



# ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE RECORD 2012

[www.stkieranscollege.ie](http://www.stkieranscollege.ie)







# Message from the College Administrator

I welcome with much gratitude the St Kieran's College Record 2012. The main purpose of The Record is to chronicle all that has occurred and is happening since the last edition. It is with a source of great pride that I have the honour and pleasure in presenting this publication to you as I await confirmation of my successor as the next President.

This year, 2011/2012 is our 229th academic year. The results from the dedication and commitment of all involved in the life of our College flow through the pages of this year's account of life at St Kieran's - its continued growth, its ongoing development, its inclusive holistic and gospel centred approach to Irish education.

With the ongoing support of the Trustees, new services were not just initiated but developed, particularly in the areas of cutting edge I.T. Research and in Faith Development. These new services, in keeping with our founding aims of Education and Formation are proof positive that the College is alive and responsive to the emerging needs of not just our student body but the wider community - the outstanding success of the First Year of



Monsignor Kieron Kennedy

the Theological Studies Course Grade VII and the completion of the Burrell's Hall I.T. Research Centre which is to be formally opened in May, are testimony to this.

For the financial year ending 31st August 2011, additions to our school buildings cost €191,446 and for the College €57,870. Additions to furniture and fittings and equipment cost €88,402 and for the College €7404. The restructuring of our country's

finances continues to impact not just on the public purse, the budgets of the relevant government departments, but on all of us and especially on our parents, our students and their families.

Much hard work, great commitment and dedication has resulted in a very good year. Much thanks is due to Mr John Curtis, Principal, Mr Adrian Finan, Deputy Principal, my colleague Fr Dermot Ryan and the Chaplaincy Team, all the staff, the students and the student council, our parents and their association, my colleagues on the Board of Management, on the Board of Trustees and Bishop Freeman, our patron.

It is a most demanding time to be involved on the mission of education and formation at any level. However, as I reflect on the year past I continue to hold the strong belief that St Kieran's is blessed with the gifts necessary to remain focused on its mission and that it will be able to face the demands and endless challenges that lie ahead.

Let us give thanks and bless the Lord.

Monsignor Kieron Kennedy



St Kieran's staff 2012 - Back row (l-r): Liam Smith, Ken Maher, Eilish Ahearne, Deidre Phelan, Mary Martin, Ger Flood, Neill Connelly. Third row (l-r): Simon Reddy, Philip Walsh, Michael Kelleher, Dermot Ryan, Paul Fitzgerald, John O'Keeffe, Ken Archbold, Martin O'Neill, Joe Kavanagh, Michael Forrest. Second row (l-r): Tom Hogan, Charlie Lynch, David McCormack, Eamonn Heffernan, Sharon Keyes, Orla Ring, Eileen Hanrick, Jane Galway, Bernie Dowling, Jackie Norton, Jean FitzPatrick, Bernie Boland, Ger Buckley. Front row: Michael Rice, Richie Ruth, Debbie Ghanem, Cristina Warner, John Curtis, Mgr Kieron Kennedy, Adrian Finan, Olive Comerford, Mary Lennon, John Quane, Richard Windle. Missing from the photo: Emma Ryan, Loreto Manion, Patrick Darmody, Ann Wemyss, Eadaoin Brennan.

# Message from the Principal

We are conscious in the school that we are heading for the two hundred and thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of St Kieran's College in 1782 and it is extraordinary to think of the quite fundamental change that has taken place in this country and throughout the world in that period of time. In the midst of this broad political and socio-economic change the mission of this school has remained consistent: to educate those in our care to the best of our ability in a community that is true to its Catholic values and traditions and that strives for the best for each of our pupils. The technological change that has occurred has presented us with great opportunity and that is manifest in the way we engage with our pupils and parents and are ever prompted to educate in a way that is increasingly efficient and stimulating. But, in another respect, the fundamentals of education and formation have remained constant through the years and it is the nature of the relationships that are forged in the school and the social interaction that takes place that forms and shapes us and allow us to fulfil our potential. With all of our advances, it is the shared history and sense of community that gives this school its unique characteristic and makes St Kieran's College an establishment of which, I believe, we can all be proud.

The Record is, as always, an index to this particular year and reflects our present contribution to the St Kieran's College story. We hope it shows the depth of talent among our students and the wide range of activities that we engage in and conveys a sense of the tremendous curricular and extra-curricular contribution that is made by our staff. On a development level, we are continuing to upgrade our facilities in the school.



Mr John Curtis

With our website, text messaging and the internal communication and e-learning environment that we are progressing with we are establishing integrated and effective systems that should serve our pupils well into the future. I would especially like to thank my colleague and Deputy Principal Mr Adrian Finan for his leadership and contribution in this, as in so many areas, and Fr Dermot Ryan for his input on this project as we strive to integrate the best of what is modern with the rich legacy of our past.

In any year, it is an amalgam of the work of our staff, our Board of Management, our Parents' Association, our Student Council, and all of those involved with our community that makes for successful results and outcome and I would like to thank all concerned for their contribution and ongoing commitment to this school. At this time, I would especially like to acknowledge the role of Mgr Kennedy in his ongoing work in the development of the school and campus. As President,

Administrator, Chairman of the Board of Management and as Trustee of St Kieran's College he has had a profound impact on the school and the progressive agenda with which he is engaged has benefited us all and is helping to position this school for a prosperous and vibrant future. I would like to thank Ms Sheila Walshe for her contribution to the school as part of our secretarial staff over the years; she was a great help and support to us all and everyone here would join with me in wishing Sheila well in pastures new.

The Record is witness to the collective effort we are engaged in on this campus and does, we hope, chart the incremental nature of the change and progress that has taken place through the years. I would like to thank all of those involved in its production – especially the core team of Ms Eadaoin Brennan, Fr Ryan, Mr Finan and Ms Martina Lawlor, secretary to Ossory Adult Faith Development based here in the College, who assisted in this production. We are all most grateful for their effort and commitment and I know that the quality of their work is reflected in what you now have before you. As another year draws to a close I would again like to thank and acknowledge the contributions of all of our members of staff and congratulate our pupils on another productive and successful chapter in our history.

As the state exams approach, I have no doubt but that the effort put in will be reflected in the results attained and that the group now leaving us will make a valuable contribution to this community and the regeneration of our country. I believe that the calibre of young people graduating from our schools is second to none and that our future is in safe hands.

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

## Student Council 2012

The student council has been in existence for five years now in St Kieran's college. It comprises of a representative from each class group who is elected every October. The council then serves its term from the first of November. The council is formally consulted on school policies such as discipline code, school uniform, homework and many others. In addition the council is a forum to bring matters

of concern to students to the attention of the school's management. The management may or may not be able to act on these concerns but they will always listen sympathetically. Finally the council has been involved in a range of charitable events, for example this year they were involved with the Parents' Council in collecting money to buy computers for the school.



# Medieval manuscript returns to St Kieran's

Monsignor Kieron Kennedy outlines the remarkable discovery of a 600 year old manuscript which has recently returned to St Kieran's College.

LAST Friday, amidst great excitement, a very rare late medieval illuminated manuscript, which disappeared without apparent trace more than forty years ago was returned to its rightful owners, St Kieran's College.

The Consultant College Archivist, Mr John Kirwan, acting on instructions from Monsignor Kieron Kennedy, the College President, proceeded to Dublin to collect the 'lost' manuscript from the National Library of Ireland, where it had been found after a year long search amongst its holdings.

This late medieval manuscript which is approaching its 600th birthday is one of a rare handful of devotional books which survives from an Irish context, in the Country. It gives us a rare insight into late medieval piety, which period in Ireland lasted about 1100 to 1500 AD. The manuscript also has post Reformation additions which event occurred in Ireland in the 1530s. Thus we get an even rarer insight into the devotional practices of the clergy and laity of Ossory during a very troubled period of our history - a period which saw much civil and religious change.

The search began in the Summer of 2010, when a letter from 1966 was found amongst a set of files in the College. This had been written by a senior staff member of the National Library of Ireland, to the late John Canon Holohan, then President of St Kieran's College. Piecemeal over the year the story unfolded with phonecalls and correspondence from the College. In the 1970s, the manuscript had been found in the safe of the National Library without any of its pertinent documentation. Subsequently, the manuscript was "miscatalogued" into the Library's holdings.

The illuminated manuscript, which consists of a lectionary or commentary on the Four Gospels, and a calendar of Feastdays, was originally compiled in the fifteenth century for use in a church inter Anglos, that is a church in an English milieu. This was possibly in England, or as is more likely in areas of English influence, such as the Irish Pale or Kilkenny, or indeed from the Pale lands adjacent to Calais, in northern France, which the English Crown finally lost during the reign of Queen Mary (1553-58). By the



early 1570s the manuscript had definitely arrived in Ossory.

The 1570 addition or comment which definitely links the manuscript to Kilkenny and Ossory, is the obit or death notice on page two hundred and thirteen, of the Rev Nicholas Power, a sub-deacon of Ossory. In 1545, the Rev Nicholas, became vicar or parish priest of Kilmocar to which living he had been presented by the English crown, in the person of Henry VIII. In the wake of the latter's divorce from his first queen, the pious and very Catholic, Katherine of Atagon. Henry assumed the headship of the English church in his dominions which was still in all its essentials Catholic. The Protestant 'reforms' which changed the nature of the English and Irish state churches, only came in the reign of his successor, the boy king Edward VI (1547-53), his only son by his third wife, Jane Seymour who had died within days of his birth in October 1537. Incidentally, James Butler, 9th Earl of Ormond of Kilkenny Castle, who was to die of food poisoning in 1546, had a prominent role in the baptism of this Prince of Wales.

James most likely had a say in the appointment of the Rev Nicholas Power

as vicar of Kilmocar, which event occurred in 1545.

The manuscript was presented to St Kieran's College by the Rev J.F. Shearman of Howth, Co. Dublin, in the 1880s. Fr. Shearman, who had very old ancestral links with Kilkenny, had great affection for the College, city and county. Many of the older people of Kilkenny will recall Shearmans who had various businesses in Kilkenny city. The family also married into the farming community, notably of Redbog near Gowran.

Now this very rare treasure is back in St Kieran's College where it joins another fifteenth century manuscript, which contains devotions and prayers, some in Latin and some translated into English, produced in response to a commission from a specific wealthy and, no doubt, high-born customer.

Books of this kind constitute the essential source for studying late medieval piety in its widest context, as well as giving us examples of the skills of 15th century book producers. The newly found Lectionary suggests that a scriptorium may also have existed in Ossory as late as the 1570s.

Excerpt from *Kilkenny People*, 19 August 2011

# St Kieran's Jubilarians Reunion 2011



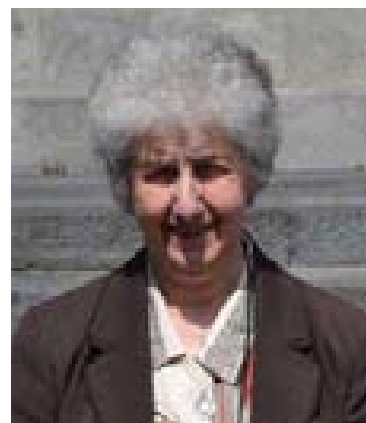
St Kieran's Jubilarian's, Reunion 2011, pictured from back are Rev Pat Organ, Miami ('71), Very Rev Eamon Foley, Ossory ('71), Very Rev Andy Dolan, Derry ('71), Very Rev Pat Conroy, Clonfert ('86), Rev Martin Delaney, Ossory ('86) and front, Rt Rev Mgr Kieron Kennedy, President St Kieran's College, Very Rev Lar Canon Dunphy, Ossory ('61), Very Rev Peter Hoynes, Ossory, ('61), Rev Peter Sweeney, Washington DC, ('61) and Most Rev Seamus Freeman, SAC, Bishop of Ossory. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



Mr Pat Drennan.



Back row (l-r): Mr Frank Murphy, Ms Dorota Lacek, Ms Karen Young. Front row (l-r): Ms Ann Meany, Ms Margo Coonan.



Sr Helen Maher, Ossory Diocesan Forum Co-Ordinator.

In 2010, the Kilkenny local authorities prepared an Economic Development Plan for the City and County of Kilkenny which had a major focus on the development of 3rd and 4th level education facilities in Kilkenny.

St Kieran's College was a natural choice for the location of a research facility because of its beautiful buildings, setting and history and because of its links with the National University of Ireland Maynooth.

Monsignor Kieron Kennedy and the College Trustees agreed to a concessionary lease of Burrell's Hall. Burrell's Hall is a stand alone former hall of residence of 12,000 sq feet. This has been leased to Kilkenny County Council who have now refurbished it and have provided major internet capability.

The Hall will be home to research teams from TSSG in The Waterford Institute of Technology. The Telecommunications Software & System Group, which was formed by Dr. Willie Donnelly in 1996 and which now has more than 100 staff members, will lead on next generation internet development for the financial sector. The teams from Carlow IT will lead on Enterprise and Eco-innovation. The new research centre will formally open on the 24th May, 2012.

Mr Joe Crockett,  
Kilkenny County Manager



## St Kieran's College assists in Kilkenny's Economic Development



# Grace made Fr Tom Gaine a remarkable Priest

Although he was known, among other things, for calling a spade a spade, Fr Tom Gaine was loved for his willingness and readiness to accept people as they were, neither condemning nor judging. And he was always ready to share with them his love for God and his love of life, writes Elizabeth Brennan in this tribute

In 2002, *Winter Has Passed - the story of the life of Fr Thomas Columba Gaine*, was published in Perth, Western Australia. The book was a collaboration between myself and Fr Tom, with whom I worked for over 20 years as his Pastoral Associate; a friend of our family since 1979; a friend with whom my family kept close contact after his retirement to Ireland in 2001; a friend who had a remarkable influence on our lives.

In the preface to the book, Fr Tom wrote: "For the past 45 years, I have found happiness and fulfilment in my vocation as a priest of the Catholic Church. I love my God, my Church and its people. I believe the Lord has been very close to me."

Fr Tom entered St Kieran's Seminary in Kilkenny in September 1951 with the knowledge that, after his ordination, he would travel to Perth in Western Australia, a land of which he knew very little.

He was ordained on Sunday, 2 June 1957 and arrived in Perth on 22 November 1957. On his arrival, Fr Tom met Archbishop Prendiville, a fellow Kerryman. The young Fr Tom was delighted to hear the familiar Kerry accent. The Archbishop's advice to the young priest stayed with him for over 40 years: "You may be a great preacher, you may be a learned man, but if you don't visit your people, forget about it. Get to know your people"

On that special day in which we, the Parish Community of Lady of Mercy in Girrawheen, celebrated Fr Tom's 40th Anniversary of Ordination, we acknowledged that we had gathered together to celebrate another Celtic son: Thomas Columba Gaine; one who, 40 years ago, had left the country of his

birth, a country he loved. his mother and three brothers, his friends and loved ones to journey to a strange land.

All he had with him was a deep and abiding love for his God and an utter and complete trust and faith that the hand of his God would guide him.

Although he became known for calling a spade a spade, he was loved for his willingness and readiness to accept people as they were, neither condemning nor judging but always ready to share with them his love for God and his love of life.

As a parish community, we were all happy to have the chance to thank Fr Tom for his authenticity, for being the person and priest he was.

In my collaboration with Fr Tom in the writing of *Winter Has Passed*, I was happy to acknowledge that, in popular parlance, it was not the story of a



remarkable man. However, it was the story of a remarkable life. It was - and is - remarkable because it acknowledged a priest who went about his daily life touching the everyday lives of ordinary people. The grace of God is remarkable as it is manifested in the life of ordinary people, ordinary priests, doing ordinary things, empowering others to 'stay in there'. The gift of life and the grace of Fr Tom Gaine, an ordinary man, made him a remarkable one. May he rest in peace.

Excerpt from *The Record*, Perth Archdiocese, November 2010

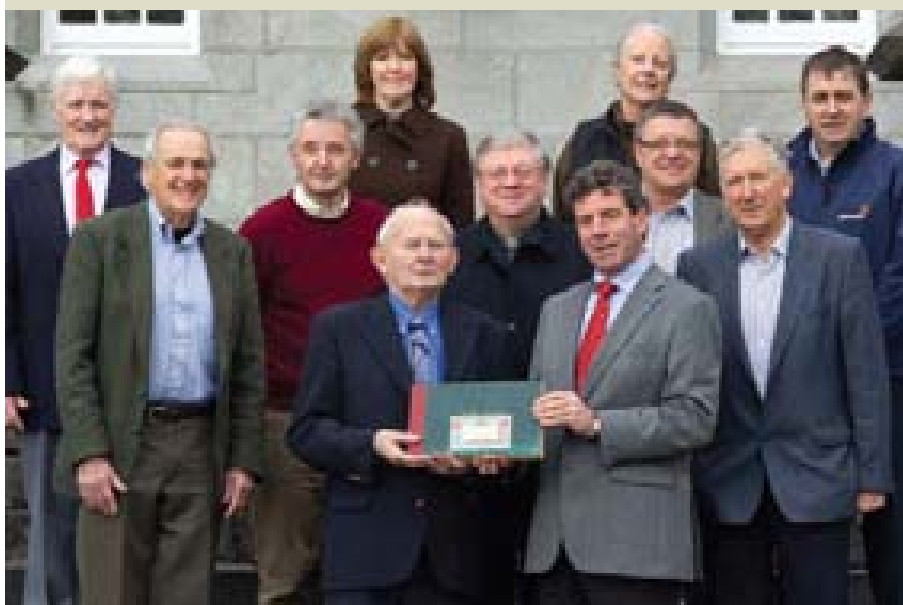
## Creamery archives on display in St Kieran's

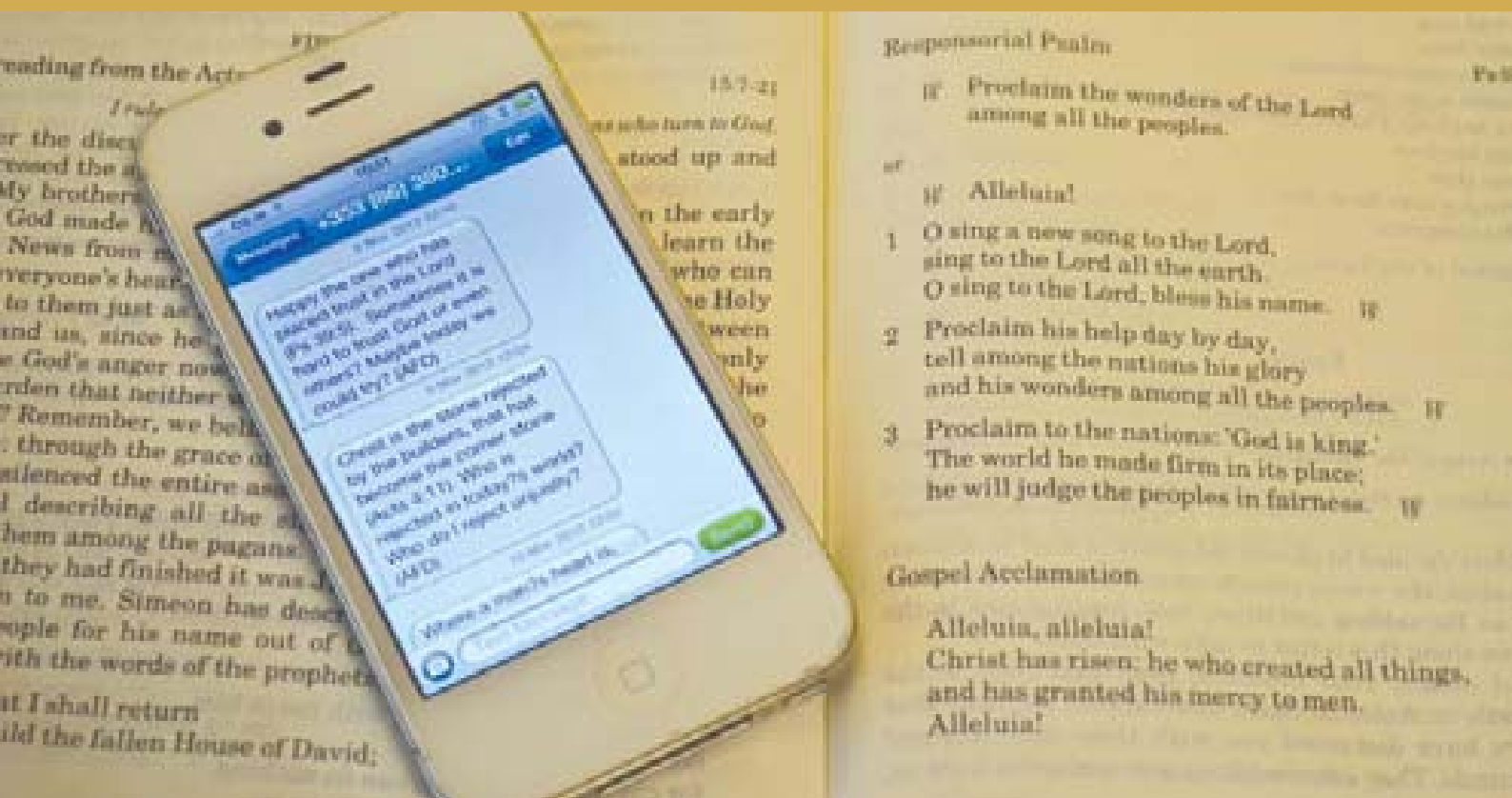
THE ARCHIVES of many of the long established creameries which subsequently became part of Waterford Foods and Avonmore Foods, which combined in 1997 to create Glanbia, are now housed in the care of Kilkenny Archives. They are accessible for public viewing.

