his new post.

Mr M. Greene

The Learning Support Team



THE SIMMARIAN 2010

The Learning Support Team will now change its face. A pilot project set up six years ago has become an integral part of the support network in St Mary's.

The departure of Martha and Deidre leaves the newly appointed members of the team a legacy that necessitates hard work and creativity.



Martha Sweeney

Martha Sweeney began offering Literacy Support and later Learning Support in 2004. In the past six years she has helped countless boys overcome issues with literacy and achieve good grades in examinations. This expertise was developed in her careers as firstly, a primary teacher in St Bernadette's, Ballymurphy and later for five years as a peripatetic teacher for the BELB. Martha made the back room of the library into a cottage factory of Literacy support. Martha was the pioneer of Learning Support at St Mary's and we wish her all the best in her retirement from our staff.



Deirdre O'Connor

Deirdre O'Connor joined the Learning Support Team two years ago. An Art graduate, Deirdre was appointed a full time member of the team. She was mentored two days a week by Martha and spent her first weeks assessing boys for the Learning Support programme. Deirdre's presence in the school meant more boys would be able to get help with literacy and study skills every day. Deirdre took over the back room of the library which became a bright, stimulating room. The senses were inspired through the colours on the walls and the fragrances in the room. Deirdre will be missed from the library. She returns to the teaching staff of St Mary's in September to work as a classroom assistant.

Mr D. McNeill

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

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Ms. F. Crookes	B.Ed., Cert. Pro. Dev., M.Ed.

Senior Teachers

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Mrs. D. Tohill	B.Ed., P.G.C.E., M.Sc.
Mrs. M. Lewis	B.A., M.A., P.G.C.E., M,Ed.
Mr. G. O'Connor	B.Sc., M.Sc., P.G.C.E.
Mr. D. O'Neill	B.A., P.G.C.E.

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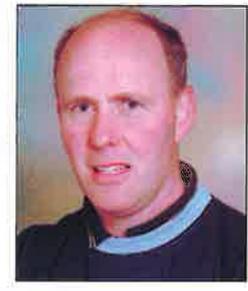
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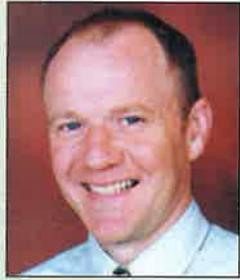
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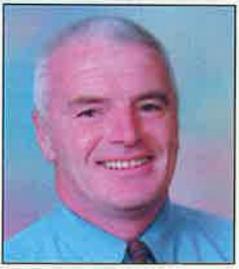
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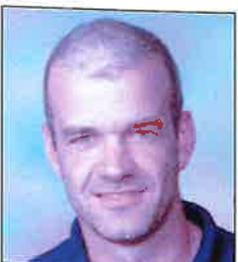
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Miss C. Stitt
English



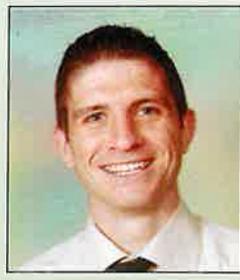
Mrs M. McGettigan
Maths / French



Miss C. Fyfe
Maths / ICT



Miss F. Ní Mhearain
Physics



Mr S. Kelly
Biology



Mr D. O'Neill
Irish



Dr E. McCaffrey
Chemistry



Mrs C. McGonagle
Business Studies



Mrs C. Carson
Media Studies
English & Drama



Miss S. Rogan
English & Drama



Mr P. Gormley
Maths



Miss C. Moore
Careers Advisor



Miss I. Lawless
Head of French



Miss K. Porter
Music



Mr T. McCaughey
Religion



Mr B. McComb
History



Miss C. Muldoon
Mathematics



Miss O. Canavan
Drama and English



Mrs A. McGurk
Psychology



Mrs D. Hamilton
Art



Mrs M. Gibson
Art/H.E.
(Sabbatical)

Head Boy and Deputy Head Boys



L-R: Niall Smith 14E, Gerard Torney 14F,
Jonathan Curran 14G (*Head Boy*), and Michael Crossan 14H.



Classroom Assistants & Literacy Support



Back L-R: Mrs G. McKeever, Mrs S. Crossan, Mrs M. Sweeney
Front L-R: Mrs A. Chivers, Miss D. O'Connor

Administration Staff 2009 - 2010

Mr D. Finnegan
Director of
Corporate
Services



Mrs M. Johnston
Executive Office
Examinations



Miss M. Morris
Assistant Bursar



Mr P. Green
Librarian



Miss L. McAllister
Principal's P.A.



Miss A. McKeown
Telephonist &
Receptionist



TECHNICIANS & LABORATORY ASSISTANTS

Mrs P. McMahon
Chemistry



Ms T. Thompson
Biology



Ms O. Dempsey
Physics



Mr S. Smart
Computers



Mr D. Malone
Technology



Mr M. Hemsworth
Reprographics



Mr J. Donnelly
Office



Mr. G. Vernon
Study Supervisor



Mr. J. McBurney
Caretaker



Mr T. Doherty
Buildings Maintenance



Mr J. McGarry
Grounds Maintenance





New Teaching Staff 2009-2010



Mr. B. McComb

I completed my degree in History at Queen's University Belfast and my PGCE in History at Liverpool's Hope University. Before coming to St Mary's, I taught in a few other local schools including De La Salle College and CBS.



Miss C. Muldoon

I graduated with a maths degree in 2008 and spent the following year completing a PGCE in mathematics at QUB. Prior to my PGCE, I had taught music peripatetically in many primary schools and in Rathmore Grammar School. I have also taught in De La Salle Secondary School, Belfast and in Friends' School, Lisburn before teaching in St Mary's.



Miss O. Canavan

After completing my A-levels I commenced a joint honours Degree in English and French at Queen's University. While doing my degree I spent a year abroad teaching in a French high school. This fostered my desire to teach after completing my degree. Last year, having already finished my degree, I achieved my PGCE also from Queen's University and I was lucky enough to have been offered a job in St Mary's immediately upon completing my teaching qualification.



Andrea Mc Gurk

I hold a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Queen's University, Belfast and a Bachelor of Education with Business Studies from St. Mary's University, Belfast. These qualifications, along with my experience, enable me to teach an extremely wide range of subjects up to A-Level. I have worked in a variety schools since graduation including St. Patrick's College and Assumption Grammar. This is my first permanent teaching position and I am extremely excited at the prospect of teaching and advancing Psychology within the school.



D. Hamilton

I completed my degree in Craft Design in 1995 and after this I worked as an Art Technician in a number of schools including Little Flower Girl's School and here at St Mary's. For the last five years I have also worked as a Community Artist with local groups producing carnival costumes, masks, puppets and floats for festivals such as Feile. I attended University of Ulster in 2006 where I completed my P.G.C.E. and then a Postgraduate Diploma in Education in 2007. I was able to complete my teacher training at St Mary's and now have a position here teaching Art & Design.

St. Mary's Junior Prizegiving

Friday 23rd October 2009

St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School celebrated the academic and extra curricular achievements of last year's Key Stage 3 pupils. Awards were presented for academic achievement, attendance and sporting success.



YEAR GROUP (2008-2009) - The year 11 group assemble for prizegiving.

DISTINCTION AWARDS IN JUNIOR SCHOOL

L-R Mark Scott 11C,
Ruan Mc Creedy 11D,
Donal Rooney 11C



Junior Prizewinners

Subject Awards

Art	Donal Rooney	(11C)
Drama	Ryan McLaughlin	(11C)
English	David Durkan	(11F)
French	Colm Smyth	(11D)
Geography	James Mc Comish	(11D)
History	Mark Scott	(11C)
Information Technology	Simon Campbell	(11D)
Irish	Joseph Robinson	(11C)
Learning for Life & Work	Daniel Mc Bride	(11B)
Mathematics	Ethan Tolan	(11C)
Music	Ruan McCready	(11D)
Physical Education	Ruari Wilson	(11A)
Religion	Joseph Robinson	(11C)
Science	Ben Hesketh	(11H)
Spanish	Matthew Kerr	(11D)
Technology	David Meehan	(11A)



MERIT AWARDS IN JUNIOR SCHOOL

A group of year 11 pupils who received their Merit Awards for 2008-2009.

Distinction at Key Stage 3

These awards are made to students who performed with distinction at Key Stage 3, i.e. they each achieved at least 13 Grade A's or A**s in their examinations last term.

Ruan McCready	(11D)
Tomas O Ciarian	(11C)
Donal Rooney	(11C)
Mark Scott	(11C)

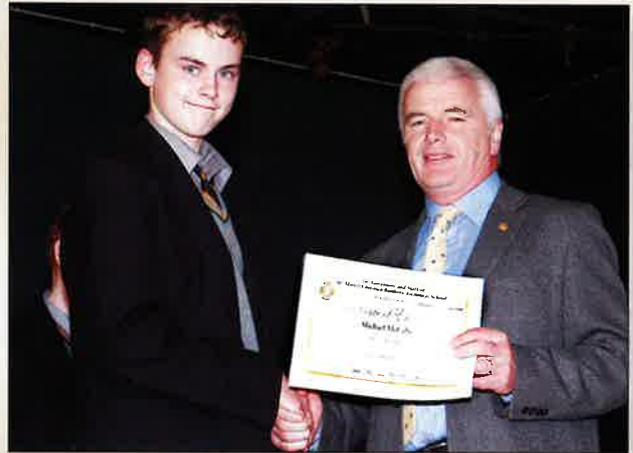
100% Attendance

- Christopher Devine (11G)
- Michael McCabe (11D)
- Kieran Moreland (11D)

Merit at Key Stage 3

The following students performed with Merit at Key Stage 3, i.e. they each achieved at least 10 grade A's or A's in their examinations last term.*

- Padraig Brady (11D)
- Matthew Brennan (11F)
- Simon Campbell (11D)
- Mark Cunningham (11D)
- Ciaran Doherty (11D)
- David Durkan (11F)
- Matthew Kerr (11D)
- Bibinross Kudilil (11D)
- Peter Maguire (11C)
- Gavin Matthews (11F)
- James McComish (11D)
- Gerard McKiernan (11C)
- Curtis Millen (11D)
- Kieran Moreland (11D)
- Caolan O Coisneachaon (11C)
- Padraig Scott (11C)
- Colm Smyth (11D)
- Ethan Tolan (11C)
- Stiofan Trainor (11C)
- Padraig Walsh (11A)



Michael Mc Cabe 11D



Bobby McCargo Memorial Trophy

The award is presented to the student who has achieved the best overall performance at KS3 each year.

- Ruan McCready (11D)



Ruan Mc Cready 11D - RECIPIENT OF THE BOBBY MC CARGO MEMORIAL TROPHY: BEST OVERALL PERFORMANCE AT KS3,

Sporting Awards

- Gaelic Football** - Conor Loughran (11A)
- Hurling** - Aidan Orchin (11C)
- Basketball** - David Durkan (11F)
- Soccer** - Ryan McLaughlin (11C)
- Water Polo** - James Mc Comish (11D)



*SPORTING AWARDS
L - R Aidan Orchin,
James Mc Comish,
David Durkan,
Conor Loughran.*



*Mr. Eamon Mc Flynn Senior Teacher (KS3)
makes his address at the prizegiving.*



*Mr. Sheerin presents Curtis Millen 11D with his
certificate of Merit.*

G.C.S.E. Prizegiving Friday 6th November 2009

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

was awarded to
Declan Scullion
St. Gall's P.S.



Declan Scullion

*winner of the C.B.P.P.U. Gold Medal for the
best G.C.S.E. student.*

Best G.C.S.E. Student 2009

We offer a special welcome to our new students who joined Year Thirteen in September 2009

Sean Brazier

- St. Michael's Grammar School,

Ciaran Kerr

- De La Salle College,

Ronan Quinn

- Rathmore Grammar School,

Conor Farquarson

- De La Salle College,

David McFall

- De La Salle College,

Daniel Russell

- St. Malachy's College.

Michael Hynes

- Malone College,

Josh McMullan

- Friends School, Lisburn,

Welcome!

Academic Awards at G.C.S.E.

G.C.S.E. ART

(Graham Harron Medal)

Christopher McKenna - (Holy Child P.S.)

G.C.S.E. BUSINESS STUDIES

Stephen McGuigan - (St. Anne's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. DRAMA & THEATRE ARTS

Jack Gunn - (St. Anne's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. ENGLISH

Declan Scullion - (St. Gall's P.S.)

(Murphy Associates Medal)

Sponsored by the contractor for the Edmund Rice Complex

G.C.S.E. ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paul McArdle - (Holy Trinity P.S.)

G.C.S.E. FINANCE

Christopher McGowan - (St. Gall's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. FRENCH

Michael Adair - (St. John the Baptist P.S.)

(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.

G.C.S.E. GAELIGE

Brendan Bradley - (Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

G.C.S.E. GEOGRAPHY

John McGlone - (St. Oliver Plunkett P.S.)

G.C.S.E. HISTORY

Paul McArdle - (Holy Trinity P.S.)

(The Oliver McCann Medal)

Named in honour of a highly respected former Head of Department



A group of GCSE prizewinners

G.C.S.E. I.C.T.
(The Staff Memorial Medal)

Matthew Cosgrove - (St. Aidan's P.S.)

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

Páraic Hannan - (De La Salle College)

G.C.S.E. Learning for Life and Work

Elstine Padayattil - (St. Patrick's High School)

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

Declan Scullion - (St. Gall's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. MUSIC

Darren Franklin - (Holy Trinity P.S.)

G.C.S.E. PHYSICAL EDUCATION
(Padraig Burns Memorial Medal)

Ciaran Orchin - (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.

Connel McKeown - (St. John the Baptist P.S.)



Father Sean O'Neill Memorial Cup, G.C.S.E. RE Presented to Connell Mc Keown by Mrs. M. Jennings (Year Head).



The Ford perpetual Trophy G.C.S.E. TECHNOLOGY, Presented to Emmet Mc Poland by Mr. J. Sheerin, Principal.

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

Connel McKeown - (St. John the Baptist P.S.)

G.C.S.E. DOUBLE AWARD SCIENCE

Declan Scullion - (St. Gall's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. SINGLE AWARD SCIENCE

Anthony Todd - (St. Mark's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. SPANISH

Corman Quinn - (St. Kevin's P.S.)

G.C.S.E. TECHNOLOGY

Emmet Mc Poland - (St. John the Baptist P.S.)
(The Ford Perpetual Trophy)



*Academic Awards Prizewinners with Mr. Sheerin
L-R
Declan Scullion,
Christopher Mc Kenna,
Christopher Mc Gowan,
Stephen McGuigan,
Paul Mc Ardle*

Congratulations and best wishes to all our pupils who completed their G.C.S.E. examinations in 2009

ADAIR Michael
 ARMSTRONG Fionntan
 ATCHESON Michael
 BANNON Conor
 BINGHAM Michael
 BRADLEY Brendan
 BRADLEY Conor
 BURNS Thomas
 CADDELL Ryan
 CARLETON Ryan
 CARSON John
 CARSON Peter
 CARVILLE Ciaran
 CHRISTIE Ryan
 COOKE Eamonn
 CORBETT David
 COSGROVE Matthew
 CREGAN Declan
 CRILLY James
 CRUDDEN Neil
 CUMMINGS Emmet
 CURRAN Ciaran
 CURRAN John
 CURRAN Kevin
 DARLING Robert
 DELANEY Ciaran
 DONNELLY Joseph
 DOWNEY James
 DOYLE Jonathan
 DUCKETT Ryan
 EDGAR Michael
 FALLON Michael
 FARRELL James
 FERGUSON Luke
 FITZPATRICK Cathal
 FITZSIMONS Donnchadh
 FITZSIMONS Jordan
 FLOYD Darren
 FORDE Peter
 FRANKLIN Darren
 GASKIN James
 GILLEN Andrew
 GLOVER Daniel
 GORMAN Gerard
 GUNN Jack
 HANNAN Paraic
 HICKEY Patrick
 HULL Ryan
 IRWINE Tyrone
 JOHNSTON David

JORDAN Marc
 JORDAN Matthew
 KAVANAGH Ryan
 KENNEDY Eamonn
 LENNON Christopher
 LIVINGSTONE Thomas
 LOUGHRAN Mark
 LOUGHRAN Paul
 LYNAGH Aodhan
 LYONS Michael
 MACKEL Tiarnan
 MAGEE Eamonn
 MAGEE James
 MAGUIRE Christopher
 MAXWELL Carl
 McARDLE Paul
 McCLEAN Anthony
 McCLOSKEY Brendan
 McCONKEY Joseph
 McCONNELL Ryan
 McCONVILLE Pearse
 McCORMACK Patrick
 McCOURT Conor
 McDONAGH Brian
 McDONALD Aidan
 McDONALD Anthony
 McELWEE Steven
 McFADDEN Stephen
 McGARRY Corey
 McGARRY Niall
 McGEOWN Conor
 McGLONE John
 McGOWAN Christopher
 McGRATH Terence
 McGREEVY Kurtis
 McGUIGAN Stephen
 McGURNAGHAN Shea
 McKEE Gavin
 McKEEVER Ciaran
 McKENNA Christopher
 McKENNA Leo
 McKENNA Nathan
 McKEOWN Christopher
 McKEOWN Connel
 McKIERNAN Matthew
 McLAUGHLIN Ciaran
 McPOLAND Emmet
 McSHANE Paul
 McSHERRY Michael
 MOGEY Conor

MOLLOY Colm
 MONTGOMERY Michael
 MOORE Christopher
 MORGAN Thomas
 MULHOLLAND Conor
 MULLAN Conor
 MULLAN Raymond
 MURPHY Kevin
 MURRAY Ciaran
 MURRAY Thomas
 NAPIER Aodhan
 NAPIER Peter
 NOLAN Aaron
 NOLAN Paul
 O'BRIEN Kevin
 O'GRADY Matthew
 O'NEILL Barry
 O'NEILL John
 O'NEILL Joseph
 O'RAWE Gerard
 ORCHIN Ciaran
 PADAYATTIL Elstine
 PELAN Conor
 PENDLETON Christopher
 PHILLIPS Stewart
 QUINN Cormac
 QUINN Eamonn
 RAINEY Mark
 RICE Ciaran
 RICHMOND Mark
 SALTERS Mark
 SAVAGE Jude
 SCOTT Stephen
 SCULLION Declan
 SHANNON Anthony
 SHAW Karl
 SHERRY-ADAMS Dominic
 SHORTT Martan
 SLAVIN Ciaran
 SMART Michael
 SMITH Gerard
 SMITH Michael
 STEWART Emmett
 STITT Robert
 TAYLOR Sean Paul
 TODD Anthony
 TODD James
 VON OHSEN Patrick
 WARD Niall
 WYLIE Carl

Outstanding Performance at G.C.S.E.

Outstanding Performance at G.C.S.E.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Peter Forde | - St. John the Baptist P.S. |
| Tyrone Irwin | - St. Teresa's P.S. |
| Ryan Kavanagh | - St. Gall's P.S. |
| Aidan Mc Donald | - St. Gall's P.S. |
| Colm Molloy | - St. John the Baptist P.S. |
| Aodhan Napier | - St. Mathew's P.S. |
| Barry O'Neill | - St. Kevin's P.S. |
| Michael Smith | - St. Gall's P.S. |



Outstanding Performance at GCSE
L-R Colm Molloy, Barry O' Neill, Peter Forde, Tyrone Irwin, Ryan Kavanagh

Attendance Awards (100%)

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ryan Christie | - (St. Kevin's P.S.) | Conor Mullan | - (St. Kevin's P.S.) |
| Michael Fallon | - (St. Teresa's P.S.) | Elstine Padayattil | - (St. Patrick's High School) |
| Aidan McDonald | - (St. Gall's P.S.) | Martan Shortt | - (St. Teresa's P.S.) |
| Christopher McKeown | - (St. Teresa's P.S.) | | |



Attendance Awards
L-R Michael Fallon, Christopher Mc Keown, Martan Shortt, Elstine Padayattil, Ryan Christie

Sporting Achievements

G.C.S.E. Sporting Awards 2008/2009

BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Robert Darling - (St. Teresa's P.S.)

GAELIC FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR
Eamonn Quinn - (St. John the Baptist P.S.)

HURLER OF THE YEAR
Jude Savage - (Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Christopher McKeown - (St. Teresa's P.S.)

WATERPOLO PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Cathal Fitzpatrick - (Bunscoil Phobal Feirste)

Sporting Awards
L-R Christopher Mc Keown, Cathal Fitzpatrick, Jude Savage, Eamonn Quinn, Robert Darling



Comhghairdeas

Senior Prizegiving - 'A'- Level

St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School

'A' Level Year Group 2009

Annual Prizegiving

Wednesday 16th December 2009

Guest Speaker

The Most Reverend Dr. Noel Treanor

Bishop of Down and Connor

Edmund Rice Perpetual Trophy Edmund Rice Gold Medal

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

awarded to

Brendan Lundy - *St. John the Baptist*

P.S - now studying Medicine at QUB)

and

Gerard Mc Gettigan - *St. Teresa's P.S*

- now studying Law at QUB)

Best 'A' Level Students 2009



Mrs G. Curran (Year Head), Gerard McGettigan and Brendan Lundy (Joint Winners of Award for Best 'A' level Student 2009), Mrs D. Tohill (Senior Teacher).

Senior Prizegiving

ST. MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING DECEMBER 2009

St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar school recently held their annual awards ceremony to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the A level Year Group of 2008-2009. The guest speaker was the Most Rev. Noel Treanor, Bishop of Down and Connor, who spoke to the boys about the exciting challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in an ever changing world.

Former pupils, most of whom are now pursuing their studies at university, returned to the school with their parents to receive a range of certificates, medals and other awards in recognition of the students' achievements in individual subjects, outstanding overall performance at A level, full attendance and prowess on the sporting field. This year the CBPPU Gold Medal and Edmund Rice Perpetual Trophy for Best A Level Student was shared by Brendan Lundy and Gerard McGettigan who are studying Medicine and Law at Queen's University Belfast. *Mrs M. Jennings*



Winners of Awards for Outstanding Performance at 'A' level.

Conor Cullen,
Cormac Copeland,
Graeme Flanagan
and Paul Johnston.

SPORTING AWARDS

Dermot McVeigh (Gaelic),

Rory Best (Basketball).

and Graeme Flanagan
(Water Polo).



Academic Awards at A2

A2 Art <i>(The Dominic Shannon Memorial Award)</i> <i>Sponsored by the Shannon family</i>	- Gary Randall-O'Neill (St. Kieran's P.S. - <i>now studying Architecture at U.U.J.</i>)
A2 Biology <i>(The Mc Clure Medal)</i>	- Brendan Lundy (St. John the Baptist P.S. - <i>now studying Medicine at QUB</i>)
A2 Business Studies <i>(The Ulster Business Equipment Medal)</i>	- Gerard Mc Gettigan (St. Teresa's P.S.- <i>now studying Law Q.U.B.</i>)
A2 Chemistry <i>(The Northern Bank Medal)</i>	- Brendan Lundy (St. John the Baptist P.S. - <i>now studying Medicine at QUB</i>)
A2 Computing <i>(The Kevin Jennings Medal)</i> <i>Sponsored by St. Mary's auditors</i>	-Michael Armstrong (St. Teresa's P.S. - <i>now studying Maths, & Computer Science at Q.U.B.</i>)
A2 Drama <i>(The Billy Adams Medal)</i>	- Stephen Clarke (St. John the Baptist P.S. - <i>now studying Drama at UUM</i>)
A2 English Literature <i>(The Serridge Medal)</i>	- Gerard Mc Gettigan (St. Teresa's P.S.- <i>now studying Law Q.U.B.</i>)
A2 Financial Services	- Matthew Leonard (St. Kevin's P.S. - <i>currently seeking employment</i>)
A2 Geography <i>(The Francis Rice Memorial Medal)</i>	- Patrick Herron (St. John the Baptist P.S. - <i>now studying Cons. Eng & Mgt at UUJ</i>)
A2 Government & Politics <i>(First Trust Bank)</i>	- Ciaran Magee (St. Mark's P.S. - <i>seeking employment</i>)
A2 History <i>(The Bank of Ireland)</i>	- Gerard Mc Gettigan (St. Teresa's P.S.- <i>now studying Law QUB</i>)
A2 Irish <i>(Cumann Gaelach Scoil Mhuire)</i>	- Lorcan Kerr (Scoil na Fuiseoige - <i>now studying Business & Accounting at UUJ</i>)
A2 Mathematics <i>(The Rev. Bro. McGreevy Medal)</i> <i>The name of Brother McGreevy was synonymous with</i> <i>the teaching of Mathematics in St. Mary's in the '50's.</i>	- Brendan Lundy (St. John the Baptist P.S. - <i>now studying Medicine at QUB</i>)
A2 Music	- Tom Barnes (St. Teresa's P.S. - <i>now studying Geography at QUB</i>)
A2 Physics <i>(D.J. Mc Randal Medal)</i>	- Brendan Lundy (St. John the Baptist P.S. - <i>now studying Medicine at QUB</i>)
A2 Physical Education <i>(Glenn O'Hare Memorial Medal)</i>	- Niall mc Crory (Ballymacward P.S. - <i>now studying Accounting at QUB</i>)
A2 Psychology	- Mark O'Neil (St. Kevin's P.S. <i>now studying Psychology at UUC</i>)
A2 Religion <i>(The Brother Mallon Medal) Named after a</i> <i>distinguished former teacher and donated by an ex-pupil John Larkin,</i> <i>former Reid Professor of Criminology at Trinity College, Dublin.</i>	- Seamus Corrigan (Holy Child P.S. - <i>now studying History with Philosophy at QUB</i>)
A2 Spanish <i>(The Mc Evoy Medal)</i>	- Emmanuel Mc Laughlin (St. Kevin's P.S. - <i>now studying Orthoptics at Liverpool University</i>)
A2 Technology	- Patrick Herron (St. John the Baptist P.S.- <i>now studying Biomedical Engineering at UUJ</i>)
The Brother Monaghan Cup <i>Presented to the outstanding pupil who entered Senior School from our</i> <i>associated Secondary Schools.</i>	- Declan Reynolds (Crumlin High Sch. - <i>now studying Business Studies at UUJ</i>)
Bonn Sheamais Mhic Eachaidh	- Conor Connolly (St. John the Baptist P.S.- <i>now studying Product Design & Development at QUB</i>)

Sporting Awards

(Basketball Player of the Year 2009)

Rory Best (St. Anne's P.S. - UUU, Communication & PR)

Gerry Magennis Memorial Award (Gaelic Footballer of the Year 2009)

Dermot Mc Veigh - (Meanscoil Feirste - now studying 'A' Levels)

Forresters' Medal - (Hurler of the Year 2009)

Patrick Herron - (St. John the Baptist P.S. - UUU, Construction Eng. & Mgt.)

(Soccer Player of the Year 2009)

Liam Boyce (St. Joseph's P.S. - UUU, Sports Technology)

(Water Polo Player of the Year 2009)

Graeme Flanagan (St. John the Baptist P.S. - Newcastle University, Law)

Outstanding Performance at 'A' Level

(Ancillary Staff Medal)

Cormac Copeland

(Meanscoil Feirste) now studying Education at St. Mary's UC

Conor Cullen

(St. John the Baptist P.S.) now studying Physiotherapy at UUU

Graeme Flanagan

(St. John the Baptist P.S.) now studying Law at Newcastle University

Paul Johnston

(St. Oliver Plunkett P.S.) now studying Engineering at UUU

Conor Richmond

(Scoil na Fuisseoige) now studying Irish & Celtic Studies at QUB

Attendance Awards

Graeme Flanagan (St. John the Baptist P.S.) now studying Law at Newcastle University

Brendan Lundy (St. John the Baptist P.S.) now studying Medicine at QUB

Ryan Mc Mahon (St. John the Baptist P.S.) now studying Liberal Arts (History) at St. Mary's UC

Calum Rooney (Holy Child P.S.) now studying Computing Science at UUU

Outstanding Performance at 'AS' Level

Patrick Copeland - (St. Luke's P.S.)

Stephen Durkan - (St. Teresa's P.S.)

Matthew Hanna - (St. Colman's P.S.)

Valedictorian 2009

Niall Mc Crory (Ballymacward P.S.) - UUU, Business Studies



U.B.)

QUB)



*We wish God's blessing on and every success
to our 'A' Level students of 2009*

THE SIMMARIAN 2010

ARMSTRONG, Michael	DONNELLY, Anthony	MAGUIRE, Barry	MORGAN Kevin
ATKINSON, Niall	DONNELLY, Faeral	MAGUIRE, Ronan	MOYNA, Christopher
BARNES, Tom	DONNELLY, Pearce	MASKEY, Daire	MULLAN, Daryl
BELL, Ryan	DUFFY, Aaron	McALEA, Niall	MULLIGAN, Matthew
BEST, Rory	FERGUSON, Chris	McARDLE, Mathew	NEESON, Jonathon
BONNER, Philip	FITZPATRICK, Chris	McCAFFERTY, Sean	O'HARA, Mark
BOYCE, Liam	FITZPATRICK, Michael	McCRORY, Niall	O'HARE, Patrick
BRENNAN, Stephen	FLACK, Paul	McCRORY, Paul	O'NEILL, David
BURKE, Niall	FLANAGAN, Graeme	McCRUDDEN, Francis	O'NEILL, Mark
CACHART, James	GASKIN, Conor	McERLEAN, Christopher	O'REILLY, Jonny
CALDWELL, Ciaran	GLENNON, Ciaran	McFALL, Kieran	RAMSEY, Martin
CASEY, Peter	GRIFFIN, Michael	McGARRITY, David	RAMSEY, Simon
CASSIDY, Matthew	HAMILTON, Niall	McGETTIGAN, Gerard	RANDALL-O'NEILL, Gary
CLARKE, Charlie	HERITY, Ciaran	McGLONE Niall	REID, Carl
CLARKE, Stephen	HERRON, Patrick	McGRATH, Sean	REYNOLDS, Declan
CONNOLLY, Conor	HESKETH, Stephen	McGREEVY, Paul	RICE, Matthew
COPELAND, Cormac	JOHNSTON, Paul	McGUINNESS, Jonathan	RICHMOND, Conor
CORRIGAN, Seamus	KELLY, Aaron	McKENNA, Ryan	ROCKS, Conor
COSGROVE, Tomas	KERR, Lorcan	McLAUGHLIN,	ROONEY, Calum
COUSINS, Mark	KIELT, Ryan	Emmanuel	ROONEY, Eamon
CULLEN, Conor	LARKIN, Niall	McLAUGHLIN, Gary	SHIELDS, Paul
CUMMINGS, Dan	LEONARD, Matthew	McMAHON, Ryan	SLACK, John
CURTIS, Colum	LEWSLEY, Gerard	McMANUS, Conor	SLOAN, George
DAYKIN, Conor	LEWSLEY, Paul	McPOLIN, Bryan	SLOAN, Joseph
DEVLIN, Matthew	LUNDY, Brendan	McSHANE, Darren	SMALL, Mark
DIAMOND, Dan	LUNDY, Patrick	McVARNOCK, Conor	SMYTH, Joseph
DOHERTY, Manus	LUNNEY, Ronan	McWILLIAMS Niall	TEENEY, Matthew
DONALD, Martin	LYNASS, Darren	MEIR, Colm	
DONNAN, Paul	MAGEE, Ciaran	MOHAN, Michael	

Comhghairdeas

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St. Mary's Corporate Dinner

Ramada Hotel 23rd April 2010

St. Mary's had a formal dinner to raise funds for their proposed Indoor 3G Arena. This turned out to be a very successful and most enjoyable evening. It was an opportunity to meet old friends and acquaintances and to catch up on time lost.

The evening began with a drinks reception in the foyer of the Ramada Hotel. This was attended by prominent politicians namely S.D.L.P. leader Ms. Margaret Ritchie and Sinn Fein leader Mr. Gerry Adams. The St. Mary's award winning traditional group provided the background music as the past pupils, staff and their guests mingled and did some serious chatting and networking.

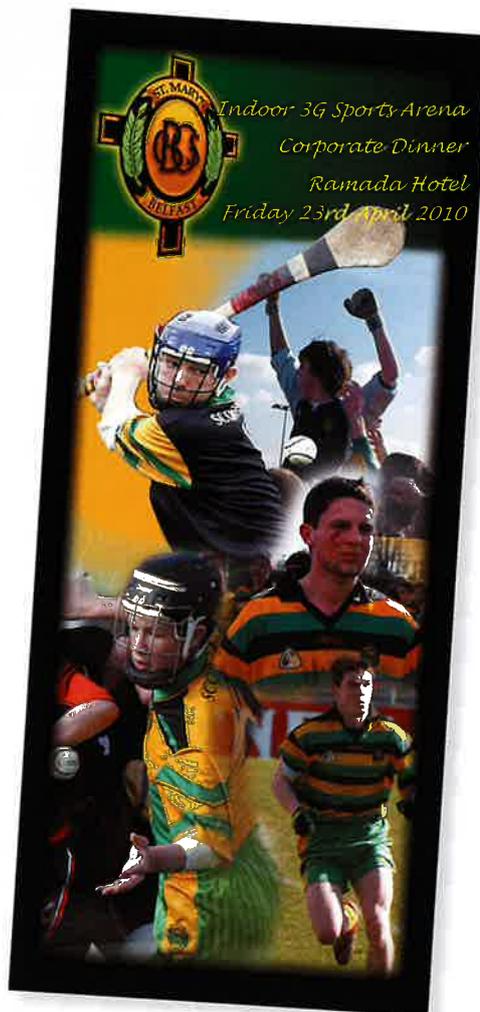
Following the principal's address and grace, a fabulous six course dinner was served. The comedian Gene Fitzpatrick did the table draw and this was followed by an auction which included paintings by highly acclaimed artists Martin Mooney and Paul Walls, both past pupils. The evening concluded with the main draw and some great music.

A large number of people (420) were in attendance and the majority stayed on until the early hours of Saturday morning. In terms of fundraising it was also a very successful night and special thanks must go to Martin Mooney whose painting was auctioned for £10,000.

A total of £28,000 was raised from the dinner and the other auction prizes. The night also included the ballot for our prize draw which had been running since November 2009. The prize fund amounted to £30,000. Ticket sales exceeded £80,000 and thanks to all those who contributed in any way. The school proposes to hold another Gala Night in Easter 2011 so put this date into your diary.

Mr D. Finnegan

The Prize winners	<i>Toyota Avensis</i>	Brenda Campbell
were as follows:	<i>Mitsubishi Colt</i>	Lawrence O'Toole
	£3000	Ryan Carson
	£1000	Paddy McIlvenny
	£1000	Rosie Corrigan
	£500	Lucille Cassidy
	£500	Rosaleen McAree
	£500	Conor O'Rawe
	£500	Deirdre Gibney
	£500	Micky Stevenson
	£500	Maurice Frew



*The principal Mr. Sheerin with some of the staff who helped to organise the dinner.
L-R Mr. & Mrs. Mc Gettigan, Mr. & Mrs. Finegan and Mr. & Mrs. Sheerin*



Past Pupils with their wives and guests at the corporate dinner



Members of St Teresa's GAC attending the corporate dinner





Compere Gene Fitzpatrick and Mr D. Finnegan launch the Prize Draw



The Auction



The top prize winner, Mrs. B Campbell



Compere Gene Fitzpatrick interviews the winners of the draw.



The head boy and prefects team who assisted on the night.



Compere Gene Fitzpatrick interviews the winners of the draw.



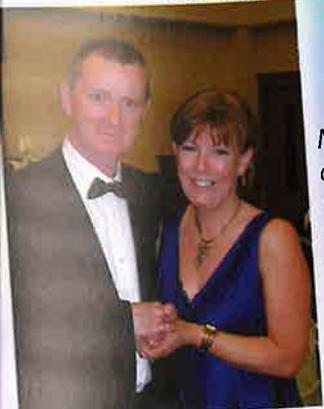
Mr. & Mrs. Campbell who won the Toyota Avensis car.



Principal, Mr. J. Sheerin and Director of corporate services, Mr. D. Finnegan .



Principal, Mr. J. Sheerin and Director of corporate services, Mr. D. Finnegan .



Mr. Sheerin congratulates Mrs. B. Campbell.



Mr. Sheerin congratulates Mrs. B. Campbell.



Mr. Sheerin congratulates Mrs. B. Campbell.



