



ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE



RECORD 2009

President's Address

I welcome with a gentle smile the 2009 edition of St. Kieran's College Record, which was first published in 1956. This edition, number twenty one, is not only a chronicle of life in the College during the past year but also reveals how St. Kieran's has responded to the current needs of students and how it has planned for the future.

We are in our 226th academic year with one thousand registered students between the Secondary School and the Outreach Programme of N.U.I.M for mature students. At this point it is worth noting that N.U.I.M and St. Kieran's College have agreed to work together for a further period of five years, which when completed will have been fifteen years of collaboration for the good of the wider community in Kilkenny, City, County and the region.

On 13th January 1782 after the repeal of the Penal Laws, the 'earliest Catholic College in the Kingdom' opened its doors to its first students. The two pillars of the school were education and formation. These pillars have remained rock solid over the centuries but have been expressed in different ways over the generations. St. Kieran's, while remaining faithful to its mission and ethos has adapted and managed great changes over the decades. As you read this Record with a good heart you will become aware how St. Kieran's has responded and how it continues to be ever renewed in keeping with our motto "Hiems Transiit" from The Old Testament Book, The Song of Songs 2: 11 - 12

*For lo, the winter is past,
The rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth,
Pruning time has come,
And the voice of the turtledove
Is heard in our land.*

For the financial year ending 31st August, 2008 additions to our school buildings cost €488,362 and to the college buildings/roofing and four new apartments €1,243,510. Additions to furniture, fittings and equipment cost €167,854 and for the College €9,428. Creidim, the programme to provide and develop adult religious education and faith forma-



tion in the Diocese of Ossory, cost €54,314. It continues to be funded by the College Trustees as it goes through a period of review and evaluation.

Due to the severe economic downturn facing our country and its impact on the public finances and various government departments, St. Kieran's has had to rely even more on the support of the College Trustees. After the visitation of the Trustees of the whole campus in 2004, I was in a position, with their approval, to put in place a programme of refurbishment and upgrading of all the buildings and facilities. This programme is almost complete and will be by the new school year, with their ongoing commitment. It is important that we acknowledge with gratitude that the Trustees' Fund has invested €5,126,495 in the campus over these past years.

With a certain sense of pride I can state, and without fear of contradiction, that St. Kieran's College is a good place to be as a student. While people visiting today are initially impressed on seeing the campus developments, it is the environment and sense of community in which they find themselves that sustains the positive nature of their comments. For this to happen it has taken solid commitment to our ethos, much hard work and dedication of all who make up the family that is St. Kieran's today. Special thanks is due therefore to the Principal, Mr. John Curtis, the Deputy Principal, Mr. Adrian Finan, the teachers and staff, my brother priest Fr. Sean O'Connor and members of the chaplaincy team, the students and their Council, the parents and their Association. In these difficult times, for all involved in education and formation, good management is most essential. With this in mind I thank my colleagues on The Board of Management, the College staff and the Trustees. It is through the commitment of all the stake holders that the great traditions that made St. Kieran's are alive and well to-day.

Please enjoy reading this edition of The Record. You will find that its pages bring to life the community that is St. Kieran's today. A special thank you to all who made this publication possible.

Monsignor Kieron Kennedy
President



Staff 2008-2009

Photo: Dylan Vaughan

A Message from the Principal

It seems a long time ago to last August and the issuing of Leaving Certificate results which reflected so well on the students and the school; and while a pupil scoring seven A1's was a stand out achievement, it was the depth to the results and the number of students who did so well that was most gratifying. Most of last years' Sixth Year cohort are now coming to the end of their first year at Third Level – we trust that they are enjoying the experience, working hard and hope that they retain happy memories of their time at St. Kieran's College.

We are continuing to work on improving infrastructure and facilities in the school and the drive and application of our President Mgr. Kennedy, the Trustees and the Board of Management has to be applauded. Even in these most straitened times there is an unwavering commitment to the betterment of what we can offer our students and we can collectively take great pride in the campus and the improvements that the last few years have brought. With work on the grounds nearing completion, the new Library and Technical Graphics room will be ready in September and the project towards improving IT provision in our classrooms continues apace. This year has seen an impressive archive of around five hundred photographs put together that will be on permanent display along the corridors and which takes the viewer through a chronological history of St. Kieran's College and the classes, teams and people who have graced the school through the years. Putting this together has been a huge undertaking and on behalf of all of us involved in the St. Kieran's College community I would like to thank my colleagues, Deputy Principal Mr. Adrian Finan and Mr. Ken Maher for their leadership and vision in undertaking this initiative and for the countless hours they have spent in bringing it to fruition. Our hope is that in walking through the school today one can get a sense of the creativity and vibrancy of our present and the charm and richness of our past.

That the education cuts have not affected us as much as might have been anticipated is down to the generosity of our staff in giving of their time to ensure the smooth running of the school and our extra-curricular programme. The array of what our pupils engage in and our staff support is evident in these pages and if I single out mention of the All-Ireland winning Junior soccer team it is because their victory in the com-



petition was a first for us and it was a day that was enjoyed as supporters by so many of our pupils, parents and staff as an exciting climax to the year.

The extra-curricular dimension to the school was one of the aspects of St. Kieran's College that Department of Education and Science inspectors were so taken by on their recent visit to us. In February the school had a Whole School Evaluation, a process whereby a team of inspectors visit the school and, essentially, in the course of an intensive week look at all aspects of school life. Meetings take place with the Board of Management, the Parents' Coun-

cil, the Students' Council and various teaching, planning, programme and management groups and there are inspections in a number of subject areas. While the report will not be published until the autumn, the reports back from the inspectors at the feedback sessions they had with the staff and the Board of Management have been hugely positive. The quality and breadth of what is on offer in St. Kieran's in curricular and extra-curricular areas, the commitment and professionalism in our staff and the courtesy and work ethic of our pupils were all commented on in an evaluation that points to a school in which we can all take great pride.

I would like to congratulate the Student Council for being such an effective voice through the year and the Parents' Council for again engaging with management in such a constructive and supportive manner – their fund-raising and financial support have been extremely helpful especially in our project to improve IT provision in the classroom. As I am sure you can imagine, a production of the calibre of the St. Kieran's College Record takes a tremendous amount of drive and energy and we are all immensely grateful for the work our editors Ms. Sharon Keyes and Ms. Eadaoin Brennan have put in to ensure we have a publication of such high quality. As always, a final word to the exam-classes – it has been a very productive year in the school and we hope that the results the students achieve reflect this. Another group of Sixth Years now leave us and we wish them all well and hope that the lessons they have learned and the formation they have received stand them in good stead. We congratulate them on their accomplishments in their time in St. Kieran's College and the future is now theirs.

Mr. John Curtis M.A., M.Ed.



HOUSEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE STAFF

Back Row: Frank Murphy, Jim Delaney, Pat Drennan
Front Row: Ann Meany, Margo Coonan, Suzanne Skeeahan, Dorota Lavek

FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF KILKENNY

Mr. Seamus Pattison

Born in Kilkenny in 1936 to a family steeped in politics, his father, James, served in Dail Eireann for twenty two years and also served as a member of Kilkenny Corporation and Kilkenny County Council. Seamus Pattison was educated at St. Kieran's College and later attended University College Dublin. Mr. Patti-

son served as Mayor of Kilkenny on no less than three occasions and served two terms as chairman of Kilkenny County Council.

Mr Brian Cody

Born in Sheastown, Kilkenny in 1954 into a family hugely involved with the GAA. Brian was educated at his local national school and later attended St. Kieran's College.

It was at St. Kieran's where Brian first experienced hurling success and where his inter-county career with Kilkenny evolved. Brian later attended St. Patrick's College in Dublin where he studied to be a primary school teacher and currently works as a teacher at St. Patrick's De La Salle School in Kilkenny.



Past pupils Brian Cody and Seamus Pattison with College President Monsignor Kieron Kennedy on the occasion of their being granted the Freedom of the City in the Great Hall, Kilkenny Castle on the 22nd of November 2008.

Presentation to past-pupil Nicky Brennan to mark his term as president of the GAA



Mgr. Kieron Kennedy and Mr. John Curtis presenting Mr. Nicky Brennan with a photograph of himself when played on the 1971 Senior Hurling team in St. Kieran's College.



Mgr. Kieron Kennedy presented Mr. Nicky Brennan with a framed copy of the St. Kieran icon.
Photos: Eoin Hennessy

KILKENNY CAMPUS

Following on from the outstanding success of last year's Senior Hurling League, this year's competition started in earnest. To make things slightly different this year, each team is managed by a "celebrity bainisteoir". Our "celebrities" this year are Ms. Meany, Mr. Kavanagh, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Buckley and Mr. O'Neill. Competition between the teachers and students alike is fierce, with all wanting the accolade of winning the competition. David Pendergast in Sixth Year is still talking about managing his team to success last year!

The competition is run on a league basis each lunch time. It is a huge

commitment from both players and teachers as over 80 senior students are involved. Large crowds turn up each day to support the lads who are competing. There is no winner as yet so best of luck to all involved.

In 1997 the first NUI Maynooth outreach campus was established at St Kieran's College in Kilkenny, and there are 320 registered NUI Maynooth students currently pursuing a range of courses at the campus.

Facilities include a number of classrooms, a video-conferencing suite which allows for interactive distance learning, a coffee dock, and a dedicated computer room and library linked

to the NUI Maynooth IT network.

The Campus provides a range of courses for adult students from Kilkenny and the South-East. Two Honours BA programmes are currently offered in Community Studies and in Local Studies.

Each year a number of NUI Certificate courses from the University's Continuing Education programme are offered at the Campus. These are introductory third-level courses, normally of 100 hours duration over one year, in areas such as Psychology, Counselling Skills, Addiction Studies, Spanish, Philosophy, Creative Writing for Publication, etc.

We are also currently offering the Dioplóma sa Ghaeilge at the Campus. Is é cuspóir an chúrsa seo oiliúint sa Ghaeilge a chur ar fáil le go mbeidh siad siúd a ghlacann páirt ann in ann a ngnó pearsanta agus gairmiúil a dhéanamh go cruinn agus go héifeachtach trí mheán na Gaeilge. Déantar gnéithe éagsúla de litríocht agus de shaíocht na Gaeilge a chlúdach chomh maith.

This September in collaboration with the Campus, IT Carlow will offer a range of part time courses at the Campus.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Campus at:

Tel: 056 -7775910 / 7775919
Email: kilkenny.campus@nuim.ie
Mail: Kilkenny Campus (NUI Maynooth), College Road, Kilkenny.
Web: <http://kilkenny.nuim.ie>



Front row (left to right): Dr. P. Ó Drisceoil, Dr. D. Redmond (Registrar NUIM), Prof. J. Walsh (Vice President NUIM), Prof. A. Ryan (Head of DACE), Prof. R. V. Comerford (Head of History Dept.)

Back row (left to right): A. Reck, E. Russell, N. Minogue, E. Larkin - Recent BA in Local Studies Graduates.

Ossory Diocesan Forum

Following extensive consultation with priests and lay people throughout the diocese, the Ossory Diocesan Forum was established in December 2004. The Forum is a representative body of priests, religious and lay people who, with the Bishop, seek to address the pastoral issues of the day and plan for the future.

After its first term of three years, an extensive review was carried out and, as a result of this, the

Forum going forward is divided into three Deanery Pastoral Councils. The membership of these councils consists of a lay representative from each parish in the deanery, four priests, representing the priests of the deanery, two religious representing the religious working in the deanery.

There will be a central coordinating body called the Ossory Diocesan Pastoral Council.

The Mission Statement in the

new Constitution describes the inspiration behind the Forum: "The vision at the heart of the Forum is one of collaborative ministry, where each member of the diocese, priest, religious or lay, is called and enabled to fulfil his or her baptismal role in bringing about the coming of God's Kingdom."

The Forum Coordinator is Sr. Helen Maher, based at the Forum Office in St. Kieran's College.

2008 Reunion Recollections

Rev Bernard J Canning (Past Pupil 1950-1956)

Precedence and special welcome are given to Diamond, Golden, Ruby and Silver Jubilarians at the reunions each year on the Tuesday after the feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. For some of them it was the first time in several years that they were in St. Kieran's. Many memories emerged at the mass of thanksgiving within the hallowed walls of the College Chapel for them and others. The millions of footprints on the aisle of that chapel could only be given by the Recoding Angel! Likewise the countless graces and blessings given in that chapel and the words of retreat fathers over the years defy counting. One of the retreat directors---a CSsR---made a sentence that has lived to this day when he said: "I am not speaking to a 100+ students here today but to the millions+ people these students, priests of tomorrow, will make throughout the English-speaking world." It was a striking and telling thought.

Jubilarians

Of the Diamond Jubilarians recalled at

the reunion on August 19 twelve were ordained in St. Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny by Bishop Patrick Collier. Six of them went to the Archdiocese of Glasgow. Only one of them is alive today, Canon Thomas Murphy, now resident in Ballydunne, Rathmoyle Co. Kilkenny and present at the reunion mass. Each of the six gave outstanding work

The twenty eight Golden Jubilarians: USA 13, England 6, Scotland 3, Australia 2, Ireland 2, Canada 1, New Zealand 1.

The Five Silver Jubilarians: Ireland 4, USA 1.

Twelve Ruby Jubilarians: Ireland 5, USA 5, New Zealand 1, Scotland 1.

SKC Priests in Scotland

St. Kieran's gave the biggest number of priests to Scotland in the 150 years following Catholic Emancipation. One hundred and thirty eight SKC priests worked in Scotland striving to help Scotland build up its Catholic presence. Of the 135 parishes founded throughout Scotland and the 206 churches by Irish-born secular priests, St. Kieran's priests played an important part in the restoration of the Catholic Faith there.

They founded 30 parishes or 22.2% and built 41 churches or 19.9% of the total. Alas, few SKC priests remain now as most of them have died or retired but their work lives on...

New Bishop of Ossory

Bishop Seamus Freeman, ordained Bishop of Ossory on December 2 2007, entered, as he said, the College Chapel for the first time on August 19th. It was quite an experience for him but his kind smile put all at ease. His homily with many passages of Sacred Scripture was telling, challenging and realistic. He spoke of the idea of a jubilee and its purpose. It was not simply a going back to the past but also to the present and future to what can yet be made, a challenge to that future. Whatever about the world today there should be no gloom or despair for priests in facing the challenge to proclaim the Word of God.

Gratitude and Thanks

The College President Mgr Kieron Kennedy and his staff are to be thanked for the excellent manner in which the 2008 Reunion was conducted.



GOLDEN JUBILARIANS 2008

Priests from St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, who celebrated the golden jubilee of their ordinations with a special Mass at the College celebrated by Most Rev. Seamus Freeman, Bishop of Ossory.

Seated in front L-R: Very Rev William P. Sproule PP Motherwell; Very Rev Canon Robert Raftice, Callan; Rt Rev Monsignor Kieron Kennedy, President St. Kieran's

College; Most Rev Bishop Seamus Freeman, Very Rev Michael Conaty, Hexham and Newcastle; Very Rev Antony Hannick, Yakima, USA; Rt Rev Monsignor Francis Pattison, San Diego, USA.

Standing L-R: Very Rev Sean McGearty, Adelaide; Very Rev Canon Gerry Brennan, Paisley; Rt Rev Monsignor Eamon Lyng, San Diego; Very Rev Emmett Dagens, Salford; Very Rev David Page, St. Augustin, Florida.



SILVER JUBILARIANS 2008

Priests from St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, who celebrated the silver jubilee of their ordinations with a special mass at the College celebrated by Most Rev Seamus Freeman, Bishop of Ossory.

Picture shows from left- Very Rev William Hennessy PP, Castletown, Co.Laois; Rt Rev Monsignor Kieron Kennedy, President St. Kieran's College; Most Rev Seamus Freeman, Bishop of Ossory; Very Rev Francis McEvoy, PP Crookstown, Athy.

(Photos: Tom Brett)



RUBY JUBILARIANS 2008

Very Rev John Lalor, PP, Camross, Co. Laois(native of Durrow, Co. Laois) is congratulated on the Ruby Jubilee

of his ordination after a special mass in St. Kieran's College by Most Rev Seamus Freeman, Bishop of Ossory. In the centre is Rt Rev Monsignor Kieron Kennedy, President St. Kieran's College.



DIAMOND JUBILARIANS 2008

Priests from St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny who celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of their ordinations with a special mass at the College celebrated by Most Rev Seamus Freeman, Bishop of Ossory.

Picture shows from left- Very Rev Thomas Murphy, Glasgow; Rt Rev Monsignor Edward Kavanagh, Sacramento, USA; Most Rev Seamus Freeman, Bishop of Ossory (celebrant of the mass), and Rt Rev Monsignor Kieron Kennedy, President St. Kieran's College.

PLANTING FOR OUR FUTURE

As part of ongoing works on the grounds this year saw twelve replacement trees being planted along the front boundary. The types of trees planted were Fagus Sylvatica, Tilia Platyphyllos and Quercus Robur.



All Ireland Winning Team Visit September 2008

This September the Senior and Minor Hurling teams visited St. Kieran's College, with the Liam McCarthy and ESB cups. Three players on the minor team are St. Kieran's students – James Gannon, Sean Phelan and Paddy Dowling. We also have one teacher on the senior panel – Michael Rice.



Mgr. Kieron Presenting Past Pupil Mr. Brian Cody with a photo of himself at a training session in the college in 1971.

Photos: Eoin Hennessy



L-R: Mr. John Curtis, Mgr. Kieron Kennedy and Mr. Adrian Finan with the Liam McCarthy Cup.



Nicky Cashin - Retired Deputy Principal

Ms. Maureen Meany

Nicky Cashin joined the teaching staff of St Kieran's College in September, 1974. A native of Abbeyside, Dungarvan, Nicky came with a strong hurling pedigree, having played in Fitzgibbon cup for UCC and later for the Waterford Senior Hurling teams. During his time in the College, Nicky trained hurling teams at junior and senior level. In 1986, he trained a St Kieran's team to win the Junior Hurling Championship which was run on an All-Ireland basis for the first and only time. With the 1988 team, he won the Senior Hurling All-Ireland, with a team that included such future Kilkenny stars as Pat O'Neill, DJ Carey and Adrian Ronan. They won again in 1989, and those back-to-back wins were the first All-Irelands for St Kieran's since 1975, and began a series of wins at senior level.

