

Issue 23
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May 2016

Coláiste Nano Nagle Newsletter



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The end of another busy school year has arrived again so quickly it seems. So much has happened throughout the school year and I would like to thank students and staff for all they have contributed to this year. I would also like to thank parents for their support throughout the year and also members of the Board of Management who give freely of their time to the school. At the start of the school year a former student of our school Anna Kern (who is living in Direct Provision) made national headlines and media by achieving a fantastic Leaving Cert result and then getting a scholarship to the Royal College of Surgeons Dublin. This was a truly remarkable achievement for Anna who had studied in Ireland for only two years. Anna went on to win a prestigious JP Mc Manus Scholarship Award. We had many significant occasions in school throughout the year and many of these will be documented in the pages that follow this message. I was fortunate to have attended the Junkouture Finals in the 3 Arena in Dublin in April and I was very proud to see our Tori Johnson walk the catwalk in front of thousands of spectators with great style and confidence. It was indeed a spectacular event and Tori represented our school with great pride. The highlight of the school year for me was the generosity of the Mc Manus family extending to Coláiste Nano Nagle. Our past pupil Noreen Mc Manus is giving the school 250,000 Euros in the form of student scholarships which will commence in September and continue for five years. This is a wonderful gift to our school which will have a great impact on the families of our students who will be fortunate to receive an award. We are hugely grateful to Noreen and her family for this. We say farewell to our sixth year students and wish them every happiness and fulfillment in their lives ahead. New journeys and new experiences with so much to look forward to. I wish you well and hope that life will be good to you and that the road ahead brings all you deserve. I would also wish you every success in your exams ahead and remember- there is still valuable time ahead to be prepared. I would also like to wish our Junior Cert students the very best of success in their exams also.

We also say goodbye to our esteemed teacher, colleague and friend Mrs. Colette Jenkins who is retiring from teaching after 39 years service. I would like to thank Mrs. Jenkins on behalf of the thousands of students she inspired and encouraged throughout her teaching career. I would like to wish her every health and happiness in the new chapter she is about to embark on. Hopefully we will all enjoy some sunshine during the summer holidays which are fastly approaching. Enjoy the rest and I look forward to seeing you all back on 29th September.

Marion Cummins.



Noreen Mc Manus School Scholarships

Coláiste Nano Nagle are delighted to announce the new **Noreen Mc Manus Scholarships** scheme which will be worth €250,000 to the school over the next five years. The top Leaving Certificate students will receive a scholarship award for the duration of their studies in third level education. There will also be an award for the student who has the best Leaving Cert Applied results and continues to further education. The school are indebted to the Mc Manus Charitable Foundation and the generosity of the Mc Manus family. These scholarships will have a great impact on those fortunate to benefit and will be an incentive to students to achieve to the best of their potential and strive for success. The scholarship scheme will be launched in September 2016. The first set of scholarships will be given to our present Leaving Certificate students.



GRADUATES OF 2016

We wish you all the very best in your exams and in your future career plans. You have travelled with us over the last six years, you have shared much laughter and fun, you have learned many new things in all your subjects, you have gained many friends and we bid you farewell this evening and wish you health, happiness and success in the years ahead. *Go maire sibh 's go gcatha sibh.*

Grandparent's Day



GRANDPARENTS DAY

In January, very special visitors arrived at our school. These were invited guests the grandparents of our 1st and 2nd years. It was a delightful afternoon having these wonderful people back in school again and this time accompanied and taken care of by their grandchildren.

The afternoon began with a welcome from Triona Murray (HSCL) followed with a special prayer service. The Sacred Space reminded us of Pope Francis's call to make this year a year of Mercy. Mrs Mary Ryan, our Deputy Principal, read the gospel from Matthew 23 v31-40 on how the good people will be received by God when we pass away. During the homily Sr. Colette looked at Mercy. She told us that Mercy is

forgiveness, compassion, understanding, support, a listening ear, non-judgement, love and gentleness. Mrs. Jenkins, our special guest Grandmother, gave us deep insights of being a mother and grandmother and how grandparents provide maturity, knowledge and unconditional love and those grandchildren keep their grandparents young. The students presented their grandparents with cards that they had made and a candle.