YEAR 8 PUPILS

YEAR 8A Form Tutor: Mrs A. McCann



Marc Downey
Holy Trinity PS



Bradley Garland
St Aidan's PS



Connor Hyland
St Peter's PS



Daniel Lauro
St Teresa's PS



Declan Lynass
St Michael's PS



Ethan
St Peter's PS



Dominic Lynn
St Anne's PS



Michael Mallon
St Joseph's PS Crumlin



Ryan Mallon
Good Shepherd PS



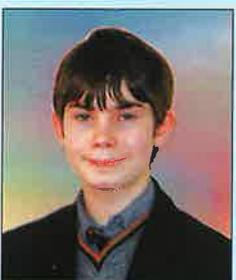
Liam Martin
St John The Baptist PS



Matthew McAlinney
St Anne's PS



Neil
Holy Trinity PS



Sean McCann
St Anne's PS



Conor McCarry
St Bride's PS



Conal McCavana
St Mark's PS



Paul McCoey
St Anne's PS



Neil McCourt
St Teresa's PS



James
St John The Baptist PS



Owen McCrudden
St Claire's PS



Conchur McCullough
Holy Child PS



Stephen McGreevy
St Anne's PS



Mark McGroarty
St Oliver Plunkett PS



Odhran O'Callaghan
St Anne's PS



Brian
Christ the Redeemer PS



Daniel O'Muirigh
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Luke O'Neill
St Anne's PS



John Rafferty
St Kevin's PS



Jack Trainor
Holy Child PS



Matthew Turley
Christ the Redeemer



Stephen
St Anne's PS



Ethan Wilson
St Peter's PS



Caoimhin Bell
Good Shepherd PS



Darragh Burns
St Oliver Plunkett PS



Patrick Carlin
Holy Child PS



Gary Donnelly
St Aidans PS



Neil Doran
Holy Trinity PS



Ciaran Dunlop
Holy Trinity PS



Christopher Gallagher
St Claire's PS



Eoin Kearney
St John the Baptist PS



Sean Keenan
St Joseph's PS Crumlin



James Maguire
St John The Baptist PS



Gareth Mateer
Good Shepherd PS



Ronan McConnell
St John The Baptist PS



Caolan McCrory
Holy Trinity PS



Christopher McGonnell
Our Lady Queen of Peace



Brian McKinley
Christ the Redeemer



Michael McLaughlin
St Paul's PS



Joseph McVeigh
Holy Child PS



Matthew Mooney
St Kieran's PS



Gerard O'Connor
Holy Trinity PS



Stephen Patterson
St Anne's PS



Sean Quinn
St Bride's PS



Thomas Rooney
Good Shepherd PS



Rory Rush
St John The Baptist PS



Ciaran Seacroft
St Aidan's PS



YEAR 8C Form Tutor: Miss C. Muldoon



Canice Sheppard
St John The Baptist PS



Aodhain White
St Teresa's PS



Eamonn Barr
St Peter's PS



Sonnie Boyce
St Joseph's PS (Slate St)



Matthew Clarke
St Anne's PS



Deaghlán
St M...



Conor Collins
St Kevin's PS



Jonathan Cunningham
St Claire's PS



Martin Devine
St Kevin's PS



James Doyle
St John The Baptist PS



Declan Duffy
St Ita's PS



Paul
Good S...



Cameron Ferrin
St Joseph's PS Crumlin



Conor Finch
St Teresa's PS



Aaron Hall
Holy Trinity PS



Eamon Hill
St John The Baptist PS



Mark Hughes
St Mark's PS



John
St C...



Sean Johnston
St Malachy's PS



Niall McAllister
Holy Trinity PS



Colm McCluskey
Christ the Redeemer



Matthew McCusker
St Kevin's PS



Oran McGeough
St Anne's PS



Conall
Holy...



Caoimhin McKenna
St Oliver Plunkett PS



Michael McStravick
St Paul's PS



Pierce O'Rawe
St John The Baptist PS



Caolan Parker
Christ the Redeemer



Christopher Raffo
St John The Baptist PS



Conchúr
St C...



Deaglan Rainey
St Mark's PS



Sean Robinson
Christ the Redeemer



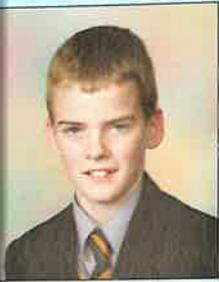
Michael Smith
Holy Child PS



Jamie Walker
St Oliver Plunkett PS



Che Allingham
St Oliver Plunkett PS



Paul Burns
Good Shepherd PS



Conor Carberry
Holy Trinity PS



Ciaran Connolly
St Kieran's PS



Diarmuid Cullen
Christ the Redeemer



Nathan Curran
Holy Trinity PS



John Darragh
St Colman's PS



Cathal Devenney
St John The Baptist PS



Conal Dodson
Holy Cross PS



John Doherty
St Anne's PS



Kevin Donnelly
St Anne's PS



Conall Doyle
Holy Child PS



Ryan Elliman
St Teresa's PS



Stephen Erskine
St Anne's PS



Ryan Feeney
St Joseph's PS Crumlin



Aaron Fitzpatrick
Christ the Redeemer



Conchur Fitzpatrick
St Claire's PS



Aaron Fitzsimons
St Peter's PS



Declan Gaskin
Holy Trinity PS



Stephen Geddis
St Joseph's PS



Jordan Hanna
Good Shepherd PS



Ryan McGuinness
St Anne's PS



Christopher McKernan
Holy Trinity PS



Marcus Murphy
St Anne's PS



Jude Reilly
Holy Trinity PS



Ciaran Smyth
St Anne's PS



Dermot
St Ter...

YEAR 8E Form Tutor: Mrs L. Goutley



Gerard Liam Thomas
Holy Trinity PS



Gerard Braniff
St Kevin's PS



Shaun Bryans
St Anne's PS



Conor Burns
St Teresa's PS



Conor Carson
St Anne's PS



Ciaran
Bunscoil P...



Michael Conlon
Holy Trinity PS



Eoin Connolly
Christ the Redeemer



Dominic Courtney
Holy Trinity PS



Niall Crossan
St Teresa's PS



Brendan Deeds
St Teresa's PS



Caolán
Ballym...



Oisín Digney
St Teresa's PS



Gary Doherty
St Kevin's PS



Caolan Doran
St Teresa's PS



Aodhan Dugan
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Pearse Fegan
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Kevin
Holy



Daniel Finlay
Christ the Redeemer



Darren Fox
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Ciaran Garland
St Teresa's PS



Michael Hopkins
St Colman's PS



Aodhan Hughes
Gaelscoil Na Bhfal



Graham
Holy



Dermot Irwin
St Teresa's PS



Daniel Magee Clarke
St Colman's PS



Sean Maxwell
St Colman's PS



Darren McGowan
Christ the Redeemer



Eoghan McKenna
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste

YEAR 8F Form Tutor: Miss S. Rogan



Ciaran Murray
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Naoise Quinlivan
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Mark Sykes
Scoil A Droicgdú



Reece Brown
Holy Trinity PS



Matthew Gorman
Edmund Rice PS



Caolan Hart
Ballymacrickett PS



Patrick Heathwood
St Aidan's PS



Patrick Henderson
St Claire's PS



Niall Hughes
Our Lady Queen of Peace



Eamonn Kelly
Holy Child PS



Kevin Lynagh
Holy Trinity PS



Donal Maguire
St Teresa's PS



Aaron Martin
St John The Baptist PS



Conor McAuley
St Anne's PS



Ciaran McCaffrey
St Colman's PS



Graham McCaffrey
Holy Child PS



Brendan McCarthy
St Anne's PS



Gavin McCartney
St Teresa's PS



Declan McKee
St Mark's PS



Liam Og McMullan
St Teresa's PS



David McPeake
St Teresa's PS



Aaron McPoland
Our Lady Queen of Peace



Jarlath Mervyn
St Teresa's PS



Niall Mullan
St Kevin's PS



Dara O'Halloran
Christ the Redeemer



Callan
St Joseph's PS



Joseph O'Neill
St Aidan's PS



Sean O'Neill
St John The Baptist PS



Darren Quinn
St John The Baptist PS



Joseph Rafferty
St Kevin's PS



Caolan Rooney
Holy Child PS



Pearce Allingham
St Oliver Plunkett PS



Michael Bennett
Our Lady Queen of Peace



Sean Byrne
St Anne's PS



Andrew Carson
St Teresa's PS



Eamon Catney
Christ the Redeemer



Benjamin Cherek
St Anne's PS



Fionntan Dempsey
St Teresa's PS



Joshua Diver
St Joseph's PS (Slate St)



Joseph Donnelly
Christ the Redeemer



Ciaran Ferrin
St Teresa's PS



Cameron Flynn
Christ the Redeemer



David Gibney
Our Lady Queen of Peace



Kevin Gibson
Good Shepherd PS



Cormac Gribben
St John The Baptist PS



Michael Hanna
St Teresa's PS

YEAR 8G Form Tutor: Mrs C. McCabe

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Callum Portis
St Joseph's PS Lisburn



Stephen Smyth
St Anne's PS



Conor Stinton
St Joseph's PS Lisburn



Declan Walsh
St Teresa's PS



Jordan Watson
Christ the Redeemer

Literary Section

Editor Mrs M. Jennings

Mary-Anne

I knew we shouldn't have come here. I will tell you the story right from the beginning.

It all started on John's twelfth birthday. He was having a party at his house and I was invited.

I lived in the city. In my opinion it was cramped and noisy. Fortunately John lived in the countryside. I thought that it was peaceful and quiet. This was exciting for me because I had only been to the countryside twice in the twelve years of being on this planet. This was also because my mum was a nurse and my dad was a manager so we really didn't get to spend much time together.

John's mum Emma rang my mum. I heard them talking on the phone. I also heard my name mentioned and as soon as I got down the stairs mum had already finished talking. I asked her curiously.

"Who were you talking to?" she asked me and my heart skipped beat.

I was going the following day and there was nothing else on my mind. The whole night I thought about the next day.

I woke up early in the morning and got dressed and washed. When I came down the stairs my mum was shocked because she had always called me a lazy sleeper.

The party was at one o'clock so I had time to get my breakfast and watch television. After breakfast, I was ready for the two hour journey to Bill's house.

It had seemed more like two days. We had been driving past farms, rivers lakes and swamps.

My mum and I had eventually reached what she called a house but to me it was like an enormous mansion.

When I got into the house I couldn't believe my eyes. There was a mountain of presents and a gigantic buffet. In it were vol-au-vents, sausage rolls, cocktail sausages, potato wedges, crisps, dips, chicken drumsticks and sandwiches.

You were allowed to eat whatever you wanted to. I ate most of the chicken drumsticks because they were absolutely delicious.

This house was a million times better than mine because they had acres of land to the rear of the building and they even had their own cow and ten hens. We played hide and seek around his back and as soon as it started to get dark I glanced around me and suddenly I saw another mansion beside John's with many broken windows-but that wasn't the scary bit. I could hear strange noises coming from it.

I was a very curious person and half of my body was telling me not to go near it and the other half was controlled by curiosity and as usual curiosity got the better of me. When I found Bill I had told him what had happened. He went and got a torch and we started to wander up to the mansion.

When we got to the mansion there were steps up to it. At the start of these there were two gargoyles of appalling winged creatures that had teeth as long as a ruler. These creatures were grotesque and they reminded me of the Devil.

I am the type of person who does not like to think about bad things so a word like "the Devil" will make the hairs stand up on the back of my neck or similarly send a shiver down my spine. When we got to the huge oak door it suddenly swung open.

John and I entered and as we did the dusty floor boards beneath us creaked. I could actually smell the oldness of the house. As we walked I felt cobwebs brushing gently across my face and I still heard the eerie noises throughout the house.

We tip-toed down the hall and the weird sound was getting louder and louder. As we were at the bottom of the stairs I thought of turning back but once again curiosity got the better of me. I tried to be silent as I raised each foot to step on each stair but they kept on creaking. John and I braced ourselves and walked into the room from which the noise was coming. I felt something brush against my leg. I froze and looked down to see a cat run in front of us, accompanied by three kittens. I heard John shout, "Mary-Anne!" and he told me that it was his cat that had run away two years ago.

The next day before we were leaving I was delighted because John told me that I could keep one of the kittens.

My mum soon arrived and we went home. When I stroked the cat gently I took one last glance at the house, only to see a white ugly face staring out of the top window.

Colm Crothers 9A



Hobbits are odd creatures with an unusual sense of style. The average hobbit wears a waistcoat with a pair of jeans. It has long hair and its shoes are massive boots which look like they are for hiking. A hobbit's favourite thing is company at tea time.

It was tea time for a hobbit and I was invited over. I arrived at the door and knocked. It took five minutes before the huge, circular, green door opened. I now know why it took so long! There was a long tunnel decorated with bright colours that ran all the way to the main home. It also had thousands of hooks for coats and hats.

I saw an array of colours; it was like living in a rainbow. The sitting room had all the colours you could think of and some you couldn't! It was decorated with old fashioned furniture.

I was told to wait there for the food. Along the right hand wall there was a massive book-case which, from what I saw, had every type of book. Surprisingly there was a window in the room.

The hobbit came back with a massive platter floating in front of him. On the platter there were empty, gold plates, "Just say any type of food imaginable and it will appear on the plate," he said to me.

So I picked up an empty place put it

Tea With a Hobbit

on my lap and said, "KFC Bargain Bucket," and it appeared on the gold plate in the cardboard bucket.

It certainly didn't take me long before the Bargain Bucket was empty. Next was the dessert. I was handed a plate slightly smaller than the other one. I said, "Chocolate fudge cake with ice-cream."

The plate got way heavier and when I looked a huge, luscious whack of chocolate fudge cake was there with a scoop of vanilla ice-cream.. Again it was eaten in a flash.

After the meal I asked if he could give me a tour of the hole. The hobbit was obliged and we were on our way.

We went to the one of the many bedrooms. This was the master bedroom. In the middle of room there was a four poster bed with a full, maroon duvet and curtains. The paint, oddly though, didn't match. It was a deep purple almost black, with silver spots going through it. It was actually like a clear summer night.

This room also had an ensuite and it was gigantic! It had black and white tiling with a shower big enough to fit me! The toilet was a white throne. You could fit twenty hobbits in it and flush it and they would all go down the drain.

We went on our way but when we were going down the big tunnel, I saw a suspicious looking door. This door wasn't painted. It was burnt all over and the knob was too hot to touch. I asked could we go in but the hobbit's face went white and he refused to answer.

Next we went to the wardrobe. The whole room only for clothes. It was basically a walk-in wardrobe with every nook and cranny filled with hats, shoes, shirts, waistcoats, leather and denim jeans or beanies.

By the time we were finished looking it was midnight. I asked if I could stay for the night. The hobbit said that it would be a pleasure.

I got the master bedroom! The mattress was softer than I thought. It was like a million memory mattresses were piled up on top of each other. It was so heavenly that it felt like I was sleeping before I hit the pillow.

I woke up during the night to hear noises. I was really freaked out so it took me a while to gather the courage to go out and have a look. My first thought was to go to the burnt door room.

I went to the door and peeped through the small crack the door produced because it wasn't properly closed. The hobbit was in the room and he was performing a ritual with a dead, decomposed body. After five minutes I realised what was happening. Necromancy.

This totally freaked me out so much I screamed. The hobbit turned around and cursed to himself. He said something and the deformed body rose and advanced towards me.

I bolted out of the hobbit hole with the body slowly following me. At a certain distance from the hobbit hole the body burst into flames and turned to dust.

Gareth Mateer 8B

The Park

As I walked I felt the freshly cut grass with its infectious aroma. The tress swayed to the laughter of children, goalposts glistened in the sunlight. The playground was filled with children, swinging, jumping, climbing, while the adults watched without a care. Soon people made their way to the exit, as the sun descended.

Darkness covered the sky. The footpath reflected the moonlight. The park was a very different place now, a dull grey structure up ahead looming over the rusted gates, twisting spikes. The playground's bright colours had faded. Only noises resided here now, as the wind swept past the crooked branches.

John Elliman 11B



The Hobbit



I was walking down a long, lonesome hallway. It felt like I was walking through a snake, with dozens of little arched doors. I wanted to open every door to find out what mysteries lay behind. There was no sunlight in the corridor. It was as dark as a bat's cave, with the only form of any light trying to fight its way out of a door. I knocked on the wooden, kite shaped door. "Come in." I put my hand on the silver door knob. It was freezing. It felt like touching a dead body. I quickly turned the knob and pushed open the door. The door creaked as I pushed it. I stepped inside and saw a most amazing room, with the sunlight shining in from the circle-shaped window onto the wooden table. The room smelt like a lovely perfume.

Then I saw him. He was a very strange looking person, wearing a little red blazer and red trousers.

He had lovely cutlery which must have been made by the finest artisan. There was a fire burning in the corner which looked like the flames were dancing on top of the wood and giving off a great smell.

He came in with a tray of odd looking stew. It looked like someone had already eaten it and spat it back up. It

tasted like that as well. He then handed me a cup of tea. The cup was decorated like the flowers were holding hands. I took a small sip. It scalded my tongue. It was like scalding hot lava. It tasted like a burning rotten egg. The hobbit just talked and talked. I wasn't paying much attention to him. I was too busy thinking about what lay behind the doors he had leading down the hall. I decided to go to the toilet.

I was walking down the corridor, trying to open every door. They were all locked so I just had to settle for the toilet. I walked in to discover a lovely mahogany bathroom. I was disappointed with this so I kicked a wall. The wall then fell apart and I discovered another little door. I crawled in it to see a package lying on the hard and pointed ground. I looked around the room. The walls were coloured with green and pink, paint peeling. It was very cramped and had little light. Then I made a move from the package. I opened it. I saw a note saying, "Hold this. Close your eyes and dream."

I opened my eyes and found myself at a funfair. This must have been what I wanted most. Though the funfair was empty I went on everything there. I got as many doughnuts as I could eat and didn't have to wait in a ten hour line.

I decided to go into the house of mirrors. I walked in and saw a million "MEs." I walked around for a while and discovered a seat sitting in the middle of the room. Then all of a sudden music started playing. It was not the happy music. It was the sort of music you would expect to hear at the climax of a horror film. Then I heard a baby crying like it had lost its mother. I decide to go and inspected the chair further. It was ripped and all the fluff was coming out of it. I looked in the mirrors to see a million rats run past a million of me. I heard a voice, "I'm going to get you!" The mirrors started smashing. I looked at the man. Well, I couldn't say man because he was so hideous-with an eyeball hanging out of his socket, scars down his face and one just below his eye. He was wearing a grey coat and track bottoms. He had his hood up. He wanted me for some reasons. I don't know why. "Give me the ring!" He spat the words out like they were venom. He moved towards me-closer. His feet were hovering off the ground closer, closer. Then he put his hands round my neck.

"Where's the ring?"

Canice Sheppard 8B

The Townland of Lannet

I was born in the city of Belfast, but my family is from the town land of Lannet in Fermanagh.

It's a lovely place, where my soul roams free on the luscious green grass. Down the fields is a meadow where the river flows fast. There lie the turf fields, where the turf is cut and put in stacks.

Up the steep hill, the ruins of my ancestors lie. As the sun sets on the horizon, the last beams of light show. At night

the moon shines brightly on the trickling stream flowing by.

As the sun rises, you hear the morning song, the singing of the birds.

I cannot express how much I love this place. When I go here my heart is set free. My heart will always belong in the townland of Lannet.

Aidan Gittens 9A

THE EVIL HOBBIT

Once I arrived at-well...I don't even know where. One minute I was in the house, the next I was here. I would like to say I have been transported into a magical land with unicorns, flying cars and all you can eat buffets but the cold hard truth was I was in a field only God knows where. I was standing in front of a mini Mount Everest. There was something creepy about it. It was out in the middle of a flat field. I got down on my knees to examine the mound and what I saw was remarkable- a little chimney with smoke coming out of it. While on my knees snooping, I heard a quiet yell. I turned but there was nothing there. I scanned around the empty field but still nothing.

I shouted, "Show yourself!"

I heard a little voice saying, "You're standing on me you idiot!"

I looked down and there was a little hobbit. He was a bit scruffy but who wouldn't be if you had just been trampled on? He was wearing a brown T-shirt, a checked body warmer, a pair of dungarees and a small pair of pointed shoes. He had brown curly hair. He had a colour of eyes which you only have if you have seen a lifetime of trouble. Before I could make sense of anything that was happening I was zapped down to the size of a dwarf. The little hobbit stood beside me. We were both looking at each other in a daze. I was the first person to talk. I asked him where we were but he didn't answer, and all of a sudden the little guy burst into flames. I screamed. I didn't know what to do.

I was paralysed with terror and the little hobbit just stood back up and said, "Gotcha!"

Relief swept across my body. For a minute I think my heart stopped. The hobbit said in his weird tone of voice, "Would you like to join me for tea?"

I didn't know how to answer but after a little persuasion I agreed.

Inside the house was crazily decorated. It looked like someone had come into a clean room, wrecked it and put everything back randomly.

The tunnel was as long as a lizard's twisty tail. There was no light in the tunnel except the weak, gentle flames from the candles. The room I was laid into was a hexagon shaped. There was a long king like table which was laid out with a wonderful feast. There were a lot of crazy looking foods which the hobbit assured me were safe. When I sat down at my chair there was a type of pie. I took a spoonful but there was no flavour-1...2...3 then woosh my mouth exploded with flavour. Every type of taste you can imagine, strawberry, lime, banana, apple all blended into one, an unusual mixture but I can assure you it was wondrous.

For a moment I blacked out and all I could see was an array of colours. It was remarkable.

After the feast I was lying on the chair. The hobbit asked me did I want a tour around his house so I agreed. While walking down the long tunnel I spotted another hobbit but this hobbit was not the happy one I met at the door and had tea with. He was very grumpy. His clothes were also different. He was wearing completely black clothes. He was also wearing a studded black jacket but the most unusual thing was his spiked collar. He was also dragging his feet like they were a ton of bricks. I asked the hobbit who he was but he did not answer but instead just walked away mumbling.

When I met back up with the Happy Hobbit I inquired about the man I saw earlier but he just said in his squeaky voice, "Don't mind Thomas Smith. He's always grumpy."

So we continued with the tour. We were walking down the corridor and I spotted a door but it was chained up and guarded by two vicious looking hobbits. I stopped and stared at the door. I sort of knew from all the security I was not allowed in but was a strange compelling force drawing me to it. The door itself was made of beautiful solid oak with engravings of trees and wildlife. I was quickly snapped out of my daze by the hobbit but now this voice wasn't happy and squeaky like it used to be. No, it was fierce and sharp like he was scared. He kept asking me to promise I

wouldn't go in, as we walked down the corridor watching the guarded door disappear into the distance.

The rest of the day was good. We went to the gym, the cinema and the theatre. Then he walked me to the door and then said, "Goodbye. Hope you come again soon".

"I will," I said. I waved. Then he waved. As I walked away the tiny mound disappeared. I was happy that the day had gone well but there was something nagging me. What was in that room? Then it hit me. I will go back tonight. Hold on a minute. Where am I going? I don't even know where I am. So I turned back and walked towards where the hobbits lived. I rapped the door and then asked could I stay. He said yes. I was brought to my room and told to get some shuteye. I was lying in bed thinking about the door and what lay behind. I waited about two hours before I had the courage to get out of bed. I walked out the door and down the corridor. I kept walking until I saw the door. There it was. I walked closer. The door had been unchained for some reason. I opened the door - 'creak' the door was open. I went in but there was nothing there. I thought to myself what a disappointment. So I walked out but I forgot to close the door fully. I went to my room and fell asleep.

The next day I was awakened by a lot of commotion. I went into the hall. It was a mess. The little hobbit ran over to me and said, "Run! Bobby escaped. He is an evil hobbit. Someone let him escape!"

At once I knew I did it. I said, "It was me. I let him out."

He screamed at me and said, "You promised you wouldn't go in!"

"I'm sorry."

I promised to search to the ends of the earth for all my days to find the Evil Hobbit.

Thomas Rooney 8B

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The Haunted House

The house was isolated, sinister and creepy. Nobody lived in this house for fifty years because of the accident back in 1960. A man was murdered at his front door, supposedly by drunken and careless teenagers. I was going to look at the house belonging to the victim.



My coat was wet because of the heavy rain. There were loud thunder strikes that hurt my ears. I ignored it and carried on. The front garden was overgrown with insects crawling everywhere. It was a horrible site for a house. The house was far from the road as a long, cracked pathway led up to a dilapidated orange door with marks and scrapes surrounding the handle. Swampy marsh covered most of the old pathway. My shoes were dirty. A dim street light was the only light I could see. You could not see it because of the mass of tall, brown 'evergreen' but these didn't stay green long enough. I went round the side to look at the back garden.

The back garden was worse than the front. There were limp daffodils, bending onto the damp soil. A rusty bucket held brown water with revolting frog heads. It was a sickening sight. The oil tank was decomposing and a large amount of oil splattered around it, providing some sort of moat like a castle. I was already drenched so I went inside.

I walked into a 1950s style kitchen. It wasn't beautiful as it might have been back then. There was a foul corpse smell floating past my nose. I could almost make out a green colour as well. Rusty pots and pans lay on the ground. They formed a sort of island in the middle of a cracked wooden floor. I got a splinter but I would take it out later. Cupboards were hanging off their sockets while wooden shelves lingered at the wall. As I walked across the floor, it creaked. I went into the living area.

Not much to see here but to summarise it, it was a pig sty. A brown liquid was all over the floor. The cushions were torn and sections of the sofa were in different places in the room. A TV floated in the liquid as well as my shoe. I would just leave it. A thousand pound lamp was just abandoned in this state.

I wanted to see more so I went upstairs. As I walked up the stairs, I noticed something from the corner of my eye. A dark, silhouette-like person stood at the top of the stairs. He held a blood smothered knife. Purple saliva dripped from a wrinkled mouth. His hands were as white as the moon. The tension in my brain was helpless. Why did I do this? I ran down the stairs and charged through the door. When I got out he was running not far behind me. A taxi was waiting outside. I jumped in, sweating rapidly with shaky hands and legs.

"Drive!" I shouted in a fierce voice.

We drove past the house. The figure stood there grinning with red lit eyes.

Caoimhin McKenna 8C

The Haunted House

It was a cold winter night and the young boy and girl were walking past the dark, terrifying, sinister house. It was dilapidated and most of the windows in the house were smashed.

The boy and girl had always wondered what it looked like from the inside; this was their night to find out. The smell had been atrocious. It was as if all the dead bodies in the world had been dumped in this one garden.

The walk up to the front door was gruelling enough but when they arrived they found that they had to

walk up forty teeth like steps. Everything they stepped on gave off a loud creak that could wake the dead. They finally arrived at the front door. All of a sudden the door opened automatically as if a ghost had opened it. When they walked inside the abandoned house all of its possessions had been smashed into a million pieces.

They decided to walk into the limp kitchen where there was a corpse smell lingering like the lifeless house itself. A couple of years ago there had been a gruesome murder. A young woman

had been dissected from head to toe. The children knew that this house had a terrible past but they had to see it before it was knocked down. After they had finished their tour, when they were about to leave its dark halls, there was a pair of red eyes looking at them. They tried to run but soon there was an army of red eyes swarming around them. The children let rip a huge scream but it soon stopped and the children were never seen again.

Caolan Parker 8C

The Haunted House

As I walked up the over-grown pathway it reminded me of the dull, dark and lifeless graveyard a few blocks away. As I approached the dilapidated door, I felt terrified.

I opened the door and the sound echoed around the house. It creaked and black, sinister and horrifying bats flew out of the house. I nearly passed

out. I still had the nerve to go into the abandoned house.

There was moss growing up the wall and everywhere else. This place was deserted. When I walked by the chair there was a rotten, old skeleton just lying right in front of me. I ran up the stairs. They creaked and screeched and one of the ancient stairs caved in.

I continued on my journey. When I approached a tattered, old broken door I pushed it and it fell. There was a pile of bones lying there on the ground. I ran to the next room to find a bed eaten by moths and suffocated by moss.

Conor Collins 8C

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UNIT NORT

The Alley

The alley was as dark as the Devil's heart. The vents were breathing smoke like people on a frozen day. It was as if it was a thick poison cloud waiting patiently to engulf its victims into nothingness. It had an evil feeling, like a more satanic force was operating here as it tugged at my soul pulling me into its cold embrace. It was foggy. I could not see further than the reach of my arm. It was as if I was in a cloud but not the fluffy, happy ones. This was



like a dark storm cloud and I was about to be engulfed.

I turned sharply as an air vent started making a most unpleasant sound. An ear splitting, soul piercing, screeching noise emitted from this one vent. Was this a banshee here to claim my life? I



did not know but the noise was like a shining blade stabbing and cutting. I was frozen as the noise hit me like sparkling diamonds breaking me down. I was immobile. I fell.

Chris King 11B

The Competition

The competition was quite hard for me as I was not the fittest boy you will ever see-that's for sure. Anyway first up was the long jump.

I was up against the fittest and most athletic boys in the whole school. First up was Karl. He was tall with long skinny legs to give him speed and maybe give him a longer jump.

He took his position at the line, taking deep breaths. Then the whistle blew and he was off like a shot flying past us. Then he jumped and everything suddenly went in slow

motion. I looked at him. I could imagine him in an Olympic Stadium with flashing lights of cameras and TV cameras and I could imagine the crown chanting his name, Karl! Karl! Karl! I imagined him falling down and down landing on the 7ft 2inches mark. I could actually hear the crowd cheering.

Next up was Stephen Grant. He was an averaged sized 12 year old boy with short black hair and a light tan. I thought he would be easy to beat but the next thing you knew he is off

like lightning, flying past me. He jumped and landed on the 7ft 4 inches mark and beat Karl.

Then it was me. I walked up to the line, my hear beating like a drum. The whistle blew and I was running down the sandy track. Then without knowing I was up in the air flying past sand that glistened like gold. I landed on the 7ft 4 inches and I won!

Christopher Megahay 9A

New Start Prayers

Dear God,

Guide us throughout the new school year. Let us be full of cheer from the classroom to the yard, from the gravel to the grass.

Let all who walk through those gates have a blessed time at this school.

Amen

Paul Burns 8D

Dear God,

Thank you for my family. I will love and care for them.

Thank you for all my friends. Without them I would be lonely.

Thank you for our teachers- without them there is no school.

God, please help me get on with my brother more.

Amen

Jordan Hanna 8D



The Park

I walked down the narrow footpath. The last bit of light was taken away from my sight by the darkness of the sky. The wind picked up as it stampeded past me like a rhino defending its territory. The moonlight touched me on the shoulder as I walked. My house was on the other side of the deserted park.

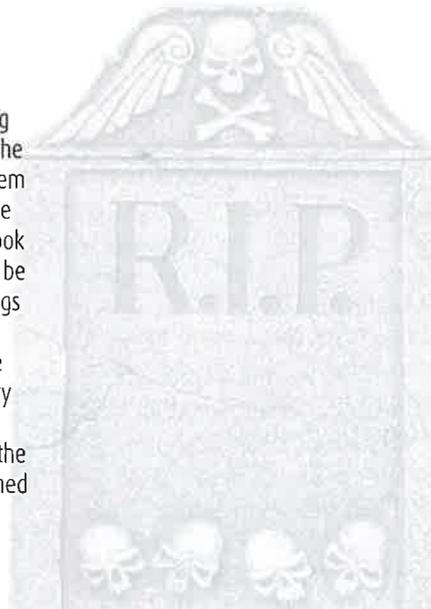
I slowly put one foot after the other as I drew near to the gate. I reached out to push the rusty gate. It screeched as it opened. My heart started pumping as I moved along the yellow grass that had no feeling. Even the wind did not move the grass. I looked around and all I could see, was the darkness of the playground.

Then I could see a bit of light from my house. My mum was still awake. I finally made it to the other gate. I pushed it and it was locked. I screamed. Nobody heard me.

Conor O'Rawe 11B

The Graveyard

It was a dark, cold atmosphere throughout the graveyard. Nothing was to be heard except the crows crowing, loose branches and twigs falling and the raindrops colliding with the leaves. The howling wind swept the wet leaves from the ground and spread them about in the air. The mist lurked just above the tips of the grass, making the ground look like a thin grey cloud. No one else was to be seen. The echoes of the branches and twigs breaking created a creepy atmosphere, almost as if something was in the distance through the mist. The gravestones felt very cold and the ancient ones were chipped. The rats and creatures that swarmed over the graves destroyed the scenery and besmirched the sanctity of the graves.



I trudged along the broken forgotten path. The hairs on my neck stood stiff, anticipating any sudden movements. I heard the tap-tap-tap of the rain on the grey headstones. They were scattered with weeds and discoloured flower patterns that begged for life.

There was no smell of daisies or roses, only the damp texture of the trees.

The headstones menacingly watched me as I moved along, my head bent against the harsh weather and long finger like branches were reaching out for my face.

Thunder shattered the silence of the night while the crow watched over the derelict, dishonoured graveyard. It cawed halfheartedly in the rain.

There was no reply.

There was a pungent stench of gloom and dismay, as if anyone who entered this place would leave a different person, as if the lingering spirits possessed their bodies.

The exit of the graveyard was just at the end of the path, almost too far. I was being held back by the grasping wind, that howled into the night.

Danny McBride 11B

Deaglan Smart 11B

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The Haunted House

Out in the woods, beyond civilisation there was a little swamp. Right beside the peaceful bog, there lay a small, abandoned house. It was as old as a graveyard, which is ironic since the previous owner of the house was an undertaker - Mr Kane.

Well, he's been dead and gone for over two hundred years now. The house's only inhabitants now are most likely crickets, rats and spiders. The house was dark, so dark in fact, that not even the winter snow could

brighten it up. Every so often the wind blew the tattered oak door, so its hinges screeched as loud as a banshee. Limp pieces of the awning would sometimes fall off, making a loud bang as it cracked against the dilapidated door.

The two small windows had been boarded up with repulsive, crooked pieces of wood, hand cut. Some people believe Mr. Kane boarded his own windows up so nobody could watch as he dissected bloody bodies.

The roof tiles were as crooked and

sharp as an alligator. They were destroyed by an earthquake. The lingering smell of stained blood and old tar lingered from inside the house. If you touched the skeleton-like walls of the house, it rumbled like a washing machine, as if it would tumble down, faster than an avalanche.

It is rumoured, that if you enter this tomb of a house, you will come to a grizzly end.

Michael Smith 8C

Dutch Courage

The final of the cup was tomorrow morning. I could hardly sleep I was so excited. What if I broke my leg or something and couldn't play? I had to stop thinking like this.

It was 3am. I was still awake, talking to Ben and Adam. I think they felt the same way too. But then we all said to each other - "This is stupid. Nothing will happen. Let's just go to sleep" We fell asleep.

We woke the next morning. The shower was running and I could smell bacon on toast. I got my toiletries, had a shower, then brushed my teeth and gelled my hair. I went up to

Glenn's bungalow to get my breakfast. After that I heard the mini bus horn beeping. We all hopped on the bus and went to the pitches where we would play the finals.

We got there and sat in the bar with our feet up, waiting for our semi-final at 10.30am. We were playing Stuttgart from Germany. After all the waiting we kicked off. We were playing nice football. A lovely ball by Ben Kennedy played me through one on one with the huge German keeper who looked like Oliver Kchniffed. He had already made two great saves in the match. But not this time! I slotted in the right bottom corner. 1-0! I was the scorer! Game on!

Then with another bit of beautiful play by me and John Shields, who achieved the lead up, Lee Doc scored. 2-0 to Lisburn Youth. Let's just keep it that way. Oh no! We were stopping. We were just getting started. We scored another. Lee Doc AGAIN! Then the Germans were given a penalty. Christian was under a lot of pressure!

"Come on wee man!" They hit the post but Christian had it covered. The Germans ended up getting a free kick five minutes later and scored 3-1 but it was too late. It was over!

Gerard Braniff 8E

New Start Prayers

Dear God,
Two weeks ago I was starting my new school. I was feeling a variety of emotions- scared, happy, excited. I was also feeling a little curious but after two weeks I love going to school and meeting my friends every morning.

The only thing I will ask of you God, is for your help and guidance throughout the next seven years.

I am thankful for my classmates. They are all very kind and friendly. Thank you for my teachers who have helped me get used to St.Mary's. But most of all thank you for giving me the gift of intelligence that helped me get into this school.