Nicky taught History, Geography and Irish during his career in St Kieran's, and was a dedicated teacher with a keen interest in the progress of his students. With other members of the Geography department, Nicky was involved in piloting European Studies in the school, and was involved in exchange visits with schools in Northern Ireland and England.

In 2004, Nicky became Deputy Principal, a post he held until his retirement in 2007. He also served on the Board of Management of the school for 3 years. During his career in St. Kieran's, Nicky made a huge contribution to the life of the school. His many past pupils and colleagues wish him well in his life after school, playing golf and training hurlers.



Pictured above Mr Nicky Cashin and Ms Maureen Meany



Bi-Cencenary Trip to Oileán Chléire, 1982

Pictured left to right: Fr Richard Scriven,
Ms Christina Warner and Mr Nicky Cashin.

Pat Murphy: Our loss is Graiguenamanagh's gain

Mr. Tom Hogan

I first met Pat in UCD in the 1980's where we were both doing Arts and playing Fitzgibbon Cup hurling with the college team. Pat studied Irish, History and Economics. We met occasionally thereafter, sharing stories about the lack of teaching and building jobs back then. By coincidence we both started teaching in St. Kieran's on the same day in September 1991. It was the dream job for anyone as addicted to hurling as Pat was, and still is.

Naturally, Pat got stuck in immediately with the college hurling teams exhorting his players to great heights of passion and skill. He spent many years with Adrian Finan, training both the junior and, then, the senior hurling teams. They enjoyed great success in Leinster, winning many junior and senior titles. Together with the late, great Denis Philpott, they led the seniors to All-Ireland success in 1996 against St. Colman's, Fermoy. Included on that team were Henry Shefflin, Michael Kavanagh and Donnacha Fahy (Senior All-Ireland winner with Tipperary in 2001). In the year 2000 Pat and Adrian combined to capture another coveted All-Ireland title against St. Flannan's, Ennis. The team was studded with players who are now household names in the hurling world..... Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell, Brian Hogan, Eoin Kelly (Tipperary) and Brian Carroll (Offaly).

In later years Pat spent time training the junior "B" hurling team, the juvenile football team with Emma Ryan and the junior football team with John O'Keeffe. In Pat's last year in the school in 2007 he was thrilled to train the juvenile hurling team to Leinster success with John O'Keeffe.

But sport was only a part of Pat's role in the school. Apart from being an excellent teacher of Irish, History, Economics and Religion he spent many years as a Year Head, the school's environmental officer and a key member of the pastoral care department. Everything that Pat



undertook was done wholeheartedly and with the students' welfare uppermost in his mind.

Pat's legacy to St. Kieran's is the huge number of lives that he enriched in some way, be that academically, sporting or pastorally. It is no exaggeration to state that it would be very difficult to find a student who might have anything negative to say about him. He had great empathy with his students and did

what he could to help them along. Though something of a cliché it is certainly fitting for Pat .." ní bheidh a leithéidí arís ann". Pat became principal of Duiske College, Graiguenamanagh in January 2008.

May he spend as many happy years in Duiske College as he spent in our company in St. Kieran's.



Denis Philpott RIP

Mr. Michael Forrest

It was with great regret that we learned of the death of Denis Philpott on Saturday 8th November 2008. Denis had been ill for some time. In September 1970 Mr. Denis Philpott came to St. Kieran's 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 1970's 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.

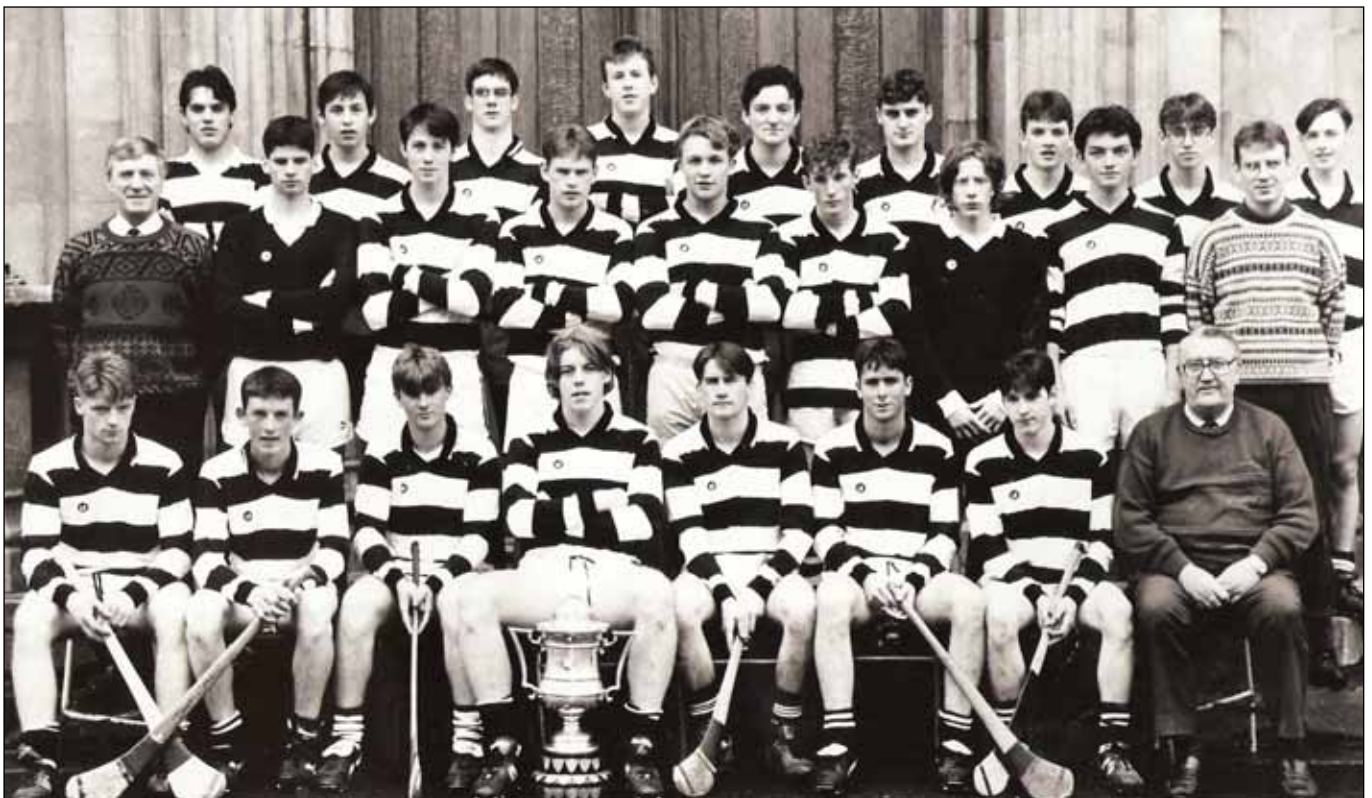
His dedication to his students was

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 was always a great help to students and colleagues alike.

He had a great love for his native Cork but his contribution to Kilkenny hurling was considerable whether with Kilkenny Minors, Gowran or Dicksboro. A week before his death, despite being very ill he was on the sideline with Dicksboro Minor s whom he had helped bring to the county final. He is sadly missed by all.



Denis with his colleagues Ann Wemyss and Jim Carew R.I.P. on a school trip to Russia



Mr Denis Philpott with the 1994 Senior Leinster Hurling Champions.

Photographic Archive in St. Kieran's College



Juvenile, Junior & Senior Leinster Champions 1984

This year it was decided to take on a new project to display photos of all students, past and present who have passed through St. Kieran's College. Since the College is the oldest Catholic secondary school in Ireland with an archive containing thousands of photographs going back over a hundred years, this was not going to be an easy task. It was hoped to get as many photos framed as possible in this academic year, 2008/09, with a view to completing the project next year.

The first task was to search through the College Records which were first published in 1956. Each relevant photo containing student class groups, awards and teams from 1956 to the present day was scanned onto a computer so that the prints could be used in the future should a photo fade over time. Following this, each photo also needed to be captioned with information, names and dates. All photos were printed in a standard size for wall display purposes before

being framed and hanged.

Photos of students taken previous to 1956 were a little more difficult to organise. A few trips to the College archives were necessary where many photos from the turn of the century and beyond were found. Some past pupils also generously contributed photos from their own personal collections of their time in St. Kieran's.

Upon entering the school, one will now find photos along the Glasshall

dating back to the late 1800s, the earliest photos found in the archive. One can even find a sports day programme used back in 1879. As we walk along the Glasshall, the photos progress through the years from the early 1900s up to 1959. Outside the main entrance to the staffroom, we find photos of some of the famous people associated with St. Kieran's College over the years ranging from Thomas McDonagh, a past teacher of the school, to Ralph Fiennes, a



Mr Ken Maher and Mr Adrian Finan with part of the Archive

past pupil. Guests of honour who return to the school Awards Night at the end of each year have also been featured in this part of the school. Here we also find photos of all the sixteen All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship winning teams, for which St. Kieran's has become so famous.

Both stairwells leading through the two upper floors to the study hall at the top of the Doody wing contain photos from the 1960s and 1970s, again focusing on class groups, award winners and teams. A newer classroom block was officially opened in 1991 so it was decided that this would be an ideal location to hang photos from 1980 up until 1999. At present, we are in the process of framing and hanging photos from 2000 to 2009 outside the new library on the third floor. The new library will be a state of the

art development and so it is an ideal location for our present day, modern photographs. In the academic year 2009/10, we hope to continue work on the photos in other parts of the school.

As students walk around the school from class to class, they can get a sense of the great history that is St. Kieran's College. They may recognise their own father or even grandfather who perhaps passed through during their own school days. They can get a feel for the great tradition of sport, particularly hurling in St. Kieran's when they see teams dating back to the early 1900s, for which the school is so well known. Above all, students can feel a great sense of pride in seeing their own photos on display, clearly identifying their part in the history of the school. We hope the photos have helped to visualise the pride

we all feel to have an association, in any capacity, with St. Kieran's College.

We would like to thank the College president, Mgr. Kennedy, the Trustees and the Board of Management for their support in this initiative, our frame makers in St. Mary's Lane, the girls in Sam MaCauley's who printed all of the photos and Mr. Pat Hickey for hanging them. From the school's point of view, we would like to acknowledge the work that Mr. Finan and Mr. Maher have done and continue to do on the project. They have invested a large amount of time and energy in a project that everyone involved in the St. Kieran's College community can take great pride in. We are sure that, over the years, both past and present pupils will enjoy continue to enjoy this unique photographic record.

Leinster Senior Hurling Champions 1938



Back Row: Kevin Hughes (Wallslough), Dick Sommers (Coolagh); Mick Kirwin (Thomastown), Mick Dunphy (Cullohill), Eamon Andrews, Dick Downey (Conahy), Mick Gibbons, Nick Rackard (Killane), Bobby Kerwick (Callan), Fr. Lowry. Middle Row: Paddy O'Connell (Crosspatrick), Shaun O'Neill (Seir Kieran), Joe Brennan (Kilmanagh), Christy Carey (Ballyragget), Jim Brennan (Ballyhale), John Murphy (Gowran), Front Row: Kevin Brennan (Tullaroan), Eddie Quinlan (Kilmacow).

First Years 1987



Back Row: I. Cousins, P. Coffey, E. Daly, E. Byrne, P. Bowen, L. Carroll. Third Row: S. Carroll, W. Byrne, F. Byrne, K. Brennan, D. Daly, B. Daly, F. Cantwell, B. Bartley. Second Row: J. Byrne, C. Brown, J. Delaney, E. Colville, M. Carrigan, T. Brennan, W. Campion, S. Cleary, J. Dowling. Front Row: G. Byrne, C. Connery, F. Cody, A. Diruscio, P. Dorney, F. Butler, L. Brennan.

Leinster Junior Hurling Champions 1956



Junior Hurling Training 1956



Leaving Cert Students 1992



Back Row: E. Colville, S. Delaney, B. Bartley, P. Coffey, S. Casey, D. Fahy, P. Bowen, B. Anglin. Third Row: C. Foley, P. Gray, G. Dunne, V. Grace, R. Cooper, D. Carroll, A. Grant, O. Connick, P. Cullen, A. Forde. Second Row: J. Dorgan, P. Barry, T. Feehan, L. Carroll, M. Carey, M. Greene, B. Cahill, J. Egan, M. Brennan. Front Row: L. Brennan, E. Cahalane, F. Cody, A. DiRuscio, S. Foley, C. Connery, F. Carey, M. Fitzgerald, D. Bergin, R. Cuddihy.

Leinster Junior Hurling Champions 1970



Our time in St. Kieran's College

Niall Quinlan (6th Year)

When I began to think about what to write for this piece I quite simply drew a blank. Rather than giving it more time and thought I instead tried to take the easy option and asked other people what they thought I should write about. After many futile discussions over what I should and should not write I decided to try another route – plagiarism! I set out to simply rob other people's ideas and memories. I dug out the previous issues of the record to see what other leaving certs had said about their time in the school. But it wasn't long before I realised that their pieces were not relevant to the leaving cert class of 2009. Unfortunately we were not a year who brought the All-Ireland hurling title back to St. Kieran's, and as yet we haven't stunned our teachers with our academic prowess! We were a year however that saw the school change massively. We were here when the toilets changed from being in lorry containers to our new toilet block, when the pitches around the school underwent a massive overhaul, so

that they now rival any county pitch. We saw the positions of both principal and vice principal change and as we prepare to leave the school we see the school's library near completion.

The school has most definitely changed in the past six years and so have we. From entering this school early in September 2003 as boys, and mostly strangers, we now prepare to leave St. Kieran's as young men but most importantly as friends. We all share memories of time spent messing when left unsupervised for those few precious minutes in between classes, of how a chalk scrawled profanity on the back of someone's jumper was more entertaining to our First Year minds than any PSP or Nintendo Wii could ever hope to be. We all remember how Mr. Cashin walking down our corridor resulted in 'sketch' being called, with everyone hoping that it would be our class that would be told 'to go to hall 33'. As our time in St. Kieran's draws to an end there is not one of us who won't be at least a little sad to say



goodbye to the place. This is because the time we've spent here has been great, and given the choice, one hundred times over I would never pick somewhere else to have spent it. On behalf of all the Sixth Years we want to thank all the teachers and staff of St. Kieran's College who have made our time here unforgettable, we leave the place with memories that we will keep with us forever.



Sixth Year students who received their ECDL certificates with teachers: Ms. Maureen Meany, Mr Philip Walsh and Mr. Tom Hogan

17

Liturgies/Retreats 2008-09



Since September 2008, the students of St. Kieran's College have received either a group or a class retreat and have attended numerous liturgies celebrating our faith. The leaving cert students went to Mount Sion, Waterford on 17th and 18th September where they had a one day retreat at the Edmund Rice International Heritage Centre. Second Years travelled to the De La Salle Brothers retreat centre in Castletown, Co. Laois on 29th and 30th September as did the Fifth Years, who also visited Castletown on 6th and 7th October. First Years were introduced to the one day anti-bullying programme which has been running in the school for some years now. They went to Edmund Rice's house in Callan on 16th and 17th October. Following in the footsteps of our Sixth Years, the Third Years also attended Mount Sion from 13th – 15th January. Recently, some of the transition year students went on a walking pilgrimage from Clashganny, Co. Kilkenny to Duiske Abbey, Graiguenamagh and on to St. Mullins, Co. Carlow. Important local religious places of significance were visited along the journey. It is important that we all take some time out of our busy routines to reflect on what our lives are about and to think about what paths we

may choose in life. Our retreats entail having a relaxing day, giving students a break from their studies to spend some time together socialising, reflecting and praying. Being a Catholic school, we believe that retreats are an essential part of the school-going experience and serve as a good opportunity for each student to take some time out to appreciate the important things in our lives. Overall, this year's retreats were a great success and an enjoyable experience.

During the school year there were also many opportunities for the students to gather in prayer. Our beginning of year masses which took place in St. Patrick's Church seem to be a long time ago now. At these masses, Fr. Seán, the school chaplain, welcomed everyone back to school and looked forward to another year. In November, we remembered our deceased loved ones and friends through some class liturgies in the College chapel. Our Christmas preparations during





Advent involved class prayers and two carol services which were attended by the patron of the College, Bishop Seamus Freeman. On 3rd February, the feast day of St. Blaise, Fr. Seán blessed throats and ashes were distributed on Ash Wednesday. Mgr. Kieron Kennedy led the celebrations for our St. Kieran's Day liturgy which was celebrated on Friday 6th March. During Lent many students also experienced guided meditation in the school chapel along with explanations of the Stations of the Cross. We are currently making preparations for our end of year liturgies in which we will pray for those doing examinations. Our leaving certificate graduation liturgy will be celebrated on 21st May. During this celebration, we will give thanks for the gifts and talents of our leaving cert. students,



give thanks for the love of their parents and wish them every blessing and success in their future lives.

Once again, it's been a busy year but one in which we hope that through the liturgies and retreats

provided, God's love, Christ's compassion and the gifts of the Holy Spirit can be nourished, nurtured and truly experienced in the hearts of the students in St. Kieran's College.

3rd Year Retreat

Miodraig Igontvaic

This year the Third Year retreats were held in Sion Hill in Waterford. We were split into two groups with 3SF and 3SC going down to Waterford on the 15th December and 3SM and 3SK going on the 16th December. When we got down there we were split into three groups with three different leaders, the leaders were Ian, Peader and

Bridget. The day was split into three different sections which were divided up by breaks. We had activities in the morning and in the afternoon we spent our time meditating. It was a very enjoyable day and we are already looking forward to our retreat next year.

St. Kieran's Day

Ian Martin (1st Year)



St. Kieran's Day was a great day for First Years through to Sixth Years. There was lots to do like horseriding, bowling, canoeing and hurling. There was something for everyone and all had an enjoyable day. Most students had the opportunity to take part in more than one activity. We all look forward to St. Kieran's Day 2010.



Awards Night

Guest of honour at the awards night was Mr. Joe Meagher who was a boarder in St. Kieran's from 1963-1968 and who after being Manager Director of Iarnród Éireann is now Chief Executive of Dublin Bus.