Then to our celebration, Ms. Murray provided us with delicious sandwiches and of course a special cake for Grandparents.



Healthy Eating Initiative with Prof. Donal O'Shea

Healthy Eating

Colaiste Nano Nagle Limerick, presented their project on Healthy Eating to Professor Donal O'Shea, who is an expert on weight management. Professor O'Shea praised the project and said learning about healthy eating at a young age would ensure that future generations would live a long and healthy life.

Colaiste Nano Nagle was one of four schools piloting a new Negotiated Integrated Curriculum Initiative (NIC) from the Department of Education in conjunction with the University of Limerick. Class Rossa in first year, chose the topic of Healthy Eating for their research project. It involved learning in all subject areas.

One successful initiative was the introduction of fruit pots being sold for one euro during lunch break. Students received a loyalty card and collected stickers for every pot purchased. When the card was completed, each student received a voucher for a local shop.



Professor O'Shea commended students on their efforts to raise awareness on the sugar content of fizzy drinks and to promote awareness of

leading a healthy lifestyle within the school and home community.



Ms Lelia Fitzgerald, UL programme Co-Ordinator, Ms D. Reynolds, Ms. Marion Cummins, Prof. Donal O'Shea, Mrs. Mary Ryan & Mrs. Mary Kavanagh.



Class Pearse book club with teacher Mrs Shee & cakes from home economics class with Ms Fitzsimons

Photo Parade - NIC & Class Rossa



5th year students attending an information session on Midwifery, in Limerick maternity hospital

JCSP Graduation

JCSP Graduation 2016

On Wednesday, 18th May, third year students who completed the Junior Certificate Schools Programme graduated. Their coordinator, Mrs. Shee, welcomed parents and explained what JCSP was about. Awa, Josie, Katelyn and Tiffany were then presented with their certificates by the Principal, Mrs. Cummins. The celebration was concluded with tea and cake.



Women's International Cook Off



Cookery

Cookery for Fun with Class Rossa

On Wednesday 24th February, parents of Class Rossa were invited to take part in Cookery for Fun with their daughters. Ms. Fitzsimons led the class to make scones which were enjoyed with tea, jam and cream at the end of the lesson.



Cookery for Fun with Class Clarke

On Friday 4th March, parents of Class Clarke were invited to take part in Cookery for Fun with their daughters. Ms. Fogarty led the class to make cupcakes which were decorated and enjoyed with tea and hot chocolate at the end of the lesson.



Proclamation Day - 15th March 2016



Opening scenes of the Easter Rising 1916 as it unfolded on the streets of Dublin provided the visual backdrop to an oral account of those days read by Ms. C Murphy. Two soldiers Lieutenant Commander Breen and Ledger marched into the hall – they saluted the Irish and Commemorative Flag, staff and students. Seven leaders introduced themselves to the staff: Pdraig Pearse (Allanah O Neill), James Connolly (Erin Bermingham), Thomas Clarke (Chloe O Flaherty), Seam Mac Diarmuida (Sarah Hanley), Joseph Mary Plunkett (Lucy Malone), Eamon Ceannt (Emma Carey), Thomas Mc Donagh (Abbey O Keeffe). The National Anthem was sung by the choir and Ms Claire Heffernan as the flags were raised by the soldiers. Mr Jake Daly read lines from an original account of the day in 1916. Ms Allanah O Neill read the Proclamation. Mr Joe Maher and friend Gerry sang a haunting version of Grace to bring the ceremony to a close. Mrs. C Cantillon would like to thank all those who helped make this solemn occasion so meaningful and memorable in Colaiste Nano Nagle.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

