

NEWSLETTER

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ALL-IRELAND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SENIOR B HURLING CHAMPIONS

From the Principal's Desk

And so the year's cycle comes to a close. Such is school life. We began in late August with First Years assembled in the gym; they are welcomed and slowly but surely the induction begins. They meet their Year Tutor and class teachers, they are formed into class groups, they become acquainted with new classmates and within a short period of time they have new friends.

At the other end of the spectrum the Sixth Year students are assembled, they are briefly reminded of the business that is about to begin. Each autumn we ask would anyone like to repeat the year in twelve months' time. So far there have been no takers!

Within days it's obvious how quickly students acclimatise to the rituals of school life. Transition Years head off to the wilds of Killary whilst Second and Fifth Years engage in the niceties of study skills. Meanwhile the Deputy Principal goes out to the primary schools and informs the pupils of the forthcoming Open Night. This means all hands on deck as both teachers and students put on a performance that presents the school in its best light. At the same time our various sports teams limber up on the school pitch or in the gym and we wonder what silverware will be lifted this time around.

Our Awards Night is always special and gives the entire community an opportunity to focus on all that is good in the school. Guest speaker Dónal O'Grady speaks of the importance of inclusion, everyone can play hurling even Limerick people! A nervous shiver goes up this writer's spine. O'Grady and J. P. McManus are a dangerous combination. This could upset my summer plans.

Snow and ice try to knock us off our track but we eventually cope and get the school up and running again. On St Stephen's Day one normally recovers from the excesses of the previous twenty-four hours. Not on this occasion however as water from a burst pipe flows into the Home Economics classroom. The problem is quickly dealt with and presents us with the opportunity to redecorate the room over the summer.

Tuesday 4 January is an interesting date. Virtually every school in the country is closed – except Kinsale. Hurlers hurl furiously on the pitch; singers and dancers raise the roof in the hall with only four weeks to curtains up! Meanwhile down in the D corridor the final touches are being put to projects for the Young Scientist. We might rattle it again this year is the feeling.

Some inspectors call to see us in January and are astonished to see all that is going on. The Board of Management meets them and informs them of all our activities. They are gobsmacked.

In February it's curtains up for *Honey Honey* and over 2,000 watch a stunning performance on a total of six occasions. As patrons leave they tell me that it's the best ever – absolutely unbeatable! Another shiver up the same spine – what are we



going to do next time!

No sooner is the show finished than students travel to Germany to brush up on their language skills. They don't have a worry in the world and have never heard of the IMF or international bailouts. God bless them on their travels.

Meanwhile the hurlers are progressing nicely and one by one they pick off the opposition. They win the Munster final by a point, they defeat Kilcormac by the same margin and it's now only sixty minutes to All-Ireland glory. And they do it by a single point. What a triumph!

Easter brings a rest for all but not before over 70 students and teachers go to Barcelona. I think that they want to check out the soccer team there. Are they really that good?

In May our senior camogie team become Munster champions and thus they have good reason to celebrate also. Then some students from Fourth Year and Fifth Year pack their bags and decide to improve their French. Along with their teachers they head off to the sunny south of France. They never heard of the IMF either and just want to get on with the learning process.

A Thursday in late May is always special as Leaving Certs, their families and their teachers gather in the gym for our Leaving Cert Mass. This year the hall was absolutely jam-packed and the night was an occasion to remember. We wish them well in their exams and in the different paths that they will now follow.

And so the year closes and we reflect on past experiences. Next August isn't far away and we have to be ready to meet the First Years down in the gym. Such is the cycle of school life.

The French Connection

Kinsale Community School recently welcomed sixteen French students from the Lycée Audiberti in Antibes. The students spent one week in the homes of Transition Year and Fifth Year pupils from May 3-10 and attended school during this period. They followed normal classes and received intensive English classes. While the primary objective of the exchange is to improve their English language skills, it also provides the students an opportunity to immerse themselves in Irish life and culture.

The French students discovered Kinsale on a walking tour and thoroughly enjoyed it despite wet weather conditions. They also went to Cork City on a day trip day and were delighted to attend local GAA matches. Both Irish and French students visited Fota Island Wildlife Park and the Blarney Stone on Monday, 9 May where all students and teachers kissed the Blarney stone! The French exchange students all enjoyed their trip immensely and many thanks to the host families and pupils.

The Irish students and French teachers, Ms Flavin and Mr Cierans, travelled to Antibes on 28 May till 4 June, where they attended school and various events hosted for them by the Twinning Association. The students had a great time and most importantly they benefited culturally and linguistically from the exchange.



Exchange students and teachers with Mayor Frawley



Exchange students on Kinsale pier

Le petit déjeuner Français

All First Year French students enjoyed a French breakfast, *le petit déjeuner Français*, in class last term. They all happily munched on *les croissants*, *pains au chocolat* and *pains aux raisins*! All students very much enjoyed their introduction to French cuisine!



Kinsale Community School- A Hurling Nursery

When the hurlers of Kinsale Community School met for the first time this year they could scarcely have imagined the successes that were to come their way. All-Ireland, Munster and Cork champions in Vocational Schools Senior B and also U-16 A Cork champions means that they can rightly take their place among the echelons of famed Cork hurling nurseries.

Their journey began on Monday 13 September when a panel of 30 players were taken to Glanmire for a challenge game against Colaiste an Phiarsaigh. Playing four twenty minute quarters with a different line-up for each quarter proved invaluable for the management team of John Corcoran (Clonakilty) and Niall Murphy (Valley Rovers). Young players like Darren Collins and Killian McCarthy showed up well on the day and proved that there was a strong panel from which to pick. The first round of the county championship was played in Carraigadrohid against Millstreet CS. Many of those involved had been present in Pairc Uí Chaoimh on the previous day when Ballymartle had become PIHC of Cork with twelve current or past pupils members of that victorious panel. A slow start for Kinsale CS saw them trailing by three points after ten minutes. However they slowly came to life and with outstanding contributions from Sean Óg Gately, Colm Coleman and Andy Daly they managed to pull clear by half-time. The second half proved to be an easier affair for them as they proved their ability to create goal-scoring opportunities and ran out easy winners in the end.

Coláiste an Craoibhinn Fermoy were the opponents in the county semi-final played in Bishopstown on Tuesday 16 November. Kinsale's performance on this day was nowhere near the scoring fest of their quarter-final. Alan Gould's accuracy from frees kept Kinsale in the game. Indeed it was the introduction of Eoin Kingston, Jamie Daly and Ken O'Callaghan which proved the turning point for Kinsale, highlighting the importance of having a strong panel. Kinsale ran out victors by a single point, with Fermoy missing a last-minute free to take the game to extra time.

The Christmas break was seen as a turning point for the squad as on January 4 they had a coaching session with Martin Coleman, Cork senior hurler. The drills and work he did with



Colm Daly about to accept the cup

the group on that day backed up the coaching they had been receiving all year.

January 25 was the date set for the County final against a formidable Coláiste Treasa Kanturk. The game was played in Mourneabbey under floodlights which created a fantastic atmosphere and added to what became a memorable occasion. Kanturk entered the game as slight favourites after a very impressive display against St Coleman's Community College Midleton. They proved their worth in the first ten minutes when they raced into the lead. However some strong forceful play by Daniel and Ryan O'Leary dragged Kinsale back into this match. First-half goals by Daniel O'Leary, Andy Daly and Alan Gould saw Kinsale leading at half-time by 4-5 to 0-7. Encouraged on by a tremendous group of supporters Kinsale went from strength to strength. Further goals by Daly and points from captain Colm Daly resulted in a victory on a score line of Kinsale CS 6-10 Colaiste Treasa Kanturk 0-9.

This victory meant that we now qualified directly for the Munster final. Our opponents on this occasion were to be Nenagh Vocational School. Nenagh were past masters at this level and with former Tipperary and Clare supremo Len Gaynor and former Tipperary hurler Liam Heffernan marshalling their troops this was going to be a formidable task for the men of Kinsale.

Kinsale started in whirlwind fashion opening up a 0-7 to 0-1 lead after 11 minutes. However some positional switches by Nenagh brought them right back into contention. A mix-up in the Kinsale defence resulted in former Tipp minor Tommy Heffernan scoring a fortuitous goal.

Kinsale opened the second half with five unanswered points. Nenagh responded once again and the quality of hurling from both sides was tremendous. Strong defensive play from Jack O'Reilly and Paul Allen kept the Tipp men at bay and in the last few minutes some vital possession was won deep in their defence by half-forwards Mark Eaton and Rickard Cahalane. With the most slender of margins between the sides, discipline and courage was what was called for in these final minutes.