In his talk Joe noted how he was very appreciative of the education he received at St. Kieran's College. After the initial settling in period he had fond memories of his time as a boarder and especially remembered the "brown larry" as a food staple that stood out, he had fond memories of some great teachers who had a major influence on him, Fr. Tim O'Connor especially stood out. He was delighted to be invited to the Awards Night and was very impressed by the excellent achievements of so many students across a wide range of activities. Many of his own interests were developed in his time at St. Kieran's and he has always followed the fortunes of the teams down through the years. He thought it very important that people maintain a strong interest in leisure activities after leaving school, as this helps them ensure a well balanced lifestyle. Finally he thanked Principal John Curtis for the invitation and wished all the teachers and students of St. Kieran's well for the future.



Presentation to Guest Speaker and Past Pupil L-R Mgr. Kieron Kennedy (President), Mr. Joe Meagher (Guest Speaker), Mr. John Curtis (Principal)



Academic Awards - Back Row L-R Mgr. Kieron Kennedy (President), Mr. Joe Meagher (Guest Speaker), Mrs. Joan O'Brien (Parent's Association), Mr. John Curtis (Principal)
Front Row L-R Oisín Daly, Corey Molloy, Enda Morrissey



Student of the Year - Back Row L-R: Mr. Joe Meagher (Guest Speaker), Mgr. Kieron Kennedy (President), Mr. John Curtis (Principal), Mrs. Joan O'Brien (Parent's Association) Front Row L-R: Cormac Everard (First Year), Camin Brown (Third Year), Niall McQuillan (Sixth Year), John Muldowney (Fifth Year), Diarmuid Coady (Second Year)

Photos: Eoin Hennessy

NO UNIFORM DAY

St.Kieran's College Student Council organised a 'no uniform day' on Friday 30th January. This was to further fund an interactive white board for the School of the Holy Spirit, which St. Kieran's College will be donating. This event raised 700 euro which brings the amount the school has collected so far to 2,300 euro. Over the coming months, it is hoped to raise the remaining 1,700 euro by organising some more fund raising events.

Our picture shows members of the Student Council presenting the cheque to Ms. June Barrett, Principal of the School of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks to all who helped with fundraising during the year for the



school of the Holy Spirit, €3,500 was raised for an interactive white

board for the school and fundraising will continue.

Student Council Danny Moloney (Transition Year)



Back Row L-R: Gary Corcoran, Kevin Butler, Dylan Walsh, Conor Quinlan, Shane Egan, Ultan Moran, Michael Dunne
Front Row L-R: Brian Bradshaw, David Farrell, Ian Martin, Robert Tucker, Reamon Brennan, David Moloney

Since 2007 there has been a Student Council in this school, we a relatively new council and as a result there is a lot of interest in the council. Our aim is to carry out the mandate that the students give us.

We achieved almost everything

that we set out to do; we were delighted that at last we got Christmas decorations! One of our biggest achievements was getting the water fountain installed with good drinking water; we also got soap for the toilets. Throughout the year we helped with bag packs in aid of the

school of the Holy Spirit and for our own library which is under construction.

Overall it has been a good year for the student council and we hope in years to come, that other councils can continue our work in making the school a better place.

ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE RECORD

GRADE A BUSINESS



BSTAI / WIT Awards 2008

Recognising students who achieved A grades in Honours
Junior Cert Business Studies.

Back Row: Michael Costello, Kevin Brennan, Hugh O'Neill, Matthew Nolan, Evan Guilfoyle, Ken Farrell, Peter English.

Front Row: Mr. Niall Connolly, Brian O'Shea, Pat O'Carroll, Cian Prendergast, Eoghan Connolly & WIT representative.

At a recent function in Waterford I.T., eleven students from St.Kieran's College were honoured for their outstanding achievement in getting an A grade in their Junior Cert. Business Studies exam.

The students and their parents attended a reception afterwards hosted by W.I.T. on what proved to be a very enjoyable night.

Top Technology Student in Ireland

Congratulations to Cillian Buckley, St. Kieran's College student, who came first in Ireland in the Junior Cert.Technology exam in 2008.

Cillian's brief was to design a bridge that would illuminate in the night automatically.

To achieve this he had to follow a design process which involved (a)researching existing solutions, (b)designing his own solution and (c)producing a scale model that satisfied the brief.

In completing the task, Cillian produced a report using ICT dealing with the design and production of the artefact. He also sat a two hour examination on the following topics: Electricity, Design, Materials, Logic, Technology in Society, Robotics.



Cillian is pictured with Technology teachers Mr. Philip Walsh and Mr. Ger Buckley.

MUSIC LESSONS

This year in St. Kieran's College we saw the number of students taking instrumental lessons in the school almost triple.

With the introduction of a number of new instruments being offered in the school, the uptake on lessons increased. Last year and for three years previous guitar lessons were offered at lunchtime by Lisa Hennessey. This year new ventures like a string group, piano lessons, drum lessons, wind and brass lessons showed the huge interest that many St. Kieran's students have in music.

The string group is open to any student who plays the violin, viola or cello and they rehearsed once a week. This group made their debut at the school's Christmas Carol Service.

The piano lessons were offered after school on Thursdays and Fridays and the teacher was Ms. Sheila Ryan. Six students started and continued to receive these lessons each week.

The drum lessons were given by Jeremy Hickey on Wednesdays at lunchtime and after school. Last but by no means least are the wind and brass lessons which have great presence in the school as the sound of trumpets, trombones, clarinets and saxophones echo from the Study Hall across to the yard and through the corridors. Eamon Cahill, the teacher, has worked tire-



L-R: Ms Olive Comerford, Fergal Brennan, Matthew Nolan, Matthew Murtagh-White



Members of the St. Kieran's College Jazz band



St Kieran's College Choir

lessly to build up from scratch a Jazz band in the school. In his first year in St. Kieran's he has eighteen members who meet once a month as a band and rehearse popular numbers such as 'Hit the Road Jack'. Their debut will be in the Watergate Theatre on Friday 15th May at 8pm.

Along with the instrumental lessons there was a growth in the numbers involved in the school choir. The choir started four years ago with fifteen First Years per-

forming at the Awards Night in the Watergate Theatre. Today, the choir membership exceeds 40 students. The enthusiasm and energy of the choir knows no bounds with their capabilities growing from year to year. This year saw the beginning of a collaboration with two choirs from Loreto Secondary School to perform in the Kilkenny Music Festival. With the positive attitude and dedication of this great group of students, who knows where next year will take them.

Whether it be because of an interest fostered in primary school, for participation in the President's Award/ Gaisce, because friends are involved or just curiosity, the interest held by St. Kierans' students in the practical side of music sees participation involve between 10 – 15% of the student body. No matter what their motivation, its great to hear the sound of music echo through the historic 'Glass Hall'. Keep up the great work!

MUSIC FESTIVAL



School choir at the Kilkenny music festival.

A number of St. Kieran's College students participated in the Annual Kilkenny Music Festival held at the end of January. In the Eddie Gray Memorial Cup choral competition, St. Kieran's College joined with Loreto students and were very high-

ly commended. In the individual competitions, Second Year student Alexander Rafter achieved second place in the Hackett Cup Junior Boys' Vocal Solo. At senior level Christopher Casey and Ryan Bolger, both Fifth Year students, were high-

ly commended in the Teresa Ann Murphy Memorial Cup Vocal competition. Transition year student, Daniel Farrell, won the Kilkenny Music Festival Cup in the Senior Open Brass competition.

2FM SCHOOL OF ROCK

Congratulations to students Michael Nolan, Liam Doyle and David Doyle who, with their friend Lee Shanahan, make up the group 'Indie Kids Can't Dance', which competed in the final of the 2FM 'School of Rock' competition held recently in Dublin. As one of only five finalists chosen from throughout the country, the group performed their song 'Vegas' on radio from 2FM Studio 1 and won a €1000 voucher.



Pictured from left: David Doyle (drums), Liam Doyle (guitar and vocals), 'School of Rock' rep., Michael Nolan (guitar) and Lee Shanahan (bass guitar).

Democracy Morning

CONOR WALL (2nd Year)

On Friday April 3rd, our class, 2SK, had a democracy workshop and a questions and answer session with local politicians. This was for our C.S.P.E. action project. We planned the action project with our teacher, Ms. Galway, and everyone had a job to do. The morning began with a workshop facilitated by Mrs. McSorely from the Oireachtas. It was really interesting and by the end of this workshop the interest in politics was much greater.

We then had a short break and afterwards the politicians arrived. Phil Hogan TD, Senator John Paul Phelan, Bobby Aylward TD and Minister John McGuinness TD came to talk to us. We had a great discussion with them and lots of interesting questions were asked. In the end John Paul Phelan and Bobby Aylward remained and the opposing



parties had a lengthy argument on topics such as electronic voting, the Seanad and the economic recession. John Paul Phelan gave us

free pens and key-rings. In all, we had a great time and everyone enjoyed the morning and learned loads about democracy in Ireland.

The Concern Fast

Ms. Galway

On December 4th 2008, second year students in Kieran's College took part in the CONCERN 24 HOUR FAST. Overall, about 60 students did the fast and together they raised 4,400 euro to help Concern to work with the poorest people in the world. The students learn about global development in C.S.P.E. class and were motivated and determined to raise money for these countries. Well done to all those who took part in the fast and a huge thanks to all those who sponsored the fasters.



Pictured above are second year students James Rafter and Daniel Howes who raised money for Concern.

Trip to the Dáil

Cormac Ryan 2SM C.S.P.E.



Second Years visit the Dáil with Ms Galway for their CSPE Class

On the 11th November 2008 2SM travelled on a bus to Dublin to visit Leinster House. When we first arrived in Dublin we got the opportunity to visit the National History Museum which is also on Kildare street. This was very interesting because we saw arefacts from the bronze age and the iron age like the Ardagh Chalice and the Tara Brooch. After the museum we were allowed to Grafton Street for a long lunch. We then met back at Leinster House to meet with Deputy Mary White.

She had come to talk to us in C.S.P.E class previously about the environment and now we were learning about democracy. Mary White greeted us happily and then introduced us to our tour guide who showed us around the house. We saw offices and paintings and learned all about the history of the house. We saw the room where the Seanad sits. After this we quietly slipped into the Dáil chamber. The Ceann Comhairle walked in and we all had to stand and say a prayer.

Then the TDs began questioning the Taoiseach, Brian Cowen. They were talking about wasting expenses in the government's press office. It was really good. We left the chamber about 3 and went to the restaurant where Mary White gave us a drink and chocolate. We returned to Kieran's on the bus after a great day seeing the government in action. Thanks to Mary White for showing us around and to Ms. Galway and Ms. Lennon who accompanied us on the trip.



Rome Trip

Michael Dunne (Transition Year)



The morning of the 15th February dawned with a screeching noise and a buzzing in my ear from my mother and my alarm clock respectively. It was in fact they way most holidays start for my family, early and loud. Soon enough I was at the gates of St. Kieran's rubbing my eyes and wondering why I seemed to be carrying a small elephant in a bag. It was of course the start of a trip to Rome with 31 of my fellow students and five teachers, the minders. I would tell you about the bus trip up to Dublin Airport but I was asleep for most of it.

Arrival in Rome was a quiet affair which is why I will mention the tragic loss of Michael Whitley's jacket. The victim of the very strict Italian airport police. It was blue. The bus trip from Ciampino airport to Rome was again a quick affair, due to me being asleep.

After our overnight stay in the memorable Hotel Dina and an edible breakfast we set off for the coliseum. It was massive. I new to expect something breathtaking because of its fame but I never expected something so ancient to be so big and architecturally sound. For now the coliseum would have to wait, we were to see the Palatine Hill, which is one of Rome's seven hills and was the home of ancient Rome's emperors. Our guide explained that each of Rome's

emperors tried to out do each other when they came into power, in building terms. The sheer opulent wealth that was lavished on this hill is insane. Huge buildings were constructed and faced with white marble. Unfortunately, all of the marble has been pillaged.

After the Palatine hill we went on to the Roman Forum. The Forum was huge. To think of it whole and healthy and thronging with Roman business men, beggars and soldiers is scary. It used to spill out onto Rome proper in the form of stall and street vendors. That was the ancient equivalent of New York.

Next we went back to the colise-

um and they'll tell you three things

- 1) The guide was insane!
- 2) we didn't even scratch the surface of the place
- 3) it is truly awe inspiring

Lastly, on our first day, yes all of this was in one day, after another march (which would soon become all too familiar!) we reached the Trevi fountain. The fountain is truly an achievement of a generation. We also got to see the Pantheon, which is a giant church, and if you saw Thomas Whitely he will explain to you why it is so holy! The Spanish steps were also nice but that's all



they were considering everything we had seen – just steps. From the steps we were released to eat.

The following morning at 5.50 am we got up to go to Pompeii. Our guide was like the godfather with yellowy trousers and a hat to match with a big overcoat. If someone was to walk through here on their own after a bump on the head it would be easy to forgive them for thinking they had stumbled back in time.

We were faced with another early start the next day to head to the Vatican. There was so much to see in the Vatican but all I will say is no matter what religion you are it is well worth visiting this small country just to stand under St. Peter's Dome and feel truly how tiny one person is and to stand in the Sistine Chapel is to realise what a monumental person Michelangelo was. The Vatican made a huge impression on most of us.

On the final day we got the opportunity to visit some of the catacombs just outside Rome. We were then allowed to go shopping, first in the markets of San Giovanni and then around Rome city centre.

On the last night we went ice-skating which was great fun and then back to the hotel to pack for the journey home the following morning. We spent much longer than expected in the airport – 10 hours longer!!! But apart from this slight hitch at the end we had an immensely enjoyable trip and want to give a big thank you to Fr. Sean O'Connor, Ms. Lynch, Ms. Galway, Mr. Darmody and Mr. Heffernan for bringing us on the trip.



ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE RECORD

TRIP TO KILDALTON



Some of the students who went on the trip to Kildalton College

On Friday 27th of March our Fifth Year agricultural science class went on a trip to Kildalton College. The class undertook the trip as part of the Leaving Certificate course to see a model farm. Kildalton is a Teagasc training college located in Piltown, Co.Kilkenny. It offers a range of different courses from equine science to dairy, beef, crop and horticulture courses. Kildalton is a big farm with 365 acres and another 250 acres rented. The enterprises on the farm are suckler beef, dairy cows, farm machinery and horticulture.

When we arrived at Kildalton we began the tour with the machinery and we were shown items that students themselves had built. Then we moved onto the suckler beef enterprise. On the farm this year they have 45 suckler cows. We were talked through the cowing of the heifers and steers and the weight they hoped the cattle would achieve. Then we went onto the dairy unit which was very impressive as it was recently modernised. We learned they have 101 cows in lactation and also the step by step running of the dairy enterprise.

We then went to the equine section as some of the students are interested in horses. Following this we went to the calf shed where we looked at how they were divided. The Kildalton sheep flock consists of 130 Belclare X Suffolk ewes and 40 floggets. Finally, we visited the Tillage unit comprising of 33 hectares the crops grown are wheat, barley, oats, oilseed rape, mischarth and willows.

Overall, the day was very enjoyable and we got a good understanding of how a farm is run.

2nd Year Trip to Water Treatment Plant

On Thursday 13th of November 2008, class group 2SK went on a trip to Kilkenny's water treatment plant as part of science week. Our science teacher Mr. Darmody chose the water treatment plant for the trip as we had studied it in class. The tour lasted about an hour. During the tour

we were given a commentary on all areas and aspects of water treatment. We learned about everything from filtration to quality control. We were all amazed at the intensive process through which Kilkenny's water is prepared for use in our homes, schools and businesses.

LCVP TRIP TO WATERFORD CRYSTAL

Niall Kenny (5th Year)

For our LCVP Link Modules course we went on a trip out to Waterford Crystal; this was for one of our portfolio items, the Summary Report. Twenty six of us travelled on a bus with Mr. Darmody and Mr. Quane to Waterford. What was different about this school trip was that we, the students, had to organise everything ourselves, from organising the bus and collecting money to preparing questions and a gift for our tour guide.

On arrival we were taken to the cutting room and the workshop where the glass-blowing took place. We were also shown copies of trophies that were made at Waterford Crystal, like the Superbowl Cup and various Formula 1 trophies. We had



the opportunity to see where the pieces were engraved and etched.

Overall, the trip was a success and everything we organised went well,

we were impressed by the tour guide and we feel we left with a lot of information for our Summary Reports.

First Year History Trip

The annual First Year History Trip to Ferrycarrig Heritage Centre took place in October this year. Unlike other years Ferrycarrig were able to accommodate all First Years on the same day, which resulted in a great day for all. The trip proved to be a success with each student learning about Ireland during the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age. Students are already looking forward to their history trip next year.



French Trip to Nice

Chris Casey (5th Year)



On Saturday, February 15th, twelve Fifth Year students and two teachers, Mr. O Connor and Ms Norton, left Kilkenny at three in the morning on our way to Dublin airport for our

week long language trip to Nice in the South of France. Our flight left at 7am so we had time for breakfast at the airport.

The Carnival de Nice, one of the

biggest annual festivals in Europe, was taking place in the month of February and there were several parades and other events taking place during our visit to Nice. On arriving in Nice, we met our host families (French families with whom we stayed in groups of two) and after dropping our bags off at their apartments, we walked into the city centre for the first parade of our trip. The spectacular parade lasted over two hours and the atmosphere was amazing, with lots of money being spent on cans of silly string. Afterwards we were given some free time before heading back to our apartments for dinner and going to bed.

Classes started at 9am at the Alpha B Language Institute and they finished at about 12.30pm, with a fifteen minute break in between. After lunch on the main shopping street, we went on a tour of the old part of



the city with our excellent guide for the week, Jean-Seb. We climbed up la Colline and while some rested at the top, others decided to play in the playground.

On Tuesday, after class, we took the train to the city of Monte Carlo in Monaco. Most of the lads agree that this was the highlight of the trip. We visited the Palace of Monaco and the Cathedral of Monaco, where the legendary actress and Princess of Monaco, Grace Kelly, is buried. We then went to the Oceanographic Museum, which has a spectacular aquarium. We were given some free time, during which some of us found a "bench of memories" in a park with a brilliant view. That night, after dinner, we went to the night parade, where we destroyed Jean-Seb with cans of silly string!!

