



# St. Mary's NEWSLETTER

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## ART DEPARTMENT

### The Creative Engagement Project, 'Unique'

*An art installation in porcelain created by first year students with Artist-In-Residence, Isobel Egan*

This year the Art department at St. Mary's found itself in the fortunate position of being accepted to participate in the Creative Engagement Project run by Dermot Carney and the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals. The project showcases second level arts projects and is supported by the Department of Education and Science and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Further support was given graciously to the project by Mary Greene, Education Officer, at the National Museum of Decorative Arts, Collins Barracks.

St. Mary's project is a large art installation, 'Unique', created by our first year students and our Artist-In-Residence, Isobel Egan. It is hung in the school building. The work consists of just under one hundred and fifty crafted porcelain buttons. Our first year students remained constantly at the centre of the creative process. They each designed and crafted two buttons. Each student made her own personal response to the project and retained this visual evidence and reflection in a creative journal. The students learned

the skills necessary to work with the properties of porcelain, clay preparation, slab rolling, impressing / drawing into a clay surface, relief work, glazing and slips and finally art installation. The response to the project from our first year students was extremely positive. "I liked the colours", Emma Russell. "It was fun to work with the porcelain and it was very interesting", Yashwini Ramdonee.

'Unique' explores the imagination and originality of every participating young artist. It echoes the words of Albert Einstein that "Imagination is more important than knowledge". Each button packs an extraordinary amount of information about a given time and place of origin. Personality is impressed upon every tiny space. Buttons when made by artists become art objects. The installation spells the word 'Unique'. It is glazed in subtle colours such as robin's egg blue, taupe and dusty lavender. It captures something special about each student through self-expression. It has been a privilege for the art department and our first year students to work with Isobel throughout this wonderful collaboration.



Artist Isobel Egan and TY

## St. Mary's Secondary School



### MISSION STATEMENT

*St. Mary's follows the Holy Faith Philosophy of creating a school community whose central purpose is the religious, moral, intellectual, human, social and physical-recreational education of the student. The education programme of the school is directed to the growth of the whole person. It aims to form integrated and self-reliant Christian people who are eager to build a better world.*

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# ART DEPARTMENT (contd.)

Isobel graduated from The National College of Art and Design with a Masters in Ceramics. Her work has been acquired by the National Museum of Ireland and by the Yingge Ceramics Museum in Taipei County, Taiwan. She is a member of the International Academy of Ceramics, Crafts Council of Ireland, The Arts Council and The Teaching Council of Ireland. Isobel's work has been inspired by the architectural writings of Phyllis Richardson, Peter Gray on Psychology and Gaston Bachelard's 'The Poetics of Space'. The integrity of her work is evident in her delicate porcelain box structures. They represent miniscule environments and explore personal space, memory and the human psyche. She combines nylon fibres with porcelain slip to make work that is thin and paper-like. In her artist's statement Isobel says, "I am drawn to porcelain for its translucent pallor and its delicacy".

Isobel has won many awards including the Taylor Award 1999 and was shortlisted for the Golden Fleece Award 2006. In 2006 she represented Ireland at The European Ceramic Context Exhibition in Denmark and in 2010 was selected for The Taiwan Ceramics Biennale in Taipei. Isobel continues to exhibit nationally and internationally and her work is found in both public and private collections. Examples of her work can be found at [www.isobelegan ceramics.com](http://www.isobelegan ceramics.com).

The art installation 'Unique' at St. Mary's was officially opened by Dermot Carney, NAPD in May 2013 and will later be exhibited at The National Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks, in October 2013.

Ms. C. Kavanagh and Ms. N. Cunningham

## Transition Year Art Programme

Transition year students visited the South African Anti-Apartheid Movement Exhibition held in the Rotunda Room of City Hall, Dame Street, in April. The exhibition was aimed at profiling all the work that the former Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement members, their families and associates carried out in support of South Africa's liberation. The exhibition, organised by the South African embassy, featured an assortment of Irish Anti-Apartheid posters, leaflets, press cuttings, photographs, documentaries and interviews, including some memorabilia relating to the, "Boycott South African Goods Campaign" and the Dunnes Stores' strike. Students also worked on a ceramic tile wall installation with ceramic artist Isobel Egan. The piece was inspired by the T.Y programme and will be on permanent display in the school. Each tile was individually modelled in relief in terracotta clay. The students learned the clay techniques of slab rolling, modelling and carving clay in low and high relief. Literacy and Numeracy skills were promoted in the block-printing scheme where each student explored the narrative in her favourite book and created an original book cover using lino-printing techniques.



## Fundraising for The Creative Engagement Project – Cake Sale



Ms. Kavanagh, Ms. Cunningham and bake-off winners



Busy bake sale



Ms. Murphy and Ms. Walker

The first years have embarked on several fundraising endeavours for their Creative Engagement Project with Artist-In-Residence, Isobel Egan.

They learned the skill of origami box making by recycling interesting papers and sold them for Friendship Week and Mother's Day. Each box held a personalised sentiment.

Also, on April 11th, in conjunction with the Art department, the first year students held a fundraising event to raise money for their beautiful porcelain button project. The event took the form of a biscuit and bun sale with an art-inspired 'bake-off'. There were amazing entries from both teachers and students. Many thanks to all of those who contributed baked goods and to those who helped to set up and run the event.

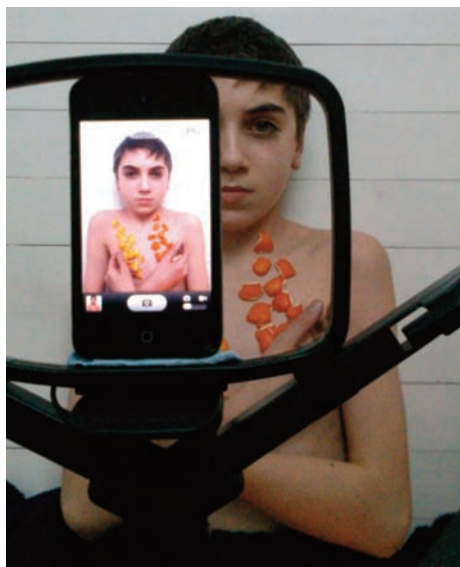
Huge congratulations also to our competition winners:

- 1st Brooke Christie 1st Year
- 2nd Emma Russell 1st Year
- 3rd Ms. Walsh
- 4th Gemma O'Reilly 1st Year

Ms. C. Kavanagh and  
Ms. N. Cunningham



# ART DEPARTMENT (contd.)



For the Art Leaving Certificate course we are required to have the knowledge of many different, unique and popular artists both nationally and internationally. Instead of learning them formally – the weary way! – our art class took on a fun, educational task. We each picked one particular artist to study individually, making a final piece of art work involving elements

influenced by the studied artist. The crafts involved included amazing paintings, collages, modelling and even film! This project allowed us to expand our imaginations and be as creative as possible. I studied the modern Irish artist, Alice Maher. Recognised for her psychologically deep and almost controversial fairy-tale like pieces, I found Maher to be an utterly quirky yet heart warming artist when I visited her exhibition, 'Becoming', at IMMA (Irish Museum of Modern Art) as part of my research. I found this method of learning educational and enjoyable as we were given a certain amount of time to complete our independent projects.

One of the two main themes Maher explores that was appealing to me was nature and culture. One of her famous pieces I really warmed to was the "Berry Dress" – exactly what is says on the tin – a small child's dress made from real red berries! This dress represents the innocence she had as a child, joyfully picking red berries in her native countryside town. The sharp pins hidden on the inside may symbolise the underlying discord of nature and how we as a people are so close to nature yet we find it difficult to fit in with nature in life. I really related to Alice Maher as an artist. I also chose to use natural materials for my project in which I made a three minute stop-motion film involving the torn skin of grapefruit.



The print pictured is print four of an edition of four entitled, 'Burn', that was created for Blackberry's "Keep Moving" campaign. The campaign hosted a competition with author Neil Gaiman to illustrate his 'Calendar of Tales', a set of twelve stories inspired by the months of the year. My print set was inspired by 'August Tale'. Although it was not chosen as the final illustration, I made the shortlist, and am delighted to have had my work chosen by my favourite author.

**Shauna Caffrey, sixth year student**

Completely new to this idea I enjoyed making my own materials from scratch. Like Maher there is no one meaning behind my piece. I have many meanings and boxed in problems which this piece releases. The meaning skirts around identity, metaphorically living in someone else's skin, how we are a part of nature and don't notice it, how close we are with nature, how all of our skins/personalities are different and how often we hide behind our own skins and how we change as people throughout life. "Grapefruit" also has the second title, "The Forbidden Fruit". For this reason and for the fact that there is a texture, scent and contrast in each skin layer I chose to use the grapefruit. A hint of secrecy is no harm!

**Aoife McKenna, fifth year student**

## Second Year Botanic Gardens Mask-Making Project

All second year Art students, having visited the Botanic Gardens for a research trip back in term one, designed and created spectacular carnival masks during term two. Students had the opportunity to explore 2D design, 3D making, as well as problem solving appropriate decorating techniques. Well done girls, for all your excellent work.

## Art Club

This term Art Club has been focusing on animation. Students have made super thaumotropes, and are working on a short animation inspired by the paintings of their choice from the National Gallery of Ireland.

## Fifth Year Art

Fifth year Art students have been studying graphic design. We were each given a task to complete where we had to create a visual aid on a certain topic of a school subject we had chosen. We had to liaise with the teacher of our chosen subject. On the poster, we had to present information and use pictures.