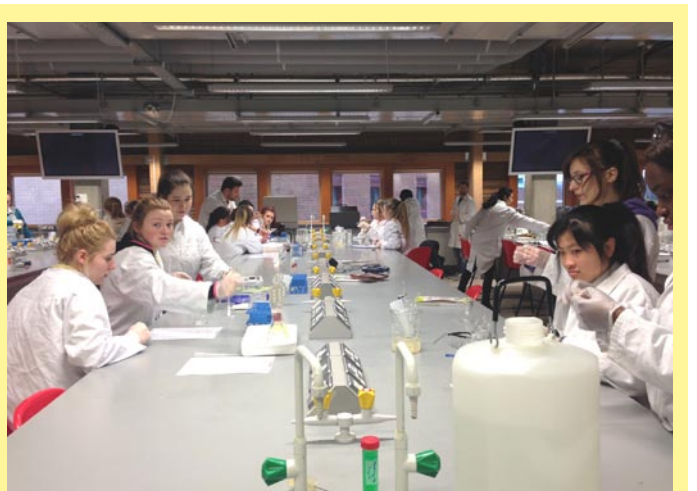
Seachtain na Gaeilge ran from March 9th to 16th. Ms. Mary Madigan ran a Tráth nagCeist for 1st years in the leabharlann. A musical recital was held on Dé Ceádaoin in Halla an tSolais. The Irish language was promoted in posters around the school and Art and Poetry writing competitions were held. Two Limerick Senior Hurlers were in attendance on Weds 16th March to make the presentations and encourage all students to follow their dreams. Harpist Ms. Clár Heffernan showcased her talent and beautiful voice as did Mr. Niall Loftus who sang and played the guitar. Mr. Shane Ryan read a piece from On tOileanach. Mrs. Mary Ryan complimented all staff and students who took part in Seachtain Na Gaeilge and told the audience regarding hurling that while her family would support Limerick, she would remain loyal to her native county of Kilkenny! She also made a presentation to Mr. Cathal O Sullivan for securing a county school win for his first year basketball team.

Our Lady of Lourdes 1916 Quiz

Congratulations to Tara Daly, Liz Corbett and Leah Ryan who together with two students from Our Lady of Lourdes NS came third in the 1916 quiz on Tuesday 10th May.



Drop everything and dance as part of health and fitness week



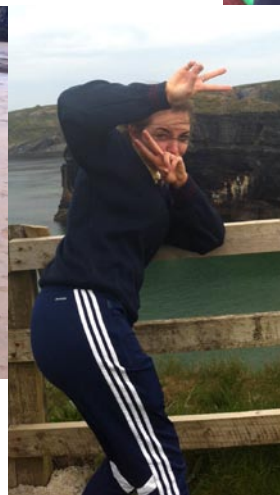
Sixth Year biology students completing the mandatory biology practical experiments in UL. There are some future scientists here. Hopefully their hard work pays off in June. Best of luck girls.



Geography Trips

Geography Field Trip

On May 4th we had a very successful Economic Geography field trip with our first year students to Aughinish Alumina plant in Askeaton, where we looked at our case study of a heavy industry. For the second part of the day we visited Ballygowan Spring Water in Newcastle west, where we had a very informative and educational tour of the plant.



On May 9th we had a beautiful day to study our Physical Geography with our second years, observing the coastal features in Ballybunion Co Kerry.

It was some students first time at a beach and couldn't resist dipping their toes in the water and we left our mark in the sand! We continued on the Crag Caves, Castleisland where we received a beautiful lunch and a tour of the underground caves, examining the stalactites and stalagmites. We wish to thank all students on both trips for being so attentive and well behaved. Ms B Murphy and Ms Hudson.



Euroscola 2016 - Strasbourg

Euroscola 2016

In November 2015 we entered the Euroscola competition which is organised by the European Parliament. Our brief was to design an internal competition with a European theme. We decided to write limerick's about Europe. Mr. Tony McKernan, a former teacher and poet chose the 24 winning entries. We submitted our idea and it was a winner! Such excitement, we were off to Strasbourg!



Coláiste Nano Nagle, Limerick, Co. Limerick - EU Limerick from Limerick

Students were invited to write a Limerick from Limerick with a European theme. Entries were judged by a former teacher and local poet and the top 24 Limericks were chosen for the competition.

LIMERICKS from LIMERICK

We all celebrate Europe Day
On exactly the 9th of May
28 countries united in diversity
That to me is tranquility
Hip Hip Hooray Hooray!!!

Irelands in Europe we know
But Europe had so much more to
show
With 27 more
And countries galore
Someday everybody should go.

In Ireland we're out in the sea
It's not that easy to flee
For the rest it's a different show
Simply by road they can go
We wish we had it so easy

Europe is an interesting place to go
There are so many facts to know
With so many places to visit
Quickly convert to euro, don't miss it
Before winter comes and we get lost in the
snow.