Amen

Aaron Fitzpatrick 8D

Planes

I see the giant man-made bird,
It is sitting outside the airport waiting to fly.
The humans enter from the sides of the plane,
Waiting patiently to be launched into the sky.
The wings get prepared and the engines hum,
The mechanical masterpiece is flying through the air,
Like a speeding bullet cutting through the sky.
The sun goes down and the moon comes up,
The plane is like a hawk at night,
It lands with a bump and a screech.
The mechanical bird then sleeps for the night.



The Mysterious Town

It was a cold winter's night and I was lost in this forgotten town. The sky was like black velvet studded with diamonds. A mysterious bus drifted passed me. The passengers were wrapped and covered like mummies. I lingered slowly along this forgotten, cracked road, wondering if I would ever feel the warmth of my mother's arms again.

The dreary rain cast a blanket of gloom over the old town, but especially the graveyard. The trees smelt of a damp grave. It was raining in a slow, lazy way as if it was going to go on forever. The wind howled through this nightmarish town. The icy wind cut through my body like an axe. As I looked up into the distance I saw a solitary crow flapping its feathered

wings half-heartedly in the soaking rain.

The moon was perched high into the sky, cutting shadows on the old, dreary houses. The darkness surrounded me. I would never be normal again.

David O'Neill 11B

The Visitor

Jim sat on the long, stone-layered wall of the farm. His large yellow raincoat, which was obviously too big for him, was swelled with water from the rain while his dark blue jeans which were layered with mud and dirt, hung in the air acting as a weight. His long black hair was plastered to his forehead due to the warm sensation of the rain. With a grunt he finally leaped off the wall and decided to enter the forest in search of treasure.

The trees that surrounded the forest swayed menacingly in the wind. Their long black branches reached out with their arms, warning anyone who dared to enter. As Jim ventured deeper into the forest the air grew thicker while the trees themselves seemed to grow till sunlight was scarce. The soil grew numerous vines which surrounded the forest floor. It was a mud type substance which tried to consume anything that made the mistake of venturing into it.

While Jim was in the deep part of the forest, he spotted a towering structure ahead which watched over the forest. As Jim approached the structure he soon saw that it was a castle. The castle stood silent and still, observing the visitor. Numerous windows scattered on the wall were secured tightly with steel bars, perhaps to keep someone out or something in. As Jim edged closer to the drawbridge below, he could see marsh like water. It was cold to the touch and devoid of any form of life. With a grunt, Jim pushed the large iron bars of the gateway which revealed the vast corridors of the castle. As Jim edged forward down the corridors, the castle stood silent, oblivious to the visitor trespassing in its halls.

As Jim slowly entered the dining room, he saw many lit candles and throughout the hall he could hear the music of ages past. There was a light flower scent drifting through the room and strangely Jim felt as though

he was home. Suddenly a great thunderous, slamming noise awoke Jim from his daydream. However, when he looked around the room was silent. He continued through to the bedroom which was strangely cold and uneasy. The room had many beds covered with dirt and dust, though everyone of them looked as if they were made only a couple of days ago. The windows were plated with coloured glass and magnificent designs meant for a king.

Jim, feeling uneasy, decided to leave the house and return to the farm so he could tell everyone the adventure. He quickly made his way down the corridors and out of the castle, across the courtyard and into the forest and finally across the forest and back to the farm. In the distance the castle stood silent, watching and waiting for another visitor to come.

David Mason 11B



The house

His footsteps echoed through the cold silence that filled the corridors. The moonlight beamed through the partially bounded windows, revealing a series of rotten, dusty floorboards. The rusted metal followed the pipes, like a disease. The dust formed a cloud which covered his eyes, making it hard to see. The doors were on their hinges and would not budge. The rooms were abandoned with traces of

humanity left behind.

The air was thick with dust and fumes. It was suffocating to breathe it in.

The floor was uneven and dangerous to walk on. The ceiling was about to collapse. However the building still stood, silent and alone, except for the boy inside.

David Mason 11B



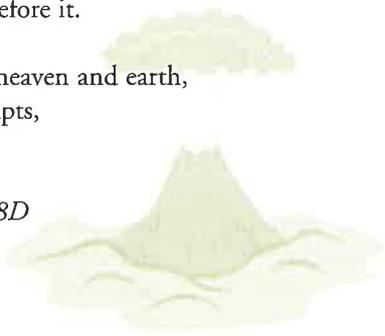
Poets' Corner

Volcanoes

Vicious lava taking out its surroundings
Unstoppable-fierce red zigzagging
Until targets are reached.
Water is over-ruled by lava.
Like a destruction that is death defying.

Telescopes are no use to see it,
As mountains flee before it.
Wreckage drops.
Nowhere is safe on heaven and earth,
When a volcano erupts,
Death awaits.

Aaron Fitzsimons 8D



The Aeroplane

When I walk up
The shiny steel steps
I feel it shake,
And rush to the door!
We start to reverse,
And come thundering
Down the runway
Like we're on a rocket
Flying into space!
We float off the ground
And I look
Out the window,
And see the country
Falling away!
I see the clouds like
Great cotton buds.

Keelan Brady 10F



Christmas

Christmas is the best time of year,
It is the time for family cheer.
At midnight tonight you know who comes down
The chimney in flight.
We always try to stay up and see,
Full of energy like a buzzing bee.
The cold weather lurks on the grass,
Snow falling like a winter's mask.

Liam Jennings 9A

The Lost Place

As I sit here on the open grass
I notice a gap in the bark of an old oak tree.
It seems to lead somewhere,
Perhaps a new world to explore.

As I pass though my eyes are opened
To the beauty of the world.
Nature and I are one,
In a world full of sun.

This is the place we have lost
Where the sun shines on my face.
This becomes my special place.
We humans have neglected this place.

This magic place is lost to the world
Off the map, shut off from the world.
When the town awakens this world cries,
If only mankind could be wise.

Gerard McCaffrey 9A

St Mary's

St Mary's school-best of the lot,
We put our blood, sweat, tears, the lot
Into our work, it's not like any others,
We thank our founders, the St. Mary's Christian Brothers.

There's lots of stuff if you come here,
Like new friends, the subjects, the trips and cheers
Of people who support you if you play a game
Not for you? Do you like it or are you too tame?

If you had to describe the school, 'Brilliant' you'd say,
'There's something new for me every day!'
Still not that sure? Just ask a friend.
But there's so much to tell, it'll drive you round the bend.

Matthew McGowan 9A

Happiness

Happy is when I'm on my bike,
And also fishing catching pike.
Pork I really love so well,
Instead of cooking I love the smell.
Nestle cereals are so good,
Everyone loves delicious food.
Soccer is a thing I love,
Soccer makes me think I'm flying like a dove.

Neil Doran 8B

My Perfect World

When I wake up,
I see fields of green,
And skies of blue,
No wars ever seen.

When I taste my food,
I taste honey,
I taste chocolates,
Everyone has money!

When I go out
I see no house of mud
I see sunshine,
I see no blood.

In my world it doesn't matter,
If you're black or white,
The most important thing,
Is that no-one wants to fight.

Caolan Quinn 10B

Old Mellow Creek

It's a beautiful place, beautiful sights
The trees are high, the sun splits for its light.
The birds keep chirping, the grass cut fresh,
The river streams flow as gentle as can be,
The flowers show colours, glancing near me.

I hear the sound of the mellow mouse,
Coming together to form a wonderful house.
It's Nature's home and this is where it's set.
Goodbye to summer as winter arrives
The leaves fall to their death.
But it will always be known as ...
THE OLD MELLOW CREEK,

Sean Ryan Quinn 10C

My Secret Friend

My secret friend is not big or tall although he is not thin and small.
His appearance isn't strange. It is believable within range.
My secret friend is not black or white,
You would believe to see him in the night
His clothes are not dressy neither are they scrappy,
You wouldn't see him in a nappy.
He is not dirty but is not clean,
He isn't nice but isn't mean.
If you see him you might have a fright,
But if you annoy him he'll put up a fight.
He doesn't live in a house nor a zoo,
But in the place, he does live-there isn't a loo.
This character's favourite colour is not red or blue,
The only colour he thinks he knows of are me and you.
My secret friend has no other friends or family,
All that he knows of is from a different galaxy.
My secret friend has never kicked a ball nor used a hurl,
All the sports he plays are from a totally different world.
If you don't think you know, think to yourself who ...?
But if you were as smart as he is you wouldn't need a clue!

Liam Reynolds 9A

Belfast

The colour of this city,
Mostly green and grey,
The only sounds are cars and people,
Rustling through the day.

Lots of tall buildings,
Standing in the sky
Across from these buildings,
Is the Belfast Eye.

I hear the magpies singing,
Oh what a wonderful tune!
On a cold wet day they cheer me up on my way to school.

On a winter's day the mountains are covered in snow.
Like a blanket it rests on top.
As I run through the streets in a rush to school,
A snowball hits me with a stinging wallop!

As summer comes the sun beats down,
And everyone is out,
As it comes to an end I want to scream and shout.

Another school year ends another one begins,
My classmates welcome me back with grins.
They think I am funny, that I am the class clown,
But this is a poem about Belfast, our wonderful town.

Peter Keogh 9A

Sanctuary

There's a place in my mind.
That belongs to my heart.
Its dazzling, darling skies at night,
Could make the darkest night look bright.
The whispers in the wind tickle my ear,
Bring me to the place that feels so near.
To the people that I miss,
I thank God that I know this place.

Patrick O'Connor 10C

Hell's Rain

Hell's Rain
Shards like broken glass.
Fall from the clouds.
Shrouded in darkness.
Striking pain and terror from above.
Caressing your flesh like a blade.
Falls like bombs with a rage.
So cold it burns you with blue flame.
Death is what it brings you.

Destroying cities with its frozen rain.
Killing all it touches, they die, suffering.
It reigns over us with its blackened clouds
Coating the sun, it plays with your mind.
This is hell's rain!

Donal McCartney 10F

Poets' Corner

Recipe for Happiness



Watching tv for a little while,
Playing with my brother who makes me smile.
Going to the shop to eat some sweets,
Going to the cinema and getting front row seats.
Waiting for the bell to get out of school,
Then I'm going to relax in the pool.
Watching football in my room I'm glad,
When Celtic score I go mad.
Now, today I've had my fun,
Sorry folks- my recipe's done.

Ciaran Seacroft 8B



Play the game with my brother for a while,
When I'm with him he makes me smile.
Waiting to get out of school,
Lying in the sun is so cool.
I watch football with my dad,
When the other team scores he goes mad.
When I go to the cinema I get lots of sweets,
First one in to get front row seats.
When all my fun is over I go to bed,
I am glad I get to rest my head

Gary Donnelly 8B



Recipe for Happiness

An ounce of t.v.
A dash of sweets,
And splash together with some cycling,
And then mix it all up with some Wii.
Then add some football with my mates,
Add two jugs of pizza,
Take away a couple of cups of homework.
Then add 200 g of hot chocolate fudgecake with a side of vanilla ice cream,
Maybe a thick slice of swimming for later.
And then top everything off with a truck load of summer holidays.

Rory Rush 8B

Begin with an ounce of GAA
Add a slice of school and some Irish for extra flavour.
Whisk well with 1 million tablespoons of summer holidays,
Add 160kg of a lie in at the weekend,
Mix with 110kg of watching sports,
Add three pints of Tyrone winning All Irelands,
Add a fresh slice of the Wii,
Mix with pizza,
Add another ounce of GAA,
Serve with a helping of family fun-
And there it is my recipe's done.

Patrick Carlin 8B

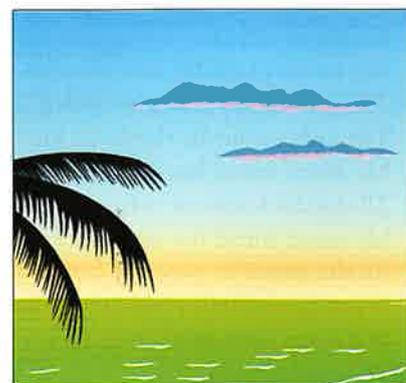
The Recipe-
Add a sprinkle of cheers,
Add a pinch of sweets,
A sliced of T.V.
And mix up well.
Pour in some good drinks,
And a splash of messing about.
Bake slowly with a good and tasty piece of cake-
And serve with a bundle or happiness.

Enjoy!

Christopher McConnell 8B

Chop up tv
With a Man United dressing,
Mix up well,
Let it simmer, then let it cool.
Add in a handful of a swimming pool.
Half a cup of summer holidays,
It is ready to serve,
Hope you enjoy!

James Maguire 8B



Animal House

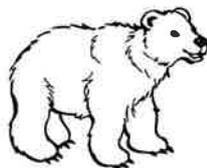
I have a swan, a long necked swan
She screams when angry.
She's very loving and caring.
I call her Mummy.

I also have a dove.
She loves me lots.
She's always there when I need her.
I call her Granny.

I have a gorilla.
He roams the house.
He shouts when mad.
I call him Daddy.

Then there's me
I know what I am.
I am the black sheep.
James Kennedy 9G

I have a bear, he is very hairy.
He is very fierce. He eats fish.
He is usually very rare to see.
I call him Dad.



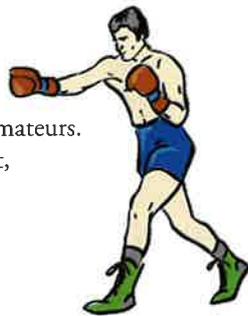
I have a sloth, she has long hair.
She is lazy.
She is never off the sofa.
I call her sister.

I have a snake. She hisses when I am bad.
When I do something wrong she gives me the stare!
I call her Mum.

Ronan Kelly 9G

Boxing

Boxing is a brilliant sport,
A true test of strength.
It sorts out the men from the boys,
The true champions from the brave amateurs.
Many men have been made great by it,
But also many have failed.
You have to have the head for it,
Mixed with lots of guts and pride.



Boxing is a true man's sport,
From the start to the very end.
Some people join in to be tough,
But they're the ones with no hope.
Real champs fight because they love the sport,
Not because they want to be feared.
Once you get into that ring,
You are the one who is scared.
The man in front of you will knock you out,
If you're not fully prepared.

Connor Ferris 9A

I have a gerbil, a small quiet gerbil,
She runs around the household.
She is often kind but squeaks when annoyed.
She has big eyes. I call her mum.

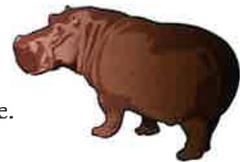


I have a bear, a big strong bear.
He dominantly controls the TV remote,
He eats a lot and growls if pestered.
He has a big chest. I call him Dad.

Then there's me - a squeaky evil monkey.
I jump and run. I own my room (no parents allowed)
I eat what I have and take psychos if annoyed.
I have wobble ears and a cute little face.

Sean Floyd 9G

I have a big hippo.
He snores like he is bathing in mud in Africa.
He is big, lazy and easily irritated.
He likes to take naps.
I call him my Dad.



I have a snake.
He slithers about the house.
He hisses when he's angry.
He has green snakelike eyes.
I call him brother.

I have a big, hairy gorilla.
He grumps and grunts.
He is very lazy.
He is big and broad.
I call him my other brother.

Then there's me.
I know what I am,
A fly, because I pester everyone!

Nathan Hanna 9G

My Animal Poem



I am a baboon, Boris is my name,
Now let us play the Good Baboon game
This game tells you the good things about us
So then you won't make so much fuss.
We are nice animals, as you are about to find out.
It's just that we need to be able to shout.
We usually live for about 30 years,
And before I go hopefully I won't cause any tears.
So as you can see we're not so bad,
And if you stop being mean to us we'll be so glad!

Jude Reilly 8D



The Fifth Legion of Rome



I strode into the camp, relishing the sweet aroma of open fires cooking mutton. How I missed these things! My name is Proximus Lucius Nato. I am a Centurion of the renowned Fifth Legion of our beautiful city, Rome. I have been away at a command post in Syria for over a year. The camp's enormous gates opened to admit me.

I trotted down the well trodden track to the command tent. As I walked down, old friends saluted me. I promised myself that I would meet them some night for a game of dice.

The command tent stood out from the rest on account of its blood red colour, the frayed corners, unwanted and unloved. I entered the tent, still awed by the immense array of medals hung from the roof of the structure. If the camp was ever attacked the men would flock to defend it.

"Reporting back from Syria," I said as I snapped a sharp salute.

The general looked at me with a glint of amusement in his eye "Noto, old friend, we have no need for formalities," he said smiling at me.

I grinned back at the man who trained me and saved my life on many occasions. When I finally left, it was dark outside, the inky blackness swallowing me. I found my way to my old tent which had been prepared for me. My armour was still under my bed in its box, as I had left it. I took the polish and wax from the box also. I polished my old companions-sword, javelin and shield.

I looked around my tent, at the bare, cold ground, the tinder box and candle stub. Everything was as I had left it. I lay down on my bed, looking at the tangled mass of spiderwebs on my ceiling. I watched a spider trap a fly and bind it with web. This will be the fate of the Barbarians. They are the fly, and we will destroy them.

I woke to the sounds of chanting and banging. I wanted to know what was happening. I was soon told to prepare for battle by three short trumpet blasts. I donned my now gleaming armour and left the tent into brilliant sunlight. The sun's eye burned down on us, reflecting off our armour. I ran to the general on the defence wall. We looked down at the Fifth Legion in all its shining glory.

I looked toward my old master and asked him, "What will we do?"

He turned to me with a male violent glint in his face and shouted to the men, "Come my brothers! Let us destroy the friends that dare to challenge."

His exclamation was greeted with a huge uproar. This great legion's battle cry roared into the blue sky, sending nesting birds up with it.

I inspected my men as we stood glaring at the pointed devils. Insults were thrown like punches across no-mans land. The pointed men charged at us, howling like caged animals. We formed the phalanx, our famous shield wall. We were unbreakable. The painted ones came at us like the Fiends of Hell itself. He sped into our wall, trying to break us. We were too well trained to let them succeed. When I gave the order, we pushed back, sliding our javelins through small gaps in our wall to stab at an exposed body. I roared the order on all the officers tongues, 'CHARGE!' We cried our hate, our fear, our bloodlust. We cried our love for the beautiful city we all call our home.

We attacked zealously, ripping, tearing, slashing and stabbing at everything with a painted face or body. The battle took a violet turn as it turned into thousands of one on one duels.

A huge man with a hefty battle axe towered over me, his weapon held in a two hand grip. He came at me with surprising speed, raising the weapon above his head. I saw his stance and smirked as I ducked through his guard and propelled my short sword up and straight through his exposed chest. Only a true man of the Legion could stare at their opponent as he failed to draw breath, watching as he died. A brave man.

"May the gods reward him," I thought as I knelt and closed his eyes. I rose up from the bloodstained ground as the sun reflected off something to my left. I spun and raised my shield in time to block a blow from a broadsword. The impact felt to me like a stone wall, jarring my arm, forcing me to drop my shield. I faced him, watching his eyes. I struck at him. He parried. We began the lethal dance that is combat. Stabbing, slashing we fought on and on. I

received a bloody gash in my chest and he received a sword through the heart.

"Is there no-one to challenge me?" I cried to the dead.

I ran through the bloodsoaked ground, stabbing anything that moved. I was in a blood frenzy, unstoppable. I saw my general holding his own against two painted men. I jumped up behind one of them who was wielding an evil looking sickle. I quietly drove my blade through the small of his back, the point coming out of his stomach. I turned to see my general standing injured, with no weapon. A wave of anger swept through me. It took me over as I roared and ran at the standing devil. He swung his blade to meet mine. His parry was rock hard and left me stunned. He turned and swung at my general, my friend's head. I threw out my arm on instinct and felt the cold bit of steel as it cut to my bone. With it came the pain. I ignored it. Pain is my friend. "It tells me that I am still living", I thought, as I gritted my teeth and growled. I took up a one handed fighting stance, waving my sword, taunting my enemy to come closer.

I was losing blood fast, too fast. My general was still there. I fought on for him, for my homeland and my life as I ducked another lethal swing. I came up spinning in a spiral and swung at his head. He dodged and drove his blade into my side. I fell to my knees as he prepared to take my life. Summoning the energy that I really shouldn't have, I slid my dagger from its sheath to the inside of my left leg, my bloodsoaked hand almost slipping from the hilt and stabbed the fiend four times in the chest, as his sword hit me in the side, driving and wedging itself in my broken ribs. As I fell I watched my opponent do the same. I smiled as I felt the cold grip of Death on me. I saw my general's eyes fill with pride. I was proud to die here on the battlefield among the dead grass, my true home. I was proud to die alongside my brothers on the bloody field. I closed my eyes and Death embraced me like an old friend.

Caolan Malone 11B



The Seige of Armageddon

History is spattered with the civilisation of the Orks just as a Warbosse's axe is spattered with blood. The ruination wreaked by the Ork race upon the galaxy is beyond measure. Not even the archivist of the Imperium can hope to catalogue the true extent of the Ork carnage wrought in the names of the Ork gods, Gork and Mork, for the Orks care little for the lessons of yesteryear or the promise of tomorrow. All that matters to them is the violent present. And yet, in the closing years of the 41st Millenium, the menace of the Ork race is greater than it has ever been before. There are more Ork empires that ever, as many of their warlords fight for the same cause. Worse still they have led by a so called prophet, Ghazghkull Thraka, and if anyone can unite the Orks, it's the beast of Armageddon himself.

The hive world of Armageddon is a vital node at the centre of several imperial navigational channels. A polluted wasteland of ash and metal, its innumerable weapon shops supply arms to imperial guard regiments, several hundred light years away. Ghazghkull resolved to crush it without mercy. He knew that if this lynchpin of the Imperium were to fall, hundreds of worlds would be robbed of their defensive capabilities and whole star systems would buckle and collapse under the might of his army.

Like many warlords before him Ghazghkull intended to bring about an era of war, that would never end.

In the year of 941 of the 41st Millennium, Ghazgkull invaded Armageddon at the head of a massive Ork charge. Ghazgkull timed his incursion perfectly launching his attack just as the imperial commanders were at their most complacent. When Ghazgkull's ship was sighted in the system, the overlord of Armageddon, Von strab, did nothing to investigate or report its appearance to other imperial authorities. The gigantic transport crashed straight into the western continent known as Armageddon Prime.

Ghazghkull started to deploy his forces. In response, Von Strab sent out his planetary defence regiments. They were ground to dust. Within a week the defences of Armagedden prime fell to Ghazghull, as his warriors rampaged through its cities.

The imperial high command was content to withdraw beyond the equatorial jungle into Armageddon Secundas. Ultimately it was a commander named Yarrick who ordered that they sent out a signal for aid, earning him Von Strab's displeasure and his subsequent exile to the towering metropolis of Hades Hive.

Von Strab was not concerned with the loss of Armageddon Prime, declaring that the Orks would never be able to cross the deadly jungles that separated them from Armageddon Secundas. He was gravely mistaken. Ghazghkull's forces swept out of the cover and embarked on a massive conquest, crossing the Stygies and Diablos rivers and marching upon the city of Armageddon Secundas. Von Strab ordered commander Mannheim to lead his Titans into battle to delay the Orks. Mannheim obeyed, though he know it would lead to the destruction of his beloved God Machines. The titans inflicted heavy casualties but were outnumbered and outgunned by Ghazghkull's Titans.

As the Orks moved southwards Ghazghkull ordered them to split into two forces. The thunder of battle reached deafening peak, as the Orks looked set to overrun the hives of Hades and Helreach. Von Strab released a secret weapon-a massive stock of virus bombs, capable of turning even the toughest Ork flesh into bubbling black soup in seconds. Many of the ancient devices malfunctioned and their payloads exploded prematurely above refugees and frontline troops alike. Thousands of humans died in agony. Armageddon was ripe for the taking.

Christopher King 11B

Funfair



The lights flickered and flashed,
The gates opened and I dashed.
Excitement, laughter, fear and screams,
The candy floss, the taste of dreams.
The rides are big and some are small,
Spinning around like the sticky wall.
Roller coasters, snacks and games,
Leaving the park glad that we came.
The lights switch off and the rides are closed,
The huge funfair monster begins its doze.

Gary Murphy 10C

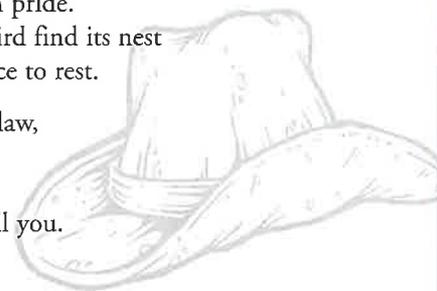
Cowboys Good-or-Bad

Riding swiftly through the breeze,
On his trusty steed.
Lightly gliding by the trees.
Known as both a hero and a villain
When he helps or even stops
The criminals from killin'!

He dismounts the steed and walks
Through the village with pride.
From helping a young bird find its nest
To giving the poor a place to rest.

From running from the law,
To helping it too.
Who knows?
This guy may help or kill you.

Collum McNally 9A



British Trench
YPRES
France
Western Front
19th November 1915



Dear Mother and Father, and wee Brother Mick

I am writing to you from our trenches in Ypres. I am missing home so much. Every night I pray that you will be alright and that I will be coming home as soon as possible. Since I have arrived in the trenches, I have seen so many men, women and children killed. It has scarred me for life. We arrived at the trenches a couple of weeks ago. The first week I could not believe the state of the place-mud and dirty water everywhere. You should see the size of the rats here. They are the size of dogs. We have to check our uniforms every morning for lice. It's horrible.

We got our first piece of front line action in our second week in our trench. I heard the shell attacks, the machine gun fire and the cries of men getting shot. I was suffering from shell shock and I couldn't move. I was so scared and I thought I was going to die. I fired only a few shots, killed one man and I was sick, so much.

A couple of days ago we had a very bad storm. Our trench was flooded, our duckboards broken and we were standing in water all day. Tommy Peters got trench foot, a disease caused by standing all day. We only get one meal a day and it isn't much, just dried beef and hard biscuits.

I can't wait to come home and get a big Sunday dinner and my feet up by the fire. I hope I'm home in time for dad's birthday.

Love,
Georgie

Mathew Watson 10F



Fredrick Rawe
Front Line
Western Front
Fields of Flanders

To my Dear Family

I miss you so much. My heart still pumps the blood of my ancestors through my veins during this "Great" war. I wish I was back home with you. It is terrible, here. I wish I could be brave enough to get a 'Cushy', to get sent home but I'm not.

People are dropping like flies before they go into battle. 'Diseases' or 'Starvation' or maybe 'Infected wounds' or 'Gas'. Thankfully, I am still alive but stolen rations are occurring. I have food, no doubt about it but I have to steal the food. If one rat steals then more come, and they aren't small rodents but fat beasts. No other word can describe them. The rats mainly come out when it rains. The rain is no help either. It turns No Man's Land into a swamp whilst the mud becomes churned during bombardments. It layers up our uniforms so it weighs a tonne. Thank God I have not got hit yet and I don't want to be.

Those damn lice are biting me again. You see them everywhere. Then I'm left scratching. I've been left with torn flesh, pierced skin. I am stuck with all these problems before going into battle.

I have been put on night patrol so I better be going. I'll be home-hopefully not in a brown box.

Lots of Love
Fredrick

Daniel McArdle 10F



The Castle



Many years ago there sat a large stone castle on the top of a huge luscious green hill. Within the castle lived a friendly bunch and any one from the surrounding area were always welcome to visit the castle and mingle with its inhabitants. It was because of this welcoming atmosphere that I decided to visit the castle myself one day.

As I made my way up the path, my nose was filled with a most beautiful perfume-like scent. I soon realised that the scent was being emitted by the hundreds of bright coloured flowers that sat further on up the path. When I got to the top of the path I saw a huge forest on the left hand side of the castle which was filled with huge trees and flowers in full bloom. A bright beam of sunlight struck the tree tops and somehow managed to get through the thick vegetation of the trees and lit up the forest floor to reveal a huge array of coloured butterflies, dancing gracefully around one another as well as a family of squirrels. As I got to the edge of the forest, I noticed that the butterflies and squirrels weren't alone in the forest, as from the trees above me the birds were singing all together and creating the most beautiful melody I had ever heard.

I sat and listened to the melody for what seemed like hours before finally moving on toward the castle. The castle itself was a huge stone building. All around the walls of the castle there was a series of flag poles in neat order with brightly coloured flags draped from them, all bearing a different emblem and design. There were a few oddly shaped windows around the walls of the castle. Surrounding the whole exterior of these was a deep blue moat. It looked warmly inviting and from the sounds of splashing issuing from the other side of the castle I guessed that someone also had got the same idea as myself. There were

numerous sounds issuing from the castle's interior, these being the sounds of merrymaking, laughing and the clinking of goblets amongst others.

I walked up toward the rich brown drawbridge which strangely was up but as soon as I got close to it, it fell, causing sprays of water from the moat to shoot up and cascade gracefully towards the earth, looking more like drops of liquid gold with sunlight reflecting through each of them. A frail but kind looking groundskeeper advanced across the drawbridge to greet me and show me inside the castle and as we walked towards the dining area he explained to me in depth the history of the numerous beautiful paintings that lined the walls.

* * *

Unfortunately this was all many years ago and the castle is no longer the glamorous beacon it had once been. No one was quite sure what had overcome the castle's inhabitants. Some believed that they had been possessed by some sort of demon. It was because of these absurd claims that I decided to return to the castle and do some investigating.

The sun had been pelting down on me all day but as soon as I entered the grounds of the castle I became freezing cold. The sun was no longer shining. Instead it had taken refuge behind the clouds, almost as if to use them to protect itself from some unknown evil within the grounds. The ground itself, which had been covered in lush green grass during my last visit, was now covered in nothing but dark upturned soil.

As I reluctantly advanced on toward the castle, I noticed that the numerous creatures that once roamed the forest all dared not venture in this area any more. I noticed that Death himself had decided to leave his mark here as where the luscious flowers had once

been there was nothing but a pile of black, decaying plants. The trees were completely stripped of their foliage and stood with the appearance of several skeletons in a row. An unnatural breeze emanated from the beast like castle and gave a strange sensation that the castle was breathing.

The castle now had only two windows left, the others all being barred up with huge slabs of black rusted metal. The two remaining windows were positioned directly above the drawbridge which gave the impression of a face and as I sat there under the castle's ominous gaze I couldn't help but think that the castle was watching me. Dark coloured moss stuck out of the walls and they were wet to the touch-even though it hadn't rained for weeks. Several jagged flag poles remained and stuck out at random points in the walls and the once brightly coloured and decorative flags now hung from their poles in scraps.

A moat still remained around the castle but it was no longer filled with bright blue water but with a thick, black, tar-like substance which was bubbling slightly at the surface. Ripples moved along the surface and strange ghostly white shapes moved below it. The air was still and silent except for the sound of what had to be muffled screams issuing from within the castle. The wooden drawbridge was closed and the wood it was made from was rotting away. The drawbridge suddenly fell open, splashing black liquid all over me. Waiting at the other side was a pale-shrivelled looking caretaker, waiting to take me inside. Reluctantly and nervously, I stepped forward into the bowels of the great stone beast.

Stephen Hughes 11B



The Prodigal Son

David, the vice-chairman, smoothly slid out of his brand new, gleaming, red convertible sports car. He sprang up and tossed the keys behind him into the hands of the valet. He strolled up the steps covered by other workers who engulfed him in a flurry of folders and files for him to put his signature on. When the swarm died down he reached the top of the steps and turned round with his arms arched on his hips and his head up high. If he had a red cape he would look like Superman and to dramatise the scene the clouds parted to let a line of light shine on David.

He continued towards the multi-storied building. He wanted to sell his share of the company because he wanted to spread the company to other countries. When he entered the titantic lobby he came to a halt to take a look around him, as this might be his last time there. He made a face as if to say "Where is everyone?" as there were only a few people in the lobby. He walked towards the receptionist, looked up and pressed the button on her wireless headset and said something. Then she nodded to David to notify him to head on up.

So David made a u-turn spin on one foot then headed to the already open elevator. When he entered he turned around. As the doors shut the clichéd

music started. When the door opened David was greeted by the chairwoman herself. They talked for at least forty-five minutes straight. He left with his shares sold and he was already on the phone to his business team to organize flights, equipment and to purchase the building. As David left the elevator at the bottom floor the lobby was over populated with people cheering and applauding David.

A couple of months later it was the opening party for David's new start. John was there to cut the ribbon for David's new company. John the other vice-chairman more or less slaved away for his company and only a few sensible people suspected that John was the driving force for his company. As John and David cut the ribbon John made a joke and David gave a fake smile. In the back of his mind he knew that his company could only last a short time as he was already losing money but David shook this thought out of his mind and gave another smile for the cameras. John had to go as he thought he had already lost too much time. David though partied on and into the night.

David briskly walked down the high street, recovering from a hangover he received the night before from another executive party.



He was screaming down the phone at his business team as they tried to convey the point that David had been taking money out of his company. David hung up and rang John whose mobile was turned off and then David smashed his phone on the ground which turned some heads but David replied back at them with curses and rude hand gestures.

A couple of weeks later David's company went bankrupt. David's business team left him and everywhere he tried to ask for help he always got turned down by former so-called friends. When David scraped enough money to fly back to his old company he walked up the steps with people walking past, not even glancing at him. When he entered the lobby, he saw the chairwoman. He approached her and pleaded with her for a job but she declined. David left and walked down the street, a broken man.

Paul McGreevy 11B

Shattered Dreams

My heart is a mirror,
But as I look in it I see you.
My heart is a drum beating beside yours,
Although as I hold your hand my heart skips a beat.
When it's time for you to leave I feel that I will weep,
Crying on one's lullaby.
Thinking about my shattered dreams and dead memories.

Maitin Deane 10D

The Grand National

Clipping the fence, touch like a whisper,
My horse is no favourite, but bound to be winner.
Her ears and her tail, flapping about,
If this was a fight, the ref would have stopped this bow
Tricky Trickster, you're away, you're gone,
As for the other horses they don't belong.
So Tricky Trickster please don't skid,
And into my pocket will be twenty-five quid!

Anthony McKenna 10C

The Haunted House

There I was at the beginning of a deserted street, with the leaves rustling along the ground and in the trees on this the cool dark night. The house I was going to was 18 Moon Crescent Manor. It was the last house at the very long end of the street. I started walking down the street, in the shadows of the night, with the wind blowing in my face and the hollow cry of an owl in my ears. Walking on the old, cracked, broken road, I thought about mysterious things.

There I was at the house, the one with the rotten wood, overgrowing grass and trees, broken windows and brittle steps. The crackling thunder lit up the house with a flash and the shadows of the trees made the house look like it had tattered old fallen out hair.

It frightened me. What scared me the most was that I thought I saw a face in one of the old shattered windows. With the cracked and destroyed railings the steps looked like teeth. Also the darkness of the windows looked like scowling eyes peering at me. The dilapidated, worn down door was covered by a very dark and large shadow that looked as if it was about to swallow me. To me it looked like the back of a terrifying monster's throat. I got a feeling that this house was being disturbed and now it was bitter and angry, full of rage.

I was walking up the steps when all of a sudden there was a smashing sound of pottery in the house. It made me jump, but it happened to be a cat.

The crooked door was hanging off its hinges. It was going back and forth being pushed by the wind. I walked in and there were filthy, dusty paintings of an old repulsive man and woman so I assumed they lived here. Everywhere you went their glaring eyes followed you but I looked away and I saw a shadow of a person who was very skinny and bony with a hunchback. Then I heard whispers saying, "Get out, or beware of what you have to face". And finally I felt a tap on my shoulder. It scared me out of my wits. So I dropped my torch and ran back home. For a fortnight I dreamt of that house. Until I went back to it and.....

Aaron Hall 8C

Journey to the Edge



I went to visit my grandparents in their old Georgian home. It was a large terraced house, with four grand bedrooms, two reception rooms and a spacious kitchen.

I enjoyed visiting my grandparents' home. They always made me feel welcome. Their family lounge was very colourful and inviting. I had been invited for lunch, as usual but I ended up staying for supper. I enjoyed supper and thanked my relatives. I bid my grandparents goodbye. I leapt from the ageing leather armchair. My grandparents accompanied me to the door. I made my way outside. I noticed the luminous backdrop of stars and how the stars glared at me.

That intense stare of the florescent moon signalled to me that I may have over extended my welcome. I began to ponder about the consequences, if my grandparents actually realised how late I was. I hesitated and began to gallop down the disintegrating footpath at an alarming pace.