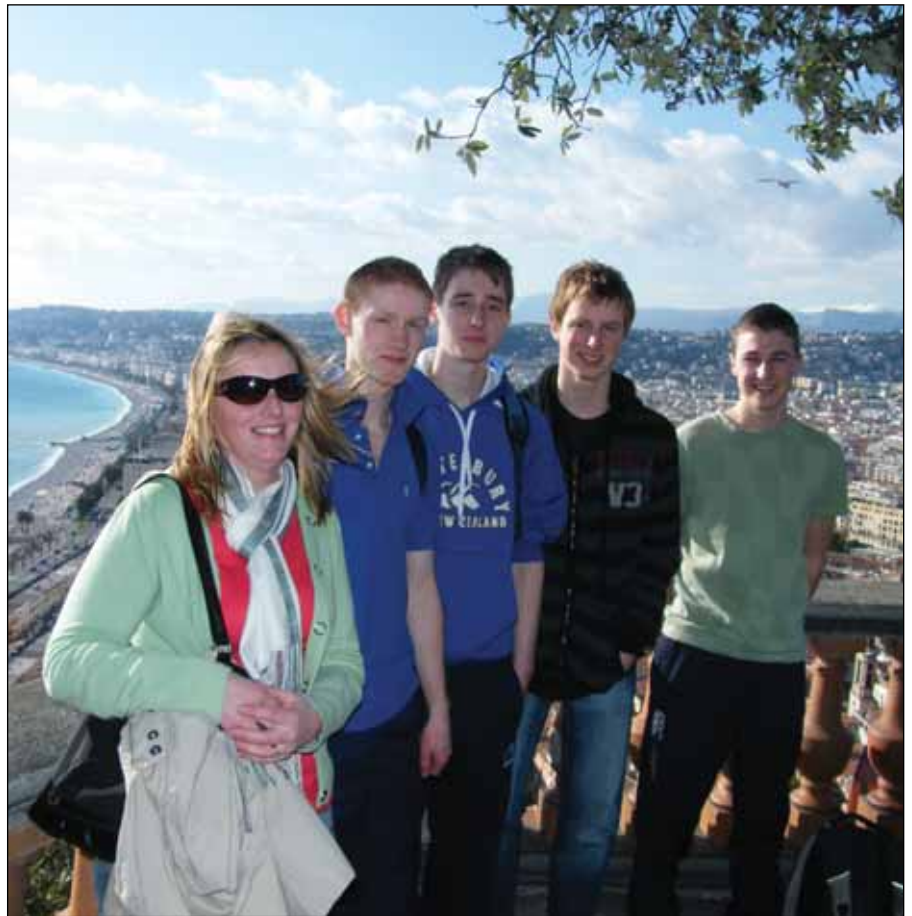
After classes on Wednesday, we went to the town of Antibes and after viewing the expensive yachts in the port, we visited the Pablo Picasso museum. The museum wasn't very interesting and the art was kind of strange, so we spent the rest of our time looking around Antibes before returning to Nice.

On the second last day, we took the train to Cannes after our classes in the morning. We visited 'La Croisette' and the Grand Auditorium where the International Film Festival takes place. We were given free time to look at the shops before getting the train back to Nice.

On the last day, we went bowling and were given free time to go shopping in Nice. That night, the teachers brought us to an authentic French restaurant, 'Le 22 Septembre', where we got to taste some local dishes. Then it was back to our apartments for our last night in Nice.

We left Nice the next morning and arrived back in Kilkenny in the early afternoon. We would like to thank Mr O Connor and Ms Norton for an unforgettable week and we are looking forward to a return trip next year!

Février dernier, douze étudiants et deux profs, Mr O Connor et Ms Norton, sont allés à Nice en France pour



une semaine. Nous sommes allés à Nice pour étudier le français dans une école française. Nous sommes restés avec des familles françaises et ils se sont occupés de nous pendant notre séjour là. Nous avons des cours chaque matin et chaque après-midi nous visitons des villes dif-

férentes, y compris, Cannes, Antibes et Monte Carlo. Le Carnaval de Nice se passait à Nice pendant notre visite et nous sommes allés au carnaval aussi. Nous nous sommes très bien amusés en France et nous attendons avec impatience notre prochaine visite l'année prochaine.

Trip to the National Concert Hall

Fergal Lalor (3rd Year)

On a cool, crisp morning on the 10th of November in 2008, the 2nd and 3rd year Music classes, along with Ms. Comerford and Fr. Sean set off at 9.00am to the National Concert Hall. We arrived in Dublin at approximately 11am and first went to load up on treats from a local shop. We then proceeded to the Hall. We stepped inside and were quickly shown into the orchestral area. We had the best view in the Hall, seated on the balcony to the left. This position allowed us to see all the instruments and musicians, as well as having a great view of the audience. We had arrived slightly early, and so had the enjoyment of

viewing the motionless instruments and the influx of all the schools in their different uniforms. The concert started at just past twelve and the first piece was the Third Year set work Handel's "Water Music: Hornpipe and Minuet", this was enjoyable as the conductor Gearoid Grant gave us a blow by blow account. Then the second set work, Rossini's "Overture William Tell", was played. This was memorable for the stamping of feet during the well known gallop-like end. At 1.45pm the concert was over and we walked back to the bus which transported us to Liffey Valley. A few items were purchased by the majority and we left



at 4pm on the dot. We were back in school for 6pm after a long, tiring yet enjoyable day at the National Concert Hall.

Christmas Carols



Students from St Kieran's College choir singing carols for Downes Syndrome Ireland

Thanks to Supermacs who so kindly sponsored lunch for the Carol Singers



Grandfather and Grandson on Leinster winning teams

Kevin Hughes was the goal keeper on the Junior team that won the Leinster Final in 1937. In the 2008/2009 season his grandson Shane was wing forward on the Junior team that also won the Leinster Final. This is a major achievement for the family. Kevin was present on the day of the final in Nowlan Park which was held in November. He addressed the new Junior Champions after the match and congratulated them on their wonderful achievement.



Oh Brother

Families with three or more brothers in the school.



Jake, Sam and Ben Moylan



Laurence, Brian, Ciarán and Pat O'Carroll



Paddy, Tom, John and Joe Mullan



James, John and Michael Rice

Irish Quiz Team

Niall Quinlan (Captaen ar an foireann tráth na gceist)

St. Kieran's College produced no less than four Irish table quiz teams this year to take part in the Feachtas Tráth na cCeist this January, but it was not just a case of quantity but also quality on the night.

St. Kieran's took the top four places with three teams having scored an impressive 48 out of a possible top score of 50. After the normal question rounds it took seven tie break questions to produce a winning team, with Conor Quinlan, Anthony Forristal, Cian O'Sullivan and myself taking the top prize.

After a further two tie break questions second and third place were allocated to the other two remaining St. Kieran's teams.

Overall St. Kieran's really dominated the competition with no other school providing even the slightest opposition.



L-R: Anthony Forristal, Cian O'Sullivan, Niall Quinlan and Conor Quinlan

Irish Debating

Niall Quinlan (Captaen ar an Foireann Diospoireacht Sinsearach)

This year saw the return of Irish Debating to the school with three Leaving Cert students, Cian O'Sullivan, Jack McCarron and myself taking up the Gaelinn debates challenge with help from Ms. Lynch.

After just a few sessions of preparation and practice we were victorious at regional level and progressed on from a tough first round to an even tougher second round.

Even with the extra time for preparation and practice the second round was a step too far for the team with the judges favouring the oppositon's rigid style of learned off speeches over our more expressive style of improvised expansion and active enagement in argument.

2008/2009 was a year in which glory may have eluded the Irish debating team but the school was very proud of and extremely well represented by this Sixth Year trio.



L To R: Cian O'Sullivan, Niall Quinlan and Jack McCarron

MATHS PRISM

Maths Prism which is a test for 2nd level students took place on Nov.14th 2008. The whole school took part. €850 was raised for the school of the Holy Spirit to buy an interactive white board. Nationwide over 7000 students took part and St.Kieran's College had 11 in the top 100.



Back L-R: Kieran White, Anthony Patchell, Pijus Timus, Eamon Tracy, Ronan McCann, Diarmuid Hickey

Front L-R: David Freeman, Maurice O'Neill, Lukas Hartman, Conor Holigan, David Burke

English Debating



English Debating in the school this year Back L-R: Sean Lennon, Danny Moloney, Cian O'Sullivan, Ken Farrell
Front L-R: Cain Lynch, Niall Quinlan, Corey Molloy.

The Rhyme Rag

Cain Lynch (5th Year)

The Rhyme Rag is an annual publication by the Kilkenny Arts' Council. Every Year hundreds of young poets from Kilkenny city and county submit poems in the hope of seeing them published. The poems are sent to the guest editor of the Rhyme Rag, a well known poet. All poems selected for publication appear alongside an illustration designed by Sle Mercado.

Five Sixth Year students from Kieran's had poems selected to be published in the 2008 edition of the Rhyme Rag: Jake Mullally, Corey Molloy, Robbie Molloy, Liam Doyle and myself. Details for the submission of poems for the 2009 edition are available from the Arts' office on John Street



L-R: Robbie Molloy, Cain Lynch, Corey Molloy and Jake Moylan

I CANNOT WRITE A POEM

By Danny Funcheon
(1st Year)

I cannot write a poem,
I don't know what to do.
I cannot write a poem,
I haven't got a clue.

I cannot write a poem,
I don't even have a pen,
I cannot write a poem
Where would I begin

I cannot write a poem
My hand is very sore
I'm very sleepy
Poems are such a bore.

I cannot write a poem
I just can't do this task.
I cannot write a poem
So teacher please don't ask.

Writing in St. Kieran's College

This year we had several visits from writers to St. Kieran's College. The Writers in Schools scheme is run by Poetry Ireland and the scheme encourages poets, playwrights and novelists to visit schools throughout the country.

Billy Roche is a writer from Wexford. He has written plays short stories and a novel. His visit was to Transition Year students on the morning of May 13th. Billy read from his work, talked about his life as a writer, actor and director and performed a scene from his play *Amphibians* with a first year student, Ben Moylan.

As part of the same event Either Spellman a drama teacher gave a series of drama workshops for the boys in Transition year. This session was more interactive and all those who took part were involved in some serious play acting.

'Creative Engagements' is a project which involves an artist or writer in residence who works in a school over a longer period facilitating students in a series of workshops. In January Siobhán Parkinson began her residency in St. Kieran's. Siobhán is an author of fiction and editor of several publications. She has been visiting a group of fifth and sixth year boys and advising them about their own writing. The project will continue in the next school year when the

stories and poems produced as part of the residency will be used by a group of art students under Mr. Kelleher's guidance to make a piece of art.

Siobhán also chose St. Kieran's for a mentoring programme. This is where a writer who has visited many schools introduces a less experienced poet or dramatist to the Writer's in Schools scheme. In May, Siobhán invited Mary Montague, a poet from Omagh, to visit St. Kieran's. Mary gave a reading of her work and a writing workshop to the students of 2SK.



Mr Billy Roche giving the writing workshop

The Importance of Heroes

Corey Molloy (6th Year)

From rock stars, to soldiers, Bono to Jade Goody, Ghandi to Pearse, our heroes represent the ideals we strive for in life, be they fame and fortune, or freedom and equality. Heroes define our society, our culture and our own image as a people, going all the way back to ancient times.

Take for example, the greatest Biblical heroes: David, or Solomon. These were men of justice, wisdom and strength – not just in faith but of character – who symbolised all the most important and cherished of values and attributes of their time. They were an example held up for all men to follow.

But what about the examples we set ourselves today? Who among the roughly six billion people on earth today do we look to for an image of our society? Is it the celebs? Or the sport stars, full of hard work and determination? Or even the next-door neighbour who helps out in the Carer's Association? My grandmother was one such local hero helping her friends and neighbours, minding children, giving gifts to bingo, and being there as a friend to talk to well into her eighties without ever complaining or pitying herself first. Even at work, when she was younger, it was always her calling to help people: she was a psychiatric nurse. Like most local heroes, she was a quiet hero, unlike the fair-tale stereotype. She performed miracles, she simply worked patiently and determinedly to help the people around her.

But there are many other kinds of heroes, like the famous explorers

and scientists who have pushed the boundaries of human knowledge and achievement. Without Columbus we would be ignorant of America, without Newton, we would have no understanding of how the solar system works. Without brave men like the Apollo II crew or Yuri Gagarin (the first man in space) we would never have achieved the remarkable feat of leaving our own world. And without Bill Gates we would never have desktop computers, let alone laptops or mobile phones which are so indispensable today.

And these very men and women do more even than just merely make achievement after achievement they inspire generations ahead to follow in their footsteps. Besides being examples, they also inspire in their own right, laying down the challenge for others to beat. How many people strive to break Olympic Records, or score the most goals in the premiership! How many youngsters dream of winning an All-Ireland medal? And how many players dream of being the man with the most? There are few Kilkenny boys who have never dreamed they were D.J. Carey or Tommy Walsh. The greatest of heroes inspiring the future generations into further feats, far more remarkable than their own.

But they inspire the most vital of human emotion as well, they inspire hope. As the saying goes "humans can live a few months without food, a few days without water and a few minutes without air, but not one second without hope". Take for

example Lance Armstrong who battled with leukaemia and came back to win the Tour de France. He gives hope to cancer patients all over the world to fight harder to survive, because they have hope of returning to a normal life. In the film "Star Wars", the simple farm boy turned Jedi and hero Luke Skywalker symbolises the hope for a life beyond just the ordinary as Robert Frost so famously writes "the road less travelled by"

And indeed the "road less travelled by" even among heroes is that fairytale path, saving lives with acts of extreme bravery, like the fire fighters who rushed into the World Trade Centre in 2001, even as they were collapsing, or, the same day the incredible sacrifice of the passengers of the United Airlines Flight 93, hijacked en-route to suicide bomb the White House in Washington, the passengers upon hearing about what happened at the Twin Towers, sacrificed their lives, confronted the terrorists, and brought the plane down before it became a weapon. Even the bravery of a young man jumping into a river to save a drowning stranger is powerfully heroic.

So heroes are one of the most positive forces in our world, be it as examples to follow, or saving children, or just making the neighbours' lives easier for twenty years. Heroes inspire us beyond what we are normally capable of, and give us hope even in times of darkness. They lead us as people and represent all that we believe is good in the human race.

Poetry Aloud

Poetry Ireland's competition Poetry Aloud entered its third year last autumn. The competition involved learning and reciting two poems in such a way as to convey their mean-

ing, and competitors were marked on their projection, interpretation, stance and the difficulty of their chosen poems. The school was well represented at regional level and

one student, Corey Molloy, qualified for the semi – final in the National Library in Dublin, last November, but unfortunately did not progress any further.

CAIRDEAS

Donal Brennan (5th Year)



Back Row L-R: Kieran Casey, Sean Phelan, Aidan O'Dowd, Ben O'Connor, Andrew Cantwell, Donal Brennan. Middle Row L-R: Eoghan Lalor, Chris Casey, Caimin Browne, James Gannon, Joe Clohessy. Front Row L-R: Patrick Lennon, David Freeman, Conor Gorey, Conor Maharaj, David Farrell, Jamie O'Hara.

During our last term of Transition Year, about twenty students and myself were approached by Fr. Sean wondering if we would do the Cairdeas Programme. On our first day, we were all greeted in the theatre by a small group of workers from Ossory Youth. They gave us an

insight into what we might have to deal with and how to help out with any problems the First Years might have. We found that small things like just being able to say hello when you walk past your Cairde makes a big difference to confidence.

Overall our workshop was very enjoyable and worthwhile. Luckily none of us have had to deal with many problems from our First Years and thanks to our help and the Cairdeas Programme they have settled into the school nicely.

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Danny Moloney (Transition year)

Kevin Brannigan, Danny Moloney, Conor McMorrow, Denis Hogan and Stephen Chappell are the five lucky students this year to be part of the annual Ossory Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Going with us are students from various other Kilkenny schools such as Grennan College and Loreto, making around 40 students overall. We have spent a lot of time fundraising for it including a raffle, three days of bag packing and other forms of sponsorship. Considering the financial difficulties we are facing right now, a massive thank you must go to everybody who donated, sponsored us or bought a raffle ticket. When we get to Lourdes we will be working with the pilgrims, tending to the elderly and invalids, helping them or simply having a normal



L-R: Danny Moloney, Kevin Brannigan, Denis Hogan, Conor McMorrow, Stevie Chappell

conversation with them. We are looking forward to going and are

sure we will have a very enjoyable experience.

421 PROGRAMME '09

Danny Maloney (Transition Year)

421 is basically a drug awareness programme where Transition Years pass their knowledge of the different implications using drugs can have for a person. Transition Years in secondary schools all over Kilkenny talk to First Years about drugs over a six week course.

Luckily we weren't thrown into a class immediately as we had a lot to learn before we could pass on any information. St. Kieran's participants along with students from Loreto were sent to the Springhill on a number of Fridays to prepare us for the programme with the help of

Ossory youth workers. Our knowledge of drugs was expanded and we learned how to prepare class sessions. The three weeks of preparation were a great experience, we had the chance to meet a lot of interesting people and got to know our classmates better, if asked we would do it all again.

After our training we had gained the confidence and knowledge required to lead 40 minute classes once a week for six weeks. We had the freedom to choose the topics we wanted to talk about and how we wanted to pass on this knowl-

edge. We chose classes during the day to have meetings and prepare for teaching the First Year groups.

This programme helps students to understand drugs and their effects, we were amazed at how little First Years knew on the topic but their curiosity made our job easier. We may not have all the answers to all the questions asked but we did our best to answer as fully as possible. The programme also taught us responsibility, independence and of course a lot about the effects of drugs.

Kilkenny Schools Transition Year Mile Challenge

Transition years compete in an Inter Schools 1 mile run in memory of Sean Byrne each year. Sean is the founding member of the Kilkenny City Harriers. This year St. Kieran's won the event.



Back Row L-R: Shane Noonan-Holohan, Cillian Buckley, Aaron Nolan, Jason Nugent
Front Row L-R: Stevie Chappell, Mrs. Alice Byrne, Peter English, Jack Nolan.

Young Scientist

Gerard Luby and Peter Nolan
(Transition Year)

When we heard we were accepted to the young scientist we were delighted but we knew we had a lot of work ahead of us.

We left on a Wednesday for Dublin. We set up our stall straight away. We had one judging on the Wednesday and two separate judges on the Thursday. Friday was a day of rest as we had no one inspecting our stall on the Friday.

We were pleased to hear that the judges understood our idea and they thought it was a simple, but particularly good idea.