This follows the formation of a partnership between Glanbia, St Kieran's College and Kilkenny Archives.

All Glanbia historical records have been lodged with Kilkenny Archives Ltd at St Kieran's.

Kilkenny Reporter, 7th March 2012





# Encountering God

## Ossory Adult Faith Development

THROUGH A VARIETY OF ENDEAVOURS THIS GROUP CONTINUES ST KIERAN'S PROUD TRADITION OF EDUCATION IN THE FAITH AS IT WORKS TO FACILITATE PEOPLE NOT ONLY COMING TO, BUT ALSO COMING TO KNOW, A GOD WHO CALLS OUT TO THEM.

At the heart of our faith is the person of Jesus Christ, and it is through him that God engages with his people in the most profound way. Through his Son he offers us relationship. For the triune God being in relationship is, after all, a defining characteristic. The repeated "follow me" issued by Jesus in the gospels (e.g. Mk 1:17; Matt 4:19; 8:22; 9:9; 16:4; 19:21, Jn 1:39; 21:19 etc...) was not merely an invitation to follow Christ, but rather an invitation to 'come and live with me, work with me and learn from me'. It was, therefore, an invitation to real relationship to a personal encounter. Time and time

again we see in the scriptures that it is only as a result of this genuine encounter with Jesus that any real relationship begins. The New Testament is full of stories that bring this to life. Stories such as the Woman at the Well (Jn 4:5-26); Nicodemus (Jn 3:1-21); the Man Born Blind (Jn 9:1-11); Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-10); the Canaanite Woman and many others all emphasise the way in which those who encountered Jesus were, as a result of this opportunity, totally changed. Put simply, they now knew. They knew him and as a result of that they knew everything was now to be different.

Acknowledging this reality invites a response from us as Church. We are, as a result of it, challenged to offer people possibilities to experience something of this encounter with God. It is precisely this that is the work of the Adult Faith Development Group which is based here in the College. Through a variety of endeavours this group continues St Kieran's proud tradition of education in the faith as it works to facilitate people not only coming to, but also coming to know, a God who calls out to them. Over the past year this has been done in a variety of ways:





# Sacred Texts!

Olivia Maher

During Lent, Ossory undertook to communicate the centuries old message of the gospel in a very new and exciting way. In response to an innovative outreach project almost two thousand people right across the diocese signed up to receive a daily text on their mobile phones.

A FIRST CENTURY MESSAGE  
WITH TWENTY FIRST CENTURY  
TECHNOLOGY.

The texts consisted of short biblical reflections accompanied by an invitation to reflect during that day. Geraldine Walsh from Killaloe near Callan, who signed up for the service, said that 'the text service provided a simple and effective method of prayer during Lent even while on the move' and 'the service gave her the sense of sharing something very special with many other people right across the diocese'.

Also reflecting on the service Owena Grimes from Bennettsbridge parish, a teacher in Loreto Secondary School Kilkenny and a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council remarked that "everyone, young and not so young has access to a mobile phone today and texting is now just part of our lives. People are still very open to receiving the good News of Jesus Christ which continues to offer hope especially in these difficult times".

Bishop Seamus Freeman even got in on the act when he used the diocesan text service to convey Easter Sunday Greetings to the great joy and surprise of many throughout the diocesan community.

This text service will continue to operate in the future conveying details of some upcoming events organised by the Faith Development Group and following on the success of the diocesan initiative Ballycallan Parish has now introduced its own text service.



scripture  
REFLECTION  
A GUIDE IN REFLECTING ON THE GOSPELS OF LENT

Lent  
DIOCESE OF

producing CD's during Advent and Lent which guide and assist people in reflecting on the weekend scriptures alone and in groups; offering Lectio Divina sheets to parishes to encourage and support private reflection on the scriptures during the year; a public speaking competition for the students of our Secondary Schools; training evenings for the special Ministers of the Eucharist throughout the diocese; training for new and established Parish Pastoral Councils; twitter; texting; websites; and many other programmes were embraced as a means of communicating the invitation and person of the gospel to the people of our diocese.

In these pages, as members of the AFD team outline some of our initiatives, we hope you get a small flavour of what was on offer.





Public Speaking finalists pictured with Michael Hogan, Chris Kelly and Fr Oliver Maher.

# Public Speaking

Michael Hogan

The issues surrounding young people and the church are expressed in many different ways. Some point out that there does not seem to be many at Mass on Sunday or involved in Parish; others riposte that there does not seem to be much happening to attract such attendance. Some suggest that they are a lost generation; others reply that the formal Church has missed out on engagement. Such opinions paint a fairly gloomy picture and they ignore the fact that there are many good things happening.

Over several weeks during the year the Faith Development Group gave young people from the secondary schools of the diocese a very public forum, in the form of a public speaking competition, to discuss matters of faith and practice. The topics varied, and on the first night "Young people in the church: an example to believers"

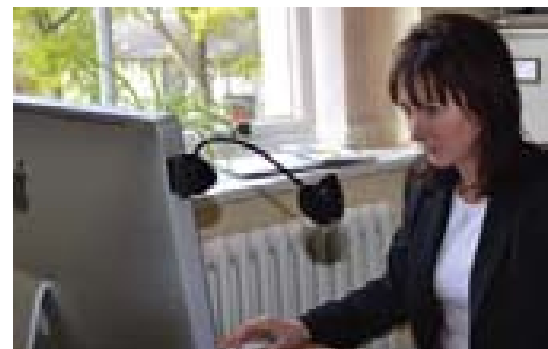
was defined, discussed, and defended very passionately by students from the Loreto and CBS secondary schools. Pupils from St Brigid's Callan, St Kieran's College and Colasite Pobail Osraí explored the topic "Young people: Twenty-first century saints; an old man's dream or a recipe for a radical life" on the second night. Once again those in attendance were given a wonderful insight into the ever questioning, life filled and always evolving faith of these young people.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE GIVEN A WONDERFUL INSIGHT INTO THE EVER QUESTIONING, LIFE-FILLED AND ALWAYS EVOLVING FAITH OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE.

On the final night two teams were left: Loreto Secondary School and Colaiste Pobail Osraí. Their topic was "Church: we are the present and the future". Exploring this topic the students not only presented a vision of a wonderful and hope-filled church but also, in doing so, asked some tough questions of the church today.

The standard of debate was high.

Original ideas were put forward which showed a depth of thought and consideration had been given to the motions. The arguments made displayed a real understanding of the ethical problems facing Christianity today. The students showed that they were able to grasp these problems, wrestle with them, and emerge with a well considered conclusion. The result of all this is that while Colaiste Pobail Osraí were the winners in a closely contested competition, the ultimate winners were those in attendance who, over the course of the few weeks, were given an insight into how much this generation has to offer us.



Martina Lawlor, AFD secretary, who manages the office administration, liaises with parish personnel availing of AFD services and brings her creative skills to bear on the design and production of the group's resources.

# Twitter 4 Lent!

Chris Kelly

In an attempt to communicate more effectively with a broader base of people, the Adult Faith Development Group embraced twenty-first century technology. As part of this years Lenten programme a new Twitter account was opened and the diocesan website went mobile.

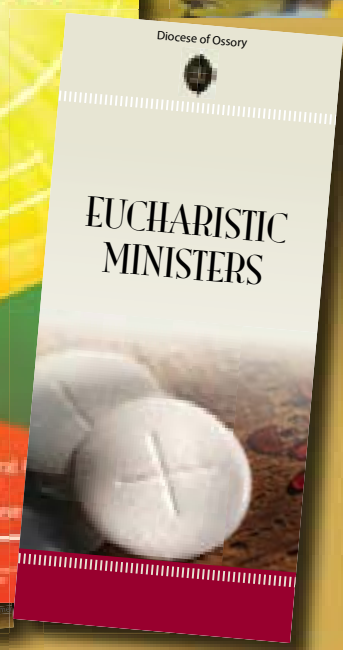
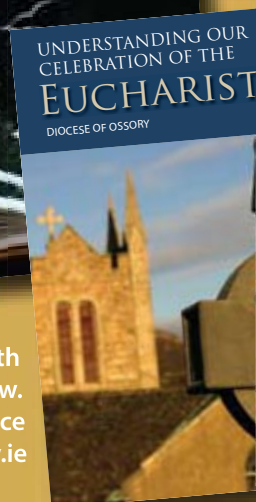
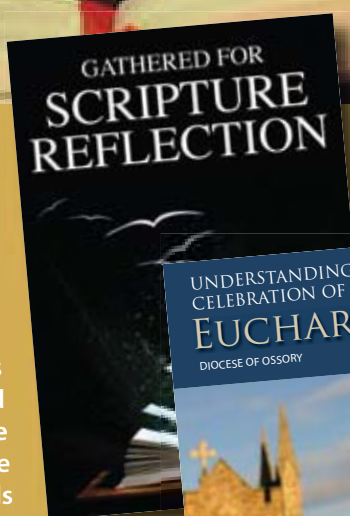
IT OPENED THE DOOR TO EXPLORING THE MANY POSSIBILITIES THAT THE WORLD OF TECHNOLOGY HAS TO OFFER IN COMMUNICATING THE GOSPEL TODAY.

It was a logical step for the AFD Group since people are now accessing news, reflecting on ideas, and asking questions in a new way, and it was only natural that as a faith community we should try to engage with people there. Not to do so would be to fail in our task to promote the Kingdom of God in our world today.

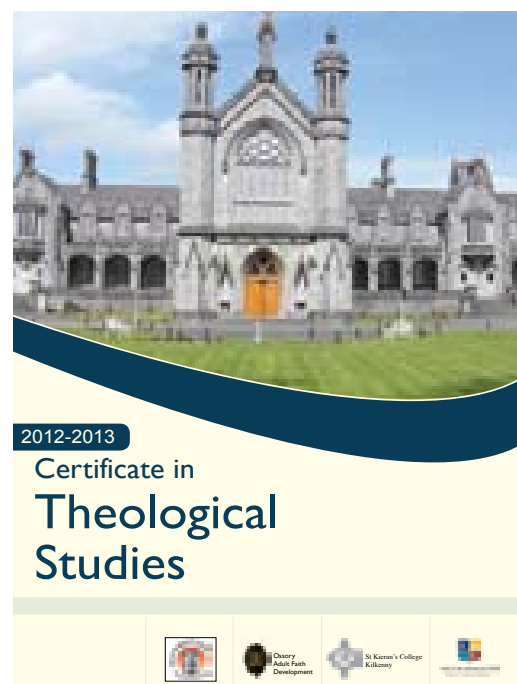
Each day thanks to the work of Fr Raymond Dempsey a short reflection or thought for the day was 'tweeted' to the many people who through their smart phones or computers signed up to follow the diocese. The endeavor was a great success and it opened the door to exploring the many possibilities that the world of technology has to offer in communicating the Gospel today.

In a homily delivered in the Cathedral of León, Mexico during his apostolic visit there, this year, Pope Benedict XVI urged Church leaders to forge closer bonds of communion between all members of the Church. In particular, he called for greater attention to the formation of lay faithful who must never be considered "second class citizens". Through resources, formation events, seminars and conferences Ossory Adult Faith Development seeks, in the proud tradition of St Kieran's College, to provide the people of the diocese with opportunities to grow and mature in faith and to provide them with the necessary skills to become first class citizens of the Church as Pope Benedict indicated.

Further information on the years activities of the Adult Faith Development Group is available on the diocesan website: [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie) or by contacting Martina at the Faith Development Office which is located in St Kieran's College at 056 7753624 & [afd@ossory.ie](mailto:afd@ossory.ie)







# Certificate in Theological Studies

Declan Murphy Course Director

The Certificate in Theological Studies began last September in St Kieran's college with its first group of 25 students. This programme was initiated following a recommendation of the Diocesan Forum, which was acted upon by St Kieran's College and Ossory Adult Faith Development on behalf of the Diocese of Ossory.

The programme runs for 24 weeks on two evenings each week. The rationale for the programme is to provide for the education and faith formation of those who are actively engaged within their parishes. It also for those who, when provided with the opportunity to deepen their faith, would like to become involved in parish life. Those on the programme have had the opportunity to deepen their faith and their understanding of their faith through participating in modules in Old and New Testament Scripture, Ecclesiastical History, Ecclesiology, Liturgy and Sacramental Theology and Moral Theology.

Students have found that the theological and scriptural formation and education which they have engaged in throughout the programme have been of 'immense value and benefit to them'. In their feedback on their experience of the programme, they have stated that they found the modules to have been 'thoroughly stimulating and enjoyable'. They really

enjoyed the many opportunities they received to reflect on and engage in discussion on what they had learned. One student noted that 'the individual modules all connected and fed into each other to give a clearer and deeper understanding of faith'.

"SINCE STARTING THIS COURSE MY AWARENESS OF GOD IN MY DAILY LIFE AND IN THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN GREATLY STRENGTHENED. ALL THE MODULES ARE MOST INTERESTING. THE MODULES ON MORAL THEOLOGY AND CHURCH: LIVING FAITH, APPEALED TO ME IN A PARTICULAR WAY. I KNOW THAT I WILL BENEFIT FROM HAVING DONE THIS COURSE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE. I RECOMMEND IT HIGHLY".  
*Maura Donnelly (Current Student)*

Many commented on how the formative nature of the course has

helped them in their own lives as they live out their faith in their own families and communities.

I will leave the final word to another current student, Tomas Maher:

"I have found the course to be challenging, fulfilling and well worthwhile. The group has gelled very well and this has led to a sharing of experiences that has been very enriching. The wealth of lived experience brought to the course by the group members has added an extra rich ingredient to the learning process. The lecturers have been well prepared, and their input has been excellent. The size of the group is just about right, and the lecture room meets our needs. Overall it has been a very positive experience, and thanks to all who have shaped, and contributed to that in any way".

Enrolment for next year's programme is now open and application forms are available through your local parish or directly from St Kieran's College, Kilkenny.

# The Ossory Diocesan Forum

The Ossory Diocesan Forum, established in 2004, consists of a network of Pastoral Councils at parish, deanery and diocesan levels.



The focus of the Forum is to promote the co-responsibility of priests and lay people for the mission of the Church at every level in the Diocese of Ossory.

The Pastoral Councils are designed so that the voices of all people of goodwill, priests, religious and lay, are heard and enabled to shape the faith life of the Diocese.

How the Pastoral Councils function:

- The purpose of Parish Pastoral Councils is to address the pastoral needs of individual parishes
- Through the Deanery Pastoral Councils representatives of individual parishes come together. They meet eight times a year and create channels of communication between parishes, deaneries and diocese.
- The Diocesan Pastoral Council, working with the Bishop, is the central, coordinating body of the Forum. Its task, in collaboration with the other Councils, is to identify and address pastoral issues in the Diocese.

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

## Our Parish Pastoral Council: Planning for the future

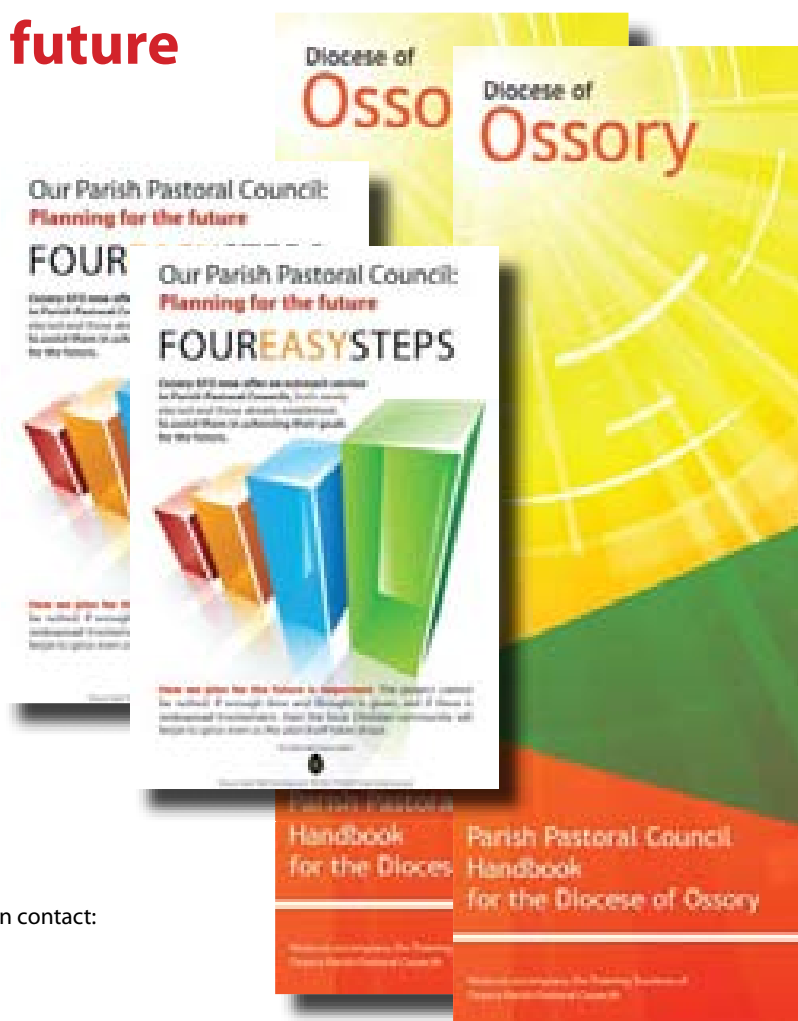
**Ossory AFD, located here in St Kieran's college, now offer an outreach service to Parish Pastoral Councils**, both newly elected and those already established, **to assist them in achieving their goals for the future**

**How we plan for the future is important.** The project cannot be rushed. If enough time and thought is given, and if there is widespread involvement, then the local Christian community will begin to grow even before the Plan itself takes shape.

For further information contact:



Ossory Adult Faith Development Tel 056 7753624 Email: [afd@ossory.ie](mailto:afd@ossory.ie)



# Vocations

The Diocesan Vocations Office and the National Vocations Office are located here in the College. As a Diocese in the past, we have been spoiled by the great number of men and women who have chosen to answer the call to the priesthood and religious life. This is no longer a reality for our Diocese and the church worldwide. As Church we must recognize this reality and create a vocations culture that highlights the importance of encouraging the people of God to serve as priests, sisters, brothers, deacons and dedicated laity in full-time ministry in the Church.

God is still calling men to priesthood in our Diocese, but many are unable to

hear or understand what the Lord is asking them to do. Through our prayer and Christian witness we support and inspire those who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood. A vocation is a very personal experience; it can be a persistent, nagging notion, an irritating yet irresistible invitation or an energizing, compelling call. Whatever form it takes, it cannot be denied, suppressed, or ignored. A vocation is a sacred invitation to follow God's call, to acknowledge and act on one's deepest longings. In some cases, this call, this vocation, is an unmistakable invitation to a life of Gospel service.

