



ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE



RECORD 2006

A Message from the President

It is with a sense of optimism that I welcome this edition of the St. Kieran's College Record. In keeping with the many changes which have taken place at St. Kieran's over the past few years this edition mirrors these changes and it will strive, in future editions, to publish a chronicle of the main events in the life of the College since 2002, the 219th Academic Year, when a new-look Record was first presented.

St. Kieran's College was founded, as you know, in 1782, the first Catholic school after the repeal of the Penal Laws. Over the decades St. Kieran's has had to face serious challenges and much change but in all this time two pillars have remained constant and solid – our mission of (1) Education and (2) Formation based on Gospel Values.

In these days, the twin pillars of Education and Formation are found on campus – In our Secondary Day School under the stewardship of our newly appointed Principal Mr. John Curtis and the Chaplaincy team headed by Fr. Sean O'Connor – In the Creidim Centre, a

centre for Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation for the Diocese, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Declan Murphy and a newly appointed Steering Committee – In the N.U.I.M.(National University of Ireland, Maynooth) Outreach Campus, where at present 220 adult students avail of a range of courses at undergraduate and post graduate level under the managership of Mr. Chris Reid and his team. With these concrete expressions of Education and Formation, St. Kieran's maintains a central role in the academic and faith life of Kilkenny, both city and county and the Diocese of Ossory.

Over the past few years St. Kieran's has been very fortunate in managing all the changes facing it and related demands. The new services, new facilities and refurbishment programmes which you see or have experienced are the result of much hard work, dedication and support from many people, especially staff, students, parents' council, Board of Management, Trustees and our patron, Bishop Forristal.

Since being appointed President in



Fr. Kieron J. Kennedy.

August 2004 I have been inspired personally by the levels of commitment shown and energy expended by all involved in the mission of St. Kieran's – some now no longer with us, especially Mr. Micheál Ó Diarmada, who retired in 2005 after eleven years as principal. With such obvious commitment we can face the future with confidence and a great sense of optimism – all the more reason to welcome this and future editions of The Record.

*Fr. Kieron J. Kennedy.
President.*

St. Kieran's Staff Photo



Principal's Address

It is an honour for me to be writing this as Principal of St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny. Prior to September, I was privileged to be similarly engaged in Knockbeg College Carlow, like St. Kieran's an all-boys' diocesan school, and it is the experience gained in my ten years as Principal there that I bring with me to my present position. Since taking up the post I have been struck by the courtesy and generosity of my colleagues on staff, the pupils and the parents; I have found the year enjoyable and fruitful and I look forward to further engaging with everyone in the school community in the years to come.

This is a period of change in the school. I would like to thank my predecessor Micheál Ó Diarmada for all the help he has afforded me and to wish him well in his retirement – I can only hope to build on the rich legacy he has left the school. It is very gratifying to become Principal at a time when, through the offices of the President Fr. Kennedy, the Trustees and the Board of Management, substantial work is being undertaken to upgrade infrastructure and facilities in St. Kieran's. Improvements are now evident around the grounds and in the areas such as the Glasshall and through the summer and in the coming years more projects of

this nature will be undertaken. Schools continually need to evolve to meet the changing needs of the time and the intention is to build on the proud tradition and past of St. Kieran's to ensure that present and future requirements are met.

The Record is a celebration of the year and should give us occasion to reflect on and enjoy the achievements and creativity of our pupils. Not everything can be covered here, but we hope you can see that the core teaching and learning process with which we are engaged is augmented by a wide range of activity, academic and otherwise, that is indicative of our aim to provide a broad, holistic education for our pupils. Be it in poetry or hurling, it is great to see the students participating and the Record aims to present the breadth of school life; it is a credit to my colleagues on staff that so much extra-curricular work takes place here. I would like to thank Ms. Keyes who took on the project of producing the Record and has worked tirelessly on it: I know, too, that she would like me to thank all the staff and students who so ably assisted her. We hope that you will enjoy it now as giving a flavour of this school year and in time to come, perhaps, as it serves as a reminder of days past.



Mr. Curtis

As the year ends, I wish all of the students well in the summer tests, they mark the culmination of a hard year's work and will testify to the academic progress made since last September. On behalf of all of us on staff I would especially like to extend best wishes to all of those taking the Leaving and Junior Certificate examinations and to hope that those crucial few weeks in June go well for them. As the Sixth Years leave us, we know that happy and productive years lie ahead of them as they take pride in themselves, their school, and each proceeds on his own way.

Mr. John Curtis

Denis Philpott

In September 1970 Mr. Denis Philpott came to St. Kieran's College as a teacher of History and Geography. From that day until he retired in August 2005 his contribution to life in the College was immense.

People quickly realised that he wasn't simply a teacher but a man of many parts and varied interests. Most obvious was his interest in and dedication to Gaelic games both hurling and football. In the early 1970s teams from St Kieran's competed in Leinster football championships with a considerable degree of success with Denis at the helm. Twenty years on he steered the team in black and white to two all Ireland senior hurling titles.

His dedication to his students was second to none and he counts many of his former students as friends. As educationalists Denis and the Geography Department were very progressive and their Geography students were involved in exchange visits with schools north of the



border and also took part in ground breaking trips to Europe, pioneering European Studies in Secondary Schools. Contacts were kept up using electronic mail before the internet or email was fashionable. His considerable understanding of History has always been a great help to students and colleagues alike.

He had and indeed still has a great love for his native Cork, but his contribution to

Kilkenny has been considerable whether with Kilkenny minors, Dicksboro or Gowran .

Those who taught with Denis miss him.

For me there is still a space in the staffroom, I often look expecting to see the smile. Then I know he is probably out on the golf course working on his handicap and realise that any sadness would be misplaced.

Tomás Ó Murchú

Mícheál Ó Diarmada



Left to Right: Mary Ní Dhiarmada, Tomás Ó Murchú, Fr. Kieron Kennedy, Mícheál O'Diarmada and Bernie Dowling.

Mícheál O' Diarmada retired as principal of St. Kieran's College Secondary School in 2005. His departure from the staff marked the end of a distinguished career in the college spanning thirty seven years.

Mícheál is a native of Crobally in south Kilkenny. If Shamrocks are playing in Nowlan Park, Mícheál is there. His knowledge of the people and history of the south is extensive. If you go to a lecture at Eigse Sliabh Rua, the lecture could very likely be delivered by Mícheál. His knowledge of local history is extensive, usually showing sympathy for the small farmer rather than the landlord.

St. Kieran's featured very much in Mícheál's life. He gave selflessly of himself to students during his long career. Mícheál was renowned as a teacher of Irish and History in St. Kieran's, but he was more than that, he was a scholar and an enthusiast in both. Knowledge was shared generously with student or colleague, indeed still is. If you sought a point of information or clarity, be it history or gaeilge, he always solved your problem. You never were made to feel foolish for asking the question. Generations of students left the school imbued with wisdom, knowledge and a love of learning as a

result of being taught by him.

He involved himself in preparing Irish debating teams with many successes in inter schools competitions. If you needed help when preparing a class on Seán Ó Riordáin, Máirtín Ó Direáin or Michael Davitt, file, - Mícheál was always willing to help with background knowledge.

His interest in hurling saw him follow St. Kieran's the length and breadth of the country encouraging the college team as they played against St. Flannan's, St. Colman's Fermoy, St. Peter's Wexford or many local jousts with the C.B.S.

Mícheál has had a long standing interest in and understanding of the sport of kings. I noticed early on in my career that on a certain Thursday each January and on certain days in March Mícheál used to appear distracted. Greek words like Thyestes baffled me and references to obscure English towns like Cheltenham were also puzzling to me.

We were educated gradually and learned about some of Mícheál's other wide range of interests. You might attend Kilkenny archaeological society and find Mícheál there speaking, listening, participating or proposing a vote of thanks.

His love of sean nós singing is known far and wide particularly at Daonscoil na Mumhan in his beloved Rinn Ó gCuanach but also in Kerry and further afield.

Later on, in the late Eighties, Mícheál turned from history teacher to history maker when he became one of the teachers who introduced German to St. Kieran's.

When John Collins retired as vice principal Mícheál succeeded him in that job and brought to it his usual energy and enthusiasm. But he only stayed in that position for a short while.

In 1994 Mícheál became the first layman to step into the shoes of Naomh Ciarán as the headmaster. In that position his old strengths became his new strengths and we benefited too. As a principal of the oldest catholic secondary school in Ireland he showed decency and Christianity and compassion. He was dedicated to St. Kieran's and students and all the staff. Clan Chiaráin mar a thugtar orainn.

Mar phríomhoide bhí sé

Uasal

Tuisceanach

Cineálta

Diongabhála.

Braithimid uainn é. Go maire sé céad.

St. Kieran's Day

The feast of St. Kieran falls on March 5th and this year the festivities to celebrate our Patron Saint were held on Friday March 10th, which was the nearest convenient date. The day began with mass for students and teachers in St. Mary's Cathedral, celebrated by our College President Fr. Kieron Kennedy, ably assisted by Fr. Sean O'Connor, College Chaplain. Then everybody returned to the College to

"tog out" for the days planned activities which had been organised by staff members for several weeks beforehand.

The activities were many and varied and included; hill walking, golf, pitch and putt, hurling, soccer, music, photography, snooker and much more.

Of course the staff had to make it back to the College for a 5.30 reception hosted by the President Fr. Kennedy,

where members of the Board of Management, Creidim Centre and Maynooth Outreach joined with the Secondary School in toasting St. Kieran.

Afterwards, a sumptuous meal was enjoyed by all in the College Refectory which was prepared and presented by Chef Jim Delaney, housekeeper Ann Meany and staff. The meal was a fitting end to a great day.

Prayer for Exams

As summer approaches, we become aware of the brighter weather and longer evenings. Nature begins to blossom in all its glory and we are reminded of how near the summer holidays are. As the school year ends, we give thanks to God for all that was good this year, for our friends and teachers.

We especially pray for the third and

sixth year students who sit state examinations in June. May the God of wisdom be with them as they pray; O God, help me at my examinations to remember the things which I have studied and learned. Help me to remember well and to think clearly. Help me not to be nervous or excited, that I may do myself justice and keep me calm and clear headed. Help me to try my hardest and do my best. Amen.

Our Lady, pray for all sitting their leaving and junior certificate examinations this summer. Amen.

Father, we ask your blessing upon the community of St. Kieran's College as we enter the summer holidays. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Best wishes to all for the summer,

The Chaplaincy Team.

Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage 2006

Michael Kelleher, Robbie Delaney, Joe Holohan and I are the four students who will be representing St. Kieran's College in Lourdes this year. We will be going as part of a youth pilgrimage along with students from the Presentation, Loreto, C.B.S. and Grennan College.

The pilgrimage was organised by Derek Dooley who worked with a representative from each school. Fr. Sean O'Connor was the representative in St. Kieran's and has helped unbelievably with the organisation of this trip.

On behalf of the students involved I would like to thank Fr. O'Connor for all his help and for giving us the opportunity to take part in this experience.

Jack O'Connor. (TY)



Pictured are the four students representing St. Kieran's in Lourdes; Left to Right: Michael Kelleher, Jack O'Connor, Robert Delaney, Joseph Holohan.

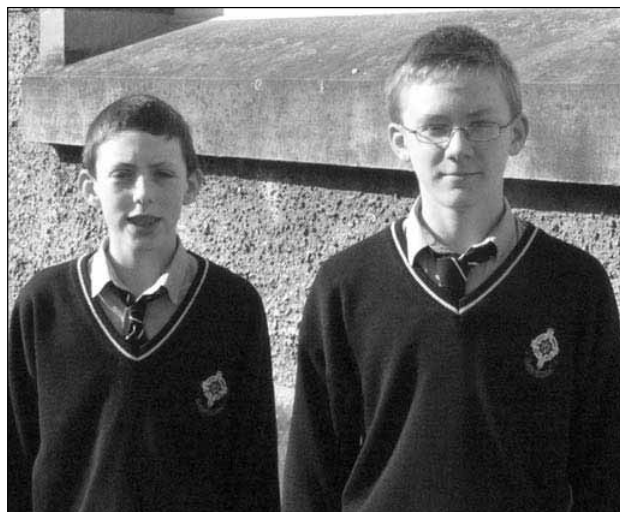
First Impression

At the opening night we received our first impressions of St. Kieran's College. After being shown the theatre, the science labs, the art room, the music room and gym, we had created an image in our heads of what days in 'Kieran's' would be like; an interesting, eventful, creative environment which would carry us through our Junior and Leaving Cert. studies. Ah bliss!

It was the first day of school and a group of fifth years had been 'hand chosen' to help us settle in, basically, they told us where not to go, what not to say and who not to say it to. Then, we were introduced to the classroom. Ten cubic metres of ancient carpet on which lay fifteen double desks, each engraved with the names of people's Fathers, Grandfathers and so on. My earlier image of the school had evaporated, replaced by the "classical classroom" scene that lay before me. This was where I was going to spend my first year at St. Kieran's, stuffed with 29 other lads, into a classroom which looked like it hadn't been refurbished in twenty years. Welcome to second level education, boys!

Over the next few weeks we settled down and grew accustomed to the school. During this time we learned who the messers, geniuses and athletes were.