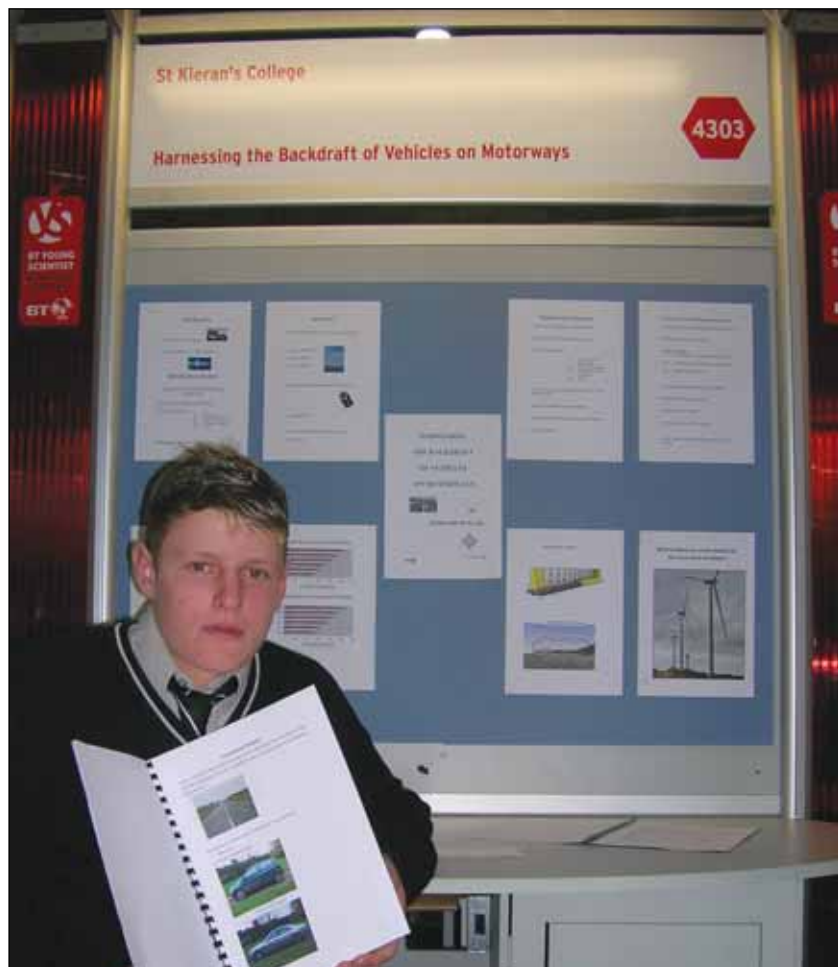
We received a certificate for third place in the Technology Intermediate Section.

On Saturday we cleaned up our stall and headed for home, very happy with our third place finish.



Harnessing the backdraft of vehicles on motorways

Bernard Mullen (5th Year)



My project was to investigate the possibility of fitting motorways with various forms of wind energy collection devices. These devices could be (i) overhead turbines that collect energy from quickly moving cars or (ii) barrier panels that harness the wind from closely passing vehicles moving in opposite directions. The wind could then be sent out to the grid to power nearby communities or light rail transportation systems.

The aims of this project were to

- Measure wind speeds from cars and lorries using an anemometer
- Find out how much wind is needed to drive a turbine
- Investigate if wind energy from passing vehicles can be feasibly harnessed

Results indicate that there is no major difference in wind generated between the vehicles in the study. Wind speeds of 11 miles per hour or more are necessary for producing electricity from wind. Also, I discovered that there will be problems with the cost and inconveniences of installation of wind turbines on motorways.

Chess

ALL-IRELAND CHESS CHAMPIONS



Our photo shows from left: Michael Tierney, Stephen Li, Aravind Menon (captain) and Aidan Byrne.

On Thursday 30th April last, the All-Ireland schools' Chess tournament reached its final stages in Limerick. The St. Kieran's College team, comprising of Aravind Menon (captain), Stephen Li, Michael Tierney and Aidan Byrne, entered the tournament with high hopes having been beaten the previous year in the last round. The team put in an amazing performance and became the

All-Ireland Champions for 2009.

Aravind Menon, captain of the team, also came first in the individual tournament with a perfect score of six out of six games. In second place in the individual competition was Michael Tierney with five out of six, having lost to Aravind in the last round.



All-Ireland chess winner individual - Aravind Menon



All-Ireland chess runner up individual - Michael Tierney

Art Panels For Theatre

Barry Mullins (6th Year)

At the beginning of this school year, Sixth Year Art students were appointed the task of painting panels for the Theatre. Since the Theatre is steeped in musical history, it seemed appropriate to base the paintings on a theme of musicals and shows. We drew up ideas until we were pleased with the final pieces; the finished paintings are now hanging in the Theatre.



L to R: Cian O'Sullivan, Brian Banahan, Robbie Molloy, Eamonn Costello, Daragh Toomey, Marcin Fiegel



L to R: Robbie McPartlin, Barry Mullins, David Doyle, Trevor Kelly, Eoin Holohan, Eanáan Cooke, Sam Johnson

ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE RECORD

3rd Year Sculptures



Alex Danilov



Kevin Kerpis



Patrick Dorney



Kevin Duncan



Aodghán Murphy



Jake Casey

BRONZE MEDALISTS - KAYAKING

Michael Tierney

The Gaisce trip this year left St. Kieran's College at the sleep inducing time of 6:30am on Friday May 9th with a mixture of 4th & 5th years and teachers Mr. Darmody and Ms. Comerford. For the first two hours of the bus journey to Kenmare, the bus was silent but gradually livened up as we came closer to our destination. We arrived a little after 10:30am at our accommodation after passing what it seemed like thousands of 'Vote Healy Rae' posters. Straight after that we left for the adventure centre and in no time we were in full wet gear.

It was decided that instead of doing activities that day we would instead be going out in Kayaks to capitalise on the 'Good' weather but that turned out to be a disaster with only about five people making it back to the centre after paddling out to the opposite shore. Most were almost half way out when they were told to come back onto shore because the wind was too strong and had to be collected by a jeep. One canoe, which had four people on it (one of them, me) could not even paddle out five metres without smashing into rocks and seaweed.

The rest of the day we did activities like orienteering, archery and team based challenges. When we left for home at 6pm we were all starving. we headed straight out to the local Super-valu to buy food to last us two days. We had all planned on sharing but that sentiment quickly vanished and everyone ended up buying for themselves. We ended up with enough food to feed an army. Ms Galway and Mr. Reddy arrived when we returned home.

On the second day we had to kayak no matter how bad the weather was and so at 9:30am after watching 'He-Man' we left our houses and went to the centre. At this point we had all realised that kayaks were much better than canoes and there was a race to get kayaks



before they were all claimed. Eric and I unfortunately were stuck in a canoe. We set off anyway down the coast except Eric and I whose canoe periodically filled with water which we had to bail out with a bottle. All of us eventually landed on a small island for a rest and after a seaweed fight the people in canoes were switched with the people in kayaks. We continued on after lunch, crossing the inlet just as the weather was getting rough. After only a few cap-sizes, caused by waves, we made it across only to be stranded on rocks after someone suggested we rest on them. After getting out of the rocks we were circled by two seals as we waited for Ms Galway to be rescued. After that very long break, we arrived back at the centre and

returned home to make dinner and watch 'Britains Got Talent'.

On Sunday morning we took it easy as we were so tired from the kayaking the day before only to be alerted by Ms. Comerford to the fact that we had to have the place spotless before we left. We organised a very rapid clean-up operation which saved us at the very last second. We then set off for our final time to the centre and went off kayaking again. We were all used to it by now and none of us capsized except Tom Mullan and Ryan Bolger who still managed it despite the eerily calm sea. We arrived back at the centre at 2pm and got ready for a deathly quiet three hour journey home on the bus after a very rewarding weekend.



SILVER MEDALISTS – HILL WALKING

Chris Casey

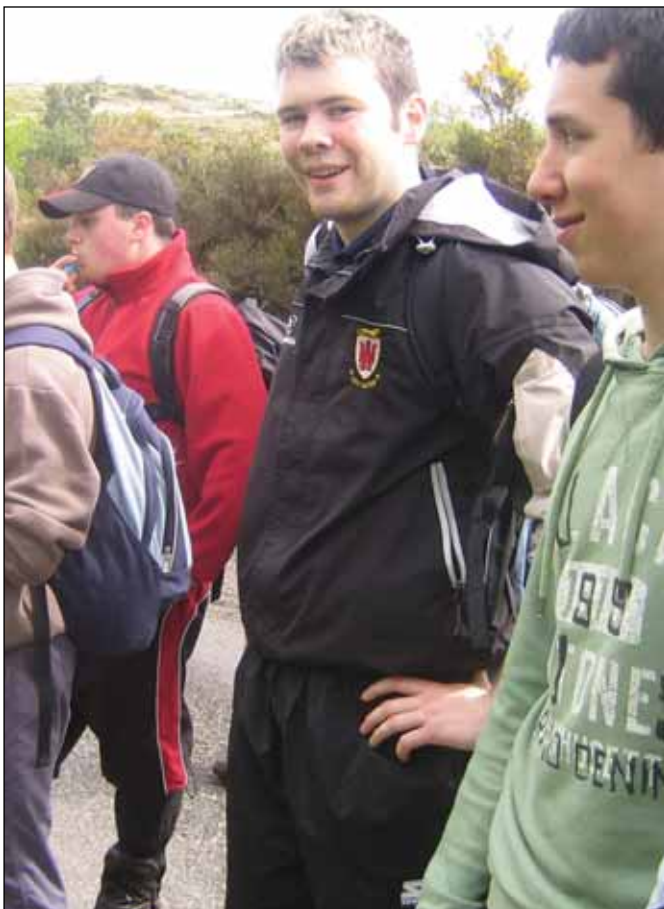
On the same weekend eight fifth year students had to walk about 50km through the Caha Mountains around Kenmare Bay. On Friday morning we were dropped off outside Killarney and accompanied by Mr. Darmody, we were left to walk the 18 – 19 km to Kenmare through the mountains. By the time we got to our apartments in Kenmare we were exhausted. We bought our own food and after having our dinner we gladly went to bed after hearing about how the fourth years and Ms Comerford had to be rescued from the water after abandoning their canoes and kayaks.

We were woken up early on Saturday morning to get prepared for our next day of walking. We had another 17 – 18 km from Kenmare to Blackwater to walk, accompanied by Mr Darmody again. It was another long day but we succeeded in beating the record time for the second day in a row.



On the Sunday, we were joined by Ms. Comerford and Ms. Galway, who had heard that it would be the shortest walk of the three days. We walked for about 10km and there were many falls as we made our descent, especially among the three teachers. When we reached the

adventure centre, a few of us swam out in the freezing water of the Bay to get to the floating trampoline. It was a very painful but very enjoyable weekend.



1st Year Class Photos



Back Row L-R: Cillian McCormack, Shane Corcoran, Michael Shiel, Konrad Cwiklowski.

Third Row L-R: Stephen Campion, Daniel Duku, Karlois Mitrikas, Shane O'Brien.

Second Row L-R: Sean Burke, Gerard Dunne, Paul White, John Rice, Edward Pojarski.

Front Row L-R: Darragh Queally, Dylan Drennan, Brendan Hyland, John Lynch



Back Row L-R: Kacper Paivlowski, Rolands stafeckis, Jake O'Dwyer, Maciek Szeliga, Jack Drew.

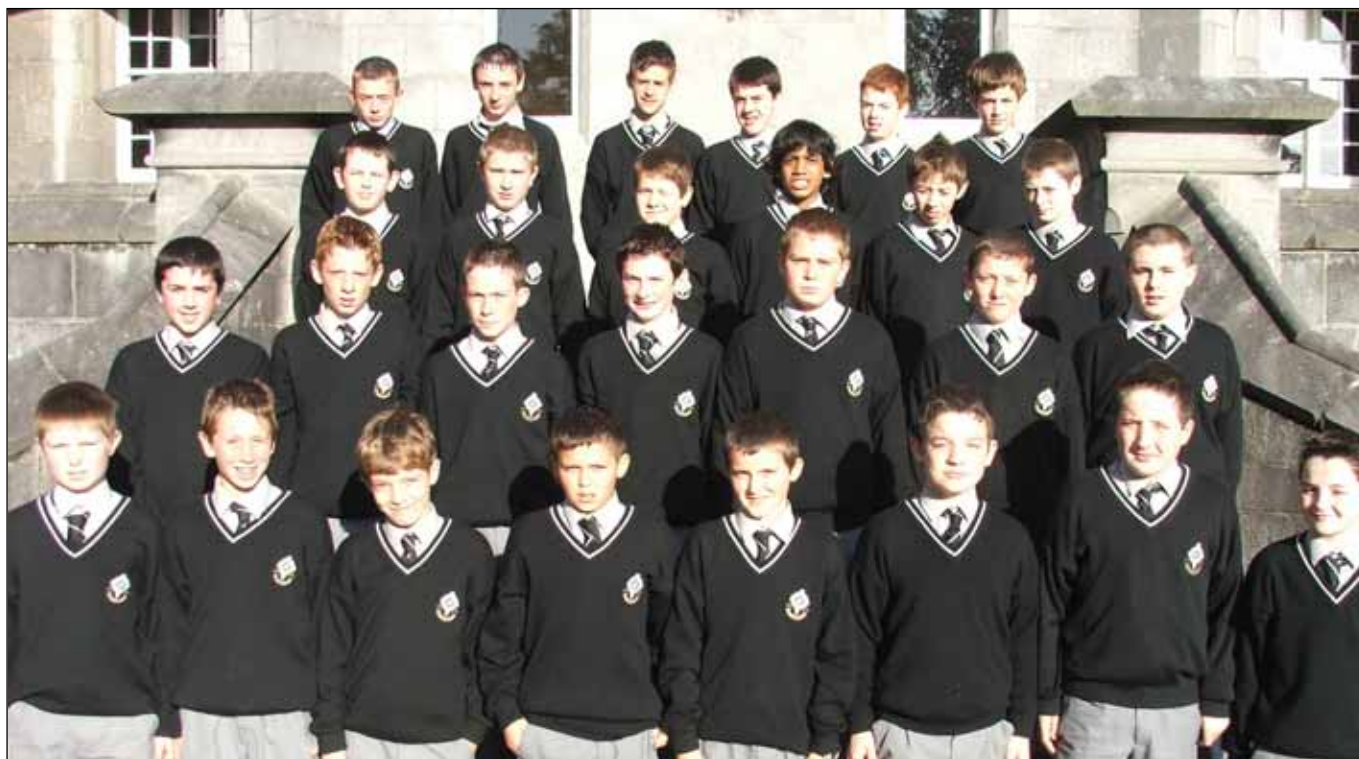
Third Row L-R: Damian Lis, Daniel Funcheon, Ian Martin, Josh Haines, Stepehn Clancy.

Second Row L-R :Kevin Blanchfield, Kevin Hennessy, Michael Cross, Martin Dobbyn, Gavin Brennan.

Front Row L-R : Shane Walsh, Daniel Burke, Karl Cummins, Dylan Cullen, Kieran Foley.



Back Row L-R: Alex Helizon, Stephen Farrell, Tadhg O'Carroll, Shane Leahy, Conor Brennan, Ciaran Fennelly
Third Row L-R: Seamus McGrath, Graham English, Bill Carrigan, Philip Cooney, Dion Fitzpatrick, Joe Mullan
Second Row L-R: Michael Fitzgerald, Kieran Condon, Conor Comerford, Luke O'Connor, Tom Phelan, Sean Sinnott, Dean Byrne, Brian Coady
Front Row L-R: James Tynan, Kieran Freeman, Darragh Hennessy, Jack Walsh, Shane O'Brien, Jamie Cashin, Michael McDonnell



Back Row L-R: James Meagher, Ricci Drennan, David Walsh, Lorcan Quinn-O'Loughlin, Nicholas Dunphy, Conor Lowe
Third Row L-R: Cathal Darmody, Ollie Rafter, David Lendal, Avi Pesad, Dion Guilfoyle, Michael Brennan
Second Row L-R: Paul Farrell, Brandon Cuddihy, Conor Murphy, Greg Tennyson, Cian Smith, Robbie Hennessy, Kevin Doyle
Front Row L-R: Brian O'Carroll, Conor O'Carroll, James Mullan, Carlo Peschi, Brian Mahon, Ben Moylan, Jack Byrne, Patrick Reade

2nd Year Class Photos



Back Row L-R: Jack Naughton, Eamon Treacy, Hugh Lane, Seamus McSorely, Matt Murtagh-White, Eoin Gough

Third Row L-R: Jason Carroll, David Walsh, Michael Kenny, Nathan Cahill, Krishna Persaud, Michael Comerford

Second Row L-R: James Tyrell, Cormac Connolly, Michael O'Neill, John Mulholland, Peter McPhilliphs, Donal Murphy, Cathal Minnock

Front Row L-R: Conor Evans, Maurice O'Neill, Ciaran O'Carroll, James Deasy, Aidan Byrne, David Maher, Robert Malone, Patrick Hickey

Missing From Photo: Jack Cotter, Cormac Everard.