For further information please contact:

Father Willie Purcell, Ossory vocations director/national vocations coordinator, Ossory Vocations Office,

St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny. Tel. 056-7770261 Mobile: 087-6286858 Website: [www.ossory.ie/vocations](http://www.ossory.ie/vocations) Email: [ossoryvocdir@gmail.com](mailto:ossoryvocdir@gmail.com) and [Ossoryvocations.blogspot.com](http://Ossoryvocations.blogspot.com)

## Diocesan Prayer for Vocations

Loving God, You speak to us and nourish us through the life of Your Church community. In the name of Jesus, we ask you to send your Spirit to us that men and women among us, young and old, will respond to your call to service in the Church. We pray especially in our day, for those who hear your invitation to be a priest, sister or brother. May those who are opening their hearts and minds to your call be encouraged and strengthened through our enthusiasm in your service. Amen.

# Pope John Paul II Awards

In October 2011 the Diocese of Ossory launched the John Paul II Award. 175 young people representing 8 secondary schools have signed up for the 2011/2012 awards. The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them.

Through the Pope John Paul II Award, young people in the Diocese of Ossory will be enabled to take an active part in the life of their Church, in the life of their community and society, and also become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world. This will enable

young people to engage at a deep level with Christ, whose body the Church is. It will allow young people to understand that religion and faith are not just for learning, nor are they a list of rules, but that they are for living.

## Who is the Award for?

- Students in full-time education who have completed Junior Certificate
- Anyone between the ages 16 and 18, who is not in post-primary education
- The award is non-competitive, flexible and voluntary and requires an ongoing commitment

## Who are the people involved?

- Award Patron - The Bishop of Ossory
- Award Making Body - Pope John Paul II Award Committee
- Award Leaders - Teachers, School Chaplains, Parish Youth Representatives, Clergy
- Facilitators - Those persons who will facilitate the candidates to fulfill individual tasks/activities.

Director of the John Paul II Award:

Fr Willie Purcell,  
John Paul II Award  
St Kieran's College, Kilkenny.  
Tel: 056 7770261  
Email: [ossoryjpai@gmail.com](mailto:ossoryjpai@gmail.com)



Pictured at the launch of the new John Paul II Awards in St Kieran's College were, from left, Fergal Brennan, Student; Bishop Seamus Freeman, Pater Reynolds, Knights of St Columbanus, Kilkenny; Fr Peter Ferran, Founder of the Awards; Monsignor Kieron Kennedy, President, St Kieran's College and Fr Willie, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Ossory.

Picture: Michael Brophy



# Kilkenny Campus NUI Maynooth

**The NUI Maynooth Campus was established in 1997 and has been offering flexible, part time third level programmes for adult students for almost fifteen years. The Campus is managed by the pioneering Department of Adult and Community Education at NUI Maynooth which is the only such academic department in Ireland. This model of a university Lifelong Learning Campus is unique and offers many opportunities for innovation and development.**

The Campus provides opportunities for people over 23 years of age from all over the south east to access part time, flexible, accredited third level courses. This allows many students to gain or return to employment, or to undertake continuing professional development relevant to their career path. Just as importantly, perhaps, these programmes offer participants an opportunity to explore new fields of interest, and encourage them to grow as thinking, questioning and critical individuals. So far over 1200 people from Kilkenny and the surrounding area have been awarded a third level qualification through Kilkenny Campus.

As well as the flagship BA in Local and Community Studies, which involves nine Departments of NUI Maynooth, the Campus also offers a range of shorter Certificate and Diploma programmes at undergraduate level and postgraduate level. This year a new Return to Learning

programme provided participants with an opportunity to explore third level learning and gain the skills and confidence to make choices about moving into further education and training.

To complement the accredited offerings, the Campus has developed a series of short courses in a number of areas including English Literature, Archaeology and a range of TEG (Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge) courses in the Irish Language from absolute beginners level to intermediate. These courses allow people to have a 'taste' of a subject without the pressure of examinations, and they run for shorter periods and are costed accordingly making them ideal for potential students of the 'university of the third age'.

Students find the friendly, learner-centred atmosphere; the quality of student support and the excellent facilities, including a library and IT

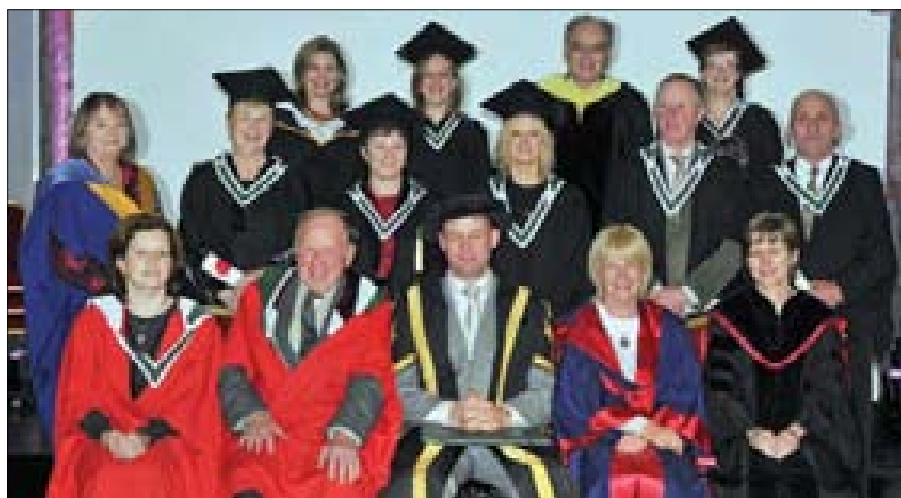


A new book entitled *A Monastic Landscape: The Cistercians in Medieval Ireland*, from Kilkenny Campus graduate Dr Breda Lynch was launched in December 2011 at the Campus.

Room all conducive to getting the best out of their time at the Campus both in terms of personal development and third level qualifications

There is an Open Evening on May 17th to which all are welcome, and there will be second Open Evening in September. Please feel free to call in or have a look at our new website at <http://kilkenny.nuim.ie>.

For further information please contact Tel: 056-77759100/7775919/087-2630999 or Email: [Kilkenny.campus@nuim.ie](mailto:Kilkenny.campus@nuim.ie).



BA graduates from Kilkenny Campus, NUI Maynooth, 2011. (Back row, from left) Maeve O'Byrne (Kilkenny Campus), Liz Keyes, Dr David Redmond (Registrar), Barbara van der Puil (Middle row) Dr Brid Connolly, Imelda Moloney, Lucy McGrath, Michelle Grennan, Lar McEvoy, John Ryan (Front row) Prof Marian Lyons, an Dr Proinsias Ó Drisceoil, Prof Philip Nolan (President), Prof Anne Ryan, Prof Rowena Pecchenino (Dean).



Prof Philip Nolan (President, NUI Maynooth) congratulates Barbara van der Puil on graduating with her BA in Local Studies at the 2012 Kilkenny Campus Conferring.

# Awards Night

## Academic Awards

<b>Mathematics:</b>	Michael Tierney	
<b>Gaeilge:</b>	Kevin Shortall	
<b>English:</b>	Alex Helizon	Michael Lanigan
<b>Business:</b>	Conor O'Carroll	Eoghan Connolly
<b>Languages:</b>	Conor O'Carroll	Brian O'Shea
<b>Technical Graphics:</b>	Conor Brennan	Niall Walsh (DCG)
<b>Technology:</b>	Alex Helizon	Dylan Meagher
<b>Science:</b>	Graham English	Michael Tierney
<b>Music:</b>	Ciaran Fennelly	Gerry Walsh
<b>Art:</b>	Ian Martin	Sean Lennon
<b>History:</b>	Graham English	
<b>Geography:</b>	George Allen	
<b>Religion:</b>	Sean Sinnott	
<b>LCVP:</b>	Darragh Carrigan	

**Frank Muldowney Award for Best results in the Junior Certificate Examination 2011:** Cormac Everard

## Academic Awards

<b>1st Year</b>	Jack McHugh
<b>2nd Year</b>	Vladyslav Medvensky
<b>3rd Year</b>	Aleksander Helizon
<b>5th Year</b>	Eoghan O'Connor
<b>6th Year</b>	Michael Tierney

## Awards of Merit to outstanding students 2011

<b>1st Year:</b>	Paddy Brennan, William Spencer, Paddy Ryan, Joe Connolly
<b>2nd Year:</b>	Liam Blanchfield, Kevin Mullan, Tom Cuddihy
<b>3rd Year:</b>	Ian Martin, Kevin Blanchfield, Brian O'Carroll
<b>TY:</b>	James Tyrell, Ciaran Breen, Mike Nikandrovs, Eoin Gough, Simon Rafter
<b>5th Year:</b>	David Hennessy, Conor O'Shea, Miodrag Ignatovic
<b>6th Year:</b>	Paddy Butler, Cathal O'Neill, Denis Hogan, Sammy Johnston

## Students of the Year

<b>1st Year:</b>	Alan Mooney
<b>2nd Year:</b>	Eoin Walsh
<b>3rd Year:</b>	Graham English
<b>Patrick Kilroy Award:</b>	Cormac Everard
<b>5th Year:</b>	Aravind Menon

## Student of the Year

Willie Phelan

# Academic Awards



Back row: Adrian Finan, Deputy-Principal; Joan Mahon, Parents' Association; Pat Leahy, Former Student and Political Editor *The Sunday Business Post*; Mgr Kieron Kennedy, President of St Kieran's; John Curtis, Principal. Front row: Alex Helizon, Eoghan O'Connor, Cormac Everard, Michael Tierney, Vladyslav Medvensky, Jack McHugh.

# Student of the Year Awards



Back row: Adrian Finan, Deputy-Principal; Joan Mahon, Parents' Association; Pat Leahy, Former Student and Political Editor *The Sunday Business Post*; Mgr Kieron Kennedy, President of St Kieran's; John Curtis, Principal. Front row: Alan Mooney, Graham English, Aravand Menon, Willie Phelan, Eoin Walsh, Cormac Everard.



# DARREN O'NEILL

## MEMORIES OF ST KIERAN'S



I entered St Kieran's College in September 1998 a naïve boy from the countryside, even missing the bus on that first morning. Coming from a small country primary school I was a little taken aback by the sheer enormity of the complex enclosed behind those big walls. While the original intention was that I would apply for the C.B.S., because my cousins were going to school there, I came to St Kieran's. It was a decision I never regretted. This juncture definitely helped make me who I am today and would subsequently lead to my brothers Aidan, then Daniel succeeding me through the big gates. On entering St Kieran's, I found I knew many of my year already from hurling against them and I would go on to play alongside many of them with the school. The hurling legacy and opportunities were for me the main draw to 'Kieran's but once inside I soon realised that there was much more behind the looming grey walls than the small ball. I made many great friends throughout my years in

the school and the experiences I had played a big part in broadening my horizons to the world. The tutelage, support and advice I received from such approachable teachers helped greatly in determining my career choices, in which I received both an honours Bachelor of Arts degree and honours Higher Diploma in Education in St Patrick's College Drumcondra.

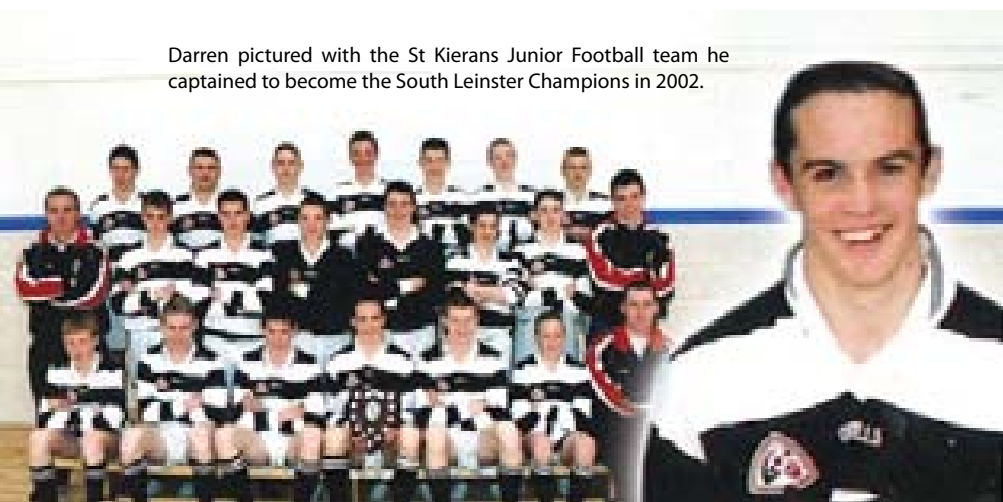
Throughout my time in St Kieran's, I was lucky to have a successful sporting career and felt very proud every time I donned the famed colours of black and white, whether on the athletics field, kicking football or pucking a hurling ball. The obvious highlights were 2 Juvenile Leinster hurling titles, 1 Junior Leinster hurling title, 1 Junior South-Leinster football title (when I captained the team) and 3 Senior Leinster hurling titles culminating in 2 All-Ireland Senior hurling titles won under the excellent guidance of Mr Hogan and Mr Quane. I was also very honoured in my final year to be given the Overall Sportsman of the school award. These were very

prestigious accolades for me and I'm still proud to have been part of such great teams playing alongside the likes of "Cha", the Hogan brothers, Richie Power, Eoin Larkin, Micheal Rice and so many others who contributed so greatly in achieving those wins. I often wonder if I had stuck to hurling could I still be playing alongside them today but I am sure that the professionalism of the coaching we received during our time in the famed jersey has played a major role in the recent successes of Kilkenny.

During my time in Kieran's I made it onto the National Boxing team and received great support from my Kieran's counterparts and teachers. This was the beginning of a very hectic period for me between hurling, boxing and school work but I cannot credit and thank enough the support and accommodation I received from the teachers. The support they provided without doubt added greatly to my development in education (achieving teaching qualification), sport (Olympic qualification) and to life in general.

With Daniel (my brother) sitting his final examinations this June so comes to pass my family's tenure in this celebrated establishment. I look back on my days in St Kieran's with fondness and cherish the memories made there. I will always remember wearing the uniform, walking the corridors, rushing to class, my year of boarding, the study-hall, Hall 33, pulling on the jersey, taking to the fields, wall-ball and of course... disrupting classes.

Darren pictured with the St Kierans Junior Football team he captained to become the South Leinster Champions in 2002.



# Sixth Year Signatures

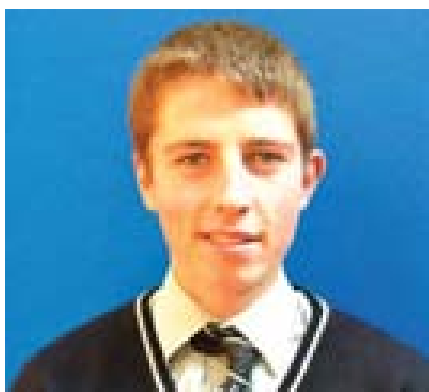
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# My Six Years

David Hennessy Sixth Year

Every year I read the college record and especially the Sixth Year article about their six years in St Kieran's College. Throughout my time here I would sometimes ponder what our legacy might be as a year? Would we be known for our academic prowess, our sporting successes or just for being ourselves? Six years ago we all arrived as individuals, but six years later it is amazing to see how we have developed as a group. Trying to give a brief insight of our time together was going to be a difficult task for one person so I went undercover asking around the year group for some of our best memories. Therefore, I'd like to say thanks in advance to all the lads who unknowingly contributed ideas to this article!

I remember the first time I set foot in St Kieran's. As an innocent twelve year old, the daunting prospect of attending secondary school was overwhelming. Even before sitting the entrance exam I knew that attending St Kieran's was that bit more special than any other secondary school. I'll never forget the morning of the entrance exam day. I got up early that morning and was excited about the day ahead. However due to an unforeseen circumstance I got delayed and I arrived late. I disturbed the English exam and as I walked down the study hall I could feel over 100 pairs



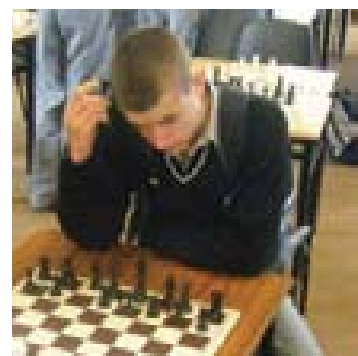
of eyes looking directly at me. My face went from a deathly pale colour to a bright red! What a start to secondary school!

Thankfully, I made it through the entrance exam and finally the day came when I had to don the new uniform, put my tie right up, polish the shoes, do up the top button and prepare for my first day in St Kieran's. One of the biggest problems we faced was with orientation. Even if one student was walking the wrong way to class, ten more would just follow him anyway. But after a week or two we figured out all the classrooms and began to make friends. We all loved the extra freedom of secondary school and especially the hot chicken rolls at 11 o'clock during winter mornings!

As First Year came to an end, everybody was looking forward to three

months of holidays. It only seemed like a week had gone by but before we knew it the summer was over and Second Year had begun. During the year we were informed of a school trip to Belfast as an exchange programme with students from La Salle College. Originally I was not part of the group going but a week before the trip Mr Maher told me that a place had become available. The trip to Belfast was up there with one of the most enjoyable activities that I did in St Kieran's. Their history teacher Mr Bucannon used to give us slightly biased history tours of Belfast and we played hurling matches against different schools while we were there. In the evenings we stayed with our host families and got to relax with them. During the last couple of days in Belfast we became aware that the police were called to the teachers hotel. Even though the teachers had nothing to do with the disturbance, everybody secretly thought that Mr Heffernan was causing a bit of trouble!

Third Year arrived and all the teachers were singing off the same hymn sheet. The title was "study" with the chorus 'revise, revise revise'. They say an exam year in school is the quickest year and this proved to be true. The mocks in Third Year were supposed to create the same environment that we would face in June. They fulfilled that,







and showed us how much study was still to be done. The Junior Cert came like a runaway train, if we didn't buckle down and work it would have passed us by. Thankfully we survived and we were now looking forward to a more relaxed year in Transition Year.

The opportunity of doing Transition Year was a change from the rigid structure of the previous three years. Fourth Year presented us with many opportunities from bag packing, a trip to Rome, doing the ECDL course and many more activities. However, perhaps one of the highlights came towards the end of Fourth Year when we went to Croagh Patrick for our retreat. This involved leaving the College gates at 5.30am and not returning until 9pm. After the four hours of bus travelling everybody was extremely tired and then Fr Sean O'Connor informed us that at the top of Croagh Patrick he would say a mass. After two hours of climbing everyone was exhausted. When we reached the top we were told that the mass would have to be cancelled due to a "slight technical problem". It turned out that

"technically" Fr Sean didn't manage to reach the summit. (he said afterwards that he was there in Spirit!!)

At the beginning of Fifth Year we were told that the next two years was like building a house. The foundations and the structure were laid in Fifth Year and the interior was for Sixth Year. It was a case of head down and keep yourself out of trouble.

The winter months of Fifth Year were like no other. We had experienced severe snow, frost and icy conditions. I remember one morning walking into school and the ground was covered in thick snow and ice. I was taking my time walking in because of the slippery conditions. Suddenly I got hit in the back of the head with a snowball. I turned around quickly but in doing so, I lost my footing and was on the ground! It was a great source of laughter for the lads but sitting in wet pants for the day wasn't.

And just like that, Sixth Year has arrived. The leaving cert is upon us. Everybody is worrying about points, courses and projects. Some subjects required us to stay after school and

even come in on weekends. The oral exams commenced in April, the secret to success is to look smart, smile and speak simple sentences! When they finished a heavy weight was lifted off everyone's shoulders. Now it's May and the exams are in sight. We are all getting ready to commence battle. Everyone to their battle stations – but wait... before we go, let's take a moment to reflect over the past six years. St Kieran's has offered us so much more than just the chance to do well in our Leaving Cert. Here, we learned how to form friendships, interact, socialise and develop into young men ready for the real world. We found out not only how to be good students but more importantly we discovered how to be good people.

On behalf of all the Sixth Years we want to thank all of the teachers and staff of St Kieran's College who have made our time here unforgettable. Wherever this Leaving Cert takes us may we never forget the many strong friendships and memories that we take from our time here. Now, onwards and upwards!