There once was a man from Brussels
Who wished he had big, strong Muscles
He departed from Berlin
And jogged to Turin
And ended up with 2 broken legs because of his Tussles



Euroscola Day!

We arrived at the parliament early the next morning. We had a short introduction before we met other people from different countries. Then we began debating in our arranged groups. This was when we got to really talk with other people and get to know their countries. This was really interesting and very educational. But sadly soon the day was coming to an end and we had to say goodbye. After another day of shopping, we waved goodbye to France and soon were on our way home!

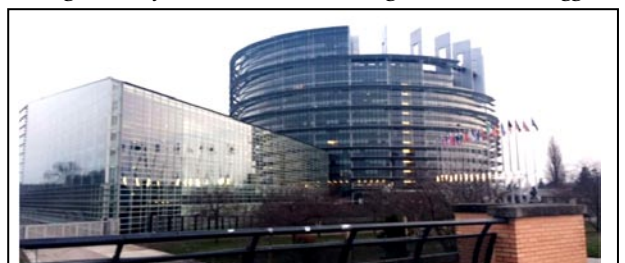


Our trip to Strasbourg

We flew from Dublin early on Thursday morning. Soon we were in Frankfurt and ready for the trip down the Strasbourg. Along the way we stopped at Heidelberg and we had a super time. When we arrived at Strasbourg, we were really tired and happy to be going to bed.



A huge thank you to Mrs. M. Kavanagh & Mrs. D. Duggan



Positive Learning

Senior Representative Council

The (senior) student representative council is made up of 8 fifth year students. We can be seen wearing white badges. We aim to be the voice of the students in the school. If ever students have any questions or problems they can come to us. We work alongside the school staff to ensure students and teachers can work together in a friendly environment. We have also organised a number of events in the school recently we organised an ice cream fundraiser for victims of the earthquake in Ecuador. We also plan to put in place a mentoring programme for junior students. We look forward to working on future projects in the coming school year. Details of these projects can be found on the school website or twitter.

TY's on the day of their performance at the Limetree Theatre. Alannah O'Neill played one of the main leads as part of the play 'Gulliver's Travels'. There was a mix of all different plays including 'Alice in Wonderland'. Congratulations to the girls and the Daughters of Charity!



FRIENDSHIP MONTH IN COLÁISTE NANO NAGLE

In April Coláiste Nano Nagle celebrated the importance of friendship with a month of activities for students and staff. Our students embarked on the month by contemplating the meaning and value of true friendship. Our random acts of kindness week was filled with fun and surprises with students and teachers pausing and considering simple acts that they could do for others, in our school community, to bring happiness into their day. Our SPHE teachers hosted a series of interactive debates on topical adolescent issues such as cyber relationships. As a fitting conclusion to the month students and staff signed up to our school's Friendship Pledge. The Positive Behaviour Strategy Team would like to express our thanks to all those who entered into the spirit of the month making our school community a warm and friendly place to be.



Development Education

2014-16 Development Education: looking back!

Our school has achieved a lot in Development Education, particularly from 2014-16. There are too many milestones to mention. But the mutual visits to our partnership schools by Indian and our own teachers; the Award of a WorldWise Global Schools "Diplomatic Passport Plaque"; the two best ever years in Debating Dev Ed issues; visits to Dublin Zoo, Irish Aid HQ and to a biopic of Malala, Girls' Rights campaigner, do stand out. Below, Aiste, Alannah, Chancelvie, Benie and some TYs reflect on some of their favourite Dev Ed experiences.

2015-16 Intercultural Day

by Aiste Strazdaite (5th Year)

It was a truly great experience to participate in our Intercultural Day last October, the school's fourth one, giving us an opportunity to taste a variety of foods and, more importantly, of wonderful cultures from our school and from around the world. It was also very pleasing to see that so many girls had put so much effort into preparing their wonderful stands, representing their countries, delicious national dishes and exquisite cultural dress, especially in the fashion parade and during the musical performances. I think Intercultural Day is a very important day in our school. It brings us all together and encourages us to try to understand and respect each other more. It truly promotes 'Girl Power Across the Globe'!