I think visual aids give us a better understanding of a topic and help us to become more engaged in our own learning. They are also useful for teachers to have around the classroom since they teach a topic effectively. Not only have I found this project useful – but also very enjoyable.

**Hazel Aliwalas, 5th Year**

Hazel's project focused on the lead content in lipstick and how that might affect our health. She worked with Mr. Carr and Ms. McCormack for her

research as her topic involved both chemistry and biology.

I greatly appreciate the time teachers have given to the fifth year graphic design students; and the results are really interesting and look fantastic!

**Ms. Cunningham**

*"Imagination and the creative impulse are released in a child not so they can become a great artist but so they can become themselves".*

**Mark Patrick Hederman.**

Abbot of Glenstal Abbey. (Former headmaster of Glenstal Abbey).

Ms. C. Kavanagh and Ms. N. Cunningham would like to congratulate all our exam students on their hard work, commitment and creativity and wish them great success in the Junior and Leaving Certificate examinations.



# ART DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## Fashion Talk with Frances McDonogh, former Head of Department, Fashion and Textiles, N.C.A.D 1989 – 2004

All students from first to sixth year were invited to hear our guest speaker, Frances Mc Donogh, discuss the fashion industry and her life as a shoe designer from the 1960s through to the 1980s. She also discussed her experience as a tutor of fashion at third level and gave valuable insights into the outcome of some of her students while working in N.C.A.D.

We would like to thank her kindly for volunteering to speak to our students, showing her design portfolios and her generosity of spirit in allowing us to try on a selection of former student Phillip Tracey's hats at the end of the talk!

Ms. C. Kavanagh and  
Ms. N. Cunningham



## MODERN LANGUAGES – SPANISH

### Transition Year

This year we have been experiencing tapas first hand. Firstly, we made tapas ourselves and then we spent a Friday morning (Friday 22nd February) with a Spanish chef, Roberto. He demonstrated how to make Paella, Albondigas and Patatas Bravas. ¡Qué delicioso! We then helped Roberto to make these dishes and finally had a fiesta. It was a fantastic experience. As Roberto spoke to us in Spanish this was a great opportunity to practise the language. Shannon, Aoife and Emily (TY)



### Spanish Film



On Monday 14th January, TY and fifth year students went to the IFI to see Guillermo del Toro's film, "Pan's Labyrinth". This film showed us the strange and very frightening world of this well-known Spanish director. This was followed up in school when both TY and fifth year students watched the film, "The Orphanage" by the same director.

During the week of the 22nd of April, our sixth year students put their oral Spanish into practice as they did their Leaving Certificate Oral exams. Well done girls for all your hard work and practice prior to the exams.

Señoras Hughes y Higgins



# P.E. AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

## T.Y. Outdoor Pursuits Trip to Galway



It was an excited group of transition year students who waited in the school car park for the bus to the Petersburg Outdoor Education Centre in Galway. They were laden down with rucksacks, hiking boots, sleeping bags and of course the essential bag of goodies! The trip lived up to all our expectations, providing the girls with the opportunity to try a variety of different activities, from hill walking to kayaking and everything in between.

A good time was had by all, despite the Irish weather. Many of the girls are even considering taking up some of the activities on a more permanent basis. We would delicately encourage them to try the Great Outdoor experience. We would also like to thank parents for providing their daughters with this wonderful opportunity.



## It's Zumba Time!!!



A professional Zumba teacher came to St. Mary's bringing the hip twisting, heart pumping exercise dance to our PE hall. Our second, third and fifth year students got the fantastic opportunity during PE class to experience this form of exercise and they thoroughly enjoyed it. Due to the success of these classes we invited the Zumba teachers to do a once off lunch time experience for all and the gym flooded with students from first to sixth year. We would like to thank Anna and Victor for sharing their love of Zumba with the girls.

## Lunchtime Activities

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in setting up and running the lunchtime rounders and "Ultimate Frisbee" clubs. The girls really enjoyed taking part and are looking forward to next year's competitions already.

## Badminton

To the senior Badminton players: Jane Fabian, Ranzanellie Caranay, Eve Kavanagh, Paulina Buczkowska, Kimi Umpad, Berlith Lumapas, You have been great representatives of St. Mary's over the past number of years. Your dedication, sportsmanship and enthusiasm have made it a joy to coach you and it was great to see you develop both as players and as individuals. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you the best of luck in the future and hope that you continue your involvement in Badminton.

**Mrs. A Moggan and Ms. D. Maher**



## St. Mary's Holy Faith Soccer Team

Our recently re-established soccer team made a great start this year, competing in two competitions. At Junior level, we competed in a F.A.I Futsal Blitz, reaching the final in what was a very competitive day of soccer. All the players showed great determination and skill on the day and were unlucky not to come out on top. The Under 17 Girls' Soccer team competed in the F.A.I Dublin Schools' League and made great strides in their first year in the competition, qualifying for the quarter final out of the group stages. While there were some great individual performances, the team as a whole gave some excellent displays.

Our soccer girls were also very energetic off the field, raising money for a set of soccer jerseys, shorts and socks for the team. A big thank you to all involved and to Craft Foods for supplying an excellent hamper for the raffle. Hopefully next year the soccer teams will continue making great progress and bring home some silverware!

**Mr. N. Beirne**





# P.E. AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT (contd.)



## St Mary's Hockey



Congratulations to all the hockey teams on their successes this season. It is fantastic to be able to report that this year was successful for St. Mary's hockey teams as they reached two finals! Unfortunately it was not St. Mary's year for bringing home the trophies. None the less, it was a terrific achievement to have qualified for two Northside league finals again.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in helping with hockey this year and for making it a great success. Thank you also to the players who attended training in all weathers and who subbed for different teams this year. You stepped up to the level so well and made a huge difference when needed. The support we received from the side line was brilliant all year, with lots of parents, teachers and friends supporting, even on the chilly and rainy days. Thank you to all those who cheered us on along the way!

### Senior Hockey – Northside League Finalists



Senior Team

The senior team, aka 'Action Hero Team', started its hockey season with a training blitz. This was a great starter and team bonding session especially after their mock exams! They entered the Northside League and played some very closely contested matches. The team notched up wins against long established hockey schools such as Holy Faith Clontarf and had two closely contested matches against Skerries. Unfortunately, they were narrowly beaten by Skerries in the Final, with a golden goal in extra time. The girls played an excellent match but unfortunately it was not their day this year. Congratulations to the team on getting to the final once again.

### Third Year Hockey – Junior

The Junior team entered the Leinster League and played against teams such as Dundalk Grammar, St. Wolstan's and Tullamore. The girls competed very well in the Leinster League, but were unable to win their group. The Junior team missed out on reaching a final this year but is now even more determined for next year.



3rd Year – Junior Team

### TY (4th Year) Hockey – Northside League Finalists



TY – Junior Team/Senior Team

Having won the Northside and Leinster titles last year the Junior team was now competing in a higher division. It was competing in the Senior division of the Leinster league. This proved to be a difficult transition and it did not qualify for the Leinster Final. The team played in the Northside league at Junior level and had excellent wins against teams such as Mt. Temple and St. Wolstan's to qualify for the Northside League Final. The girls played a fantastic final against Sutton Park and did everything right. Unfortunately, despite numerous shots on goal, they just could not get that winning goal on the day. The team thoroughly enjoyed training, showing great dedication and enthusiasm throughout the year. Well done to the team on a fantastic year and for qualifying for another final!

### First Year Hockey

We are delighted to have a first year hockey team this year. The team was so enthusiastic at training and has shown a fantastic advancement in its skill and knowledge of hockey throughout the year. The first year team entered the Northside League with huge anticipation and excitement at playing its first matches representing St Mary's. It won matches against The King's Hospital and Cabra. The team missed out on reaching a final this year but is now even more determined for next year.

Well done to all our goalies this year! They made some outstanding saves, almost like Inspector Gadget!! The achievements of the school this year are a huge credit to all involved and have without doubt inspired and encouraged the uptake of hockey in the school for the future. The St Mary's girls certainly do have a passion for hockey! We highly recommend everyone to come along and join hockey.

***First to the ball, last to give up...go St Mary's!!***

***Onwards and Upwards next year!!***



1st Year Team

Ms. Boran, Ms. Maher, Ms. O'Keeffe and Ms. Cunningham



# P.E. AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## Basketball

**Another successful year for basketball in St Mary's!**

Our seniors reached the quarter final of the SSA league in the premier division. They played against Mt. Sackville. Although the girls put up a good fight they were defeated in the end. Well done to the girls for their commitment and determination throughout the season. We will be sad to say good bye to some of our sixth years and we hope they continue to play in years to come.

Our first year students also reached the quarter final of the division 1 league. They played against St Paul's. The match was a very close contest with St Mary's leading up to the third quarter. Unfortunately they were narrowly defeated in the closing minutes of the game.

Our second and third year teams also participated to a high standard in their leagues, which helped them to develop for next year.

Our season finished with a tournament against St. Louis Rathmines on Thursday 26th May. There were spot prizes for participation and skills on the day.

Well done to all players for their commitment to training throughout the season.

Ms. E. Murphy and Ms. D. Maher



Senior Basketball Team

## St. Mary's Holy Faith Gaelic Team

Our Under 14 girls had a very impressive run this year, reaching the Dublin finals. After winning all our games to qualify for the Dublin Final Blitz day, we were unlucky not to come away with something. The girls showed great energy and commitment on a day in which snow showers were the norm, highlighting the great pride they show in wearing the school's jersey. These girls will make a great addition to the already accomplished Junior and Senior Gaelic teams in the school in the coming years.