The final whistle brought scenes of great joy for Kinsale who were winning this trophy for the first time since 2002. However, with the way this competition is run there was a sense that these two teams could meet again in the All-Ireland final. Everyone present in Kilmallock was relishing such a prospect.

Bansha was the venue for the All-Ireland semi-final a week later. Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac Co. Offaly had qualified for this stage having won the Leinster title. A tough close



Captain Colm Daly and Mr Niall Murphy with Cork Mayor Kevin Murphy

battle ensued with very little separating the two sides at any point during the game. Once again Kinsale were to rely on the accuracy of Alan Gould from frees in order to see them through this tie. Excellent defending from Jack O'Reilly, John D O'Callaghan and Colm Coleman along with some precision scoring from Rickard Cahalane and Gould resulted in Kinsale qualifying for their first All-Ireland hurling final when they emerged victorious by two points.

All roads from the Carrigdhoun division led to Mallow on Saturday 26 March where Kinsale were to meet Nenagh VS once again. Some excellent organisation by Head of Sport in the school Marie Hayes meant that the Mallow GAA grounds were bedecked in the school colours of blue and gold.

Kinsale started the game well and ran into a 1-1 to 0-1 lead after five minutes. Alan Gould, once again proving his worth as a free taker supreme by billowing the net from a 21 metre free. Nenagh were not to be outdone and once again Tommy Heffernan illustrated his prowess and skills by finding the net. Indeed it was nip and tuck throughout this first half with Kinsale entering the dressing room leading on a scoreline of 1-8 to 2-3 with points from an outstanding Daniel O'Leary and a superb long range effort from Sean Coleman. Another feature of the first half was the excellent form of young corner forward Ken O'Callaghan.

The second half started in whirlwind fashion with Kinsale's dynamic Alan Gould finding the range again from a free. Nenagh's response was emphatic when they rattled the net for the third time on 34 minutes to give them the lead for the first time in the game. Points from Alan Gould restored Kinsale's lead, but once again Nenagh raised the green flag to seriously question the Kinsale men's credentials. Not for the first time Kinsale responded superbly and took the game to the Tipp

men again. Daniel O'Leary and Alan Gould kept their composure to score two further points for Kinsale. The introduction of young Sean Óg Gately proved to be a master stroke by the Kinsale management team. The contribution of two points by the Courcey Rovers youngster proved vital for Kinsale's cause. Indeed it was Gately's second, superbly set up by club mate Ronan Nyhan, which proved to be the winning score. Superb discipline in defence for the remaining minutes resulted in scenes of unbridled joy when referee Jason O'Mahoney blew the full time whistle. Colm Daly, a superb captain throughout the season, had the honour of lifting the Vocational Schools Senior B Hurling Trophy for the seaside school in front of a sizeable and vocal group of supporters.

However this wasn't the end of the victory celebrations for the school in hurling terms. On Monday 4 April our U-16 hurlers defeated the might of St Brogan's College Bandon on a scoreline of 4-15 to 1-4 to capture the Cork County U-16 A championship for the second time in three years.

Indeed this year the U-16s had a tremendous journey towards the Munster 'A' Final where they were defeated by a highly fancied Causeway CC who were winning their third title in a row at this level. It was Kinsale CS's first Munster final in the 'A' grade and the lads involved will certainly have learned from the occasion. Superb victories over Coachford CC, Hazelwood College, Dromcollogher and Roscrea CC after a replay brought Kinsale to the final. Many neutral spectators in Kilmallock commented on the two games against Roscrea as being two of the finest games of hurling witnessed at any level in that famous sporting venue.

Students interested in purchasing copies of the official team pictures may do so for €10 by contacting Nelius Buckley on 4774440 / 087-4080037 or emailing info@neliusbuckleyphotography.com



Mr Seán O Broin , Cork Mayor Cllr Kevin Murphy, Chairman of the Kinsale Harbour Board Cllr Tony Lane, team captain Colm Daly and Kinsale Mayor Cllr Michael Frawley on the team's triumphant return to school

Senior Hurling Panel:

Goalkeepers: Paul Allen (*Ballymartle*), Mark White (*Courcey Rovers*), Ciaran Healy (*Sliabh Rua*)

Defenders: John D O'Callaghan (*Sliabh Rua*), Darren Collins (*Courcey Rovers*), Brian Collins (*Courcey Rovers*), Jack O'Reilly (*Courcey Rovers*), David McCarthy (*Valley Rovers*), Daniel O'Riordan (*Sliabh Rua*), Patrick O'Leary (*Ballinhassig*), Kieran Kiely (*Sliabh Rua*), Jack Dwyer (*Sliabh Rua*), Sean Coleman (*Ballinhassig*), Colm Coleman (*Sliabh Rua*), Ryan O'Leary (*Ballinhassig*)

Midfielders: Colm Daly (Capt) (*Courcey Rovers*), Alan Gould (*Kinsale*), Anthony Broderick (*Kinsale*), Eoin Kingston (*Tracton*)

Forwards: Mark Eaton (*Kinsale*), Daniel O'Leary (*Ballymartle*), Liam O'Keeffe (*Courcey Rovers*), Killian McCarthy (*Sliabh Rua*), Rickard Cahalane (*Sliabh Rua*), Gavin Sheehan (*Ballinhassig*), Ronan Nyhan (*Courcey Rovers*), Andy Daly (*Sliabh Rua*), Ken O'Callaghan (*Sliabh Rua*), Sean Óg Gately (*Courcey Rovers*), Jamie Daly (*Sliabh Rua*), Ronan Connery (*Courcey Rovers*)

Hurling Highlights

Point of the year: A contest between Rickard Cahalane's point versus Kilcormac, set up by Andy Daly (a move straight from the training ground so who said students don't listen to teachers) or Sean Óg Gately's winner in the All-Ireland Final superbly set up by Ronan Nyhan. For the sheer emotion of it, Sean Óg's historic point gets the verdict.

Save of the year: Mark White's performances in the U-16 march to the Munster final were superb. Two vital saves against Roscrea stand out here.

Goal of the year: Plenty of contenders here but for the guts to go for goal from a 21 yard free in the early stages of the county final against Coláiste Treasa we give the nod to Alan Gould. Could be seen as the goal that set us on our way.

Performance of the year: Andy Daly's three goals in the county final made him stand out. Ciaran Healy's three goals against Coachford (U-16) and Ken O'Callaghan's efforts on All-Ireland Final day were other stand out performances. On this occasion we give it to Daniel O'Leary in the county final. Showed true leadership when it was needed and backed it up with some vital scores.

Defensive performance of the year: Very difficult to pick out any one individual as the backs really played as a unit throughout the season. Our U-16 half-back line against Roscrea on both days were superb. Darren Collins in the centre was immense, Brian Collins was coolness personified and John D O'Callaghan was inspirational with some superb runs down the wings. Definitely the outstanding defensive performance.

Quote of the Year: 'We're all brothers here.' Inspirational words from our captain Colm Daly at half time in the county final. Could you imagine having 31 sons like these lads!

Civic Receptions for All-Ireland Champions

On Tuesday 10 May, 2011 the County Mayor Cllr Kevin Murphy hosted a Civic Reception for the three Cork County teams who had captured All-Ireland titles in the preceding months, namely, Meelin, Ballymartle and Kinsale Community School. It was a huge honour and privilege when you consider that this is the highest accolade that can be afforded to a resident of Cork County.

The Mayor spoke about the tremendous discipline displayed by our lads during the All-Ireland Final. He felt it was one of the most exciting games he had the pleasure of witnessing. He also congratulated the school and commented on how the reception was the third such occasion for the school, a remarkable feat in itself. Colm Daly spoke on behalf of the players and thanked them all for their efforts throughout their years hurling in the royal and amber. Mr Niall Murphy spoke on behalf of the school and thanked the Mayor for the recognition and congratulated the other teams on their historic wins also. The reception proved to be a very pleasant occasion and one which the lads will no doubt remember for many years to come.

This was followed up when Kinsale Town Council also afforded our victorious team a civic reception. Hosted by Mayor Michael Frawley and attended by Councillors Tony Cierans and Alan Clayton, this proved to be a wonderful occasion. Mayor Frawley congratulated the team on being the first school team to bring an All-Ireland title to the town. He spoke about the strong sense of camaraderie that existed within the team. Colm Daly spoke on behalf of the team and thanked everyone for their efforts in organising the event. It was a fitting tribute for the team's endeavours during the year.