Over the course of the year a number of improvements were made. For one thing they laid new carpets (the old one was beginning to decay) which was good, except for the smell of glue that lingered for a few days. Also, seeing as the radiators seemed to be emanating cold instead of heat, they too were replaced by ones which kept us sufficiently hot even on the coldest of winter days.



First year students Brian O'Shea and Peter English.

We have also had to learn to get used to the week or so of every term which is dedicated to tests. Although nobody relishes the thoughts of trying to cram a term's worth of work into an hour of writing and even those of us with the best revision plans seem to forget the odd fact or date here or there, I think we all agree that they are made up for by the extended lunchtimes. Coming to the end of first year I'm sure that we all feel our decision to come here was justified. It's not just because of the school's physical properties, but for its character and tradition, things that other schools just can't match – not to mention our hurling prowess!

By Brian O'Shea and Peter English (1SC)

Due for Release



The administrative powers of this school, and the man above, Mary Hanafin, have at last come to terms with the fact that we are just, too cool for school! So they've decided that as a little going away present they're going to make us sit exams called the Leaving Cert. One might wonder does the fact that these exams usually take place over two of the sunniest, warmest weeks of the whole year hold some sort of vengeance for all the 'guff' we've given thus far, or maybe they just don't want us to return.

As I empty my locker I remember things like coming in on my first day

here. The feelings of being unable to breathe brought on by the terror of once again being on the bottom rung of the social ladder, that or the asphyxiation of our ties being so high that they may as well have been up around our foreheads.

That first year was undoubtedly the longest. 2nd Year was overshadowed by the saga of Sept. 11th and the start of the war in Iraq. 3rd Year gave us our very first officially recognised qualification. 4th Year was definitely one of the most fun years, it was our transition from pubescent kids to post-pubescent adolescents. 5th brought the realisation of our impending Leaving Cert. exams. As for 6th Year? It was more a case of 'sneeze and you'll miss it'.

Every 6th Year has their own memories of attending this school, here are some of mine; 'Saving Private Ryan' re-enactments in 3rd Year, the Glass Hall being considered a suitable bowling alley for ping-pong balls or as a skating rink when it rained, nick-names, teacher strikes, student strikes and being told to 'GO NOW' to hall 33. Yet in all the years I've spent here some mysteries still exist. How does the stone stairs withhold the constant stampede of students? Is there really a dartboard in the staffroom? Where exactly is this secret door up to the chapel? And who is the person who comes in the dark of night to fix the windows?

Though some of us would rather sit on a rattle snake than admit it, we will miss this school or certain things about it. We'll miss the teachers that we respect because of their respect for us. This school has been the basis for a lot of our growth as people. As we now prepare to leave and face the Big Bad World I'm overcome by a sense of achievement and satisfaction. We can be proud to say we are alumni of St. Kieran's College. It's been fun, it went faster than I expected and as the first generation of students to enter in the new millennium, its time to leave forever.

Look after yourselves, try not to miss me too much (cue the violins or the 'Goodbye song' from Bear in the Big Blue House....you know the words). Slán.

David Hayes (6th Year)

Fundraising



€9,000 was collected in the school last year following the Tsunami disaster, this was enough to purchase three boats pictured below. St. Kieran's 1, 2 and 3 / Transition Year students with the Cheque for €9,000 pictured with Micheal O'Diarmada and Maureen Meany,

Tsunami Boat Fund '05

Transition year students have collected over €15,000, during the past school year, for the following charities and organisations:

- O'NEILL CENTRE
- YOUTHLYNX
- IRISH WHEELCHAIR ASSOCIATION
- ISPCC- HOLLY DAYS
- GROW
- OUR LADY'S HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, CRUMLIN



Fairtrade Coffee Morning

As part of their CSPE junior certificate action project class 2SF organised a coffee morning to raise awareness about FAIRTRADE. They sold Fairtrade tea, coffee, hot chocolate and cookies. There was a great turnout of teachers and students.

'Fairtrade Mark Ireland' is an organisation which ensures that people in the developing world get a fair price for their produce. Class 2SF put a lot of work into the organisation of this morning, they learned a lot and overall the coffee morning was a huge success.



Some of the members of 2SF behind the counter at the FAIRTRADE coffee morning

Christmas Carols

In December Ms. Olive Comerford organised a day of carols and music at the town hall to raise funds for Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin. The choir sang carols from

10am until 1pm and music filled the air as the wind ensemble played from 2pm until 3pm. €2,000 was raised over these four hours. This, plus the €5,000 that the Transition

Year students raised, during collection days organised by Ms. Maureen Meany, brought a grand total of over €7,000 donated to the Hospital.



Caption: Front L. to R. Ciaran Colfer, Danny Moloney, Conor McMorrow, Joey Corcoran, Daryl Cody, Cian O'Mahoney, Anthony McNeill, Pierre Morrissey (guitar), Patrick Lennon (guitar), Keith Shanahan, Shane Grace (snare drum), Donal O'Farrell (guitar), Evan Cass (guitar), Daire Nolan (guitar).

2nd Row L. to R.: Stephen McKenna, Andrew O'Dwyer, Gerry Walsh, Jack Hanrahan, Darragh Griffin, Michael Costello, Mark Grace.

3rd Row L. to R.: Sam Moylan, Evan Guilfoyle, William Gaffney, Matthew Nolan, Eoin Walsh, Ken Farrell, Jake O'Brien, Sean O'Dwyer, George Allen.

Back Row L. to R.: Karl Dos Santos, Eamonn Wallace, Michael Clarke, Ger Smith, Christopher Vierhout, Shane Noonan-Holohan, Peter English, Jamie Fogarty, Joe Sexton, Michael Lennon, Michael Walsh, Thomas Lennon, David Farrell, Garry Corcoran, Conor Maharaj, Tommy McGuinness, Andrew Cantwell, Sean McPhillips, Bill Murtagh-White, Alan Byrne, Stephen Duncan.

Trocaire Awareness Raising Campaign



The students involved in the Trocaire Awareness Raising Campaign accompanied by Karina and Eleazar (Nicaraguan Representatives who spoke of personal experiences of child labour) Fr. Kieron Kennedy (College President) and Olive Comerford (teacher).

The Trocaire awareness raising campaign aims to raise awareness of various injustices and human rights breaches throughout the developing world. It does so by using Ireland's network of secondary schools, promoting them to begin their own awareness raising campaigns at a local level. Every year Trocaire's agents visit secondary schools throughout Ireland and provide them with the information they require to begin their campaigns. This includes the year's theme, which alternates annually. This year the theme given to students in sixteen schools across Ireland was 'CHILD LABOUR IN NICARAGUA'.

Child labour can be defined as "any work that harms or exploits in any way, whether physically, mentally or morally or blocking access to education". It has now become a common problem in many third world countries, most of which have booming economies. Child labour provides a cheap workforce that is beneficial to the countries economy as a whole but that often seriously exploits children as young as five years old. The vast majority of these developing countries, including Nicaragua, have rapidly increasing populations which provide a ready supply of children to work on coffee plantations, carpet factories, dumps and mines as street vendors and even in the sex trade. Governments such as those in Nicaragua often turn a blind eye on child labour, dismissing the disturbing statistics that reveal just how common and exploitative it has now become.

In Nicaragua alone, a country of five million inhabitants, there are in excess of two hundred thousand illegally employed

children (while facts and figures on child labour are by no means difficult to obtain they do vary considerably). This figure was calculated by the Nicaraguan centre for human rights who also estimate that there are between five and six thousand street children selling mainly food produce on the streets of Managua, Nicaragua's capital city. These children come from families so poor that some are "rented" by their parents to organised networks of beggars. They receive only minimal wages, usually below 1 euro a day, but have no other choice but to work, in order to support their families and to survive.

The coffee plantations are a major source of child labour. Coffee is Nicaragua's prime export and over four hundred thousand Nicaraguans depend on the cultivation and sale of coffee to make a living. The owners of the plantations, however, are slow to own up to the fact that over twelve per cent of coffee workers are illegally employed children. They are forced to work for up to seven hours a day and deprived of their rights to receive a proper education and, in many cases, to see their families. Children must administer dangerous chemical herbicides and pesticides, many of which have been banned in other countries, because of health and safety issues. All of this work must be carried out with absolutely no protection under scorching heat of up to thirty three degrees. Furthermore, these children are not paid for the time that they spend on the plantations but instead by the volume of coffee that they pick. They will only receive 45 cent for every ten kilogram basket of coffee that they harvest.

We began our research into child labour in November and from then on our presentation slowly began to take shape. Four representatives from our 16 strong group also attended a day of lectures and workshops organised by Trocaire in Dublin. This provided us with a valuable opportunity to exchange findings and ideas for our project with other trocaire groups around the country.

Our public presentations began in March and all have been extremely successful. We visited St. Pat's and St. John of God's primary schools, we also carried out our presentation to first and second year students in St. Kieran's and Loreto secondary school. We have featured on KCLR twice over the course of our campaign as well as having a display, raising awareness on several aspects of child labour, in the credit union. We also had two appearances on RTE 1s Kairos programme "A prayer at Bedtime" over the Lenten period. Two representatives from Nicaragua, Karina and Eleazar, came to the school to talk to us about their personal experiences of child labour. We have recently completed the translation of our presentation into Irish to bring to the Gaelscoil primary school.

Overall, I have found the trocaire awareness campaign to be an enlightening, involving and challenging, yet rewarding, project which has opened my eyes to the appalling conditions under which thousands of children are forced to live. It puts into perspective the luxuries that we afford ourselves and hardly notice. I would strongly recommend participation in this project to all future transition year students.

Ian O'Fearghaill.(TY)

Adventure Weekend for the President's Award

On Friday May 5th, at 6:45am, the twenty three students participating for the bronze medal of the President's Award set off on their adventure weekend to fulfil the requirements set out for this prestigious medal. The group were accompanied by Mr. Darmody and Ms. Comerford.

The weekend started with a fun filled journey to Kenmare on a jam packed mini bus, where every empty space was filled with bags. The bus journey started as the weekend continued with laughs and jokes coming at a constant rate.

On arrival at the adventure centre, Star Sailing, Kenmare, we stepped off the cramped bus to stretch our legs. The sea air was really refreshing. We were introduced to our instructors, three people who would, over the three days, learn our strengths and weaknesses and also our unique sense of humour.

On day one, we tried out two different activities. Our group was divided into two where we alternated the activities. The first were team challenges, where our mental abilities were put to the test. The group that worked as a team always came out on top, an important factor to remember for the following two days. The second activity was to man and sail a six person sail boat. Sailing was definitely the better of the two activities as we all learned how to work the sails and steer the boat. When the sailing was over we jumped off a 20 ft pier which was an unbelievable feeling. Once you jumped you felt like you were never going to hit the water. Friday was finished off with a murder mystery treasure hunt in the local woods where we were given orientation maps with X's the spot where clues were hidden. Our job was to find out who killed who, where, how and why! This challenge proved a lot more difficult than any of us could have imagined because the clues were hidden so well. We had to rummage through fallen branches and undergrowth to find some.

On day two we were joined by two more teachers Mr. Windle and Mr. Heffernan. The day started as it finished, raining! We started off by being kitted out with



Left to Right Front :John Fagan, Niall McQuillan, David Nolan, Michael Kelleher, John Wallace, Tomas Phelan, Patrick Rice, Oisin Daly

Middle: David Griffin, Jack O'Connor, David Rafter, Brian O' Shea David Walton, David Buggy, Colm Dowling

Back: Ian O'Fearghaill, James Duncan, Andrew Prendergast, Stephen Quinlan, Joe Walsh, Conor Phelan, Martin Gibbons, Ciaran Neary)

wetsuits, lifejackets, boots and rain jackets. The wet suits were extremely tight and....wet! We were given warm up exercises to stretch our muscles to avoid injury. We were shown how to hold the paddle, how to turn and also how to slow down. Then we set off in our three and four man canoes. Unfortunately for us we were fighting a losing battle when not more than five minutes had passed and one of our team capsized the boat. Four of us ended up in the water, which wasn't very pleasant as we hadn't even moved one kilometre and already we were cold and wet.

We headed in towards Kenmare town, about six kilometres from where we started. We stopped off and had lunch and it was only then the hard work began, our homeward journey involved paddling back six kilometres against the current.

On the Saturday evening an indoor soccer tournament was arranged. This was won by Mr. Windle following a last minute penalty in the final which gave Mr. Windle the glory he always longed

for. The night was finished off with a take away being delivered to our apartments. This brings us to our third day when our mischievous streak was reawakened.

The weather had improved with only light showers every half hour or so, this helped to keep our spirits and body temperatures up. On our final day of canoeing we travelled about 10kms but this was divided up with seaweed fights, battles of the paddles, capsizing and getting a tow from the canoe in front. The highlight of the day was when all students started a seaweed fight in the direction of one canoe, inside which was Ciaran Neary, Ms. Comerford and Mr. Windle, our main target.

Overall it was a very enjoyable trip, with many laughs and jokes but most importantly, the completion of our year long effort to achieve the Bronze Medal of the President's Award. Thank you to all four teachers for travelling with us and also to our President's Award Leaders, Mr. Darmody, Ms. Comerford and Fr. O'Connor.