Mr. N. Beirne

## Camogie



Camogie in the school was highlighted this year by the visit to DCU where the girls participated in a tournament called, "Sport agus Spraoi". They won six out of seven of their games. The team has been entered in a championship and league for next year. There is a very talented panel of players in St Mary's and we hope that the constant flow of games next year will bring out the best in the girls and they will participate to the best of their ability. The girls have organised a fundraiser to raise money for sports for the matches next year. It is something that we look forward too and we can't wait for next year.

Ms. Moloney and Ms. Shelly



## PoP Up Activities in St. Mary's



It is estimated that in order to achieve the national physical activity guideline of sixty minutes of physical activity daily, a child should be accumulating at least fifteen thousand steps per day. This is higher than the adult target of at least ten thousand steps daily and reflects the need for children to engage in physical activity to help their healthy growth and development.

Life moves at such a pace today .... Everything is so instant, fast and furious!

Everything is PoP Up – the fashion is Pop Up cafes, restaurants, shops! Even our fitness is becoming PoP Up to keep up with our busy lives! PoP Up Activities came to St Mary's this term in the form of PoP Up Fitness! It was quick, fast and furious... of the moment!

Well done to all the students and teachers who took the PoP Up Fitness challenge! Here today gone tomorrow ... *but it will be back ...* Who knows where PoP Up Fitness will PoP Up...?!



Ms. Boran



# SPHE DEPARTMENT



This term the school celebrated friendship week. The school community did various activities to promote friendship in the school and to

stand up against bullying. Some of the events were as follows. On the first day everyone in the school wrote a characteristic of friendship which was important to them on a strip of paper. These strips of paper were then joined to make paper chains around the school corridors. All year groups viewed a film where the theme of friendship was prominent. A games club ran in the library for students every day at lunchtime. Breakfast club was transformed into 'friendship cafe' and students were served hot chocolate while they chatted in the morning. All junior SPHE and senior Religion classes made friendship bracelets with a button and a bell on them – the button to symbolise the closing of bullying and the bell serves as a reminder to always be kind. First year history students examined 'Friendship throughout the ages'. On the final day during pastoral time the entire school made a human chain around the school while listening to iconic songs on friendship such as 'Imagine' and 'Lean on Me'. Friendship week was enjoyed by all and should have a lasting impact on the school community. Many thanks from the SPHE department to the Parents' Association for funding the lovely friendship bracelets that each student in the school made and gifted to another.

Ms. O. A. Griffin and Ms. N. Cunningham



Friendship Bracelets



Friendship Café

## World Culture Day

On March 15th, we celebrated world cultures in St. Mary's as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge. On the day, we enjoyed a myriad of talent and tasty treats from around the world. Students and their parents provided delicious tasters of their favourite foods, representing typical dishes from their home countries.

Students played instruments, sang national anthems and pop songs, and performed traditional and contemporary dance routines. Having delighted the audience with their wonderful performances, all the first year students and performers had the opportunity to sample a selection of delicious dishes.

A big thank you from Ms. Cunningham and Ms. Griffin to all the students who took part in performing and cooking. A special thank you also goes to Ms. Groszewski,

Mrs. Hughes, Mr. Coll and Ms. O Domhnaillain.



## Transition Year – Milk it Awards

Congratulations to Team 'Cows It Going'. Ciara King, Shannon O'Brien, Hayley Gorman, Eimear Martin, Eimear Tunstead and Briza Dechavez are through to the final of the National Dairy Council "Milk it" Awards. The girls promoted the importance of calcium in the diet through an advertising campaign that included initiatives such as a poster and leaflet campaign, their own board game, a rap song (which was aired on 98FM), and a 'Harlem milk shake flashmob'.





# RELIGION DEPARTMENT

## Stations of the Cross

The season of Lent is a significant time in the Church calendar. It is a time to reflect and to prepare ourselves to mark the death of Jesus Christ and celebrate His resurrection on Easter Sunday. Traditionally in St Mary's, images depicting the Stations of the Cross are displayed around the school building during the Lenten season. These images serve as a reminder to us of the suffering Christ endured for the sake of humanity. This year class 4Marlay designed and created its own images which portrayed scenes from the fourteen Stations of the Cross. These beautiful illustrations were then displayed around St. Mary's during the season of Lent. Well done to class 4Marlay. R.E Department

## Second Year Retreats

The second year retreats have become an important part of the school's diary and once again all second year classes were each given a day retreat in the Ruah Retreat Centre on St. Alphonsus Road, Drumcondra. Over the course of five weeks each class made its way down for some time out from its busy life. The retreat was a great opportunity for the classes to reflect and think about the greater things in life. Students learned a lot about themselves and about the others in their class. The retreat facilitators were full of praise for the second year students. They enjoyed working with the girls. The students said that they really loved the day and they felt it was something they would always remember.

Mr. C. Coll

## The Novena of Grace 2013

The Novena of Grace took place this year from the 4th to the 12th of March in the Prayer Room every lunchtime from 1.15 to 1.30pm.

A member of the Religion Department led the Prayer Service for all those who wished to take part and pray for special intentions.

Ms L. Bohan

## Faith Friends

Once again two of our fifth Year classes, 5 Nephin and 5 Kippure, took part in the "Faith Friends" Programme with Ms. Phelan's and Ms. Murphy's two sixth classes in St. Brigid's National School in February and March of this year.

All involved participated with great enthusiasm and found the weekly visits both enjoyable and enlightening. The programme culminated with two Prayer Services in the school Prayer Room where certificates were presented to the girls from St. Brigid's by our fifth year students. The service was enhanced by the beautiful singing of some members of the school choir.

It was a very worthwhile and enjoyable experience for all those involved and we would like to thank all those concerned, especially our fifth year students who represented the school so well.

Ms. L Bohan and Ms C. Murtagh.

## Graduation 2013

This year Graduation was held on Tuesday the 21st of May in the school gym. The theme chosen centred on "Trees" as the Sixth Year Classes are all named after trees and this was also the case when they arrived in St. Mary's as First Years. Our quote for the graduation was, "We plant the seeds that one day will grow".

This theme was chosen because of all the traits embodied by a tree such as strength, steadfastness, endurance, grace, life-enhancement and beauty. These are many of the traits or qualities shown by our sixth year students as they journeyed through the school from first to sixth year and grew in knowledge and maturity. To represent this, trees were placed on the walls of the gym with each student and her achievements represented on the leaves of each class tree.

The Mass was further enhanced by the readings of Claire Concannon, head girl, and Patricia O'Beirne and Ranzenaillie Caranay, her deputies. As part of the Offertory procession, students brought to the altar framed pictures of trees with their own thumb prints and those of their classmates. The talents of the students were evident in the various roles they fulfilled, ranging from singing and music to drama.

Mrs. Lennon addressed the graduating students and their parents with a heartfelt speech. Students were presented with certificates and emblems from Mrs. Lennon and Ms. Murphy. This was followed by the graduation speech from the head girl and her deputies.

On behalf of the Religion department we would like to thank all those who helped make graduation such a special occasion. Firstly, thank you to Mrs. Lennon and Ms. Murphy for their continued support of graduation. Thank you to Mr. McGill, the sixth year year head. Thanks also goes to the choir, under the direction of Ms. O'Rourke and Mr. Coll, whose beautiful singing enhanced the night. Thank you to the P.E. department who kindly gave us use of the gym and Ms. Moggan who always does a great job with the balloons. We would also like to thank all the staff who supported us in our preparation for graduation and who always come in such great numbers. Finally, thank you to Kieran and Gerry for all the work they put into transforming the gym.

## MODERN LANGUAGES – GERMAN

Transition year and fifth year German students enjoyed a visit to the I.F.I. Cinema in Temple Bar to see "Westwind", a film focusing on life behind the Iron Curtain. It depicts a romance between an East German oarswoman and Arne, a young man from Hamburg. With a 1980s soundtrack to set the scene, (featuring "The Cure" and "Depeche Mode") this film was a great hit with the girls.

Ms. N. Walker





# ROINN NA GAEILGE

Bhí téarma an-ghnóthach ag Roinn na Gaeilge ó thámgamar ar ais tar éis na Nollag. Cuireadh tús le Seachtain na Gaeilge ar an aonú lá déag de mhí an Mhárta. Reachtáladh an-chuid imeachtaí ar scoil le linn na seachtaine sin, ina measc: yoga as Gaeilge, seisiún ceoil, tóraíocht taisce, bíongó, taispeántas Paisean Faisean, rang cócaireachta trí mheán na Gaeilge agus comórtas na bpóstaer. Bhí an-spraoi ag na daltaí agus bhí sé thar a bheith taitneamhach. Tugadh aoi speisialta Paddy McKenna, ó RTÉ, isteach chun na scoile chun labhairt leis na cailíní faoina thuairimí féin i dtaobh na Gaeilge. Bronnadh duaiseanna ar chailíní a rinne iarracht mhór le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge tar éis na féile. Tugadh aitheantas faoi leith do chailíní a labhairt ar méid ba mhó Gaeilge i rith na seachtaine.

Cé is móite de Sheachtain na Gaeilge, tharla roinnt imeachtaí eile. Tháinig Jamie Ó Tuama, ó Ghael Linn, chun na scoile agus labhair sé le muintir na hidirbhliana mar gheall ar Choláistí Samhraidh. Chomh maith leis sin, tháinig Aodhán Ó Deá, ó Chonradh na Gaeilge, isteach lena "Sheó Bóthair". Labhair sé le muintir na hidirbhliana faoin nGaeilge, faoi stádas na Gaeilge sa tír agus faoin mbealach is fearr chun í a úsáid go laethúil. Thug Mrs Bogan caint bhreá uathí ar shaol agus ar ghaiscí Naomh Bhríde agus Naomh Phádraig. Caint shuimiúil a bhí inti gan aon agó agus tugadh lón machnamh do chách.