Cork County Under 16 Champions

Kinsale Success at BT Young Scientist Competition

Kinsale Community School continued its outstanding tradition of achievement by securing a number of prizes in the 2011 BT Young Scientist Competition. The school, which has produced two overall winners of the competition, secured one of the four main awards when a project on *A Statistical Analysis of Public Attitudes to Cholesterol and its Control* by First Year students Sophie Healy-Thow, Ciara Judge and Royanne McGregor was declared runner-up in the group category.

Another project, submitted by Second Year students Ali Hill and Katie Wall on *A Statistical Analysis of the Meaning of the Recession to Early and Late Teens and their Parents* was awarded first prize for a group in the Junior Social and Behaviour Sciences.

Caoimhe Hill and Faye Murphy, both Third Years, received both a special award in the BT Business of Science and Technology category and a Highly Commended prize for their project on *The Design and Evaluation of a Novel Heat Recovery Device to Improve Efficiency in Tumble Drying Applications*. Another Highly Commended prize went to First Year Ciara Boyle for her project on *A Statistical Study of Swimming Uptake in Relation to Location and Demographics*.

The success of Kinsale students over the past number of years in the competition is unrivalled and is a source of pride for school principal Seán O Broin who stated, 'I am delighted at this year's achievements. All our students who entered the competition have done their school proud. The success of our students is a credit to the hard work of our students and teachers and is testament to the excellent relationship between staff and students and the wider community.'



Ali Hill, Mr Seán Holly
& Katie Wall



Jamie Bowden, Faye Murphy,
Melissa O'Neill, Caoimhe Hill &
Anna Henderson



A fantastic achievement for our First Years: overall runners-up in the group category.



Our Young Scientists with Mr Holly & Mr Ó Broin



Sophie Healy-Thow, Ciara Judge & Royanne McGregor

3D KINSALE

Our school's use of technology is something it can be justly proud of and one of its benefits is that it facilitates students' learning in the most up to date computer applications. Some of our students availed of the opportunity to learn how to use Google Sketch Up when the opportunity arose. Although this software is freely available, it does require a certain amount of training so as to become proficient in its use – this is what the students of Kinsale availed of when local company Viewision, who are Ireland's first Google accredited training company, came to the school to train fifteen students on how to utilise and make the most of the software.

Google Sketch Up allows users to construct amongst other things architectural, mechanical, building and animation 3D models. These models can then be placed on Google Earth, so the plan is that the students of Kinsale will eventually populate Kinsale on Google Earth with 3D models of some of the town's features. The willingness and expertise of the students, coupled with the school's excellent IT facilities, bodes well for the virtual town of Kinsale!



Some of the Kinsale students with Viewision trainers and a 3D model of Cork's Shandon

Flashmob Rocks KCS

Did you know that Riverdance recently performed a dance flashmob in Sydney? Well what they can do, we can surpass! Our school's PE department cooperated with our First Year students in order to become educational pioneers of this recent global phenomenon. The dance routine was an exciting new initiative which enabled students to work together whilst having great fun in rehearsing the range of routines required.

The PE department coordinated the event as students practiced, perfected and proudly performed a dance flashmob on the school courts during lunch break. The students danced to the beat of the Black-Eyed Peas, blaring out over the school intercom, whilst being enthusiastically cheered on by the entire school community.

We are grateful to the parents of the pupils involved who provided their permission for the event to be recorded enabling us to have a memorable record of this magical event. It is now posted on YouTube and can be viewed by entering Kinsalepe in the YouTube searchbar.

The PE department would like to acknowledge the assistance of the ever-obliging school office staff who enabled us to belt out our tunes over the intercom. We would also like to thank

Ben Healy-Mahalingam, a Leaving Cert student, who generously devoted his time to congratulate the First Year students and hope that they will treasure their priceless memories of a magical event.

The question now on everyone's lips is what will Riverdance adopt from KCS in their future dance flashmobs? Who knows where our students will perform next? Sydney? Sligo? Sweden? Or even Skibbereen? All offers considered!



Talented Youths!

Whilst summer holidays might mean a break from the books for the majority of students, there are some who use part of the break to continue their learning and education. This summer three of our students head to the Centre for Talented Youth in Ireland (CTYI) in DCU.

Fifth Year students Rachel McCarthy, Jacinta Crowley and Emily O'Leary will spend two weeks in DCU where they will undertake courses of study in Biological and Chemical Sciences, Law & Government and Humanities. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to expand their knowledge, experience



college life in a university and to meet new friends. The school wishes to thank Eli Lilly and Kinsale Lions Club for supporting this initiative.

Doodle 4 Google



Congratulations to Shannon Mouroz for being one of the finalists in the Doodle 4 Google competition this year, which received over 2000 entries. Shannon went with her art teacher Ms Fitzpatrick to Trinity College Dublin in March for the prize-giving event. All the finalists took part in a workshop with one of Google's designers and received a bag of goodies. Well done Shannon.

ARTISTIC WINNERS

First Year student Dean McCarthy being presented with a medal by Mr Ó Broin in recognition of his entry being selected as the school winner in the Design a Cover Art Project run by the Mental Health Association of Ireland.

Congratulations also to First Year Sarah Black whose photograph was selected as the school winner in the Photographic Project section of the same competition.



Mary Lynch

The retirement of Mary Lynch from the teaching staff of our school represents the end of an era in the history of education in Kinsale as she is the last remaining full-time staff member who taught in Kinsale Vocational School.

Mary began teaching in Kinsale in 1980 under the principalship of Denis Paul Griffin. Her subjects were English and history and as the vocational school had a secretarial course she taught modules on text production, word processing and work experience. Mary spent sixteen very happy years in the school which she describes as being akin to being part of one big happy family, including the students who were always more than willing to lend a hand to teachers and assist in whatever way possible. Many a time they fixed a punctured tyre for Mary!

When Kinsale Vocational School and Our Lady of the Rosary amalgamated in 1996 to form Kinsale Community School, Mary was one of the staff members whose professionalism, friendliness, consideration, care, humour, charm and easy-going manner ensured an excellent foundation was laid for the school's future success.

During her time in Kinsale Community School Mary continued to teach teenage and adult students. As time moved on it was not uncommon for Mary to meet parents of students she was currently teaching but whom she also had taught and she always enjoyed such meetings.

From 2007-2009 Mary was our school's Home School Liaison teacher and was delighted to have been given the opportunity to serve the students and parents in this capacity. Once more her warm and caring personality, allied to her professionalism and discretion, ensured that many parents and students were



Ms Lynch with some of her fans

assisted in various matters relating to school and home life. Not only did Mary find the work rewarding but more importantly her work made a real difference in people's lives.

Speaking of her retirement Mary stated that 'I have a great appreciation of the staff and students' kindness and goodness to me and I leave with very fond memories. My colleagues have been incredibly supportive and I am very thankful to the office, catering and maintenance staff for the kindness shown to me over the years.'

It is said that very few of us remember what we are taught in school but that we all remember how we were taught and how our teachers made us feel. Testament to how Mary made her students feel is the fact that on her last day of teaching her classes had a number of parties for her, gave her gifts of framed class photographs which they signed and told her how much they would miss her. We too, her colleagues, will also miss her. We will miss her warmth, support and good humour and wish her and her family every blessing and good wish for her retirement.



CSI:KINSALE

Students in Kinsale Community School were given the chance to play roles associated with the CSI television series when they were challenged to solve a 'murder' using forensic science. 'A Case of Identity' is an exciting and interactive educational experience where observation and deductive reasoning combine with the science that students are learning in the laboratory to solve crimes in the real world.

In a practical and fun way (if murder can ever be such a thing!) the students learned how forensic evidence is gathered, how it is analysed and how the results of these analyses are compiled

to provide a detailed picture of the events leading up to a crime and of the criminal even when eye witness accounts are not available.

Whilst every student, parent and teacher knows that school can be murder sometimes, this metaphor was given a practical application when TY students were faced with a murder scene. The high-tech simulation of a murder scene was something that the TY students really enjoyed and they found it most educational and entertaining. Who knows in what direction such an experience may lead to?