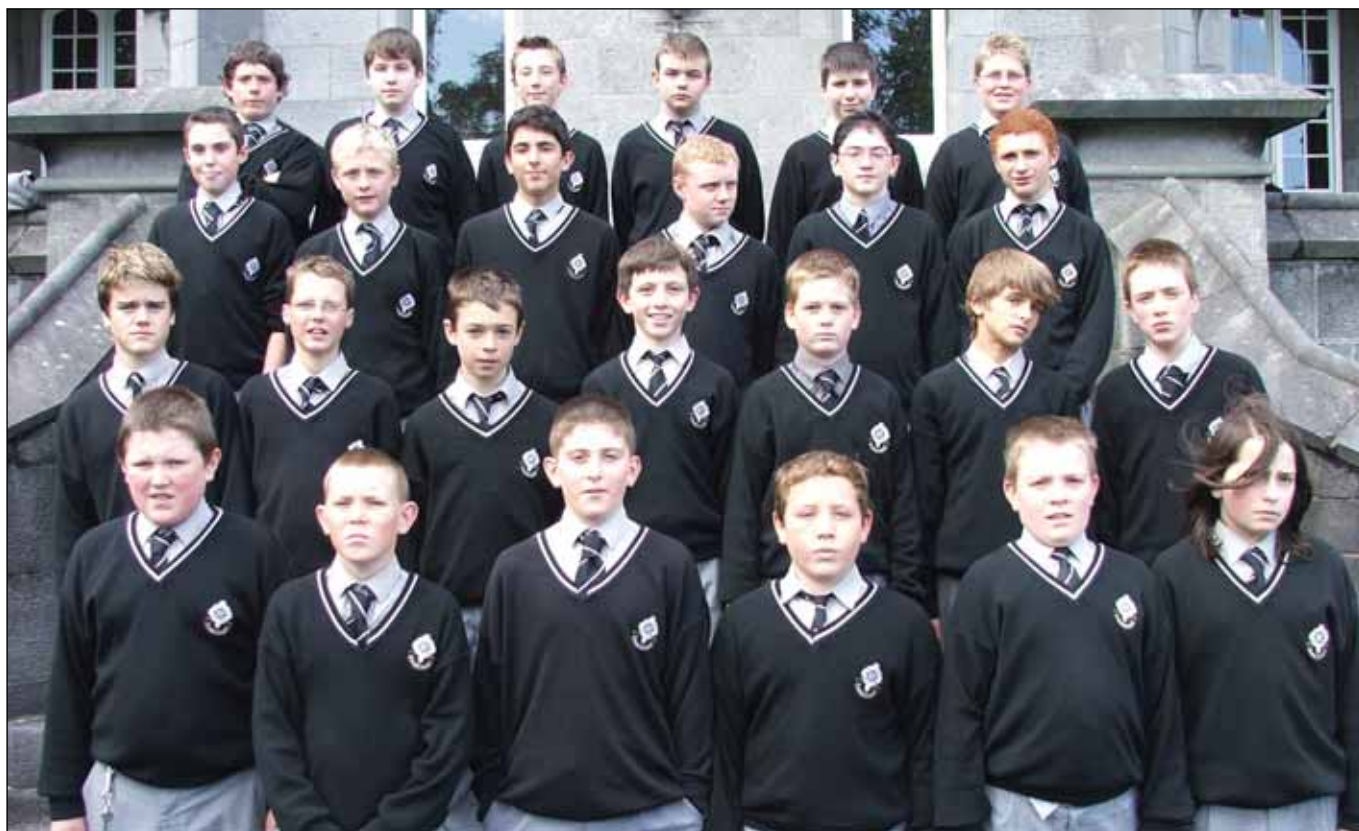


Back Row L-R: Kevin Maher, Eoin Cooney, Conor Mahon, Eoin Barry, Conor McMullan, Diarmuid Hickey, Conor Quinlan

Third Row L-R: Dan Holmes, Eoin Curtis, Sean Mulholland, Conor Wall, Paraic Walsh, Paul Allan, David Prendergast

Second Row L-R: Lukas Hartman, Michael Mikandrovs, Patrick Tynan, Craig Murphy, Brian Butler, Mark Butler, Eamon Power, Adam Jordan

Front Row L-R: Andrew Tyrell, Niall Treacy, Bill Lahart, Cathal O'Neill, Ian Dunphy, James Callanan, Ciaran Breen



Back Row L-R: Chris Bolger, Brendan Freeman, Colin Corcoran, Bobby Murray-Walsh, Calvin Delaney, James Rafter
3rd Row L-R: Adam Ryan, Luke Tennyson, Alfredo Fernandez Corbella, William Allen, Sean Franklin, Shane Doyle
2nd Row L-R: Michael Lennon, James Burke, Alan O'Beirne, Simon Rafter, Eoin Shortall, Iago Cabrera Lado, Keith Reynolds
Front Row L-R: Keith Phelan, Paddy O'reilly, Shane Parsons, Cormac Ryan, Thomas Kehoe, Jonathan dos Santos



Back Row L-R: Peter Treacy, Pijus Timas, Sean O'Callaghan, William Dooley, Mark Shortall
Third Row L-R: David Burke, Josh Phelan, Vincent Teehan, Jamie Maher, Pavel Kravchena, Patrick Ojwe
Second Row L-R: Shane Nolan, Ronan Leahy, Anthony Patchell, Gearóid Kenney, Arnaldo Solorzano Garcia, Conor Coughlan
Front Row L-R: Jack Dowling, Cian Morton, Emmett Nugent, Shane Butler, Dylan Walsh, Conor Keegan, Dermot Hegarty

3rd Year Class Photos



Back Row L-R: Paul Comerford, Robert Hayes, David Hennessy, Kevin O'Neill, Craig Cummins, Alan Lalor
Third Row L-R: John McGrath, Richie Reid, Robert Tucker, Wayne Cuddihy, Shane Fitzpatrick, Tim Kealy-Brennan, Mikey Drennan
Second Row L-R: Derrin Moloney, Adam Cummins, Donagh Carney, Paddy Walsh, John Mullan, Peter Walshe
Front Row L-R: Donnacha Foley, Craig Breen, David Holden, Cillian Treacy, Jason O'Reilly, Ben Lahart



Back Row L-R: Shane O'Neill, Robbie Lennon, Ultan Moran, Aidan Cleere, Miodraig Ignatovic, Aleksander Kaczmarek
Third Row L-R: Patrick Dorney, Michael Donnelly, Willie Murphy, David Carroll, Andrew Whitney, Barry Briscoe, Patrick Lehen
Second Row L-R: Mark Foley, James O'Shea, Conor Holligan, Benjamin Scarrif-Lawlor, Martin O'Shea, Daire Gleeson, Kevin Kerpis
Front Row L-R: Conor Buggy, Jack Holmes, Harry Wallace, Robbie Holohan, Dean Walsh, Jimmy O'Reilly, Fintan Lynch



Back Row L-R: Cormac Wafer, Brian Bradshaw, Billy Leydon, Conor O'Shea, Mark Randall, Paul Lynch

Third Row L-R: Aidan Byrne, Aodghan Murphy, Thomas O'Hanrahan, Conor Long, Thomas Talbot, Patrick Drennan, Donal O'Shea

Second Row L-R: Ciaran Casey, Patrick Hughes, Jack McGrath, Richard Brennan, Tommy Talbot, Emmett Byrne, Enda Morrissey

Front Row L-R: Ciaran Prendergast, Patrick Duggan, Noel Kehoe, Fergal Lalor, Stephen Thompson, Kevin McGrath, James McGrath



Back Row L-R: Eoghan O'Connor, Kevin Butler, Stephen Brennan, Kevin Duncan, Ciaran Murphy, Luke Casey, William Murphy

Third Row L-R: Diarmuid Cody, Daniel O'Neill, Paul O'Neill, Brian Cantwell, Luke Casey, Artem Andukovich

Second Row L-R: Peter Butler, Anthony Forristal, Declan McQuillan, James Rice, Anthony Larkin, Richard Fitzgerald, Barry Power

Front Row L-R: Eoin Corcoran, Aravind Menon, Diarmuid Nolan, Michael Freeman, Jack Bruton, Andrew Tierney, Joseph Ryan

Transition Year Class Photos



Back Row L-R: David Mullins, Shane Brennan, Michael Dunne, Michael Tierney, Bill Molloy

Third Row L-R: Kevin Shortall, Jake O'Brien, John Power, Jack O'Hanrahan, Ken Farrell

Second Row L-R: Michael Costello, Sean Lowry, Jason Collier, Denis Hogan, Thomas Whitely, Peter Nolan

Front row L-R: Stephen Chappell, Kevin Brannigan, Conor McMorro, Gerry Walsh, Godfrey Abonga, Brian O'Shea, Darragh McComb



Back Row L-R: Sean McDonald, Shane Brennan, William Phelan, Michael Whitley, Darragh Buggy, Daniel Farrell, Darragh Carrigan

Third Row L-R: Matthew Nolan, Conor Foley, Sam Johnson, Jason Nugent, Keith Doyle

Second Row L-R: Ryan Bolger, Luke Hickey, Eoin Walsh, John Mullan, Gerard Teehan, Daryl Cody

Front Row L-R: Wayne Johnson, Ciaran Madden, Oliver O'Neill, Cormac Costello, Hunseok Choi, Jamie Minogue



Back Row L-R: Declan Bennett, Anthony Ryan, Steven Noonan-Holohan, Finbarr Hayes, Cian Mullally
Third Row L-R: Keith Shanahan, Sean McDonald, Andrew O'Dwyer, Cillian Buckley, Sean Wemyss, Sean Lennon
Second Row L-R: Paddy Brennan, Michael Clark, Brian Walshe, Cillian Phelan, Shane Dowling, Hugh O'Neill
Front Row L-R: Ger Smith, Trevor Luby, Joey Corcoran, Darragh Griffin, Jack Nolan, Jack Purcell



Back row L-R: Shane Noonan-Holohan, Cathal O'Neill, Bill Simpson, David Dewberry, Fintan Hurley
Third Row L-R: Cian Prendergast, Eamon Walsh, Aaron Nolan, Patrick Butler, Tom Brennan, Kevin Brennan, Kieran Rafter
Second Row L-R: Pat O'Carroll, Aaron McDonald, Niall Walsh, Peter English, Mark Grace, Michael Lanigan
Front Row L-R: Eoghan Connolly, Gerard Luby, Ross Williams, William Harrison, Anthony McNeill, Danny Moloney

5th Year Class Photos



Back Row L-R: Michael Hayes, Corey Rigley, John Dunphy, Kieran O'Brien, Ken Kinsella

Third Row L-R: Brian Prendergast, Alan Byrne, Aidan O'Dowd, Michael O'Gorman, Stephen Lennon, Gary Butler

Second Row L-R: Rory McPhilliphs, David Cummins, Bernard Mullin, Faris Ali, Karl dos Santos

Front Row L-R: Padraig Walsh, Conor Maharaj, Reámon Brennan, Kevin Ireland, Alex Stelmakh



Back Row L-R: Keith Davitt, Michael Dowling, Darragh Walsh, Joe Sexton

Third Row L-R: Gareth Hayes, Jamie O'Hara, Chris Casey, Colm McPartlin, Eoin Prendergast

Second Row L-R: Sean McPhillips, Eoin Delahunty, Gerard Teehan, Edward Dunphy, Laurence O'Carroll, Jamie Fogarty

Front Row L-R: Conor Gorey, Sam Malone, Eoghan Lalor, Bill Murtagh-White, Sean Queally, Patrick Lennon



Back Row L-R: Jake Egan, Evan Cass, Daryl Butler, Michael Lennon, Ciaran Gough
 Third Row L-R: Patrick Jackman, Sam Moylan, Andrew Cantwell, Niall Kenny, Hugh O'Brien
 Second Row L-R: Eamon O'Connor, Padraig Walsh, Niall Houston, Dylan Walsh
 Front Row L-R: David Farrell, Cathal Healy, Eoin Brennan, Ciaran Colfer, Cillian Phelan

Back Row L-R: Stephen Duncan, Conor Hogan, Daniel Lutterel, David O'Connell, Shane O'Sullivan, Patrick Lawlor
 Middle Row L-R: Gavin Joyce, Jonathon Neville, Mark Prendergast, Padraig Meaney, Kieran White, Michael Cotter
 Front Row L-R: Rory Bryan, Shane Egan, Shane Grace, David Freeman, Darren Booth, Micael Sheehan



Back Row L-R: Alberto Miranzo, Darren Evans, Garry Corcoran, Anthony Wilson, Kieran Casey, Sergio del Olmo
 Middle Row L-R: Ciaran Leahy, Dermot Kelly, James Gannon, John Meehan, Paul Holden, Donal Brennan, Damien Tynan
 Front Row L-R: Mark Prendergast, Ciaran Snype, Richie Prendergast, Daire Nolan, Michael Twomey, Paul Buggy, Paddy

6th Year Class Photos



Back Row L-R: Frank Ireland, Chris Randall, Sam Holmes, Brian Fitzpatrick, Thomas Byrne, Stephen Comerford

Middle Row L-R: James Byrne, Shane Farrelly, Geoff Doyle, Sean Direen, Ernestas Jakunas, Ruben Herranz

Front Row L-R: Cornelius O'Flynn, Barry Mullins, Cathal Kavanagh, Colum Kennedy, Irakli Tvildani



Back Row L-R: Robbie McPartlan, David Prendergast, Jamie Monaghan, T.J. Sherman, Shay Butler,

Third Row L- R: Mark Sheehan, Michael Rice, Eoin Holohan, Brian Donovan, Colm Walsh, Padraig Burke

Second Row L-R: Enda Madden, Liam Lahart, Thomas Tennyson, Donal O' Riordan, Paul Forristal, Kevin Nolan, Michael Kealy

Front Row L-R: John Muldowney, Kieran Manning, Paul Barron, Patrick Mullan, Dermot Heafey, Stephen Mullins, Eanan Cooke



Back Row L-R: Rory Hogan, Cian O'Sullivan, James Brennan, Christopher Nolan, Edward Ryan, John Cahill
Third Row L-R: Jack McCarron, Hugh Manning, Brian Banahan, Robert Butler, Richard Shortall
Second Row L-R: Conor Quigley, Cain Lynch, Conor Doyle, Daniel Whelan, Shane Norton, Seamus Hayes
Front Row L-R: Niall Quinlan, John Fitzgerald, Darragh Twomey, Andrew Kavanagh, David Kennedy, Robbie Molloy



Back Row L-R: Pierre Morrissey, Eamon Costello, Rory O'Brien, Eoghan Grant, Colin Manning, David Rose
Third Row L-R: Oliver Byrne, Gavin Hickey, Edward O'Shaugnessy, Jack Walsh, Evan Prendergast, Neil Butler, Michael Sherlock
Second Row L-R: Conor Brennan, Michael Nolan, James Dowling, Richard Troy, Liam Doyle, Gary Armitage
Front Row L-R: Samuel Johnson, Stephen Li, Ronan McCann, Corey Molloy, Jake Mullally, Jake Moylan

Bata Beag: A New Game in St Kieran's College

The Physical Education Department at St. Kieran's College, led by senior teacher Billy Bolster, have developed a new indoor hurling game called Bata Beag. It is played with specially made 21-inch hurleys banded and taped for safety and a first-touch soft sliotar on a small rectangular court, the dimensions of which can be adapted to suit the space available.

On Thursday the 2nd of April, now former President of the GAA Nicky Brennan, a past-pupil of St. Kieran's, was invited to the school to launch the game, and a mini-tournament involving First Years took place before an invited audience which included local GAA officials, representatives from the Kilkenny Sport Partnership and other local schools and luminaries of the game with connections to St. Kieran's, such as Eddie Keher and Diarmuid Healy. During the afternoon, the Physical Education team of Billy Bolster, Ken Archbold and David McCormack explained the key elements of the game to those in attendance emphasising the fun element and the high levels of participation among the students. The Art Department in the school organised a competition to design an illustrative poster to promote the new game, which was won by Sixth Year student Barry Mullins. The First Year exhibition culminated in an eventful final which ended with Team Actimel coming out on top with a golden goal in extra time, with the team captain Ricci Drennan lifting the cup on behalf of the victorious team.

After the exhibition, College President Mgr. Kieron Kennedy made a presentation to Nicky on behalf of everyone in the St. Kieran's community to mark his term as President of the Association. Nicky received a representation of an icon of St. Kieran and a framed commemorative copy of a photograph taken in the school when he was a student in 1971, which includes such other hurling notables as Mgr. Tommy Maher, Diarmuid Healy and Brian Cody.



Special Olympian Gabriel Shelley



Special Olympics Medalist with members of the Student Council

All Ireland Winning Team Visit September 2008

This September the Senior and Minor Hurling teams visited St. Kieran's College, with the Liam McCarthy and ESB cups. Three players on the minor team are St. Kieran's students – James Gannon, Sean Phelan and Paddy Dowling. This was a very enjoyable afternoon and students came out in great colour to see the teams and cups. Many students took the opportunity to hold the Liam McCarthy and get their jerseys signed.



Sean Phelan, James Gannon and Paddy Dowling - three students on the winning Kilkenny minor team



1st Year Hurling League 2008-2009

Our annual First Year hurling league, where all students regardless of ability get a chance to participate with some of the future "Chas" and "Sheffs", took place for half an hour after school every Wednesday from October until March this year.

Over forty students participated and they were split into four teams of ten each. Each team initially played each other and the team with top points went onto the finals. Then each of the three remaining teams played each other again until we had a second finalist.

Each of the games was eagerly contested and by the standard of the skills witnessed during these matches hurling looks good for the future in Kilkenny.

We were very grateful to David Kennedy, Sixth Year, for expertly ref-



ereeing these matches.

Also, we have to thank the County Board for encouraging us and for presenting the school with a set of

plaques for the winners and medals for the runners up.

The leagues were organised by Mr. Darmody and Mr. Forrest.

1st Year Race

Tom Phelan (1st Year)

Every year there is a one mile race for all the First Years held in memory of Michael Brannigan who died tragically on holidays. This race took place over all three hurling pitches and the soccer pitch. James Maher was a convincing winner; Conor O'Carroll came in 2nd closely followed by David Walsh. This is also a team event involving the four First Year classes and on this occasion 1sc were victorious as they had the first three finishers.



Handball



First Year 40x20: L-R: Ger Dunne, Brian Mahon

Congratulations to all who participated in the handball this year. Special mention to Cillian Treacy and Dylan Walsh who won the U-15 leinster A 60x30 & 40x20 titles, also to John Power and Andrew O'Dwyer who achieved the same. Unfortunately both teams were beaten in the All-Ireland semi-finals. Again, well done to all who were involved especially the parents who brought the boys to various handball alleys around the country. We look forward to continued success in the years to come.



First year 60x30 - L-R: Shane O'Brien and Brian Mahon



U-15 Doubles 60x30 & 40x20 L-R: Dylan Walsh, Fr. Sean O'Connor (Trainer), Cillian Treacy



First Year singles 60x30 & 40x20 – Brendan Hyland



U-15 Singles 60x30 & 40x20 - Craig Cummins



U-17 Singles 60x30
Paul Holden



U-19 Singles 60x30
David Cummins



U-17 Leinster Champions 60x30 & 40x20 – L-R: John Power, Andrew O'Dwyer

Basketball

Daryl Butler (5th year)



Back Row L-R: Gerard Teehan, Garry Corcoran, Ian Mathews, Keith Davitt, Kieran Casey. Middle Row L-R: Caimin Browne (assistant manager) Sergio Del Olmo, Daryl Butler, Dermot Kelly, Hunsock Choi. Front Row L-R: Stephen Duncan, David Farrell, Bill Murtagh-White, Bernard Mullen, Michael Twomey, Niall Kenny

Basketballers have gone through St. Kieran's College in the past few years without having the honour of wearing a school jersey in their sport. It wasn't until late September, early October 2008, when a member of Kilkenny Basketball Association came to coach anybody interested in basketball that this became possible. They came to try and raise awareness of the sport in Kilkenny and maybe get a league up and running in schools around the district.