Concern Debating Retrospective

By Alannah O'Neill (5th Year)

Over the past number of years I have been a member of groups of students that have taken part in the school's Debates Team, competing in the Concern Debates Competition and the MHA Public Speaking Competition. In the past two school years we have won all consecutive debates before finally being knocked out, this year very narrowly by Crescent College Comprehensive.

Competing in competitions such as this has given us the opportunity to research and gain an understanding of many issues that affect our world. The team have debated topics as diverse as: the voting age, climate change, HIV/AIDS, sustainable population growth and more.

Being a member of this team has not only allowed the students to gain confidence, it has also given us the opportunity to become responsible global citizens. By becoming aware of the problems that affect the people around us we as students will have an increased respect for our fellow human beings. We hope that this will allow us to work towards finding solutions to these issues when the human rights baton is passed to us in the future.

Fairtrade Fridays, February 2016

By Chancelvie Mambouna (6th Year)

In February we had a fantastic opportunity to sample and buy a range of handmade bags, accessories and cards made in Northern India. This was to promote awareness of Fairtrade as part of Mr Carmody's Development Education.

The handmade bags really inspired me because I love India so much and it was a dream to buy something made in India. The bags I bought are incredible, brightly coloured, exotic, eye-catching and artistic. I find them perfect because they are of good quality, suited for summer and have enough space to store all my personal belongings!

Writing Workshop with Paula Leyden

By Benie Mambouna (6th Year) in 2015 and TY students in 2016

BENIE:

Paula Leyden inspired me to become a better writer. She visited my school last year, having been invited by Mr Carmody to conduct a six-week writing workshop funded by WorldWise Global Schools/Poetry Ireland. Within this period this woman filled me with the knowledge that has driven me to pursue a career in writing, just like hers.

I have also become more aware of the world around me, of less privileged countries to be precise. Paula taught me to be an empathetic person, to dig beneath the surface and not to judge people quickly. I learned my lesson when I first met Paula; I initially made the assumption that she came from a Western country. This was proved wrong when she revealed to us that she was in fact born in Zambia in Africa!

She taught our class about Development Education and its purpose, something I am still learning about. She also spoke about "taboo" issues that people tend to avoid talking about such as AIDS and HIV. I learned that there are many people in the world living with HIV/AIDS and also many dying as a result; life expectancy can vary from 30-40 years in the Developing World to much longer in the First World thanks to the availability of drug therapy here. This shows just how upside down the world can be!

We also covered topics such as Animal Welfare, World Hunger and Girls' Right to Education. I have been enriched with so much knowledge and wisdom thanks to Paula; I intend to use it wisely!

TY STUDENTS:

LAUREN DOYLE: we learned a lot about different countries through news stories and creative writing. KAYLEIGH LAWLOR: learning about different countries and cultures was very interesting. LEAH BLAKE: it was a good experience and very interesting; the story- and character-writing was enjoyable.

MR. CARMODY HAS BEEN INSPIRATIONAL IN DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION. HE BRINGS REAL LIFE EXPERIENCES INTO THE CLASSROOM WITH HIS STORIES AND LIFE EXPERIENCE. WE WISH HIM A SAFE JOURNEY AS HE TRAVELS TO NEW LANDS IN 2017.

Development Education



United Nations of Nano Nagle, Halla an tSolais



*Author Paula Leyden with Transition Years proudly display their self-published book, **THINKING ABOUT THE WORLD***



Sophie Gannon at HE NAMED ME MALALA biopic and inter-schools debate, Fresh Film Festival



Remembering Girl Power Across the Globe on International Women's Day on March 8



Left - meeting Sinead Bourke talking about Girl Power

Left below - Agnes Phiri, Alannah O'Neill, Nikola Kusiak: three of those representing our school at WorldWise Global Schools Annual Conference at Thomond Park in April



Right - Example of embroidered artwork created by Ms Nestor's art students, inspired by our Indian teacher guest who were in our school in October.