Brian O'Shea and David Walton (T.Y.)

Here are just a few of the many tours organised for students throughout the school year

Our Belfast Weekend

*Back Left to Right: Keith Davitt,
Joe Clohesy, Matthew Byrne,
David O'Connell, Ciaran Goff,
Luke Greene, Paddy Delaney,
Niall Houston*

*Middle Left to Right: Stephen Duncan,
David Cummins, Cornelius O'Flynn,
Patrick Lawlor, Kieran Fennelly,
Patrick Dowling, Aidan O'Dowd,
Bill Murtagh-White.*

*Front Left to Right: Gary Corcoran,
Paul Holden, David Freeman, Conor
Hogan, Raymond Brennan,
Cillian Phelan.*

Missing from photo: Dermot Heafey.



On Friday the 5th May, 22 students from St. Kieran's College went to Belfast for a sporting and cultural weekend. The weekend included 5-a-side soccer and swimming at Andersonstown Leisure Centre, after which we were collected by our host parents. On Saturday Kilkenny played St John's Belfast in a game of hurling which St. Kieran's won 2- 7 to 1- 5. We then visited the W5 science centre at the Odyssey followed by bowling at Dundonald Ice Bowl. Stormont Castle was next on the agenda we were amazed by its size, huge.

Shopping in O'Neill's Superstore was excellent and most of us spent a fortune on jerseys and jackets. Sunday was jam packed also, starting off with Mass in St Michael's followed by a match, St Kieran's v La Salle. A tour of Andersonstown News Centre, where a report was made up of our trip and our pictures were put into the paper (we all got a copy to bring home, a nice memento) and shopping in Westwood Centre was all done before going to the Ulster Senior Football Championship game, Cavan V Down at Casement Park. The guided tour of North and West Belfast and City Centre was a real eye opener especially since it was the 25th anniversary of the hunger strikes. We returned early Monday morning absolutely shattered after a hectic weekend. We made great friends from Belfast and many of us were invited back during the summer.

*David Cummins, David Freeman,
Bill Murtagh-White and Paul Holden. (2SK)*

First year History Trip



*Some of the first
year students
who were
brought to the
Ferrycarrig
National
Heritage Park,
Wexford
listening to their
guide.*

All first year students got the opportunity to go on history trips organised by Eadaoin Brennan,

Jane Galway and Patrick Darmody, to Ferrycarrig National Heritage Park in Wexford.

Ski Tour



Jim Carew, Richard Windle and Eamon Heffernan on the slopes during this year's ski trip

Prizegiving 2005



Sports Awards

Back Left to Right:

Gavin Houlihan (soccer),

T.J. Reid (Senior Hurling),

Mr Patrick Kilroy,

Rev. Fr. Kieron Kennedy,

Mary Cooper (Parents' Association),

Mr. O'Diarmada, James Crotty (Golf)

Front Left to Right:

David Walton (Junior Football),

Sam Holmes (U-14 Hurling),

Darragh Callanan

(Sports Star of the Year),

Niall McQuillan (U-16 Hurling),

Andrew Kavanagh (U-14 Football)

Academic Awards

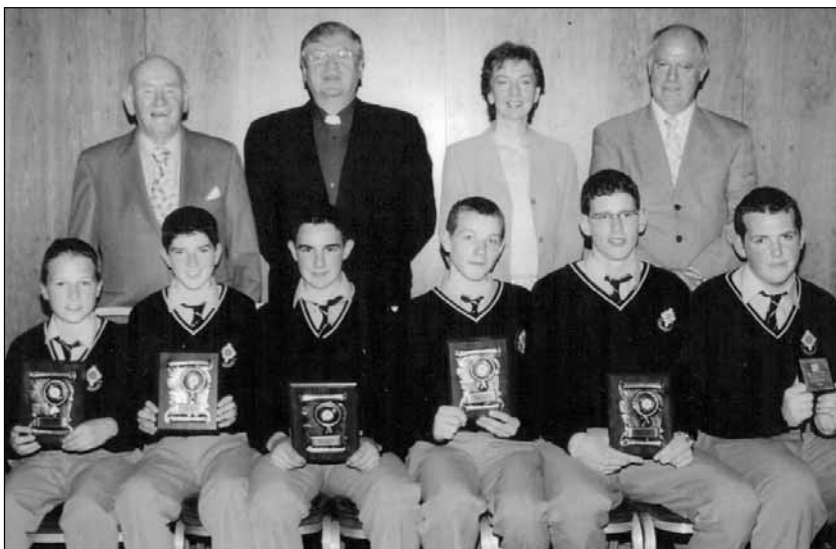
Front Left to Right:

Ciaran Casey (1st Year),

Corey Molloy (2nd Year),

Niall McQuillan (3rd Year),

John Cahill (T.Y.)



Student of the Year

Left to Right:

Darren Booth (1st Year),

Robert Butler (2nd Year),

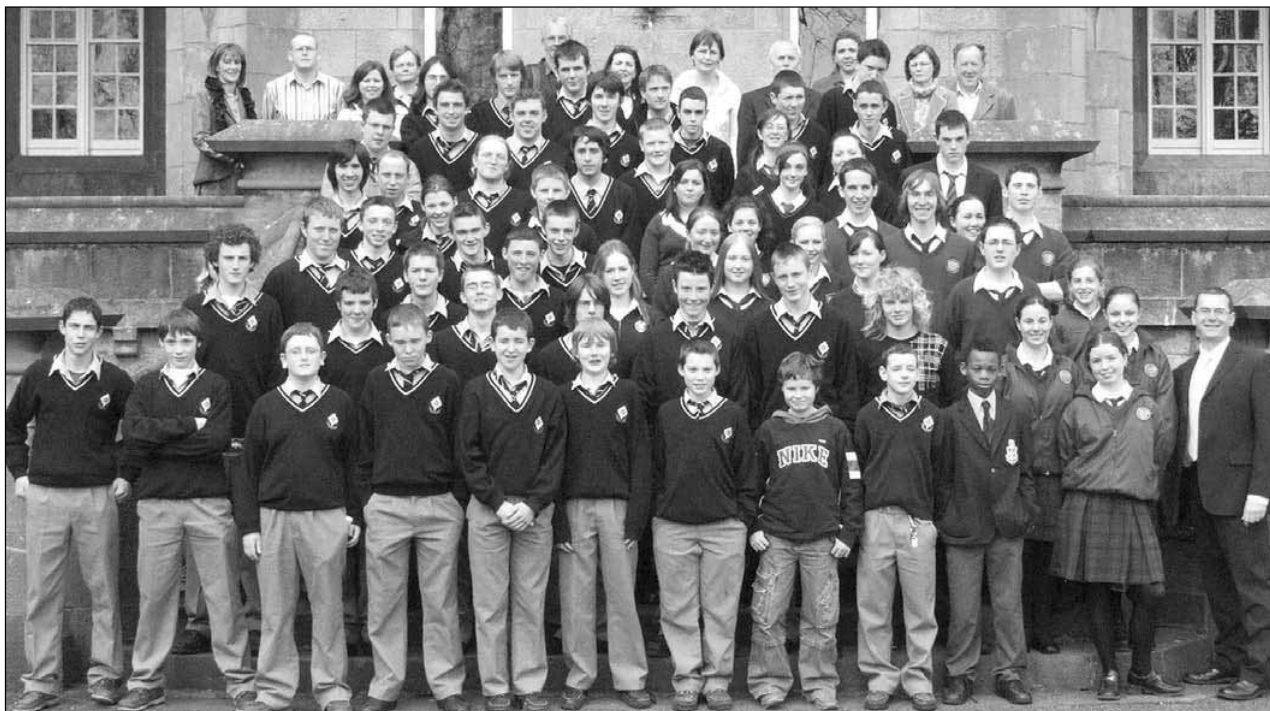
James Dowling (5th Year),

Niall McQuillan (3rd Year),

Thomas Downey (6th Year),

Patrick Foley (T.Y.)

Yeats Aloud



Students from the South East of Ireland who were competing in the "Yeats Aloud" Poetry competition in St. Kieran's College

In April close to 60 students participated in the 'Yeats Aloud Poetry' competition which was held in the College theatre. Students from Dunlavin to Ring all recited 'The Song of Wandering Aengus' as well as a Yeats poem of their choice. The competition was set up by Poetry Ireland and the National Library who in May will exhibit Yeats' manuscripts.

The students were judged in six categories including voice projection and interpretation with the recital of poems from memory being a requisite.

Kilkenny was well represented with no fewer than 40 students competing on their own turf. The event was adjudicated by Mark Roper, Jean Fitzpatrick and Prionsias O'Driscóil. The first and second places in the senior

group went to two students from the College, 1st Richard Cody and 2nd Stephen Colfer.

The event was organised by St. Kieran's College teachers Larry Cotter and Martin O'Neill. Those who came first, second and third in each of the three categories, Senior, Intermediate and Junior will go on to the national competition on May 12th in the National Library in Dublin.

Study Skills

We are a few among many students from fifth year who participated in the study skills programme that was provided by the school in March of this year. At the beginning we were given a test based on how we studied prior to participating in the programme. We were then told about the current points system in place in Ireland and how it was worthwhile attempting honours rather than ordinary level in as many subjects as possible, an ordinary 'A' grade being equivalent to a honours 'D' grade when it came to calculating points.

Our instructor then informed us of some facts concerning studying, for example, the brain stops functioning effectively after 25 minutes (concentration levels drop to 70%) and therefore 5 minute breaks should be taken every twenty five minutes. Another point made was the idea of substituting images/pictures in place of numbers e.g. 1=pencil. This visual form of learning helps you to remember notes etc. from various subject copies (link pictures to numbers and numbers to the notes).

At the end of the day's programme the

same test was distributed as we had completed at the beginning of the day and it was revealed that every student's mark had improved.

On the whole the activity was an enjoyable and informative one. Thanks should go to the instructor and to the school for making this programme available to students. (Many valuable points were made on the day – far too numerous to mention here).

*Liam Ryan, Luke O' Mahoney and
Colin Murphy (5th Year)*

English Master Class



The students involved in the English master class on the poetry night in St. Kieran's along with Larry Cotter (English teacher) and Mark Roper.

During the course of the 2005 academic year 16 students were given the privilege of attending classes with an accomplished poet, Mark Roper. The opportunity to be tutored by a writer such as Mark is a distinction in any context. The fact that this opportunity was presented to us by St. Kieran's emphasises the abundance of opportunities and privileges we receive as students of this College thanks to the dedication of teachers and others affiliated with the school.

The 16 students selected attended classes, during which Mr. Roper, an experienced and accomplished poet, introduced the concept of poetry (writing and appreciation) and attempted to add to and nourish each

student's existing skills.

This was the second time that such a visit from Mark Roper to St. Kieran's College had occurred and on the previous occasion Mr. Roper, Mr. Cotter and the students of that master class compiled a broadsheet of their work. (This, incidentally, can be seen on most school notice boards in the college.)

Following our classes, under the stewardship of Mr. Cotter, all poems were printed on individual postcards that were sold together in packs. This idea meant that the works of the students would not only illuminate the walls of the college but could bring illumination all over the world.

The course concluded with a night of poetry reading in the College theatre

which included a memorable speech from our former principal Mr. O' Diarmada.

As I personally participated in the course, on behalf of all 16 students I wish to thank those who made it possible: Mark Roper for his diligent patience, Poetry Ireland who subsidised the course, the Arts Education Advisory Committee for the south east and the St. Kieran's College Board of Management, all teachers including Mr Cotter and apologies to anyone I have missed.

Hopefully, this course can now become synonymous with St Kieran's College and may it proceed for a long time to come.

Donal o' Farrell (3SC)

Think about it...

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uestdnatnrd what I was rdgnieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmaun mind. Aoccdrnig to rscheeachr at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar

in what order the ltteers in a word are, the only iprmoatnt thing is that the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. This is

bcuseae the human mind deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Amzanig huh ?

*Contributed by
Michael Sherlock. (3SC)*

Young Scientists Exhibition

The use of Aromatherapy in the Classroom to improve Concentration and Alertness

Every January an exhibition is held in the RDS in Dublin for young scientists throughout the Republic and Northern Ireland. The exhibition gives young people the chance to show their skills in the different fields of science, while also giving them the opportunity to meet people of the same age from all over the country, and develop friendships that last longer than the exhibition. A lot of time and energy is spent preparing the projects but once you reach the RDS you realise it's all worth it. With your week being filled with late nights, discos, new friends, and ice skating! You really get to know the people you are working on the project with, and may even meet people from Kilkenny you never knew before. It's the opportunity of a lifetime and I'm only sorry it didn't last longer.

St. Kieran's entered two projects this year. These were "The use of Aromatherapy in the Classroom to improve Concentration and Alertness" and "The De-Eutrophication of the lake in the castle park". I was part of the aromatherapy project.



Bernard McDonald and David Griffin.

In preparation for the exhibition we ran multiple tests on students, comparing the results of the tests taken while using aromatherapy to the results of the tests taken without using aromatherapy. Our results were extremely interesting with a substantial improvement in test results while

aromatherapy was being used. There was a lot of interest in our project from the judges and the public and we won an award for our display. My team mate in completing this project was Bernard McDonald.