Some TY students at the scene of the 'murder'

Diospóireacht an Phiarsaigh

I lár mhí Éanáir, socraíodh an chéad bhabhta eile de Dhiospóireacht an Phiarsaigh. Aoibhinn beatha an phinsinéara an rún a bhí idir chamáin. Lán d'fhuinneamh agus de spéis, chuir foireann ón Gú Bliain chun na hoibre. Rinneadar cuid mhaith taighde agus machnaimh chun teacht ar na hargóintí ba threise chun cur ina aghaidh. Caitheadh seachtain iomlán i mbun na n-ullmhúchán agus ar éigean a itheadh píosa lóin ar bith i gcaitheamh na laethanta sin! Ceithre fhoireann ar fad a bhí san iomaíocht, a tháinig ó cheann ceann an chúige. Diarmaid Mac an tSaoir a bhí mar chaptaen ar an bhfoireann, a labhair go paiseanta agus go húdarásach ar an oíche. Ina theannta, bhí Aisling Níc Carthaigh, a rinne gaisce mar ionadaí ar Neasa Ní Laoire, cainteoir den scoth eile, agus ar deireadh, Jacinta Ní Cheallacháin, a bhí go diail ar fad i mbun a cuid argóintí cumasacha. Ba dhíol trua é nár éirigh leo dul ar aghaidh chuig an gcéad bhabhta eile, fós ann féin, moladh go hard iad agus d'aontaigh an uile dhuine acu gur thaithí iontach thairbheach í. Ní mór buíochas faoi leith a chur in iúl do na daltaí eile a thacaigh leis an bhfoireann, go háirithe Selina Ní Dhonabháin,



a d'oibrigh go dícheallach, gan teip ar a son. Go n-éirí go geal leo go léir amach anseo agus go maire a gcuid Gaeilge i bhfad.

D. Ní Dhíomsaigh

Honduran visitors give Lenten focus to students

Pamoja Kwa Haki means 'Together for Rights' in Swahili, and is the term used by Trócaire to describe its human rights programme for secondary schools. In this spirit of togetherness and solidarity Kinsale students listened to the stories of Juan and Rudy who travelled from Honduras to share with the students their struggle for justice. Juan was kidnapped and tortured last January by the Honduran military because of his involvement in campaigning with landless peasant farmers who seek to have their land returned to them.

Pamoja provides a model for teachers and students to promote human rights and development education within their school. The teachers and students taking part carry out awareness-raising activities based around Trócaire's Lenten theme which this year focused on poverty and land in Honduras. The Transition Year students who participated in this year's Pamoja campaign visited local primary schools in the Kinsale area raising awareness about poverty in Honduras. They also raised funds which were presented to Trócaire during the visit.



Composer in the Classroom

For music classes this year, TY1 and TY2 took part in the Composer in the Classroom programme. The composer was Irene Buckley who came in to our classes once a week to work with us. We spent time writing lyrics, writing music, singing, playing instruments and learning how to use music editing technology.

By the end of the term we had composed three songs: 'Open a Book', 'Summer Days' and 'Shadows In My Heart'. As part of the Cork Choral Festival we participated in a pre-performance workshop in St Vincent's Secondary School and three weeks later we had our proper performance in St Aloysius' School in Cork. We enjoyed the experience immensely and appreciate all the work put in by both Irene and Ms Kearney.

Therese Collins



Well done to Lisa O'Donovan from Y3 who won the under 18 singing competition in the recent Cork County Fleadh Cheoil held in Dunmanway. We wish her all the best at the Munster Fleadh in July!

County Cork School of Music

Vacancies in piano are now being filled before the new term commences in September. Tom O'Hare is the resident piano teacher in Kinsale Community School. If you would like to enrol your child for piano or put them on a waiting list please contact Abina Curtin (Administrator) on 021-4556550 (9am-12.30pm) or email ccsmadmin@cocorkvee.ie and the new website www.ccsm.ie will be launched in early June if you have any further enquiries.

School Tour

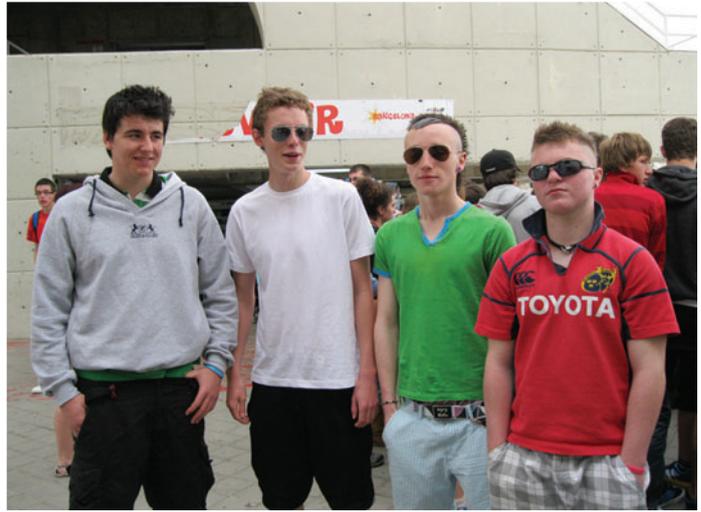
Barcelona 2011 is fixed in the memories of Transition Year students as the week of sun, fun, history, bus trips, swimming, shopping, singing, jokes, buffets, beaches and McDonalds!

The destination, chosen by parents over Paris, seems to have become the first choice of destination in recent years. I suppose when you add up the attractions a week in the sun will always come out on top!

The five day trip included a guided tour of Barcelona's tourist sites: *La Sagrada Familia*, Gaudi architecture, *Parc Guell*, *Las Ramblas*, *Monjuic* and the Olympic Stadium. Time was allocated for shopping, beach walks, swimming at the hotel pool and of course visiting the not so very Spanish food emporium of McDonalds!

One of the highlights of the trip was the visit to the mountain top monastery of Montserrat where the statue of the Black Madonna has been venerated by Spanish pilgrims for centuries. Many of our students, surprisingly for teenagers, queued to visit the statue and leave their petition. It remains to be seen if the 2012 group will express a preference for the same destination or if Paris or Rome will feature once more on the tour agenda.







The Second Year trip to Cappanalea has become a highly anticipated event on the school calendar. This annual trip was started by Mr Tony Cierans in 1993 with 32 students and has now grown in proportion to the school itself with over 80 participants enjoying a weekend in the outback of Kerry.

No one is ever disappointed with the stunning location of the purpose-built centre nestled on the banks of Caragh lake just outside Killorglin. The centre was completely rebuilt in 2005 to provide en suite accommodation in rooms of four or six. Such luxuries were never available to the pioneers of the early 90s.

The three day event builds team spirit and encourages students to see fellow classmates in a different light. Students are encouraged to get involved in all activities such as rockclimbing, abseiling, kayaking, orienteering and hillwalking, despite initial fears of height or water. Many overcome such fears and the weekend is for many their first time away from home without their parents.

The week begins with a much enjoyed afternoon at the aquadome and a guided tour of Muckross House. Fond memories of the trip remain with the students who eagerly anticipate their next foray away on the European school tour.



German Exchange 2011

For the second year running KCS students participated in an exchange programme with the Goethe Gymnasium, in Karlsruhe and again it was a great success. Seventeen students took part in the exchange and after hosting the German students in September, it was now our turn to visit them. On 11 February the excitement was mighty as we headed off to Kerry airport. On arrival we were greeted by our German exchange partners and as it was late we headed back to our new homes. Over the weekend we spent time getting to know our host families and learning about everyday life in Germany. On Saturday night all the students and their partners met for dinner and on Sunday we went bowling which was a lot of fun. Monday morning was an early start as school began at eight o'clock. We were greeted by our German teacher, Gifta, and had our first two hour German lesson. Our German lessons were very enjoyable and very beneficial. It was a great opportunity to practice the language. We really enjoyed school in Germany, although we found it very different to our own school. A major difference was we did not have to wear a uniform and we really enjoyed this change. After this, we found our German partners and followed them to class for the rest of the day to experience the German school system. We finished school at 1pm and had the afternoons to meet up and explore the town.

On Tuesday we enjoyed a trip to the beautiful town of Heidelberg. Here we did a treasure hunt of the town and had time to look around. It was a good day. The rest of the week was filled with trips to the local museums and the castle, which we found interesting. We always looked forward to stopping off at the local bakery as it was *sehr lecker!*

As the week drew to a close our excitement grew about our leaving party which the German students arranged for us. With our glad rags on we were ready to show them how the Irish party! Saturday was spent at the local swimming pool and then we had to pack our luggage and prepare for the journey home. Early on Sunday morning we left a snowy Frankfurt Hahn airport after an emotional farewell. After our busy trip we were looking forward to the mid-term break!

The exchange was a huge success. A lot of German was learned and new friendships were made. It was a great opportunity and an unforgettable week. We would recommend it to all German students.