My lungs drew in the air with one swift jolt. I was making a remarkable amount of progress. This gave me more self-confidence. This made me believe I could make it home in time. I stumbled. My legs gave way. I

dropped to the shadowy canvas.

I began to scan the air frantically for oxygen but I could feel my lungs rejecting any oxygen from passing into my lungs. Luckily, I could retain a small mass. I searched the small hamlet of houses for aid. I constantly scanned over and over again. I was beginning to lose faith in myself.

To my amazement my search became successful. I gestured for the individual to come and assist me. It was nearly impossible for me to decipher if the bystander was either male or female, due to the pitch black and dimly lit streets.

The mysterious figure began to stare at me with its eyes. Its eyes resembled the dark depths of hell. He or she did not attempt to assist me. I still remained on the dimly lit street corner, waiting in anticipation for this mysterious figure to respond. However it did not. Although he or she did not seem willing to respond, it still glared at me with its bottomless black eyes, mocking me with its silence.

It readied itself and vanished into the midst of the night. I awaited its response, which I would never receive. It seemed as if I was trapped in

Purgatory. I examined my body to see and address any grazes or wounds left by my terrible fall. I looked at my chest in hysteria and surprise.

A wedge of jagged glass was lodged in my chest. I rose to my feet, stumbling and tried to make my way towards home. The pain and anguish became worse. I began to search for anything to support my lifeless body. I grasped a piece of iron fencing and began to scale down the shady backstreet.

The journey seemed like an eternity. I approached the entrance of my estate. I felt a real sense of security and reassurance. I began to slowly progress up the steep, freshly asphalted road, leading to the sanctuary which I called home. An unexpected grin came upon my face. I crawled slowly to the front door. I made an attempt to clasp the handle, but no success. I fell to the ground, exhausted, losing the battle against my earlier wounds. A quick glance over my shoulder, a pool of blood surrounded me. I wanted to yell to my parents to come to my aid but no one came. I closed my eyes and awaited my fate!

Pearse McDermott 11B





The Thirst



Séamus MacElhill sat himself down on the sofa while his son Alan lay down on the floor. "I'm off to the Astronomy club, dear!" came a shrill voice from the kitchen. "Enjoy your movie."

"We will," came the reply followed by a bout of gaseous exchange and some rather loud slurping.

Mrs Mac Elhill, or Mollie as most people called her, could flatten a fully-grown man with her right hook and two old men and an eighteen-year old with her left. She was not the most attractive woman in Aghagallon but she was the strongest. Her husband on the other hand was fat, bald and had drooping cheeks- hardly the fittest man alive. Alan was short and skinny, meaning he had inherited neither his mother's strength nor his father's love for Doritos. All he had was his grandmother's fear of spiders.

"Are you sure you don't want to come, darling?" asked Mollie. "There's been some unusual activity in the?"

"Hush, now dear. It's starting," whispered Séamus. Something appeared on the screen in black and white. It appeared to be a cardboard box with a few squiggly lines added on. "There were several signs of the invaders coming," droned an ominous voice, "strange lights appearing in the night sky ..."

"Odd that matches the description of ..."
"Hush!" ordered Séamus.
"Local animals started acting out of the ordinary..."

Throughout Aghagallon there was barking, hissing, yowling, chirruping and growling. (The budgie in particular was especially rattled-that is what comes of having your cage shaken by a frustrated owner.)

"And signals started going hay s k k r r r t c h z z w i r e s k k k k r r r t c h z z ... s k k r r r t c h z z."

Suddenly, the picture disappeared and the screen was enveloped in static.

"No! Oh no! No."
While Séamus struggled to fix the reception, something sinister hovered above earth. The spaceship resembled a flying submarine with hi-tech gadgets added on. Within the spaceship were a bizarre set of creatures, blue-skinned and green-feathered Hox, Lyzarrians and Sealos and even the dreaded Narragonians. And they were all dead! The water had been drained from them. One of the most important liquids in the human body, ranking with blood and cytoplasm, and now it was gone. Their killers hunted for stragglers. When they were absolutely certain there was nothing left to drink, the hideous creatures turned their eyes to a blue and green planet. Perhaps there would be more to drink down there. With a nightmarish growl they steered the ship to the blue and green planet.....

Uitán Murray 9F

Animal Poem (My fishing tale)

A Fishy Tale
I've been hooked
I've been iced
I've been scaled,
And then sliced.

I've been driven
I've been opened
Served with chips
Who have not spoken.

I've been picked at
I've been deboned
Drenched in lemon juice
I feel so alone.

I've been forked
I've been cut
I think I'm running
Out of luck



Conor Burns 8E

An Old Man's Tale of Youth

I'm standing here, frail and old,
I have a tale, which was never told,
Of a land, worth more than gold.
It had a song
Which is forever gone,
It was a place, where people never weep,
And don't need sleep.
And as I stand here,
I want to die,
To return to that day,
Where I was happy to stay.

Conor Dodds 10D

The Real Trouble

When that flaming bomb fell,
And engulfed the men in flames,
They saw a change in men.
When they drove by in their car,
They didn't see Belfast,
But saw a dark warzone.
Crying mothers, sobbing widows,
The world was changed to them,
They felt the rage inside
them building up. Ireland
Once green was now dead.
Until the time came,
To beat free like a white dove.

Donnubadh Barr 10D

The Football Match

You walk up the steps and look around,
The football fans cheering, what a beautiful sound!
I take my seat waiting for it to start,
I try to stay calm but feel the race in my heart.
The match begins when the ref blows his whistle,
And the cheers of the fans as Rooney hits the ball like a missile.
It's nearly the end and we're down by one goal,
The shot takes a bend, powered by your soul.

Sean Owens 10C



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Report on Work Shadowing 2009



Cathy Moore
Cmoore619@stmarys.belfast.ni.sch.uk

During difficult economic times it is not easy for students to find an employer that will help them experience a particular job. However from 25th to 27th November 152 of our Year 13 students secured a placement, with 26 students completing five days of work experience instead of the average three. These students undertook placements organised by Charter or placements in high demand areas such as Medicine, Pharmacy, Optometry or Primary Teaching.

In the run up to Work Shadowing two Year 13 Assemblies were held on 5th October and 12th October to emphasise the benefits of work shadowing and to provide guidance to students on finding a work placement. Thirty eight Year 13 students sought a one-to-one careers interview to identify career interests and 195 queries were dealt with in the Careers Room in the months of October and November, predominantly concerned with work shadowing. C Moore, H McGettigan and P Tully delivered three lessons on preparing for work shadowing in Year 13 career classes before the end of November. Students also completed two lessons after work experience and provided a presentation to the rest of their career class in the December-January period. This presentation was graded: the results will be provided to the Head of Year 13.

During the three day programme a total of 72 students were visited by members of the Careers Department (and one Year 13 Form Teacher) and Work Shadowing Visit Forms were completed. Every employer visited was pleased with St Mary's CBGS students. Cybersource NI, an American financial software company, took their first ever student in NI in the form of Ciaran Curran, class 13E. Brendan Smyth, the Belfast Manager said that is was "A very positive experience for Cybersource. Ciaran... represented himself and the school extremely well". Many primary and secondary schools in the greater Belfast area helped students experience life in their sector and were impressed by St Mary's CBGS students' ability to help out in the classroom and to interact meaningfully with younger children. Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and University of Ulster (UU) offered placements in many of its Engineering faculties with faculty staff at UU's NIBEC noting that our students "were a pleasure to work with".

Employers wrote a reference for each student which will be stored and used for future references. Students will draw on their work placement logs to write their personal statements for university entrance or job applications next year. The school's work shadowing scheme is of utmost importance for the following reasons:

- ☆ It is a vital part of careers research
- ☆ Students will need some form of work experience to apply for employment, college or university
- ☆ Reports from work experience will be used by the school for references for UCAS or employment
- ☆ It gives students a chance to explore typical working conditions
- ☆ Students can meet and talk with adults who are earning their living in the career area that they have chosen
- ☆ It will help students see the links between the subjects they are studying at school, and the skills they need in working life
- ☆ It will help students find out more about their own skills and interests
- ☆ Students will be out on their own, and it will give them independence and responsibility. They will need to journey safely to and from their placement, be punctual and helpful to others
- ☆ It can increase self confidence
- ☆ Students can find out what employers want when recruiting
- ☆ Students can try out their own key skills and begin to develop new skills
- ☆ It will help students understand why business, industry and commerce are so important

The next Year 13 Work Shadowing Scheme will take place from 24th to 26th November 2010.

St Mary's CBGS would like to give a big **THANK YOU** to all of those employers who offered a placement to our students.

Careers Convention 2010

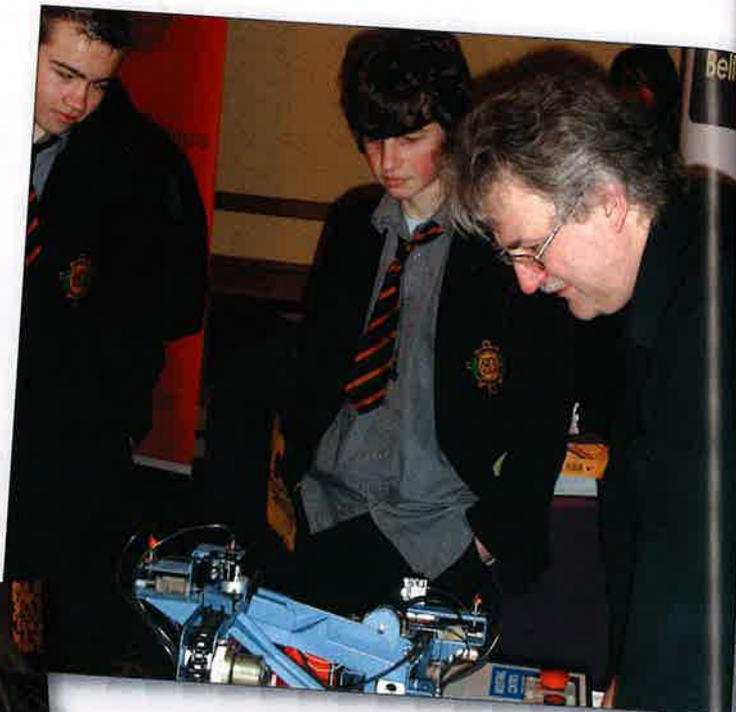
Year 12 pupils from St Mary's CBGS attended the second West Belfast Careers Convention in February of this year. Last year's event had been held in this school and although it was highly successful it was felt that the Balmoral Hotel would be a more suitable location for all of the West Belfast post primary schools. This year's Careers Convention was based around the theme of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) which are important areas for the development of a stronger economy and a more advanced society. This event was enjoyed by approximately 1300 Year 10 and 12 pupils from De La Salle College, Corpus Christi College, Christian Brothers School, St Dominic's Grammar School, St Louise's Comprehensive, St Genevieve's High School and St Rose's High School.

There were over 40 exhibitors spread out over 2 large halls in the Balmoral Hotel who were on hand to offer practical demonstrations, information and advice about their industry and employment opportunities. The hotel's ballroom saw apprentice bricklayers from

Gilbert Ash giving students a go, engineers from BT showing young people how their systems operate and staff from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust demonstrating technical equipment. Students were encouraged to join in, talk to staff and ask lots of questions. Naomi Long, Belfast's Lord Mayor, and Caitriona Ruane, the Minister for Education, were in attendance at the beginning of the day and both were impressed by both the size of the event and the enthusiasm from

the local employers and students

Our two guests were keen to get involved and Naomi Long enjoyed joke or two with the apprentices from Gilbert Ash. Ms Long explained that as she has a background in civil engineering herself she is very interested in events run to promote STEM careers to young people.



Lord Mayor, Naomi Long and some of the pupils at the career convention



Careers Convention 2010

Education minister Catriona Ruane and Lord Mayor Naomi Long pose with school children and other dignitaries at the convention.



Students from each school were given an hour to walk round the two halls and there was a lively buzz, contributed to by music from the Sonic Academy. The University of Ulster brought along their Formula 1 Car and the Golf Academy offered putting lessons. The exhibitors were very positive about the event, with many commending local schools on their pupils' behaviour and intelligent questions. Corpus Christi College senior Travel and Tourism students were complimented by many as they dedicated the day to looking after exhibitors and visiting teachers. The Belfast Health and

Social Care Trust, one of the largest employers in the West Belfast area, commented "Overall this was very well done! Smoothly organised!" Avril Fox from the University of Ulster's Faculty of Computing and Engineering commented that "There was a very good level of interest in computing and engineering. The local pupils were very polite and courteous!"

Our Year 12 students completed a survey on the Careers Convention and the vast majority reported it to be useful, interesting and enjoyable. In fact 29% of our students stated

that as a result of the convention that they would now consider a career in the field of STEM! Many students wrote on their surveys comments such as "It gave me ideas for future careers" or "It opened up my options". A careers convention is an important part of career planning and an excellent opportunity to get information and advice about jobs and courses "straight from the horse's mouth".

It was timely to present a convention on the STEM careers. For opportunities in this area please read the next page. **Miss C. Moore.**

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OVERVIEW OF STEM

What is STEM and why is it important?

STEM refers to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Our local economy will require an increasing number of people with skills in STEM subjects over the next ten years. STEM subjects are central to research and development (R&D), and skilled scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians, as well as technicians and other R&D support staff, are seen as being critical to the future of the N.I. economy. N.I. needs young people who are skilled in STEM subjects to enable our businesses to take advantage of new technologies and scientific discoveries, achieve world-class standards and compete globally.

Whilst the demand for STEM skills increases, the number of young people studying these subjects has been decreasing. The NI Assembly is therefore focusing on development of STEM skills through the education system, and encouraging young people to adopt pathways which lead to STEM qualifications and careers.

What could a STEM career do for me?

In the past weeks the Employment and Learning Minister, Sir Reg Empey, has highlighted that:

- * In the workforce of the future, qualifications in these areas (STEM) will be much sought-after and so I would encourage our young people to consider the career opportunities that will follow on from study in science-related subjects."

A UK government study of the labour market has identified that:

- * With the current recession, most graduate recruiters are reducing their vacancies but demand for STEM subjects remains high. In fact, employers find it difficult to recruit for STEM vacancies due to the shortage of STEM graduates
- * Graduates in STEM subjects are more likely to achieve graduate level jobs than those graduating in Arts and Humanities subjects
- * Employers are willing to pay a premium for STEM graduates
- * STEM graduates tend to have higher earnings than non-STEM graduates

The potential STEM shortfall per year in N.I., that is, the number of graduates likely to be needed by our economy less the number which will be available, has been predicted as follows:

- * Physical Sciences: 100
- * Mathematics: 40
- * Computer Science: 220
- * Engineering & Technology: 29

So, in summary, studying a STEM subject will increase your chances of securing employment and will also have a positive impact on your earning potential.

What is St Mary's doing to promote STEM?

St Mary's has embarked on a number of initiatives to increase awareness of STEM amongst pupils. Some of these have included:

- * Information booklets and talks focusing on STEM subjects and careers
- * All Year 12 pupils attended a STEM convention in February 2010
- * Careers programmes integrated into the syllabus for STEM subjects at relevant levels
- * Careers conventions with an increased focus on STEM-related jobs
- * Increased links with higher level education, with several pupil visits to relevant faculties in our local universities and talks by universities hosted in the school
- * STEM projects underway with some of our local feeder primary schools
- * Sentinus "Robotics" and "Fun Maths" roadshows attended by some Year 8 and 9 pupils
- * Pupil visits to some relevant local STEM companies
- * A STEM teacher placement in a local science company

A recent inspection of St Mary's focusing on our promotion of STEM subjects and careers resulted in very positive feedback. This focus on STEM will continue and we hope to see many of our pupils embarking on successful STEM careers in the future!

Mr Garvan O'Connor (STEM Co-ordinator)
Miss Cathy Moore (Careers Advisor)

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An Ex Student: A Case Study

Name: Paul McGreevy

D.O.B: 20/08/1990

Attended St Mary's Grammar School: 2002-2009

Qualifications: 4 A grades and 5 B grades at GCSE

A Level Business Studies	B
A Level English Literature	B
A Level History	A
Certificate in Financial Studies	A

Current Situation:

Paul is working part-time as an invigilator for St Mary's school exams and part-time in Matalan as a retail assistant. He is holding an unconditional offer for Modern History with Politics at Queen's University Belfast.

So Paul, what have you been up to since leaving St Mary's?

I commenced a degree in Law with Criminology at the Jordanstown Campus of University of Ulster (UU) last September. I left in October as I quickly realised that I'd made a big mistake and Law was nothing like what I thought it'd be.

What was your favourite subject in school and why?

My favourite subject was History - I loved it! I thought that Mr Martin was a brilliant A Level teacher - whoever gets taught by him is lucky. I enjoyed the variety of the A Level course and its relevance to today - understanding the past helps you view the present in a different way.

In your opinion what are the main differences between university and school?

The fact that you're taking full responsibility for your own education is a rude awakening to be honest. You have to dig around for your own resources and spend hours reading. The assignments for Law were horrendous - we were expected to reference everything and write at length on issues around Public Law. I also got lost so many times trying to find the right lecture room and had to get used to sitting in a lecture with over 200 other students.

I take it you weren't happy with your subject choice? What had your career plan been?

Well, I had thought studying Law would be about debating in an open class, studying legal cases on DVD and getting to frequently observe legal proceedings in court. Wrong! I didn't actually have a career plan - a teacher once told me that I'd make a good lawyer. That seemed good enough at the time.

What contact did you have with St Mary's Careers Department?

I had a one-to-one careers interview at the start of Year 14, then another one when my A Level results came out and then another one as soon as I dropped out of my UU course. I also had quite a lot of help filling out my UCAS application (twice!) and my student finance forms (twice!). I got advice from a lot of other sources and really wanted someone to make my decisions for me as I'm a very indecisive person! Through the last 2 years the only quick and correct decision that I've made was to leave the Law degree at UU. I've enjoyed this gap year, having a better social life, earning a bit of money and deciding what I want to do. However I can see that a gap year could make you too comfortable - you really do have to make sure that you have a goal or a plan for the end of the year.

What could the Careers Department have done to support you more?

In reality: nothing. I was given advice by the careers department when in school but didn't really listen until I'd already left school.

Any advice for our current Year 13 and 14 students?

Yes: Get the head in the game! You can't just slide on by and hope that everything falls into place: you have to be more proactive. I learned from my own mistakes. If I had to go back a year or 2 I'd look at the exact content of the courses I was interested in and actually talk to lecturers and students on the course. That's what Miss Moore told me to do in the first place!

So, Paul, what's the career plan now?

New start for me: new university and new course. I might like to become a primary school teacher or do some post graduate education or research. I'm going to make the most of studying History and Politics. I want to get at least a 2:1 and grab as many opportunities as possible at Queen's University Belfast.

Good Luck Paul!

Miss C. Moore



Firestorm

The NI Fire and Rescue Service spent two days at St. Mary's working with the entire Year 10 year group. This was the final stage of the 'Firestorm' project which the pupils had been working on over the previous three weeks.

This project deals with issues such as Fire safety, fire in the home, attacks on fire-fighters, hoax calls and arson. The final session was led by fire-fighters from Springfield Road fire station. The pupils showed great interest throughout their project and enjoyed the fire-fighter visit. Well done to all the pupils and their form-teachers.

Year 10's Spark into Action

Over the month of May the Year 10's have taken part in many 'Firestorm' activities. Through our Fire Awareness Portfolio, we have completed tasks involving the main aspects of fire awareness such as fire safety, arson and hoax calls. We also received a friendly visit from the firefighters that are stationed on the Springfield Road.

In Fire Safety, we learned about home hazards such as, electricity, kitchen and living room hazards.

We then went on to talk about planning an escape in the event of a fire which many people forget to do because they never think ahead. We also learned about attacks on firefighters in the local community. People think that it's fun to attack firefighters but 'Why fight those who save lives?'

The next topic was Lesson 2 - Arson. It began with the definition of arson itself, which means to 'Deliberately set fire to something.' It continued to describe the events in which Arson happens e.g 'Man high on drugs and drink sets fire to house.' It also included the consequences of arson which mainly consisted of property being destroyed and death or injury of an individual. The task we were given was to write an article on arson attacks in our own communities.

The final lesson, 'Hoax Calls', this was one that particularly moved the Year 10's. Many pupils were shocked to learn about the consequences of hoax calls and the dangers that they posed to others. There were 55 hoax calls in 2006/2007 that resulted in the inane use of many fire appliances. This meant a huge loss of money for Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Services. Finally, the firefighters from the Springfield

Road Fire Station agreed to come to our school to discuss what our year group has learned and to demonstrate the use of fire appliances. The first thing they showed us was a clip of the short length of time it took for a cigarette in a bin to completely engulf a room in flames. It was only 22 minutes before the room was destroyed, this shocked many of the boys. We were then split up into groups and each firefighter took the time to educate the pupils about different aspects of Fire Safety. Tommy McGoran from 10C said "It was a fun afternoon especially seeing the fire appliances. I learned a lot and realized not to be stupid with fire. "

The recent events in our school involving the school oratory and assembly hall, have heightened our knowledge on fire safety and the consequences of arson. All the pupils were saddened by the destruction and disruption it caused. They have all seen what it is like to be on the receiving end of arson and are keen to help support our local firefighters on whom the community relies.

(Robert Murtagh and Martin Reid.)

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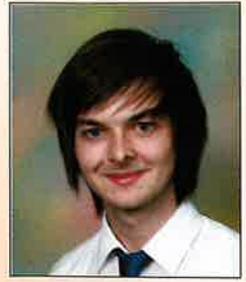
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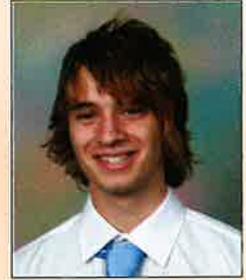
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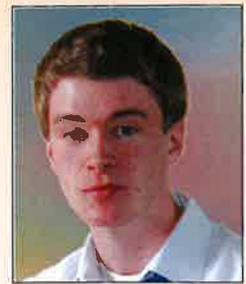
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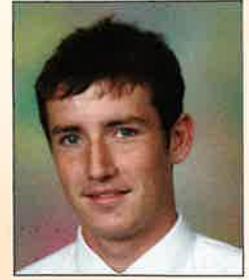
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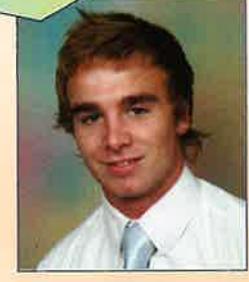
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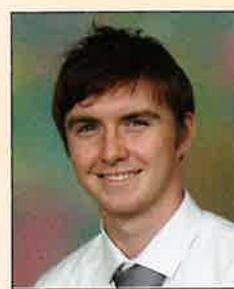
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Ciaran Hasson
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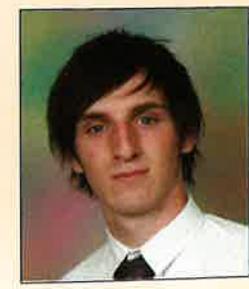
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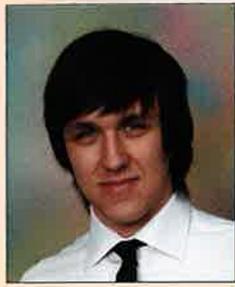


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Holy Child PS



Sean Turley
St Teresa's PS

YEAR 14F Form Tutor: Mr D. Armstrong



Conor Wisdom
Holy Trinity PS



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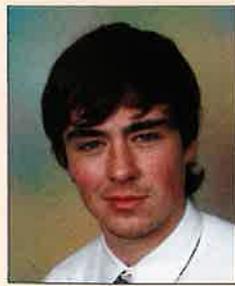
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Thomas Heath
St Anne's PS



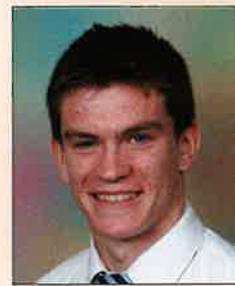
Ciaran Kelly
St Teresa's PS



Declan Lynch
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Conor McClelland
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



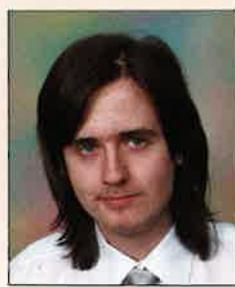
Christopher McGuinness
St Colman's PS



Feargal McPhilips
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Ryan Morgan
St Teresa's PS



Cuan Price
St Peter's PS



Garry Sharpe
St Mark's PS



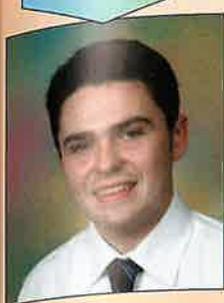
Gerard Torney
St Anne's PS



Calum Whyte
St Teresa's PS



YEAR 14G Form Tutor: Mrs C. Gillespie



Jonathan Curran
St John The Baptist PS



Christopher Devlin
St Aidan's PS



Donal Feeny
St Colman's PS



Oilver Gibney
St Anne's PS



Matthew Hicks
Holy Trinity PS



Dominic Kelly
St Teresa's PS



Darren Madden
Suffolk Primary



Damien McCreanor
St Joseph's PS Crumlin

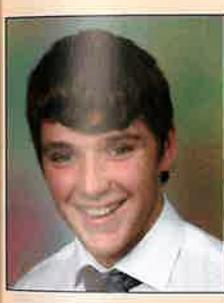


Paul McDonald
St Teresa's PS



Steven McIlwee
Holy Trinity PS

YEAR 14H Form Tutor: Miss L. McGonagle



Conal McKernon
St Colman's PS



Matthew Neeson
Ballymacward PS



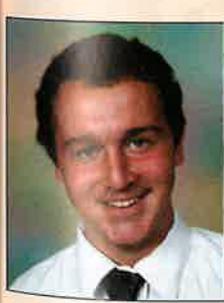
Aaron Nugent
St John The Baptist PS



Stephen Shannon
St Mary's C.B.G.S



Damian Boyle
Holy Child PS



Martin Campbell
St John The Baptist PS



Martin Connor
Holy Child PS



Michael Crossan
St Peter's PS



Daniel Crossin
Rathmore Grammar School



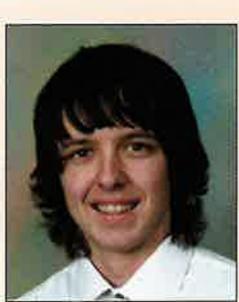
Mark Devlin
St Kieran's PS



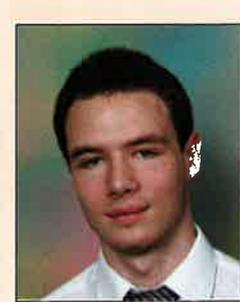
Matthew Hanna
St Colman's PS



Ryan Hyland
Holy Trinity PS



Christopher Magee
St Mark's PS



Paul McCarney
St Mary's C.B.G.S



Matthew McCleave
Scoil Na Fuisseige



Shane McGann
St Joseph's PS Crumlin



Conal McGettigan
St Anne's PS



Aodan Mitchell
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste



Kevin Parker
St Anne's PS



George Teggart
Holy Child PS

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French Department

French theatre

Production returned to St. Mary's!

The French Department at St. Mary's CBGS were pleased to welcome back a French theatre company to entertain year nine, ten and eleven students of French. The French Theatre for Schools Company performed a French play called "Le Rôle" in school on Thursday 11th February 2010. Following on from a highly successful performance last year, this production encouraged French language-learning through drama and song in a fun, lively and interactive manner. The play incorporated music, song, dance and a puppet show. It was performed entirely in French by French-native professional actors, which offered students an opportunity to communicate with real French people. The emphasis was on "learning by doing" and with much audience participation, pupils gained confidence in their use of spoken French. There was even an opportunity for a number of pupils to use their acting skills by appearing on stage in a supporting role!

Miss I. Lawless



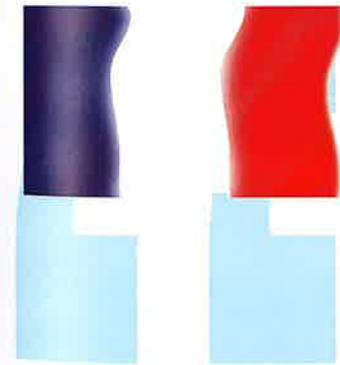
Pupils from 9A rehearsing their lines in advance of the play.



(L -R) Matthew McGowan, Peter Keough, Christopher Megahey, Gerard McCaffrey, Connor Ferris and Gerard Dutton 9A with the French actors.

Pupil articles:

French Theatre for Schools



*By Conor Johnston
and Collum McNally 9A*

The French Theatre for Schools came to St. Mary's on the 11th of February 2010. We liked the show because it was very funny. There were some new words for us so that made us keep a close eye on the actors' facial expressions and their gestures, which helped a lot. There were four French actors and six volunteers from our class. The actors picked many volunteers at random from the audience and I (Conor) and James Kennedy (9G) had to get up and dance with them, it was so funny! I personally really liked this as it was good craic.

*By Conal Fitzsimons
and Gerard McCaffrey 9A*

We are reviewing the performance of a French play called "Le Role" by the French Theatre for Schools Company. The play was about four friends and one of them is offered a big role in a play, but can't accept this because she needs to sing and dance in English and doesn't know how. However, with the help of her friends, she prepares to take on this challenge. It was a very enjoyable performance based on how friends will always be there to pick you up when you fall.

By Connor Ferris 9A

I thought the play was great. It was very funny to watch and to be involved in. I was a pupil actor along with other boys from my class. The actors were really nice and they were actually pretty good actors too! As well as being in the play, I also watched it and I think they way that they got other boys from the audience up to dance was great. Overall, I thought it was a really brilliant play.

*By Jonathan McCloskey
and Marc Nolan 9A*

I think that the French play was very funny, everyone really enjoyed it and we were all really well behaved. I think that the volunteers from our class were great. The theatre group was brilliant and they had loads of audience participation.





Past Pupil Honoured by French Government

“Ordre des Palmes Académiques (Chevalier)”

French Government Honours for St. Mary's CBGS Past Pupil

Mr Chris Tracey, past pupil of St. Mary's CBGS and member of the Board of Governors of the school, has been honoured by the French Government Department of Education. On Monday 29th March 2010, Mr Tracey was awarded the “Ordre des Palmes Académiques (Chevalier)” by the French Ambassador in London. This prestigious award was created by Napoleon in 1808 to honour eminent members of the University of Paris and it is today awarded to academics and educators. The decisions on nominations are made by the Minister for Education in France. Mr Tracey, who is the Principal Sector Leader for Awards and Certificates in Education, Training and Skills in CCEA, has been duly recognised for his outstanding contribution to the field of education.



French Breakfast

On Friday the 25th of September, I got up early and was looking forward to an early breakfast in school. The reason for this was because it was no ordinary breakfast. To celebrate European Day of Languages, we were having a French breakfast in the canteen. I was in the queue early with my friends - Dan, Luke and Niall. Instead of a normal Irish breakfast we had something more exciting! I had two 'pain au chocolat' and a hot chocolate because they were so good. I felt so full up after this meal. I wonder how the French keep so fit after such lovely food first thing in the morning! Bonne journée et Bon appétit!

By Jack Trainor 8A

On Friday 25th September we had a French Breakfast for European Day of Languages. We could also wear a Gaelic or European top. At the French breakfast I went with Gerard and Liam from 8D. I got two chocolate croissants

and three cups of hot chocolate. After that I went for some more but I wasn't allowed to. It was really delicious and I can't wait until the next one!

By Bradley Garland 8A



Helping Miss Lawless with the French breakfast were (L-R) Donal Stafford, Colm Crothers, Gerard McCaffrey and Liam Reynolds 9A.





(L-R) Daniel Fitzsimmons, Lewis Guy and Declan Bingham 9G enjoyed the French Breakfast 2009.



Year 8 pupils wore football shirts to represent European countries and Irish counties.

French Breakfast



Miss McGonagle and Mr Robinson at the French Breakfast



(L-R) Conor Johnston 9A, Jack Trainor and Daniel Lauro 8A.



Year twelve pupils Lee Taylor and Ryan Clarke trying the pain au chocolat.



Some year 9 pupils tasting the croissants.

European Opportunities Fair



The European Opportunities Fair was held at St George's Market in Belfast on Tuesday 20th October 2010. It was attended by students from various schools throughout Northern Ireland. The purpose was to show the benefits of pursuing a language.

There were a variety of organisations displaying their products and services, emphasising the importance of their presence in communities. Some of these included Queen's Open University youth groups, the PSNI and information stands from many European countries. Each stand keenly displayed a cultural identity with pictures of their famous monuments, foods, drinks, traditions, etc.

At the start of the tour each student was given a passport. As you travelled to each stall you were asked a question about that country or Europe in general. If you answered the question correctly your passport was signed. At the end of the journey you put your passport in a box where it was entered into a competition. Overall I enjoyed the Fair especially since I got lots of free gifts! I would definitely go back if I got the opportunity.

Niall Hughes 10A



Representing St. Mary's in the Schools Quiz were Paul McCourt 10A, Robert Murtagh and Ryan McNally 10C, Anthony Robinson 10G and Ryan McFall 10A.



Robert Murtagh at one of the stands.



Niall Hughes 10A, Nathan Crudden 10A and Adam Christian 10E at an information stand.

The French Department Visit the Continental Christmas Market



John McDaniel 11D, Daniel Reid 11F, Aidan Murphy 11D and Danny Sloan 11A in front of the French sweet stall.



Mark Scott and Seamus O'Kane 11C queuing up for a baguette.

Continental Christmas Market

This is the French Department's fourth annual trip to the Continental Christmas Markets, which gave the GCSE French students an opportunity to put into practice what they had learned in class. As in previous years, pupils were given a quick tour of the market where they were warmly welcomed by the traders who come to Belfast from many European countries each winter. The French specialities were mainly food, of course, and the pupils tried the hot chocolate, baguettes, crepes and a "croque monsieur" (cheese and ham toastie). Despite the frost, the year elevens thoroughly enjoyed their taste of France.

Miss I. Lawless



(L-R) John McDaniel, Padraig Brady, Aidan Murphy, Daniel Reid, Conor McGuigan, Seamus O'Kane, Matthew Rainey, Mark Scott, Stiofan Trainor, Conor O'Rawe, Danny Sloan year 11.



The famous French pancake stall, serving delicious "crepes."



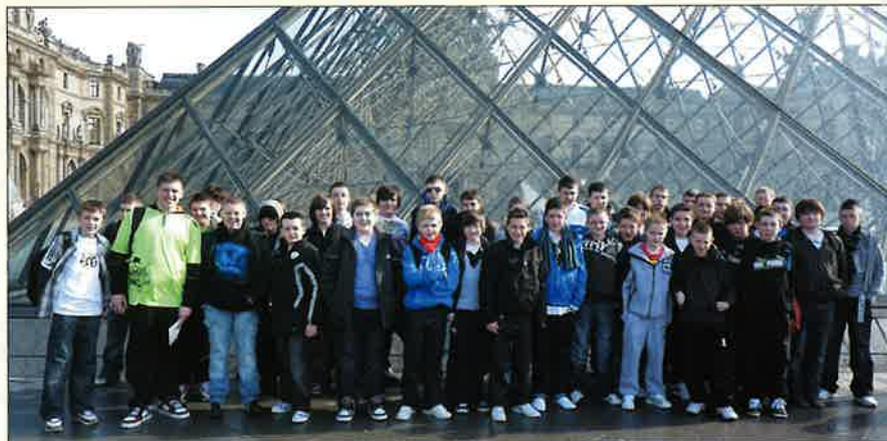
Stiofan Trainor 11C and Conor McGuigan 11B at the "Tartiflette" stand.

St. Mary's School Trip to Paris 2010

My trip to Paris

On the 25th of February 2010, I woke up feeling very excited, I got ready in a hurry and went downstairs to get my suitcase. I was the first pupil to arrive in school who was going on the French trip. When we left, I got into a very cramped minibus (with all our luggage) and we went to Belfast International Airport. We got checked in and went to the shops, my friends from my class and I went straight to "Burger King". After that we got on the plane, my friends and I sat very patiently on the take-off. Once the plane had taken off, that was it, we were going to Paris!

By the time we got to Paris it was dark, I couldn't wait until we saw the hotel and then we got there. The next



Group photograph outside the glass pyramid at the Louvre.

day we left around ten o'clock to go on a guided tour of Paris, it was really interesting. After all that, we parked at the magnificent Louvre museum where we got out and went upstairs. It was absolutely huge! That was only the beginning. We went and got our lunch in the food court.