"An Céiliúradh Cainte". Ghlac cailíní ó rang Ms O' Donnellan páirt in ócáid urraithe agus labhair siad go hiomlán i nGaeilge ar feadh aon lá amháin! Bhí siad feistithe i dt-léinteacha buí a chuir go mór le hatmaisféar na hócáide. Bhailigh siad os cionn €400 ar son Headstrong; eagraíocht a oibríonn le daoine óga a bhfuil deacrachtaí meabhairshláinte acu. Reachtáladh ceolchoirm ag am lóin i halla na scoile agus bhí cóisir le piotsa acu ina diadh. D'éirigh go hiontach leo an Ghaeilge a labhairt agus a spreagadh i measc na ndaltaí eile. Bhí Ms O' Donnellan an-bhródúil astu.

I lár mhí Aibreáin cuireadh scrúduithe cainte ar dhaltaí i mbliain na hArdteiste. Rinne na cailíní iarracht mhór agus bhí na múinteoirí go léir breá sásta leo. Ba mhaith linn a chur i gcuimhne do dhaltai agus do thuismitheoirí go bhfuil 40% de na marcanna ag dul don scrúdú cainte agus go gcaithfidh daltaí i ngach bliain cleachtadh a dhéanamh go rialta ar a gcuid Gaeilge. Níl aon amhras ann ach gurb é an bealach is fearr chuige seo ná freastal ar chúrsa Gaeltachta le linn an tsamhraidh.

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil le foireann na scoile. Bíodh samhradh iontach agaibh go léir agus go néirí libh sna scrúduithe a chailíní.

**Roinn na Gaeilge**  
**Mrs. M. Devine, Mrs. C Bogan, Ms. N. O'Donnellan, Ms. L. Groszewski, Ms. E.**



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## First Year English

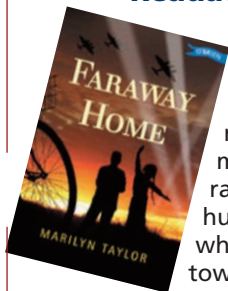
As part of St. Mary's Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, our first years were set the target of reading at least five novels this year. The novels, included "Faraway Home", "Zlata's Diary", "Little Women", "Sisters No Way" and "Skulduggery Pleasant", gave the girls an opportunity to read different genres of English novels. After reading each novel the student then completed a book review of it. Well done to all in Daisy, Heather, Jasmine, Orchid and Primrose – they're well on their way to hitting their reading targets!  
**The English department**

## The Mary Carroll Library

**Computerised System Update**  
 We are continuing with the process of uploading our

fiction books onto our new computerised system. We plan to get to Z by the end of the school year. Once all the fiction books are on the system, students can be logged on!

## Readathon



The library readathon managed to raise two hundred euro which went towards paying the

annual fee for our new computerised system. It was a great success. The winning student was Alicia Lynch from 1 Daisy. Alicia took home the first prize of a hamper of

goodies. Well done to all students who participated in the readathon.

## St. Michael's House Book Sale

We had our annual 'Bring a Book, Buy a Book' sale in aid of St. Michael's House this term. Many staff and students donated books. One hundred euro was raised for this very worthy cause. Thank you to all staff and students who bought books.



## Book to Film Club

The Book Club continues to meet every Thursday from three to four o'clock. Students read books of their choice and chat about plot developments, authors etc. All are very welcome!

This term we watched the final film in the Harry Potter franchise. All students thoroughly enjoyed it. Some avid Harry Potter fans told us all about "Pottermore", a website by J.K. Rowling for Potter fans!



**Sr. Maria and Ms. L. Sullivan**



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## OLIVER!



*'Please sir, can I have some more?'*

This year saw the return of the school play and this time students took to the stage to perform in the classic musical "Oliver". Auditions and rehearsals began in September and continued right up until the performance dates in early December. A lot of teachers generously contributed their time and talents to the musical, including Mr. Coll and Ms. O'Rourke who organised the music, Ms. Walsh and Ms Griffin who took charge of costumes and Ms. Cunningham and Ms. Kavanagh who designed the set and the props. Rebekah Reid of sixth year designed a beautiful poster for the show, which is on display in the choir hall.

First year students attended a matinee

performance on 12<sup>th</sup> December which gave the actors a huge confidence boost for their first show that same night. The play ran for two nights and was a resounding success thanks to the huge commitment and talent of the entire cast and crew. Olywyn Galbraith of third year took on the title role of Oliver and did so with huge success. Shauna Caffrey of sixth year delivered a delightful blend of comedy and eccentricity in her role as Fagin while Megan Stamp of fifth year brought the Artful Dodger to life wonderfully. The excellent cast also consisted of Leah O'Donnell as Nancy, Moira Purvis as Mr. Bumble, Emily Carrick as Bill Sykes, Siobhan McNamara as Mr. Brownlow, Siobhan Duffy as Bet, Eve Kavanagh as Mrs Bedwin and Eilis Phelan as Dr. Grimwig. The infamous Fagin's gang was brought to life on stage by the energetic performances of Karena Barry Doherty, Amy Boylan, Lucy Protor, Georgia O'Brien, Rachel Watters, Megan Rothballer, Lorna Hanney, Megan Hayes, Quennie Cledera and Antonia Blankenburg.

A number of first years took part in the play this year and their enormous talent helped to make it a success. They are: Casey Harris, Lauren McCausland, Riodhna Mackin, Jodie Lynch, Lucy

Proctot and Jodie Hanney. Well done girls and we hope that you have caught the acting bug!

The stage hands are always an invaluable part of a production and this year we were extremely lucky to have six dedicated students working with us. Roisin King, Eimear Tunstead, Ciara King, Kate McNamara, Kelly Fowler and Emma Bolger worked tirelessly during rehearsals and over the course of the three shows to ensure that everything ran smoothly backstage.

Music was provided on the night by the choir and the school band led by Mr. Coll and Ms. O'Rourke. The show opened with a powerful rendition of 'Food Glorious Food' performed by the cast and the choir. Other songs performed included 'Consider Yourself', 'You've Got to Pick a Pocket', 'Where is Love?', 'Oom Pah Pah', 'I'd Do Anything', 'Reviewing the Situation' and 'As Long as He Needs Me', which was sung beautifully by Leah O'Donnell of fifth year.

Finally, we would like to thank all of the parents who came to support us on both nights and to everyone who helped out along the way. Here's to next year!

**Ms. C. Warren**



Opening scene



Oliver and Dodger



Fagin



Oliver in the Orphanage



Fagin and Nancy



The cast



# MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## Invitation to DCU Reception for Hilary Clinton

Before Christmas, DCU President, Professor Brian MacCraith, invited St. Mary's Music Department to send four students to be part of the musical entertainment at a reception held in the Helix theatre for U.S. Secretary of State, Hilary Clinton. The students who took part were: Sarah Kelly, Naoise O'Brien, Emily Carey and Ranzanallie Caranay. They each sang solo and as a group for this reception. Other acts included students from DCU and past students who are professional musicians. Hilary Clinton was in Dublin to meet with Irish officials to discuss areas of cooperation in promoting peace, human rights, and economic growth. As part of her itinerary she delivered a major speech in the Helix on U.S. achievements in support of human rights globally. It was a great honour for our girls to be involved in an event such as this.

## Teen Spirit

Twelve students from the St. Mary's choir were involved in another "Teen Spirit" concert in Dublin. The project has been a huge success story in Munster with hundreds of young people involved over the last four years and now this was the first time the project was brought to the capital. The aim of the project is to showcase teen talent and Christian faith, by using a mix of popular chart music, together with well-known classics and also the most contemporary Christian music. Following on the great concert in the Olympia last year, the project managers decided to develop the format within different local areas in Dublin and in the greater Dublin areas. So this year there were two shows, one in Navan Road parish hall on the 28th April and another on the 4th May in the

Arklow Bay Hotel. Our girls were involved on both nights and each was a great success.

The students were:

Ciara Lennon, Megan Reilly, Juila Holbanel, Sarah Moran, Lisa Fitzsimons Leah Deegan, Sharon Ogunyemi, April Lamai, Nadia Keatinge Hemenstall, Holly Bell, Eve Kavanagh, and Ranzanallie Caranay.

Our students joined sixty others students from different school choirs to make up the choir on stage for the shows. Overall, it was a very uplifting and inspiring project and it certainly showed what can be done when people come together from different communities for one great project.

## Practicals

Thirty three Junior Certificate students, twenty seven Leaving Certificate students and close to three hundred pieces of music made for a busy time in the Music department in preparation for the Music practical examinations. All the girls had worked hard and both examiners commented on the high standard of music performed. The style of pieces performed varied, from Irish traditional music to classical, and from contemporary music to rock. Finally, we wish our third and sixth year students every success in their written examinations in June.

## The Annual St. Mary's "Music Showcase"

Towards the end of every year the musical talent of St. Mary's is showcased on one night of great entertainment in St. Mary's choir hall. This year performances on the night consisted of students from the Junior and Leaving

Certificate classes performing their practical pieces. Class performances from first, second and fifth year Music classes, the transition year Music classes and the school choir also featured. It was a great night of music and a great way to end the musical activities of the year. We are looking forward to more exciting musical projects next year.