In the beginning it was just a handful of students of mixed ages who showed up but after a couple of weeks of good training sessions it grew with up to between 20 and 25 people attending. With Halloween and Christmas exams nearing and projects needing completion, numbers sharply dropped, but a number of students and a determined coach kept training even if there were only 5 or 10 people attending.

As interest was mainly from 5th Year students the coach split the training sessions with 5th Years only on Tuesdays and everyone (including 5th Years) on Thursdays. The 5th Year team (known as the Penguins)

started on their road with a victory against a Loreto side. This gave them an insight into their ability as a team. The team stayed training hard even reserving the gym for an hour after training on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Then we were ready for a game against Kilkenny College which ended in victory for St. Kieran's.

The team stayed working hard but the loss of key players to injury and other sports proved a challenge which they had to overcome if they wanted to stand a chance against Kilkenny CBS.

For the match against CBS the St. Kieran's team were fit, headstrong and confident but still with a slight feeling that they might fall short of a victory, especially as they were missing players on the day. The St. Kieran's side were trailing by as much as 13 points at times but in the last quarter St. Kieran's dug deep and fought back to win by 1 point. It was a tough match and a great boost of confidence to the St. Kieran's side that looks forward to facing the CBS side again before the end of the school year.

Hopefully, more matches will be organised in the near future and the teams hope this will raise awareness of the sport in the school and that it will lead to more talent trying their hand at the sport.



Boxing

Noel Kehoe (3rd Year)



Back L-R: Graham English, Noel Kehoe, Jimmy O' Reilly, Bill Carrigan
Front L-R: Stephen McKenna, Jason O'Reilly, Stephen Noonan-Holohan
Missing From Photo Jack O'Connor

Marble City Boxing Club was officially opened on the 10th October, 1992. It is located in the Good Shepard Centre in Kilkenny City. Training is on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 7pm to 9pm. Each night's training costs two euro. The club opens up in September and closes in May. It has about 45 boxers ranging in age from 7 to 18 years.

The club has seven coaches to train the boxers to their full potential. These are Richie Ruth, Aidan Staunton, Willie John Kehoe, Paul Cody, Ross Kehoe, P.J. Marshall, and Mark Sheridan. This year especially the club did extremely well winning two All-Ireland and six Leinster titles with two or three boxers just falling short.

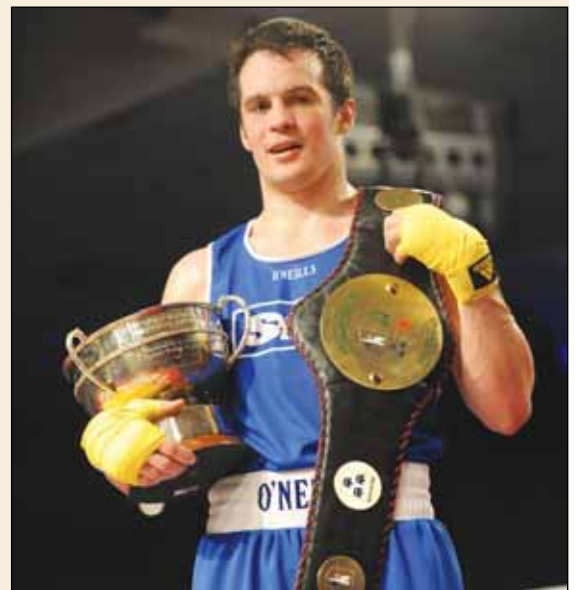
Six boxers from the club are students in St. Kieran's College. These are: Jack Nolan (16), who got to the Leinster final, Bill Carrigan (13), who reached the Leinster semi-finals, Jimmy O' Reilly (14), who won a

Leinster Final and reached the All-Ireland semi-finals, Jason O'Reilly (14), reached the Leinster semi-finals, Noel Kehoe (15), who won a

Leinster title and got to the All-Ireland semi-finals and Shane Noonan (16), who got to the Leinster semi-final.

DARREN O'NEILL Graham English 1st Year

Darren O'Neill who did his Leaving Certificate in the college in 2004, is a member of the Paulstown Boxing Club, he is an Irish boxer on the high performance team. This year Darren won the Irish Senior championship at 75kg. He was also due to compete in a boxing tournament in Turkey this year but had to withdraw due to injury. Darren hopes to compete in the 2012 Olympics.



Badminton

Fergal Brennan (3rd Year)



Shane Comerford, Declan Bennett, Patrick Walsh and Fergal Brennan

Badminton kicked off to a positive start again this year with a good number of enthusiastic players turning up for practice on a Wednesday afternoon. During the year our U-16's took part in the Kilkenny schools tournament. The U-16 A team breezed through to the final while the B team narrowly missed out on a semi-final spot and also the chance of an All-Kieran's semi-final. The St. Kieran's A team beat a Johnstown team in the final. As a reward for winning it, the team of Fergal Brennan, Declan Bennett, Paddy Walsh, and Shane Comerford went to Dublin to represent Kilkenny in Grade 1.

Despite numerous victories the team were eventually beaten by the Dublin champions, Ardscoil Ris. This was a very enjoyable tournament for everyone involved. On behalf of everyone who turned up for practice, I would like to thank Ms. Lynch for all her help and time over the past year.



Golf 2008-2009

This year's school golf team were busy competing in the regional league during the first term. The format was Fourball Matchplay. The team featured two pairings; Jack Walsh & Tim Brennan and Ciaran Colfer & Paul O'Neill. Victories were recorded over Kilkenny College, Callan CBS and Castlecomer Community School. The match against CBS Kilkenny was to decide which team would proceed to the next round. It was a closely fought battle with both team level after 18 holes. CBS were eventual winners in a sudden death play off on extra holes.



L-R: Ms. Anne Wemyss (Team Manager), Ciarán Colfer, Jack Walshe, Tim Brennan, Paul O'Neill

Athletics

As usual the South-Leinster athletics were held at Scanlon Park in Kilkenny this year and we had a number of athletes competing: Cormac Everard (Second Year) and Diarmuid Hickey (Second Year) were victorious in their events – Triple Jump, Discus, and Shot Put. This allowed the students to qualify to compete in the Leinster Athletic Championship which was held in Santry Co. Dublin. Cormac Everard won Gold in the Triple Jump after battling his way through the jump –offs. He also picked up Silver in the Long Jump and qualified for the All Irelands in both events. Diarmuid Hickey completed a memorable day for the school when he was victorious in the Shot Putt and picked up a Silver in the Discus. He also qualified for the All-Irelands.



L to R: Cormac Everard and Diarmuid Hickey

Cross Country

Niall Quinlan (Cross Country Captain)



Back Row L-R: Pierre Morrissey, Ben O'Connor, Aidan O'Dowd, Donal Brennan, Rory Hogan.

Fourth Row L-R: Conor Hogan, Kieran Fennelly, Robert Butler, Niall Quinlan.

Third Row L-R: Eoin Cooney, Conor O'Shea, Niall Walsh, Tom Brennan, Darragh Buggy, Andrew O'Dwyer, Stephen Farrell.

Second Row L-R: Mr. John O'Keeffe (Trainer), Conor Quinlan, Ben Lahart, Dion Guilfoyle, Cathal O'Neill, Conor Mahon, Ciaran Breen Mr. Tom Hogan (Trainer).

Front Row L-R: Conor Murphy, Brian O'Carroll, Brendan Hyland, Paul White, James Maher, Thomas Phelan, Josh Haines, Kevin Blanchfield, Conor O'Carroll, Sean Burke, Gerard Dunne.

St. Kieran's College Cross Country

There was no delay in the restarting of cross-country training in the school this year, with the lunch time run returning on the first Friday in September. This early start most certainly paid off for the teams in the South Leinster. The Intermediate team claimed silver, and the minor, junior and senior teams all won their respective titles. The step up in competition from south Leinster to Leinster was always going to be

considerable and the races in Santry did not disappoint, neither did St. Kieran's, taking home medals at both junior and senior level. With the medals came a place in the All Ireland championship in Belfast. The training intensified hugely in preparation for the day with the St. Kieran's College running teams becoming almost permanent features in the Castle Park. After an overnight in Belfast both teams were well rested

and ready for the races ahead. The day was a great success for St. Kieran's with fabulous performances from all the teams.

Now that the season is over and the cabinet is restocked with cross country running trophies there is no doubt that it has been another great cross country year for St. Kieran's College and I know that there will be many more to come.

St. Kieran's Cross Country Success

Tinryland County Carlow was again the venue for the South Leinster Cross Country championship. In very difficult and wintry conditions athletes from all over the South East competed on a snow covered course. St. Kieran's had a team in each of the boys' races.

James Maher captained the minor team to success in the u-14 race and, in fact, led home the field. Tom Phelan in 3rd place, Conor O'Carroll in 7th and Dion Guilfoyle in 12th made up the team.

The Junior boys grouped really well with Cormac Everard 6th, Diarmuid Cody 8th, Conor Mahon 9th and Eoin Gough 11th comfortably winning the South Leinster U-15 title.

The Intermediate (U-17) race was dominated by Knockbeg College, Carlow with St. Kieran's running in second in the team order. Fine performances were given by George Allen, Ben Lahart, Niall Walsh and Conor O'Shea.

St. Kieran's were back to winning ways again in the senior race. Conor Hogan finished 4th, Daragh Buggy 5th, Niall Quinlan 7th and Rory Hogan 8th. The senior victory finished another memorable day for the St. Kieran's College cross country team.



South Leinster Champions Juvenile - Back Row L-R: Shane Comerford, Sean Burke, Paul White, Nicholas Dunphy. Front Row L-R: Brendan Hyland, John Rice, Brian Mahon, Gerard Dunne



South Leinster Champions Juvenile - Back Row L-R: Thomas Phelan, Josh Haines, James Maher, Conor Murphy. Front Row L-R: Dion Guilfoyle, Kevin Blanchfield, Conor O'Carroll, Brain O'Carroll



South Leinster Champions Senior - L-R: Rory Hogan, Pierre Morrissey, Corey Molloy, Robert Butler, Darragh Buggy, Kieran Fennelly, Niall Quinlan, Conor Hogan.

U 16 Soccer

Sam Johnston (U16 Captain)

The soccer season started for the U16 soccer team in early November. Our first match was a first round tie against the strong Dublin outfit Malahide C.S. As a Dublin team Malahide fancied their chances against the so called hurlers of St. Kieran's College. The match was played in St. Kieran's so this gave us a bit of support and it helped big time. St. Kieran's outplayed Malahide in every area of the field and finished off with a brilliant 4-1 result against the Dublin side. Jason Quan with a 30 yard cracker scored the goal of the game. A day later we had a league match against Boris of Carlow. We took an early lead but slipped up and were down 3-2 with 10 minutes left. We were awarded a penalty but it was missed by Sam Johnston. Next in the Leinster Cup was a fixture away to Swords C.S. Again the Dublin team under-estimated the skill of this St. Kieran's team and they were thrashed 6-1. Our lethal strike force of John Power and Mikey Drennan did the damage. We seemed to struggle in the local Carlow/Kilkenny league as we did not qualify due to a poor draw against Carlow CBS.

We were now in the last 16 of Leinster and faced Dunshauglin of Meath in a home fixture. Dunshauglin had knocked us out of the same competition last year. Without striker Mikey Drennan due to international duty, Tommy 'Tucker' O'Hanrahan filled in and impressed after getting his chance. We saw off the Meath side after an impressive first half, the match finished 3-1. Quarter final time and we were travelling to Wicklow to play Coláiste Aodhagáin, Kilcoole. They were a very strong and physical team and took an early lead, but it wasn't enough as John Power and a last minute Mikey Drennan effort saw us

qualify for the semi finals. Our semi final was played in the Oscar Traynor Complex on an all-weather pitch, we were used to this as we had played on the same type of pitch in the quarter final. We faced a very good St. Benildus team from Dublin. It was a very even match but a 30 yard volley from John Power broke the deadlock and proved to be the winner. We had reached our first ever final and were playing an excellent Dundalk De la Salle side. The final was played in the Oscar Traynor Complex again but this time it was on the grass pitch. An outstanding team performance saw St. Kieran's win the Leinster title with goals from John Power (2) and Tim Brennan. This was a major achievement for St. Kieran's and it couldn't have been achieved without the management team of Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Fitzgerald, whose training

methods helped us to have the skill to win. A special thanks to Mr. Quane for his Physio help and words of wisdom before the match.



ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE CAPTURE FIRST SOCCER ALL IRELAND

Scenes of unbridled joy among the large support from Kilkenny greeted the final whistle when St. Kieran's College secured their first ever All Ireland Soccer Championship in Oriel Park on Thursday last. The nursery of hurling had created history by finally stamping its authority on the soccer pitch.

Two goals from centre-forward John Power gave the Kilkenny boys victory over the Ulster champions Carndonagh Community School Donegal in the schools first involvement in the final. Following their impressive semi-final victory over Douglas, Cork the previous week, the College entered the game in confident mood, but it was the Donegal team who took the lead, somewhat against the run of play, when a free-kick by Ronan Doherty after 18 minutes curled into the top corner of the net with the assistance of a strong wind. This was the Donegal team's first strike on goal, and was a real sucker blow as Kierans had twice earlier come close when efforts by Power and Mikey Drennan were superbly saved by the opposition keeper Martin McLoughlin.

Twice more McLoughlin came to the rescue of the Carndonagh side when saving from Declan McQuillan and Sean Lowry. While the College continued to attack the Donegal goal, their opponents were always dangerous on the counter. However Stephen Chappell was having perhaps his best game of the campaign at right back and Robbie Hayes was immense in the centre of the defence, and the Carndonagh boys were restricted to long range efforts which never really threatened the Kilkenny goal. However it was only on the stroke of half-time that St. Kieran's got their well deserved equaliser. Luke Hickey intercepted a pass and laid the ball off to Sam Johnston. The captains beautifully weighted through ball released John Power and the big centre forward brushed off two challenges before sending the ball to the back of the net.



Back L-R: Mr. Paul Fitzgerald (trainer), Luke Hickey, Aaron McDonald, Stephen Thompson, Michael Drennan, Craig Cummins, Kevin Duncan, Jason Nugent, Robbie Hennessey, John Power, Sean Lowry, Mr. Don O'Connor (trainer)

Front L-R: Tim Brennan, Declan McQuillan, Jason Quan, Stevie Chappell, Sam Johnson (captain), Thomas O'Hanrahan, Eoghan Connolly, Hugh Lane. Missing from photo: Gerry Walsh and Eoin Walsh.

The second half began with the Kilkenny boys on all out attack, and efforts by Drennan and Power went agonisingly close. Carndonagh substitute Brendan McLoughlin was causing problems for the St. Kieran's defence, but his final pass on several occasions went astray. The introduction of Thomas O'Hanrahan added extra urgency to the Kilkenny team, and Drennan and Powers attacking partnership began to click. Finally the deadlock was broken when following another through ball eight minutes from time John Power reacted quickest and tucked his effort past the advancing keeper for the lead goal.

The final minutes of the game were filled with excitement as Craig

Cummins pulled off a wonder save to deny Pdraig Doherty from a free kick, and with 4 minutes into injury time, it looked certain that Carndonagh had equalised when Daniel McDaid thought he had levelled for the Northerners when he prodded the ball beyond the advancing goalkeeper but Jason Quan raced back and slid along the goal-line to prevent the ball going in.

There was still time for another Kieran's effort when Drennan set up the inrushing Power, but his strike came off the post, denying the striker his hat-trick.

Seconds later the referee sounded the final whistle, bringing to an end a long season that culminated in a historic victory.



SENIOR SOCCER

Stephen Duncan (5th Year)

This year's senior soccer started with great anticipation for a successful year after we did so well last year. The cup was our main aim this year with a tough opener against Blackrock at home. St.Kieran's looked the better team and eventually ran out 2-1 winners. The next match was against St.Mark's from Tallaght. After a close, tense game it finished 1-1 and penalties were needed. St.Kieran's were made to pay dearly for their missed chances and lost narrowly 4-3. Although this defeat was a huge blow to us, we brushed ourselves off and got ready to defend our league title for the third year running.

This year the league was very competitive with a strong CBS team looking for revenge for being beaten two years ago! And that's where we started with our first league game. After a poor start Kieran's came away winners in a thrilling 4-3 encounter. Kieran's came away 2-1 winners from their next game which was away against Tullow. Carlow CBS were next and Kieran's got a lucky break when Carlow pulled out of the league with just one game left.

A St. Kieran's - Kilkenny CBS final which, after the earlier game this season, promised to be an exciting affair, and once again didn't disap-

point. A tough first quarter left both teams wary of making a mistake but a great phase of play gave Kieran's a 1-0 lead. This however didn't last and within minutes CBS were back level which is how the first half finished. With plenty on the line both teams again were cautious but Kieran's again got the break and went 2-1 up. CBS, forced to press for an equaliser, were punished for pushing too many up and Kieran's finished off the contest with the match finishing on a scoreline of 3-1. So the year finished on a high with St. Kieran's College winning the league for the fourth year running.



Back Row L-R: Gary Corcoran, Eoin Delahunty, Stephen Duncan, David Cummins, Donal O'Riordan. Middle Row L-R: David Prendergast, Conor Gorey, Ciaran Snype, Mark Sheehan, Eoin Holohan, Daragh Walsh, Seamus Hayes, Mr. Simon Reddy (Trainer). Front Row L-R: Cillian Phelan, Brian O'Donovan, Bill Murtagh-White, Sean Direen, Jack McCarron, Andrew Cantwell, Andrew Kavanagh, John Cahill, Shay Butler

Under 14 Soccer



U-14 Soccer Team photo

Back Row L-R: Colin Corcoran, William Dooley, Adam Ryan, Chris Bolger, Tadhg O'Carroll, Cormac Connolly

Middle Row L-R: Mr. Larry Cotter (trainer), Jamie Maher, James Callanan, Michael O'Neill, David Maher, William Dooley, Gerard Dunne, Cian O'Mahony, Shane Parsons, Dylan Walsh, Luke Tennyson

Front Row L-R: Graham English, John Mullholland, James Tyrell, Jack Cotter, Robbie Malone, Peter McPhillips, Jack Dowling, Sean Mullholland

FIRST YEAR SOCCER

Luke O'Connor (1st Year)

The U-14 soccer team had a great cup run this year. A 5-1 win against the Pobailscoil in a friendly gave us much needed confidence. In the

cup we progressed after a 5-3 win on penalties against Rathcairn. Then we had a win against St. Pauls 2-0, this was a great match and we

worked well as a team. We lost at the quarter final stage to the eventual cup winners, St. Benildus, in a tight encounter.