Afterwards we met up again and we went around the gigantic museum to find the Mona Lisa. In every hallway, there was a painting. They say that if you looked at each painting for fifteen minutes, it would take you three years to get around the whole museum! We

then found the elegant Mona Lisa, though I thought it was very small! At the other side of the tall glass-roofed hall, there was the most amazing painting I had ever seen, called 'The Wedding at Cana.' It was absolutely gigantic and I was astounded at it.

The whole group met again at the Louvre pyramid and we walked to "Notre Dame". This was one of my favourites, as it was one of the grandest cathedrals I have ever been in. It was huge! We walked down past the modern art museum, The



View of the Arc de Triomphe along the Champs-Elysées.

Pompidou Centre - after that to have our dinner in Flunch, which was fun. After dinner, we had to rush back to the Louvre which was funny when you look back. It was a brilliant afternoon.

We eventually got onto the bus and then we went to the River Seine to get the boat trip along the river. When we got on the boat, it was very exciting, it was cold as it was at night but it was fun! When the cruise finished, we got off the boat and went to the prestigious Eiffel Tower. I was absolutely astonished, it was a staggering 1,063 feet high.

We went up to the very top floor, where we saw the glimmering, beautiful Paris. It was dazzling with light. After a very tiring day, we went back to the hotel. We slept well that night as we were all exhausted.

The next morning, everyone was very excited as we were going to Disneyland! When we got to Disneyland, we were all talking about what we were going to go on first. I got on Space Mountain four times in a row, it was amazing. We all went to dinner in Planet Hollywood, which was also good.



The next morning we all woke again to the annoying alarm from the phone and got ready and went for breakfast. This was our last day and it was very sad for everyone. We went to the Air and Space museum and we got on Concorde, it was a very exciting plane. After that, we went to the Stade de France, which was a pretty big stadium, it was very good. When we left the Stade de France, we went straight to the airport because we had our cases packed already. The airport was boring because it was full of people and because we were all so tired. When we got on the plane, we were all excited to get home, the plane journey back was not long, it was very quick actually. When the plane landed, we got off in a hurry to see our parents. When we came off the plane and down the hallway, our parents were all standing there.

At the same time we were delighted to be home but sad to be away from Paris!

Aidan Gittens 9A

The Eiffel Tower illuminated at night, view from the Seine River Cruise.

Pupil articles - French Department Trip to Paris

By Conor Johnston 9A
My trip to France with the school was amazing, we had a full action-packed four days in Paris. We did so many things like going up the Eiffel Tower, seeing the Arc de Triomphe, spending a day in Disneyland and visiting the Stade de France. The most memorable moment was probably in Disneyland Paris. The rides were incredible but the only negative thing was the queues. For the most popular rides, they took over an hour but even that didn't stop me! I would definitely go back whenever I get another chance!



Mr McComb and Mr O'Neill admiring Zidane's shirt.

By Peter McCloskey 10A
I went to Paris this year in February with my school for four days. I thought it was very good and it was the best holiday I have ever been on in my life. I enjoyed everything in Paris. But I was very tired and I didn't get much of a rest. I have always wanted to go to Paris. The city centre was so good and there was a lot to see. It was very scenic. The Eiffel Tower was excellent and Disneyland was lots of fun. I enjoyed all the rides. The Stade de France was very interesting, I enjoyed the trip and I want to go back.



Miss Lawless and Mrs McGettigan outside the "Studio Tram Tour."

We did a lot of sight-seeing, which was tiring, but it was a very good experience and I have no regrets. I really enjoyed the relaxing parts of the trip such as the visit to the Louvre museum (as I like Art) and the boat trip along the river Seine. Disneyland was my favourite part of the trip and it was the best theme park I have ever been to. The hotel was great and Paris was easily accessible from it. Overall, it was a great trip and I would recommend it to anyone.

By Gary McAnoy 10A
This year I went to Paris for the first time ever with my school. When I arrived at the airport (Charles de Gaulle airport, Paris) I knew I recognised it from somewhere as the movie "Taken" was filmed there. The thing I liked best about Paris was probably going to the Eiffel Tower at night or to the French national stadium, the "Stade de France". The view from the top of the Eiffel Tower was amazing because you got to overlook Paris and it was good fun. The only bad thing was that it was too tiring! I loved the "Stade de France" because I got to see the football pitch and inside the players' changing rooms. I really liked this trip and I would love to go again.



One of the groups pictured outside the presidential stand.



Outside the entrance to Disneyland (L-R): Aidan Gittens 9A, Stephen Grant 9A, Conor Johnston 9A, Ciaran Barkeley 9G, Colm Crothers 9A, Kevin Madden 10E, Liam Reynolds 9A, Kyle Kearns 9A, Gerard Dutton 9A and Christopher Megahey 9A.



Sean Floyd 9G, Conor Doran 10G and Christopher Megahey 9A pictured inside Concorde.



Some hungry customers in "Planet Hollywood."

Quotes:

Peter Lynch 10A:
 "My favourite part of the trip was visiting the famous art museum the "Louvre" where we saw many paintings, including the Mona Lisa.

Tiarnan Healy 10A:
 ""We went to Paris this year with Miss Lawless, Mr McComb, Miss Lavery, Mrs McGettigan and Mr O'Neill. It was an amazing trip and very enjoyable."

Colm Crothers 9A:
 "When we went to Paris, it was very good because it was full of fun and there were lots of things to do. I never felt bored because we were never sitting around.

We got to go to the Eiffel Tower, Stade de France etc. but my favourite activity was going to Disneyland Paris. Overall, the trip to Paris was great and well worth going"



Some year 9 and 10 pupils inside a WW2 plane.



Taking a guided tour of the Stade de France.



Gael Linn Public Speaking Competition 2010 ABAIR 2010

Three speeches were made by St.Mary's boys this year in the public speaking competition, Abair. The boys involved were *Tomás Ó Ciaráin and Curtis Millen, year 11 and Michael Jackson, year 14.* Some of the speeches are presented below.



Abair 2010 winner, Year 14 student Michael Jackson.

Bhain Michael Jackson 14F duais don óráid seo a thug sé ag Craobh Bhéal Feirste den comórtas Abair a d'eagraigh Gael Linn i gColáiste Feirste i mí Feabhra.

Barack Obama agus Cúram Sláinte

Tá rudaí ann a ndéanann daoine talamh slán de sa chearn seo den domhan, rudaí beaga agus rudaí níos tabhachtaí. Tá an cúram sláinte ar cheann de na rudaí tabhactacha gan amhras. Cad é a tharlódh dá mbeadh tinneas ort nó dá mbrisfeá do chos? Cumhdach Dé ar an méid is ceist orainn - cad é a tharlódh dá dtiocfadh rud éigin níos measa ort nó dá mbeadh taom croí ag duine sa teaghlach? Sa tír seo téann muid chuig an doctúir, chuig an ospidéal, nó tagann otharcharr ar ár son agus ní chaithfidh muid smaointiú ar an chostas - tá sé uilig saor in aisce. Má tá cogaisí de dhíth ort, scríobhann an dochtúir oideas duit. Is é seo an chás i dTuaisceart na hÉireann agus i ngach áit sa Ríocht Aontaithe. Ach scéal eile ar fad atá ann sna Stáit Aontaithe i Meiriceá. Ní raibh cúram sláinte saor ann riamh. Nuair atá tinneas ar dhuine nó nuair a chaithfidh sé dul chuig an ospidéal, caithfidh sé íoc as. Fiú má tá duine ag fáil bháis le galar ní bhfaighidh sé cuidiú muna bhfuil an t-



Curtis Millen yr 11, abair 2010.

airgead aige chun íoc as. Sna nóchaidí rinne Bill Clinton, iarracht reachtaíocht do chúram sláinte a chur i bhfeidhm a thabharfadh cúram sláinte saor don phobal Mheiriceánach. Ach toisc go raibh an teach parlaiminte lán de Phoblachtanaigh ní raibh sé abalta é seo a dhéanamh. Ligeadh chun dearmad na gnoithe seo go dtí gur toghadh Barack Obama. Tá athbheochán dá chuid féin i gceist aige - cúram sláinte saor a bheith ar fáil ag gach duine sa tír. Bhí dornán maith polaiteoirí, tacaíthe Daonlathacha don cuid is mó, i bhfách leis an acht nua seo ach go fóill, mar a bhí in aimsir Clinton, bhí na Poblachtanaigh ina éadan ar an ábhar go mbeadh ar an rialtas cáin a ardú. Ar a chéad iarracht a rinne Obama a ré úr sláinte a thoiseacht ní raibh rath air agus bhí air rudaí a cheartú leis an acht. Bhí air dul i gcomhairle le roinnt brúghrupaí sláinte agus chuaigh sé ar ais i mí na Samhna don dara iarracht. Bhí bua mór ag Obama nuair a thug Teach na nIonadaithe cead don acht le 220 vóta in éadan 215. Ansin, leis an acht slán amach as Teach na nIonadaithe, bhí ar Obama é a chur tríd an Seanad. Cé go raibh tromlach ag an pháirtí Daonlathach sa Seanad níl na páirtithe sna Stáit Aontaithe chomh aontaithe ina dtuairimí le chéile agus bhí dúshlán mór go fóill roimh Barack Obama. I ndeireadh na dála ba chuma ar fad mar idir an dá linn, toghadh gobharnóir nua



Tomás Ó Ciaráin abair 2010



agus anois tá an tromlach cailte ag an pháirtí Daonlathach. Agus seo an toradh atá air - ní thig leis an duine is cumhachtaí i Meiriceá an dlí is ansa lena chroí a chur i gcrích. Caitear níos mó airgid per capita ar chúram sláinte sa Mheiriceá ná mar a chaitear anseo, ach fiú anseo níl sé saor in aisce ar ndóigh. Níl san argóint ach an dóigh a foctar an bille. Ar cheart do na daoine tinne íoc as, nó ar cheart dúinn uilig íoc as ar eagla go mbeidh muid tinn amach anseo? Agus freagra agat ar an cheist sin, caithfidh tú an módh focaíochta a roghnú - cáin a ghearradh nó árachas a dhíol? An Daonlathach nó Poblachtánach tú? Ná déanaigí talamh slán de rud nach bhfuil slán. Caithfidh sibh amharc ar na tíortha eile thart ar an domhan seo le tuigbheáil cé chomh sona is atá an saol s'againne anseo. Caithfidh sibh amharc ar an Afraic agus ar an Áis ina bhfuil deachtóirí i réim agus ina bhfuil an bhochtaineacht fairsing le bheith eolach ar na buntaistí atá againne anseo. Agus caithfidh sibh amharc arís ar na Stáit Aontaithe, ceann de na tíortha is cumhachtaí ar an domhan, áit nach raibh agus nach bhfuil go fóill cúram sláinte saor do chách chun tuigbheáil nach bhfuil an saol ró-olc againn anseo i dTuaisceart na hÉireann. Deir an seanfhocal gur fearr an sláinte ná an táinte. Ach cuimhnig go bhfuil sláinte na ndaoine ag brath ar tháinte na tíre. Nach fearr é a roinnt go cothrom?

ABAIR An Murtall agus an Mearbhia

le Curtis Millen

Dia daoibh, a lucht éisteachta, tá mé anseo inniu chun bhur n-aird a tharraingt ar an fhíric go bhfuil mearbhia ceangailte leis an epidéim atá ag fás go gasta sa lá atá inniu ann - an murtall. In Éirinn tá ocht déag faoin chéad de dhaoine murtallach agus amach as sé mhilliún is é sin aon mhilliún agus ochtó míle duine.

Fadhb ollmhór atá ann ar fud na tíre agus cuirtear an locht ar bhialanna mearbhia. Sílim gur ceart sin a dhéanamh mar is bia próiseáilte é an mearbhia agus ní chothaíonn sé an chorp dhaonna. Tá a lán fuinnimh i mearbhia is fíor, ach is cuid den fhadhb é sin mar muna n-úsáideann tú mórán den fhuinneamh seo is dócha go gcuirfidh tú do chorp i stór é i bhfoirm

saill. Is gnách nach mbíonn daoine a itheann mearbhia aclaí agus is gnách go mbíonn siad falsa mar ní maith leo seasamh ar feadh fiche bomaite chun fíordhinnéar a chócaireacht.

Sílim féin gurb é an fáth a bhfuil an murtall ceangailte leis an mhearbhia, nach bhfuair na daoine murtallacha seo oideachas ceart faoin bhia fholláin nuair a bhí siad ar scoil. Tá a fhios agam go bhfuil roinnt torthaí agus glasraí ar fáil i mbialanna mearbhia ach níl aon suim ag na daoine a théann isteach sna háiteanna seo sa bhia fholláin, ba mhaith leo bia gasta blásta. Tá súil agam sa todhchaí go mbeidh an t-eolas faoin bhia fholláin ag tromlach na bpáistí scoile. Síleann a lán daoine nach bhfaigheann

tú mórán as dáileog bheag bia ach ní fíor sin. Ar an mheán ní feoil í leathchuid den ábhar i ngnáthbhorgaire agus taispeánann seo dúinn nach bhfuil a fhios againn cad é atá sna béilí mearbhia se ar chor ar bith. Tá an epidéim den mhurtall ag fás mar thoradh ar na bialanna mearbhia ag fógraíocht an bhia 'acu ag praghasanna níos saoire. Bíonn sé níos fusa don phobal an bruscar seo a thugann siad bia air a fháil. Sa deireadh tá an-cheangal ag an mhearbhia leis an mhurtall agus ní ar na daoine murtallacha amháin atá an locht ach ar an sochaí inar rugadh iad.

Gael Linn Quiz 2010 Tráth na gCeist

The senior quiz team who won the interschool Tráth na gCeist organised by Gael Linn.

Congratulations to the boys pictured below who won first prize in the senior Irish language table quiz which took place in the Falls Leisure Centre recently. Watch out University Challenge!

Mr M. Greene



St. Mary's - Gael Linn Quiz Prizewinners 2010

The senior quiz team who won the interschool Tráth na gCeist organised by Gael Linn.

*L - R,
Ciaran Kerr, Pádraig McBride,
Niall Quinn, Daniel Clarke
all year 12.*

Spanish Department 2009 ~ 2010



In September, we welcomed Miguel Angel Gonzalez as our Language Assistant. His enthusiasm, energy and insight have helped the 'A' level students enormously in widening their knowledge of Spanish culture and language.

European Day of Languages was celebrated on Friday 25th September. Year 9 pupils took part in a European Quiz with girls from St. Louise's in our Library and Year 10 pupils visited St. Louise's to participate in a European

competition, accompanied by Miss Mervyn and Mr Herron. Many thanks to St. Louise's for their hospitality.

In October, a group of Year 10 Spanish pupils visited St. George's Market with Mrs McEvoy and spent a morning enjoying the wide variety of activities available at the European Languages Fair.

In December, Miss Mervyn accompanied another group of Year 10 pupils to the Continental Market at the

City Hall where they were able to practice their Spanish language skills while sampling typical Spanish treats such as paella and churros.

In January, Spanish pupils watched a play performed by Onatti, a Spanish Theatre Company, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

On 22nd April, the Spanish Department in St. Dominic's invited our Year 13 students to attend a seminar on one of the options for their A2 Speaking

exam, the film 'Solás'. This was presented by Dr. Stanley Black, Head of the Spanish Department at the University of Ulster in Coleraine. Many thanks to St. Dominic's for hosting such a valuable event, which will be of great benefit to our students during their A2 year.

An Educational Visit to Barcelona is currently in the planning stages for next year so start saving!

Mrs J McEvoy



A Spanish Department visit to the Opportunity Europe Fair

On Wednesday 21st October, fifteen pupils from 10D visited the Opportunity Europe Fair in St. George's Market accompanied by their Spanish teacher, Mrs. J. McEvoy. There was a wide variety of activities, including workshops for learning Polish and Spanish.

There was an exhibition of salsa dancing and all the pupils were invited to participate. However, the St. Mary's boys declined the offer, even though Mrs McEvoy offered to find them partners... The food stalls were, as always, a big hit. The boys admired the paella but decided to

spend their money on burgers! The exhibition stalls represented many European countries and offered lots of opportunities to find information on different cultures and voluntary activities. Our boys visited all the exhibitions and collected

lots of free gifts, such as pens, pencils, rulers and stickers and very kindly brought back extra supplies for their classmates who were not able to go. The boys' behaviour was, as always, impeccable. Well done, alumnos!



Onatti - The Spanish theatre company

The Spanish Department in St. Mary's invited Onatti (a Spanish theatre company) to perform a short play in Spanish in the Edmund Rice Lecture Theatre for Year 10 and 11 pupils on Wednesday 27th January 2010.

This was a great opportunity for the pupils to listen to native Spanish speakers

performing a play based on their programme of study. The script contained lots of words and phrases that the pupils had come across in class, so the audience participation was energetic and entertaining - you would expect no less from St. Mary's boys!



The play was called 'Mi padre no me entiende,' (My father doesn't understand me) and was an amusing and engaging glimpse of teenage life.

Mrs J. McEvoy

¡Espero que todos lo pasaran de maravilla!



European Opportunities Fair

What has become an annual quiz took place on Friday 25th September in the library. Fifteen Year 9 pupils (representing Irish, French and Spanish) took part in a quiz with pupils from St. Louise's in our school library in the afternoon, while 30 Year 10 pupils, again representing each language studied here, travelled down to St. Louise's to participate in a quiz there. These events, along with the colourful posters and displays throughout the school, created a vibrant European atmosphere.

Here are the impressions of some of the participants from 9F.

On 25th September on European Day of Languages, some year 9 St. Mary's boys and St. Louise's girls joined up to have a quiz about Europe. It had questions about National Anthems, people's languages and music. Pearse's mum was there too. Mr Greene asked the questions and Pearse's mum and Mrs McEvoy went round helping people in the quiz. Two year 13 boys marked the answers. I had a really good time and it was a lot of fun. It was held in our school library. My class was representing Spanish in the quiz. Mrs McEvoy was so proud of us for doing so well and if it happens again I will want to take part because it was class.

Daniel Varndell 9F

On Friday 25th September thirty St. Mary's boys went to a European Day of Languages' Quiz in St. Louise's. The quiz participants were from Year 10 Irish, French and Spanish classes and were accompanied by Miss Mervyn and Mr Herron. There were six teams with two St. Mary's boys and three St. Louise's girls in each. There were ten rounds, with questions on Europe and on the Irish, French, Spanish and Italian languages. The winning team included two St. Mary's boys - Ryan McNally and Robert Murtagh. It was a great experience and our pupils really enjoyed it.

Robert Murtagh 10C

European Breakfast

As always there was the popular French Breakfast in the school canteen and the boys enjoyed croissants, pains au chocolat, chocolat chaud and jus d'orange. This was a great success. Prayers were said over the P.A. system in Irish, Spanish and French by Year 9 pupils. All pupils were encouraged to greet each other using as many European Languages as possible. Those in Years 8, 9 and 10 were allowed to wear a European soccer top or a County Gaelic top in place of their school shirt.

The English Department

Author F.E. Higgins visits St. Mary's

The English Department hosted a very exciting and enjoyable visit by the author F.E. Higgins. She has been shortlisted for the Waterstone's Children's Book Award for her novel, 'The Black Book of Secrets.' The subject matter of her novels could be said to lie in the realms of the mysterious and the macabre. The Sunday Times claims this book is 'Storytelling of the most compelling kind'.

The author herself organised three different groups of Year 8 pupils to act out scenes from the latest book in the series, 'The Eyeball Collector'. Her skills from a previous life as a teacher were very much in evidence and the boys enjoyed it immensely. It looks very much like move over J.K.Rowling, Hello F.E Higgins. Just remember where you saw her name first!

Mr G. Quigg



The author F.E. Higgins.



Year 8 pupils act out scenes from F.E. Higgins' latest book



The Geography Department

THE SIMMARIAN 2010

Geography GCSE coursework

The GCSE coursework topic this year was based on a river study, so the Year 11 Geography students took the opportunity to investigate their local environment and unearth the wonders of the Colin River in West Belfast.

Not only was this a chance to truly understand river processes, but it afforded us the opportunity to support the Colin Glen Trust who work endlessly to promote and protect our local environment.

All the year 11 classes completed a detailed analysis of the river and its processes which they will now write up as part of their GCSE coursework.

A big thank you to Paul the group leader and all the support staff at the Colin Glen Trust for their help and expertise. The Geography students in Year 11 had an amazing experience which has enriched their understanding of rivers and will hopefully yield excellent results in August 2011! **Mr M. Watson**



Year 11 students listen to a presentation before carrying out their fieldwork study on the Colin river.



Year 9 Micro-Climate Study

Year 9 pupils making climate measurements in the school grounds.



All Year 9 classes got the opportunity in December to investigate how different factors affect the climate around our school. We measured the temperature, wind speed and wind direction using a thermometer, anemometer, compass and a wind vane in different areas around our school and discovered that temperature, wind speed and wind direction do change around the school.

The best part of the micro-climate study was that we got to go outside instead of sitting in a room doing work!

By Colm Crothers & Stephen Grant.



Tayto Factory

In November of 2009, all year ten classes went to the Tayto factory in Tandraee as part of Industry in Geography. It was to teach the pupils about how industry works and about how things come from all over the world to make the crisps we enjoy here in Northern Ireland.

The tour of the factory which was an old castle started off in the main foyer where the tour guides showed us pictures of Tayto throughout the ages and there were even packets of the first Tayto crisps ever made. The tour really kicked off with a short walk to where the potatoes were stored, washed, dried and cut in big loud machines. The pupils described it as "cold, dark, damp and smelly."

The next bit of the tour brought the pupils to the fryer where the crisps were cooked. The kind people of Tayto let the pupils taste the crisps just out of the fryer without any flavour. The pupils were torn between those who liked them and those who didn't, but they agreed that the taste was very weird and nothing like they'd ever tasted before. They were then brought out to the factory floor where the crisps were packaged. Once they were packaged, they were boxed and sent to shops such as Sainsbury's and Tesco's. There were all sorts of crisps even crisps that aren't for sale in Northern Ireland; for example, there were crisps that were being sent over to Hastings in the South of England.

Next, the pupils witnessed production of what Tayto liked to call their "expensive range of crisps." This particularly helped with what we are learning about in geography, because there were boxes lined up against the wall that were from both Spain and France and the packing machines used were from Renault, France. The fryers came all the way from Australia. This is truly a perfect example of globalisation.

The trip was a real success and it provided the pupils with an excellent insight into the world of work and globalisation. So the next time you eat a packet of Tayto crisps, remember you are part of the process of globalisation.

Robert Murtagh 10C



Year 10 boys on their visit to the tayto factory.

Yr 13 Fieldwork

In November, the Year 13 AS Geography students visited the Murlough coastal region in Co. Down as part of their A/S paper which they sat in January. This stretch of coastline is unique in its beauty, flora and fauna and is also a conservation area.

The pupils were carrying out an investigation into succession on a sand dune system.



Yr 13 students storm the beaches at Murlough, Co. Down.



LOST!

Vegetation study gets underway as the boys get down to some hard work.





Michael Atchens



Peter Forde discovers the wonders of Geography.



Mr Mc Flynn leads his weary warriors home.

Year 8 SALTERS' FESTIVAL OF CHEMISTRY 2010



Year 8 pupils Conchur McCullough, Connor Hyland, Conor McCarry and Mark Hyland competed with distinction in the 'Salters science festival' which was held in the University of Ulster Coleraine. They were up against 27 other schools on a day which celebrated fun in science. Well done to all the boys who were a credit to the school!



My day at Coleraine University

On the 19th of May, my teacher, 3 other students and I went to the university of Ulster for the Salters Festival. The festival had 3 parts to it. The first part of the festival was when my group had to discover who murdered Captain Salters which was the most difficult challenge. The second part was also a challenge where we all had to make certain colours from different chemicals. The last part of the day was a lecture on poisonous animals and a man brought out some poisonous animals. The trip was an amazing experience and a fun way to learn about science. I would definitely go again if I was allowed.

By Conor McCarry 8A

I made it to school at 8.10 am and we got going on our way. In the car I watched out the window at the signs and there was a lot of traffic. We arrived late to the festival but so did many others. We then went to a large room where we were given our instructions for the day. We got straight into the work and we did everything as instructed and we went back to have our lunch. We finished our lunch with some time to spare so I talked with my friends. Next we went to an auditorium to watch a man tell us about poisonous animals, for example, all spiders have venom but not all spiders can break the skin. Some poisons can destroy our bodies if untreated in a certain time. Some poisons can also be turned into cures like scorpion poison can be used to cure a type of brain cancer. He even showed us real animals like scorpions, toads, spiders and one huge

yellow snake. The man told us about the black widow spider which could kill you if bitten. After the animals were seen we had the award ceremony. We didn't win anything unfortunately and we left for school again. Some people fell asleep!

There was lots of traffic on the way back and when I was dropped off I met my dad cycling and also said goodbye to my friends and went home to rest.

By Mark McGroarty 8A

A bit after 8 o'clock we all took a car journey to Coleraine University of Ulster's Salter's festival for Chemistry. The car trip took a little longer than an hour but we got there. We went through fun activities with loads of schools competing against us. The first activity was to investigate a murder by testing the metal parts found in salts and doing a

chromatography ink experiment to find the murderer. I thought the activity was really fun and we got the right suspect. After we had lunch we moved on to the different colours listed on a sheet using different liquids. I really enjoyed this activity and I made 3 of the colours! We made all of the colours and wrote down how to make them. After the two activities we were taught about different poisonous creatures that kill. I found this really interesting. After that, we were shown some real life poisonous creatures and some people were frightened and started screaming!

At the end we were told the winning schools which had been the best in the activities. Sadly, our school didn't win, but at least we had some fun. We went back to St Mary's at about half four. I am really glad I had the opportunity to come to the Salter's festival and I had good

fun with my friends. I would like to thank my Science teacher for bringing us to the event. Thank you Mr Kelly!

By Conchur McCullough

On Tuesday the 18th May, myself and 3 other people from my class were chosen to represent the school at the University of Ulster in Coleraine. The Science experiments we did were chromatography during which we had to find the murderer. We also did an art experiment. We had to mix different liquids to make different colours for a G..C.S.E. art exam. We also got a presentation on animals that can kill. There was a man that took out several animals and showed us how they can kill people. At the end there was an award ceremony and unfortunately we didn't win but we did get a certificate.

Conor Hyland 8A

Royal Society of Chemistry Schools' Analyst Competition

On Saturday March 13th 2010, three Year 13 Chemistry pupils took part in the Northern Ireland Schools' Analyst Competition in Stranmillis College. The pupils were highly commended on their analytical skills in Chemistry, congratulations to all who took part and their Chemistry teacher, Miss Doherty.



Yr 13 Chemistry pupils receiving their certificates from Mr J Sheerin, Principal.



Elstine Padayattil, Matthew Cosgrove, Ryan Boyle.

Science Expressions in St Mary's

St Mary's embarked on a joint project with 3 primary schools (St Theresa's, St John the Baptist, Holy Trinity) which was set up by W5. The overall aim was to help promote science within primary schools and set up links with schools in the local community.

There are many cluster groups within this project each with a different key aspect which the schools would be exploring. The St Mary's cluster group had the task of investigating paper with each school looking at different aspects i.e. how it is made, some uses of it.

Within St Mary's we tried to bring a scientific aspect into it in terms of chromatography and how paper is used in this process.

To begin the task, senior pupils from St Mary's (Brendan Bradley, Peter Carson, James Gaskin, Sean Paul Taylor, Thomas Murray, Ryan Boyle) went out to each of the primary schools to teach the pupils about chromatography. This was an excellent opportunity for these pupils to get a view of what teaching would be like and also a great learning experience for the primary pupils.



Luke O'Neill and Ryan Boyle show the primary pupils how to set about their task.

For the next part of the task all 3 primary school classes visited St Mary's to take part in a 'Science Day' in which the schools were mixed together to carry out a number of tasks including;

- * 'Who killed Mr Burns?' chromatography task.
- * 'Build your own skyscraper' task using paper straws.
- * 'Making paper airplanes' task with different types of paper.
- * 'Tribal Mask art work' completed in St Mary's art department.

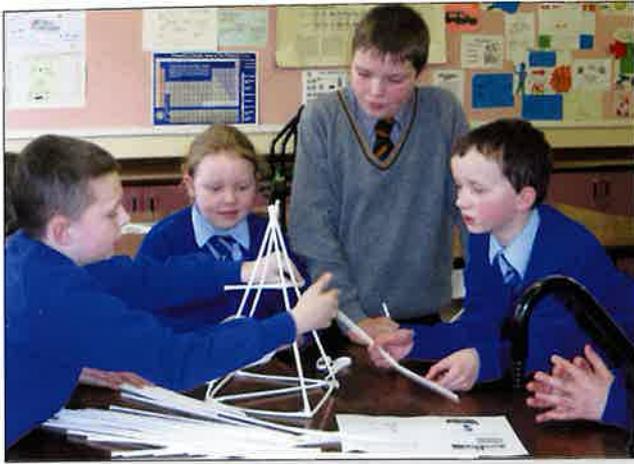
Our own year 8 pupils had studied chromatography and therefore were able to guide the young primary school pupils when they visited St Mary's. This hopefully strengthened links between the schools and offered our own pupils the responsibility of passing on their scientific knowledge. It gave the primary school pupils an insight into Science in secondary school and hopefully fuelled their motivation towards Science.



The suspects for the killer! James Gaskin (senior student) and Odhran O'Callaghan help the primary school pupils work out who did it!

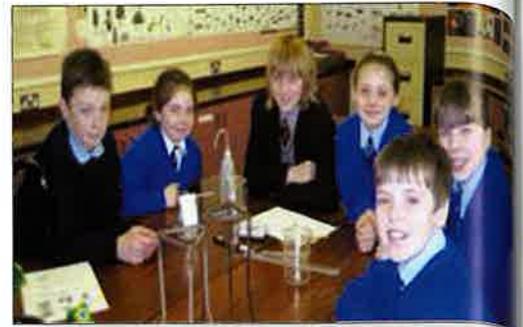


Science Expressions in St Mary's



John Rafferty (above left) and Owen McCrudden look like they have their work cut out building their sky scrapers. As part of the project W5 supplied a presentation on 'Optical illusions' and a key link in the form of a forensic scientist, both of which came into St Mary's to give interesting, exciting and informative presentations to the primary school pupils.

Dan O'Muirigh and his group look happy with a job well done



We would envisage that this would help inspire all pupils, secondary and primary, to want to learn more about science and why it is relevant to them. The project finished with a presentation on the 18th of June in W5 where pupils came together from all schools involved to celebrate their achievements and what they learned! Mrs S. Kelly



Presentation day, June 18th.
Pupils Michael Mallon, Dominic Lynn, Mark Mc Groarty, & Ethan Wilson with
L-R Martyin Brown W5, Mr. Kelly & Colin Press W5.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the primary schools involved as well as those in the Science and Art departments in St Mary's who helped make it such an enjoyable experience. Last but not least I would like to thank the pupils of all the schools involved with special thanks to the St Mary's pupils who upheld the high standards set by the school and were a credit to themselves and their families. Mr. S. Kelly.



QUB Pharmacy Department sets up shop in St. Mary's C.B.C.S.



Eager year 8 pupils, Ms. Ni Mhearain and the QUB pharmacists before they begin work.



On Friday 21st May, five pharmacists from Queen's University Belfast arrived with all the equipment necessary to set up a dispensing shop in our Science lab. They came with boxes of white coats in junior sizes along with all the specialist equipment necessary to make and dispense a number of medicines. The eighteen year 8 pupils who had been selected to take part in this project were eagerly looking forward to what the morning might bring as indeed were the teachers!

The aim of the project is for QUB to strengthen links with schools and to highlight the job and career path of a Pharmacist so that this age group of pupils are aware of the option of studying Pharmacy. Mr. Kelly made the links with QUB, while Ms. Ni Mhearain and Dr. Donnelly supervised the practical tasks. In order to select the lucky pupils, a competition was run in school by Dr. Donnelly and Ms. Ni Mhearain. Pupils had to write down what their understanding of the role of a pharmacist was in the community and their reasons for wanting to take part in the workshop. After some tough judging, the panel selected eighteen year 8 pupils from a range of classes (8A, 8B, 8D & 8E.)

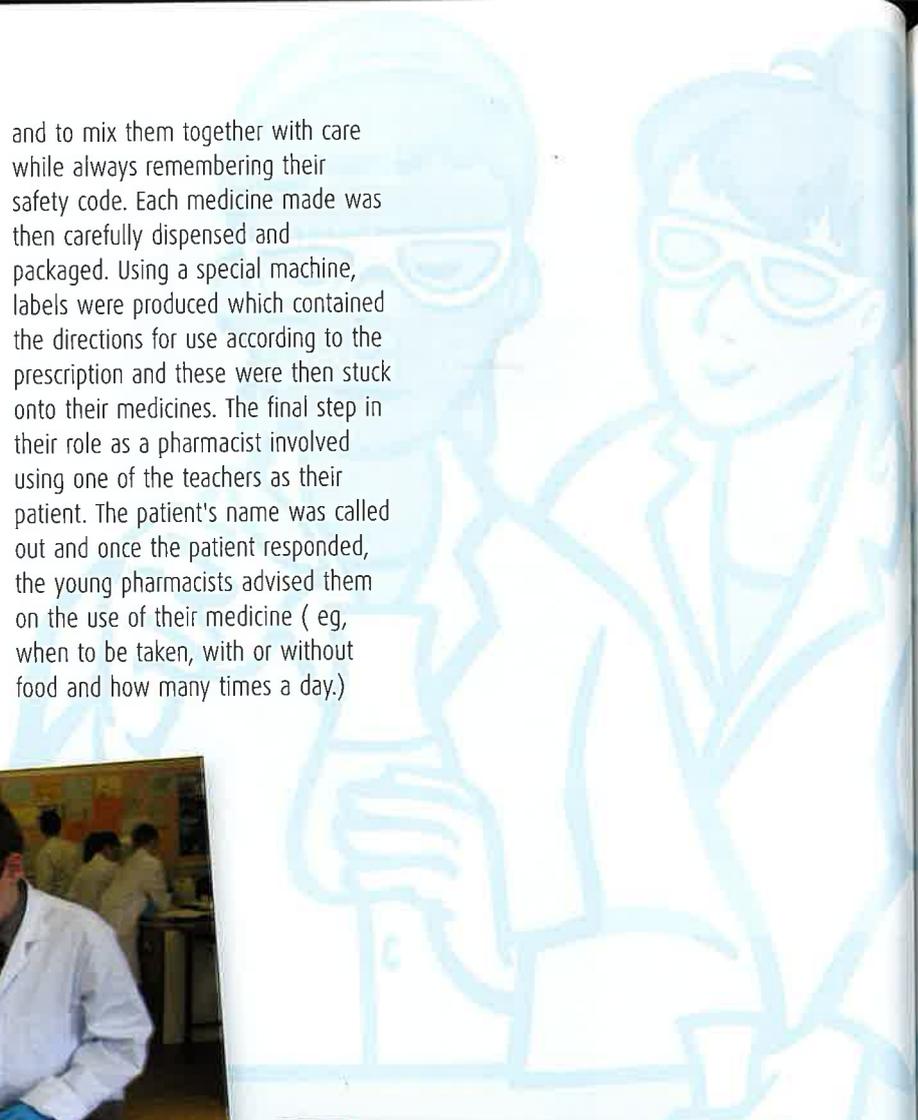


Donned in white coats, blue latex gloves and safety glasses, the serious work of preparing their own creams, medicines and mouthwashes began for the students.

Each group worked closely with one of the pharmacists and started by reading the prescription written by the doctors (often a task in itself!). The particular medicine, cream or mouthwash was then prepared entirely by our students under the watchful eyes of the QUB pharmacists.

The boys learned to measure the chemicals with accuracy, to grind these to a paste using pestles and mortars

and to mix them together with care while always remembering their safety code. Each medicine made was then carefully dispensed and packaged. Using a special machine, labels were produced which contained the directions for use according to the prescription and these were then stuck onto their medicines. The final step in their role as a pharmacist involved using one of the teachers as their patient. The patient's name was called out and once the patient responded, the young pharmacists advised them on the use of their medicine (eg, when to be taken, with or without food and how many times a day.)



Year 8 pupils take concentrating as they measure the chemicals with precision, closely supervised by Science teacher Ms Ni Mhearain and Miss Fiona Hughes QUB.