## Emmanuel 2013

In February, the choir performed in the 'Emmanuel 2013' concert, which was held in the Helix. This is the fourth year that the choir has performed in this concert. The Emmanuel concert is a project of the Dublin Diocesan Commission which involves over two thousand students from different secondary schools in Dublin. As part of the project, the choir took part in workshops in Our Lady of Victories Church, where two of our Junior choir students were interviewed by RTE News. The choir then travelled to DCU for a sound check and a full rehearsal with the orchestra. That evening, the choir performed over twenty three songs to a packed audience, ranging in styles from Gospel and Gregorian Chant to Irish and African music. It was a great experience for all of the choir. This year was also a very special year for the choir as six of our students were chosen to sing solo during the concert. They were Ranzanallie Caranay, Eve Kavanagh, Siobhan McNamara, Emma Humber, April Lamai and Sharon Ogunyemi. We would like to thank all of the students in the choir for their continued dedication and hard work this term.

**Ms. O'Rourke and Mr. Coll**  
**Music Department**



Emily Carey, Ranzanallie Caranay, Sarah Kelly, Naoise O'Brien and DCU President, Prof. Brian MacCraith.



Ranzanallie Caranay, Emily Carey, Sarah Kelly, Naoise O'Brien and Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn. T.D..



## First Year Geography Field Trip

In March and April, first year students from classes Orchid and Jasmine went on field studies to the National Botanic Gardens. This was part of their Geography studies on weathering and in particular, carbonation. In teams, students gathered information to identify limestone rock, examined how limestone is weathered and looked for evidence of carbonation. Both trips were very enjoyable and a great day was had by all. Special thanks to Ms. Byrne, Ms. O'Neill, Ms. Drea, Ms. Curran and Ms Boran who organised and helped with the field studies!

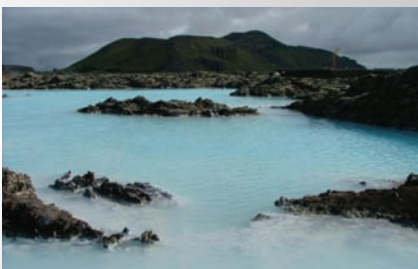
Ms. J. Byrne

## Leaving Certificate Geographical Investigation

For the first time ever, the Leaving Certificate fieldwork was completed in fifth year. As usual, it took place at Balcadden Bay in Howth where students studied "Transportation and Deposition in a Coastal Environment". Counting waves, timing oranges and profiling the beach were just a few of the tasks completed on the day. The students did a great job and were blessed with sunshine on the day.

It is hoped that the written part of this exercise will be completed before the summer. This constitutes a very important 20% of the final Geography Leaving Certificate examination. It will be a bonus to have this completed before going into sixth year so students can then focus on continuing with the course.

*Well done to all involved on the day!*



The Blue Lagoon

The Geography Department is busy organising a trip to Iceland. Forty two students will fly to the capital Reykjavik from October 24th to October 28th, 2013.

This exciting trip will include the wonderful sights of the Blue Lagoon, The Mid-Atlantic Ridge and the Northern Lights.

Pupils and staff eagerly await this fantastic adventure.

Ms. A. Wilson





## Career Guidance Information Evening for Parents of Fifth and Sixth Year Students

A career evening for parents of fifth and sixth year parents was held on 16th January. The speakers on the evening included Dr. John McGinnity, Admissions Officer /Assistant Registrar, NUI Maynooth, who spoke about the HETAC System/CAO System, Shane Dalton, Lecturer, Whitehall College of Further Education, who spoke about the FETAC System, Susan Hawkins, Pre-Entry Project Officer, DCU, who spoke about the HEAR Scheme and Colm Downes, Co-ordinator 16+ Task Force, Finglas, who spoke about Grants/Financial Assistance.



## Incoming First Years

Entrance exams for first year students took place on Saturday 2nd February.

To help facilitate the transition from primary to secondary school we are visiting the primary schools and talking with the sixth class teachers about the students' progress and interests. There was a very positive information meeting with the parents of incoming first years on 20th February to review the issues for students and parents and to initiate our long term partnership for the next five or six years.

To further this partnership we are inviting any of the incoming first year parents to make an appointment at the end of May for an informal interview with a member of the Care Team.

## Second Year Subject Choice



There was a meeting with the parents of the present first year students on March 13th to look at subject choices for second year. A subject choice booklet was distributed to all parents on that night. The counsellors also met with the students individually throughout February and March to answer any questions about their subjects.



## Third Years

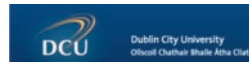
The third year students sat their Differential Aptitude tests (DATS) in December. This was to help those going on into fifth year with making their subject choices. They each received a booklet outlining what was involved in the study of subjects for the Traditional Leaving Certificate. Third year students planning to do fifth year had the opportunity to meet with the guidance counsellors to get feedback on the results of their DATS. The third year students, with their parents, attended a meeting on February 25th to look at the options for next year in regard to Transition Year, Fifth Year and LCVP.

## ACADEMIA – European Exchange of Guidance Practitioners



Seven Guidance Counsellors from Europe, Cendrine Demetten from Belgium, Tiina Rautalin from Finland, Sophie Bui Hamelin and Robert Poisson from France, Tone Fairway and EliSiv Skjei from Norway and Matejka Zeman from Slovenia, spent a day with us at St. Mary's in April as part of an exchange programme organised by the National Centre for Guidance in Education. They sat in on Ms. Kavanagh's third year Art class and Ms. Coll's sixth year Music class. They also spoke with staff and students about school life in Ireland and met with the staff of St. John's Education Centre. They found their time at St. Mary's to be extremely enjoyable.

## DCU Access Programmes



### DCU Access Service Student Shadowing Day

A number of our fifth year students took part in a variety of DCU programmes which encourage students to start thinking about third level. Ten fifth year students took part in the DCU Access Service Student Shadowing Day on 5th March. It allowed them the opportunity to take part in student life at DCU. They were matched with undergraduate students pursuing a course in an area of interest to them. They attended lectures with a first or second year student in a faculty of their choice. The students really enjoyed their experience on campus and found it very worthwhile. The students who participated were Lori Fitzgerald, Kate O'Brien, Niamh Gibbons, Kellie Nelson, Janelle Abad, Karena Barry Doherty, Princess Chavez, Shauna Callaghan, Cristina Pulber and Roisin Cregan.

### Junior Discover DCU

For the first time DCU ran a Junior Discover DCU. Ten students from second year attended the workshops. They covered time management, goal setting and how to get to university. The following students attended the workshops; Alison Kennedy, Aoife O'Grady, Isobel Maher, Orla Carney, Seth Banaga, Angela Molina, Julie Holbanel, Karen Pajarillo, Aoibheann Farrell and Hannah Lawlor.

### Take Five Programme

"Take Five" is a programme open to one of our fifth year students to explore the five different colleges over a five day period in June. These colleges include DCU, UCD, Trinity College, NUI

Maynooth and DIT. The successful student chosen for the programme is Moira Purvis from 5 Nephin who will participate in taster-college activities, e.g. attending lectures and workshops and visiting laboratories, taking part in sports and visiting sites around campus.

DCU has been outstanding in opening up third level education to our students and in sowing the seeds for students aspiring to apply to university from fifth year onwards. We are very grateful for their support over the past school year.



## Sixth Years

CAO applications are now well and truly in and some students will be planning on re-adjusting their choices on their change of mind form which is accessible online from May 5th-July 1st.



## FETAC

Many of the students applying for FETAC have had interviews and have been offered places subject to their results in the Leaving Certificate examination.

We wish all of our sixth year students every success in their Leaving Certificate examination and look forward to linking in with them in mid August for the results. Both Ms. Devaney and Ms. Gavin will be available in August to support the students when they receive their results and later on when offers are being made.

**Ms. F. Devaney and Ms. J. Gavin**

## OneWeek@Google

Google Ireland in conjunction with DCU organised a OneWeek@Google programme for transition year students from secondary schools participating in the Access Programme. The programme was held from 29th April to 3rd May 2013 and it ran from 9.30am to 6pm every day in the Google Head Office. The OneWeek@Google programme was developed in order to provide pre-university students with an enriching, creative and challenging work experience in a new media technology company. The TY students from St. Mary's who participated in the programme were Eimear Martin, Ahmad Zuryab and Aoife Byrne.

The content of the programme included workshops and talks from a variety of different teams at Google including its Marketing Team and the IT department. It also involved product team sessions with YouTube, Blogger, Google Apps, Sales and its Social Action Team. There were plenty of group challenges throughout the week which allowed students to develop their team working skills, creativity skills, presentation skills, communication skills and IT skills.

**Ms. F. Devaney**



## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

On April 2nd, some of our second year students went to DCU for a three day Science club event. Here is what they had to say.

**Mr. E. Carr**

We really enjoyed the Science club as we did lots of fun things such as making slime, putting things under ultra-violet light, putting dry ice (solid carbon dioxide) in water, filling a nappy with water and cutting it open, looking for iron in corn flakes and making a lava lamp.

We did experiments on many aspects of Science including the circulatory system, genes, DNA, chemical reactions, polymers and circuit making. We found it all very interesting and it helped us to understand some parts of science better.

One of the experiments we carried out was to make Cold Cushions on day two.

We put some citric acid and bread soda into a ziploc bag. Then we poured a cup of water on it very quickly and sealed the bag. The bag then expanded and went very puffy like a cushion.

The bread soda and citric acid react

with water and create a chemical reaction. The solution in the bag went very cold, as it has taken heat from its surroundings. This is called an endothermic reaction. It is also an example of an experiment where an acid (citric acid) and a base (bread soda) react to produce a neutral mixture containing salt water and carbon dioxide gas.