First Year Soccer Team

Back Row L-R: Stephen Farrell, Cian Smith, Luke O'Connor, Jake O'Dwyer, Alex Helizon, Stephen Clancy, Tadhg O'Carroll

Middle Row L-R: Dion Fitzpatrick, Dylan Cullen, Josh Haines, Gerard Dunne, Danny Burke, Dean Byrne, Jack Drew, Seamus McGrath, Ms. Eadaoin Brennan (Trainer)

Front Row L-R: Graham English, Jamie Cashin, Dion Guilfoyle, Robbie Hennessy, Kieran Freeman, James Tynan, Shane Leahy, Darragh Hennessy, Dylan Drennan, John Rice

St.Kieran's College Equestrian Corner

James Callanan



This year St.Kieran's College equestrian team had many ups and downs concerning injury and victories. I have to admit we did not get off to a superb start. In one of the first few competitions in the Hoofprints League, which happened to be held by St.Kierans, one of our constant team members, Seamus McSorley, broke a bone in his foot and his elbow. However, on the very same day, another team member, Michael Costello, had an exceptional victory in the singles competition. Also that day we had a second team in the competition, who were placed well.

Although we didn't have a fantastic start to the equestrian season we were fifth coming into the final. This was helped by a win in the renowned White Cup which was held by our old rivals and previous two-time winners Kilkenny College. This victory was sweet and although only four members competed on the team in the competition it was helped by everyone who took part throughout the league, including Conor Mahon, Paddy Drennan, James Brennan, Cathal Healy, Michael Costello, Colin Corcoran, Seamus McSorley and myself. On March 14th the All-Ireland Inter-Schools Hunter Trials competition was held by St.Declan's College in Ballinacloagh Co. Waterford. We had two teams from St.Kieran's in the team of three competition. The first team consisted of Paddy Drennan, Michael Costello and I. We had two out of the three knockables down which put us out of the running. The second team consisted of Cathal Healy, Colin Corcoran, and Seamus



ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE RECORD

McSorley. This team had all three knockables down which meant they were also out of the running. One of our team, Paddy Drennan, had a horrible fall at the 19th fence in the singles and broke his hand. Michael Costello had a knockable down in the singles and I came fifth. Cathal Healy fell off at the water fence and took home a black eye. The other two boys did not compete in the singles competition. All in all we had a good year and good luck to the lads in the final show jumping competition of the year.



Swimming



L-R: David Prendergast, Conor McMorow, Diarmaid Hickey, Brendan Neary, Cian Mullally.

Swimming in Ireland is hugely competitive and requires total commitment to a punishing training schedule. Five St. Kieran's boys train for two hours each morning before school from 5.30 am (and one weekend morning also). They are Transition Year students Conor McMorow and Cian Mullally and Second Years David Prendergast, Brendan Neary and Diarmaid Hickey. All their hard work was worth it when they qualified for the Leinster Schools Championships in February and emerged as Leinster Champions in both the Individual Medley and Freestyle relay team events in the Intermediate Age group category. David Prendergast also had a great individual swim in the 100 back stroke and took a silver medal. The relay teams beat off some very strong competition from St. Peter's College Wexford and Blackrock College in the final to take the gold and their strong swim also qualified them for the Irish Schools championships. The opposition at the Irish

schools was very strong indeed particularly from Ulster and they expected to struggle to make the final of the relay events. However, they were delighted when they not only made the final of the freestyle but emerged with a bronze medal.

Outside of the schools arena the boys also put in some fantastic individual performances. In Leinster Age Group Division 1 Championships back in May, in the 15/16 age group, Conor McMorow won the 100m Butterfly, 200m Butterfly and 400m Individual Medley and came second in the 200IM. He went on to win the 200m Butterfly event in the Irish Age group championships Division 1 in Limerick in July, giving him his first ever national title. It is to his credit that he achieved this level of success while studying for his Junior Cert. David Prendergast also put in some great performances over the year in the 13/14 age group. At Leinster Age Groups Division 1 he won the 100m Freestyle and came 3rd in the 100m

and 200m back stroke and the 200m freestyle. At National Age Groups Division 1 he made the finals of all of his events and was very unlucky not to medal in both the back stroke and freestyle, coming in 4th in both events. Diarmaid Hickey swam in National Age Groups Division 2 in June and had a great win in the 200m freestyle to capture the gold medal. He also made finals in two other events. In the same competition Brendan Neary had some great swims to make 4 finals and won a bronze medal in the 100m Butterfly.

The closure of the Watershed has had a very negative impact on the boy's training in recent months and they spent 6 weeks travelling to Carlow on the morning to train for an hour before school. It has been a great shame; however they are now back to full training and hopefully the closure will not impact too much on the rest of the season.

U16 Football

Cathal O'Neill (3rd Year)

The U16 football began in mid November. A team which two years ago won a South Leinster 'B' title and were narrowly beaten in the Leinster Final had high expectations in this grade.

As a lot of the panel members were part of the victorious U16 hurling side which won the Leinster 'A' title in early November, managers Mr. Ruth and Mr. Fitzgerald were hoping to be the first St. Kieran's side to win the double.

Our first competitive game was away to St. Iosagáin's of Portarlington. We were expecting a tough battle as it was our first real challenge as a team. From the moment the ball was thrown in, Portarlington seemed far superior. In the end the talented Laois side won by a comprehensive margin.

The following week we were home to Ballyfin in our second group game. It was a cold, damp day but we settled into the conditions quicker than our counterparts. We led by 6 points at half time but as soon as the second half began we took our foot off the pedal and Ballyfin clawed back a few points. Eventually we got back into the action and pulled away as deserving winners.

We had to wait two weeks for our final group game which was away to Athy. It was definitely a game of two halves as there was a strong wing throughout the game. With us



U-16 Football

Back Row L-R: Eoghan Connolly, Sean O'Dwyer, Andrew O'Dwyer, Paddy Butler, Danny Farrell, Pat O'Carroll

Middle Row L-R: Mr. Richie Ruth (Trainer), Jason Quan, Jason Nugent, Shane Dowling, Craig Cummins, Mikey Drennan, Araon McDonald, Niall Walsh, Mr. Paul Fitzgerald (Trainer)

Front Row L-R: Conor Foley, Luke Hickey, Jack Nolan, Sam Johnston, Hugh O'Neill, Derek Phelan, John Power

having the wind against us in the first half it was hard to direct the ball to the forwards by one simple pass. The strong wind helped Athy go into the second half with a big margin of a lead. We knew the deficit would be hard to overcome, but Mr. Ruth and Mr. Fitzgerald knew we were capable. We got off to a good start with Mikey Drennan scoring a penalty but Athy worked their way up the field and scored a goal and a few points. Three quick, fine goals from Niall Walsh, Andrew O'Dwyer and Jason Quan got us

back into the game and left only a few points between us. However, our gallant effort was not enough and Athy ran out as eventual winners.

We qualified for the quarter final of South Leinster and played St. Mary's of Enniscorthy. We struggled to get the upper hand and St. Mary's won.

The panel made a great effort and showed such great commitment. A big thank you to Mr. Ruth and Mr. Fitzgerald who looked after us during the campaign.

U-14 Football

Back Row L-R: Mr. Simon Reddy (Trainer), Tadgh O'Carroll, Hugh Lane, Diarmuid Hickey, Seamus McSorely, Mark Butler. Third Row L-R: William Allen, Craig Murphy, Sean Mulholland, Paraic Walsh, Michael O'Neill, Johnny Mullholland, Peter McPhilliphs, Ricky Drennan

Second Row L-R: Jack Cotter, James Tyrell, Danny Burke, Seamus McGrath, Cian Morton, Shane O'Brien, Luke Tennyson, Cormac Connolly

Front Row L-R: Stephen Farrell, Thomas Talbot, Brian O'Carroll, Shane Parsons, Shane Walsh, Paddy Hickey, Ciaran O'Carroll, Ciaran Breen, Vincent Teehan, Eoin Gough



U-14 Hurling Blitz

The U-14 hurling blitz took place on the 1st May this year on the pitches of James Park and St.Kieran's College. Participants included teams from Johnstown, Castlecomer, Graiguenamanagh, CBS Kilkenny and St. Kieran's College. We were very well represented with four teams and nearly 100 players taking part from 1st and 2nd year. Each team got at least three matches which meant it was a very enjoyable day for all involved.





Senior Hurling League

Following on from the outstanding success of last year's Senior Hurling League, this year's competition started in earnest. To make things slightly different this year, each team is managed by a "celebrity bainisteoir". Our "celebrities" this year are Ms. Meany, Mr. Kavanagh, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Buckley and Mr. O'Neill. Competition between the teachers and students alike is fierce, with all wanting the accolade of winning the competition. David Prendergast in Sixth Year is still talking about managing his team to success last year!

The competition is run on a league basis each lunch time. It is a huge commitment from both players and teachers as over 80 senior students are involved. Large crowds turn up each day to support the lads who are competing. There is no winner as yet so best of luck to all involved.





Ms Meany gives her team talk



Mr O'Neill congratulates Mr Buckley on a fantastic win

Juvenile Hurling 2009

Joey Corcoran (Transition Year)

The management team of Mr. Smith and Mr. Maher began the task of selecting their Juvenile Panel early in the year as many 1st, 2nd and a few 3rd Years competed for just over thirty places on the panel. Juvenile hurling began way back in September with many trial and training matches held for all under-14s who wanted to participate. Trial matches continued into February when competition for places intensified as a final panel was chosen. Once the trials were complete, lunchtimes and evenings were now taken over with training as the lads prepared for the early rounds of the championship. A few challenge matches were played to see where the team stood. The first round of the championship was against the combined schools of Dublin North on April 1st. Despite trailing at half-time, St. Kieran's were very quick off the mark in the second half taking a hold of the game and from there never looked back to win the game on a scoreline of 2-18 to 2-08. Next up was Laois Colleges, played in St. Kieran's. For all the pressure put on Laois, St. Kieran's found scores hard to come by as they hit wide after wide. However, the second half saw St. Kieran's up the ante as they raced ahead to win 7-11 to 0-4. Already through to the semi-final of the championship St. Kieran's wel-



Juvenile Hurling

Back Row L-R: William Dooley, Eoin Gough, Thomaas Talbot, Diarmuid Cody, Hugh Lane, Stephen Farrell

Third Row L-R: Mr. Liam Smith (Trainer), Chris Bolger, Luke Tenneyson, Mark Butler, Michael O'Neill, Ricci Drennan, James Tyrell, Mr. Ken Maher (Trainer)

Second Row L-R: Sean O'Callaghan, Harry Wallace, William Allen, Ali Rafter, Ger Dunne, James Meaghar, David Walsh, Cormac Connolly, Ciaran Breen, Jack Cotter

Front Row L-R: Vincent Teehan, Shane Walsh, James Deasey, Conor Murphy, Brendan Cullen, Tom Phelan, Patrick Hickey, Shane Parsons, Eoin Shortall.

comed Castlecomer Community School in the final group game. After a low scoring first half changes were made and St. Kieran's again found their feet in the second half getting a few scores to win by 3-5 to 0-4. At the time of writing the team now face old rivals Good Counsel of New Ross in the Leinster Semi-Final. Should the lads get over this hurdle, they will face the combined colleges of Dublin South, who have already booked their place in the Leinster Final. We wish the lads the very best of luck in the remainder of their

campaign.

On the Juvenile Hurling Panel 2009 are:

Allen, William
Bolger, Chris
Butler, Mark
Breen, Ciarán
Cody, Diarmuid
Connolly, Cormac
Cotter, Jack
Cullen, Brendan
Deasy, James
Dooley, William
Drennan, Ricci
Dunne, Ger
Farrell, Stephen
Gough, Eoin
Hickey, Diarmuid
Hickey, Patrick

Lane, Hugh
Maher, James
Murphy, Conor
O'Callaghan, Seán
O'Neill, Michael
Parsons, Shane
Phelan, Tom
Rafter, Ally
Shortall, Eoin
Talbot, Thomas
Teehan, Vincent
Tenneyson, Luke
Tyrell, James
Wallace, Harry
Walsh, David
Walsh, Shane

Jersey Presentation

St. Kieran's College have been generously sponsored by M&A Coaches for both the Junior and Juvenile hurling panels. This is part of a five year partnership between St. Kieran's and M&A coaches. Michael Dowling (M&A Coaches) presents a St. Kieran's jersey to Mr. John O'Keeffe (Co-manager of St. Kieran's Leinster Junior hurling winning team). Also included are Shane Walsh, Cillian Buckley (Capt. Junior team), James Maher, Diarmuid Cody (Capt Juvenile team), Stephen Farrell, William Phelan (Vice Capt. Junior team) and Shane Parsons.



The 2008/2009 U-16 Hurling Championship



U-16 Hurling Team. Back L-R: Mr. John O'Keeffe (Trainer), Pat O'Carroll, Gavin Butler, John Power, Conor O'Shea, Luke Hickey, Mr. David McCormack (Trainer)

Third Row L-R: John Dunphy, Shane Brennan, Richard Reid, Peter English, George Allen, Jason Nugent, Michael Whitley

Second Row L-R: Cathal O'Neill, Declan McQuillan, Michael Drennan, Sam Johnson, Evan Guilfoyle, Paddy O'Brien, Dylan Walsh, Tom Brennan, Aidan Cleere

Front L-R: Jack Nolan, Thomas O'Hanrahan, Sean O'Dwyer, Killian Phelan, Cillian Buckley, Hugh O'Neill, Daniel O'Neill, Michael Donnelly, Noel Kehoe

Trials for the U-16 College hurling team began in the opening week of term in late August. Over sixty students volunteered for trials to contest for places on this year's panel. Training commenced immediately under the management of Mr. David McCormack and Mr. John O'Keeffe. Competition for team places was intense among the players. The squad bonded early and a determined team emerged. Early challenge matches proved invaluable, particularly the Blackwater C.S. game.

The first round of the Leinster championship began for St. Kieran's with a convincing win over Good Counsel, New Ross. In the second round, St. Brendan's of Birr provided the opposition on a cold damp day in Kinnity, Co. Offaly. After a tough first half the College team began to pull away in the second half to win by 3-13 to 0-7. A good win in demanding conditions. Castlecomer conceded the points in the third round. Topping the group parachuted

ed St. Kieran's into a Leinster semi-final.

In preparation for the knockout stages St. Kieran's travelled to Ennis to play St. Flannan's. In a hard fought encounter, with Kieran's showing character, the team won on a score of 5-5 to 2-10. After this win there was a steely belief among the players. However, they would have to get past a resurgent Westmeath Schools' team to book a place in the final.

The Leinster semi-final was played on the 17th October on a dry day in Portlaoise. It was a fiercely contested match, with huge intensity shown by both teams. Despite chances for both teams, neither team could snatch the win. With the score level at the end of normal time, the game went to extra time. An early goal by Thomas O'Hanrahan proved to be the match winning score.

This semi-final win brought St. Kieran's a coveted Leinster Final meeting with Castlecomer C.S.. If nothing else, pride and bragging

rights were at stake for both teams.

Students and teachers from both schools packed into Nowlan Park, eagerly awaiting the throw in. Fifteen minutes into the game, it looked like there was no way back for St. Kieran's as they trailed by nine points. Driven on by their fantastic fans they fought their way back into this final match to trail by only two points at half time. With ten minutes remaining it looked like the game was slipping from St. Kieran's grasp before John Power scored two goals in the space of a minute, to turn the game on its head and effectively win the title for St. Kieran's on a score line of 3-13 to 2-10.

Cillian Buckley received the Fr. Gosgrave Cup on behalf of the team. He along with William Phelan, Conor O'Shea and John Power produced inspirational performances not only in the final but throughout the championship. That said, it was the depth in the panel that won the u-16 title for St. Kieran's College this year.

Senior Hurling 2008-2009

David Freeman (5th Year)



Senior Hurling Panel 2009

Front Row: L-R: Cillian Buckley, Andrew Cantwell, Patrick Lennon, David Freeman, Pádraig Walsh, Shane Norton (captain), Paul Buggy, Donal Brennan, Seán Phelan, Chris Nolan.

Second Row: L-R: William Phelan, Paul Holden, Dermot Heafey, Patrick Dowling, James Gannon, Geoff Doyle, Paddy Mullan, Dylan Walsh, John Cahill.

Third Row: L-R: Mr. Philip Walsh, Ben O'Connor, Nicky Creane, Eoghan Grant, Sam Holmes, Richard Troy, Eddie Ryan, Conor Hogan, Mr. Tom Hogan.

Back Row: L-R: Conor O'Shea, Joe Clohosey, Thomas Byrne, Shay Butler, Brian O'Donovan, Michael Rice, Aidan O'Dowd.

The year began with trials and over seventy starlets attended, hoping to make the panel. Such was the competition for places that the final squad consisted of thirty five players.

The first competitive outing was against St. Mary's Enniscorthy which finished in a relatively easy victory for the college. Next up was St. Peter's College, Wexford who provided sterner opposition. St. Kieran's prevailed by the narrowest of margins. This win set up a league semi-final against Kilkenny CBS.

This was a tense and tight affair

and although having a lot of possession St. Kieran's were unable to convert it into scores. A CBS goal in the first half proved crucial and the finished on the score line CBS 1-09, St. Kieran's 0-10. This defeat meant that there would be no more competitive matches before the championship commenced in February.

Between the league we had a series of challenge games against St. Colman's Fermoy. Thurles CBS (eventual winners) and the Freshers teams from WIT and UCC.

The first round of the Leinster Championship was played in Clon-

ad in February against Birr CS. On the day they proved marginally too strong for St. Kieran's and were always able to keep a few scores ahead, which mean the end of another year for the senior hurling team. The final score was Birr CS 2-15, St. Kieran's 1-14.

It was a pity to be beaten at the first hurdle after all the hard work put in by the players, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Walsh and Mr. Archbold. However, by and large the panel was very young and many will be young enough next year and hoping for success.