## Pastoral Care in St Kieran's

"...encourage one another and build each other up..." these were the words of St Paul to the Thessalonians (1 Thess 5:11) written by the end of the year 52AD. However they could, just as easily, be penned as the pastoral care motto here in St Kieran's. Doing this is at the heart of what we do as a school community. From the first day of first year to the last day of the leaving cert. it is the work of the school's pastoral care team to ensure that the whole student is cared for as they grow here.

While the responsibility for this lies predominantly with the team of Fr Dermot Ryan, Mr Ken Maher, Mr John Quane, Ms Ann Weymms and the school management, thankfully, in reality it is the work of all the school community that makes this happen. While much of this work goes unseen, these pages offer a small glimpse of how we live the words of St Paul in St Kieran's today.

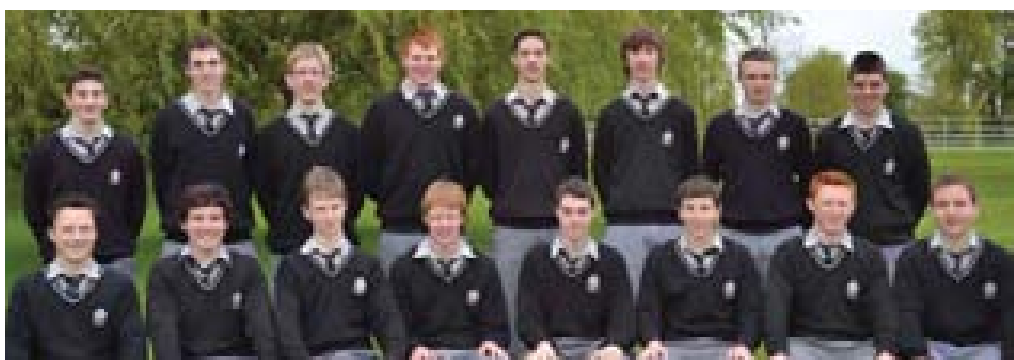
## Cairdeas Programme

James Tyrrell Fifth Year

Each year a group of Fifth Year students take part in the Cairdeas programme. This year the group consisted of 18 members, we were led by Mr Maher and Fr Ryan. The aim of Cairdeas is to help first years settle into their new school environment.

Our year started off in April of 2011 while we were still in Fourth Year. We were asked by Fr Ryan and Mr Maher if we would participate in the Cairdeas programme for the year. Our first job was to meet the 120 new students on the first day back after the summer holidays where each Cairdeas member was assigned approximately seven students to look after. We were there to help them throughout the year with any concerns that may arise.

The Cairdeas members met regularly with their group to make



Shane Parsons, Adam Ryan, Conor Mahon, Diarmuid Hickey, Eoin Gough, Colin Corcoran, Michael O'Neill, James Tyrrell, Mihailis Nikandrov, Cormac Connelly, Ciaran O'Carroll, Craig Murphy, Cormac Everard, Paddy Hickey, Ciaran Breen, Cormac Ryan. Missing from photo: Conor Quinlan and Maurice O'Neill.

sure they were all settling in well to St Kieran's College.

The year was thoroughly enjoyed by all, especially the activities such as the retreat and the end of year soccer tournament.

All of the members agree that the programme was a very worthwhile experience. On behalf of the Cairdeas members a big thanks goes to Mr Maher and Fr Ryan for all the help during the year.

# Impressions of First Year



Cian Burke

When I imagined walking into St Kieran's College on my first day I was expecting boys screaming and shouting and throwing things around and running around wildly. But in truth it was nothing like that. The teachers are very nice and friendly and try their best to welcome you and to help you settle into the school.

The teachers and the Cairdeas lads do their best to create a fun, safe environment to settle into. Cairdeas are a group of Fifth Year students who volunteer to become mentors to the new students. We are also given Hall 33 which is a First Year room only, here we can socialise or study. This is a privilege for us as no other year in the school has their own room.

First Years do 16 different subjects, but at the end of this year we will drop four. St Kieran's is a very easy school to settle into - so incoming First Years, there is no need to worry. In fact, I prefer secondary school to primary school, it is much more interesting and you learn a lot more. Overall, my first impression of St Kieran's College is that it is fun, interesting and above all easy to settle into.



Rory Lodge

My First Year in St Kieran's Collge has been one of the greatest experiences of my life. My teachers have been a great help to me during the build up to the tests. We travelled to a lot of places with the school this year. We went on retreat to Carlow, had a hurling blitz in Carlow Institute of Technology and the First Year soccer team travelled to many different counties playing matches. Unfortunately we lost in the semi - finals on penalties but we were proud of how far we had gone. My First Year has been a blast and I can't wait for Second Year.



Eoin Rudkins

My first impression of St Kieran's College was that it was so big! I came in and I think that most people were as scared as I was. After about a week or two I got used to where my classrooms were. Not the whole school but I just remembered where my classes were. I made some very good friends in the first week. I think that this is very important.

Break-times were fun because we were allowed to bring in our hurls. It means we have something to do during our break-times and not just hang around town.





# St Kieran's Day

One of the highlights of faith dimension of the school life is our annual celebration of St Kieran's Day. It is a day remembered by staff and students long after they have left these hallowed halls. This year another great celebration was had. The day, as is tradition, began with a Mass in St Mary's Cathedral. Bishop Seamus Freeman, S.A.C., as Patron of the school, was the chief celebrant and he was joined by Mgr Kieron Kennedy Administrator of the College, and Fr Dermot Ryan the School Chaplain. During the celebration Bishop Seamus

took the opportunity to speak to the students about how it is that in the Mass we have the opportunity to speak to God and invited all present, therefore, to bring before God their hopes and prayers for not only this school year but also the many years ahead.

Our celebration once again reminded all gathered of the great vision and hope that is the essence of our school's tradition. During the Mass symbols were brought forward by pupils and staff to represent the achievements and life of all involved in the St Kieran's College. The school community also remembered those who died during the past year: past students; former teachers; family and

friends. Special mention was made of those who died most recently Adrian Harkin, a former student and colleague, and John O'Neill, father of Mr O'Neill. They, and their families, were remembered in the prayers of all gathered.

After the Mass the celebrations continued with the many and varied activities that are also a well established and much loved part of the tradition of St Kieran's Day: quad-biking; tennis; paint-balling; golf; swimming; the cinema; hurling; soccer; chess, to name but a few. Word even has it that this year the students had the upper hand over the teachers in all competitive games!! Well done to all involved.



## Eucharistic Congress Bell

This year a large group of students from St Kieran's College, Loreto Secondary School, Presentation Secondary School, Coláiste Pobail Osraí and Kilkenny Vocational School gathered in St Kieran's to participate in the visit of the Eucharistic Congress Bell to Kilkenny. The bell, which was on pilgrimage around the diocese was able to remain in the school for just one short hour. However, the brevity of the encounter did not lessen its impact.

Students, who filled the College Chapel to its capacity, gathered to reflect on the meaning of pilgrimage not only for the bell, but also, through it, for themselves in their journey through life. The prayer, which was led from start to finish by the students themselves, showed just how wonderfully talented and capable they are.

The bell, therefore, in visiting the school didn't draw attention simply to a journey that is past but rather as the final song "Winter Song", which was sung by a number of students from St Kieran's, highlighted the great possibility of a future lived together in faith: The song's words resonated so clearly with the intended chime of that visiting bell: "I still believe in summer days, the seasons always change, and life will find a way... I'll be your harvester of light, and send it out tonight, so we can start again".

## Liturgy

Aidan Byrne Sixth Year

For the past six years I have been a student of St Kieran's college. During these six years various services and liturgies were held to mark different occasions, such as our opening Mass each September, Christmas Liturgies and St Kieran's Day celebrations. There is always a great sense of community at these services.

This year, being a member of the senior choir and the Sixth Year music class, myself and a few others were

asked by Ms O'Connor to help with the organisation of the music for these liturgies. The services would usually consist of an entrance hymn, a hymn during the offertory, two hymns during Communion, a song or an instrumental for the Communion reflection and a hymn to close the service. St Kieran's Day is very special to the College so an extra effort is made, which normally calls for more complex and intricate pieces. This year we were honoured to hold a service to celebrate the visit of the Eucharistic Congress Bell to the school. Representatives from all the secondary schools in the city came to the chapel in St Kieran's College and took part in

the service, whether it was a reading or carrying the relics to the altar. Great work went into the preparation of music and songs to create a mood of reverence during this service. Now we are preparing for our Graduation Mass. This Mass is a celebration of the six years we have spent in St Kieran's College. The Sixth Year music class has been asked to select and arrange the music and songs for this liturgy. Over our six years, as students in St Kieran's College, our year has grown together as a community and the music for this celebration must be reflective of this sense of community.



# John Paul II Awards

Ian Martin Transition Year

This year a group Transition Year students decided to take part in the Pope John Paul II Award. The Pope John Paul II Award is dedicated to the memory of Pope John Paul II whose love for young people was great. The award was set up by the Papal Nuncio on the 7th of November 2006. This year many transition year students from different schools around Kilkenny participated in the Pope John Paul II Award. It started with a meeting that was held in St. Kieran's College where the students were asked to attend to see what the Pope John Paul II Award was about. The students were told about the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards that would be awarded to the people who finished their record card at the end of the year. The students were asked to go to their local parish and tell their parish priest

that they would like to help around their local church. The type of jobs that the students had to do was either reading at Mass, altar serving, collector, member of choir/folk group, or even just decorating the church. You had to do at least an hour every week so that you could be able to sign off at the end of the Mass.

The idea of the Pope John Paul II Award was that young people would give their free time to go and just volunteer themselves to help around their local church and this may even make their faith in God stronger. As a student who participated in the Pope John Paul II Award I would one hundred per cent recommend it to any student who wants to take part. It is a great way of getting to know people from your community and also it gives you confidence in yourself to stand up for what you believe in.



Back row (l-r): Shane O'Brien, Stephen Carroll, Robbie Hennessy, Kieran Freeman, Cormac Ryan, Ian Martin. Front row (l-r): Shane Walsh, Dylan Drennan, Brendan Cullen, Brian O'Carroll, Michael Fitzgerald, Nicholas Dunphy.

## Glendalough TY Retreat

Eoin Gough Fifth Year

In late May 2011, the TYs, along with Fr Dermot and Mr O'Neill, set off bright and early for their retreat to Glendalough, Co. Wicklow. The idea of the retreats during the school year is to get the whole year, be it 1st or 6th, together for the day, and let them take a break from the school routine to bond and grow closer as a group. As well as that there is a spiritual purpose. Throughout the day, time is taken to reflect on our lives as students and as members of the church and give thanks for what we have in life.

As soon as we arrived in Glendalough we were off the buses and gathered round to hear the plan for the day. The sun was beginning to shine as we headed off on the walking track around the first of two lakes in the valley. We stopped

at different points on the walk and Fr Paddy gave us a bit of the history of the place like how Glendalough was a 6th Century monastic settlement. We were then let off to explore by ourselves so we went climbing up the sides of the valley and some went jumping from boulder to boulder before we met back up again for a small Mass. Once the Mass was finished it was a slow walk back to the base camp to have our lunch and relax before hopping on the buses and getting back to the college for 4 o'clock. The fresh air, great weather, the scenery and the peace and quiet made for a nice break from the hustle and bustle of the glass hall. On behalf of all the TY's of 2011 I'd like to thank Fr Ryan, Mr O'Neill and Fr Paddy, who led us for the day, for the retreat to Glendalough and a great day out together.

## First Year Retreat

Enda Keneally First Year

On 21st September we had our First Year Retreat. For the day we were allowed wear our own clothes, which was a welcome break from the uniforms. First of all, we all went up to the theatre in the school and we talked about bullying with the Cairdeas team of Fifth Years. We watched a film about a boy who was being bullied. It was very informative and we learned a lot from it. After this we got onto our buses and went to Old Leighlin for a nature walk with Fr Byrne. Unfortunately, it was raining so we had to get back on the buses. We decided instead to go to the church in Bagnelstown, where Fr Byrne talked to us and we said some prayers. After the talk with Fr Byrne, we got on the buses again and went to the Dome in Carlow. There, we played bowling, pool and table tennis. Eventually it was time to go home and despite the rain we still managed to enjoy ourselves. Overall, it was a great day and we all really liked it. We got to know each other better and we made new friends.

## Giving their all

Conor O'Shea Sixth Year

During the Easter break many of the teachers gave up their spare time to help out the students preparing for the exams. Almost every day during the break both students and teachers could be seen walking through the College gates. Preparation classes for the oral exams and revision classes were held for students in the school at this time. The students found this to be a great help during the stressful period. This is a fine example of the commitment of both the students and teachers of St Kieran's College.





# Catholic Schools' Week

Cormac Connolly Fifth Year

Catholic Schools' Week 2012 took place between the 29th of January and the 4th of February. As St Kieran's College is the oldest Catholic school in Ireland we decided to take an active part in the week. Fr Ryan and Mr Maher approached a number of Fifth Year students to take a religion class in either St John of God or St Patrick's de la Salle. As I was asked to do this last year I agreed as I had enjoyed it a lot.

We were assigned into groups of two to teach the class. I was asked to teach fifth class in St Patrick's. As St Blaise's day is celebrated during that particular week we decided it would be a topical subject to deal with. We prepared a lesson for the class and researched information to present to them. We also supplied the class with worksheets and colouring sheets to add a bit of fun and make his story easier to learn. We felt it went really well.

I was then asked to go and teach third class in St John of God. In that class we decided to teach them about the Last Supper. We read them a story on the events of the Last Supper and assembled worksheets and activities for the class to reinforce the main points of the lesson. It was a very

enjoyable experience. As a lot of the Kieran's pupils who took part in the week wanted to become teachers it

AS ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE IS THE  
OLDEST CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN  
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was a big help to them. We had a great time but there's always some student

who will ask the difficult question, as when Sean Mulholland was teaching the ten commandments and was asked to explain what adultery meant. We will leave that one to you Sean.

We would like to thank Fr Ryan and Mr Maher in helping us prepare for the classes and giving us the opportunity to participate in the week.

The students who took part were Cormac Ryan, Hugh Lane, Craig Murphy, Cormac Everard, Sean Mulholland, Shane Parsons, Ciaran Breen and myself Cormac Connolly





#### Enda Kenneally First Year

St Kieran's Day 2012 started off with Mass in St Mary's Cathedral. It was a really warm and sunny day so there were no complaints about the weather. We had good fun and it was a great day which was enjoyed by all.

The Mass was said by Bishop Freeman, helped by Ms Kennedy and Fr Ryan who is the school Chaplin. I was slightly nervous on the day because I had to read a prayer of the faithful, but once I was up there I wasn't too bad and it went well in the end.

After the Mass we walked back to school and got changed into what we would wear when we were doing our activities. I chose

to play tennis at the Lawn Tennis Club in Kilkenny. There were lots of activities to choose from like quad biking, swimming, hurling, soccer, surfing, fishing, x-box, golf, paintballing and games in hall 33, to name just a few. Some activities were free but others you might have to pay €3 or €4 to do.

When we were changed we set off for the tennis club. We were down there at around 10.20am and we went straight into a doubles tournament. The tennis was great fun and was enjoyed by all. We were done by 2pm and so we headed back to school. I went in and played some poker in hall 33 when I arrived back to school and before we knew it, it was time to go home.

#### Robert Freeman Second Year

Every year St Kieran's celebrates the feast of St Kieran. The feast of St Kieran is officially held on the 5th of March but activities were on the 9th of March this year.

It was a bright sunny day with lots to do such as bowling, swimming, soccer, quading and paintballing. I went paintballing with 90 other lads mostly from Second Year. Mr Maher, Fr Ryan and Mr Reddy brought us to Borris for the day. We left the school straight after mass and managed to get two games in when we got down there. The day flew by and we were all surprised when the teachers told it was time to leave or we wouldn't get back in time for the buses at 4pm.

We all look forward to St Kieran's Day next year.

### Donagh Carney Sixth Year

St Kieran's Day is always an enjoyable day for both students and teachers. As soon as the activities went up on the notice board it was the talk of the school. From soccer to paintballing there was an activity for everyone, trying to pick one activity for many was a job in itself.

St Kieran's day 2012 started the same as it does every year with the whole school making their way to St Mary's Cathedral for Mass. The Mass this year was celebrated by Bishop Freeman, with Monsignor Kennedy and the school Chaplin Fr Dermot Ryan. The day was warm and everyone was eager to get the activities started. When we returned to the school everyone was getting ready to go on their chosen activity. The buses were waiting to bring those who were heading away from the school to their chosen destination.

This was my last St Kieran's Day so I enjoyed it all the more. All the St Kieran's Day activities that I participated will be held fondly in my memory. I know that I will always remember St Kieran's day and the fun that I had.

# St Kieran's Day







# Trip to Waterford Crystal

Connor O Carroll Transition Year

In December all Transition Years got the opportunity to visit the new headquarters of Waterford Crystal in Waterford city. The main part of the trip to Waterford was the guided tour of the factory. The tour showed us how the glass is processed and manufactured to reach its finished stage.

There are six stages which the glass goes through to reach its finished stage and we were shown these stages of manufacture:

1. First we were taken to the mould room. In the mould room they make moulds for the glass to be moulded in. They make the moulds out of wood such as beech because this is a smooth wood with a high tolerance to heat. We saw the moulds that they had made to shape trophies such as the superbowl trophy and the Irish open trophy.
2. The next room we went to was the blowing room. Here we saw how the glass is sculpted by heating the glass in a 1300 degree furnace and then using the moulds to sculpt them into the desired shape. They were then cooled rapidly using water and we could now see the glass taking shape.
3. We were then introduced to the quality inspection room. After each stage of manufacture the glass is brought here to be inspected to make sure everything is perfect. If there is only a single mark on the glass the sculpture is sent back to be redone, this means that the glass sculptures that are produced to be sold are of a very high quality.
4. The next part of our tour was the hand marking area. Here the glass is marked so the cutters know where to cut.
5. The next stop was the cutting room. In this room the craftsmen use diamond tipped wheels to

cut the patterns in the glass. The craftsmen must study for eight years to perfect this skill

6. We were then shown to the final stage of the manufacturing process which was the sculpting and engraving of the glass. This is a very slow and painstaking job and the craftsmen in this room were highly skilled

## Sculpting

Crystal sculpture is the same in principal as stone sculpture except that wheels are used instead of mallets and chisels. The Master Sculptor works 3 dimensionally, using his skill to sculpt the desired piece from a solid block of crystal.

## Engraving

The engraver uses copper wheels to draw pictures in the glass. The deeper the engraver engraves into the crystal the more prominent the object appears.

After the manufacturing process of the glass was complete the glass was cleaned one final time before it is put on display to be sold in the shop beside the factory and also distributed all over the world. We got a chance to have a look around the shop and we were truly amazed at the detail and the uniqueness of each individual piece of glass. We were also equally amazed at the price that these pieces of art were going for with some being sold for over €30,000. This concluded our tour.

We had a great experience and we really enjoyed our visit to Waterford Crystal.

## ECOLOGY Day

On Monday 24th October we had Ecology Day for Sixth Year biology students in the school. We were joined on the day by well known ecologist and broadcaster Eanna Ní Lamhna. This day was organised to study all the ecology practical work from the leaving cert biology course. We began with an introductory talk by Eanna and then we proceeded to carry out our practical work outside. We finished the day with a very interesting talk and compilation of results. This was a very educational and enjoyable day for all concerned.

# Agricultural Science Trip to Kildalton

The Fifth Year Agricultural Science class accompanied by Mr Darmody and Ms Boland went on their annual farm visit to Kildalton Agricultural College in Piltown on March 13th. Kildalton College is the largest agricultural college in the country. It is a leading provider of training in Equine

On our visit, we got information on the enterprises in the college. Kildalton College has a one hundred cow spring calving herd. A modern dairy shed and milking parlour has just been completed. The herd is composed of Jersey and Norwegian Red cross Holstein Friesian cows. This breed of

Holstein Friesian has high milk yields, poor milk solids and reduced fertility, whereas the Jersey and Norwegian Red have the opposite. However, the Jersey offspring have very bad conformation and therefore have limited beef value.