We had lots of fun taking part in the Science club.

**Kelly Fowler, Alison Kennedy, Emma Bolger and Lisa Fitzsimons**

## GREEN SCHOOLS

St. Mary's became interested in Conservation and Energy in 2010. It was decided to work under the body of An Taisce and seek guidance from Dublin City Council. The aim was to work towards a green flag in the area of recycling and waste. This one year programme was completed and St. Mary's obtained its first green flag in May 2011.

Since this initial period the school has become more environmentally aware. In September 2011 the Green School committee began a two year programme to obtain the green flag for energy. This was a very large undertaking for such a big school. It was decided that the project should become more of a pupil led initiative. Class group Ulster became the group responsible for rolling out the project. It

was very successful from the outset with our school selected to make a short film on energy conservation in conjunction with the SEAI and the JMB. The film is available to watch on the school website.

During the two years many challenges were put in front of the committee as energy prices continued to rise and the school placed new ICT material in every classroom. We had to adjust our plan and learn to evolve and implement a new plan for the school year 2012/13. We had our green school inspection by Claire Egan of DCC in mid February and on May 7th we were made aware that we in St. Mary's were successful in obtaining our second green flag.

This is a wonderful achievement given the size of our school. St. Mary's is one of a handful of secondary schools

nationwide to obtain a second green flag.

On behalf of the Green School Committee we would like to thank the Board of Management, Mrs. Lennon, Ms. Murphy, all the teaching staff and the pupils for their continued support in the area. This achievement would not have been possible without the whole school community engaging in the programme.

Finally, for the coming school year, St. Mary's will attempt to obtain their third green flag in water conservation. With our new caretaker Ciaran on board we hope that this will be a success.

Many thanks,

**Mr. W. Donnelly**

## BUSINESS STUDIES DEPARTMENT

### NFTE 2012-2013



During this school year we had thirty two students taking part in NFTE in St. Mary's. As always, the girls undertook NFTE as a full module during Transition Year for the whole school year. There were some wonderful innovative ideas and many business ventures were extremely successful.

The girls set up a wide range of companies from a Poster Printing Company to Arts and Crafts, iphone

accessories, earphones and a wide array of home baking companies. At first the girls were slow to come up with their business plans but when they received their seed grant from NFTE this sparked them into action. From then, we started to see some budding entrepreneurs and the marketing of their companies started to be seen around the walls and halls of St. Mary's. The whole school community became aware of what products and services were on offer from the students.

Then we organised in-school trade fairs at lunchtime and the largest fair held was the Christmas Fair. This was a wonderful success and it ran in rooms twenty seven and twenty eight. The

girls seemed to enjoy this very much and the profits which were made during this fair went a long way in enabling the girls to develop their businesses further.

Many of the businesses then were given the opportunity to trade at the RDS Christmas Fair. This was not only a memorable experience for the girls due to the exposure they received from the outside world, but it was also a very profitable experience for some of St. Mary's Entrepreneurs. By attending such fairs the girls learned the importance of networking and following leads which they had developed on the day.

At the business end of the competition, it was time for

our students to represent the school on a national level. For this to happen the girls had to present their businesses to an external judging panel. This panel consisted of Mr. Derek Dunne and Ms. Deborah McCormack, from AIB Drumcondra. Both Derek and Deborah have been acting as the girls' mentors throughout the year and we really appreciate their help and support. The winners of the Competition for 2013 were Nicole Weldon and Aine Forde with their business "FAWN". The girls worked extremely hard and were very creative and innovative in the business. They produced posters and calendars for their business and even managed to gain sponsorship



# BUSINESS STUDIES DEPARTMENT (contd.)

from local businesses in the area. The girls were not successful on a National level but represented the school with pride. They were awarded a Merit Certificate for their efforts, well done girls! Every NFTE student graduated in DCU on April 10th and each received a



St. Mary's NFTE Winners 2012/13 Aine Ford & Nicole Weldon with their business F.A.W.N.

certificate for her completion of the course. Finally, in the Alumni competition, Kelly Fitzgerald and Aoife Maguire continued with their business "Finger Tips". The girls were awarded a Merit for their dedication to NFTE and are wonderful ambassadors for the programme.

For the first time in St. Mary's the NFTE students took part in a five week programme developed by Bank of Ireland known as, "Learn to Earn". This was led by the Glasnevin branch manager, Ms. Glenda Wilson. The module was an innovative Financial module which looked at key areas such as personal banking, online banking, fraud, financial security, saving and investing. The Business department at St. Mary's is very grateful to Bank of Ireland for allowing our students exposure to such a wonderful programme and



NFTE CLASS 2013, with their teacher Mr. Donnelly

we hope that this will continue into the future. Also in April the NFTE class attended the "Leaders on our Level" programme 2013 in Croke Park Stadium. This was also the first time the school had attended this programme. It was a wonderful experience for the Transition year class and showed the girls another side of entrepreneurship, with

guest speakers such as Bobby Kerr and Enda McNulty leading the programme.

On behalf of myself Mr. Donnelly, I would like to thank the girls for their wonderful effort and dedication to the programme and wish them every success in the future with their businesses.

**Mr. W. Donnelly**

## HISTORY DEPARTMENT

### First Year History



Well done to all first years who took part in the recent Medieval Castle Model Competition. First year History students have been learning about the medieval period and the castles from that time. As part of their studies the students made models of medieval stone castles. Under the guidance of their teachers, they made the castles using a variety of materials such as paint, cardboard, paper, clay, papier-mâché and tinfoil. As

a result the girls have a better understanding of medieval castles and their characteristics such as the keep, the curtain walls, the moat, drawbridge and portcullis.

Congratulations to Orla Kavanagh, Lauren Lawler, Casey Harris & Louise Doyle and Aoife McKenna who were all winners.

**Ms. O. A. Griffin**

### Living History



Thank you to the "Living History Society" who came in to talk to Junior History students about what life was like during the Norman period. The society re-enacts or makes history alive by both talking to students and putting on a display of the equipment, weapons and clothing from that time. All students and teachers found the day extremely interesting!

**Ms. O. A. Griffin**

### WELL DONE

Well done to all sixth year history students who completed their research study reports for their Leaving Certificate exam. The RSRs are students' own individual work where they pick historical topics that interest them and then write reports using many skills such as essay writing and source evaluation. These skills will be beneficial to students in their future endeavours. Well done girls and we wish you all the best in June.

**Ms. Griffin and Ms. Hayes**

Well done to fifth year History students who went on a research trip to the National Archives on Thursday the 16th of May as part of their preparation for their research study reports which are worth 20% of their overall grade in the Leaving Certificate examination. The trip to the archives helped to develop their skills in researching source material and referencing. It proved to be extremely beneficial and students returned to class with interesting ideas for their projects.

**Ms. Griffin and Ms. Hayes**



# HISTORY DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## Fifth Year History – Titanic Memorial

On the 15th of April 1912, the RMS Titanic sank after hitting an iceberg on its maiden voyage, killing 1,517 people. This year the fifth year History classes, following the school trip to the Belfast Titanic Exhibition in Belfast, marked the anniversary by designing a notice board in the school displaying primary and secondary sources from the event such as tickets inviting people to the launch of the Titanic in Belfast, menus of meals that would have been served onboard and newspapers reporting the sinking. Students then made an announcement on the intercom asking the school community to take a moment to remember the lives lost.



Fifth Year's Titanic Notice Board.

Ms. O. A. Griffin

## Senior History Trip to Belfast



Members of the senior History classes went on the History Department's hugely successful trip to Belfast on 6th and 7th December last. It was an eye-opening experience which will hopefully help them better understand the cultural divide that still exists for many who live there. Students visited both the Falls and Shankill Roads and the Peace Wall that still divides them. They visited Stormont Parliament where they learned about the process of government in Northern Ireland and the

Ulster History Museum with its powerful exhibition on the



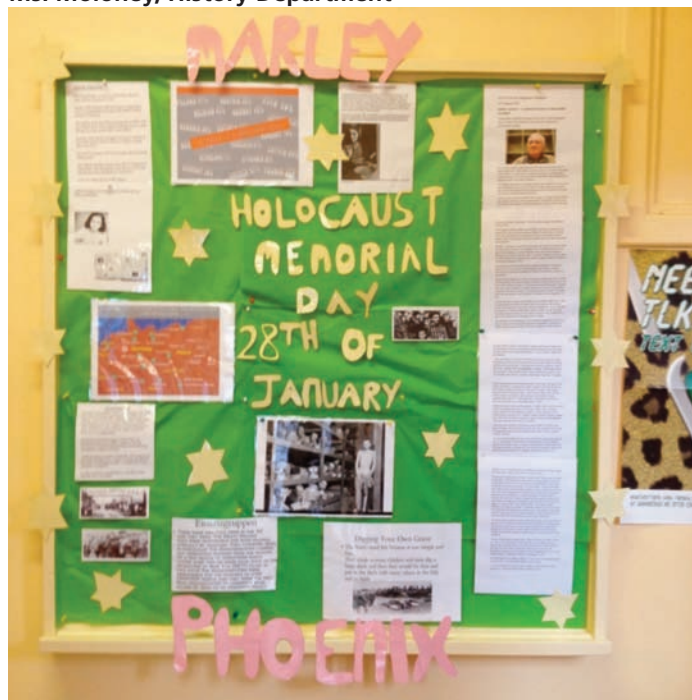
Troubles. They also visited the amazing "Titanic Exhibition". It was a fantastic experience for all who took part and well done to all the girls for their excellent behaviour and participation! Ms. Hayes, Ms. Griffin and Ms. Moloney

## Holocaust Memorial Day

In January, St Mary's Transition Year students decorated two notice boards to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. The students were inspired to put a huge amount of effort into this project after listening to Tomi Reichental speak to all senior cycle students about his experience in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. The students worked hard using their ICT skills to research information and pictures that would allow all of the students in St. Mary's to remember such an important time in history. The notice boards were located on the first and the third floors of the school. They were very informative and gave students an important insight into the death camps and ghettos run by the Nazis.