Leah Hegarty and Rachel Sheehan



Fit in Deutsch

On Saturday 2 April, eight Transition Year pupils travelled to the Goethe-Institut (the official German Cultural Institute) to sit the *Fit in Deutsch* German language proficiency examination. The examination corresponds to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and is recognised throughout the world.

On the day, pupils had to sit a written exam, a listening test and an oral examination, in which they were required to pose and answer questions in German in front of examiners. Needless to say, pupils and teachers alike were nervous, not knowing what to expect. However, the weeks of preparation paid off as all pupils passed with flying colours.

Passing the *Fit in Deutsch* examination is a huge achievement as it demonstrates a proven knowledge of German. This could enhance future travel and careers options. As well as that, it is also good preparation for the Leaving Certificate, where pupils are also required to sit an oral examination. Well done to all pupils that took part: Aidan Doran, Ellen Hannon, Jessica Sheehan, Theresa O'Donovan, Aine Barry, Aisling Lee, Liam Mc Carthy and Danielle McGregor. They took the initiative and tried something new – that is what Transition Year is all about!

HONEY HONEY

THE SWEETEST SHOW EVER!

The town of Kinsale rocked to the strains of ABBA for a week in February when the students of Kinsale Community School took to the boards once more in order to strut their stuff.

Following on from the success of *Grease*, the last school show, which set an exceptionally high standard in terms of production and performance, Kinsale audiences had high expectations when they crossed the school threshold to see *Honey Honey*.

They were not to be disappointed as once again the wow factor was abundant and the students performed with ease the rather adult story of the only daughter Sophie who uses the occasion of her wedding to at last find out who is her real father. The cast consisted mainly of Transition Year students who were very versatile in their performances.

The serious story was regularly punctuated with hit after hit from ABBA, the pop sensation of the Seventies. In all, 21 numbers were performed including favourites like *Dancing Queen*, *Mamma Mia*, *Our Last Summer*, *Does Your Mother Know* and of course the 1974 ABBA Eurovision winning song, *Waterloo*.

The show was directed and produced by Tony Cierans with musical direction by Brid Kearney and art design by Kathleen Fitzpatrick. This was a whole-school production with a cast and crew of over 100 and huge support by the staff in many areas helped maintain the high standard to which Kinsale audiences have become accustomed.

The expertise of the Rampart Players was once again harnessed with great assistance given by them in areas of set design and construction, costume coordination and lighting.

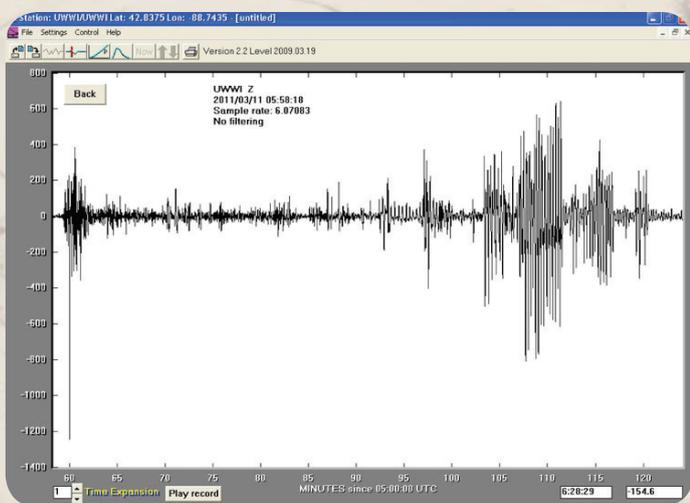




THE DAY THE EARTH MOVED IN KINSALE

Many of you are probably completely oblivious to the fact that Kinsale Community School is home to one of the very few seismometers in Ireland. A seismometer is the apparatus used to measure an earthquake's presence and magnitude. By this point you must have realized that there was recently a very large earthquake in Japan. But did you know it was also recorded here in Kinsale? Right down to the very last aftershock.

With the news of the scale of devastation due to the Japanese earthquake and of potentially explosive nuclear-power plants, ten-metre high tsunami waves and tilting continents, it is difficult to process, and truly understand, the severity of this situation when you are so far removed from it, let alone the epic forces at work right beneath our feet. Even though we are 5,993 miles away and separated by two vast continents, the earthquake was very clearly detected here.



Actual recording of the earthquake from the Kinsale seismometer.

I've found that many people are familiar with the terms associated with earthquakes but have no real knowledge about what they mean. Take the Richter Scale for example. I'm sure that 99% of people have heard of it, yet few have any idea as to what it shows. It is a scale that measures the size of the earthquake, ranging from 1 to 12, with 1 being the smallest and 12 the largest. But what you probably don't know is that with every level reached, the earthquake is ten times larger than the previous level. For example, say you encounter a Level 1 quake. If it reaches Level 2 then it is 10 times larger than Level 1; if it increases to Level 3 then it is 100 times larger than Level 1. Now try to imagine the intensity of the Level 9 quake that Japan suffered. Scary stuff!

But why did it happen? Firstly, you need to know that the Earth's crust is made up of a small number of giant pieces, called tectonic plates which fit together like a giant jigsaw. They are all constantly either pushing against each other or pulling away from each other. The ingredients for an earthquake are simple: two opposing plates, like the Philippine Plate and the Pacific Plate; immense amounts of pressure; and a whole lot of time. Get these and you're faced with one of the Earth's most destructive and jaw-dropping natural disasters.

The series of events leading up to an earthquake involve basic physics. Heat causes solids to turn to liquids and liquids to start to move (think of a pan of butter that melts and then bubbles up). The Earth's core is a very hot 3700 degrees Centigrade. The rock here has liquified and this is called the mantle. The mantle moves in an upward circular movement due to this heat. As it rises it cools a little and sinks back down to the centre again. The Earth's crust lies on top of the mantle (like an egg shell) and so, therefore, do the tectonic plates. And who lives on these plates? That would be us!

Tectonic plates are always moving, and pushing against and around each other, but do bear in mind that 'moving', in geological terms, is a very different concept. And no, this does not mean that we will be cruising past America anytime soon on a mobile continent. However, it can be likened to an elastic band being stretched and stretched until it cannot stretch any further. Now it's back to physics again. What happens when you let an elastic band go? It snaps. However, in geological terms, the 'snap' is when the real drama starts!

The sudden release of energy, or the 'snap', is the earthquake. After the initial shaking the quake slowly loses energy, usually within a space of a few minutes and the seismometer records this data on a graph. It seems quite unbelievable that such a dangerous and fantastic force of nature can be simplified on a single piece of paper, but it really is that straight forward. The graph shows the earthquake occurring and it doesn't take an expert to see that there were several minutes of unrest before the earthquake struck, along with its devastating wave of destruction.

We can see the pressure building, rising and rising until this vast amount of energy is suddenly released due to a slip between the two plates going past one another (usually one slips below the other). The same can be said for the last few minutes of the earthquake's incidence as the plates slowly and reluctantly move back into place.



The most significant, and fascinating, aspect of this event for me was the effects of the quake in terms of changes observed on a global level. It was so powerful, it delayed the sunrise in Kinsale and it moved the entire planet by 25cm, altering the Earth's axis as well. 25cm sounds like a miniscule amount when we think of it compared to the Earth's area, but because the planet's mass has been redistributed, the speed of the Earth's rotation will be changed. Minute as these changes may seem, over centuries, these will affect the length of day and, possibly, alter the seasons.

As well as this, the tremors have also sunk the coastal plain of Japan by up to one metre, leaving certain parts of Japan permanently underwater. This is why so many supposed "tsunami-proof" towns were destroyed. The ten-metre high sea walls surrounding these areas were insufficient to stop the ten-metre high tsunami wave that hit as the walls were now only nine-metres high leaving space for the raging waters to move in and engulf everything they come across.

Earthquakes of this size, according to leading seismologists, occur only every thousand years and it was the fifth most powerful that has occurred in the last century.