David Griffin (TY)

Student Enterprise Awards

We entered the student enterprise awards with a garden supplies business. We sold Christmas plants, such as Poinsettias and Hyacinths, but our main product idea was our own original 'Dung bags- Organic, easy to use fertiliser for household and garden plants'. They were very popular with the public as they are very practical and they brought us from the school final to the county final of the Enterprise Awards. The judges in the county final were very interested in our business especially our 'Dung Bags'. We won this stage of the competition advanced to the All-Ireland final, took place on May 14th and won the *Innovation Award*.

Peter Cody. (TY)



Young Entrepreneur Peter Cody. (Missing from photo Michael Kelleher).

Young Scientists Exhibition

The De-Eutrophication of the Lake in the Castle Park



Oisín Daly, David Walton and Stephen Quinlan.

The De-Eutrophication project that we completed involved researching the weed that was causing terrible problems in the Castle Park Lake. We made lots of enquiries during our

research to the Castle Park, Kilkenny, to the E.P.A. (Environmental Protection Agency) and others. We were interviewed by Clara Walsh from KCLR along with the students involved with

the aromatherapy project. The other students involved in the completion of this project were: David Walton and Stephen Quinlan.

Oisín Daly (TY)

421 Drugs Programme

The 421 drugs education programme is a 3- day training programme designed for transition year students to teach them the types, effects and reasons for using drugs. The students then devise a six week course consisting of forty minutes a week where they present their new found knowledge to the first year students of their own school.

I was lucky enough to be chosen from my school to take part in the programme and I must say that it was a rigorous six weeks. At the same time, though challenging, it was enjoyable and this made the experience easier overall.

The three days consisted of six hours a

day of learning and increasing your knowledge of drugs, but it is not the typical way that students learn about drugs. We were taught about drugs in a way which really caught our interest and attention which made the course enjoyable and what we learned memorable.

We were also taught how to become the instructors ourselves and how to approach the subject with first year students. The emphasis, we were informed, was to make sure we involved the students in the class and got to know them better.

It is after these 3 days that the real work begins. The twelve students who went on the programme then have to devise

their own six week course, consisting of one forty minute class a week. During these classes we pass on our knowledge. Each of these six classes will be used to teach the first years about the different types of drugs and their effects.

Ossory Youth, who run the programme, are delighted with the progress it has made since it began in 2004 and hopes of making it a national project are getting closer to becoming a reality in the future.

At the moment we are in the process of presenting our course to the first years and are enjoying and finding it interesting being in the teacher's position for a change.

Niall McQuillan.(TY)

The Euroscola Programme

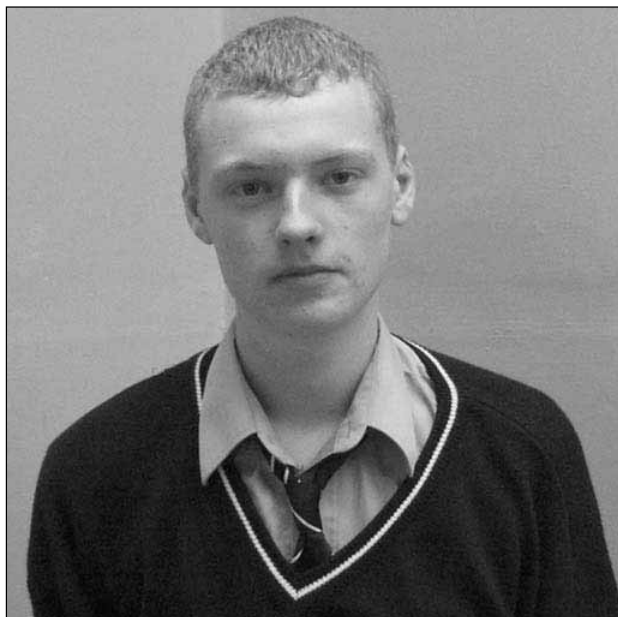
The European Parliament launched the Euroscola Programme to enable young people from all over Europe to familiarise themselves with the workings of the European Union and discuss current issues that will affect their future.

On April 25th I arrived at Dublin airport, to fly to Strasbourg in France for four days, with 29 other students from around the country. We had all won the Graduate Competition and this trip to Strasbourg was the prize.

The first day of the trip was spent at the European Parliament. Everyone was seated in MEP's seats along with about 30 students from each of the other member states in the EU, about 600 students in total. We were split into working groups to talk about issues like: 'Whether Europe should have an Army and Should Europe have a single Constitution?'. Then we voted on the different issues.

For the rest of the trip we visited Luxembourg, Germany and Belgium. We stopped to tour the Rhine Valley, Heidelberg, Köln and Brussels from where we took a plane back to Dublin.

Richard Mosse (TY)



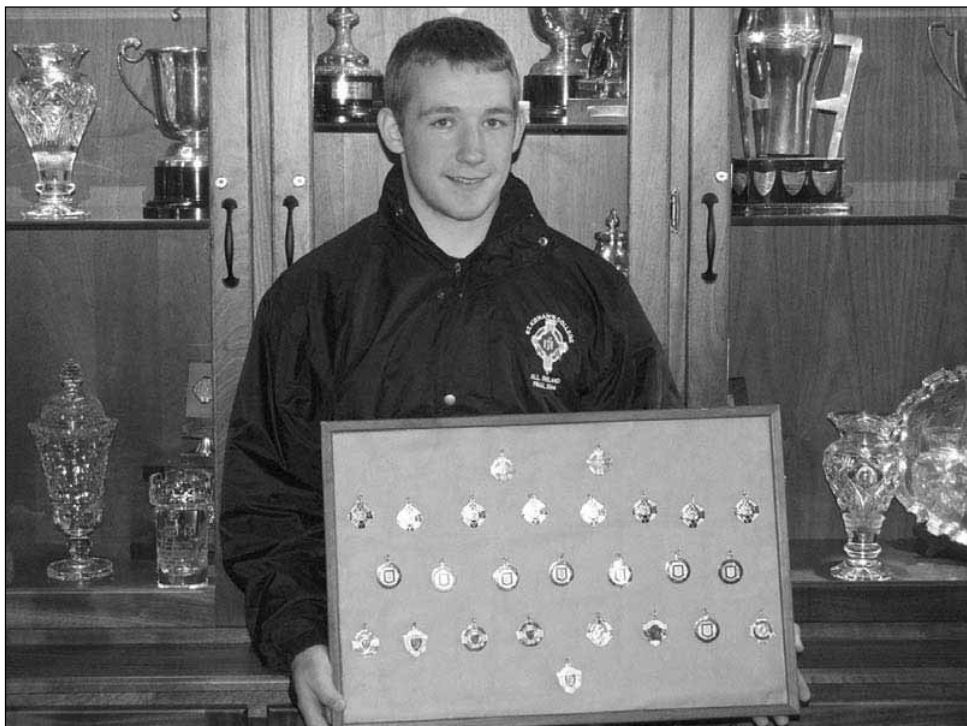
Richard Mosse.

ECDL Certificates



6th year students pictured with their ECDL certificates and teachers Philip Walsh and Maureen Meany.

What a Collection



Richie Hogan shows his display of Handball and Hurling medals.

*Top Row: L-R:
All-Ireland Senior Hurling
2003, 2004
Second Row: L-R:
8 All-Ireland Handball
(all levels) 2001-2006
Third Row: L-R:
7 Leinster Handball
(all levels) 2001-2005
Fourth Row: L-R:
8 Leinster Hurling
(all levels) 2001-2005
Bottom Row: L-R:
South Leinster Football
2003 (Leinster Senior
Handball 60X30 2006 and
Leinster Senior Singles
Handball 2006 medals yet
to be received)*

Chess

Students from St. Kieran's meet weekly to play chess and it is also one of the activities available to Transition year students on Wednesday evenings. Pictured here St. Kieran's College students playing against students from Oathlands CBS, Dublin, in the Leinster Colleges Chess Tournament



A Reflection on Transition Year

Looking back over the past year I have to admit that I found it to be both beneficial and rewarding. It acts, as the name suggests, as a transition period allowing us to mature before facing the two year Leaving Certificate course.

Transition year also provides us with the

opportunity to go out into the world of work to see what is expected of us. Work experience also helps us to see whether we are suited to particular jobs and helps us to see if we should consider them as a career.

We have had time to explore and reflect

during the year, prior to making the important decisions that face us in the next couple of years. The time is also made available to try new things, like Cookery, Bridge, Chess, Youth Lynx, Theatre, ECDL and The President's Award.

Mark Kinsella (TY)

Business Award



Three St. Kieran's college students were the recipients of the W.I.T. school of business/BSTAI recognition awards 2005 for their outstanding results in Business Studies, Junior Certificate examination 2005. The awards were presented at Waterford Institute of Technology on 14th of November 2005.

*Back row L to R: Niall McQuillan, Mr. Tom Looby, David Butler.
Front row L to R: Mr. Paddy Downey (Registrar WIT), Abbas Khan, Ms. Norah Martyn (BSTAI).
Missing from picture is Oisín Daly.*

IMTA (Maths Award)

Harry Maharaj, Enda Rafter, Ritchie Ryan and Donal Fitzpatrick won the IMTA schools maths quiz south-east branch in January. The four then went on to represent the south-east with distinction in the All-Ireland schools maths quiz.



The four students pictured with their teacher, Mr. J. Kavanagh, outside Trinity College, Dublin.

Comórtas Díospóireachta an Phiarsaigh 2006 Gael Linn

Thosaigh sé go léir le mé féin, Corey agus Niall ag scríobh na díospóireachtaí agus thug Iníon Ní Riain (ár múinteoir) cabhair dúinn, ag cleachtadh agus ag tabhair treoireacha dúinn.

Níor chreideamar riamh go rachaimid chomh fada sa chomórtas. Shroicheamar an craobh reigiúnach.

Bhí an chéad bhabhta í scoil na mBráithre Chríostaí í gCeatharlach. An dara babhta in Ostán an Radisson í mBaile Áth Luain. Thaisteal Iníon Ní Riain gach áit linn agus bhaineamar an taitneamh as.

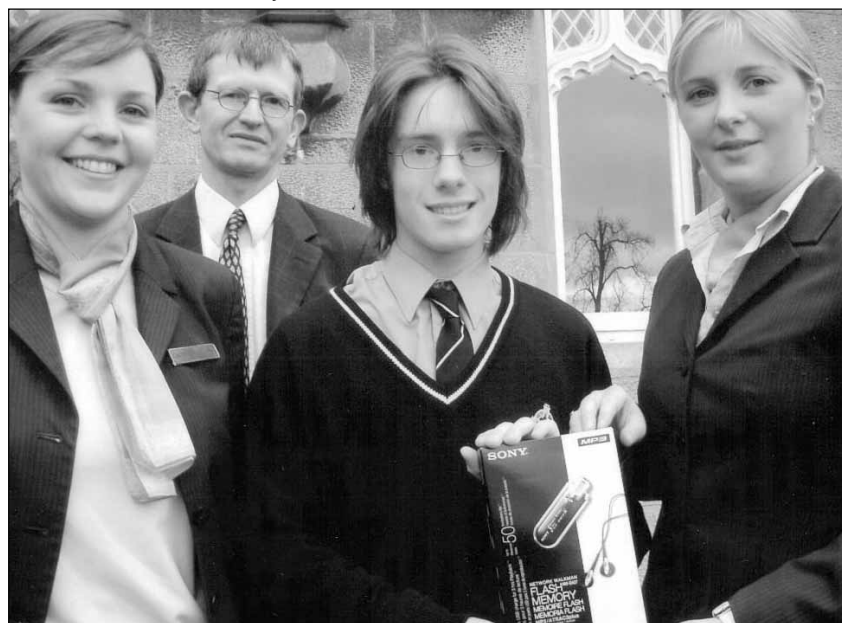
Ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabhail do gach duine a chabhraigh linn.

Cian O'Sullivan (3SK)



Shroich foireann sóisear Choláiste Chiaráin an craobh reigiúnach I mbliana. Comhghairdeas do Corey Molloy (captain na Foirne, 3SK), Cian O'Sullivan (3SK) agus Niall Quillan (3SK).

Bank of Ireland Award



Left to Right: Aisling Kavanagh (Regional Schools Co-ordinator), Mr. John Curtis (Principal), Corey Molloy and Martina Comerford (B.O.I. Kilkenny, student officer).

I was nominated within the school for the Bank of Ireland Student of the Year Awards. I was then asked to fill out a special form stating why I thought I should win this award. This was then

sent away to be judged and as it turned out I was the Kilkenny Regional winner. The prize presented to me was a 1 Gigabyte Sony MP3 player.

Corey Molloy (3SK)

National No-Name Club Youth Award

Leaving Certificate student, Richie Ryan, recently won the National No-Name Club Youth Award in Ennis. This is a prestigious event and extremely difficult to win. Approximately 1,000 Leaving Certificate students from No-Name clubs all over the country take part initially and through a series of heats, eight young people compete in the finals for two awards (Male/Female). In 28 years of this competition, Richie is only the 4th person ever from Kilkenny No-Name Club to win and the first from St. Kieran's. Private interviews are undergone and public performances are required from all contestants interviewed on stage by Sile Seoige TG4.