The suckler herd is made up of forty five continental cross suckler cows plus replacements. All progeny are reared to beef. The aim is to maximise liveweight gain off grass and minimise winter feed costs.

The sheep flock is comprised of two hundred ewes. They are bred for early lamb and for mid-season production. In the sheep shed, we were shown how to stomach tube a lamb and to tail dock.

Crops at Kildalton are grown for commercial purposes, skills training and variety trials. Tillage crops normally include winter wheat, spring wheat, spring barley, winter oats, oilseed rape, maize and potatoes. Bio-energy crops such as willow and miscanthus are also grown.

Overall, the farm visit was very worthwhile as we got to see theory being put into practice. We wrote up a report on our farm visit.

This report along with our other projects on crops and animals will be examined by our practical examiner next May.



Studies, Machinery, Agriculture and Horticulture. The farm visit is part of the fulfilment of the practical component of Agricultural Science, which makes up 25% of the overall marks.

cow has been introduced into the farm to make use of hybrid vigour. Hybrid vigour is where the performance of the offspring outperforms the average performance of the parents. The

## IASTI Table Quiz



L-r: David Hennessy, Peter Walsh, Ciarán Murphy and Anthony Forristal pictured with Mr Darmody.

The All-Ireland Final of the IASTA (Irish Agricultural Science Teachers Association) table quiz was held in the Springhill Hotel on Wednesday March 28th. Questions came from the Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science Course. Topics asked were based on animal and plant physiology, microbiology, genetics, soil science, ecology, crop and animal husbandry. Sixteen teams from all over the country competed in the final. They came from as far as Galway, Kerry, Dublin, Limerick and Westmeath. Two teams from St Kieran's College qualified for the final. The Fifth Year team was made up of Michael Comerford, Eoin Shortall and Keith Phelan. The Sixth Year team comprised of Anthony Forristal, David Hennessy, Ciarán Murphy and Peter Walsh. The 6th years were victorious on the night, scoring an impressive 54 points out of 60. They hold the title of being All-Ireland Agricultural Science Quiz Champions. The Fifth Year team look very promising for next year to retain the title for St Kieran's College.



## SCIENCE WEEK

On 16th November 1A3 visited the library in Loughboy to see a demonstration of science tricks and stunts. This involved a glass of water being overturned above a student's head but he didn't get wet. We saw money being burned, graduated cylinders disappear, and three bowling balls balanced on top of each other. We also had teachers and students who sat on a chair of nails and were able to walk back to school afterwards! This was a great display and was enjoyed by all.



## Spanish Fiesta

Joesph Cashin First Year

The best Spanish class ever was on the 27th of February, we had a feast or a fiesta with all different Spanish foods. We all brought in €2 each to go towards the cost of the fiesta. Ms Ghanem our Spanish teacher organised the class and bought the food. The whole class was really looking forward to tasting all the different foods that the Spanish diet contains. Some of the foods that we tried were sun flower seeds (pipas), different cheeses (queso), bread roll (panecillo) with olive oil, (aceite de olive), spicy sausage (chorizo) and paella. We all enjoyed the food with many of us tasting some of the food for the first time. We would like to thank Ms Ghanem for preparing the class for us.





BSTAI Quiz - Back row (l-r): Mr Connolly, Jason Byrne, Eoin Walsh, Jack Keoghan, Sean Brennan.  
Front row (l-r): Cathal Phelan, Vladyslaw Medvensky, Conor Aylward, Robert Dunne, Mr Fitzgerald.

# BSTAI Annual Business Quiz

Vladyslaw Medvensky, Second Year

On the 23rd November 2011, two teams from St Kieran's College competed in the annual BSTAI Business Quiz held for Junior Certificate students of Business Studies in Waterford IT.

## Grade 'A' students

Congratulations to last year's Third Year students who received an 'A' grade in their business studies exam. Each of the students was presented with a certificate of excellence by Waterford Institute of Technology.



Grade "A" students - Back row (l-r): Head of Business (WIT), Graham English. Front row (l-r): James Mullan, Brian Mahon, Conor O'Carroll, Mr Niall Connolly.

The quiz consisted of questions ranging from the Business Studies course to general knowledge. More than 45 teams from all over the South East competed in this prestigious event to determine the top three teams that would get a place in the national final. At the end, one of the St Kieran's teams secured a firm 1st place with an outstanding 63 points out of a possible 80 - the highest amount ever scored in the quiz.

Following a strong performance at the regional heat, the winning team consisting of Eoin Walsh, Jack Keoghan, Vladyslaw Medvensky and Conor Aylward went on to represent the region at the All-Ireland Final which took place in LIT Thurles on the 28th March 2012. Intense rivalry was evident right throughout the competition, when even after half the rounds had been completed there was still no predicted winner with many teams sharing top places. The last few rounds were exceptionally close with regards to the results scored and St Kieran's had to go into a 'Sudden Death' round to determine who would get 3rd place. At the end of the day St Kieran's managed to win the tie-breaker round and achieve 3rd place in the All-Ireland Final, thanks to Jack Keoghan who proved his outstanding knowledge and insight into current affairs. A special word of thanks goes to Mr Connolly who took the time and effort in preparing and helping the team stay focused and determined to succeed in the quiz.

# Young Entrepreneur Competition

Nicholas Dunphy Transition Year

We were only back in school a couple of weeks when the teachers were straight on to us to get our plans together for our mini companies. We were allowed to make the groups ourselves with no more than five in a team. Bernie Mac Coy was great help and was in twice or three times to see each group to talk about ideas and see what we could do to make them go as far as possible in the competition.

Once we had our companies set up we went to sell our products to our fellow students as well as outside the school. The companies were selling their products from September to January in school and some companies are still selling. In January we had to put a written report together, to go for an interview with Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Connolly. We also had our products on display for the day for the teachers to inspect. Six groups went through to the county finals from St Kieran's. We had a lot of work to do to get our reports up to scratch and get everything ready for the big day on the 7th of March, especially when our work experience came in the middle. We had to have the project completed a couple of weeks in advance so the judges could read them before the big day. The six groups that qualified were Cian Smith and Brendan Cullen's company who were in the ticket holder business for your car which is new to the market, Séan Burke's company SB Shelving: steel shelves for all uses, Brian and Conor O' Carroll's company who were in the turkey business. Brian Mahon's company, Mahon Potatoes which was in the potatoes industry, John Lynch, Ben Moylan and Daniel Duku's company Base Base Head Phones which was ear phones sown into your hat and my own company D.N.R.U., I designed a unit to stop you fuelling your car with the wrong fuel.

We were all excited when the day came around; we headed over to the Newpark Hotel to set up our stand. We were there from nine o'clock in the morning till after three when the tidying up after the big day had to happen. We were all interviewed by the three judges even though it was hard to know who was and was not a judge at the start, so you took everybody to be a judge unless they said they were not. Everybody had their eyes on the top prize of going to the All-Ireland finals in Dublin in April. The awards ceremony was held at the end of the day. By the end of the ceremony St Kieran's had two winners: Brendan Cullen and Cian Smith's company came second overall in the senior category and, luckily for me, I was the other winner. I won the Technology and Science award sponsored by I.T. Carlow. It was a great few months that was enjoyed by all who took part, especially the day in the Newpark Hotel.



Nicholas Dunphy



Cian Smith, Brendan Cullen.



Daniel Duku, Ben Moylan, John Lynch.

# Fifth Year LCVP trip to the Irish Wheelchair Association

Jason Carroll and Liam Elvidge Fifth Year

On Monday the 20th of February our LCVP class visited the Irish Wheelchair Association in Kilkenny. We had a 45 minute talk with a staff member of the Irish Wheelchair Association and he told us the problems that wheelchair users have with public transport in Kilkenny.

He then told us about the employees who work there and what their everyday duties are, they focus on helping to make the lives of people in wheelchairs less of a struggle while also helping them to become more independent.

We were told about the facilities they provide for people with Physical and Sensory Disabilities. The IWA

provides accessible housing on campus where the people can live an independent life. They also provide various activities each week such as art

THEY FOCUS ON HELPING TO MAKE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN WHEELCHAIRS LESS OF A STRUGGLE WHILE ALSO HELPING THEM TO BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT.

and crafts, driving lessons, Information Technology classes, shopping trips and training and education so that people with disabilities can interact with

others, making life more sociable and increasing independence.

The IWA liaises with local businesses in Kilkenny to try to find work placements for wheelchair users. He talked about the lack of job opportunities available to people in wheelchairs and informed us that this is a struggle as Kilkenny is very inaccessible for people with disabilities. Most buildings have steps or no facilities for wheelchair users but businesses can gain a grant to make their buildings wheelchair accessible and can then provide employment for people in wheelchairs.

We learned a lot from our trip to the IWA.

# Second Year trip to the Dail

Oisín Gough Second Year



On Wednesday the 7th March 2012, our class 2A5, along with our teachers Ms Phelan and Ms Galway, left the school at 8 o'clock and headed to Leinster House in Dublin for our Junior Certificate CSPE Action Project on democracy.

Upon arriving at Leinster House we met Senator Pat O'Neill from Bennetsbridge who had very kindly invited us. Pat brought us into the Dáil chambers where we got to see democracy in full swing with a debate being held through Irish. Among some of the many politicians we saw were An

Taoiseach Enda Kenny (Fine Gael), An Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore (the Labour Party), Micheál Martin, leader of Fianna Fáil and Gerry Adams leader of the Sinn Féin party.

Once the debate was over we were given a very interesting tour of Leinster House where we learned about the history of the house.

After the tour we were brought into the Seanad. Here we heard Frances Fitzgerald, the Minister for Children, give a speech to the senators about child protection. After this we left

the Seanad and had lunch in the Dáil Cafeteria.

After lunch, we sat down with both Senator O'Neill and TD John Paul Phelan who came to say hello to the group from St Kieran's. We asked them both some questions about their jobs and then we left to return home on the bus.

On behalf of my CSPE class I would like to thank Senator Pat O'Neill, Ms Galway and Ms Phelan for organising a very interesting day for us in Leinster House.

# Sleep Out for Charity

For the second year in a row Transition Year students took part in a sleep out for charity. The sleep out was once again held at the town hall in Kilkenny city. The Transition Year students were raising money for Kilkenny Autism. The group are fundraising to build a new unit for adults with autism in Kilkenny. Luckily for the staff and students involved in the sleep out the 29th of March was not a typical frosty March night. However, the hot food and drinks supplied by the Ormonde Hotel and Supermacs were very much appreciated on the night! The sleep out was a great success with €3000 raised, thank you to everyone who participated on the night and who so generously gave to such a worthy cause.



# Over €7700 raised for Kilkenny Autism

**This year a group of St Kieran's College teachers decided to get fit for charity. Ten teachers signed up to run the Dublin City half marathon for Kilkenny Autism. After many weeks of training over the summer the ten teachers, full of apprehension, laced up their runners and travelled to the Phoenix Park.**



The 17th September was a pleasant autumnal day, perfect for running. To the surprise of many students all the teachers completed the course!

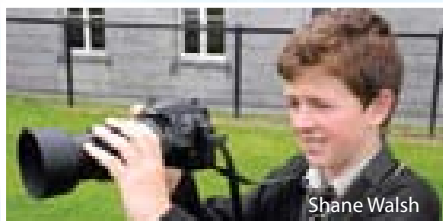
It was a very successful day for Kilkenny Autism with €7700 raised. All the teachers involved thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and hopefully will be persuaded to run again next year! In fact some teachers were so invigorated by the half marathon that they took their training plans a bit further and headed off to complete the Rome marathon on St Patrick's weekend 2012. Well done to all involved.





# Video and Photography

Shane Walsh Transition Year



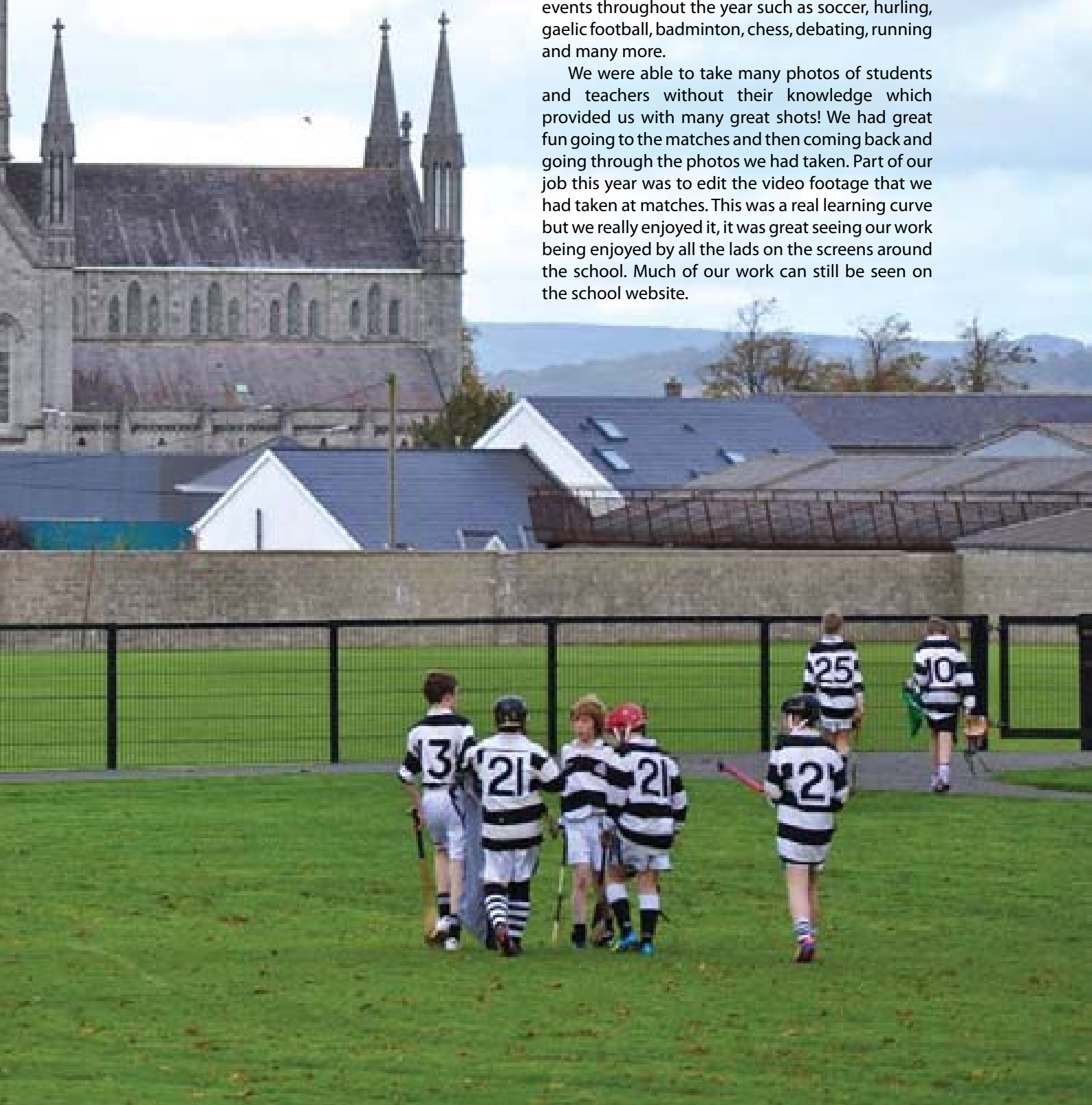
Shane Walsh



Kevin Blanchfield

Kevin Blanchfield and I were given the opportunity as Transition Year students to get involved with archiving the activities that occurred in Kieran's during this school year. We were charged with taking videos and photographs which we both found to be a great experience. We went to many events throughout the year such as soccer, hurling, gaelic football, badminton, chess, debating, running and many more.

We were able to take many photos of students and teachers without their knowledge which provided us with many great shots! We had great fun going to the matches and then coming back and going through the photos we had taken. Part of our job this year was to edit the video footage that we had taken at matches. This was a real learning curve but we really enjoyed it, it was great seeing our work being enjoyed by all the lads on the screens around the school. Much of our work can still be seen on the school website.



# Concern Debating in St Kieran's College

Ben Moylan Transition Year

St Kieran's College has a fantastic Concern Debating team, made up of the best argumentative minds in the school. So far this school year, three debates have taken place, and different members have been sent to "battle" each time. The uniform for debating involves the normal school uniform, except with a black St Kieran's College blazer replacing the common black jumper.

The first debate of the year was a successful debate against CBS Kilkenny, and the team that day was made up of (in order of speech) Aravind Menon (Captain), Benjamin Moylan, Miodrag Ignatović and James McGrath, and it took place inside the CBS Kilkenny secondary school. The motion of concern was "Young Irish people are doing their fair share to end poverty and hunger in third world countries", St Kieran's College were firmly opposing this motion, and spent considerable time and effort composing the speeches. Many ideas were thrown around during the debate; money, attitude, the CBS Zambia Project etc.

Our own school took the approach to the debate of mentioning all the problems in Africa, and stating that they're not the things that Irish young people talk about, as they believe that there is more important things in their



Left to right: Conor Quinlan, Ben Lahart, Artur Helizan, Cormac Everard.

life than saving thousands of lives. St Kieran's College emerged victorious at the end, with a unanimous win of 3-0. This was a proud victory to the school, and it gave a great sense of achievement to the members and the directors of the debating team at the time, Mr O'Neill and Ms Galway and Fr Ryan, it also gave the team a better idea of how to arrange themselves in the next debate.

The school entered into 3 other debates, only taking part in two however, against Coláiste Pobail Osraí opposing the motion "Africa's growing population is undermining its development", unfortunately losing this one with a split decision score of 1-2, and then against CBS Thurles,

winning 2-1, proposing the motion "GM foods are essential in the fight against world hunger"

## THE CONCERN DEBATES AIM TO:

- PROMOTE A DEEPER AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF GLOBAL ISSUES
- PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A PUBLIC FORUM, TO DEVELOP SKILLS IN RESEARCH, PRESENTATION AND DEBATE
- ENCOURAGE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO BECOME LIFELONG ADVOCATES ON ISSUES RELATING TO POVERTY, JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

## Christmas Cards

This year St Kieran's College launched a christmas card. The card depicts the beauty and magic of St Kieran's during the snow. All proceeds from the sale of the card went to the St Kieran's College Lourdes Youth fund which sends 10 students each year to help assist pilgrims to and from the ceremonies on the annual diocesan pilgrimage. These cards will be available again next year. Get your orders in early!!!



# Romeo and Juliet



Dylan Jordan Second Year

The play Romeo and Juliet was performed in the College Theatre on the 14th March. The group that performed were called the Alter Ego Theatre Company. All Second Year students attended the play; some Third Year students were present also. The play consisted of four actors each of whom played two or more different characters in the play. The play was set on ground level with the audience surrounding the actors, this was called in the round. This made the play more interesting because it was easy for the audience to engage with the actors.

The acting was excellent because the actors used techniques like fake boxing and throwing themselves on the ground to make a bang; this made the play more realistic.

Near the end when the play was over the acting group did an "acting workshop". This was to show the audience some secret acting skills that were performed in the play. The actors showed the audience how to pull someone's hair without hurting them and the fake box that all the students were interested in. The acting group picked people out of the audience to try this simple acting, one student who was picked out was Tom Whitty from Second Year, and he performed the fake box.

We enjoyed the play a lot and it especially helped the Third Years for their upcoming exams. It was a brilliant opportunity for us that such a good interpretation of the play was shown to the students of St Kieran's College.

# My trip to the cinema

Ian Clifford First Year

I went to the cinema with my school, we went to see the "Hunger Games". All of the First Years got the opportunity to go, Ms Phelan, Mr O'Neill, Mr Forrest and Ms Galway came with us. I thought that the film was really good because it was exciting and really interesting.

There was a lot of action in the film which I really enjoyed. I enjoyed all of it because for the start you were just really eager to see what was going to happen at the end. When the games begin, and all the fighting starts, you just want to know if the boy and girl from district 12 would survive. It was a really good film and I really enjoyed it.

# Poetry Aloud

Liam Wallace Second Year



This year was my second time in Poetry Aloud, having not got through the first round last year. I was pretty nervous but that experience helped me get through this year.