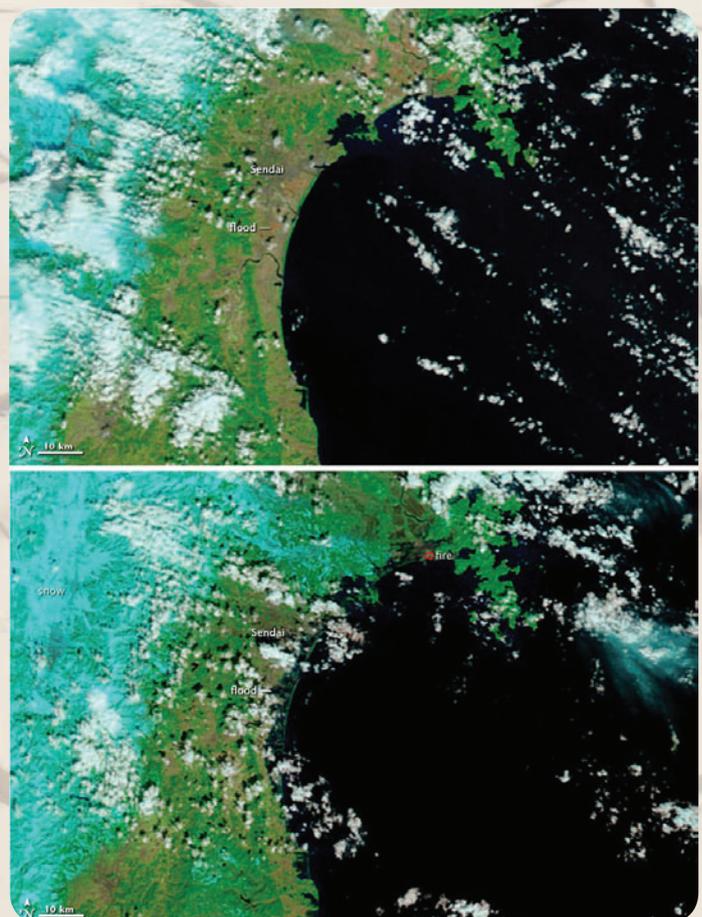
Unfortunately, the extent of the damage does not end there. Over 500 aftershocks ranging from magnitude five to seven have occurred since the original quake and damaged already weakened buildings. As if this wasn't enough to worry about, the pressure that was between the two tectonic plates, although temporarily released, is now rising elsewhere along joints between the two plates. The Earth is like a weighing scales and constantly needs to be in balance; if tension is released in one area, it must be equalized elsewhere. Like a jigsaw puzzle, the pieces of the Earth have a finite space in which to move and have to find a way to fit into place. When they don't it's fireworks! The question professional seismologists are desperate to crack is when and where will the next big release be? The answer is indefinite; it could be days, months, years, or decades. We have no accurate way of knowing and therefore people in earthquake-prone zones cannot predict the next 'Big One', they can only try to prepare as best they can.

This is the kind of work the top minds in the geological world are working towards, to reach that next level of understanding to better prepare the world. This is the kind of work in which I

am interested. I'm not saying I am going to be making headlines in the National Geological Survey anytime soon, but I am taking full advantage of what is available to me here in school.

My interest in Earth Science stems from the simple fact that the earth is shaped due to 4 very basic elements - earth, air, fire and water, and it is the mixture of these that causes some of the most spectacular landscapes and spectacles on Earth. You could never call a volcano, an earthquake or a tsunami boring - especially if you are caught up in it!

Ciara Fenton Y5



Stretch of the Japanese coast after a tsunami hit as a result of the earthquake.

Senior Camogie

The school entered the Senior B County Camogie Championship this year. Getting a bye as far as the semi-finals we faced St Mary's of Mallow last November. Kinsale started very well and had a five point lead by half-time. However, St Mary's had a much better second half and the game ended in a draw.

Owing to a combination of bad weather and school commitments the replay was not until the end of March. This match was a very exciting and entertaining game and after a hard-fought battle Kinsale emerged as winners on a scoreline of 3-6 to 1-7.

Our neighbours, Carrigaline Community School were awaiting us in the final and this game was held on 11 May in Riverstick. Kinsale thoroughly outclassed Carrigaline in all areas and were crowned Senior B County Champions on a scoreline of 4-15 to 1-1.

On 24 May Ms Breige Corkery, who is a member of the Cork county senior camogie and ladies football teams and who has won numerous medals with Cork at minor, intermediate and senior level, visited our school to present medals to our county final winners. She congratulated the camogie players and their mentors for their hard work, dedication and success and she also presented medals to the junior team on their fine win over Coachford last year. The students were delighted to have a dual All-Star and a National Female Sports Star present them with their medals.

A presentation was made to Ashling Moloney for her selection as Player of the Year for her many outstanding performances and her dedication to camogie throughout the year. Presentations were made to Linda Collins in recognition of her being a member of the Cork U14 team and to Ashling Moloney and Julie Mulcahy on their selection on the Cork U16 team.



Julie Mulcahy, Ashling Moloney & Linda Collins



Julie Mulcahy, Breige Corkery & Ashling Moloney



Our victorious senior camogie team



Aoife Keating making a presentation to Breige Corkery



Breige making the presentation to Ashling for Player of the Year

U14½ Ladies Football

On Thursday 19 May, the U14½ ladies football team were crowned County 'A' Champions for the first time in the school's history. They saw off the challenge of St Goban's College, Bantry, in what could have been described as a game of two halves.

The Kinsale girls, having won the toss, played with the wind in the first-half and got off to a great start with a point and a goal inside the first few minutes. This set the foundations for a very impressive first half performance which saw the girls lead by 4-8 to no score come half-time. The second half proved a very different affair as we turned to face the wind. Scores were hard to come by, but we did manage to get a point! Our backs worked tremendously hard to keep the Bantry forwards at bay and by the full-time whistle had only conceded 1-2. A great

team performance meant that victory had been achieved on a score line of KCS 4-9 St Goban's 1-2. Well done girls and keep up the football for the summer.



Some of our senior footballers who have given great service to the school



TENNIS

DOUBLE MUNSTER FINALISTS

For the second year running Kinsale Community School entered three competitions in the Munster championships this year: the U14 boys, U16 and U19 girls. One team of four players was entered in each event. The format of the championship was changed this year to allow for a more balanced competition. Those schools with inter-provincial and national players were put together to compete for the cup leaving the rest of the schools to fight it out in their own separate competition. By introducing a group phase of matches leading to qualification for the knockout stages there were more matches to be played this year.

The U14 boys' first match was at home against Ashton School, Cork. They came away comfortable winners 5-0 which was followed by a 4-1 win against Coláiste Mhuire, Cobh. After two home matches they were due to play away to P.B.C. in Cork, however the latter withdrew from the competition leaving Kinsale outright winners of their group having only dropped one point - an impressive way to qualify for the quarter-finals.

The U16 girls started their campaign at home against St Mary's Mallow. Although they lost 1-4 there was some great tennis played on the day. Their second match involved a trip to Ursuline Convent, Blackrock where the girls played well and won 3-2. St Patrick's College, Cork was unable to field a team so the girls received a walkover for this match. This was enough to qualify them for the quarter-finals finishing second behind St Mary's.

The U19 girls' competition had a smaller number of entries so there were only three schools in their group. Starting with an impressive 5-0 home win over Scoil Mhuire, Cork they travelled to Mallow to play St Mary's who were probably the strongest opposition in the competition. The girls won 3-2 in a very close contest to top their group.

The knockout stages were favourable to us. The U14 boys and U19 girls who qualified top of their respective groups received a bye in to the semi-finals. The U16 girls were drawn against St Mary's, Nenagh in the quarter-finals to be played in Nenagh. Although the girls lost 1-4 there were some great performances on the day. Having lost the first singles and the doubles match Grace Cronin pulled off an outstanding win in the second singles to force the tie to super doubles. Unfortunately St Mary's proved just that bit stronger and were eventual winners.

The U14 boys travelled to Roscrea, Co. Tipperary to play Cistercian College in the semi-finals. After a close-fought tie they won 3-2. The U19 girls played Rockwell College at home and wrapped up their semi-final by winning the first three matches. With a score of 3-0 there was no need to play the final two matches.

The Munster finals were held in Rushbrooke Tennis Club, Cobh on 18 May. Unfortunately it was not to be our day. The U14 boys were up against a very strong team from Rockwell College and although they lost their matches they played very well. The U19 girls were drawn against St Mary's, Mallow who they had narrowly beaten in the group stages. The matches went down to the wire just like they had previously but it was the Mallow girls' day and they came out the eventual winners. Although our teams did not win, the experience will stand to them. Each year our teams get stronger and there were some

fantastic individual performances. A special mention for Claire McCarthy who played outstanding tennis throughout the whole competition winning every match she played and giving the U19 girls a fighting chance.

To all who played and to our double Munster finalists congratulations and well done!

U19 Girls: Claire McCarthy, Meabh O'Driscoll, Emma O'Donnell, Clare Power.