1st Years



1SC: Left to Right,

Front: Dylan Meagher, Jack Nolan, Patrick Butler, Brian Walshe, Danny Moloney, Hugh O'Neill.

2nd row: Cian Prendergast, Brian O'Shea, Patrick O'Carroll, Michael Costello, Eoghan Connolly, Sean Lowry.

3rd row: Cillian Buckley, Evan Guilfoyle, Darragh Griffin, Cillian Phelan.

4th row: Kieran Rafter, Jack Hanrahan, Peter English, Sean Wemyss, Cian Mullaly, William Phelan.

Back: Darragh Buggy, Darragh Carrigan, Andrew O'Dwyer, Michael Dunne, Michael Tierney, Sean Lennon, David Dewberry.



1SF: Left to Right,

Front: Wayne Johnson, Oliver O'Neill, Ryan Bolger, Daryl Cody, Joe Becker, Gerard Looby, Tom Mullan, Ciaran Madden.

2nd row: Trevor Looby, Paul Buggy, Keith Shanahan, Michael Clarke, Peter Nolan, Sean Farrell, Eamonn Wallace.

3rd row: Jason Quan, Shane Noonan, Gary Geoghan, Shane Dowling, Conor Foley.

Back: Shane Brennan, Keith Nolan, John Dunphy, Luke Feehan, Bill Simpson, Bill Molloy.

1st Years



1SK: Left to Right,

Front: Eoin Walsh, Cormac Costello, Joey Corcoran, Aaron Nolan, Cian O'Mahoney, Gerry Walsh, Fionbar Hayes, Thomas Whitely, Sean O'Dwyer

Middle: Danny Farrell, Matthew Nolan, Ken Farrell, Sean McDonald, Jason Nugent, George Allen, Michael Lanigan, Mark Grace, Kevin Brennan, Jake O'Brien

Back: Tom Brennan, Jason Collier, Declan Bennet, Daragh Phelan, Michael Whitely, Cathal O'Neill, Niall Walsh, Shane Brennan, David Mullins



1SM: Left to Right,

Front: Denis Hogan, Sam Johnston, Kevin Brannigan, Luke Hickey, Ger Smith, Stephen Chappell, James Burke, William Harrison.

Middle: Robert Lacey, Patrick Brennan, William Gaffney, Richard Prendergast, Aaron McDonald, Stephen Noonan, Jamie Minogue, Conor McMorrow.

Back: Tommy McGuinness, Fintan Hurley, Stephen Corr, Ger Teehan, John Power, Thomas Lennon, Christopher Vierhout.

2nd Years



2SB: Left to Right,

Front: Conor Gorey, Laurence O'Carroll, Colm MacPartlin, Kieran Lynch, Niall Kenny, Darren Booth, Conor Maharaj.

2nd row: Sean Phelan, Michael Gorman, Eamonn O'Connor, Eoin Delahunty, Corey Rigley, Jamie O'Hara.

3rd row: Padraig Meany, Michael Hayes, Jonathon Newell, Christopher Casey, Ian Matthews, Shane O'Sullivan

Back: Pierre Morrissey, C. Brown, Thomas Byrne, Michael Cotter, Evan Barry, Keith Davitt.



2SC: Left to Right,

Front: Rory Bryan, Padraig Walsh, Karl dos Santos, Shane Egan, Bernard Mullen, Kieran Fennelly, Rory McPhillips.

2nd row: Michael Sheehan, Dermot Heafey, Conor Hogan, Sean Queally, Jake Egan, Michael Twomey

3rd row: Stephen Duncan, Dermot, Kelly, Andrew Cantwell, Kieran White, Anthony McQuinn

4th row: Alan Byrne, Mark Prendergast, Ciaran Colfer, Ben O'Connor

Back: Kieran Casey, Anthony Wilson, Ciaran Gough.

2nd Years



2SF: Left to Right,
Front: Richie Maher, Paddy Dowling, David Coyne, Mark McCarthy, Cathal Healy, Patrick Tynan.

2nd row: Daire Nolan, Daniel Luttrell, Michael Dowling, Stephen Lennon, Damien Tynan

3rd row: Darragh Nolan, Gavin Holohan, Michael Dowling, Stephen Lennon, James Houlihan.
Back: Evan Cass, Joe Sexton, Rob Skeehan, Kieran O'Brien, Patrick Lawlor.

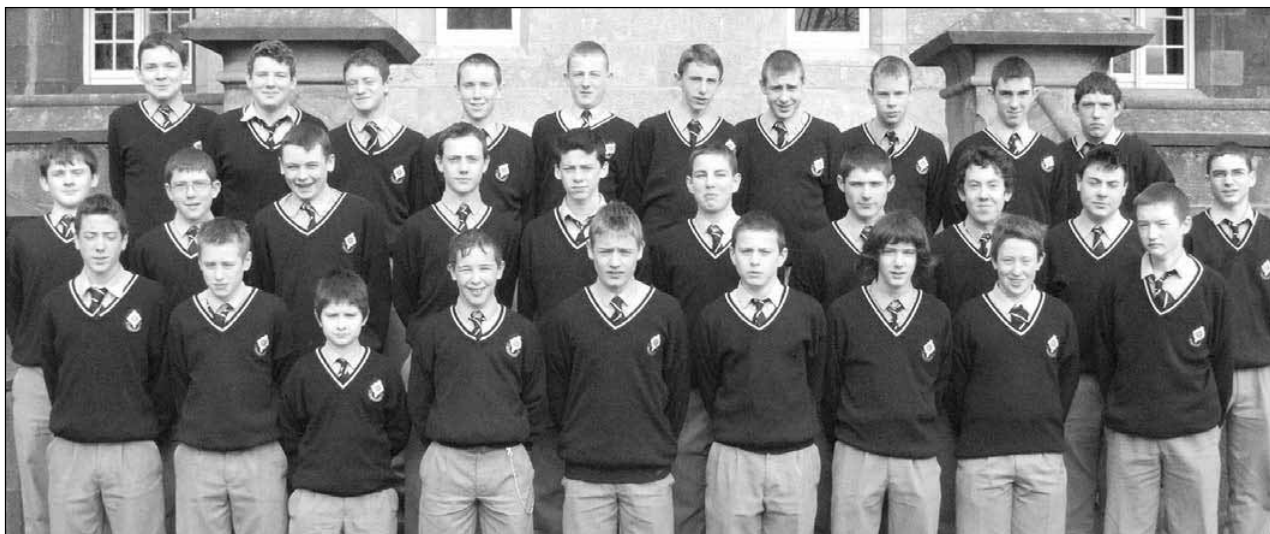
Missing from photo: Gavin Holohan, James Houlihan, Niall Houston, Eoin Brennan, David Farrell.

2SM: Left to Right,
Front: Dylan Walsh, Kevin Ireland, Gavin Joyce, Ciaran Snype, Hugh O'Brien.
2nd row: Luke Green, Marcin Figiel, Darren Evans, Michael Lennon, Cillian Phelan.
Back: Nicky Creane, Eoin Prendergast, Thomas Falsey, Kamil Ziotkowski, Kenneth Kinsella, Ciaran Leahy.



2SK: Left to Right,
Front: David Cummins, Sam Malone, David Freeman, Bill Murtagh-White, Eoghan Lalor, Sean McPhillips, Gavin Butler, Shane Grace.
2nd row: Jamie Fogarty, John Meehan, Cornelius O'Flynn, Edward Dunphy, Padraig Walsh, Paul Holden, Brian Prendergast, Gary Corcoran.
Back: John Costigan, Donal Brennan, Joe Clohesy, James Gannon, Gareth Hayes, Daryl Butler, David O'Connell, Richard Deasy, Matthew Byrne.

3rd Years



3SC: Left to Right,

Front: Eoin Holohan, Colin Manning, Kieran Manning, Edward Nugent, Andrew Kavanagh, Michael Rice, Jake Mullaly, Paul Forristal, Colm Dowling.

2nd row: John Muldowney, John Fitzgerald, Conor Doyle, David Doyle, Donal O'Farrell, Jack McCarron, Oliver Byrne, Ronan McCann, Michael Sherlock, Daniel Whelan.

Back: Eamonn Costello, Edward Ryan, Brian Donovan, Christopher Nolan, Eoghan Grant, Rory O'Brien, Shay Butler, Donal O'Riordan, Richard Troy, Kieran Fanning.



3SF: Left to Right,

Back: James Brennan, Jonathon Dewberry, Brian Fitzpatrick, Sam Holmes, Evan Prendergast, Kevin O'Neill, Stephen Comerford.

2nd row: Robbie Culleton, Ronan Burns, Conor Barry, David Ryan, Shane Farrelly, Darren Hanrahan, Ronan Holohan.

Front: Gavin Hickey, Declan Thompson, David Kennedy, Barry Mullins

3rd Years



3SK: Left to Right

Back: David Prendergast, John Cahill, Robert Butler, David O'Hanrahan, Hugh Manning, Conor Quigley, Brian Banahan, Michael Kiely

Middle: Paddy Mullan, Shane Norton, Michael Nolan, Seamus Hayes, Mark Sheehan, Jamie Monahan, Paul Barron, Robbie Molloy, Richard Shortall, Cian O'Sullivan

Back: Jack O'Carroll, Edward Murphy, Edward O'Shaughnessy, Liam Doyle, Liam Lahart, James Dowling, Darragh Twomey, Corey Molloy, Samuel Johnson, Niall Quillan, Robbie McPartland



3SM: Left to Right,

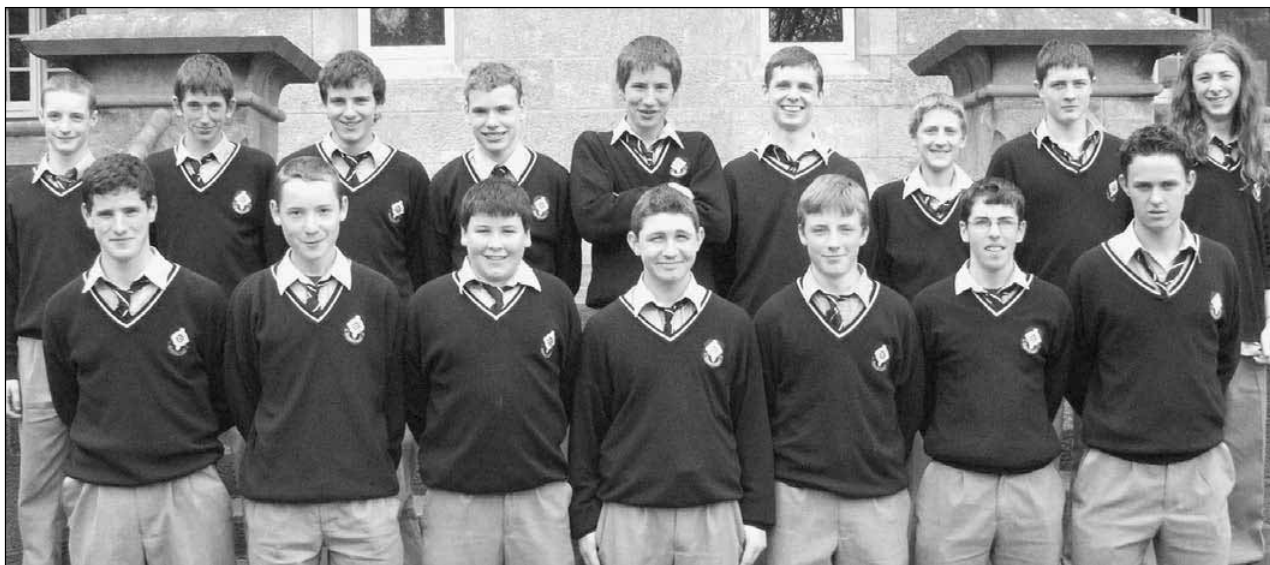
Front: Thomas Tennyson, Colum Kennedy, Conor Brennan, Trevor Kelly.

2nd row: Colm Walsh, Frank Ireland, Geoff Doyle, Cathal Kavanagh, Jack Walsh, Darren Cornally, Kenneth Heffernan.

3rd row: Chris Randall, Cain Lynch, Stephen Mullins, Enda Madden, Philip Ryan, James Byrne.

Back: Rory Hogan, Padraig Burke, Nicky O'Grady, Tony Hickey, Eanan Cooke, Kevin Nolan, Darragh Murphy, David Rose, Sean Direen.

Transition Years



TRA: Left to Right,

Front: Ciaran Treacy, Peter Cody, John Prendergast, Thomas Darmody, John Wallace, Michael Kelleher, Martin Phelan.

Back: Robbie Doyle, Thomas Hayes, Colm Dowling, John Connolly, Rick Leydon, Michael Fagan, Tom Ryan, Gary Cody, Darren Guilfoyle.



TRB: Left to Right,

Front: Niall Mullaly, Shane O'Hanran, David McPhillips, David Rafter, Martin Gibbons, Robbie Kavanagh, Miks Glaveckis.

Middle: Billy Hayes, Conor Phelan, Richard Mosse, Luke Casey, Kevin Bolger, John Holland.