The first round was in the St Kieran's College theatre with over 80 people competing for 10 places in the next round, 10 of these people coming from St Kieran's. We all had to say two poems I said "Digging" by Seamus Heaney and "Down by the Sally Gardens" by W.B. Yeats.

When the judges called out my name for the next round, I was pretty excited. Not only did I miss a day of school, but it also involved a trip to Dublin on 25th of November to say two poems in the National Library.

On the day I had to say two poems "Digging" again and "The Boy Who Nearly Won the Texaco Art Competition" by Joe Kane. Of the 1,000 people who entered there were 150 people at the semi finals from all over Ireland competing and it was a great event. Unfortunately, I didn't get to compete in the finals but it was great to get that far.





# First Year Geography Trip

Brandon Moloney First Year



On our geography trip we went to Instioge to a place called Woodstock House and Gardens. In my opinion it was one of the best days of First Year. We went to Woodstock to go orienteering, we had to follow a map and locate sixteen flags. When we found the flags we had to remove a plastic sticker and put it in plastic bag. We were all divided into different groups and had to compete against each other as well as all the other schools. There were schools there from all over Leinster. It was a great way of revising our map work because you had to read the map properly to find the flags.

After we had finished the competition we walked down to the river. While there we saw many different types of birds, fish and insects. We were then allowed to take a break and relax. After our break we all set off again and walked a very short distance into the village where we met the bus.

We had a fantastic day and would like to thank Ms Warner and Mr Forrest for bringing us.

# Leaving Cert Geography Trip

Last September two leaving certificate geography classes travelled to Tramore, Co. Waterford to carry out fieldwork. The geographical investigation is now a core area of study and all students must carry out this exercise. The focus of the study was to observe, measure and record "transportation and deposition processes at work on the beach landform". Planning for the day was considerable. We checked both the weather and tides, studied maps and geological samples, practiced using the equipment we would use on the beach and designed recording sheets. This was all essential preparation for successful fieldwork.

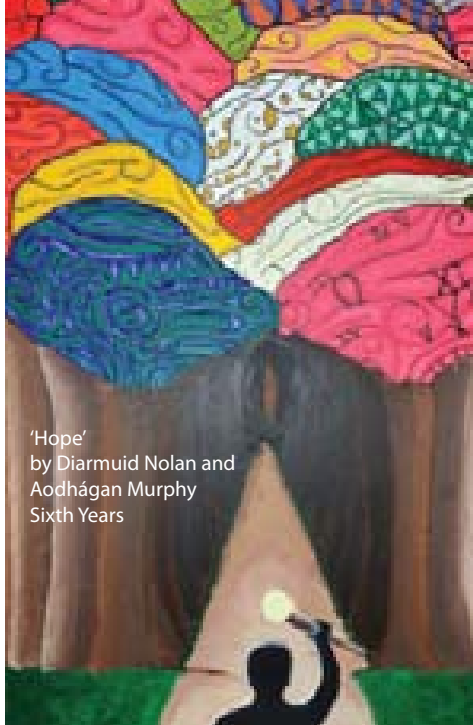
The beach at Tramore was ideal for our project. It was easily accessible to the students and all the activities were carried out safely. It proved to be a straight-forward logistical exercise to get all the students and their equipment onto the beach. We identified coastal features and processes, drew sketch maps, calculated the slope of the beach, measured the size, shape and geology of beach material, tried to establish longshore drift and carried out a wave survey. All the various tasks proved challenging yet manageable for the students. We accurately recorded the information from these tasks and this was the purpose of the day.

Both for the students and teachers involved the fieldwork at Tramore was enjoyable and extremely educational.





'Owl' by Brad Ellis Third Year



'Hope'  
by Diarmuid Nolan and  
Aodhagan Murphy  
Sixth Years



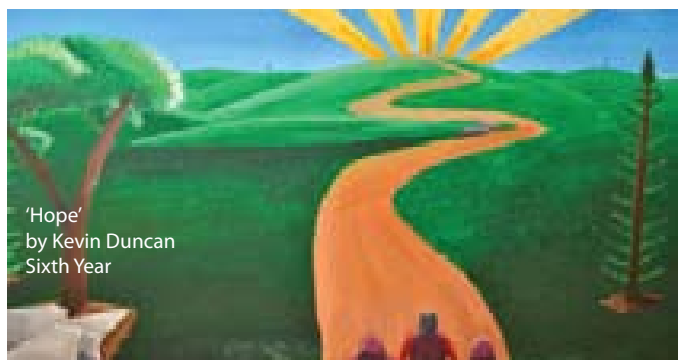
'Owl' by Richie Leahy Third Year

# ART 2012

## St Kieran's College



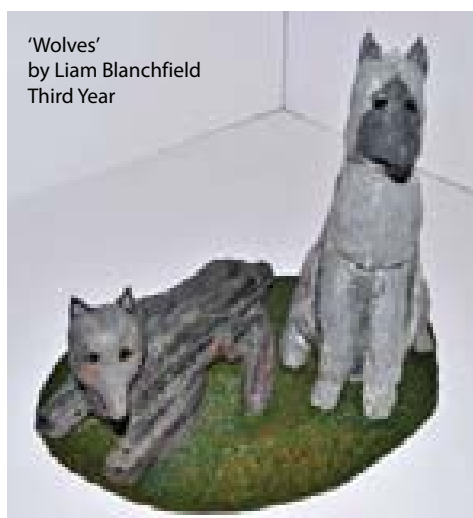
'Eagle'  
by Jonathan Barron  
Third Year



'Hope'  
by Kevin Duncan  
Sixth Year



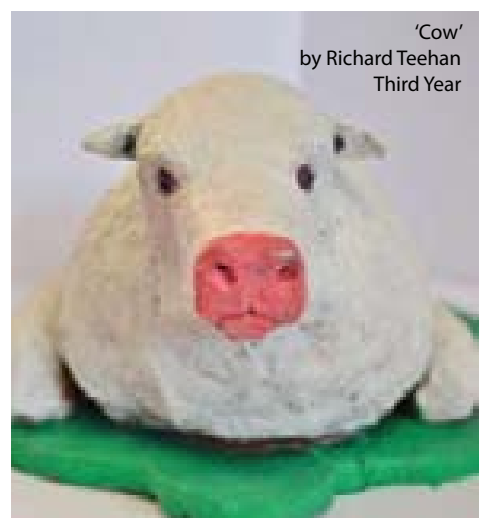
Peter Walsh First Year, winner of the 'Promoting Active Transport' poster competition with his prize. Also pictured Michael Kelleher, Art Teacher.



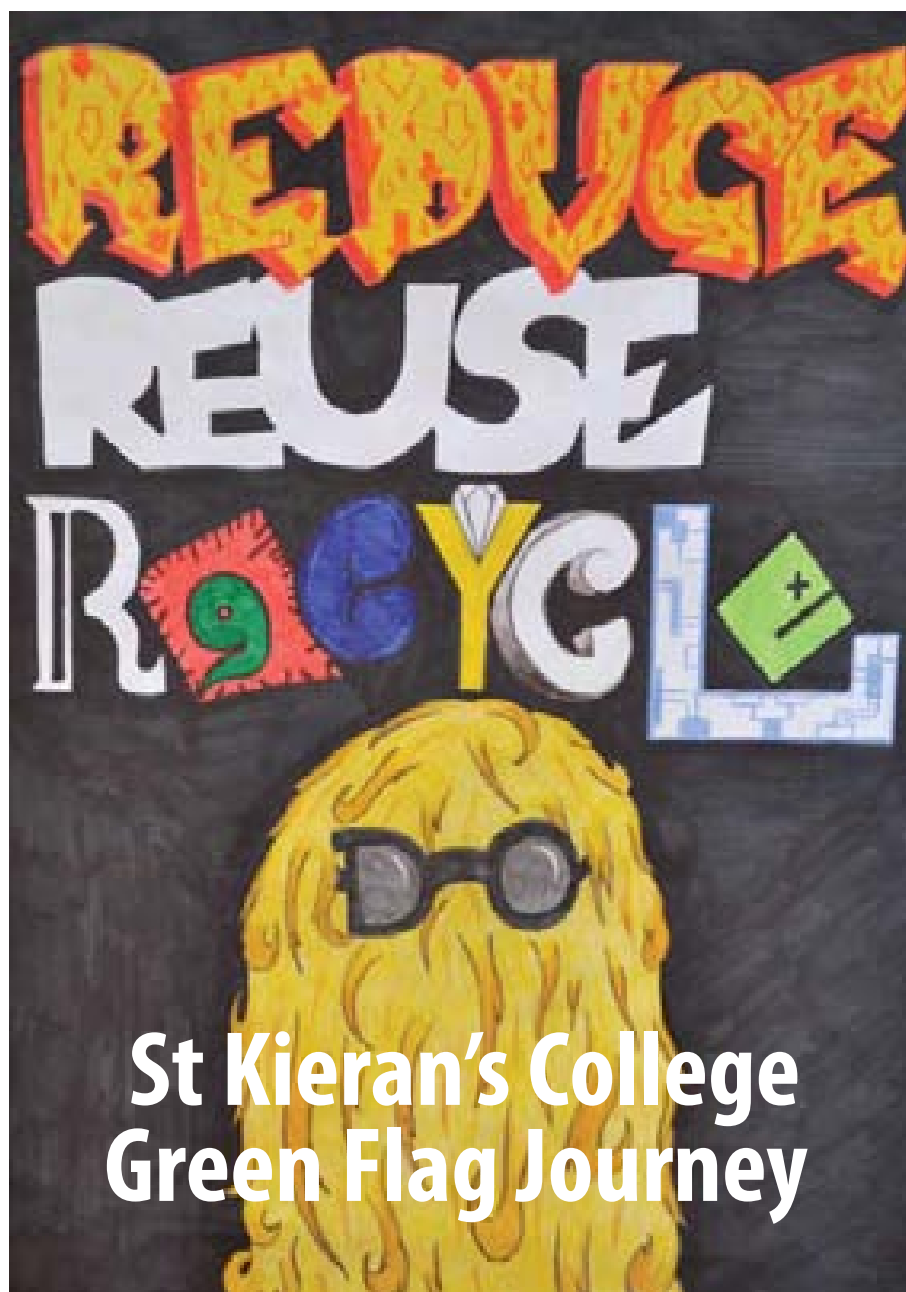
'Wolves'  
by Liam Blanchfield  
Third Year



'Enchanted'  
by Alex Milchev  
Third Year



'Cow'  
by Richard Teehan  
Third Year



## St Kieran's College Green Flag Journey

Cormac Lehnen Second Year

In 2010 a Green Schools' Committee was set up in Kieran's, our goal was to inform, encourage, and create awareness of litter issues around the school and to come up with ideas to tackle these issues and solve them making the school a greener place, and hopefully as a result of our efforts be awarded a green flag. What does a green flag symbolise for a school? A green flag symbolises a school's dedication to the environment, and represents the students' commitment and responsibility to the environment and the world we live in. 'Green Schools', an international environment awareness and education programme, has awarded many schools all over Ireland with a green flag. Its aim is not just to award schools but to encourage and create long-term student awareness of environmental issues.

The first step was setting up a Green Schools' committee. Students were encouraged to take direct action and responsibility for their school. Once a committee was established we had to complete the next task of writing an environmental review; this is a process of examining the school's environmental impact in order to identify targets for action and improvement. Next the creation of an 'Action Plan' consisting of a number of achievable targets for the school was set. We did many things such as putting new bin stations around the school, raising awareness and we made submissions to the County Council Draft Litter Management Plan. Monitoring and evaluation often took place to keep track of achievements. Programmes were set up to inform and involve the school and communicate with the wider community through assemblies, visits to classes and PowerPoint presentations. Finally, a Green Code was written, this is a statement of the school's commitment to environmental good habits. Many actions had been taken to improve circumstances involving litter - last year new paper bins were situated in all classrooms, and all bins were properly labelled.

In art class, posters were made and then placed all over the school grounds presenting slogans promoting recycling, reusing and reducing waste



Green Schools Committee – Back row (l-r): Cormac Lehnen, Mr Simon Reddy, Alan Mooney, Ian Martin, Nicholas Dunphy. Front row: Ms Orla Ring, Dylan Collins, Matthew Powell, Bill Cuddihy, Daniel Farrell, Ms Jane Galway.

production and how to dispose of it properly. Also, a noticeboard was appointed in the glass hall informing students of our goals, both achieved and the ones in progress. An evaluator from the Green Schools' management visited the school. She gave us ideas and targets for the future. For our day of action the committee planned an environmental quiz to create awareness to take place during class. First, Second Fourth and Fifth Years participated in the event. Students left with a greater knowledge of environmental issues and how to solve them. Before the Easter break a Green Schools' representative

visited the school and evaluated our progress and achieved targets. This was to see if we deserved a green flag or not. He discussed with us actions we had taken to resolve issues concerning litter problems. He visited a few classes to make sure they were aware of the committee set up in the school and what they were doing. Thankfully, he seemed to be impressed with our efforts and he complimented the whole school effort involved. However, there would be no confirmation of whether or not we would be awarded a green flag until after the holidays. It was a waiting game.

After returning from the holidays, good news came in. We were proud of our achievements and the tireless work and effort put in towards improving St Kieran's College regardless of the result. Thankfully though, St Kieran's College had finally been awarded a green flag, and we plan to raise it in a ceremony in September. We're overjoyed with the result, however this is not the end of our story, and although we now have a green flag to reward our efforts it is still a work in progress. Much has been achieved in the past two years and hopefully many more of our aspirations for the future can be attained.

## Senior Choir

The Senior Choir consists of 16 very talented musicians who come from Second Year through to Sixth Year. The choir continued their tradition of carol singing in the Town Hall at Christmas. This year the chosen charity was the Aislinn centre. After a very cold two and a half hours the choir succeeded in collecting just under €1000 for the charity.

Straight after Christmas, their attention turned immediately to the Kilkenny Music Festival. Rehearsals started up every Monday after school in the College Theatre where the Senior Choir were joined by about 20 Loreto students. They rehearsed every week on Sit Down You're Rockin' The Boat, from Guys and Dolls. The combined choir put their heart and soul into the performance and were rewarded with joint 3rd place in the Ann P Smithwick Cup. The Senior Choir also rehearsed



Back row (l-r): Roman Hartman, Ciaran Fennelly, Ian Martin, Paul Farrell. Middle row (l-r): Aidan Byrne, Kevin McGrath, Joe Ryan, Brian Cantwell, Barry Power, James Rice. Front row (l-r): James McGrath, Richard Fitzgerald, Andrew Tierney, Alan Hayes, Niall Brennan, Patrick Kennedy.

on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunch time and entered the same competition with The Beatles' Eleanor Rigby. They also took part in the Eddie Gray Memorial Cup with their rendition of My Lord What a Mornin', which they performed at the celebration of the Eucharistic Congress Bell being welcomed to the schools of the Diocese of Ossory. The choir have now turned

their attention to preparations for the Sixth Year Graduation Mass and the Awards Night, which will be the final performance for nine of the sixteen members.

A special word of thanks must go to these nine students who have spent six years entertaining the school at every Awards night and Mass that has been held by the school.

## Junior Choir

The Junior Choir this year had 25 members from First and Second Year. They rehearsed since October on their rendition of Amazing Grace. The choir worked really hard on this every week and the piece finally came together with the 25 members achieving a difficult task of singing in harmony. They also joined up with the Senior Choir for both the Christmas Carol service and the annual St Kieran's Day Mass. Keep up the good work.



Back row (l-r): Dylan Smithwick, Jack Smith, Fintan Fleming, Jack Connelly, Conor Hacket, Conall Whelan. Middle row (l-r): Daniel Egars, Jack Tynan, Dylan Simpson, Conor Phelan, Gary Moore, Morgan Thomas, Robbie Kirwan. Front row (l-r) Ben Whelan, Joe Cashin, Ryan Poynts, Andy Walsh, Kieran Lucey, Patrick Lowry.





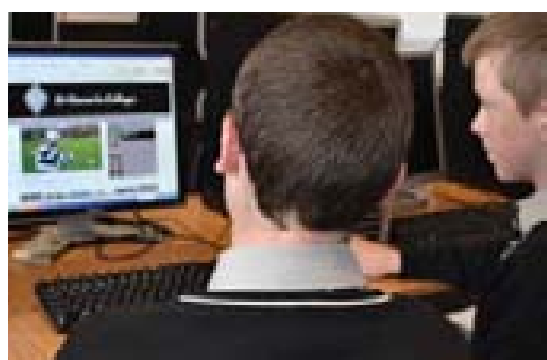
# The world has gone mobile...

The world is gone mobile. To deny this reality is, in fact, to deny reality itself. Conscious of this, St Kieran's College has, in the past year or two, gone mobile itself. . . You might remember that last year our College Record announced the launch of a school and College website but to be fair this was only a beginning.

In the past twelve months we have begun to push the many and varied possibilities that technology offers to our students, teachers and families. In fact, it is our hope that many of these have already impacted upon your life unknowingly; after all that is what is smart about smart technology. . . .

**SCHOOL TEXTS:** In recent months the school has begun the process of texting parents to inform them of the many activities that are part of the everyday life of a school community. It has proven to be an invaluable way to communicate the day-to-day happenings of a hectic school schedule. While the text service will obviously help disseminate information in the case of some unexpected events such as the closure of the school due to snow, it is also fast becoming an integral part of our every day communication. Since its launch we have sent texts to remind parents of a variety of events: parent teachers meetings; a school play involving our students; hurling matches and the awards night to name but a few. It is surely a great addition to the life of our school community.

**SCHOOL SCREENS:** Have you noticed, if you were in around the school, some of the many screens that are located throughout the buildings or maybe you've noticed the proud face of your son as he returned home? In this last year we have added greatly to the number of screens around the school that display information, notices and so much more to the school community. It is, today, not uncommon to see students walking between classes trying to catch a glimpse of the faces that were pictured at a recent hurling match, quiz day, debate evening or other school event. The achievements of all are placed on these screens every day to keep the school community informed about those who represent us in any and all activities. In fact, recently the screens have even carried live scores - updated remotely from pitch side!! Much more is yet to come.



**WEBSITE:** This is possibly the best known and, in spite of its young age, the best established, of the school's I.T. ventures. Each and every activity of the school and its students is recorded on our school website. Pictures, audio, video and text accompany all of the school activities and all of these are recorded on the website which is updated more than daily. In fact hundreds of people, students present and past, have signed up on the website home page to receive daily emails of the activities of the school community. What better way to keep on top of all that is happening?? Why not sign up? [www.stkieranscollege.ie/school](http://www.stkieranscollege.ie/school)

**TWITTER:** Smart people are using smart phones, and to embrace this reality @KieransCollege was recently launched. This is the school's way of communicating, or better still tweeting, a centuries old message by modern means. Wishing the students well in exams, reminders of meetings, the results of matches, quizzes and even news from the school community are all now communicated to those who 'follow' St Kieran's through twitter. After all, whatever about smart phones - it has to be said smart people follow St Kierans!!

**LINKED IN:** Former students of St Kieran's in New York, Rome, Kilkenny, Belfast, New Deli or anywhere else can now find, with great ease, other former students who are also in their community or type of work. Linked IN has become the standard means of making connections and renewing them. St Kieran's is now in the midst of this. We have just launched a new Linked IN profile that allows our former students, or parents, to make connections with each other. Maybe it is the beginning of a way to plan a reunion, to meet for a drink in far off places, to exchange stories of happy days spent here, or simply to trade those all important work contacts and advices, ... the possibilities of this new venture are limitless...

**SCHOOL MEDIA SERVER:** One of the biggest developments we have undertaken in this past year is the installation of a media and network hub here in the College. This facility, which is at the cutting edge of what is possible for the storage and sharing of material, allows teachers to share class plans, resources, videos, audio, notes, exam papers and much much more from class to class. It is a development that really puts the school at the forefront of educational institutions utilising today's technology. Teachers are now regularly seen in the classrooms or the staff room logging in to download today's work or to upload tomorrows!!

**MOODLE:** This is one of the schools newest initiatives but it is the one that we are most excited about. Imagine the possibilities: notes online for a student who is at home due to illness, today's homework available for parents and students to check and cover, or revision notes to help with study. More and more it will be the nature of education that possibilities are offered online. It is the way of our third level universities and students from St Kieran's will, by the time they leave us, will expect it wherever they go....