The knowledge learned by students for Holocaust Memorial Day was then reflected in the Holocaust module that featured in the Transition Year curriculum this year. The students studied it in great detail and responded very positively to the module. The module covered many aspects of the Holocaust such as the Jewish ghettos, the concentration camps and the Nuremberg Trials.

Ms. Moloney, History Department





# HISTORY DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## Visit from Holocaust Survivor Tomi Reichental

We were very privileged to have Tomi Reichental, Slovakian Holocaust Survivor, come to St Mary's this year and tell us his story. Tomi spoke to us for nearly two hours providing us with a very real and moving account of his life as a Jew during The Holocaust.

Tomi was born into a very well regarded Czechoslovakian family. It was a kind, helpful and respected Jewish family. When Germany invaded Czechoslovakia the Reichental family was forced to leave its town. Tomi went to live with his aunt where he was treated horribly because he was a Jew. Tomi was so scared that he would run to school as he was afraid of being beaten.

Things got worse and again Tomi moved with his mother and older brother to a new town. However his father stayed at home to work the land. Soon after, a local spy, identified his father as a Jew and he was arrested. Tomi, his brother and his mother planned to go to Bratislava so they could then leave the country. A local Catholic priest close to the family provided them with new Catholic identities and taught them some of the Catholic traditions. In Bratislava they were to pick up Tomi's grandmother and meet with some relations where they would then get a train out of Czechoslovakia. They never got out.

After Tomi's mother met with his grandmother the entire family was captured and beaten by the SS soldiers and this started the horrific journey to Bergen-Belsen Concentration camp.

Tomi's experience in Belsen was definitely unforgettable. He witnessed starvation, death and abuse. He witnessed things no human should ever have to see. Tomi was in a women's camp with his brother, mother and grandmother. He explained that you wouldn't have known it was a women's camp as everyone was so skinny with starvation. Some people would just fall to the ground. They were starving or suffering from diseases like typhoid. Tomi told us about the cold winters with temperatures of minus twenty degrees, where people would drop dead during roll call. He said all of the bodies of these people were burned in ovens until the camp got too full. Toward the end of the war thousands of Jews were thrown into Belsen. Bunkers made for one hundred and twenty people held up to eight hundred. Disease spread rapidly and so did the rate of death. The ovens could no longer fit all of the dead bodies so bodies were placed in large piles around the edges of the camp. Tomi remembers playing hide and seek amongst these corpses and not even being bothered by the smell that surrounded them, he had grown accustomed to it. Tomi's grandmother later died in the camp and she too

became just another one of them bodies placed on the piles. This was very hard for Tomi and his family and it was a very sad time on top of everything else.

Not long after the death of Tomi's grandmother the camp was liberated. Thankfully Tomi, his brother and his mother survived the horrors of the camp but only seven out of the thirty one members of his relations who had entered the camp survived. Tomi was eventually reunited with his family including his father and they returned to Slovakia where they lived trying to forget about their terrible past.

Tomi's story was extraordinary. It was incredible and unimaginable to hear. The whole room was filled with a deep silence as Tomi shared his story and only the sound of a tears interrupted his speech. When he saw the sadness his story brought to the girls in the hall, it was then that he too got emotional. Tomi was so strong and inspiring. He hadn't shared his story for sixty years after The Holocaust but once he shared it for the first time he continued to share that story and make people aware of what it was really like to live during The Holocaust. It was amazing to hear his story, the story of one of the only Holocaust survivors left in the world. Everyone was strongly affected by Tomi Reichental's story and I don't think that it is a story that anyone will ever forget.

Eimear Martin, Transition Year

## PREFECTS

A big thank you to all the prefects and peer mediators who have participated so well in school life this year. Many events have been organised throughout the year including a Halloween dress up day, a homework club and a computer club. All the girls have built up great relationships with the Junior students and will miss them next year.

### Ms. E. Higgins

**Head Girl:**  
Claire Concannon

**Deputy Head Girls:**  
Ranzenallie Caranay and  
Patricia O'Beirne

**Prefects:**  
Pauline Buczkowska  
Shauna Caffrey  
Rebecca Clark  
Michelle Coates  
Patrice Condon  
Holly Cooke  
Shauna Doran  
Sarah Louise Horan  
Emma Humber  
Mairead Jordan  
Eve Kavanagh

Jessica Kavanagh  
Hannah Kelly  
Isabelle Kelly  
Megan Ledden  
Caoimhe McGrath  
Niamh Molloy  
Aoife Nolan  
Danielle Noonan  
Kym Robinson

**Peer Mediators:**  
Aine Dempsey  
Aislinn Farrell  
Chelsea Mahon  
Naomi McEvoy  
Katie Moore  
Emma O'Reilly  
Lauren Wall  
Claire Wilson



Patricia O'Beirne, Claire Concannon and Ranzenallie Caranay.



# TRANSITION YEAR

## European Studies

On 18th February, Mrs. Linda Rowen (European Commission), a past pupil of St. Mary's, made the journey from Brussels to speak to our T.Y. students about her experiences working in the European Commission. She gave a very interesting talk about how she made her way up the ranks in the Commission and what her life is like living and working in Brussels. She encouraged the students to work on their language skills.

In May, T.Y. European Studies students visited European Union House in Dawson Street to learn more about how the E.U. works and they took part in a quiz.

May 9th, Europe Day, was celebrated in St. Mary's with special emphasis on the three European languages, French, Spanish and German, studied in our school.

**Mrs. Hughes**  
European Studies Teacher

## Work experience

For my work experience I attended Bord Gais Energy. During my time there I developed many useful skills such as communication skills, confidence and organisational skills.

I loved my work experience because it taught me to be punctual and independent. It was a whole new experience and it helped me to decide whether I would pursue a career in that particular area. It was one of my highlights of TY and it was really interesting to hear about other students' experiences also. If I could, I would do it all again.

**Shannon O'Brien**

## TY Production – Create School

For the second year, "Create School", came to St. Mary's to produce short films with our TY students. Over a week and a half every group wrote, produced, filmed and edited its short films.

On the 14th May, the TY students enjoyed their 'Night at the Oscars'. They walked the red carpet, watched their films for the first time and received their "Oscars".

Thanks to Mrs. Lennon, Ms. Murphy, "Create School" and all the staff and students for helping with our films.

**Ms. J. Donohoe and  
Ms. O. O'Keefe**



### Create School

I can honestly say that the two days we were involved in "Create Schools" and filming were the best in TY, and two of the most fun days of my life! I definitely came out of my shell while filming because I was acting, singing and dancing in front of people I hardly knew and big groups of people too. Everybody should experience this workshop because I have never had such fun in school before!  
**Clare Purvis, 4 Phoenix**

## TY Work Experience Placements 2012/2013

Enable Ireland  
"Kiss" Magazine  
Trinity College Geog. Dept  
PriceWaterhouseCoopers  
Rotunda Hospital  
Dept. Env. & Heritage  
Poolbeg Publishers  
FM 104  
Childvision  
Walton's World of Music  
Trinity College Science  
HSE  
DSPCA  
Active Vetcare  
Mater Hospital

Local primary schools  
Kinane Studio (photography)  
Webfactory  
Garda National Immigration  
Bureau  
ERGO Services  
Local Garda Station  
Metrovets  
Hairbrain  
Missus Tattys Nursery  
Concern  
Slick Chicks  
Pamper Yourself  
Enable Ireland  
The Independent Theatre  
Workshop  
Maxizoo  
Vero Moda  
Irish Ferries

Chapters Bookstore  
MusicMaker LTD  
Traditional Cheese Company  
Premier Kitchens  
Boots  
Dublin Fire Brigade  
Hickey's Pharmacy  
Menary's  
Royal Upholstery  
National Wax Museum  
Ballygall Community Play  
Group  
Bridal Corner  
Irish Coast Guard  
Highfield Health Care  
Virtual Media  
Make-up Forever  
VIP  
Cable and Wireless

Cara Veterinary Hospital  
Botanical Veterinary Hospital  
Sports Across Ireland  
Dublin City Council  
Cooltrans Logistics  
Daintree Paper  
The Kitchen in the Castle  
Griffith Community Play  
Group  
Bon Secoures Hospital  
Ratoath Veterinary Clinic  
Tir na Nog  
Book Lauren Bookshop  
AXA Insurance  
Oasis  
Irish Mail on Sunday  
James Connolly Memorial  
Hospital  
Life Pharmacy

# STUDENT COUNCIL

This term the Student Council has seen an exciting new development. The formation of a new Intercouncil began with a meeting of senior student council members from St Mary's, St Vincent's and St Kevin's schools on 14th March. Planning began for a joint table quiz for all student council members from the three schools. It was held in May. We look forward to continuing this Intercouncil next year and we hope to involve more schools in the area. Many thanks to all our sixth year students who have been actively involved in the student council during their years in St. Mary's.

**Mrs A Hughes**  
Student Council Co-Ordinator





# MODERN LANGUAGES – FRENCH

## Voyage Scolaire à Paris

On Thursday the 10th of January, twenty nine girls from first to sixth year and three teachers jetted off to Paris. On our arrival we went to a pizzeria on the Champs Elysées where we had our dinner and then we went to see "Skyfall" in the cinema, with French subtitles of course!