Patients, Ms Ni Mhearain and Dr. Donnelly receive their medicines.



The boys thoroughly enjoyed their experience of working as a pharmacist for a morning while at the same time learning a lot about pharmacy as a career. The team from QUB discussed with them what subjects they would need to study at G.C.S.E. and 'A' level in order to attend university, study for a degree in pharmacy and complete their pre-registration year to become a fully qualified pharmacist. A small group of boys were then interviewed afterwards by Dr. Paul Mc Cague to discuss their understanding of using medication safely and about what age to take on the responsibility of administering their own medication. Later, some of the boys expressed an interest in pharmacy as a career and appreciated the opportunity to have experienced working as a pharmacist for a day. We thank the team from QUB who commented on not only the excellent conduct of our year 8 pupils but also on their enthusiastic interaction and good communication skills.



Following prescriptions and giving some expert advice!



The boys with members of the QUB team at the end of the project.



Dr M. Donnelly





Open Nights 2009 - 2010

This year, St. Mary's held two open nights, one in September which allowed prospective year 8 pupils an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the school before sitting the GL assessment and the second one as usual in January. Both open nights proved to be very busy and the feedback from parents was that they were very impressed with what they saw.



Mr. Mc Cann demonstrates what a vortex is to a captivated audience!



Dr. Donnelly explains how colour magic works.



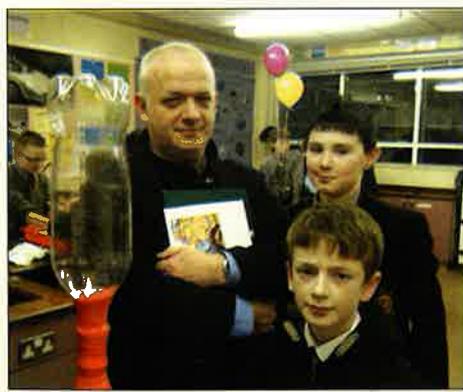
Joe prepares a cross-section of an onion cell.



Having fun making faces with magnets.



One of our students performing a rat dissection. Look away if you are squeamish!



Joseph O'Hagan and Chris O'Hagan check out the library at St. Mary's.



Mr. T. McCaughey (teacher) with Sean and Angela McParland in R.E.



Sinead Smith and her son Conor enjoy a tour of the French Department.

Charitable Work in St. Mary's

Swimathon Marie Curie Cancer Care Swimathon

Congratulations to the St. Mary's Water Polo teams who successfully raised £500 for Marie Curie Cancer Care by swimming over 700 lengths in the school pool. The pupils involved in St. Mary's Swimathon joined 20,000 other swimmers around Britain and Ireland that took part in the Marie Curie challenge.

Every £20 raised by the pupils pays for one hour of nursing care at a patient's home and the boys can be very proud of their contribution. Thanks to all the staff and pupils that gave up their time and donated to this worthy cause.

Mr M. Watson



Pupils taking part in the swimathon in the school swimming pool.

ST. MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL: CATHOLIC CARING

Catholics Caring 2009 - Help making a difference at Christmas.

Last Christmas we continued our initiative in St. Mary's called 'Catholics Caring', linked to St Vincent de Paul. Each pupil in each class brought in a contribution which was then used to buy a present for a child in the local

community, who may not otherwise get any presents this year. The Form Teachers co-ordinated the collection and assisted in the decision of purchasing an age-appropriate present for the child allocated to their class.

This appeal is important to families in the local community and simply by buying a few extra gifts in this way you can make a

real difference to the lives of many children and make Christmas happen in lots of homes.

Many thanks to our whole school community for their generosity.

Mr D. McNeill

ST. MARY'S CHAPTER OF THE YOUTH ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

This has been another busy year for St. Mary's Youth SVP GROUP.

The autumn term began with 40 new members signing up for the year long commitment and challenge to help others less fortunate than themselves.

The Annual Sponsored Walk along the Lagan was held in October and raised £195.45 for the upkeep and development of the after-school club for small children in the Turf Lodge area.

In November a delegation of 15 senior pupils represented the school at the Annual Youth SVP conference in the Balmoral Hotel. They spent the day engaged in activities and workshops with other young SVP teams from across Northern Ireland. Their aim was to work together to develop ideas and share visions for how the youth SVP could continue to work for the benefit of the marginalised in our local communities and how young members could be encouraged

to work alongside adult members of the charity to improve the outcome for everyone.

At the conference St. Mary's youth SVP vice president Michael Crossan and treasurer Nicholas Tracey, presented the group's achievements, projects and hopes for the future to the conference. St. Mary's were declared joint winners of the prize for the most active SVP youth group in Northern Ireland, they shared the prize with St. Mary's Convent School, Derry.

The group is always busiest coming up to Christmas, when the school collects hampers and Christmas gifts for less well off families in the local area. This year the Society Headquarters announced fears that the credit-crunch might have a detrimental effect on the donating power of the pupils and their families but everything went to plan and the Senior Pupils co-ordinated the collections superbly. We had 106 hampers

and 57 children's gifts donated. The hampers need very little promotion as the event is part of our Christmas preparation for many years. Our senior pupils also have a long tradition of helping with hamper packing at Work West every Christmas.

In January the group decided to do something which would raise funds for the victims of the Haiti earthquake. The pupils came up with the idea of a soup and bread lunch for staff which proved to be very successful and a very uplifting experience for everyone involved. We raised a total of £741.43 which went directly to Haiti through our school chaplain Dr.A. Donaldson and his contacts there.

The group will be recruiting new members in September, so if you are keen to use your energy and talents to help others then, sign up. We promise you a busy year and great fun too. *Mrs M. Farag*





Once again thirteen lucky year eight pupils were given the opportunity, (accompanied by Mr Gormley, Brother Mc Kenna and myself), to make the journey to the distant counties of Kilkenny and Waterford to celebrate the feast day of Blessed Edmund Rice on the 5th May.

A Trip Down South to Callan, Waterford

Following a similar itinerary to last year our first stop was in Callan, County Kilkenny the birthplace of Edmund Rice, the person ultimately responsible for establishing the long tradition of Christian Brothers' schools throughout Ireland and further a field - (a tradition which St Mary's is proud to be a part of.)

During our time in Callan the pupils got the chance to sample a piece of living history as they were taken on a tour which included a visit to the actual house in which Edmund was born, in the late eighteenth century (1760's). The pupils enjoyed the opportunity to reflect on how different and difficult life was growing up in Ireland at a time when Catholicism and Irish culture were outlawed, (criminalized) by a brutal occupation and suffering and starvation were rife. As our erudite tour guide put it to us, "if you think life was hard for the Rice's, and they were wealthy, try to imagine how miserable and torturous life was for Ireland's poorest people". Our groups' tour eventually finished with a viewing of the illustrious Edmund Rice icon written/created by the very talented Irish artist Desmond Kyne. After our visit to Callan we travelled the short distance to Kilkenny city centre where we checked in at one of the many local hostels. The remainder of the first day involved dinner at a nearby restaurant, several games of pool, ten pin bowling and the pupils' favourite, a trip to the local arcade. Early the next morning we decided to take the pupils to the grounds of Kilkenny castle where they got the chance to let off some steam in the form of a very competitive football match. Unfortunately, a burst of heavy rain forced us to abandon the game and take shelter inside the castle. While we were all drying off Brother Mc kenna purchased tickets for our group to join the brief tour which had just commenced. Some of the pupils enjoyed this experience immensely, yet others, I felt, wanted the rain to stop and the football match to restart. We finally left Kilkenny around three o'clock and headed for our next destination, the Sunny Beach hostel in Tromore (county Waterford). Once we had all checked in



At Edmund Rice's home

and rapidly devoured lunch we took the kids to the beach where, once again, they got the chance to hurl and kick ball. Later that evening we headed to the church at Mount Sion for a mass marking the feast of Blessed Edmund Rice. Before the celebration got underway the local community gave us all a very warm welcome. After mass, both pupils and staff got the opportunity to relax before eventually retiring to bed.

The following day we returned to Mount Sion to visit the very impressive Edmund Rice museum. The pupils found it to be a very enjoyable and informative exercise. It included a viewing of Edmund's head forensically reconstructed from a mould of his skull, a visit to Edmund Rice's tomb, cinematic accounts of the work carried out by the Christian Brothers throughout the world and a visit to several rooms maintained from the original school (1802) including the bake house which reminded us of Edmund's belief that before you can teach the starving about God you must assure them of His existence by feeding them. Once our visit had come to an end it was time to make the long (but enjoyable) journey home.

For the second year running the trip to Callan and Waterford has proven to be a tremendous success. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this experience, which I believe, has given each one of them a deeper understanding of what it means to be part of a Christian Brothers school. Until next year...

Mr T. Mc Caughey



Edmund's Shrine, Callan



Paying attention



Praying at Edmund's birth place



Room in which Edmund was born



18th Century Waterford



Room where Edmund died



Edmund's tomb



Praying at Edmund's tomb



Mount Sion



The story of Mount Sion



The presentation room



PROJECT ZAMBIA

REPORT OF ST. MARY'S CBGS ZAMBIA PROJECT (EASTER 2010)

By 'being' with local communities in the Developing World and reflecting on that experience in light of the Gospel message and the life of Edmund Rice, students will have opportunities to deepen their understanding of Christian faith, to grow in their own sense of God and to increase their commitment and capacity to work for real change in the world today. *Aims and guidelines of the edmund rice developing world programme*

'Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your god.'
[micah:6:8]

In December 2001, St. Mary's C.B.G.S. agreed to become part of the Christian Brothers' (now Edmund Rice) Developing World Immersion Programme. This initiative encourages schools in the Edmund Rice Network throughout Ireland to connect with Christian Brother communities and projects in the Developing World. There are now currently 53 schools participating in the Immersion Programme. This year our school representatives set off for Zambia, departing on Friday 26th of March and returning on Monday 5th of April. The group of nine students (eight from Year 13 and one from Year 14) was led by Dr. Donaldson and Mr. Joe McBurney. For the first time St. Mary's CBGS was accompanied by a group from Dominican College Fortwillaim. This group had their own leaders and its own immersion site. Both schools agreed to review the success of this collaboration on return.

Prior to Departure: Selection and Formation

'True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it is not haphazard and superficial. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring.'
(Martin Luther King)

It should be of no surprise that St. Mary's C.B.G.S. is widely recognised within the Edmund Rice Network - both in Ireland and internationally - as effectively setting the standard for all other immersion projects. Every aspect and detail of going on immersion is taken extremely seriously by St. Mary's. Guidelines and procedures are followed to the highest degree.



Eamon, Mark, Anthony and Gerard make new friends in the St. Lawrence's Centre.

The fact that St. Mary's is by far the most experienced school that participates in the Edmund Rice Developing World Programme - going every year and led both within the school and on the ground by people who have considerable experience and expertise including cultural awareness and sensitivity, local knowledge and recognition, strong links with the Christian Brothers and other missionary orders and partners and a clear understanding of expectations and outcomes - has led to increasing success both for the host communities in Zambia and St. Mary's. The immersion programme is seen as a whole school activity and the people are selected to go to Zambia as representatives of and ambassadors for the school. This is not a two week 'trip' but the culmination of years of interest, dedication and formation. Students were invited to apply for consideration in September 2009. The process was open and transparent. The criteria was agreed between the school's immersion leaders (Dr. Donaldson and Mr. Robinson) and relevant members of the SLT and Year Heads (Mrs Tohill, Ms. Convery and Mrs. Curran) and included academic progress, behaviour, mental and physical suitability, contribution to the life of the school and wider community and previous/current commitment to charity/outreach work. Successful students undertook an intensive process of formation

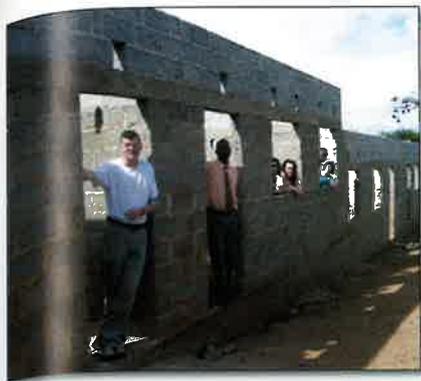
and preparation. This involved the very active involvement of students who had gone on immersion previously. The group was also visited by the Department Inspector Dr. Shevlin and his interest and kind words of encouragement were very well received by all. Students' progress - both academic and personal - was continually monitored, evaluated and reviewed.



Gerard with sleeping baby in Kabwata Orphanage.

Fundraising and other preparations

The next months constituted a frantic frenzy of fundraising (both inside and outside school) in preparation for departure. This was (and remains) crucial not simply for the



New school in Mapepe under construction

development of projects in the various mission sites but also for enabling the school's immersion programme to be a genuine whole school project. It also allows families, communities and parishes to participate in the project and share in the school's ethos. Health and safety are paramount to the success of the immersion project so far and this year was no exception. Drawing on the wealth of experience already gained by the school immersion leaders, all students received the fullest medical preparations recommended as well as receiving (along with parents) detailed medical advice. One extremely important addition to the school programme this year was the drawing up of clear and precise guidelines by Mr Sheerin. These proved to be extremely valuable and useful and have been recommended to others within the Edmund Rice Network for adoption.

Initial meetings were held with the staff of our partner school this year, Dominican College Fortwilliam, and the school immersion leaders to identify any potential difficulties that may occur on such a project. This was followed up by a final meeting held at St. Mary's and chaired by Mr Sheerin. In attendance were the parents of the St. Mary's students and the Dominican College group and their parents. This proved extremely successful and put all at ease with the proposed venture. After a very moving commissioning mass in the school's Oratory conducted with great dignity by Fr. Hickland, the group set off for Zambia on March 26th.

Journey and arrival: first steps in Zambia

The journey from Belfast to Lusaka (via Heathrow) is normally uneventful. This year proved a little more exciting. The BMI flight from Belfast City departed more than an hour late from Belfast and it was looking like the transfer from Terminal One to Terminal Five was going to be touch and go. Caoimhe McCutcheon, one of the Dominican College leaders, informed the BMI crew that

we were two school parties going to Zambia and that if we didn't make our flight connection then we looked forward to BMI putting us up in a hotel for three days until the next flight to Lusaka! Needless to say we were met by some Heathrow staff who (literally) raced us through the Terminal (and through a few 'short cuts' saying 'authorised staff only') to Terminal Five and our awaiting flight. After that little bit of excitement the 10 hour flight went very smoothly with our plane arriving safely in Lusaka International Airport as dawn broke. It was already evident that the rainy season had been severe indeed with signs of flooding everywhere. What would Misisi Township where we would be working be like? We'd soon find out.

A familiar face greeted us at the Airport. It was Sister Bernard, the Airport Chaplain, and one of the Congressional Leadership Team of the Handmaids of the Blessed Virgin Mary (HMBV). Over the past eight years we have built up a very good relationship with Sr. Bernard and she ushered our party through as 'Zambian Nationals'! Once bags were collected (mine



Flood water in Misisi.

left behind in London) and customs negotiated, we stepped out into an African sun - to be greeted by some of the leaders of our host communities. Friendships were re-established and introductions made - then off on Mr. Soko's waiting bus to the accommodation at Ku'Omboka Backpackers in Lusaka. On arrival we were delighted to find that the rooms were ready for immediate occupation in line with the arrangements agreed between the two schools and in accordance with the



Clearing ground for building work to begin.

guidelines. The girls from DCF were allocated a large dorm at the bottom of the hostel site with a teachers' room beside it. They had their own toilet block. The St. Mary's party was given rooms and washing/toilet facilities at the other end of the hostel. A joint meeting was called and the rules for behaviour, association, gathering spaces, times, safety, responsibility, etc as enshrined in the school's guidelines, were made very clear and, I am delighted to say, adhered to at all times. Time was then given for rest and unpacking.

The afternoon was spent in an induction and orientation process- in getting the students familiar with their bearings and used to the fact that they were in a Developing World country in which they were very much in the ethnic minority. A visit to the very busy and crowded Inter-City Bus Station and a walk towards Misisi Township certainly gave all the students an insight into what was going to be a part of their lives over the coming days. Brother Tom Kearney, an Australian Christian Brother in charge of the young African novices in Zambia, arrived in the evening to greet the students.

The daily routine of life on immersion

In so far as any day can be said to be typical in Africa every day brought us typically incredible experiences - full of surprises, joys, sorrows and challenges. Prior to departure it had been agreed by the two schools that they should operate in distinct and separate immersion sites. This would give each school a distinct sense of ownership and participation in a project and deeper form of partnership with a local host community.



Building flood defences at St. Catherine's.

Dominican College Fortwilliam linked with the community of Mapepe (a rural village identified by St. Mary's C.B.G.S. for PZ support in 2008) while St. Mary's were invited to work with the St. Catherine's Centre in Misisi (a long-term partner) and to visit and commence a new project at Airport

Farm on the outskirts of Lusaka and overseen by Sr. Bernard and the HMBVs. In addition to working in these various immersion sites and with the host communities, we visited the other communities St. Mary's supports including the St. Lawrence's Centre, prayed with the communities at mass in both St. Lawrence's and Misisi and benefited greatly from talks on various aspects of poverty by Brother Jacek, Peter Tembo, Angela Miyanda and Brother Tom Kearney. This latter educational aspect of immersion was particularly striking as it opened our eyes and minds to the issues of street children, homelessness, the growing orphan crisis, life in the slums and HIV/AIDS. We also got a tremendous insight into the work of the missions and the Church in Africa - a timely reminder indeed of another view of the Church. Typically we got up early (6.30am), had breakfast and prepared to go to the respective immersion sites. Transport was by hired minibuses (enhancing the authenticity of the cultural experience). On site we engaged with the local community in whatever tasks were required. Lunch was provided by the host community (with a small financial contribution from St. Mary's) and shared with the local workers - genuine simple African food as an essential part of the immersion experience. Engagement with the host community was of a very close and friendly nature - be it through working with local people, playing with the children or simply talking to locals. All encounters were fully in the spirit of immersion with the emphasis on solidarity, mutual recognition and affirmation and service. Return to the hostel was by minibus before sunset and a shower and change of clothes proved a welcome relief. Reflections are a vital part of immersion and our group met every evening to 'unpack' and share the events of the day and how each of us felt about where this process and

the Spirit is leading us and what stories, encounters and people touched us. These were deeply moving and precious sessions and it was a privilege to listen to each other as we opened our hearts to one another. It is not an exaggeration to say that we became a community during our stay in Zambia and these bonds have continued to develop on our return. There were also joint reflections when the two school groups felt that they wanted to listen to each other's stories. These too were very valuable and helped both schools to see that they were part of the same Edmund Rice Developing World Immersion Programme and that they shared a common spirituality and vision. The final couple of hours in the evenings were spent in social time (playing cards, games, music, etc.) and writing up journals.

Achievements/outcomes

The success in actual material terms of the school's outreach work in Zambia this year is noteworthy indeed. In addition to ongoing support throughout the year - including helping with the running costs of the various projects - all of our targets were met and, indeed, exceeded at Easter. These included:

- ✧ Flood defences and drainage at St. Catherine's vastly improved.
- ✧ Paving of entire school complex well under way.
- ✧ Paving placed at Kabwata Orphanage.
- ✧ Medical centre at Airport farm completed.
- ✧ Ground for maternity ward/HIV testing centre cleared and foundations dug.
- ✧ Funding handed over to the HMBV for income-generating programme.

St. Mary's CBGS - continuing the Edmund Rice vision

In many ways the school's immersion project is a very concrete way of living out the vision of Blessed Edmund. By going to the margins and witnessing to the Gospel values of love of one's neighbour and doing social justice, our school community is continuing the work of the Christian Brothers. Often I had to remind myself that our students are only 16 or 17 years of age and yet they threw themselves wholeheartedly into the tasks set for them - and often in the most challenging and difficult of circumstances. Walking into the middle of the St. Catherine's Centre in a flooded Misisi Township - and surrounded by feet of flood water, sewage and rubbish - would challenge any experienced aid worker. Yet the St. Mary's lads forged ahead working alongside the local community pumping out the water, building flood defences and laying down paving stones so that the children at the school would be able to come and go without having to wade through whatever the floods had brought. In addition, of course the most important role that the students involve themselves in is relational. Talking to local people, playing with the children and hearing the stories makes an immeasurable difference to the lives of all involved. Impressed as we all were with the physical achievements of our students in Misisi and on Airport Farm, my favourite memories come from watching the St. Mary's group playing with the orphans in Kabwata Orphanage or kicking a football with the street children at St. Lawrence's Home of Hope. These were children who had been abandoned by many in their own country and in the world in general - but not by the community that makes up St. Mary's C.B.G.S.

Dr A. Donaldson

Left: Old school in Mapepe.

Below: Clearing the ground for a HIV Testing centre at Airport Farm.





Football in the Orphanage.



'Ireland's and Zambia's finest workers' (St. Catherine's Centre, Misisi).

Religious Education Department

Here are a selection of poems written by some of our 8D students during their first few weeks in St. Mary's.

New start prayers

Dear God

Two weeks ago I was starting my new school. I was feeling a variety of emotions- scared, happy, excited. I was also feeling a little curious. But after two weeks I love going to school and meeting my friends every morning. The only thing I will ask of you God, is for your help and guidance throughout the next seven years. I am thankful for my classmates. They are all very kind and friendly. Thank you for my teachers who have helped me get used to St.Mary's. But most of all thank you for giving me the gift of intelligence that helped me get into this school.
Amen

Aaron Fitzpatrick 8D

Dear God,

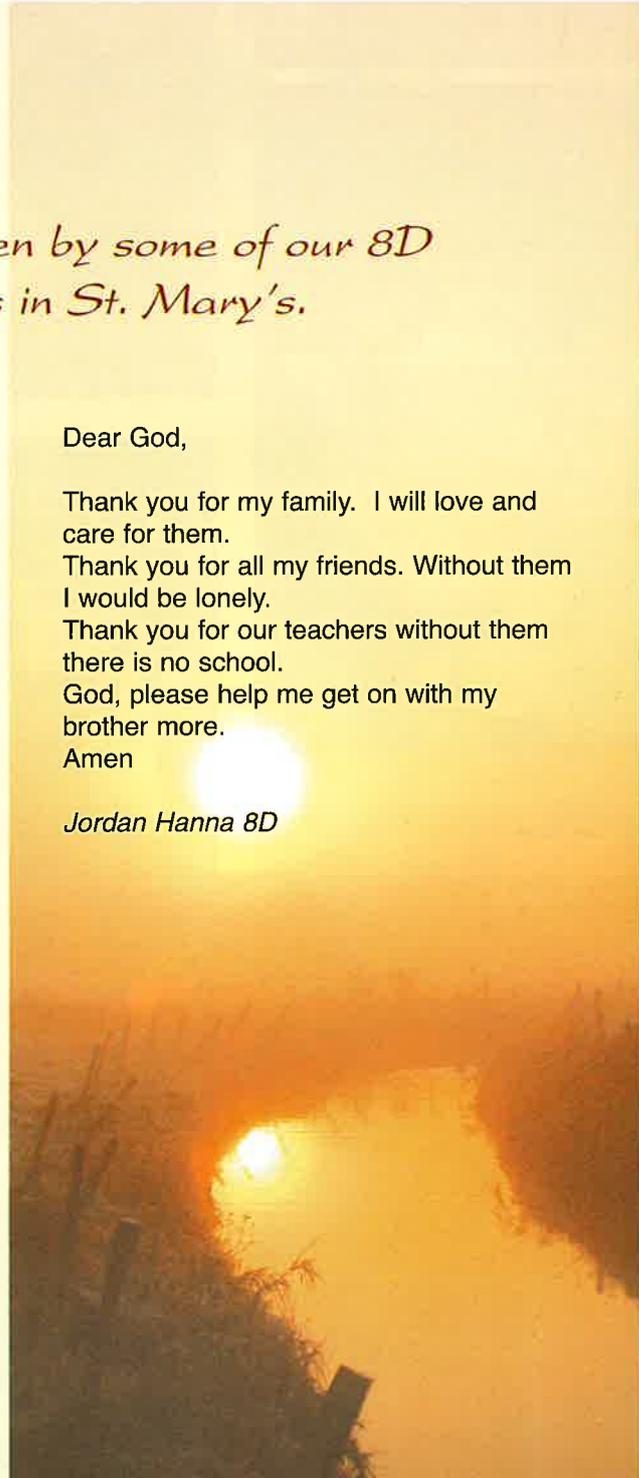
Guide us through the new school year. Let us be full of cheer from the classroom to the yard, from the gravel to the grass. Let all who walk through those gates have a blessed time at this school.
Amen

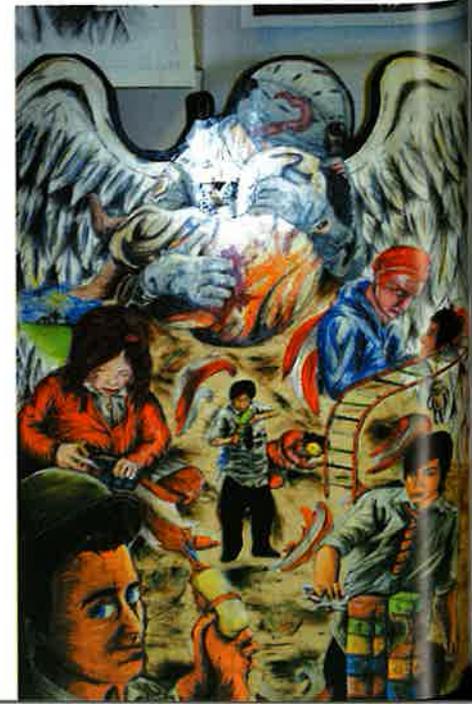
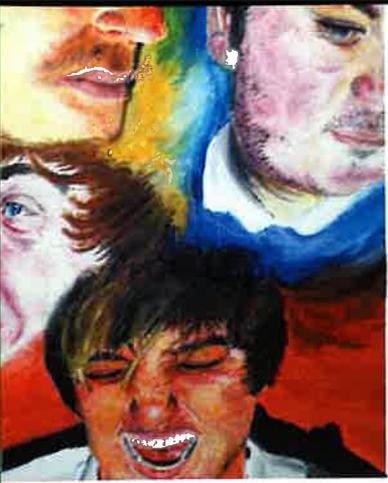
Paul Burns 8D

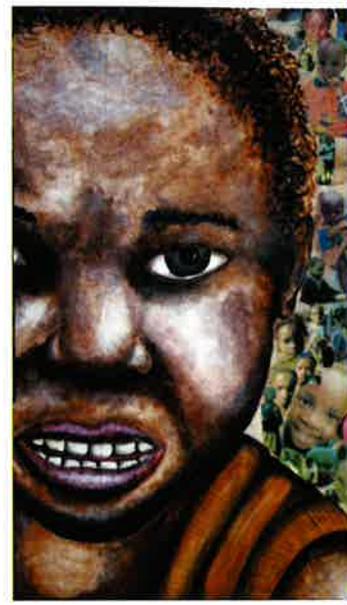
Dear God,

Thank you for my family. I will love and care for them. Thank you for all my friends. Without them I would be lonely. Thank you for our teachers without them there is no school. God, please help me get on with my brother more.
Amen

Jordan Hanna 8D







Art Department 2009-2010





MATHS CHALLENGE 2010

Junior Maths Challenge Winner
Jude Reilly 8D pictured opposite with his Maths teacher Ms Fyfe.

Jude was the only pupil in the school to receive a Gold Award in the competition. He not only out-scored everyone in Year 8 but also all the year 9 participants.

This year's UK Maths Intermediate Challenge at Intermediate Level winners were three year 11 students, Aaron Mullan, Kieran Moreland and Daniel O'Connor. The boys were delighted with their success as were their teachers.

Congratulations to all the boys and their teachers.

Maths Summer School @ QUB

Sixth Form Further Maths students, Elstine Padayatil and Declan Scullion, who participated in the Maths Summer School hosted by the School of Mathematics and Physics @ QUB. The course which includes residential accommodation at Queens Elms is aimed at A-level mathematics students who have expressed an interest in studying Maths at 3rd level.

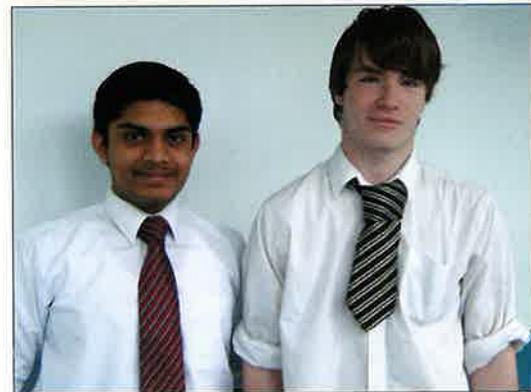
Junior Maths Challenge Winner Jude Reilly 8D with his Maths teacher Ms C. Fyfe.



UK Maths Intermediate Challenge (Intermediate Level) winners: Aaron Mullan (11C), Kieran Moreland (11D) and Daniel O'Connor (11H).



Elstine Padayatil and Declan Scullion, yr 13.



Open Night in the HOME-ECONOMICS Department





Our new Home Economics Department has now well and truly settled into the school curriculum and is taking its place alongside the other subjects for all key stage 3 pupils.

The room is now fully equipped for 20 pupils and has been furnished with every appliance and piece of equipment needed in a modern kitchen.

Last August we took the bold step of introducing the incoming year 8 pupils to cookery as part of their Edmund Rice Camp experience. It proved a real

winner with every pupil as they were able to create a pancake and smoothie for themselves while getting to know other new year 8 pupils and some of their new teachers. We have arranged to run the cookery camp again this August.

Last year the focus was firmly on year eight pupils

and getting the department up and running, this year's focus has been the year 9 pupils and development of more advanced skills such as baking, roasting, frying, steaming and boiling.

The year 9 pupils have just completed two years of the course and it is amazing to see the progress they have made already.

They are now creating main

courses and producing very decorative chocolate cakes and cupcakes with great ease.

Next year we open the course to years 8, 9 and 10 and hope to encourage some budding chefs waiters and hotel managers to put their natural talents to the test.

Mrs M. Farag



Year 9 pupils cook sausage, bean & potato pie.



Here is a selection of the recipes of recipes cooked by our year 9 students this year;

- One Pot Pasta
- Sausage, Bean and Potato Pie
- Mediterranean Meatballs
- Chilli Chicken Stir Fry
- Chocolate Cake/Cupcakes
- Banana Loaf

You might like to try our delicious Banana Loaf recipe.

Banana Loaf

Ingredients: (Makes two small loaves or one medium-sized loaf)

- 120g polyunsaturated margarine/butter
- 175g self-raising flour
- 120g caster sugar
- 1 medium sized, ripe banana (mashed)
- 2 small eggs
- 1/4 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. vanilla essence
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon

Method:

1. Cream margarine and sugar together
2. Beat in egg and fold in flour
3. Gently mix in mashed banana, vanilla essence and cinnamon
4. Place in a greased loaf tin
5. Bake in oven at 180°C or gas mark 4 for 30-40 mins
6. Leave to cool in tin

Dr M. Donnelly



Music Department

Summer Concert - 5th May 2010

Congratulations to all pupils who participated in the Annual Music Department Concert. It was a great success with over 100 participants performing on stage. The programme ranged from Handel to the Killers and the evening is testament to the wealth of talent we have in our pupils at St. Mary's. The boys received tumultuous applause and a standing ovation. The evening raised £750 for Project Zambia.

Well done all! Miss K. Porter



Members of the strings group rehearse.

Rehearsals Summer Concert 2010



The recorder group.

Two of the traditional group.



Music teacher Miss Porter takes a break.



The junior orchestra line up.



Summer Concert 2010

The junior orchestra perform their first choral piece.



The string ensemble and the brass section.



The recorder group and the traditional group.



The grand finale in which the choir and orchestra close the concert.



One soloist and the rock and pop band.



The orchestra perform one of their pieces.



The performers relax after their fantastic performances.



THINGS GOING ON IN THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT THIS YEAR!!!

Events in the History Department this year include:

Year 13 Students were narrowly beaten in the History Association Debating Competition at Sullivan Upper, Year 8 History Trip to Carrick Fergus Castle, Year 10 History Trip to Somme Heritage Centre,

Year 8 Norman Outreach Programme from the Navan Centre Armagh (Medieval weapon demonstrations, story telling, Drama consolidating Year 8 curriculum)

The launch of a student led History Newsletter 'History Bizz'

Revision classes for AS and GCSE students every lunchtime and on Mondays and Wednesdays after school at E33. A Trip to Berlin involving 32 History students and 4 Teachers will take place in October 2010. Once a term at lunchtime all Key Stage

Three classes compete in the History Department Quiz League for the Title of Best Class Team of their Year Group. The questions are based on lessons taught so it is ongoing revision in a fun way. Monthly quizzes are organised in class and the overall winners for the term represent their class in the Term league.

A school-wide History Society led by elected Senior Students which meets every Tuesday lunchtime in E33 was established this Year. Events for this society have included: History Hero Factor competition involving student peer assessment, Senior Student Judges, Student research and role play; WWI Trench life Connected Learning Competition: Art, English, R.E, History, I.T, categories Holocaust Memorial Week Connected Learning Competition- Science, History, RE, I.T, Maths. The Impact of St Patrick connected Learning Competition - History, R.E, Art, and Irish. Year 8 Castle Building Competition. All entrants receive certificates and winners receive HMV £5 Vouchers. KS3 students have been building a world War 1 replica trench which is part of our History Model Building Club which meets every Friday lunch time. The History Society during a week long Bun sale raised money for Project Zambia.

The History Department in the spirit of connected Learning and LLW also launched a Justice Group; the motto of this group is "all kids are exceptional". Again the Senior Students are elected Office Holders. This Group provided short questionnaires to all students in December and have used those responses along with the ERST charter, school mission statement and Human Rights Law to compile our own Student Charter of Rights which is nearing completion. This will be signed by our KS3 Class delegates at our Justice Group Charter Forum. The Charter will be submitted by the students to our Principal at the start of May for review and hopefully launched by Brother Gleeson at his next visit to the Justice Group. We had a great visit to the Justice Group in March by Brother Gleeson. This Charter will be a Historic document on display on the History Corridor. The Justice Group along with the History Society organised Holocaust Memorial week in the school which involved the Holocaust Connected Learning Competition and Class Assemblies for all Year Groups on 'What we can Learn from the Holocaust?' The Justice Group meets every Thursday lunchtime at E33.

The Justice Group launched a branch of Greenpeace to deal specifically with environmental Justice. Again Senior Students and this time also KS3 Students were elected to positions of responsibility. The society hopes to have achieved the allocation and collection service of Blue Bins in all Heads of Department Work Rooms for Paper recycling by the end of this Year. It is our intention to launch a branch of The World Wildlife Fund next Year with the focus of collectively adopting an endangered animal. The Greenpeace Group meets every Monday Lunchtime in E33. *Mrs A. McCann*

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Junior History Section



STUDENTS WHO MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL WEEK 2010

ART PRIZE AWARDED TO: CONOR KEHELLY 10D

POETRY PRIZE AWARDED TO: ANTHONY MCKENNA 10C

CLASS PRIZE AWARDED TO: 10C AND MRS CLEARY FOR THEIR WORK ON
NAZI DISTORTION OF SCIENCE

POETRY PRIZE AWARDED TO: MARTIN REID 10C

PRAYER PRIZE AWARDED TO: PATRICK CROSSAN 10G

ART PRIZE AWARDED TO: CONAL BRAZIER 10G

HISTORY SOCIETY A HUGE SUCCESS (Luke Kelly)

The History Society takes place every Thursday at lunchtime in E33 often involving up to 30 students. The aim of the society is to promote self confidence, a love of History, develop relationships between Year Groups and compliment the Curriculum. Membership is open to all Year Groups. Our activities / topics to date have included: the History of Halloween; researching our Family trees using the 1911 census; Historical Mystery solving; connected Learning Competitions (World War One Trench Life and Holocaust Memorial Day).Forthcoming activities include: Historical Hero X Factor Competition (Judged by Peer Assessment), a Castle Building competition, collective design of a World War One Trench, the creation of a mock Charter of Rights with the Justice Group based on whole school student consultation. New members are always welcome.





Drama

TRAINS, PLANES AND AUTOMOBILES

or TIRED IN LONDON...