**EPORTAL:** If moodle is one of the newest, ePortal is certainly THE newest member of the I.T. family here in St Kieran's... and like moodle it opens for us more possibilities than you can yet imagine... Starting in September teachers will have the ability to seamlessly, from their desk, follow a student through their school day, check attendance, results and follow progress. Students and parents will, at the touch of a button, have the same facility from home. It is the next logical step for an eLearning community... it is therefore the next step available to us...

***The world has gone mobile and St Kieran's is out in front in this game, as well as in our usual ones...***

# Transition Year 2011/2012

Nicholas Dunphy and Ciarán Fennelly

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Our names are Nicholas Dunphy and Ciarán Fennelly and we are this year's editors for the TY section of the Record. We were asked by Mr O'Neill to take on this position and keep an account of all the TY activities for this year. We had to try and participate in every activity so that we could write a short note on each one. We really enjoyed gathering and writing up all the articles and found it to be a great experience.





## SLIABH NA MAN

This year's Transition Year students took on the challenge to climb Sliabh na Man in Tipperary. We were taken in two separate groups. TYA and TYC went first with Mr Hogan and Mr Walsh. It is organised every year for the Transition Years as a bonding session.

The bus left us at the bottom of the 721 metre hill and we quickly began to make our way to the top. We began as one group but gradually broke up. As we went up the fog came down and left us with poor visibility in the cold weather. TYB and TYD, who were accompanied by Mr Hogan and Ms Hanrick, were much luckier with clear skies which made it a much more

comfortable climb. After a short break at the top and a well deserved lunch, we ran down the hill at full speed.

On our way back to Kilkenny, we took a detour and walked to Ahenny to see the High Crosses. It was a really enjoyable day and it certainly was a bonding session!

## SEAN BYRNE MEMORIAL MILE RUN

At two o'clock on Thursday the 15th of March Transition Year students from all over the city headed to Scanlon Park to take part in the Sean Byrne Memorial Mile. The run was organised by Kilkenny City Harriers' trainer, Sean

Lynch. It is organised every year to commemorate the death of KCH's former member Sean Byrne. The run is also held to check the fitness levels of Transition Year students. It should be done in less than nine minutes for boys and less than eleven minutes for girls. The school with lowest combined times was the overall winner and would receive the Sean Byrne Perpetual Trophy. Our year was split into two groups. James Maher was the winner of the first race and Stephen Farrell was the winner of the second. St Kieran's College was the overall winner with the lowest combined times. ■■■■■▶





## CAR SAFETY DEMONSTRATION

On the 8th of November, all of the Transition Year students were given a car safety demonstration. This was given by Michael Gleeson, a professional car safety instructor. Each class got their chance to go out into the small trailer attached to the back of his jeep in the school car park.

Inside the trailer was the front half of a car. It had two front seats, front wheels, no roof and no bonnet, leaving the engine exposed for us to see. Michael introduced himself and told us that he had decided to give car safety demonstrations after his close friend died in a car crash seven years previous. Since then he has been going around to schools all over the country, teaching students about the workings of a car, how to stay safe while on the roads and showing what can happen if you don't. Michael was a real joker and although it was a serious talk, he made it really enjoyable. He instructed us on how to wear your seatbelt properly, how a headrest and seat should be positioned and how airbags worked. He then described the engine and all that goes with it, the gearbox and the breaking system.

We were then all handed a sheet entitled "When a car driven by an unbelted driver at 55mph hits a solid object, this is what happens". This was a broken down account of a car crash, millisecond by millisecond. At this moment, the demonstration began to hit home as everybody fell silent listening to the seriousness of a crash. All of the students began to realise the seriousness of driving and the risks that come with it.

## SAMBA DRUMMING

This year we took part in a Samba Drumming workshop on the 17th of January. This was a new experience for lots of our year as most of them had never played an instrument before. The instructor was Dave McFarlow and it was held in the school library.

The workshop lasted three classes. Each student was given their own percussion instrument to play and each percussion section had its own unique rhythm. All of these rhythms came together perfectly to create a piece of music along with the use of our own voices on occasion. Towards the end of the workshop, a class came up to listen to us perform our piece. The workshop was excellently run and was enjoyed by all.

## RIVER WALK

All of the TY classes took part in a walk along by the Nore from Kilkenny city out to Bennettsbridge. We started from Kieran's College at nine in the morning and headed across town. We walked through fields and forestry, the walk took us two hours to go out and two hours to come back to Kilkenny. When we arrived in Bennettsbridge we had our lunch and then we went to the hurling pitch. At the hurling pitch we relaxed for a while and then got ready to head back to the school.

## LAW DAY

On the 20th and 27th of March the TY students had a law day in Mr Quan's room. The day was run by Kate Hedigan, a solicitor from Limerick. We learned all about the Irish legal system and how it would affect us as teenagers in certain

circumstances. She told us different stories depending on the topic we were talking about e.g. prison life, stories of drug abuse and the infamous 'Scissor Sisters' case. Probably the most enjoyable part of the day was when we did the acted-out court case. There were three different groups, each with a different story. We had solicitors, a judge, an accused, a victim, witnesses and the jury. It was very interesting and very funny. Each group had all of the students and the teachers laughing hysterically. It was a very interesting and enjoyable day.

## PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the 20th September a small group of TY and Fifth Year students went to the National Ploughing Championships in Athy. All of the students had to be in school at 8 o'clock in the morning so that they could get the bus. We were joined by Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Darmody. All of the students going had the freedom to roam around in their own groups for the day and check out the nearly 1000 stalls that showcase machinery, industrial equipment, cars, tools, gadgets, livestock, household items, books, animal feed and fashion among many other things. There was plenty to see and do there. We all had a really enjoyable day.

## TY WORK EXPERIENCE

Throughout the year Transition Year students participate in work experience. There are four set weeks for work experience and all of the students organise it themselves, which was great for building our confidence and our communication skills. There were two weeks of work experience before the October midterm break and another two weeks before the February midterm break. Students have the option to do either two weeks in one firm, or one week in one firm and one week in another. Students went to places such as primary schools, garages, pharmacies, book shops, hotels, vets and the army. Some students were lucky enough to get a part-time job out of doing the work experience. We had to keep an account of what type of work we did, who we had to work with and the problems and opportunities we faced. Mr Connolly and Mr Quan gave us support and visited us on our work experience which was a great help to us.

## ART WORKSHOP

We took part in an art workshop on the 15th and the 22nd of November. There were two separate parts to it. One was a drawing workshop with an artist called Etaoin Holahan in the library. Etaoin is the chairperson of Endangered Studios and works mostly on large scale prints. She first showed us a PowerPoint presentation of her career as an artist. We then did portraits of each other using pencil followed by charcoal. We used different techniques, such as drawing the portrait through a mirror and also not allowing ourselves to look at the page whilst we drew it. The other workshop was in the art room and this was with another artist Philip Cullen. Philip mainly works with stone to create unique objects. He also showed us a PowerPoint of his work and then we moved on to do clay modelling. The object of the task was to create a face out of the clay. It was a great experience for all of the students especially those who don't do art in school.







## CINEMA

At two o'clock on Tuesday the 29th of November all of the TY students headed down to the cinema. There was a choice of four films to watch, Tower Heist, Arthur Christmas, The Ides of March and Twilight. The majority of students went to see Tower Heist. It was a great break from school and everyone enjoyed it very much.

## BOWLING

On the 6th of December the TY students went bowling in K Bowl in MacDonagh Junction. We were joined by the Mr Quan, Mr Archbold, Mr Windle, Mr Fitzgerald and Mr O'Neill. There were eight students to a lane and we were given lunch down there. The students began to become competitive towards the other students in their own lane but we still all managed to have a brilliant afternoon. We would like to thank the school and the teachers for organising it.

## SHOPPING IN DUNDRUM

On the 13th of December the Transition Year students boarded a bus outside the front gate of the school and headed off to Dundrum Shopping Centre in Dublin. The bus left at nine o'clock in the morning and we were joined by Ms Brennan and Ms Keyes. There was plenty to do as it is Ireland's largest shopping centre. It was a great opportunity for the students and the teachers to get their Christmas

shopping done. We spent the day up there and left Dundrum at about two o'clock. Everyone had a great day and we would like to thank the teachers for organising it for us.

## COLLECTING FOR CHARITIES

Throughout the year, Transition Year students went downtown collecting money for various charities such as Enable Ireland, ISPCC, Kilkenny Wheelchair Association and The Irish Heart Foundation. We also went bag packing in Dunnes' Stores for St Vincent de Paul. TY is not just a year for trips and activities. It is also a great opportunity to get involved in your community.

## RAPE CRISIS

On the 21st and 28th of February, the TY students went to the library for a rape crisis talk from Ruth Butler and Geraldine Butler, two women who work in The Kilkenny Rape Crisis & Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre. We discussed the effects that sexual abuse can have on a person and the legal side of it as well. We were given a couple of different scenarios and we then discussed our own opinions on them. It was a very interesting discussion and we would like to thank the two women for giving us the talk.

## CÉILÍ IN THE LORETO

There was a céilí in the Loreto sports hall organised by Karen Murphy on the 21st March. Although most of the

students were apprehensive at first, all the students got the hang of it and had great fun. The Loreto students, as part of their TY, had done a céilí module in school so they all knew how to do it and helped us throughout the céilí. There were a few different types of dances that we learned. We would like to thank Karen Murphy and the Loreto school for organising the day.

## CHARITY SLEEP OUT

At 9 o'clock on the 29th of March, students from Kieran's College began arriving at the town hall with sleeping bags and pillows. This was all for the charity sleep out which was in aid of Kilkenny Autism. Any student who wanted to take part had to raise €100. At ten o'clock the students headed up to Kilkenny Ormond Hotel for some warm soup. We then headed back down to the town hall where we left our bags inside the gates where we were staying for the night. A lot of the teachers came down to see us. At about quarter past eleven we headed into Supermac's for burgers and chips. After this we went back inside the gates messed around for a while and listened to music. At 2am we were told to take our sleeping bags out and to get in to keep warm. Luckily the night was not too cold. We chatted for the rest of the night with very few getting sleep. The majority fell asleep at about six o'clock for about an hour. We tidied up our sleeping gear at about seven in the

morning. When everyone was ready to go we went over to the Ormond Hotel for breakfast. It was great to finally get out of the cold. After breakfast we were allowed to head home for some well-needed sleep. The sleep out was a success as we raised €3,000 for Autism. We would like to thank Mr Lynch, Mr Heffernan and Mr Cotter for sleeping out with us. It was really an enjoyable night.

### CITY TOURS: TOUR OF KILKENNY

On the 23rd of February the TY students met under the arch and then made their way to the back of the Kilkenny tourist office where we met our tour guide. She began telling us a brief history of Kilkenny outside the tourist office and then we began the walk. We walked past St Mary's Church and then over to the Tolsel. She told us many different facts that we had never known before. We then headed over to Kieran Street where we were told the story of Dame Alice Kyteler and then down to Parliament Street where we were told about Rothe House and the Court House. We then headed up Abbey Street towards the Black Abbey. We learned about its famous stain glass window and the wall around Kilkenny. It was a very interesting tour and it was enjoyed by all.

### ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP

On the 12th of October, a small group of TY students took part in an interview for the Rotary Youth Leadership. These students were Cathal Darmody, Luke O'Connor, Kieran Freeman, John Rice, Nicholas Dunphy, Conor O'Carroll and Kacper Pawlowski. Before they went for the interview they had to write an essay about why they should be chosen, including any work they do and any leadership skills they

have. In the interview they were asked questions like, what people from different walks of life do, the people they admire and why. Everybody had their eye on the final prize which is a trip to Strasbourg in France where the European Parliament is. Only one person out of the group can go forward to county level. This student was Luke O'Connor, but unfortunately he did not pass the county level interviews.

### SOCCER MATCH ST KIERAN'S AGAINST THE SCHOOL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

As part of TY, students have the option to go on 'placement' and volunteer in various places around Kilkenny. Some of these places include St Patrick's adult centre and primary school on the Kells road, the SOS, crèches and the School of the Holy Spirit. Some of the students that volunteer in the School of the Holy Spirit were asked to organise a soccer



### TAG RUGBY DAY

At ten o'clock after the roll was taken on the 29th of March the TY students of St Kieran's College took a bus out to the Kilkenny Rugby Club to take part in the annual Tag Rugby day. The day is a fundraising event to raise money for the Kieran's College Lourdes trip in May.

We were joined by the Loreto school and Scoil Aireagail in Ballyhale. Scoil Aireagail had its own teams as it is a mixed school and Kieran's and Loreto were mixed to create teams. There were four teams per pitch. There had to be seven players playing at a time and each team had to have at least three girls playing. A boy will get one point for his team if he scores a try

and a girl gets three points. It is a non-contact sport and each player has two tags attached to him/her. Instead of tackling the aim is to pull the tag off your opponent, which would mean they would have to stop. After the teams had played each team on their pitch the teams were split up into a cup tournament and a shield tournament. The shield final was between Brian O'Carroll's team and Ballyhale B. The winner was Brian O'Carroll's team. The cup final was between Cian Smith's team and Ballyhale A, with Cian Smith's team coming out on top. We would like to thank the Rugby Club for giving us the use of their facilities and the teachers for organising this great event.





match between St Kieran's and the School of the Holy Spirit in St Kieran's College. These students gathered a team from Kieran's and then, since the School of the Holy Spirit was short on numbers, some Kieran's students went over to the other team. Kieran's were in the lead at the start but the School of the Holy Spirit began to come back. The game ended in a draw and the School of the Holy Spirit won on penalties. We would like to congratulate the winning team on their well deserved victory.

### **GARDA ROAD SAFETY TALK**

On Wednesday the 18th April, the TY students made their way, along with Mr Fitzgerald, Mr O'Neill and Mr Flood to the Watergate Theatre. We had to wait for forty-five minutes outside in the freezing cold as we were a bit early. We were there for the Garda Road Safety Talk which was being given by two Kilkenny guards, Sergeant Con Dooley and Garda Seán McMahon. Firstly, they introduced themselves and quickly proceeded to start the presentation. We were told that for Sergeant Con Dooley this topic was very close to his heart as his sister-in-law had died in a car crash many years previously when another driver crashed into her car due to fatigue. The talk was on the dangers of driving a car, especially a car driven by young male drivers like ourselves. They focused on the biggest causes of car collisions on our roads. They were speeding, drink driving and fatigue. These are the main causes of collisions but there are other factors that contribute to making these collisions fatal. The biggest factor would be not wearing a seatbelt. They also discussed the precautions that pedestrians and cyclists should take on the roads e.g. wearing high-visibility vests. The aim of the



talk was to open the eyes of TY students and young drivers to these dangers. We would like to thank Sergeant Con Dooley and Garda Seán McMahon for giving the presentation and the teachers who accompanied us on the day.

### **PRE-SCHOOL**

Every Wednesday we went to Loughboy Area Resource Centre based in Clongowan. We worked in the pre-school area doing a variety of activities like reading stories, cooking, colouring, numbers, play dough, planting seeds, dancing, singing, social skills and lots more! The children really enjoyed Wednesdays when we were there. The staff were very friendly and we got on very well with them. We will really miss our visits to the creche next year.

### **LOURDES**

Every year, ten students from TY in St Kieran's are chosen to go to Lourdes in France with the Diocese of Ossory on a pilgrimage trip. They go out as volunteers for the diocese. Firstly the students interested in taking part on the pilgrimage had to write an essay on why they think they should be chosen and what skills and talents they could bring to the trip. They are chosen through an interview process. Thirty-two hopeful students from our year went to do the interview



for the ten places. After the ten are picked, they must begin fundraising for the €700 that is needed per person for the trip. They raise money through bag packing, table quizzes, cake sales, a tag rugby day and raffles etc. The trip is from the 22nd of May to the 27th May. The work that will be done would be pushing wheelchairs, helping out in the hospitals and helping out in any other way that they can.

## FASHION SHOW

During the first class one morning Mr O'Neill came into each TY class and stated that he had a job for some students to do. Almost every student put up their hand but he then told us that they would be needed after school and on the 16th of November. Most of the hands went down with only two remaining. When we asked what the job was, he decided not to tell us. At eleven o'clock that same day he told the students that had offered to do the job that they were going to be taking part in a fashion show with the Loreto school. All of the students were then quite apprehensive in doing it as it was going to be a very different experience for them. The students were Conor Murphy, Robbie Hennessy, Jamie Cashin, Stephen Clancy, Ben Moylan, Shane Leahy and Nicholas Dunphy. That afternoon, Karen Morrissey, a model who runs her own model agency, came in to teach us how to walk the catwalk. She was very nice and helpful and calmed the more nervous students. We went over to the Loreto on many occasions to practice with the girls taking part. A couple of

days before the show we were told the shops we would be modeling for which were Top Hat, Paul's, Kilkenny Design Centre and Graham's which supplied the shoes. We then got fitted for our clothes with the help of Karen and the shop owners. The show was being held in Langton's. We were there all afternoon rehearsing and then began to get ready. Mr Ruth, Mr Flood,

Mr McCormack and Mr Quan, who were also modeling for the show, then arrived. The ballroom began to fill up with guests, photographers, students and teachers. The show started, and Mary Kennedy, an RTE presenter and Karen Morrissey talked about the clothes as they were modeled. The night went off without a hitch and was a great success.



# First Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Kevin Kehoe, Damian Skrzypek, Eoghan Twomey. Fourth row: Patrick Parle, Kieran Conway, Andrew Parsons, Naimul Hassain, Jack Manning, James Duffy, John Farrell. Third row (l-r): Tommy Walton, Conall Whelan, Jack Smith, Eamon Fennelly, Killian Ten-Bohmer, Padraig Healy, Daniel Young. Second row (l-r): Jack Tynan, Eric Mahon, Shane Dawson, Peter Walsh, Kieran Lucey, Ciarán Dalton. Front row (l-r): Tom Lalor, Dean Gleason, Conor Phelan, Adam Power, Jack Crehan, Peter Mullan, David Busher.



Back row (l-r): Josh Leonard, Ciaran Doyle, Barry Cleere, Mikey Larkin-Egan. Fourth row: Conor Dyson, Rory Lodge, Dylan Smithwick, John Burns, Thomas Comerford, Calum Malone. Third Row (l-r): Salim Roche, Evaldus Gerulaitis, Luke Fitzpatrick, Bill Cuddihy, Conor Hackett, Robbie Kirwan, Evan Walsh. Second row (l-r): Adam Ronan, Dara Keane, Jack Connolly, Ciaran Byrne, Ben Lalor, Peter Mulvey. Front row (l-r): Ben Whelan, Patrick Bolger, Jack Beale, Leroy Slattery, Shane Donohue, Eoin Minnock, Cian Burke.



Back row (l-r): John Dooley, Liam Rafter, Brian O'Hanrahan, Ciarán Lennon, Colum Prenderville, Adam Grogan. Third row (l-r): Brendan Fitzgerald, Evan Shefflin, Dylan Simpson, Martin Keogh, Jason Maher, Gary Moore, James Carrigan, James Tennyson. Second row (l-r): Eoin Rudkins, Gavin Delaney, George Murphy, Michael Carey, Ted Drea, Enda Kenneally, Noel Leahy. Front row (l-r): Kevin Fennelly, Kieran Neville, Ryan Poyntz, Andy Walsh, Kevin Murphy, Lorcan Whelan, Patrick Lowry, Damian Smialek.



Back row (l-r): Denis Carrigan, Ian Clifford, Jack Smith, Callum O'Dwyer, Robert Fitzgerald, Padraig Lennon. Third row (l-r): Cahal McAuley, David McInerney, James Bergin, Fintan Fleming, Kevin McQuillan, Finan Phelan, Alex Johnston. Second row (l-r): Brandon Maloney, Adrian Mullen, Dylan Aylward, Leon Butler, Donal Brophy, Padraig Buggy, Brian Hennessy, Jeff Kealy-Brennan. Front row (l-r): Eamon McPhilips, Sean Walsh, Joe Cashin, Leon Duffy, James Nugent, Luke Frayne, Michael Rafter. Absent from photo: Cian Enright, Adam Flynn.