Choral Activities at Coláiste Nano Nagle

CHOIR WORKSHOP WITH COMPOSER TOM KENDZIA

We were delighted to welcome Tom Kendzia in early May to do a workshop with the school choir, staff and students. Tom is a well-known liturgical composer, speaker and author based in Rhode Island, US. Tom has over 30 recordings and is regularly featured at national conferences in the US, Canada, Europe and Asia. He has visited Ireland on several occasions, working with the Irish Church Music Association and hosting workshops for choirs. The choir, along with music and RE students and several teachers, gathered in the school library for the workshop. Tom brought us on a journey through song - learning new pieces, hearing their stories and most of all - singing together. The workshop was great fun, with students from all year groups and teachers singing together in a relaxed atmosphere. It was a very special experience for the girls to be able to sing music in the company of its composer. A highlight of the day was the choir's performance of Tom's piece 'Pietà - Come and See' which the choir had sung previously at the Easter liturgy. It was a very moving experience and surely a memory that will stay with the girls for a long time to come. Tom said afterwards that his visit to Colaiste Nano Nagle was a highlight of his trip. Well done to all who participated. We can't wait to have him back!



The choir recently enjoyed a trip to Mary Immaculate College to see their production of the musical 'Starlight Express'. The girls had a great day at the fast-paced and dazzling show, and

got a real insight into expression in performance. It was a well-deserved treat for the girls after their hard work all year.



Visit by Historian Sinead McCoolle

Visit of Historian Sinead McCoolle to the school.

In April we welcomed well-known historian Sinead McCoolle to the school. Sinead works in the area of Irish history and has a special interest in the role of women in Ireland's fight for freedom. She is the author of several books including the most recent, 'Easter Widows' and is in demand as a speaker nationally and internationally. Most recently, Sinead provided the commentary for Sky News' coverage of the Easter Rising commemorations. We were especially interested in what we could learn about women in Irish history - as a girls' school and keeping our Development Education theme, 'Girl Power Across



the Globe' in mind. Sinead gave an inspirational talk to students on brave Irish women, focusing on the theme 'Mise Eire'. We were invited to think about all the ways 'We are



Ireland' today. The girls left with new insight into the people of 1916 and a deeper appreciation of what it means to be a part of our country. There were certainly budding historians among our students who were inspired by the experience. Well done to all and thank you to Sinead.

Ceist Conference in Dublin

On Tuesday 15th March three leaders from our school, Bennie Mumbouana, Rachel Constable and Chloe Daly attended the Ceist Youth Leadership Conference in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.

They discussed ideas on how to bring leadership into our schools and they learned about leadership in other schools.

The youngest politician in the Dail, Jack Chambers, spoke to them about how each and every young person can achieve great things if they put their minds to it and worked hard.



Horse Riding Club

This was a great year for the horse riding club. Thirty students tried riding and of those we had regular attenders throughout the year. A special mention must be made of Alison Ledger, who in her first year learnt to ride with us and competed in many Interschool show jumping competitions. She competed in her last one this year, as she is just finishing 6th year. Again many thanks for the support from Mrs Cummins. Sincere and well earned thanks to Mr. Jake Daly who gives unselfishly of his time to take the girls to riding lessons in Clonshire Equestrian Centre.



Sport

5LCA's soccer match against St Marys



Last PE class of our sixth year students.



Sports Day 2016 UL Sports Arena

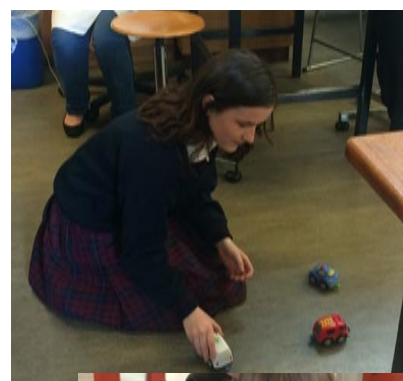


Prize Giving Day 2016



Science For Fun

Science for Fun took place in April. TY students together with their teacher, Ms. Madigan, invited parents of sixth class students from Presentation primary school into their classroom to learn a number of experiments. Sixth class were then invited into our school for the experiments to be presented. Everyone had a lot of fun and learned loads of interesting facts. Thank you to Ms. Madigan for organising this.



Easter 2016

Easter 1916. The Great War rages in Europe with two hundred thousand Irishmen fighting in the British Army. But a small group of Irish nationalists refuse to fight for Britain and strike a blow for Irish freedom. Caught up in the action in Dublin, is twelve-year-old Molly O'Donovan.