Back: Padraig Phelan, Joe Brennan, Caimin Brennan, Michael Walsh, Jack O'Connor, Eamonn Foley

Transition Years



*TRC: Left to Right,
Front: Ian O'Fearghaill,
Brian Cooper, Oisín Daly,
Patrick Rice,
Kieran Kelly, David Brett
2nd row:
Bernard McDonald,
Tomas Phelan,
David Walton,
David Buggy, David
Griffin, Paul Barrett,
Niall McQuillan,
Stephen Maher.
Back: Brian O'Shea,
Stephen Murphy,
Joseph Walsh,
Stephen Quinlan,
Jack O'Connor,
Alan Tyrell*



*TRD: Left to
Right,
Front: Sean
McGrath,
Stephen Travers,
Christopher
Cummins, David
Nolan, Robert
Delaney, Edward
Connolly
Back: Eoin Long,
Michael Walsh,
Justin Darmody,
Niall O'Brien,
Richard Bergin*

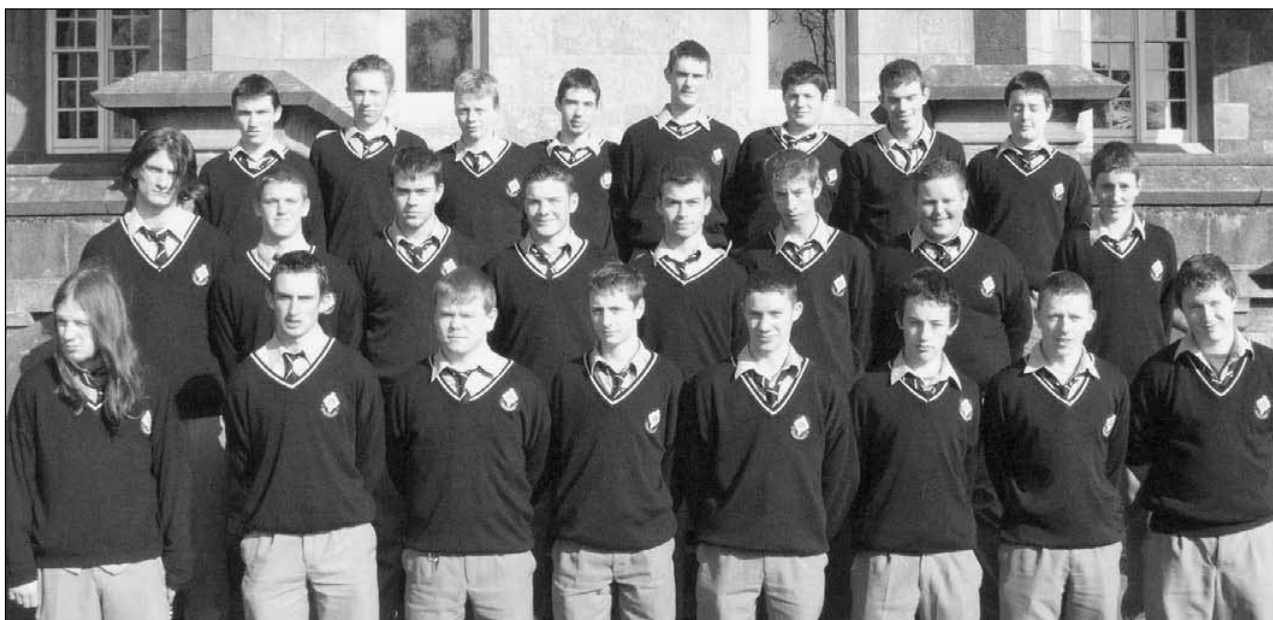


*TRE: Left to Right,
Front: Ciaran
O'Malley, Gary
O'Brien, Mark
Dowling, Stephen
O'Connor, Neil
Scanlon.
Back: Andrew
Prendergast, Joe
O'Brien, Mick Maher,
Ian Ryan, Gavin
Duffy, Kevin Nolan*

5th Years



5A: Left to Right,
Back: Glenn Campion, James Shortall, Conor O'Brien, David Hession, Michael Brennan, Sean Leahy.
2nd row: Paddy Foley, Sean Houlihan, Colin Brady, Aidan O'Neill, Brendan Mulvey, Philip Brennan.
3rd row: James Cahill, Darren Glennon, Stephen Colfer, Darren Ferns, Darren Rafter, Declan Casey, John Creegan, Martin Meany, Chris Foley
Front: Padraig Butler, Eoghan Carney, Richard Dowling, Paul Mullan, James Taylor, Kevin Healy Shane Brennan

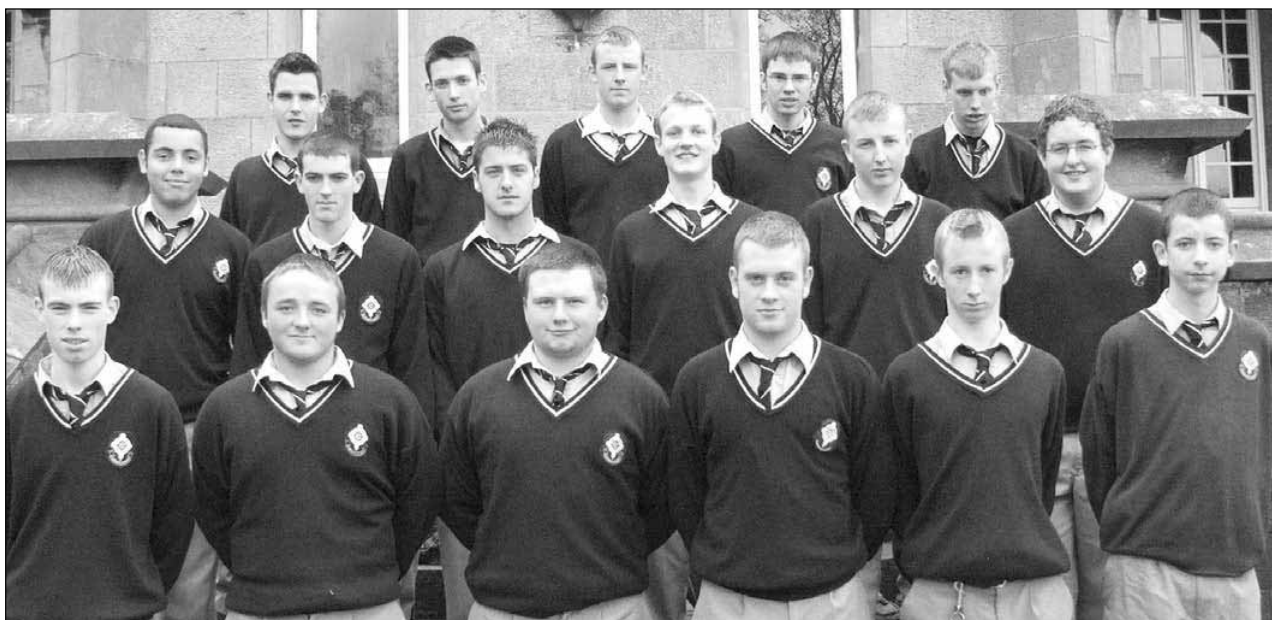


5B: left to Right,
Back: Micheal Lawler, P.J. Delaney, Keith Hogan, Keith Hogan, Keith Mullins, Damien O'Dowd, Colin Murphy, Tony McGrath, Paul O'Dwyer
Middle: Morgan Crowe, Peter Dore, Michael McDonald, Jonjo Farrell, Padraig Walsh, Sean O'Shea, Tony Moore, Brian Meagher
Front: Jonathon Rigley, Michael Gannon, Darragh Wafer, Liam Ryan, Noel Darmody, Shane Dunphy, Shaun Hayes, Luke O'Mahoney

5th Years



5C: Left to Right,
Front: Paul Harrison, Philip Johnston, Michael Johnson, Stephen O'Keeffe, Shane Scanlon, Darren Brennan.
Back: James O'Keeffe, David Walshe, T.J. Fitzpatrick, Craig Dowling, Ian Egan, James Nolan, Aaron Canty.



5D: Left to Right,
Back: Jason Tallott, Declan Long, Richard Norton, Michael Meany, Christopher Walsh.
Middle: T.C. Walsh, Michael O'Neill, Andrew Hickey, James Meehan, Robert Dillon, Liam Geoghan.
Front: Darren Adams, Thomas Walton, Martin Doyle, Tony Hall, Enda Fitzpatrick, Michael Slattery.

6th Years



6A: Left to Right,

Back: Barry Donovan, Shane O'Neill, Joe O'Brien, Richard Ryan, P. O'Neill, Eoin O'Shea.

3rd: Richard Cody, Liam Muldoon, Eoin McCormack, John Lawlor, Lorcan Brennan, Donal Fitzpatrick.

2nd: Eoin Kelly, D. Cody, John Brennan, Mark Coughlan, Killian Everard, Ronan O'Brien, Tomas Melia.

Front: Enda Rafter, Karl McPhillips, Daragh Callanan, Harry Maharaj, Michael Dore, Richie Hogan, Owen Cullen.



6B: Left to Right

Back: Niall Clifford, David Hayes, David O'Connor, Shane Campion, Steven Shortall.

Middle: Robert Walsh, Gary Coyne, Brian McCann, Paul Grogan.

Front: Dermot Moynihan, Derek Nolan, Martin Walsh, Niall Tennyson, Lester Ryan, Michael Rafter.

6th Years

6C: Left to Right,

Back: Patrick Brennan, Kevin Shore, Patrick Neary, Kirk Greene, Niall Phelan, Patrick McKee, John Carr, Damien Phelan, Mark Flynn.

Middle: Niall Cleere, David O'Sullivan, Mark Culleton, Eoin Roche, Thomas Burke, Conor Duffy, Liam Dowling.

Front: Shane Dowling, Matthew Deegan, Niall Lanigan, John Dalton, J. Dowling, Alex Watchorn, D. O'Shea, Jamie McCarthy.



6D: Left to Right,

Back: Philip Evans, T.J. Reid, Shane Donnelly-Swift, Paddy Nolan, Patrick Brennan, John Carney

Middle: Shane O'Malley, Stephen Shortt, Ambrose Kelleher, Gary Byrne, Harry Kelly

Front: David Power, Jason Butler, William Leahy, Billy Culleton.

Senior Hurling

St. Kieran's began the Leinster Senior League with a comfortable away win over Enniscorthy CBS on a score line of 1-14 to 0-4. This was followed with a victory over Cistercian College, Roscrea 1-13 to 0-5. The college were now in the Leinster league semi-final where they were pitted against local rivals Kilkenny CBS. The game was played on a wet December day in Palmerstown. The College defence, which up to now had not been tested, was found wanting, conceding too many soft goals. St. Kieran's were beaten on a score line of 5-3 to 2-8.

Concentration after Christmas was on the Leinster championship. The College team showed a lot of good form in a number of challenge games in January and February. This set them up for their Leinster quarter-final game against Good Counsel, New Ross. In a tight game St. Kieran's gradually began to assert their authority in the second half and ended winning by three points.

This victory put St. Kieran's into the Leinster semi-final where their opponents were again the local CBS. The game was a close affair with Kieran's getting the upper hand as the first half progressed. However two missed goal scoring opportunities meant the college only led by the minimum at half time.



SEN-H: Left to Right

Back: T.J. Reid, Shane Brennan, Patrick O'Neill, Niall Phelan, Shane O'Neill, John Corr, Eoin O'Shea, Michael Walsh, Martin Phelan

Middle: Ken Archbold(Selector), Niall Lanigan, Donal O'Sullivan, Robbie Walsh, Jonjo Farrell, Joe Brennan, Niall McQuillan, Niall Tennyson, Conor McQuillan, James Nolan, Niall Connolly(Selector)

Front: Stephen Dowling, James Dowling, Michael Gannon, Lester Ryan, Mark Culleton, Richie Hogan, Nicky Cleere, Michael Rafter, David Walton.

The second half saw the College extend their lead - however more missed chances allowed CBS back into the match. CBS gained the lead when a long range effort found its way into the back of the net. Despite their best efforts Kieran's could not get back this score and a late goal for the CBS saw them win by a flattering six point margin 2-7 to 0-7.

TEAM: Nicky Cleere, Eoin O'Shea, Mark Culleton, Michael Rafter, Niall Tennyson,

James Dowling, Patrick O'Neill, T.J. Reid, Darragh Wafer, Shane O'Neill, Richie Hogan, Martin Walsh, James Nolan, John Joe Farrell, Robbie Walsh.

SUBS: Michael Gannon, Martin Phelan, Shane Brennan, Lester Ryan, David Walton, Niall Phelan, Donal Cody, John Lawlor, Niall Lanigan, Conor McQuillan, Niall McQuillan, John Carr, Donal O'Sullivan, Stephen Dowling, Michael Walsh, Joe Brennan, Michael Lawlor.