The 9th of December saw the A2 Drama group break the record (probably) for the greatest distance travelled on a single school day trip. The destination was the Albany Theatre, Deptford in East London to watch two performances by the acclaimed theatrical troupe 'Splendid Productions.' Their unique interpretations of 'Dr Faustus' and 'Woyzeck' did not disappoint. We enjoyed both shows, but were generally more impressed by 'Dr Faustus', which brought a crusty old dramatic classic up to date in an inventive, witty and challenging version, incorporating music and physical theatre.

The unearthly hour of the flight necessitated getting up at 5am, but it meant that we had time to see some sights. We tried to offset our massive carbon footprint by doing lots of walking; specifically a stroll along the Thames, then across to the West End and Covent Garden. At the latter, we had lunch and took in some street theatre. A couple of the group, being students of the dramatic arts, couldn't resist getting

involved. In the case of Stephen Brennan, this meant holding a match in his mouth, while a street performer struck it alight with a yo yo! Stephen survived with his good looks intact, or at least his looks... In the West End, Mr Lavery had the opportunity to gaze up at his old college friend Omid Djalili's name in lights (he's starring in 'Oliver') and wonder what might have been...

Despite the hectic schedule, aside from the theatre, there was actually no real drama on the trip, since all the important train and plane connections were met and no one got lost or kidnapped. We have Mr Lavery and Miss Canavan to thank for this, and for giving us a day we'll truly remember.

Kevin Holland



The drama group with Miss Canavan, pictured in London.

Year 14 Prefects Year 14 Prefects Year 14 Prefects

This year saw the introduction of the Prefect system and the Student Leadership Team into the Senior School. In early September, thirty-two Year 14 Students were selected to take on various responsibilities during the school year. Prefects' duties ranged from day to day duties to attendance at key school events.

Some of the day to day activities the prefects carried out were: assisting with supervision, mentoring the Year 8 classes, helping to look after the Breakfast club etc.

The Prefects also made valuable contributions to the following events:

- ≈ GL Assessment - giving up their Saturday to ensure the smooth running of the test.
- ≈ Open nights - acting as guides for the prospective Year 8 students.
- ≈ 3G Corporate Dinner - a group of 10 Prefects were privileged to attend and help with ballots and greeting distinguished guests.

This is just a flavour of the many activities the prefects took part in and how they have enriched the life of the school this year. We thank all the prefects who worked diligently and who were rewarded with, what we hope will be an annual event, the Prefects' Lunch on June 28th 2010.

Miss O. Convery

Student
2009-20
Head B
Deputy
St. Ma



ICT Department



Bring It On- ICT Event

On Thursday 11th March a group of Year 11 & 12 ICT students attended a BringItOn event at Queen's University Belfast. The aim of the day was to raise awareness about the wide range of University Courses which are available and the fabulous and fulfilling careers which await Computing & ICT graduates. Our group joined students from numerous other schools across Northern Ireland and were then divided into 2 teams which were imaginatively named by Mr Armstrong. The teams competed in quizzes and activities throughout the day where, after leading for most of the day, Smarty's Encrypted came second out of all the schools in attendance.

Overall this was a very enjoyable and competitive day which definitely succeeded in motivating the attending students towards ICT & Computing courses.

Miss O. Convery



St Mary's Rare Bytes

*Front Row L-R: Mr D. Armstrong, James Reid, Padraig Scott, Peter Ferguson, Kate McMaster (event organiser)
Back Row L-R: Ryan Smyth, Daniel Cosgrove, Simon Campbell, Ben Hesketh, James Keenan*



Smarty's Encrypted

*Back Row L-R: Miss O. Convery, Nathan Callaghan, Conor Kettle, Steven McCourt, Ruairi Devine, Jack Small
Front Row L-R: Mark McAreavey, Anthony Shortt, JJ Loughran, Caolan Smith Kate McMaster (event organiser)*

Student Leadership Team

2009-2010

Head Boy: Jonathan Curran 14G

Deputy Head Boys: Niall Smith 14E, Gerard Torney 14F and Michael Crossan 14H.

St. Mary's Prefect Group 2010



Year 14 Prefects

Prefects 2009-2010

Allen Hayden	14A	Gibney John	14D
Dorris Colm	14A	Mc Neill Conor	14D
Hanna Anthony	14A	Brennan Stephen	14E
Maginn Stephen	14A	Lynagh Colum	14E
Rea Mark	14A	Moran Patrick	14E
Durkan Stephen	14B	Copeland Patrick	14F
Mc Cullagh Kevin	14B	Doherty Niall	14F
Rogers Oisín	14B	Flavin Enda	14F
Tracey Nicholas	14B	Kelly Ciaran	14F
Barkley Emmanuel	14C	Morgan Ryan	14F
Conlon Brendan	14C	Curran Jonathan	14G
Farrelly Ryan	14C	Kelly Dominic	14G
Gallagher John	14C	O'Hagan Steven	14G
Harte Anthony	14C	Connor Martin	14H
Lennon Conor	14C	Mc Gettigan Conal	14H
Best Daniel	14D		

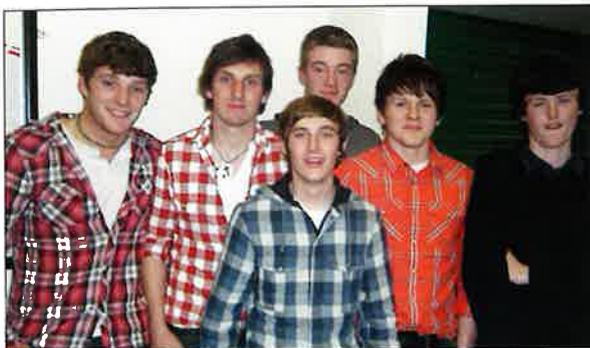
The Leavers' Mass The Year 14 Leavers' Mass

On Monday 10th May, the leavers' mass was celebrated in the school oratory. The Mass was attended by the year 14 students, their parents and school staff. For the boys, it is a time to reflect on their seven years in St. Mary's and the many things that they have learned there, both academic and non-academic. It also

prepares the boys for life beyond school as they progress on to third level education and employment. It is an occasion of mixed emotions as the boys remember happy times but experience the sadness of leaving an important chapter of their lives behind.

Afterwards, refreshments were served and there was an opportunity for students to recount stories, thank their teachers and for the parents to chat with staff.

We wish all our year 14 students every success in their examinations, their future careers and in their lives beyond St. Mary's. Dr M. Donnelly



The year 14 students at their leavers' mass.



Members of staff at the leavers' mass.



The Ski Trip 2010



The Ski Trip 2010

Artesina 2010

For the first time in years we assembled at a civilised hour at the International Airport to board our flight to Italy. We arrived to find the hotel surrounded by about four feet of snow in Artesina after a four hour trek across the Alps. The snow conditions were excellent and the view was totally amazing-a sight which heightened further our anticipation of the week's skiing. The sun blazed down on the first morning and set the scene for the week. Many of our skiers were surprised to find themselves suffering from heat exhaustion in the snow. However, in a short time everyone had acclimatized and the week's fun began!

The advanced teams disappeared at high speed each morning to conquer the wide range of slopes in this vast ski area. The other groups soon followed in their trail.

Among our après-ski activities was the trip to the nearby outdoor ice-skating park which most boys felt

should have been called a snow-skating park and spent more time throwing snowballs than skating. The second part of the evening allowed us to experience go-karting from the 1950s, where one-by-one the go-karts broke down. Yet another memorable evening's entertainment courtesy of Mr. McGettigan! He did redeem himself however by organising regular ice-football matches right outside the hotel interrupted only by regular visits from a team of Piste-Bashers. Happy Gilmore & the Titans also made another welcome journey to the snow covered slopes of Europe!



Miss Stitt tries out her skies.

Each evening there were ski races held on the beginners slopes before we ended the day and it must be noted that Peter Ferguson competed with great determination but was a victim of the Laws of Physics!

Preparations are already underway for next year and we are looking forward to with it with great enthusiasm. We wish the following senior students both long serving and new recruits, every success in their future endeavours: Hayden Allen, John Gibney, Michael Kane (whose fashion statements will be sorely missed), Stephen Maginn, Oisín Rogers (whose fashion statements will not be missed) & Gerard Torney. We thank them for their generous help, good company and craic.

Mrs G. Curran



Although all pupils made excellent progress with their skiing, the following skiers deserve special mention

- Best Overall Beginner - **Adam Perry**
- Best Beginner Group 1 - **James Mallon**
- Best Beginner Group 2 - **Aedan Marley**
- Best Intermediate Group 1 - **Peter Ferguson**
- Best Intermediate Group 2 - **Paul Barnes**
- Best Advanced Group 1 - **Seaghan Shannon**
- Best Advanced Group 2 - **Patrick McWilliams**
- Most Improved Skier - **Liam Jennings**
- Skier of the Week - **Ciaran Rice**



Sports Day 2010

This year's Sports Day was revamped and the Key Stage 3 pupils had an afternoon of qualifications for Finals Day at the International Athletics' Track at the Antrim Forum. The three qualification afternoons were fine, dry and sunny, but Finals Day was a scorcher, both on the track and off! The whole adventure was a success and the plan is to make it bigger and better next year.



GO!!!



The Results

Year 8

100m: 1st Conor Fitzpatrick (8D), 2nd Marcus Murphy (8D), 3rd Matthew Mooney (8B)

200m: 1st Conor Fitzpatrick (8D), 2nd Matthew Mooney (8B), 3rd Sean Bryans (8E)

400m: 1st Conor Fitzpatrick (8D), 2nd Matthew Mooney (8B), 3rd Ciaran Garland (8E)

Long Jump: 1st Calum Portis (8G), 2nd Ciaran Garland (8E), 3rd Chris Gallagher (8B)

High Jump: 1st Conor Fitzpatrick (8D), 2nd Jude Reilly (8D), 3rd Ciaran Garland (8E),

4x100m Relay: 1st 8E- Caolan Doran, Ciaran Garland, Sean Bryans, Mark Sykes

2nd 8D- Aaron Fitzsimons, Marcus Murphy, Conor Fitzpatrick, Che Allingham

3rd 8F- Matthew Gorman, Eamon Kelly, Aaron Martin, Caolan Hart

Class Award: 8D

Individual Award for Best Athlete in Year: Conor Fitzpatrick (8D)

Year 9

100m: 1st Karl McGeough (9A), 2nd Chris Doherty (9D), 3rd Conal Kearney (9E)

400m: 1st Chris Doherty (9D), 2nd Gerard Walsh (9B), 3rd Caoimhin Adams (9E)

800m: 1st Colm Crothers (9A), 2nd Aidan Foster (9C), 3rd Deaglan Murphy (9E)

Long Jump: 1st Conal Kearney (9E), 2nd Alex O'Neill (9D), 3rd Paidi Mervyn (9B)

High Jump: 1st Conal Kearney (9E), 2nd Conor Walsh (9B) 3rd Caolan Rea (9C)

4x100m Relay: 1st 9F- Pearse McCabe, Conor Kelly, Michael Gorman, Barry Chambers

2nd 9D- Chris Doherty, Corey Allen, Alex O'Neill, Paul Barnes

3rd 9E- Deaglan Murphy, Caoimhin Adams, Darius Conlon, Conal Kearney

Class Award: 9E

Individual Award for Best Athlete in Year: Conal Kearney (9E)

Year 10

100m: 1st James McMahon (10D), 2nd Conor Mallon (10A), 3rd Donnchadh Barr (10D)

400m: 1st Carl Toner (10G), 2nd James Cunningham (10F), 3rd Joseph Crangle (10D)

800m: 1st Aaron McDonald (10C), 2nd Ryan McAreavey (10E), 3rd Gary Coyle (10D)

Long Jump: 1st James Cunningham (10F), 2nd Damien Christian (10D),

3rd Liam McLarnon (10B)

High Jump: 1st Darren Weldon (10F), 2nd Liam McLarnon (10B), 3rd Liam McCabe (10E)

4x100m Relay: 1st 10A- Conor Mallon, David Moore, Niall Hughes, Ciaran Gallagher

2nd 10D- Joseph Crangle, James McMahon, Gary Coyle, Lewis McDonald

3rd 10C- Aaron McDonald, Ciaran McCabe, Darren McDonagh, Gary Murphy

Class Award: 10D

Individual Award for Best Athlete in Year: James McMahon (10D)



Winning Jump in High Jump Competition.



Waterpolo 2010

St. Mary's All Ireland Success in the Irish U-16 Cup

St. Mary's U-16 Water Polo Team won the All Ireland title in March 2010 to complete a clean sweep of Irish titles for the third time in the past five years.

In February, Mr. Watson and his assistant Ronan Mc Clean coached the St. Mary's team to comfortably qualify from the Ulster League.

With senior pupils Ciaran Mc Keever and Conor Mc Geown eligible for this competition, St. Mary's always stood a chance of reaching the final. However a 3-2 defeat to St. Malachy's in the group stages of the final served as a reminder to the boys that nothing in this competition was certain.

Following their defeat to St. Malachy's, St. Mary's regrouped and pushed on to secure their place in the final beating St. Joseph's, Cabra 14-3.

The final was to prove even more dramatic than the group stages as St. Mary's once more faced a confident St. Malachy's. St. Malachy's successfully took control of the game man-marking St. Mary's key players which allowed St. Malachy's to score two goals in quick succession. St. Mary's goal keeper Connell Morgan however managed to keep the goal deficit down with an unbelievable display in goal keeping demonstrating why he is the Irish keeper at this age level.

In the third quarter the game appeared to be out of St. Mary's reach until Ciaran Mc Keever finally managed to find some space and scored two goals and brought the game level at 2-2.

The final quarter would be won by whoever scored first. St. Mary's faced a deluge of St. Malachy's attacks until James Mc Comish, Tiernan Monaghan and Nathan Hanna broke to provide Ciaran Mc Keever and Paul Moran with much needed support up front. St. Mary's quickly took advantage of their numerical support and finished off a weary St. Malachy's 3-2 to lift the Irish title with less than a minute to go!



James Mc Comish intercepts another St. Malachy's shot.

Mr Watson gives half time talk.



Captian Ciaran Mc Keever recived the Irish U-16 Cup from Fiona Eakin.



Irish Champions!

A Record Breaking Decade

After ten successive years as Canada Trophy winners, St. Mary's Water Polo Squads at Under 19 & 16 concluded the decade with their third Grand Slam since 2000.

The Under 19 squad blasted their way to victory undefeated in the All Ireland competition held in November in Trinity College Dublin. The St. Mary's team included no less than six Irish players Matthew Hanna, Daniel Moore, Cathal Fitzpatrick, Ciaran Mc Keever and Connell Morgan along side regular team members Stephen Durkan, Conor Mc Geown, James Mc Comish, Tiernan Monaghan and Paul Moran.

With such a strong squad it was no surprise that eight players from the St. Mary's squad were later selected to represent Ulster in the Inter-provincial Championships held in Dublin in February.

More recently St. Mary's Under 19 squad lifted the Canada Trophy for the tenth successive year to secure their place in the record books. This record breaking team was originally under the stewardship of schools polo legend Jim Mc Clean who retired 3 years ago. The team has since been managed by Mark Watson and assistant coach Ronan Mc Clean who continues the family legacy and who played

in several successful Canada Trophy teams for St. Mary's

St. Mary's U-16 Water Polo Team also won the All Ireland and Ulster title in March 2010 to complete their sweep of titles with a dramatic win over local rivals St. Malachy's beating them 3-2 with less than a minute to go in the final.

Finally, thank you to Bro. Mc Kenna for all his help and support in recording the school's water polo teams success over the past year.

**IRISH SCHOOLS WATER POLO
NATIONAL SENIOR TOURNAMENT TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN 2ND DECEMBER 2009**

ULSTER CHAMPIONS ST MARY'S OUST LEINSTER CHAMPIONS ST AIDAN'S

School's Water polo was played in TCD for the first time. The venue proved very successful for all concerned. The group stages of the competition saw St Joseph's school for the deaf, Cabra exit the competition with losses to St Malachy's 3:1, St Aidan's 8:2 and Blackrock College 6:2.

The semi final line up saw two Belfast teams St. Malachy's play St. Mary's. The Mary's team was far too strong with a 7:1 lead at half time. The 2nd half saw them add 4 more goals to make the final score 11:1 Their chief scorers were Matthew Hanna and Cathal Fitzpatrick.

The 2nd semi final saw Leinster teams St Aidan's Whitehall and Blackrock College fight it out. This was a far closer affair with the Blackrock team having their best game in the tournament to date. Blackrock were the first to score with a goal from Alex Kinsella. A 2nd goal followed with a fine individual effort from Mark Murphy. Half time saw them in pole position 2:0 up. St Aidan's were in trouble but tactical changes by Coach Brian O Dwyer saw them free up Sean Kenna to get 2 fine scores and level the game. In the second half Rock went ahead with a fine move that ended up in the net from Diarmuid Sugrue. With 3 minutes to go and St. Aidan's in trouble Sean Kenna took the game by the scruff of the neck and produced a grand stand finish by scoring 2 fine goals to lead his team into the final. Blackrock were distraught because it was the nearest that they had come in years to making a National final. Coach Kevin Healy (known as lucky) was very proud of his players "so close, sport can be so cruel". St Aidan's win 4:3

The final proved to be a far less exciting affair with St Mary's proving to be the far better team on the day. St Aidan's never got going and were quickly down 4 goals at half time. Ciaran Mc Keever (2), Matthew Hanna (1) and Stephen Durkan (1). The 2nd half saw St Mary's forge ahead with an excellent display of water polo. Further goals from Hanna (3), Mc Keever (2) and Stephen Durkan (1). St Aidan's tried hard but never really got into the game. It was in the last minute they were rewarded with goals from Captain Sean Kenna and Fiacra O Nuallain. The end result was a 9:2 win for the Belfast team. Losing coach Brian O Dwyer paid tribute to a fine Ulster team "they played as a team, making sure that our big players were double marked. Also white 7 Matthew Hanna, had a great tournament for St. Mary's. We have no regrets; we had a great week getting to two finals". St Mary's coach had great praise for St. Aidan's "when we play these guys we know we are in a match. On their day St Aidan's are more of a match for any team." Final score 9:2 for St Mary's with the trophy going north this year.

INTERPROVINCIAL COMPETITION

The top players in Ulster and Leinster renewed their rivalry with an Interprovincial at both Junior and senior levels early in the New Year in Trinity College. St. Mary's was represented at the competition with no fewer than 8 players making the largest contribution to the Ulster panel.

Mr M. Watson



Back row: Ciaran Mc Keever, Cathal Fitzpatrick, Connell Morgan, Stephen Durkan, Daniel Moore,
Front row: Ronan Mc Clean (coach) James Mc Comish, Matthew Hanna, Tiernan Monaghan.



Under 16 Ulster Captain- Ciaran Mc Keever with the Leinster Captain.

St. Mary's Water Polo



Members of St. Mary's Under 19 & 16 squads
Back Row: Matthew Hanna, Ciaran Mc Keever, Stephen Durkan
Front Row: Daniel Moore, Conor Mc Geown, Cathal Fitzpatrick.



Basketball 2010

St Mary's enjoyed another Ulster title for the U16 team and the U19 team will always feel they could have had that winner's medal. Such a shame St. Patrick's Academy got in the way!!

St. Mary's acquired a new gym-aka St. Gerard's. This allowed Coach Marc to ensure St. Mary's were the fittest team in the schools' league. Think some of the seniors will never forget those runs after training!!!

Many thanks to Mr S. Crookes, Ms L McCaffrey and caretaking staff for their great facilities each Friday afternoon.

A special thanks to Coach Marc Mullholland, who has worked with St. Mary's for four years now. He has produced some excellent players for the future

and all the boys are very appreciative of his efforts. We wish him well in his future career.

Also to Jack Mc Garry, Brother Carlin and Mr P. Cunningham who helped in a variety of ways. Thanks to all parents for their continued support throughout the season.



BACK ROW:

Michael White, David Durkan, Peter Ferguson, Matthew Kerr

FRONT ROW: Daniel Cosgrove, James Brownlee (Captain), James Mallon, James Lynn

Missing: Conor Heath, John McDaniel, Ruan McCready.

The U16 team strolled to victory with the only true competition from local school Rathmore. They met Holy Cross, Strabane in the final and enjoyed a forty point victory. Key players for the U16 team included David Durkan who averages twenty points per

games. Captain James Brownlee led the team well. Conor Heath and James Mallon joined and will have great futures in the sport. The team overall reached a new level of understanding working as one cohesive unit allowing them to win the Ulster League final. Congratulations!

A Saturday trip to Lisnaskea saw the All Ireland quarter final play offs against St. Louis Kiltimagh and Colaiste Iognaid. St. Louis with their two International players gave St. Mary's a great game. Foul trouble saw us lose three key players in the final quarter and Mayo ran off to an easy victory. A big win over Colaiste Iognaid was not enough to see us go

through.

Thanks to Ms. G. Curran for refreshments in her home town.



U-19's Basketball

This team were searching for gold. For seven years, they were always so close. Silver medals fill their display cabinets. This was to be their year! The Ulster final will prove a talking point for their players in years to come. The Ulster final against rivals St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon was observed as a 'fantastic game' by supporters. No team led by more than two points but St. Mary's held the lead in the

dying seconds. A shot on the buzzer, two seconds to be precise saw Dungannon win by one point. Another silver medal!! Final score 33-32. Captain Emmet Dawson led the team in his final year. He is a true leader on and off the court. He coached weekly in Holy Trinity as part of the school mentoring scheme. Partnered with David Murray as starting centre, the two are a force to be reckoned with. The remaining starting five of

Adam O'Hare, Damien Mc Creanor and Chris Magee all had outstanding seasons for St. Mary's.

However it was the strength from the bench that saw one of the strongest 12 man teams to come out of St. Mary's for almost a decade. Notably Donal Brady's stepping up from Under 16 to 19 brought pace from the bench but it was players like Ryan Hyland and Kevin Milnes and their athleticism

that carried the team to new heights throughout this year's season.

A Season to be proud even if the medal wasn't gold and we wish those nine senior players good luck for the future.



Prizegiving





U19 final.



Team Talk!



BACK ROW:
David Murray, Chris Magee,
Peter Carson, Donal Brady,
Adam O'Hare, Donal Feeney

FRONT ROW:
Jamie Smyth, Emmet Dawson (Captain),
Mark Devlin, Ryan Hyland,
Damien McCreanor
Missing: K. Milnes, R. Darling.



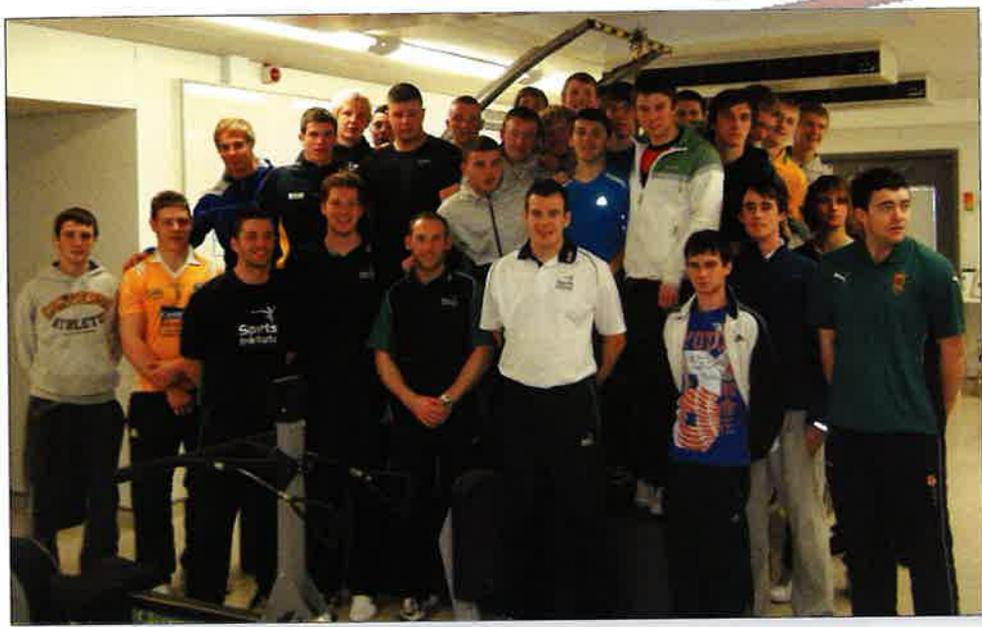
Captain Emmet Dawson with his Basketball Ireland Award for Young Referee 2009.



Year 14 Sports Studies students at SINI ☆ October 2009.

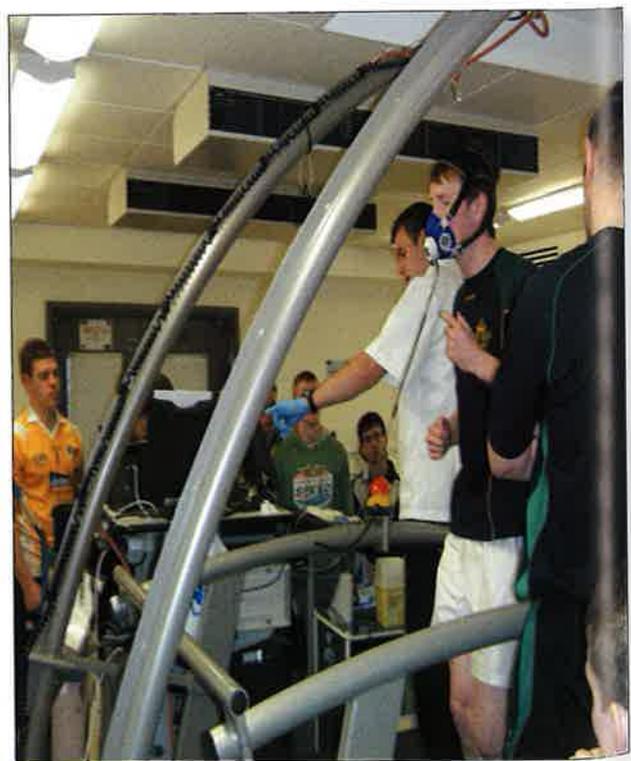
St Mary's PE Department took a field trip to the Sport Science labs at the Sports Institute for NI at Jordanstown. The year 14 students were there to witness physiological assessments and have a tour of the facility. The trip was organised through Dr Declan Gamble and Damien Martin, two past pupils of St Mary's. The testing and

demonstrations were conducted by Dr Richard McCann, another past pupil, Damien Martin and Andrew McClean, Antrim Senior Footballer. Martin Connor was our guinea pig and he was given a thorough physiological assessment. Martin's lactate threshold was tested, urine tested and put through a full VO₂max test.



Before we left there was a strength dynamometer that Karl Young just had to try! This machine gives a true test of strength and Karl pushed over 120kg, pulled just over 100kg and he pressed over 220kg.

Karl's attempts leave Ricky and Andy in disbelief.





Mr. Sheerin with the winning captains and their trophies at the award ceremony.



*The captains:
L-R: Ciaran Orchin, Domhnall Quinn, Ciaran Johnston*

St. Mary's CBGS was honoured at the BT Captains Awards Night on Friday 10th October and was able to claim its place as the most successful hurling School in Ulster for the school year 2008-2009. Scooping 3 out of a potential 5 trophies, St. Mary's was unlucky not to have another title in a closely run Forester's Cup final.

Mr. J. Sheerin, attending his first Ulster Colleges Awards ceremony as school Principal was impressed by the professionalism of the occasion and the honour bestowed upon the captains. In what was a very successful year in sport for the school, 2009/2010 is hoped to match if not surpass last year's achievement.



*Proud teachers, L-R
Mr. P Cunningham, Mr. D. Mc Neill and Mr. D. O'Neill.*

The winning Captains and their coaches are:
 McNamee Cup Captain - **Domhnall Quinn** - Coach (Mr. D. O'Neill)
 Gallagher Cup Captain - **Ciaran Johnston** - Coach (Mr. N. Ward)
 Br. Leonard Cup Captain - **Ciaran Orchin** - Coaches (Mr. R. Herron & Mr. D. McNeill)

Stockists of St Mary's C.B.S. Uniforms

LOUIS
BOYD

PARK CENTRE



Mr R. Herron Christopher Mc Guinness Stephen Shannon Dessie Mc Claine Michael Armstrong Mr J. Sheerin

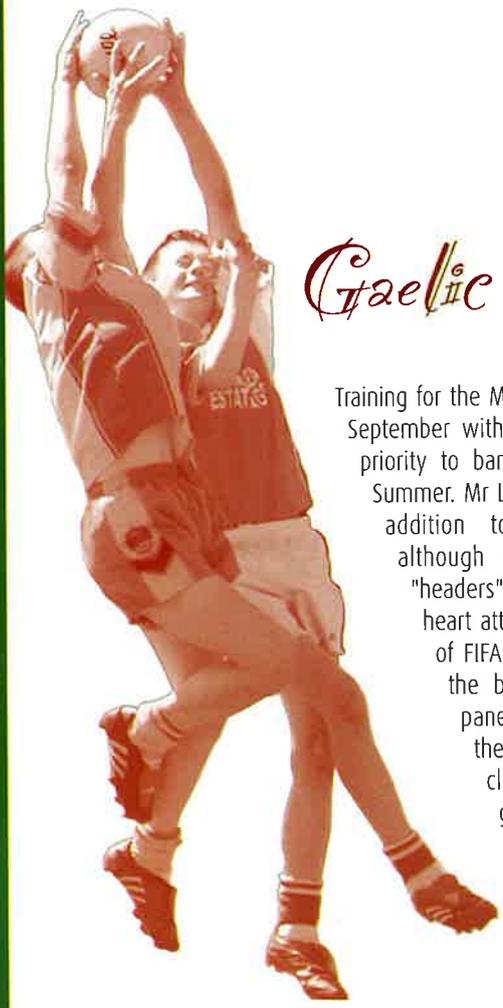
Ulster Colleges GAA All Stars 2009/2010

St. Mary's C.B.G.S. All Star winners 2009

Speed / Life Saving Championships

Form Teacher Mr. Gerry Quigg congratulates Matthew Cosgrove of 13C on his success in the national Speed / Life Saving championships held in Sheffield.

Matthew achieved Gold, Silver and Bronze in three different events.



Gaelic Football - MacRory Cup

Training for the MacRory started in early September with fitness sessions taking priority to banish the excesses of the Summer. Mr Lynch proved a valued new addition to the training schedule although a warm-up drill involving "headers" was enough to give Donagh a heart attack! Many of the drills were out of FIFA but you were allowed to handle the ball. When the hurlers joined the panel after their Mageen competition they were introduced to the need for clean boots being a prerequisite to getting on the team bus.

The panel trained hard and the new pupils in Year 13 were a great addition to the side, but St Mary's cause was not helped by being placed in a very hard side of the draw. On the 7th November, we renewed

our battle with Omagh CBS in Pearse Og's Armagh but this time they proved too strong and a last minute penalty saw them running out 3-15 to 1-4 winners. St Mary's scorers were D. Lynch 1-1, B. Bradley 0-2 and Diesel 0-1.

Next up were St Colman's featuring a host of Minors from Down and Armagh including Ross Mc Garry who blitzed us in the first half 0-2 to 2-8. However a sterling interval talk saw St Mary's play some great football and limit Newry to only 3 points in the second half, finishing the match 1-4 to 2-11. Scorers were Oisín Rogers 1-0 and Diesel 0-4.

Abbey were next, again in Downpatrick, a steadily improving St Mary's matched

them in the first half going in 2-3 to 1-7 down at the interval. The second half was an equally entertaining affair and Abbey ran out winners 3-4 to 1-13. The highlight of this match was Kiefer's solo run from nets right to the Abbey 45 and if Mc Guinness hadn't have been so greedy he would have scored that goal!! St Mary's scorers, B. Bradley 1-2, Oisin 1-0, Cricky 1-0, Blondie 0-1 and Diesel 0-1.

December brought St Patrick's to Aghagallon. The Armagh boys proved too hot to handle in the first half going in 4-6 to 0-5 and although St Mary's came more into the game in the second half St Pat's won 5-11 to 0-9. Again the scores came from Diesel 0-3, P. Fryers 0-2 and 0-1 from Cricky, Blondie, Oisin and K. Parker.

The last group match saw St Mary's take on St Eunan's at MUSA on a foggy and freezing night match. St Mary's adapted best to the Arctic conditions under lights and were comfortable 1-14 to 0-5 winners. Scorers, D Lynch 1-4, M. Rea and B. Bradley 0-3 each, Diesel 0-2 and 0-1 from M. Jordan and Oisin.

This win took St Mary's into a play-off match with St Pat's Dungannon last year's Hogan Cup winners at Lamh Dhearg. St Mary's showed their new found confidence and played some great ball and were unlucky to concede 3 rather easy frees to leave the match 0-5 each at half time. Although St Pat's upped their game in the second half they were awarded another 3 soft frees and ran out winners 0-12 to 0-9. St Mary's scorers, D. Lynch 0-5, Bradso 0-2, P. Fryers and Blondie 0-1 each.

Looking back although this year's campaign lacked the hype of last year, the whole panel can be proud of their work rate and no doubt it was a learning experience that will stand both St Mary's and their clubs to good stead in the future. The emergence of a new crop of year 13 and year 12 players in M. Hynes, T. Burns, C. Orchin, B. Bradley, Josh Mc Mullan, M. Jordan, M. Cummings and P. Mc Bride bodes well for St Mary's next year.

Dr T. Shannon





Hurling Leonard Cup Final 2010

St Mary's CBGS Belfast 5-15 v 1-3 St Patrick's College Maghera

St Mary's CBGS retained the Leonard Cup at St Paul's GAC in Belfast on the 14th September. St Mary's dominated from the throw in and had fine performances all over the pitch. Michael Bradley in midfield stamped his authority and class on the game and corner forward and chief scorer Conor Johnston was the major threat.

The defence performed admirably and conceded the goal late on in the game. Vice captain Stephen Rooney marshalled his full back line, while captain Ciaran Johnston at centre half made sure that his brother and the entire forward line had plenty of possession. St Pat's never made any of the exchanges easy and showed excellent hurling to make it an entertaining occasion. The match was refereed by Armagh intercounty hurling referee John Devlin, who allowed

the finer arts of Hurling to be performed.

For many of the players it was a double success of either Leonard Cup, Forrester's or Gallagher Cup medals, however Conor Johnston has collected all three medals this year with the honour of man of the match performances in the McNamee and Gallagher Cup Finals. He may even achieve this honour also in the Leonard Cup Final.

THE SIMMARIAN 2010



Year 8

Hurling Blitz

Diary of the Year in Photos



AUGUST: Maths summer school.



SEPTEMBER: French Breakfast.



OCTOBER: Opportunity Europe fair.



NOVEMBER: Year 10 pupils at the Taty factory.



DECEMBER: Waterpolo champions.



JANUARY: Open Night, Science department



FEBRUARY: Careers Convention.

MARCH: Ski Trip.



APRIL: Corporate Dinner.



MAY: Leavers' Mass.

JUNE: ER Awards.





FUN DAY 2010







St. Mary's Christian Brothers' Grammar School

Autographs: Class of 2010

THE SIMMARIAN 2010



Class 9A

Form Tutor: Mr P. Gormley

Back Row (L-R)

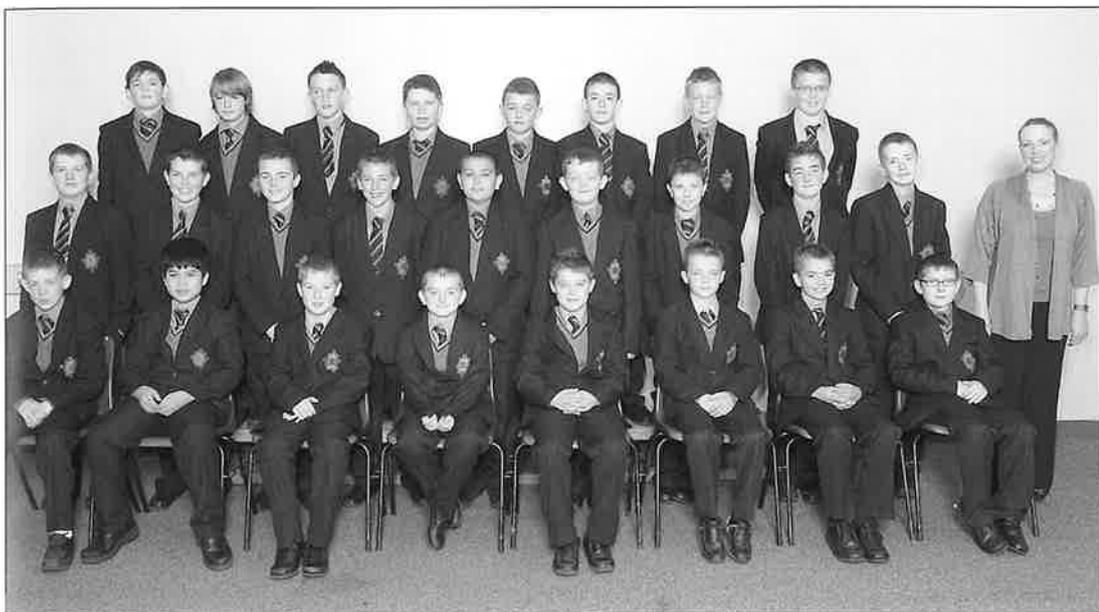
Gary Keenan, Connor Ferris, David Flanagan, Paedar Roberts, Karl McGeough, Mark Nolan, Conall Fitzsimmons and Aidan Hamill.