Her own family is plunged into danger on both sides of the conflict. Her father, a technical officer with the Post Office dodges the crossfire as he tries to restore the telegraph lines while her wayward brother runs messages for the rebels. Molly a trained First Aider, risks her own safety to help the wounded on both sides.

This is her diary.

All first year students were given this book to read in their English classes as part as the Rosbrien Local Education Committee literacy project for 1916. It helped students understand what had happened during that time through the eyes of someone their own age.



Schoolgirl Plate Winners
Junk Kouture

OPPORTUNITIES IN STEM

Nationally there is a significant skills shortage in the areas of science, technology, engineering and maths. Girls are particularly underrepresented within these employment areas. On a recent visit to COOK Medical in Limerick, the managing director of the company stressed the need for young graduates, originating from STEM related courses. Focussing particularly on predicted ICT opportunities, the managing director stated that nationally, there will be a need for 45,000 ICT graduates over the next 6 years. Reflecting these opportunities, against student interest within our own school, 23% of our Leaving Certificate students are considering a future career in STEM. Importantly however, while it is not advisably for students to choose a third level course, in which they have little aptitude or interest. For those students who have a genuine aptitude and interest in maths / science / technology; significant opportunities do exist within these career areas into the future.

If you wish to research the area of STEM, information can be found at www.smartfutures.ie

Mr Loftus



Agricultural Science in the City



Transition Year Trip to Michael Collins Film

As part of Rosbrien Local Education Committee's 1916 project Transition year students were invited to the Odeon Cinema in Castletroy for a viewing of Michael Collins on Friday 6th May.



First year basketball team who won the schools final coached by Mr.Cathal O Sullivan(1st photo)/ Mr.Cathal O Sullivan ,being presented with his trophy as Bainisteoir Na blianta 2016 by Mrs Mary Ryan as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge celebrations.



Liturgy

EARTHQUAKE IN ECUADOR 2016

On Saturday April 16th at 6.50p.m. an earthquake with magnitude of 7.8 occurred in Ecuador. The earthquake caused massive damage in almost a quarter of the country. Widespread destruction collapsed structures within hundreds of kilometres of the epicentre. To date we have heard that over 700 people were killed, 4,030 injured and 150,000 children have been affected. These figures may not be exact. This earthquake was the strongest ever to hit Ecuador. It was felt by more than 15,000,000 people. So many Buildings came to the ground, two hospitals that I knew have totally collapsed and many patients died in Chone and Portoviejo. Mudslides and rain are causing much damage and less than 20% of the communication lines in the country are working. The media have given us an overall view of the scene in Manabí but from the area where we have worked, it is only with great ingenuity that local people have made contact by cell-phone, recharging them at the local hospital where they have emergency motors. During my eighteen years working in this area and later seven summers, I have been overjoyed by the way I saw Chone and Flavio developing. My last visit 2014 I thought both places had developed so much and there was a real buzz of positive activity in both places. People making huge efforts to educate themselves and create a better life. The experience of an earthquake seems like taking a few steps forward and then twenty steps back. I remember being there for 1983,1987,1998 and 2010 earthquakes but none of these were more than 5.5 or 6 on the Richter scale. The people of Chone and Flavio are a truly very warm people. They have very strong Faith and a great spirit of survival. I know they will arise and get going again but it is all very hard work and will take a long time. For me one funeral was particularly poignant because it was my little godchild Colette. It was Colette's 13th. Birthday and she spent the day making her Birthday cake to share with family and friends that night. She dressed in new clothes which her parents had bought for her and the family were going to Mass to celebrate. Colette returned to change her shoes and her Mother Maria went with her and just then the 40 second earthquake struck, the house collapsed on them. Colette died almost immediately and she and her mother were buried under the rubble for over an hour. Maria del Carmen was taken from the rubble with many injuries and her arms around Colette. Maria gave her daughter the final blessing and prayed. Maria has been my friend since she was three yrs of age and she has made a great go of life. She has very strong Faith and her Faith and love for family is keeping her going. They have lost everything and are a pilgrim people now. These people have very strong Solidarity and will rise up again. This is just the story of one family that has been communicated to me from Maria's cell phone in hospital I know there are many others. I am hoping to do a little fundraising for this disaster and maybe with this letter you could involve a few friends also. Even if we could build one house and get some supplies that would be wonderful. Forgive me for asking but after this disaster I feel I have to do something. I know so many people in this area but will hope to help three or four families.