Junior Leinster Champions



JHC: The Junior Leinster Hurling Champions. Back L. to R.: Thomas Byrne, Sean Phelan, Kevin Nolan, Ciaran Tracy, Kenneth Heffernan, Conor McQuillan, Martin Phelan, Richard Troy, Robbie Culleton
Middle Row: Sam Holmes, David Buggy, Joe Walsh, Eamon Foley, Niall McQuillan, Oisín Daly, Shay Butler, Edward Ryan, Shane Norton, Tomas Flynn
Front Row: Brian O'Shea, Alan Tyrell, Michael Walsh, Rick Leydon, Shane Brennan, James Meehan, Enda Fitzpatrick, Joe Brennan, Pádraig Phelan.

1st round	St. Kieran's	1-09
	Good Counsel, New Ross	0-11
2nd round	St. Kieran's	2-15
	Kilkenny CBS	0-07
Leinster Semi-Final	St. Kieran's	1-11
	Kilkenny CBS	3-04
Leinster Final	St. Kieran's	1-08
	St. Peter's, Wexford	0-06

The Panel

Kenneth Heffernan, Oisín Daly, Michael Walsh, Niall McQuillan, Brian O'Shea, Martin Phelan, Sean Phelan, Alan Tyrell, Conor McQuillan, Joe Brennan, Rick Leydon, Shane Norton, Enda Fitzpatrick, Shane Brennan (Capt.), Ciaran Treacy, Thomas Byrne, Joe Walsh, Richard Troy, Kevin Nolan, Pádraig Phelan, Sam Holmes, Shay Butler, Eddie Ryan, Tom Ryan, Eamonn Foley, Tomas Flynn, Robbie Culleton, Paddy Dowling, James Meehan, David Buggy.

Trained by Philip Walsh and Tom Hogan



U16B-H: Left to Right,

Back: James Byrne, Ronan Holohan, Darren Cornally, T.J. Sherman, Sean Direen, Darragh Murphy

Middle: Brian Fitzpatrick, Danny Brennan, Geoff Doyle, Ben Nolan, John Holland

Front: Paddy Mullan, David Prendergast, Colum Kennedy, Seamus Hayes, Thomas Tennyson, Thomas Hayes

Under 16 'B'

This year's under 16 'B' hurlers trained hard but came up against a very strong Callan team, with no restrictions on the Callan panel this was always going to be a difficult task. Callan won the game on the day and went on to become eventual winners of the competition. The team captained by Stephen Quinlan hurled well getting some well worked scores but Callan were too physically strong for us.

The U-14 'A' hurling team have qualified for the semi-final of the Leinster championship after a great win against St. Peter's college, Wexford. The panel is training well and hopes are high of regaining the U-14 Leinster Hurling Title. Other victories, to date, have been recorded over Dublin South combined Colleges and Castlecomer Community school.

PANEL: Andrew O'Dwyer, William Phelan, Darragh Buggy, Pat O'Carroll, Cillian Phelan, Cathal O'Neill, Paul Buggy, John Power, Killian Buckley, Paul Holden, James Gannon, Nicky Creane, Pierre Morrissey, Aidan O'Dowd, Pdraig Walsh, Ben O'Connor, Conor Gorey, Conor Maharaj, Dermot Heafey, Michael Hayes, Ciaran Gough, Conor Hogan, Sean Phelan, Michael Colfer, Stephen Duncan, Andrew Cantwell, Paddy Delaney, Donal Brennan.

Under 14'A'



Under 14'B'



U14B-H: The U-14 'B' Hurling Panel pictured with trainers Eileen Hanrick and Fr. Sean O'Connor

On Monday 15th May two panels of U-14 hurlers will partake in an all day blitz competition in Palmerstown. This will involve close to 50 students. Each team will play at least 3 games. Teams have been training hard for the competition for weeks. The skill and enthusiasm which was evident in the trials for these teams was excellent making it very difficult for trainers Fr. O Connor and Ms. Hanrick to choose the two panels. There were massive numbers of students at these trials.

First Year Hurling League

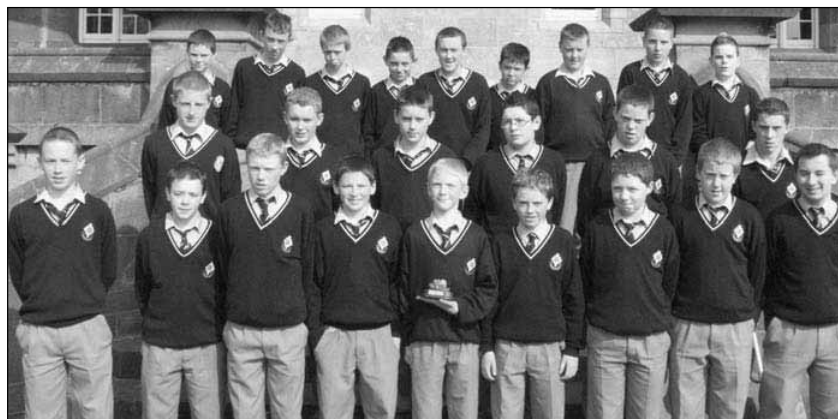
Eighty first years took part in a hurling league from October to December 2005. The group consisted of six teams each putting in a fantastic effort and, though only two teams can reach the final, the standard of hurling was so good that it was difficult to tell which two it would be.

Kilkenny County Board presented trophies for each member of the winning team and medals for each player on the runners-up team. This is part of a policy to encourage young people to take part in hurling in their schools.

All of the games were competently refereed by two transition year students, Ciaran Neary and Peter Cody.

Three teachers helped to organise the league, Mr. P. Fleming, Mr. P. Darmody and Mr. M. Forrest.

Finally, all winners were presented with their trophies and medals one afternoon by our principal Mr. Curtis.



FIRST HL: Runners-up Back Left to Right: Gerry Walsh, Daragh Buggy, Cillian Phelan, Aaron Nolan, Cathal O'Neill, Tom Mullen, Sean Wemyss, Sean McDonald, Thomas Whitley.

Winners Middle Left to Right: John Power, Stephen Corr, William Phelan, Ciaran Rafter, John Dunphy, Conor Foley,

Front: Tom Brennan, Ryan Bolger, George Allen, Hugh O'Neill, Ger Looby, Joey Corcoran, Eoghan Connolly, Kevin Brennan, Patrick Brennan

Under 14 Football



U14-F: Left to Right

Back: Ciaran Snype, Brian Prendergast, Cillian Phelan, Richard Deasy, Robert Skehan

Middle: Richard Windle (trainer), Shane Power, Donal Brennan, Michael Cotter, Andrew Cantwell, Stephen Duncan, Aidan O'Dowd, Michael O'Gorman, Nicky Creane, Michael Hayes, Daryl Butler, James Gannon, Emma Ryan (trainer)

Front: Sean O'Dwyer, Ben O'Connor, Laurence O'Carroll, Eddy Nugent, David Cummins, Sean Queally, Gavin Holohan, Ciaran Gough, Darragh Walshe

St. Kieran's College Football Team, under the Management of Richard Windle and Emma Ryan, won the Coca-Cola South Leinster B football title.

The team beat St. Mary's, Enniscorthy in the final on a score line of 3-9 to 0-4. St. Kieran's last won this competition back in 2000 and the honours since then have been shared between St. Mary's, Knockbeg and F.C.J. Bunclody.

There was some excellent football played by St. Kieran's on their way to the final which saw some very impressive performances:

St. Kieran's College 5-15 Tullow C.S. 0-5

St. Kieran's College 22-23 Castlecomer 0-0

St. Kieran's College 20-10 Ballyfin 0-3

St. Kieran's College 8-9 F.C.J., Bunclody 2-4

St. Kieran's College 3-9 St. Mary's 0-4

Stephen Duncan proudly accepted the honours for St. Kieran's on behalf of his team

Under 16 Football

U16-F: Left to Right

Back: Brian Fitzpatrick, Danny Brennan, Kenneth Heffernan, Sean Direen, Ben Nolan

Middle: Ciaran Treacy, Brian Donovan, Andrew Kavanagh,

Joe Brennan, John Holland, Paraic Phelan

Front: Shane Brennan, Paddy Mullan,

David Prendergast, Seamus Hayes, Conor McQuillan, Martin Phelan, Michael Walsh



Our National Games

“Several broken sticks, two broken heads and two bruised fingers-the Irish national game is the fastest and probably the most dangerous of sports. It is a combination of hockey, football, golf, baseball, battle and sudden death. It was a real Irish game” - The Daily Mail reporting on a match in London 1921. This description is alien and yet completely familiar to us at the same time. To us, hurling and football are sports of beauty, natural and it is fair to say we're obsessed with our national games, yet we forget how unique they are to us.

Hurling and football are an aspect of who we are. They divide the country into counties and more importantly into clubs/parishes that we pride ourselves on. I see the GAA as a very tribal organisation e.g. my tribe/club is James Stephens and I pride myself on being a 'Village' man.

I have experienced ecstasy and devastation because of our national games – some of the happiest and worst moments of my life have been on the hurling pitch. I owe everything to hurling- skills, friends and health. I would go as far as to say that the GAA is a religion, a way of life.

Nothing can compare to Peter Barry leaping like a salmon to pick the sliotar out of the sky during a championship game or when Owen Mulligan skipped and danced his way through Dublin defenders to score a breath-taking goal in the All-Ireland semi-final.

I love hurling, come hail, rain, sleet or snow, I don't care, if there's a hurling match or training on I'm there. I think about hurling all the time. I watch what I eat, I train hard and I

rest well, all this so I can reach my full potential for the club.

Most people dream of putting on the Black and Amber of Kilkenny before dreaming of playing for Man Utd. Its no accident that amateurs playing inter county football on a Sunday will draw 20,000 to a game, while 250 people turn up to a professional soccer game between Finn Harps and Galway Utd.

The GAA is an organisation like no other, it's unbelievably organised, it touches all classes and it has stability like no other – some might say it's the cornerstone of the country or communities. I know I view Larchfield GAA pitch as a constant rock and heart of my parish – St Patrick's.

The media said the GAA were crazy to go in to debt to upgrade Croke Park's capacity, at the present time we have seen that this was a master stroke, typical of the GAA.

They are reaping the rewards today as the inferior organisations of the FAI and IRFU have to eat humble pie as they play in Croke Park while derelict Lansdowne Road crumbles.

I see hurling and football as an identity. If asked where I come from when around the county I immediately reply 'The Village' and people identify with that. The GAA is a very tribal organisation in my opinion. Kilkenny town can be broken in to three – O'Loughlins, Dicksboro and the Village – we are all bitter rivals on the pitch. I hang around with lads from my parish and we play hurling together. It is the same for the other two clubs. We never say it aloud but we see ourselves as different clans. My friends and I know we share the

collective identity of Village men – I never felt as part of a community until I joined James Stephens. From there I made friendships with previously unknown neighbours. I see Larchfield as a home away from home. Its always the same, never changes one bit. It's full of friends and relatives and I enjoy myself and feel completely relaxed while playing there. Nothing compares to a hot, mid-summers evening playing a match in Larchfield -its one of lives small pleasures.

Hurling and football is such a parochial thing – I have played with county and club teams through the age groups but it does not compare to the sense of achievement and unity when I won with the club. There is something special about representing your local area. Tomas Meehan of Caltra in Galway stated when he won the All-Ireland Club SFC title – “The difference between winning a club and a county All-Ireland is, when you get a slap on the back after the match, you know the person when you turn around.”

In conclusion, our national games, hurling and football, are unrivalled for passion, power and pride. It identifies us as a parish. My Mother often says after I come home dejected after a poor performance-“it's only a game” but the look my father and I give her says it all-it's more than just a game, it's a way of life, an identity, an obsession that can never be lost. If there's such a thing as 'Irishness', hurling and football are it and I believe our national pastimes will grow even stronger in the coming years.

Shane Campion (6th Year)

Equestrian



Left to Right: Tom Looby, Enda Fitzpatrick, Robbie Culleton, Darragh Callanan, SHEFFLIN (horse), Michael Costello, Neil Butler and Patrick Dowling. (Missing from Photo, Gary Corcoran and Cathal Healy)

Michael Costello and Neil Butler were joint 6th in the Junior Individuals in this year's All-Ireland Inter-Schools.

St. Kieran's is being awarded the cup photographed as I was the last person to win it (winning it in 2004 and 2005)

and a new one was brought in this year.

Darragh Callanan (6th Year)

Soccer



U-18 Soccer Results

Panel:

Michael Gannon, Stuart Delaney, Andrew Hickey, Paul Delaney, Philip Johnston, Mark Flynn, David O'Connor, Kirk Greene, Jamie McCarthy, Shane O'Neill, Harry Maharaj, Jason Butler, T.J. Fitzpatrick, Michael O'Neill, Ian Egan, Shaun Hayes, Shane Scanlon, Darragh Wafer, Darren Ferns, Declan Casey, David Walshe, Conor Barry, Ronan Holohan

Management: Jim Carew and Eadaoin Brennan.

St. Kieran's 3 Kilkenny CBS 3
 St. Kieran's 5 Ballyfermot 3 -cup
 A high scoring match with St. Kieran's finally pulling ahead to win.
 St. Kieran's 0 McDonagh's 0 -cup
 McDonaghs won 3-0 on penalties. The

team played well and this was a match we could have won but luck wasn't with us on the day.