On our second day in Paris, we got a bus tour around the city and then we visited some major tourist attractions including the Louvre Museum and Notre-Dame Cathedral. We then did a cruise on the River Seine before going to the Hard Rock Café for dinner.

The third day was spent in Disneyland which was amazing. We stayed to see the light show at night. It was spectacular and enjoyed by everyone!

On the last day we went to Montmartre and the Sacré-Cœur. Later that day we went shopping for a while and then to finish off what was a great trip, we went to the Eiffel Tower! Everyone was very tired in the airport but had an amazing time. Thank you to everyone who helped organise the trip especially the tour leader, Ms. Lenehan and



the two other teachers who looked after us while we were away, Ms. Devaney and Ms. Wilson. Merci beaucoup!  
**Allanah Beatty, Ciara Kelly, Nikita Porter & Jessica Burke (2nd year students)**

# MATHS DEPARTMENT

The Mathematics department had a busy 2013! The school had a Mathematics inspection in February which went very well for all those concerned. In addition the Mathematics department engaged and encouraged students to partake in the following extra-curricular activities.



First year students celebrated World Maths Day together on March 6th in the school, by completing ten questions, based on a range of maths topics including mental mathematics! Eight second year students celebrated the afternoon of this special day with Ms. Murphy in D.C.U. where they took part in a quiz against students from neighbouring schools.



## I.M.T.A. Maths Competition

This is an annual event organised by the Irish Maths Teachers' Association (I.M.T.A.). Well done to all the first year students who engaged in the problem-solving exercises when participating in the I.M.T.A. competition.

Congratulations to Lauren Lawlor who was invited to represent the school in the final which took place in Castleknock College on the 26th April.

## Close links with Trinity College

The school was privileged to have Trinity Mathematics students Shane McEntaggart and Ana Ignatieva visit the school from mid-term until Easter. Mr. McEntaggart and Ms. Ignatieva worked closely with Ms. Wilson and Ms. O'Donnell respectively. This initiative was a symbiotic relationship as the Trinity students gained an insight into the world of teaching as they worked in tandem with the Mathematics teachers while the school students gained extra help with Mathematics.



## Maths Enrichment Classes in D.C.U.

Some senior and junior students took part in Maths classes over the Easter break in D.C.U. The revision of mathematical skills was of benefit to them for their exams in June.



## John Hooper Medal Statistics Competition

This national competition is organised jointly by the Department of Education and Skills and the Central Statistics Office (C.S.O.). This year, there was a record number of entries (nineteen!) submitted from St. Mary's fifth year cohort, to the competition for the John Hooper medal for statistics. For 2013, the statistical posters had to be based on the theme of agriculture. The goal of the competition was to allow students to improve their ability to describe their environment with the help of statistics and to use statistics as a tool for making sense of everyday life. Each student was awarded a certificate for her statistical endeavours!

## First Year Table Quiz

There were twenty four first year school teams that took part in this competition in D.C.U. St. Mary's was represented by two teams accompanied by Ms. O'Neill. They both did extremely well. One of the teams was awarded third place overall in the competition. Medals were presented to Lorna Byrne, Orla Kavanagh, Isobel Matthews and Sarah Basangan.



Ms. M. O'Donnell



# HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

## Junior Certificate Practical Cookery Exams

Congratulations to all third year Home Economics students who recently undertook their practical exams in cookery. The dishes made were of a very high standard this year and they were presented beautifully. It was worth all the hard work and numerous evenings practising after school!!!! The Craftwork projects were also presented and the girls did a fantastic job!! Well Done!!  
**Ms. E. Doheny**



Katie Farrell – 3rd Year



Lauren Doyle, Niamh Doyle – 3rd Year



Shannon Farrell – 3rd Year



Shauna Melia – 3rd Year



Lauren Doyle – 3rd Year



Lauren Doyle – 3rd Year



Jane Lynch – 3rd Year



# HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## An Bord Bia – Food Presentation and Demonstration

St. Mary's would like to say a huge thank you to An Bord Bia for coming to our school on the 16th of January last for a unique opportunity to see in reality the role of An Bord Bia in promoting Irish food. The day began with a presentation on the Irish food and drinks industry and Irish food agencies. Huge importance was placed on buying Irish, using local food suppliers and butchers and the fact that Ireland's traceability of meat and poultry is one of the best in the world. The students learned about exports and imports and the value of this in terms of employment for our country. Focus was also placed on the nutritional value of the dishes cooked alongside the use of fresh ingredients and avoiding convenience based products. This material is very topical at Leaving Certificate level and so was of huge benefit to the students. This was followed by a food demonstration of potato and leek frittata, tomato and bacon pasta bake, beef, vegetable and ginger stir-fry with noodles and homemade salsas to name but a few of the dishes.



## "Easy Food" Home Cook Baking Games

This term we were delighted to have two of our first year Home Economics students get through to the semi-final of the Home Cook Baking Games. Lorna Byrne created a wonderful layered chocolate cake and Lorna Hanney a beautiful

hedgehog cake. We are very proud of both girls as their recipes made it to the inside of the very popular "Easy Food" magazine.

Well done on all your hard work!  
Ms. Walsh, Ms. Aird and Ms. Doheny

**Layered Chocolate Cake**  
Serves 8-10

**For the cake:**  
250g butter, plus extra for greasing  
230g caster sugar  
180g self-raising flour  
90g ground almonds  
1 tsp baking powder  
4 eggs  
100ml natural yoghurt  
2 tsp vanilla extract/essence  
75g Homecook Belgian Chocolates 30% Cocoa

**To decorate:**  
200g stirred caramel  
Homecook Wonderbar Microwaveable Choc Pouch 150ml double cream

- 1 Preheat the oven to 180°C/140°C fan/gas mark 3.
- 2 Grease four round cake tins.
- 3 Stir all the ingredients except cocoa into a bowl.
- 4 Add one-fourth of the mixture into one tin.
- 5 Add one tablespoon of cocoa into the remaining mix and stir. Add another fourth of the mix into another tin.
- 6 Add two tablespoons of cocoa into the remaining mixture and stir. Add this mixture to another tin. Add the remaining cocoa and pour into the final tin.
- 7 Bake for 20 minutes and let it cool.
- 8 When the cakes have cooled, get the darkest layer and put at the bottom.
- 9 Cover the top in caramel and spread over each cake for layering, going from dark to light, or light to dark.
- 10 Melt the chocolate and add the cream. Mix until the mixture gets thick.
- 11 Get a spatula and spread the mixture around the assembled cake.

**Per Serving:** 573 kcal, 33g fat (11.6g saturated), 55.5g carbs, 16.3g sugars, 1.6g proteins, 1.4g fibre, 0.23g sodium

**Student:** Lorna Byrne  
**Age:** 12  
**School:** St. Mary's Holy Faith, Glasnevin, Dublin 11  
**Home Economics teacher:** Ms Walsh

**Chocolate Hedgehog**  
Serves 8

**For the cake:**  
125g self-raising flour  
125g margarine  
125g caster sugar  
2 eggs

**For the icing:**  
25g Homecook Belgian Chocolate 72% Cocoa  
60ml boiling water  
175g butter  
350g icing sugar

**To decorate:**  
3 x bags chocolate buttons, for bristles  
2 Smarties, for eyes  
Glace cherry, for nose

**Student:** Lorna Hanney  
**Age:** 12  
**School:** St Mary's Holy Faith, Glasnevin, Dublin 11  
**Home Economics teacher:** Ms Doheny



# HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT (contd.)

## Safe food 'Take-Away My Way' Competition

This term brought another great competition to St. Mary's. It was the 'Take-Away My Way' competition. This involved students creating their favourite take-away dishes but with nourishing twists. They really showed us that you can have a treat and still be healthy at the same time. Well done girls! We look forward to finding out if you were successful... Best of luck!

Ms. Walsh



Katie McQuillan

## Breakfast Club

This year we were delighted to introduce to St. Mary's, 'The Breakfast Club'. This gives students an opportunity to start off their day with a healthy breakfast while allowing them to meet new friends and chat before the start of the school day. To date it has been a huge success and we welcome new members each day.



### Eating Breakfast can help

- Your energy levels
- Your concentration and memory
- Your mood
- You control your weight

### Skipping Breakfast

- Makes it harder to learn
- Depletes your intake of essential vitamins and minerals
- Encourages snacking on high fat, high sugar and salt foods
- Increases your risk of becoming overweight

Ms. Walsh and Ms. O.A. Griffin



Lynn McDermott and Nicole Noone



Czarinah Bulaclac



# AWARDS

Our annual awards ceremonies took place in May. Congratulations to the many students, from all our year groups, who won awards. The categories were academic progress, positivity, dedication and co-operation.

Our sixth year students also had awards for excellence and dedication in all subject areas and for extracurricular activities. We wish all sixth and third year students every success in their exams in June. Finally, we would like to encourage all our students to continue to strive to be the best that they can be.

**Mrs. Hughes and Ms. Higgins (Co-ordinators of awards)**



## Mary McCarthy



**I**T WAS with great sadness that the school community heard of the death of Mary McCarthy on Friday , May 3rd. Mary taught English and French for over 30 years in St Mary's and retired six years ago. She was a gifted teacher, with a great sense of humour, loved by all her students.

Mary was a successful writer and the published author of five books.

The School Choir sang at the Mass and the Student Council formed a guard of honour. She is remembered with affection by all of her colleagues past and present in St Mary's.

Mary is survived by her loving son Dara McCarthy.

*And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest!*

Hamlet