Thank you sincerely.

Mary Colette Hourigan P.B.V.M



Colette lost her life on her
13th Birthday



Colette's grave in Ecuador



The Staff and Students of Colaiste Nano Nagle offer our deepest sympathy to Sr. Colette on her sad loss in Ecuador and she can assured of our love and support. We will be thinking of you, your friends and the people of Ecuador over the summer.



Liturgy

RESPONSE OF COLAISTE NANO NAGLE

Colaiste Nano Nagle as always came up trumps in its response. We searched on maps to find the area and got a lot of information and photos from YouTube. A shrine of many candles lit up the front hall which reminded us to remember a people who were suffering and whisper a prayer for them as we passed by. A prayer service for the whole school brought us closer to these people just recovering. We learnt together the meaning of SOLIDARITY which is feeling as our own the suffering of brothers and sisters near and far, and responding to them in whatever way we can. Management Staff and students of Colaiste Nano Nagle have been outstanding. Our students with their generous hearts invented many projects cake sale, face painting, Staff v Students basketball match on sports Day and the misses whippy's Ice-cream parlour was mouth watering at lunchtime for three full days. Then there was the staff dinner organised by Miss O'Brien and thanks to Bobby from "Lets Do Coffee" for gifting us with all that lovely food so that we could raise funds. This all came to €1,400.00 so well done and GRACIAS. Thanks also to our retired teachers who have raised €2,600.00. So our plan to help at least four families will be possible. The ideals of the first Christian Community are very alive in Colaiste Nano Nagle 2016.



OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE TOGETHER AT COLAISTE NANO NAGLE SINCE JANUARY 2016 Miss O'Brien and Sr. Colette

On Dec. 8th. 2015 Pope Francis declared that the next year would be "The Year of mercy" In his book "The name of God is mercy". He calls us to the Christian challenge to be Christ like and witness Christ in our lives each day. He tells us to explore God's mercy in people we meet every day, and in the wider community.

First Year Reflection day took place on Feb 10th. which was Ash Wednesday and the ceremony began with the distribution of Ashes for the whole school. Our first years with their theme Gifts and Talents and had done a lot of reflection on their own gifts and talents during R.E. classes. Most of the day was spent in small groups. We prayed, meditated, played games, watched short videos of very gifted people and reflected on the gifts we might have to offer others in future. Our film treat was The Lion King and Fr. Chris celebrated Liturgy with The Parable of the Talents.

On Feb. 4th. our second year students had prepared and developed their theme of Heroes. In small groups we shared who our heroes were and what special gifts they had. The day was filled with learning from each other about people who have made great success of their lives and each student seeing Jesus as the great hero. The film Forest Gump told us of the many ways we can become heroes. Fr. Christ celebrated the Liturgy to end the day.

The theme for our fifth year Liturgy on April 6th. was Creation. Our morning prayer including the four elements of fire, water, air and earth made us very aware of our Universe. The Cosmic walk took us back 13.7 billion years and we reflected from that time as we walked the school grounds to the present day. Our day was very nature orientated and we watched the Awakening Universe before Fr. Chris led us in the Creation Liturgy with the readings from Genesis. We are grateful to Maire Buckley and Sr. Ann Hurley for helping us with these Reflection Days.

Easter Prayer Service was held in the School Gym on Tuesday 15th. March 2016.

During this ceremony we celebrated three important liturgical events.

The feast of St. Patrick, our national Patron Saint of Ireland

Pope Francis has called this year "Our Year of Mercy" and the open door in each of our lives

What does mercy look like in action?

How do we live mercy in our lives today?

Lastly the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ during Holy week and Easter Sunday.

Here the choir sang a piece called "Pieta" which calls to mind the image of Mary holding her son in her arms. It reminds us of Mary's grief, but also the love she had for her son reflecting the love between a mother and her child. This was truly beautiful and the highlight of the ceremony.