St. Kieran's 3 Carlow CBS 3
 St. Kieran's 0 Tullow 2

U-16 Soccer



Leinster Junior Cup

St. Kieran's College 2
 Malahide community School 2
 St. Kieran's won 3-2 on penalties following extra time after a man-of-the match performance by Stephen Duncan who saved two penalties.

St. Kieran's College 2
 St. Benildus 0
 St. Kieran's College 2
 Drimnagh Castle 1

Great result in Dublin against one of the strongholds of Leinster soccer put us into the last eight of the competition.

St. Kieran's College 0
 St. Mary's Drogheda 2

A game which St. Kieran's could have won was decided by two early Drogheda goals, including a disputed penalty in the first minute. Despite several opportunities, the College could not break down the well organised St. Mary's defence.

South Leinster League

Having finished top of the league, the College qualified for the final against St. Mary's CBS Carlow where it took penalties once more to separate the sides. Unfortunately, this time the result went against St. Kieran's.

St. Kieran's College 2
 Carlow CBS 2
 Carlow won 3-1 on penalties after extra time.

PANEL:

Julian O'Keeffe, Shane Farrelly, Stephen Duncan, Seamus Hayes, Donal O'Riordan, Gavin Holohan, Danny Power, Ronan Holohan, Chris Bourke, Darren Cornally, Chris Thompson, Conor Barry, John Wallace, John Holland, Jack O'Connor, Robbie Kavanagh,

Michael Walsh, Andrew kavanagh, Oisin Daly, Patrick Rice, Trevor Kelly, Declan Thompson, Brian Cooper

Ronan Holohan and Gavin Holohan both won International caps for Irish schoolboys.

Management: Don O'Connor and Eamonn Heffernan

U-14 Soccer



St. Kieran's under 14 soccer team reached the FAI schoolboys' section Leinster cup final this year.

This is a particularly talented side. The team is basically the same one which won last year's Leinster A cup final at under 13 level. In winning the provincial title this team became the first team outside Dublin to claim the title at this age group.

Since last September the u-14 team has been trained by Richard Windle and Fr. Sean O'Connor. The hallmark of the side

is its heart and refusal to give in to any opposition. In their first game they accounted for Beneavin of Dublin by a clear cut 5-1, in the second round they had a very tight struggle with Chanel College, Dublin, the side won 5-4 on penalties. Next the side hit Rockbrook College, Dublin for eight without conceding.

In the quarter final the score was St. Kieran's 1-Dundalk De La Salle 0 in Oriel Park. In the Leinster semi-final they beat St. Mark's Tallaght 2-1.

The team reached the Leinster final but went down to an excellent Salesian College Celbridge 2-1.

PANEL: David Coyne, Kevin Ireland, Gavin Holohan, David Cummins, Andrew Cantwell, Eoin Delahunty, Robert Skehan, Gerard Teehan, Conor Gorey, Jamie O'Hara, Michael Gorman, Nicky Creane, Jake Egan, Sean McPhillips, Ciaran Snype, Eddie Nugent, Gary Corcoran, Sean Queally.

Management: Fr. Sean O'Connor and Richard Windle.

U-13 Soccer



PANEL:

Jack Hanrahan, Jason Nugent, Denis Hogan, George Allen, Fionbarr Hayes, Shane Brennan, Tom

Brennan, Aaron McDonald, Sean Lowry, Sam Johnston, Cathal O'Neill, Pat O'Carroll, Gerry Walsh, Gary Geoghan, Evan Guilfoyle, Eoin

Connolly, Luke Hickey, Conor Foley, Jason Quan.

Management: Larry Cotter and Olive Comerford.

Swimming

All-Ireland Senior Schools

The All-Ireland Senior Schools swimming competition was held in the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin on the 3rd and 4th February 2006. Five students from St. Kieran's College participated in the competition.

Colm Dowling, swimming at Intermediate level, came in silver medal position in the 200m individual medley in a time of 2.15: 41. He also made the final of the 100m freestyle and came in 4th - just out of medal position. On his performance in this competition, Colm was picked to represent his school and country in the WISE International Schools Gala. There are 38 swimmers chosen from all over Ireland to represent the country in the competition in Scotland and this was a great honour for him.

Michael McCarthy also represented his school at Intermediate level, making the final in the 100m freestyle and achieving a personal best in the 100m backstroke.

Liam Dowling reached the final of a very hotly contested senior 100m freestyle finishing in 8th position with a time of 56:17 seconds.

They were joined by Conor McMorrow and Cian Mullaly in the senior relays. This is quite an achievement as both Cian and Conor are just 12 years old. The Medley Relay was 4X50m. First, swimming backstroke, was Conor; next was Colm swimming breaststroke; taking over was his brother Liam swimming Butterfly and finally Michael swimming freestyle. The team made it to the final, claiming sixth place.

The freestyle 4X50m relay saw the team reach the final and finish in 5th place in a time of 1.46:78 - a great result.



Back L. to R. Colm Dowling, Liam Dowling, Michael McCarthy
Front L. to R. Conor McMorrow and Cian Mullaly.

Leinster Senior Schools

THE Leinster Senior schools were held in the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin. Competing for St. Kieran's College were Conor McMorrow, junior, Colm Dowling and Michael McCarthy at intermediate level and Liam Dowling at senior level.

Conor came in 7th place in the final of the 100m butterfly and he also competed in the 200m narrowly missing out on Qualifying for the Irish Schools.

Michael McCarthy won gold in the 100m freestyle for which he received a medal and cup, he also competed in the 100m backstroke.

Colm Dowling was in silver medal position in the 100m freestyle, it was a

great race with the St. Kieran's swimmers fighting it out to the finish with only a touch separating them. Colm also swam in the intermediate 200m winning bronze.

Liam Dowling competing at senior level for his final year in the Leinster schools won a bronze medal in the 100m freestyle.

The St. Kieran's senior relay team was made up of: Conor McMorrow (junior), Michael McCarthy (intermediate), Colm Dowling (intermediate) and Liam Dowling (senior). They won silver in the senior Freestyle relay and bronze in the Intermediate relay.

W.I.S.E. Schools International Competition

As a result of Colm's achievements in the All-Ireland schools swimming finals in early February, he was chosen as one of 38 students to represent Ireland in the W.I.S.E. International swimming Gala. The competition was held in Edinburgh over the St. Patrick's

weekend. Colm swam on the freestyle relay team making it home in third position and coming fourth in the 200m. Ireland were placed 3rd overall in the competition with England winning, Scotland taking 2nd place and Wales 4th.

Badminton



Left to Right: Declan Bennett, Miss D. Lynch, Jason Collier, Sean Farrell and Jake O'Brien.

First year badminton has proven to be a great success. A steady number of students attend practise Wednesdays at lunchtime where they work on badminton strokes, drills and matchplay.

The all round enthusiasm and interest paid off when three teams entered the Kilkenny Schools tournament in February. All teams put in a valiant effort. The 'B' team made it to the semi-final and the 'A' team sailed through to the final but were beaten by a slightly stronger Kilkenny College team.

Before the school year finishes the students will receive a training session with a professional badminton coach.

Also, there will be a doubles league which should be an enjoyable event to round off the year.

Boxing



Aidan O'Neill is 9 times County Boxing Champion; he is also Leinster and All-Ireland Champion.

Laois, Kilkenny and Carlow Boxing Champion Aidan O'Neill.

Handball

Stephen Shortt: Leinster Senior Doubles 60X30 and 40X20, All-Ireland Senior Doubles 60X30

Kirk Greene: Leinster Senior Doubles 60X30 and 40X20, All-Ireland Senior Doubles 60X30

Richie Hogan: Leinster and All-Ireland Senior Singles 60X30 and 40X20

James Power: Leinster First Year Doubles 60X30 and 40X20

Aidan O'Dwyer: Leinster First Year Doubles 60X30 and 40X20

Golf



Left to Right: C. Martin, G. Byrne, A. Wemyss (teacher), P. O'Neill, P. McKee, N. Cleere.

Junior Golf

The junior team played in a strokeplay competition in October. The competition took place in Athy golf club. 21 schools participated with only 2 qualifying in the final. On the team of 3 were: Ciaran Colfer (2nd year), Ger. Teehan (2nd year) and Cillian Buckley (1st year). Everyone played well, but unfortunately we did not manage to qualify.

Senior Golf

It was a very successful year for the senior golf panel who participated in the G.U.I. Leinster branch fourball matchplay, strokeplay and singles matchplay championship.

The format of the first competition was fourball matchplay. Our team members were: Patrick McKee and Nicky Cleere (6th year) and Craig Martin (T.Y.) and Gary Byrne (6th year). The team defeated Good Counsel, New Ross and Wexford C.B.S. but were narrowly defeated by St. Peter's, Wexford.

The strokeplay championship was held in Naas golf club in December. This is a qualifying competition with a team of three playing off scratch. The cumulative score is then calculated. Saint Kieran's was one of two schools to qualify. Team: Patrick McKee, Gary Byrne (both 6th year) and Craig Martin (T.Y.)

It was our first year to compete in the schools matchplay championship- team of 5 in singles matchplay. Team members were: Patrick McKee, Gary Byrne, Nicky Cleere, Patrick O'Neill (all 6th year) and Craig Martin (T.Y.). St. Kieran's beat St. Belinda's, Dublin in the Curragh golf club in the quarter finals. Semi-finals were held on the 20th of March in Beech Park golf club in Rathcoole, Dublin. In wet and windy conditions the team put up a very good battle but were defeated by the eventual champions – St. Paul's, Raheny. Medals were presented to the semi-finalists by officials from the golfing union of Ireland.



Left to Right: S. Shortt, James Power, Kirk Greene, Aidan O'Dwyer, Richie Hogan, Tom Looby (Teacher).

Athletics

Cross Country Running

Teams to represent St. Kieran's College were chosen for the inter-school competitions early in 2006. A team in cross country consists of eight athletes. The highlight of the season proved to be the south Leinster championship in John F. Kennedy Park, New Ross.

We won three of the four team titles: minor, junior and intermediate. The senior team came second in their race. Fine individual performances were recorded: Niall Walsh was first in the minor race, Eamonn O'Connor and Stephen Duncan battled it out in the junior race and were first and second respectively, Brian O'Shea was first home in the intermediate race. All our winning teams qualified for the Leinster finals which were held in D.C.U. Dublin. The junior team was second and the intermediate team third. Both qualified for the all-Ireland finals which were again held in Dublin. The All-Ireland championships rounded off another successful cross country season with our intermediate team winning bronze in the team competition.



CCU-14 Minor team South Leinster Champions: Back Left to Right: S. Lowry, P. O'Carroll, Walsh, W. Phelan, S. Farrell, G. Allen. Front Left to Right: E. Guilfoyle, H. O'Neill, J. Walsh, P. Walsh, Ml. Costello.



CCU-15 Junior team South Leinster Champions, 2nd in Leinster, 6th All-Ireland: Left to Right: Ml. O'Gorman, J. Neville, J. Gannon, C. Fennelly, A. O'Dowd, E. O'Connor, S. O'Sullivan, C. Hogan, S. Duncan



CCU-17 Intermediate team South Leinster Champions, 3rd in Leinster, 3rd All-Ireland: Left to Right: S. O'Keeffe, Ml. Walsh, T. Hayes, B. O'Shea, N. McQuillan, C. McQuillan, J. Connolly, R. Kavanagh, N. Quinlan.

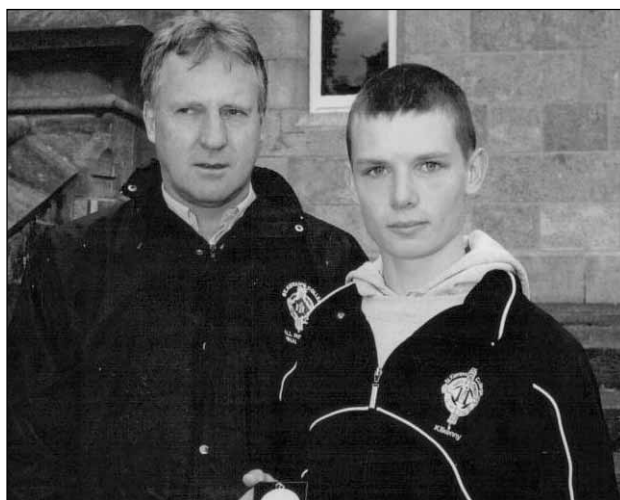
College Athletics

Athletics has become increasingly popular in St. Kieran's College with Cross-Country running exploding in popularity. With Mr. O'Keeffe as trainer there are often up to 100 students training on a weekly basis. This training has reaped great results as St. Kieran's regularly wins best school in Leinster.

In 2004 our Junior team took the All-Ireland Gold. This year, in the South-Leinsters, St. Kieran's have dominated, with the Junior and Intermediate teams also doing well in the Leinster and All-Ireland Schools.

We have also taken honours at both All-Ireland and International level, in the past, in Track and Field. Past pupils include Adrian O'Dwyer Olympian and more recently Eoin Everard who is a top European and International competitor has represented the school on their way to All-Ireland gold.

John Fagan (T.Y.)



John Quane (Teacher) with John Fagan who was chosen to represent Ireland in the Schools Internationals, combined events in Edinbrough.