U16 Girls: Amy Clarke, Grace Cronin, Faye Murphy, Eimear Stanley.

U14 Boys: Cathal Butler, Donal O'Donovan, James O'Donovan, Gary Ward.



U19 Girls: Emma O'Donnell, Claire McCarthy, Meabh O'Driscoll & Clare Power



U16 Girls: Eimear Stanley, Faye Murphy & Grace Cronin



U14 Boys: Cathal Butler, Donal O'Donovan, James O'Donovan, Gary Ward

TEACHERS vs Students



**The brave teachers who faced up to TY students in order to raise funds for Trócaire.
For the record the teachers won the game 1-0!**

Equestrian News

This year marked the revival of the school's equestrian team. Pupils and parents who enjoy the fun of riding and caring for their horse came together under the coordination of Tina Reynolds, *Chef d'Equipe*. The team have proved they are already among the leading competitors in schools show jumping competitions, holding off stiff competition from many other schools throughout the county.

In our first competition at Shanagore, Innishannon on 6 March fifteen schools competed with each school team being represented by four riders. Kinsale CS was ably represented by Eva Rossiter, Caitlin Mulligan, Siobhan Cast and Ciara Walsh.

It was a challenging course for the young riders to negotiate but Eva Rossiter had the fastest clear round of the entire competition. Incredibly for a first outing the team came second overall, being pipped for top prize by just 0.48 of a second!

Due to their dedication and training and thanks to great support from Zoe Barrett's equestrian centre beside our school, the team demonstrated that while they may be young they were well up to the standards of more established school teams.

The second competition took place at Maryville Centre in Carrigaline on 20 March. Consistent performances from two teams were rewarded with a good showing for the school thanks to Ciara Walsh, Siobhan Cast, Caitlin Mulligan, Eva Rossiter, Niamh Kelly, Ciara Judge, Erin O'Sullivan and Niamh O'Neill.

The third competition of the year was the Muskerry Hunter Trial at Aherla when our school teams came first and second in the event, beating off stiff competition from 22 other teams. Caitlin Mulligan and Eva Rossiter took first in the school's event with Joan Tyner and Isabelle Lordan taking second place.

Many students have already signed on for next year and we look forward to a strong season. In these times it's worth reflecting on the fact that the recent visit of Queen Elizabeth highlighted the importance of equestrian sports to Ireland. After first respecting the history of our two islands she went to see where the world's finest horses are raised. Ireland is the third-largest producer of thoroughbreds in the world and the industry is important in economic terms, employing nearly 30,000 people.



Eva Rossiter with Prancer

MUNSTER STAR AWARDS

At the Munster Star Awards banquet held earlier this year in Cahir, Jessica Sheehan was awarded the Track and Field Juvenile Award for Cork. Her coming first in the 100M, 200M, long jump and triple jump was recognised by this award as was her being part of the Irish team that competed in the Celtic Games.

Recently Jessica represented the school in the South Munster Schools competition where she came first in the triple jump and second in the 100M, and in the Munster Schools where she won the triple jump. Previously Jessica broke the triple jump record for junior girls – a record which had stood for eleven years, so well done!



Jessica with her award

FORMULA 1

The F1 in Schools Competition is a four-part competition involving designing, manufacturing, marketing and racing a model of a Formula One car against teams from other schools around the country.

This year was the first time our school entered this competition. Our car was made from Balsa wood which is a very soft wood commonly used in model making. It was powered using small CO2 canisters of gas that propelled it down a 20 metre track at speeds of up to 180 km per hour in approximately 1.38 seconds.

Team Kinsale Hammerheads first entered the competition back in October 2010 when they submitted a five page plan giving a brief overview of their design ideas and team identity. The six members of the team were: Melissa O'Neill (Team Manager/Marketing /Communications Manager) Liam Lanigan and Jack Coffey (Design Engineers) David Milligan and Brian O'Leary (Manufacturing Engineers) and Liam McCarthy (Graphic Designer).

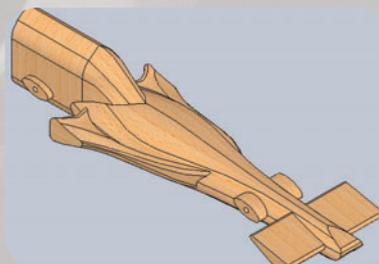
Each pupil had a specific role within the team and they had to work together constructively to produce a scaled model 1:20 of a Formula One car. Our car's design was based on the hammer head shark which has a very unique design that is thought to help the shark find food, aiding in close-quarters manoeuvrability and allowing sharp turning movement without losing stability. The hammer would also shift and provide lift when moving through water and the car was designed in such a manner that gave down-force to the car.

Our stand was a very important part of our project. We decided to base the design of our stand on a Formula One car. The stand was built in our school's woodwork room by team member and woodwork student David Milligan. The stand was built, sanded and painted with primer by the team. We de-

ecided a professional paint job would be needed to make sure our stand was up to professional standard.

We were successful in progressing to the regional finals which were held at the University of Limerick on 11 March but were narrowly beaten on the race track to the national finals by 0.2 of a second. Despite this disappointment we look forward to the school competing again next year.

Hammerheads



Brian O'Leary, Melissa O'Neill, Liam Lanigan, David Milligan, Liam McCarthy



Fundraising

The school's Student Council under the direction of Ms Nicola Murphy along with Ms Kelly's Fifth Year LCVP class joined forces this year and organised a dinner dance with the proceeds going to Irish Cancer Society and the Injured Jockeys Fund. Well done to the Fifth Years for displaying initiative and excellent organisation skills in the holding of the dinner dance which was a most enjoyable night for the students.



Joan Tyner and Clare Tyner receive a cheque from Student Council members on behalf of the Injured Jockeys Fund.



Rosie Donnelly, Niamh McCarthy, Chloe Kelleher and Ciara Edmonds who were all members of the organising committee for the dinner dance



Members of the Student Council and Miss Kelly's LCVP class

SECOND YEAR CSPE

As part of their Junior Cert CSPE students must undertake an action project. Class 2A1 went on a visit to the RNLI in Kinsale. They were given a great welcome by the volunteers who gave them a presentation and very useful information on the voluntary and vital service they provide. Students tried on the wet suits and sat into the boat and learned a lot about the RNLI.

Meanwhile students from 2A3 undertook the following project which they write about here:

As part of our CSPE project, we invited a guest speaker to talk to us about the law. We asked Garda James O'Mahony who is stationed in Bandon and is a Juvenile Liaison Officer based in Bandon. He deals with underage criminal activity.

Last year he dealt with nearly two hundred underage crimes, most of which involved drinking and the use of drugs. Out of the two hundred cases only three of them went to court with the remainder receiving counselling or being put on a warning. Garda O'Mahony told us about Garda training and that local Gardaí do not carry hand guns but that there is a special

armed Garda response unit.

CSPE helps us learn about the society we live in and whilst doing our CSPE project we have had a great time.

Holly McCarthy & Lyndsey Bowles



2A1 students listen attentively

KCS

Knitting, Cooking and Sewing took on a whole new meaning for the Junior Cert class of 2011, such were the high standards achieved at this year's Junior Cert practical exams in April. While all students completed projects of merit a number of students produced items that surpassed all expectations.

Robert Crowley exhibited a patchwork quilt of exceptional quality which involved the precise cutting-out of over one hundred hexagons before hand-stitching them together over many months to create a stunning piece.

Sarah O'Donovan designed and produced a pair of appliqué curtains. Clearly the work of a student of extraordinary talent! Daisy Pemble knitted a gorgeous Afghan shawl with cable design. Indre Riaukaite knitted a pair of socks complete with decorative pom-poms. Laura White knitted a full size jumper while Alex Black provided an example of ribbon embroidery which was beautifully executed and framed. A special mention goes to Laura McCarthy who served up a delicious fish pie worthy of inclusion on any seafood restaurant menu.

Other pieces of work included knitted hats, scarves, bags and embroidered tray-cloths as well as pictures, cushion covers and rugs. The standard of practical work was really top-class and it bodes well for the students and their overall exam results so well done to all!



Robert Crowley



Sarah O'Donovan



Some of the students' handiwork

Practical Subjects

One of the distinguishing features of Kinsale Community School is the fact that it offers a very broad range of subjects

catering to the different talents and intelligences of students. Those who do practical subjects are usually very enthusiastic about them and this fact can be seen from the quality and standard of work they produce in making various items. Practical subjects display the talent and giftedness of our students.