Middle Row (L-R)

Eamon Rosbotham, Donal Stafford, Christopher Megahey, Jonathan McCloskey, Colm McNally, Aidan Lunney, Peter Keogh, Matthew McGowan, Aidan Gittens and Liam Reynolds.

Front Row (L-R)

Gerard McCaffrey, Liam Jennings, Stephen Grant, Gerard Dutton, Jay Smith, Kyle Kearns, Conor Johnston and Colm Crothers.



Class 9B

Form Tutor: Miss K. Porter

Back Row (L-R)

Gerard Walsh, Cronan Rodgers, Páidí Mervyn, Patrick O'Halloran, Robert Bryson, Sean Sharkey, Sean Maher and Conall Graham.

Middle Row (L-R)

Jack Hopkins, Darragh McCollin, Patrick Doherty, Sean Maguire, Christopher Burns, Daniel Hughes, Patrick Turley and Ultan Murray.

Front Row (L-R)

Kristian McAllister, Renzie Tagalog, Rian Greene, Conor Healy, Niall Hawkins, Christopher McCarry, Emmet Loughran and Liam McShane.



Class 9C

Form Tutor: Miss F. Ní Mhearain

Back Row (L-R)

Aidan Foster, Brandon Gibson, Kevin Connolly, Stephen Hyslop, Sean Paul Rice, Jonathan Clarke, Michael Murray and Paul Mullen.

Middle Row (L-R)

Gabriel Hill-Lavery, Gary McPolin, Adam Guilar, Charlie Harper, Ryan Santos, Christopher Whinnery, Basil Eldho, Conall McKenna and Conor McCann.

Front Row (L-R)

David Malone, Caolan Rea, Thomas Cassidy, Christopher Heaney, Gerard Doran, Tony Clarke, Junior McKee and Colm McCusker.

Class 9D

Form Tutor: Mrs B. Breen

Back Row (L-R)
 Sean Dunlea, Corey Allen,
 Brian Kennedy, Christopher Doherty,
 Jack McAllister, Cormac McKernan,
 James Rooney, Matthew Murray
 and Conor Murphy.

Middle Row (L-R)
 Christopher Taggart, Shane Travers,
 Niall O'Hanlon, Alex O'Neill,
 Connor Walsh, Gerard McAlinney,
 Pierce Parker, Christopher Megaw
 and Jamie Forsythe.

Front Row (L-R)
 Tony Mervyan, Paul Barnes,
 Manus Kearney, Micheal Johnston,
 Conor Smyth, Ciaran Fennell,
 Patrick Golden and Ryan Diamond.



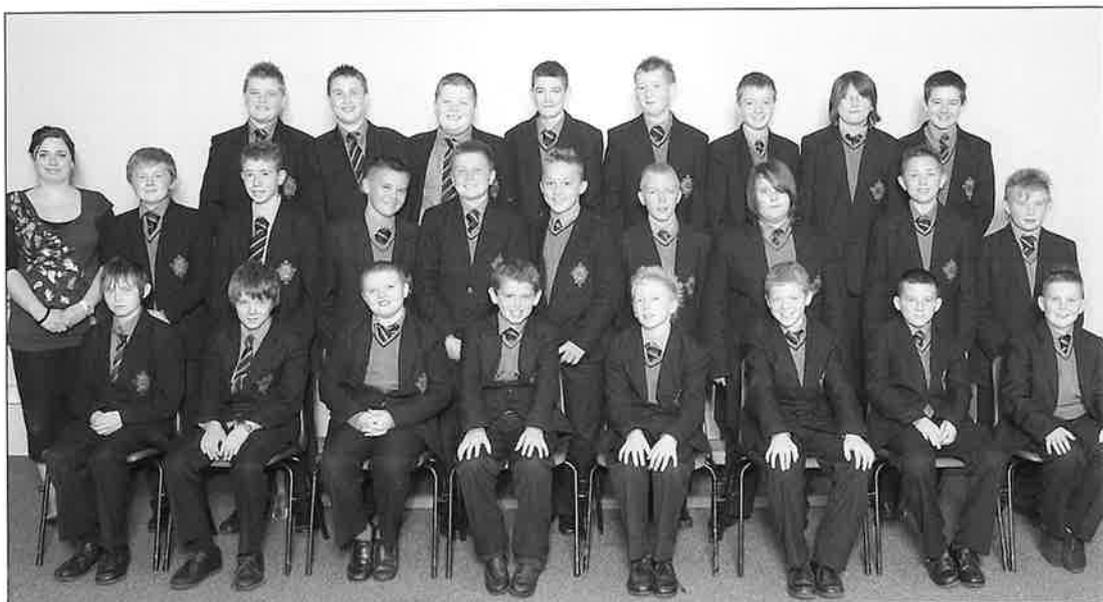
Class 9E

Form Tutor: Miss S. L. King

Back Row (L-R)
 Eoin Connolly, Lee Doherty,
 Niall Kavanagh, Darius Conlon,
 Kevin McMahon, Sean McDonnell,
 Sean McGlone and Joseph Walsh.

Middle Row (L-R)
 Eoin Bradley, Liam Lavery,
 Caoimhin Adams, Jordan McAllister,
 Ciaran Cullen, Deaglan Murphy,
 Darragh Ginley, James Coogan
 and Mark Chernek.

Front Row (L-R)
 Christopher Curran, Ciaran McCartan,
 Daniel Donnelly, Connor Murphy,
 Emmet Maginn, Michael Monaghan,
 Shane Magee and Colm Mag Uidhir.



Class 9F

Form Tutor: Miss C. Fyfe

Back Row (L-R)
 Michael Gorman, Anton Sharkey,
 Aaron Bellew, Michael McCourt,
 Adam Donaghy, David Magee,
 Brenton McCurry
 and Daniel Varndell.

Middle Row (L-R)
 Lorcan Magee, Conor Kelly,
 Barry Chambers, Pearse McCabe,
 Mark Christie, Ryan Brown
 and Jonathan Cairns.

Front Row (L-R)
 Sean McDonald, Dara Rocks,
 Sean Quinn, Eamon McFadden,
 Ryan Haughey, Febin Abraham,
 Ryan Smyth and Matthew Kane.





Class 9G
Form Tutor: Mrs. M. Jennings

Back Row (L-R)
Sean McCaffrey, Ciaran Barkley,
Conor Murray, Declan Lees
and Lewis Guy.

Middle Row (L-R)
Kent Padayhag, Gerard McGleave,
Gregory McGreevy, Brendan Corr,
Nathan Hanna, Ronan Kelly
and Padraic Woods.

Front Row (L-R)
Ben Crudden, Daniel Fitzsimmons,
Darren O'Neill, Sean Floyd,
James Kennedy, Declan Bingham,
Conall Murray and Matthew Daly.



Class 10A
Form Tutor: Mr S. Moyes

Back Row (L-R)
Nathan Crudden, Gary McAnovy,
Ciaran Gallagher, Peter Lynch,
Kevin Auld, Michael Kennedy,
James Sloan and Brian Gibney.

Middle Row (L-R)
Ross McKinney, Declan Russell,
David Moore, Sean Murphy,
Niall Hughes, Peter Lynch,
Conor Mallon and James Johnstone.

Front Row (L-R)
Calin Allingham, Paul McCourt,
Ryan McFall, Richard McDonald,
Adam Perry, Martin McCauley,
Tiarnan Healey and Thomas Milnes.



Class 10B
Form Tutor: Mr M. Leydon

Back Row (L-R)
Joshua McKenna, James Kennedy,
Saul Pelan, Paul Russell,
Cathal O'Neill, Shay McStravick,
Christopher Sutcu, Jonathan Denvir.

Middle Row (L-R)
James Irtwin, Ruairi Dillon,
Neil Armstrong, Garrett Mulholland,
David McGoldrick, John McCaffrey,
Sean McCallum.

Front Row (L-R)
Fergal Green, Declan Brown,
Daniel Boyd, Liam McLarnon,
Caolan Quinn.



Class 10C

Form Tutor: Mrs C. Carson

Back Row (L-R)
Crawford McAree, Patrick O'Connor, Anthony McKenna, Aaron McDonald, Ryan McNally and Sean O'Neill.

Middle Row (L-R)
Eamonn O'Toole, Rory McManus, Robert Murtagh, Sean Owens, Darren McDonagh, Gary Murphy, Thomas McGoran, Christopher Mervyn, and Aaron Murphy.

Front Row (L-R)
Sean Ryan Quinn, Martin Reid, Conor O'Hare, Connor Murdock, Jonathan Rooney, Ciaran McCabe, Kieron McAuley and Michael Agnew.



Class 10D

Form Tutor: Mr T. Mc Caughey

Back Row (L-R)
Conor Floyd, Ciaran Churchill, Ciaran Jordan, Damian Christian, Donnchadh Barr, Nathan Maginn and Stephen Garland.

Middle Row (L-R)
Maitiu Deane, James McMahon, Paul Devlin, Gary Coyle, Lewis McDonald, Jordan Adams, Conor Dodds, Donal Carolan and John Monahan.

Front Row (L-R)
Conor Kelly, Matthew McBride, Andrew Murray, Brownross Kudtilil, Juan Gonzales, Aaron Fairley, Caoilin Kearns and Gerard McGonigle.



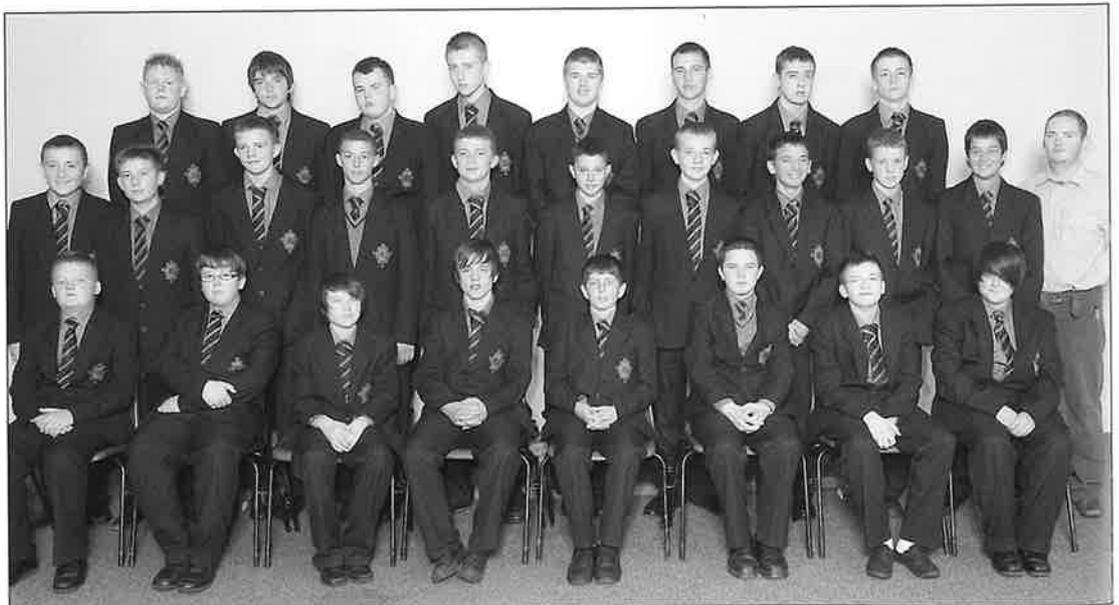
Class 10E

Form Tutor: Mr D. O'Neill

Back Row (L-R)
Ruairi McGrath, Joseph Magee, Nathan Lavery, Liam McCabe, Conor Wilson, Anthony Allsopp, Christopher McLaughlin and Adam Christian.

Middle Row (L-R)
Caolán Park, Cormac Bradley, Ciaran Kelly, Conor Kerr, Conor Boyle, Ryan McAreevey, Diarmuid Hillock, Micheál Hamilton, Kevin Madden and Eamonn Shannon.

Front Row (L-R)
Ryan Daly, James Stott, Brendan Loughran, Seaghán Shannon, Conor McGeough, Curtis Berry, Niall Fallon and Concobhar McBride.





Class 10F

Form Tutor: Mrs M. McGettigan

Back Row (L-R)

David Steenson, Adam Quinn, Brendan Quinn, Pól Holmes, Donal McCartney, Colm McKenna, Danny Collins and Keelan Brady.

Middle Row (L-R)

Stephen Healy, Deaglan Cullen, Darren Weldon, Patrick Kilifin, Daniel McArdle, Conor Hughes, Barry Lawlor, Matthew Watson, James Cunningham and Conor McCorry.

Front Row (L-R)

Kieran Sangster, Martin Prior, David Gallagher, Callum Shiels, Patrick Robinson, Kevin Rice, Kieran Power and Aaron Harbinson.



Class 10G

Form Tutor: Mr S. Kelly

Back Row (L-R)

Anthony Green, Gareth Hill, Callum McVeigh, Robert Howell and Jack Boyle.

Middle Row (L-R)

Sean Magennis, Caoimhin Hanna, Malachy Nolan, Anthony Robinson, Carl Toner and Proinsias Malocco.

Front Row (L-R)

Conor Doran, Darren Pollock, Steven Gaskin, Darren Brinney, Patrick Crossan, Cormach McKenna and Matthew Fitzpatrick.



Class 11A

Form Tutor: Mr P. Cunningham

Back Row (L-R)

Ruairi Wilson, Niall Devlin, Daniel Sloan, John Mallon, Patrick McKee and Corey Smith.

Middle Row (L-R)

Daniel Doherty, Conor Loughran, Brendan Bennett, Kieran Gallagher, Pdraig Walsh and James Farrell.

Front Row (L-R)

Aaron Garland, David Meehan, Hugh O'Halloran, Adam Jones, Connor McCreanor, Gavin Ritchie and Sean Campbell.

Absent: Cris Donegan.



Class 11B

Form Tutor: Mr S. Mc Goldrick

Back Row (L-R)

Conor Browning,
Ruadhan MacAinmhire,
Michael Vernon, Ciaran MacAllister,
Chris Larkin, David O'Neill
and James Carson.

Middle Row (L-R)

Conor O'Rawe, John Elliman,
Pearse McDermott, Dealgan Smart,
Darren McCann, Michael Anderson
and Dylan Neill.

Front Row (L-R)

Conor McGuigan, Chris King,
Caolan Malone, Stephen Hughes,
Paul McGreevy, Eoin Connolly
Gary Farrelly and David Mason.

Absent: Conall Lynagh,
Daniel McBride.



Class 11C

Form Tutor: Miss K. Lavery

Back Row (L-R)

James Mallon, Darragh Murphy,
Seamus O'Kane, Mark Scott,
Ryan McLoughlin, Patrick McQuillan,
Ciaran Murdock
and Lorcan McKeown.

Middle Row (L-R)

Aaron Mullan, Gerard McKiernan,
Brendan McKiernan, Donal Rooney,
Tomas O'Ciarain,
Caolan O Coisneachain,
Ciaran McNulty
and Tiernan Monaghan.

Front Row (L-R)

Brendan Wilkinson, Ethan Tolan,
Peter Maguire, Pdraig Scott,
Stiofan Trainor, James Smyth,
Aidan Orchin and Joseph Robinson.



Class 11D

Form Tutor: Miss I. Lawless

Back Row (L-R)

Simon Campbell, Conor Heath,
Luke Doyle, Stephen Edgar,
Colm Smyth, Christopher Keenan,
Mark Lyons and Michael McCabe.

Middle Row (L-R)

James Lynn, Peter Ferguson,
Mark Cunningham, Matthew Kerr,
Kieran Moreland, Ciaran Doherty,
Aidan Murphy, John Erskine
and Ruan McCready.

Front Row (L-R)

David McCabe, James McComish,
Pdraig Brady, Sean McIlhatton,
Curtis Millen, John McDaniel,
Bibinross Kudhill
and Caoimhin Cullen-O'Neill.





Class 11E
Form Tutor: Mrs M. Murray

Back Row (L-R)
Caoimhin Munster, John Keenan,
John Meli, Mark Fitzsimmons,
Raymond McGeough, Pearse Vallely
and Stephen Toner.

Front Row (L-R)
Sean Donnelly, Gerard Joyce,
Rian McEvoy, Anthony Kelly,
James McCord, Chris Coogan
and Matthew Rainey.



Class 11F
Form Tutor: Miss C. Stitt

Back Row (L-R)
Niall Fitzgerald, Conal Murphy,
David Durkan, Anthony Vardell,
Aidan Churchill and Paul Bell.

Middle Row (L-R)
Anthony O'Neill, Benjamin Teague,
Michael Ryan, Daniel Reid,
Martin Sloan, Ciaran Doherty
and Martin O'Prey.

Front Row (L-R)
Joseph McManus, Patrick Graham,
Gavin Matthews, Chris Boyle,
Daniel Rogan, Matthew Brennan
and Eoghan Curley.



Class 11G
Form Tutor: Dr E. McCaffrey

Back Row (L-R)
Edward O'Neill, Kevin Taggart,
G. McMurrough, Ryan McKee
and Daniel McArdle.

Middle Row (L-R)
Christopher Devine, James Short,
Christopher McComish,
Domnhall Moran, Mark Napier
and Joseph Fitzsimmons.

Front Row (L-R)
Patrick Meenan, Gary McGuigan,
Niall McDonald, Emmett Fallon,
Piers Webb, Luke Kelly
and Seamus O'Neill.

Class 11H

Form Tutor: Mr A. Smyth

Back Row (L-R):
Kevin Connolly, Gary Mulhall,
Thomas Mulligan, Michael Brady,
Daniel O'Connor and Aidan Cregan.

Middle Row (L-R)
Christopher O'Connor,
John McCann, Sam Boyle,
Niall Adams, Ben Hesketh
and Aidan Campbell.

Front Row (L-R)
Daniel Winchester, Conor Smyth,
Conor O'Donnell, Conor Devlin,
Aidan Fitzpatrick, Steven Morris
and Conor O'Kane.



Class 12A

Form Tutor: Mr N. Ward

Back Row (L-R):
Daragh McGuinness,
Jonathan Moyna, David Nelson,
Joseph Cunningham, Conor McGrath,
Niall Quinn and Shane McGarry.

Middle Row (L-R)
Ciaran Rooney, Ciaran Stewart,
Patrick Kelly, Mark McAreevey,
James Reid, Ruairi Boyle,
Donal Brady and Conor McCaffrey.

Front Row (L-R)
Paul Manson, David Wallace,
Caolan Smith, Felix Hagan,
Conor Toner, Ryan Clarke,
Thomas Manning
and Conal Sheppard.



Class 12B

Form Tutor: Mr C. McEvoy

Back Row (L-R):
Aidan McGarrity, Niall Lynagh,
Mark Torbitt, Stephen Rooney,
Jody Traynor, Ryan McBride
and Ryan Smyth.

Middle Row (L-R)
Conor Connolly, Paul Robinson, Lee
Sheridan, Conor Rainey, Patrick
McBride, Ciaran Kerr, Alan Hunter,
and Michael White .

Front Row (L-R)
Kevin Murtagh, Kevin Quinn,
Brendan McDonagh,
Daniel McKernan, Brian O'Neill,
Piers Cormican, Aidan Grant
and Louis Donnelly.

Absent: Andrew Reid





Class 12C

Form Tutor: Mr V. Murphy

Back Row (L-R):

Liam McLaverty,
Cormac Livingstone, Michael Dudley,
Daniel Clarke, Colm McKeown
and Michael O'Neill.

Middle Row (L-R)

Sean Maguire, Ciaran Adams,
Stephen Rea, Christopher McGuigan,
Lee Taylor and Conleth Hendron.

Front Row (L-R)

Conor Donnelly, Fintan McBride,
Daryl Randall, Nathan Moins,
Eammon Parker, Brendan Donaghy
and Daniel Barr.

Absent: Thomas Thibodeau.



Class 12D

Form Tutor: Mr P. Laverty

Back Row (L-R):

Connell Morgan, Mark McCaffrey,
Conor O'Callaghan,
Michael Maxwell
and Jackson McGreevy.

Middle Row (L-R)

Brendan Clarke, James Keenan,
Jack Dorrian, Cormac Flannery,
Thomas Gourley, Neil Farquharson
and Stephen Courtney.

Front Row (L-R)

Nathan Hanley, Jude Fallon,
Ryan Parker, Stephen Larkin,
Gerard Kelly, Patrick Smith
and Matthew Hill.



Class 12E

Form Tutor: Mr P. Tully

Back Row (L-R):

Carl Davis, Eamon Smith,
Conor Moore, Brendan Haughey
and Declan McCullough.

Middle Row (L-R)

Michael McCarthy,
Pearse McKenna,
James Brownlee, Eamonn Stitt,
Daniel Cosgrove
and Gerard McShane.

Front Row (L-R)

Joseph McCall, Aodhan Doherty,
John-James Loughran,
Anthony Shortt,
Eamonn McNally, Darren Toner
and Niall Connolly.

Class 12F

Form Tutor: Miss A. M. Doherty

Back Row (L-R):

Thomas McCrory, Kyle Brown, James Hopkins, Eoin McCarry, Mark Cummings, Brendan Dougan and Daniel Smyth.

Middle Row (L-R)

Marc Deighan, Declan McCavana, Ronan Campbell, Matthew Kearney, Jack McCrea, Gerard Roberts and Gerard McCullough.

Front Row (L-R)

Anthony Harte, James Donnan, Kevin Finnegan, Niall McMahon, Stephen Carson, David Fraser, Sean Fox and Nathaniel Daye.



Class 12G

Form Tutor: Mr B. McComb

BackRow (L-R):

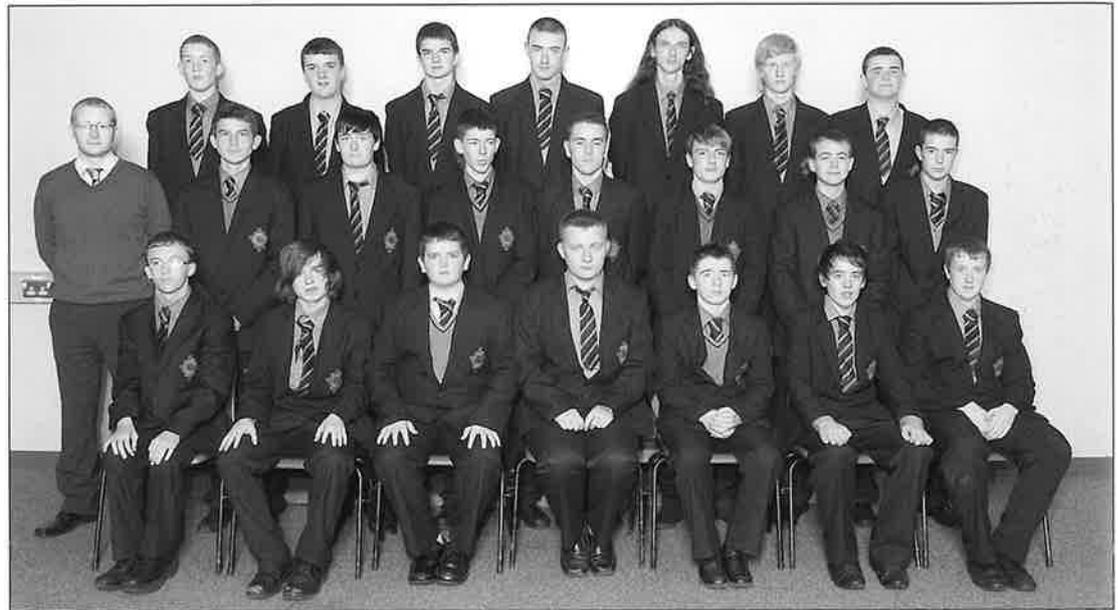
Sean McGivern, James Keenan, Stephen McCullough, John Nesbitt, Patrick McWilliams, Jack McKenna and Gerard O'Prey

Middle Row (L-R)

Michael Bradley, Connor Brennan, Cormac Smyth, Thomas McKeown, Matthew Cassidy, Padraig Holmes and Gerard Fegan

front Row (L-R)

Conor Jackson, Declan Ferguson, Brian Donnelly, Eoin Brady, Gareth Walker, Connor Rooney and Gareth Patterson



Class 12H

Form Tutor: Mr T. Murphy

BackRow (L-R):

Ruairi Devine, Nathan Callaghan, Conor Kettle, John Lynn and Jonathon O'Donnell.

Middle Row (L-R)

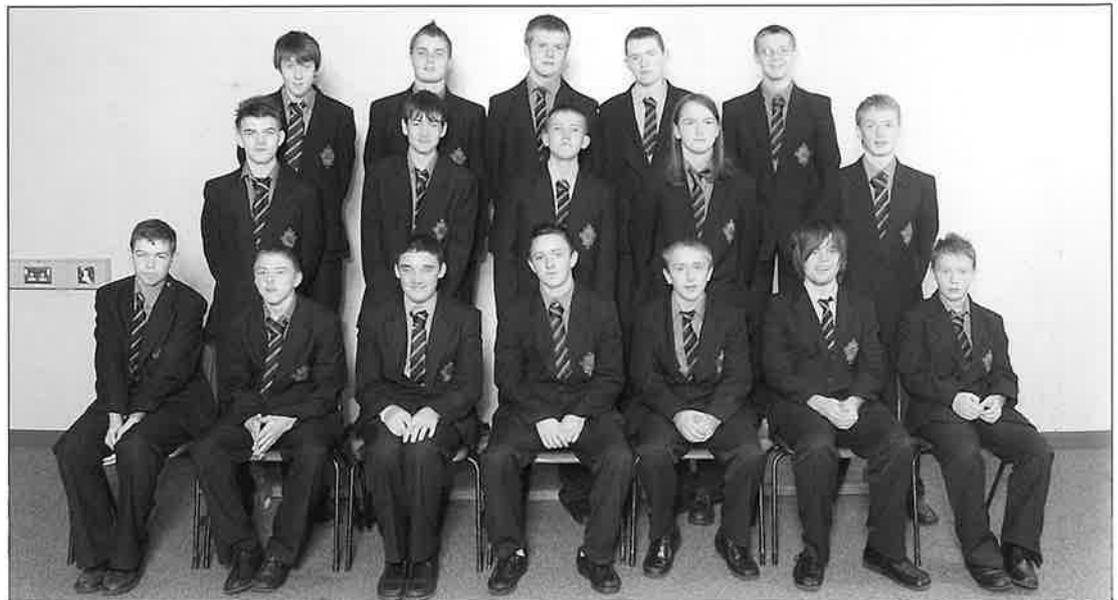
Cormac Kelly, Paul McCann, Hugh Doran, Gerald Lavery and Matthew Murray.

Front Row (L-R)

Jack Small, Aedan Marley, Ruairi Fisher, Pearse Fryers, Paul Smith, Stephen McCourt and Michael McGivern.

Absent

Matthew McKnight, Aaron Brady.





Class 13A
Form Tutor: Mr J. McGreevy

Back Row (L-R):
Ciaran Slavin, Emmet Cummings,
Peter Napier, Thomas Burns
and Cathal Fitzpatrick.

Middle Row (L-R)
Tyrone Irwin, James Downey,
Christopher Lennon, Jude Savage,
Eamonn Magee
and Conor Mulholland.

Front Row (L-R)
Terence McGrath, Michael Adair,
Nathan McKenna, Cormac Quinn,
Anthony McDonald,
Andrew Gillen
and Fiontann Armstrong.



Class 13B
Form Tutor: Mr E. McToai

Back Row (L-R):
Mark Jordan, Ryan Duckett,
Mark Loughran,
Shea McGranaghan,
Corey McGarry,
Matthew McKiernan
and Kevin Murphy.

Middle Row (L-R)
Joseph McMullan,
Matthew O'Grady, Conor Pelan,
Niall McGarry, Mark Rainey,
Gerard Gorman
and Eamonn Cooke.

Front Row (L-R)
Michael Montgomery,
John Curran, Jordan Fitzsimons,
Michael Hughes, Ryan Caddell,
Ciaran Rice
and Dominic Sherry-Adams.



Class 13C
Form Tutor: Mr G. Quigg

Back Row (L-R):
Carl Maxwell, Pol Nolan,
Stephen McGuigan, Conor Mogeey,
Paul Loughran, Patrick Von Ohsen
and Michael Atcheson.

Middle Row (L-R):
Matthew Cosgrove, Michael Smart,
Stephen Scott, Eamonn Quinn,
Michael Edgar, Jack Gunn
and Gerard O'Rawe.

Front Row (L-R):
Patrick McCormack,
Connel McKeown, Darren Floyd,
Matt Jordan, Raymond Mullan,
Stephen McFadden, Kevin Curran
and Ryan Carleton.

Class 13D

Form Tutor: Mr M. Watson

Back Row (L-R):

Conor Bradley, Robert Darling,
James Magee, Peter Forde,
Aodhan Lynagh, Declan Scullion
and Michael Smith.

Middle Row (L-R)

Ciaran McLaughlin,
Ryan Kavanagh, Conor McCourt,
Michael Fallon, Conor McGeown,
Kevin O'Brien, Daniel Russell,
Declan Cregan.

Front Row (L-R)

Elstine Padayattil,
Paraic Hannan, Thomas Murray,
Conor Farquharson,
Barry O'Neill, Paul McArdle,
Conor Bannon and John Carson.



Class 13E

Form Tutor: Dr A. Donaldson

Back Row (L-R):

Emmet McPoland,
John McGlone, Peter Carson,
Joe Donnelly, James Gaskin,
Tony McClean and John O'Neill.

Middle Row (L-R)

Aodhan Napier, Patrick Hickey,
Luke Ferguson, Thomas Morgan,
David Carbett, Leo McKenna,
Eamonn Kennedy
and Karl Shaw.

Front Row (L-R)

Ryan Boyle,
Christopher Pendleton,
Anthony Shannon, Ciaran Kerr,
Mark Richmond,
Christopher McKeown,
Michael Lyons
and Brian McDonagh.

Absent: Ciaran Curran.



Class 13F

Form Tutor: Mr M. Robinson

Back Row (L-R):

Niall Ward, Conor Mullan,
Stewart Phillips,
Tiarnan Mackel, Ryan Hull,
James Crilly, Ciaran Quinn
and Ronan Quinn.

Middle Row (L-R)

Aidan McDonald, Mark Salters,
Emmett Stewart, James Farrell,
Martan Shortt, Gerard Smith,
Daniel Glover and Aaron Nolan.

Front Row (L-R)

Brendan McCloskey,
Gavin McKee, Ciaran Carville,
Ciaran Delaney, Ciaran Orchin,
Carl Wylie, Anthony Todd and
Michael Bingham.





Class 13G

Form Tutor: Miss J. Mervyn

Back Row (L-R):

Christopher Magowan,
Ciaran McKeever, Paul McShane,
Michael McSherry, Kurtis McGreevy,
Tom Livingstone
and Jonathan Doyle.

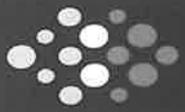
Middle Row (L-R)

Neil Crudden, Robert Stitt,
Christopher Maguire,
Brendan Bradley, Colm Molloy,
Steven McIlwee
and Christopher McKenna.

Front Row (L-R)

Ciaran Murray, Ryan McConnell,
Christopher Moore, Sean Paul Taylor,
David Johnston, Darren Franklin,
Pearse McConville.

Absent: Donnachadh Fitzsimons,
Padraig Fryers.



**Springvale
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- Childcare allowance for Lone Parents paid to a relative or registered childcare provider
- Up to £100 bonus paid on successful completion of course

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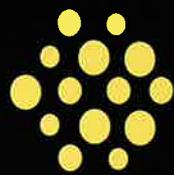
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**Springvale
Learning**

**Information
Technology**

Catering

Construction

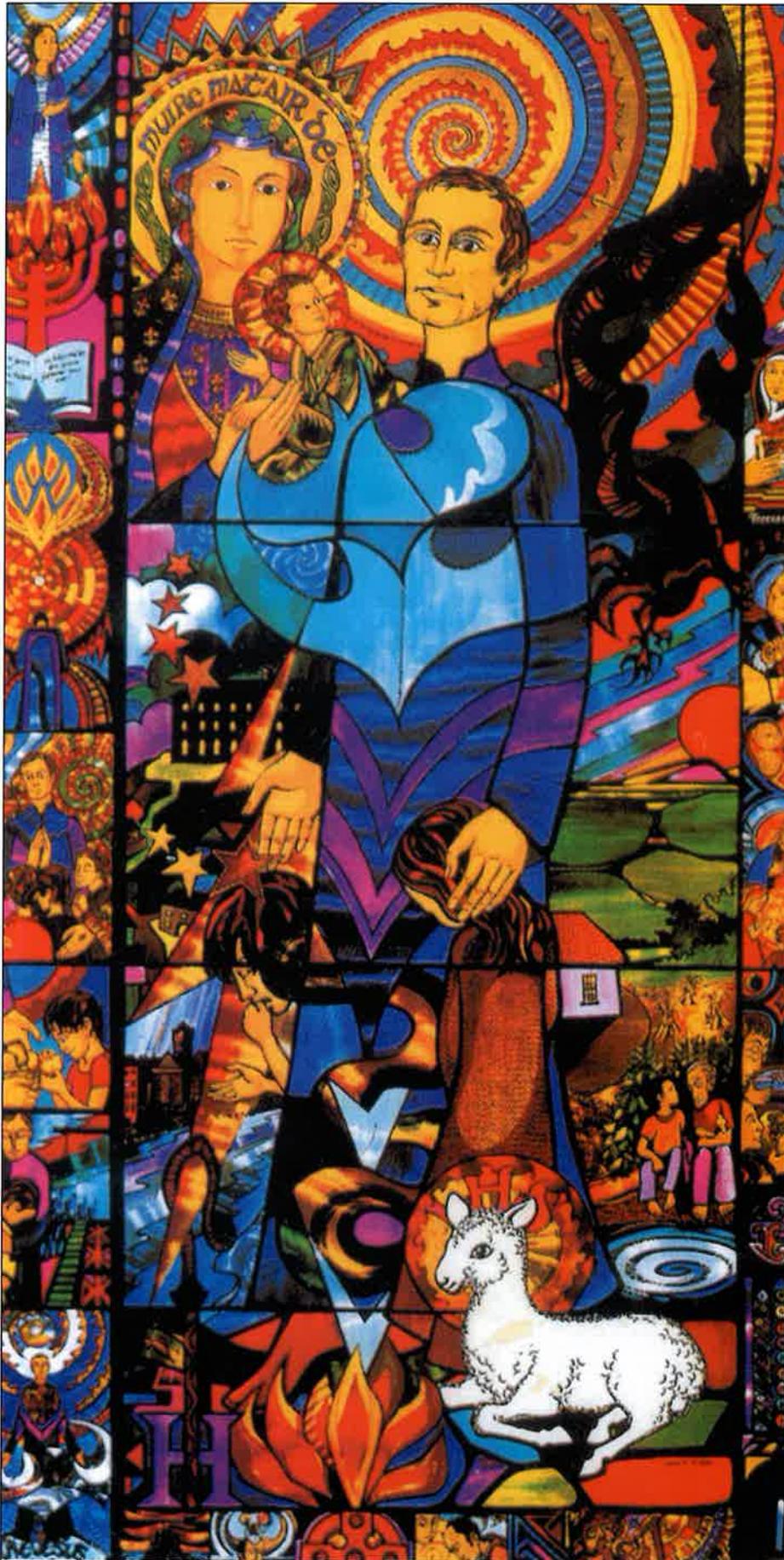
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