Barry Hogan from Y3 with his and other projects



Mateusz Rudak's locker and Deirdre Allen's lamp



Dara Daly who received a prize at the end of the year for being most improved technical graphics student



Chelsea Campbell and Chantelle McCarthy from Y3 with woodwork projects



Mark Eaton's snowmobile for his LC Engineering project



Examples of fine work for LC projects from Alan Gould (church) and Mateusz Plak (table)



Y2 woodwork students

PAST PUPILS

Over the years our school has had the privilege of educating some outstanding individuals. For our current students it can be inspiring to read an account of some of the experiences of our past pupils and how the education they received in this school has assisted them in their career and life's journey. In this edition of the newsletter we focus on two girls who were students during the early years of Kinsale Community School.

Bronwyn Connolly

From what years did you attend Kinsale Community School?
1996 - 1999

What were your favourite subjects in school?
Business Studies was my favourite subject - George Hayes was a legend! I also enjoyed History & English.

What are your best and worst memories of being a student in Kinsale?

I will always remember my first day. It's actually strange to recall it but what a memory! I'll never forget the excitement of moving into KCS, huge anticipation hung over me and my friends, as the convent had talked of nothing but the new community school. I remember standing in the C corridor with my friends and saying, 'Wow! This place is huge!'

What do you remember most about your time in school?

I would have to say my friends. I created some of the best memories of my youth and built friendships that would last a lifetime in Kinsale Community School. Years on I've travelled to wonderful parts of the world, experienced life and met wonderful people, all with girls I sat next to in school!

Any funny incidents or stories?

I was a terror for not wearing full uniform and nearly a professional at dodging Fionnuala McCarthy who was uniform inspector and teacher extraordinaire! Well one day I was poncing down the C block in my Nike runners and jeans, thinking I was invincible and suddenly I realised I had been spotted! I babbled my excuses but my luck had run out! I was frog-marched up to the office and low and behold Fionnuala had a spare skirt in her office... 3 times larger than the skirt I should have been wearing! One whole day in school with skinny white legs, black socks, Nike runners and a skirt 3 times too big meant that I never forgot my uniform again!

Were you involved in extra-curricular activities?

If you could call driving my parents mad and being a general pain an extra-curricular activity, then yes!

When you finished school what career path did you take?

Where did you go and what did you do?

I did lots of things! It took me a few years to really figure out what I wanted to do. I studied occupational therapy in the UK for a year before realising it wasn't for me. I then did a course in dental nursing and pursued that for a while and whilst I enjoyed it I wanted something more. So I decided to take a course in marketing, advertising and PR and it was during this course that I discovered I had a flair for not-for-profit marketing!

Once I had finished my diploma in UCC I registered with the Institute of Fundraising in the UK and received my Certificate in



Fundraising Practise. After my studies I was lucky enough to have been appointed Project Coordinator on the Sáile project and spent six years coordinating and fundraising for phase one of the project. This was a fantastic opportunity for me and fed my ambition to work more in this sector. In April 2010 I was appointed as the Fundraising Executive for Barretstown and I haven't looked back.

Did school or things to do with school influence you in any way in your career?

Kinsale Community School had a real altruistic vibe. Sister Mary always had some collection or charity event happening, so yes, I think it rubbed off and influenced my career choices. She was a great role model for the students, lobbying everyone and anyone for our new school. All those years of patience and persistence paid off benefiting the entire community for years to come. I think it taught us that nothing is impossible if you put your mind to it!

Where are you working now and what would you say about your job and the work you do?

I work with Barretstown – one of Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Camps where we restore confidence, self esteem and normality to children and their families who have been affected by childhood cancer. It's a wonderful organisation that has amazing and positive effects on the children and their families. Working in Barretstown (www.barretstown.org) has really opened my eyes. It has made me realise how precious life is and how important your family is. I love the work I do, waking up in the morning and knowing that your day will help to bring smiles and endless laughter to a sick child - that feeling is priceless!

What advice, if any, would you have for students who are currently in Kinsale Community School?

Don't stress too much if you don't know what career path you would like to follow and try and gain experience during summer breaks if you're not sure. Always stay positive, even if you're not top of the class, or getting the grades. Keep smiling, try not to worry and surround yourself with your friends. Everything always works out!

Theresa Ahern

From what years did you attend Kinsale Community School?

I attended the Convent of Mercy, Kinsale from 1991-1996 and moved to Kinsale Community School for my Leaving Cert year in 1996/1997.

What were your favourite subjects in school?

Maths, Chemistry and Physics.

What do you remember most about your time in school? Any funny incidents or stories?

I really enjoyed Fifth Year and Leaving Cert years with the move to the new school and the addition of the Transition Year students from the year ahead of us to our year. Their class was the first year to do Transition Year and I remember thinking how grown up they were!

Were you involved in extra-curricular activities?

Music has always been a big part of my life. I have great memories of Sister Kieran in the convent teaching me the piano!

When you finished school what career path did you take?

Where did you go and what did you do? Did school or things to do with school influence you in any way in your career? After my Leaving Cert, I knew I was interested in science so I chose to study Industrial Chemistry at the University of Limerick. Compared to other secondary schools, we were lucky to perform a lot of the science experiments on the curriculum rather than just reading through them. I think this sparked my interest in science as it is a very hands-on, interactive subject.

During my third year at UL I had the opportunity to work in Eli Lilly Kinsale for eight months on a student programme. This gave me the experience to work in industry and find out more about the different jobs that you can do with a science degree. During my experience in Lilly I was influenced by colleagues and decided to do a PhD in Organic Chemistry at University College Dublin.

Where are you working now and what would you say about your job and the work you do?

I spent a year travelling after I finished college and then joined Eli Lilly. I have had some great opportunities these past years, including an 18-month assignment in the US. I have changed roles several times and now work in the IE42 biotechnology plant. I am currently doing a Masters in Biotechnology as part of my new role. My work is really varied and I really enjoy moving between different roles.



What advice, if any, would you have for students who are currently in Kinsale Community School?

It's not always easy to know what you want to do when you leave school. If you know you want to be a teacher, dentist, nurse or doctor then you are very lucky as such jobs entail a clear college and career path. However, if you are like I was and don't know exactly what job you like, then chose subjects that interest you! I had Pharmacy on my CAO form until the last minute before changing my course to Industrial Chemistry! I'm really glad how things have worked out as I didn't know all the opportunities that are out there when I made that decision.

Your Leaving Cert is only a stepping stone in your career. That said, it opens doors when you're going for college courses and starting out, so study hard!



Flower - by Sarah Black



Shattered - by Robert Crowley

DRAGON DROPS IN

On Friday 18 February Transition Year students were treated to a visit by well known entrepreneur Bobby Kerr of RTE Dragons' Den fame. Mr Kerr was in Kinsale as part of a Kinsale Town Council and Chamber of Tourism initiative to help kick-start enterprising ideas in the community. Also present were Alan Clayton (town council member and Fairtrade advocate) and Peter Gaynor, chairman of Fairtrade Ireland.

During a very lively and interesting question and answer session students got an insight into the world of business and heard many an entertaining tale of Mr Kerr's input into Irish enterprise and culture. They also learned about Fairtrade Ireland as Mr Gaynor outlined how it operates and the ideals behind it. They found out that Mr Kerr is a great supporter of the principles behind Fairtrade as he explained how his own business – the Insomnia Café chain – supports this project one hundred percent. This is illustrated by the fact that due to their involvement in the project, their raw material costs increased by 7% but the business choose to take the hit on their profit figure rather than pass the increased cost onto customers. Mr

Kerr explained that he felt it was a small price to pay to ensure that producers are guaranteed a decent price for their produce.

Overall this visit was a great hit with Transition Year students as Mr Kerr is a very entertaining and talented speaker. He gave a very informative and honest account of his business life to date. He just had time to fit in a very quick photo opportunity with the students before he had to rush back to Dublin to appear on the Late Late Show later that night.



Darcy McGahan, Anna Henderson, Peter Gaynor, Alan Clayton, Bobby Kerr, Danni Romero & Erin O'Brien

VISIT OF AMBASSADOR

In February the Irish Ambassador to Russia, His Excellency Mr Philip McDonagh, visited the school where he spoke to students about his life as a diplomat, his role in the Northern Ireland peace process and about his poetry.

This opportunity to hear first-hand an account of the machinations involved in the negotiations surrounding the peace process was of particular interest to senior history students who listened attentively to the ambassador's talk. The students of our school are particularly fortunate that each year a number of high-profile individuals come to our school to engage with the students and to broaden their education.



Philip McDonagh with Dmitry Medvedev



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