# Second Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Matteuz Stefanzki, Michael Ryan, Patrick Earle, Thomas Dorney. Fourth row (l-r): Tom Whitty, Darren Mullen, Brian Power, Daniel Carpenter-Kehoe, Evan Swan. Third row (l-r): Jacob Murray, Conor Rafter, Tadhg O'Dwyer, Michael Cody, Shane Byrne, Aidan Nolan. Second row (l-r): Liam Walsh, Daniel Fahey, Gregory Morrissey, James Mullally, Eamonn Forristal, Patrick Maher. Front row (l-r): Luke Kelly, Joe Sinnott, Stephen Carolan, Daniel Egars, Morgan Thomas, James Drea, Patrick Doyle.



Back row (l-r): Darren Meaney, Jack Lynch, Liam Wallace, David Kelly. Fourth row (l-r): Brandon Rochford-Freaney, Eamon Byrne, Graham Gareth Mollerau, Christopher Keane, Marc Leahy, Peter Scarriff Lawlor. Third row (l-r): Daniel Dewberry, Artur Helizon, Robert O'Dwyer, Michael Harold, Jody Dwyer, Eamonn Egan. Second row (l-r): Tyler Lennon, Kevin Shaughnessy, William Spencer, James Walton, Niall Holligan, Peter Lynch. Front row (l-r): Jack Woodgate, Patrick Vaughan, Dylan Jordan, Thomas Byrne, Robbie Power, Robert Freeman.



Back row (l-r): Roman Hartman, Joseph Cuddihy, P.J. Dalton, Niko Doyle. Fourth row (l-r): Patrick Kennedy, Cian Drennan, Jack McHugh, Conor O'Neill. Third row (l-r): Niall Brennan, Brian Wall, Robert Kerwick, Thomas Allen, Dylan Collins. Second row (l-r): Brandon Ashcraft, Richard Stapleton, Victor Costello, Brian Crowdle, Padraig Roberts. Front row (l-r): Matthew Powell, Sean Carey, Brian O'Neill, Stephen Bateman, Dylan Dunphy-Wallce, Shane Hennessy. Absent from photo: Kevin Azau, Nathan Donoghue, Darby Fwamba, John Hession.



Back row (l-r): Cormac Lehnen, Alan Mooney, Edward Moylan, Tommy Walsh, Thomas Maher. Fourth row (l-r): Shane O'Shaughnessy, Hugh Corkery, Ronan O'Connor, Joe Connolly, Luke Gannon. Third row (l-r): Morgan Walshe, Matt Kenny, Dion Bourke, Brion Kirwan, Jake Cullen, Evan Carroll. Second row (l-r): Thomas Phelan, Eoin Kelly, Paul Holden, Padraic Purcell, James Nugent. Front row (l-r): Aidan O'Sullivan, John Gillman, Paddy Ryan, Eric Whelan, Paul Luttrell, Sean Maher.



Back row (l-r): Cormac Buggy, Thomas Murphy, Conor Purcell, Tim Howes, Ben Lawlor, Edmond Delaney, Evan Tully. Third row (l-r): Patrick Gannon, Patrick Brennan, Noah Canty, Abban Bohana, David Dunne, Jack Condren, Killian Fitzpatrick. Second row (l-r): Geoff Brennan, Shane Stapleton, Oisín Gough, Niall Delaney, Maurice Walsh, Nicholas Kelly-Kavanagh. Front row (l-r): Daragh Phelan, Ciaran Browne, Bill Whelan, Kevin O'Sullivan, Adam McElroy, Gavin Doheny, Conor Byrne. Absent from photo: Diarmuid Minnock.

# Third Year Class Photos



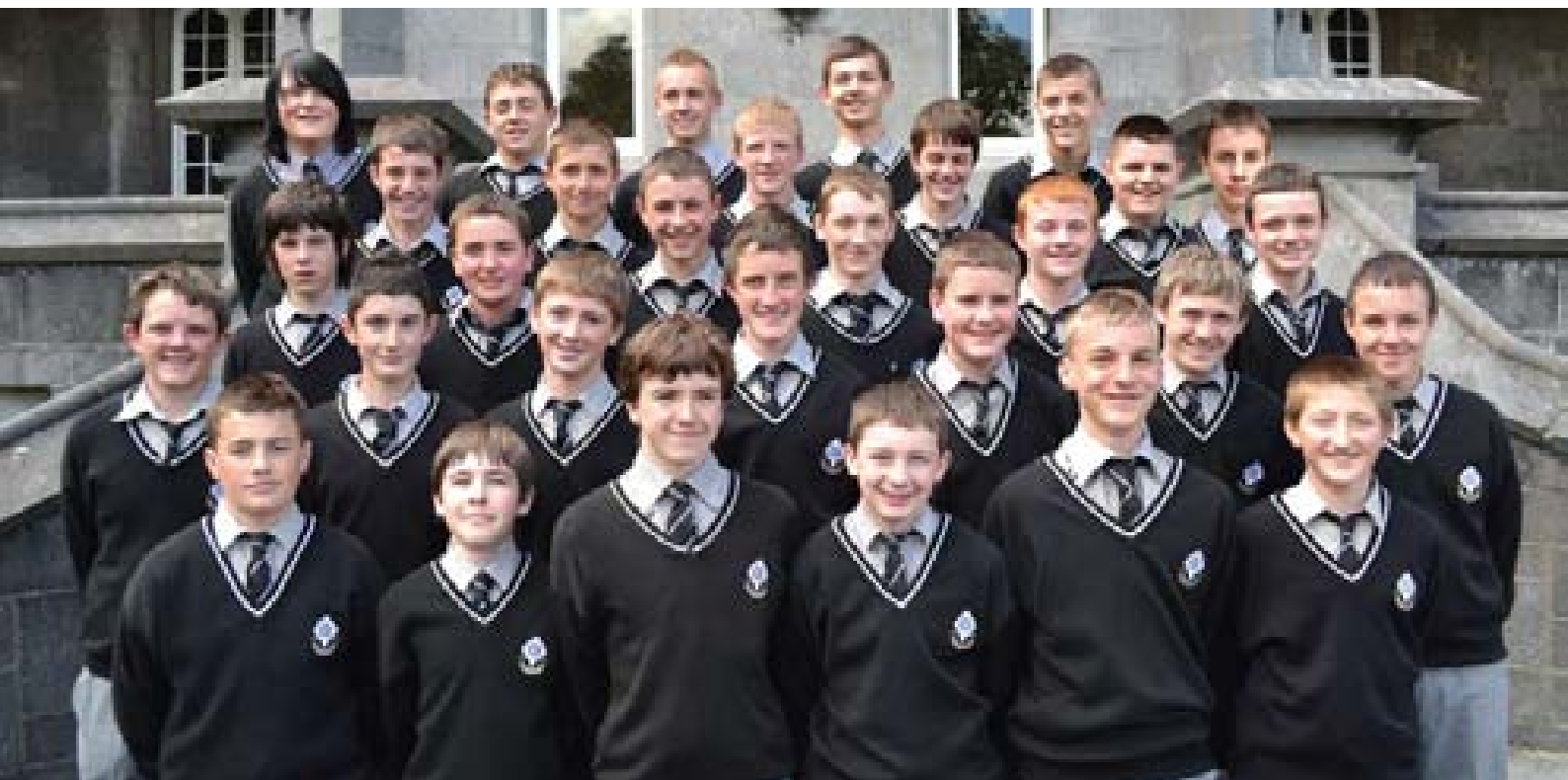
Back row (l-r): Declan McCarthy, Jason Byrne, Shane Howe-Tyrell, Aaron Casey. Fourth row (l-r): Tom Cuddihy, Billy Hanlon, Greg Aylward, Eoin Walsh, Liam Costello, David Jordan. Third row (l-r): Eoin Holligan, Daniel Harty, Jack Teehan, Richard Keoghan, Conor Alyward, Alan Harrison, Jack Kavanagh. Second row (l-r): Gavin Costigan, David Mullins, Eoin Delaney, Sean Lynch, Shane O'Gorman, Robbie Donnelly. Front row (l-r): Shane Maher, Mark Dowling, Darragh O'Connor, Donovan Ashcraft, Alan Hayes, Niall Walsh, Harry Bruton.



Back row (l-r): Sean Brennan, Padraic Dunphy, Donagh Mahon, Kevin Mullen, Liam Blancfield. Fourth row (l-r): Ronan Tynan, Jack Keoghan, Brendan McSorley, Sean Farrell, Ben Conroy. Third row (l-r): Stephen O'Connor, John Barron, Luke Dowling, David Shore, Patrick Clifford, Diarmuid O'Brien. Second row (l-r): John O'Meara, Aaron Healy, Marco Perrozz, Caolan O'Chleirigh, Eamon Hennessy, Richard Teehan, Sean Comerford. Front row (l-r): Garry Kehoe, James Lahart, Cathal Phelan, Richard Leahy, Alex Lalor, Billy Ryan.



Back row (l-r): Robert O'Flynn, Shane Campion, Dylan Dooley, Mark Doyle, Cian Costello, Terence O'Neill, Darren Singh-Hennessy. Fourth row (l-r): Alex Milchev, Dylan O'Shea, Nathanel McDonald, Tom O'Keffee, Niall Brennan. Third row (l-r): Jimmy Brennan, Conor Fennelly, Shane Keown, Ronan Lynch, Kevin Brennan, Neil Grogan. Second row (l-r): Ben Hickey, Jason Barcoe, Paddy Gallagher, Colin Corway, Ben Leydon, David Shivgulam. Front row (l-r): Rocco Pesce, Sean O'Neill, Fintan O'Sullivan, Jake McDonald, Conor Browne, Jack Brett.



Back row (l-r): Wade Porteus, Daniel O'Connor, Philip Dreeling, Vladyslav Medvensky, John Fitzpatrick. Fourth row (l-r): Jason Cleere, Gary Tynan, Sean Morrissey, Sean Cuddihy, Cain Curran, Gradimir Ignatovic. Third row (l-r): Robert Dunne, Bill Brennan, Brian Busker, Brad Ellis, Noel Whelan, Ray Lahart. Second row (l-r): Dean Malone, Mark Ryan, Bill O'Neill, Peter O'Sullivan, Eoghan Kearney, Lyndon Brannigan, Brian Slattery. Front row (l-r): Shane Joyce, Jack Larkin, James Campion, David Ryan, Michael Cotter, Conor Phelan.



# Transition Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Danny Burke, Conrad Cwiklowski, Josh Haines, Cathal Darmody, Lorcan Quinn O'Loughlin. Third row (l-r): Martin Dobyn, Paul Farrell, Karolis Mitrikas, Kacper Pawlowski, Grey Tennyson, James Maher. Second row (l-r): Ian Martin, Michael Fitzgerald, Philip Cooney, Darragh Hennessey, Conor Murphy. Front row (l-r): Shane Walsh, Danny Funcheon, Jack Walsh, Jamie Cashin, Karl Cummins, Joe Mullan.



Back row (l-r): Kevin Hennessy, Ricci Drennan, Peter Prendergast, John Rice. Third row (l-r): Killian Mc Cormack, Stephen Campion, Kevin Blanchfield, Stephen Farrell, Michael Mc Donnell. Second row (l-r): Daniel Duku, Robbie Hennessy, Ben Moylan, Kieran Freeman, Sean Sinnott. Front row (l-r): John Lynch, Michael Cross, Patrick Reade, Conor O'Carroll, Dean Byrne.



Back row (l-r): Luke O'Connor, William Bergin, Shane P O'Brien, Jack Drew, Gavin Brennan. Third row (l-r): Dylan Cullen, Shane Comerford, Conor Lowe, Kieran Condon, Maciej Szeliga. Second row (l-r): Paul White, Nicholas Dunphy, James Tynan, Ciaran Fennelly, Damian Lis. Front row (l-r): Brendan Cullen, Cian Smith, Seamus McGrath, Kieran Foley, James Mullan, Carle Pesce.



Back row (l-r): Tom Phelan, Michael Shiel, Brian Cody, Conor Brennan, Dion Guilfoyle, Dylan Drennan. Third row (l-r): Shane N. O'Brien, Bill Carrigan, Brendan Hyland, Rolands Stafeckis, Shane Leahy. Second row (l-r): David Walsh, Stephen Clancy, Sean Bourke, Dion Fitzpatrick, Ally Rafter. Front row (l-r): Aaron Doyle, Conor Dunne, Brian Mahon, Brian O'Carroll, Javier Marroquin-Hingot, Kevin Doyle.

# Fifth Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Eoin Barry, Conor Coughlan, James Bourke, Christopher Bolger. Third row (l-r): Shane Butler, Jack Cotter, Colin Corcoran, Brian Butler, Michael Comerford. Second row (l-r): Nathan Cahill, Willie Allen, Jason Carroll, James Callaghan, Mark Butler. Front row (l-r): Eoin Cooney, Ciaran Breen, Killian Cantwell, Cormac Connolly, David Bourke, Aidan Byrne.



Back row (l-r): Eoin Curtis, Graham English, Alex Helizon, Conor Byrne. Third row (l-r): Eoin Gough, Diarmuid Hickey, Dan Howe, Lucas Hartman, Calvin Delaney. Second row (l-r): Jack Dowling, Willie Dooley, James Deasy, Cormac Everard, Robbie Holohan. Front row (l-r): Conor Evans, Paddy Hickey, Adam Jordan, Ian Dunphy, Johnathan Dos Santos.



Back row (l-r): Robbie Malone, Jimmy Lynch, Michael Kenny, Hugh Lane. Third row (l-r): Cathal Minnock, Johnny Mulholland, Conor Mahon, Kevin Maher, Bill Lahart, Jamie Maher. Second row (l-r): Sean Mulholland, Ronan Leahy, Gearoid Kennedy, David Maher, Thomas Keogh, Brian Mullally. Front row (l-r): Peter McPhilips, Conor McMullen, Cian Morton, Michael Lennon, Pavel Kracena.



Back row (l-r): Bobby Murray-Walsh, Ciaran O'Carroll, Jack Naughton, Craig Murphy, David Prendergast. Third row (l-r): Brendan Neary, Alan O'Beirne, Shane Nolan, Donal Murphy, John Murphy. Second row (l-r): Maurice O'Neill, Patrick Mullen, Josh Phelan, Keith Phelan, Michael O'Neill, Anthony Patchell. Front row (l-r): Mike Nikandros, Emmet Nugent, Cathal O'Neill, Shane Parsons, Sean O'Callaghan.



Back row (l-r): Pijus Timas, Eamonn Treacy, Vincent Teehan, Adam Ryan, James Rafter. Third row (l-r): Peter Treacy, Conor Wall, Patrick Tynan, James Tyrrell, Luke Tennyson. Second row (l-r): David Walsh, Mark Shotall, Dylan Walsh, Simon Rafter, Eoin Shortall, Conor Quinlan. Front row (l-r): Andrew Tyrrell, Niall Treacy, Padraig Walsh, Cormac Ryan, Keith Reynolds.



# Sixth Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Richie Reid, John Power, Cormac Wafer, Kevin Butler, Daniel O'Neill, Brian Bradshaw, Brian Cantwell. Third row (l-r): John McGrath, Aleksandr Danilovs, Conor O'Shea, James Rice, Conor Holligan, Stephen Brennan, Jake Casey, Robert Lennon. Second row (l-r): Kevin O'Neill, Daire Gleeson, Jack Holmes, Peter Walsh, Ben Lahart, Patrick Duggan, Aodhagán Murphy, Barry Power. Front row (l-r): Mark Foley, Stephen Thompson, Declan McQuillan, Eoin Corcoran, Aravind Menon, Donncha Foley, Diarmuid Nolan.



Back Row (l-r): Ciaran Casey, Mark Randall, Paul Lynch, William T. Murphy, Shane O'Neill, Thomas Talbot, Patrick Drennan. Third row (l-r): James McGrath, Miodrag Ignjatovic, Robert Hayes, Emmet Byrne, John Mullan, Thomas O'Hanrahan. Second row (l-r): Shane Fitzpatrick, Patrick Walsh, Patrick Ojwe, Eoghan O'Connor, Artem Ankudovich, Fionbar Hayes, Shane Brennan. Front row (l-r): Michael Freeman, Robert Tucker, David Holden, Noel Kehoe, Conor Buggy, Adam Cummins.



Back Row (l-r): Aidan Byrne, Fintan Lynch, Benjamin Scariff-Lalor, Wayne Cuddihy, Jaiman Butler. Fourth row (l-r): Billy Leydon, Enda Morrissey, Jack Bruton, William J Murphy, Robert O'Hanrahan, Richard Brennan. Third row (l-r): Paul O'Neill, Peter Kenneally, Diarmuid Cody, David Hennessy. Second row (l-r): Dean Walsh, David Carroll, Alan Lawlor, Anthony Forristal, James Quinn, Patrick Dorney. Front row (l-r): Patrick Hughes, Richard Fitzgerald, James McGrath, Cillian Treacy, Martin O'Shea.



Back row (l-r): Ciaran Prendergast, Donal O'Shea, Anthony Corr-Larkin, Ciaran Murphy, Aidan Cleere, Ultan Moran. Second row (l-r): Michael Donnelly, Barry Briscoe, Fergal Brennan, Andrew Whitney, Tommy Hearne, Kevin Duncan, Peter Butler. Front row (l-r): Donagh Carney, Joe Ryan, Andrew Tierney, Fergal Lalor, Conor Long, Jack McGrath. Missing from photo: James O'Shea, Paul Comerford, Patrick Lehnen, Jason Collier, Derrin Maloney, Aleksander Kaczmarek, Harry Wallace, Darragh Griffin, Tim Kealy Brennan, Craig Cummins.



# Sports Day







Back row (l-r): Bill Cuddihy, Brendan Ashcraft.  
Front row: Cathal Minnock, Gradimir Ignatovic.



Back row (l-r): Eoin Minnock, Donovan Ashcraft.  
Front row: Miodrag Ignatovic, Aravind Menan.



Back row (l-r): Artur Helzon, Bobby Murray-Walsh, Eamon Byrne. Front row: Jack Crehan, Robbie Power, Daniel Egars.

# Leinster Chess Champions

Cathal Minnock, Fifth Year

On the 13th of March St Kieran's three chess teams competed in the Leinster Chess Championship in the Green Isle Hotel in Dublin. They were very successful.

The fifteen players left at nine o'clock that morning by bus. The competition began at 1.30pm with six other schools competing. There were two sections: the "Champions" and the "Novices". St Kieran's entered the A and B teams into the Champions section and the C team into the Novices, with three of our players competing individually.

Each of the players played five individual matches, with their scores being added together at the end to give the team total. It was unfortunate that as the A and B team were competing in the same section, we ended up playing against each other. I was personally unlucky, with three of my five matches being against St Kieran's players.

After the first three rounds it became apparent that we were on the

fast track to victory, with most of our players on high scores. By the time the fifth round had been finished, we were above and beyond any other school competing.

The A Team came in a clear first place in the Champion's section, with the B Team taking the second place award and the C Team winning the Novice's section. We also claimed all of the individual awards, with Aravind Menon, Eoin Minnock and Donovan Ashcraft finishing on five out of five points. After a tiebreak, Donovan was given third place, with Eoin and Aravind remaining drawn for first place. After a play-off at lunch time chess the following Tuesday, Eoin was awarded first place.

Many thanks to Ms Ahern for accompanying the teams to the competition, and to Mr O'Neill for taking care of chess in the school. Lunchtime Chess continues on Tuesdays. All are welcome.

## A Team

Aravind Menon  
Eoin Minnock  
Donovan Ashcraft  
Miodrag Ignatovic

## B Team

Cathal Minnock  
Brandon Ashcraft  
Bill Cuddihy  
Gradimir Ignatovic

## C Team

Daniel Egars  
Ian Clifford  
Jack Crehan  
Arthur Helizon

## Individuals

Bobby Murray Walsh  
Eamonn Byrne  
Robbie Power

Absent for the competition were Maciek Szeliga, Diarmaid Minnock and Daniel Dewberry.

The team saw off competition from Kilkenny College, Johnstown, Mooncoin, Castlecomer and the Colaiste Pobail Ossory to take the county title.

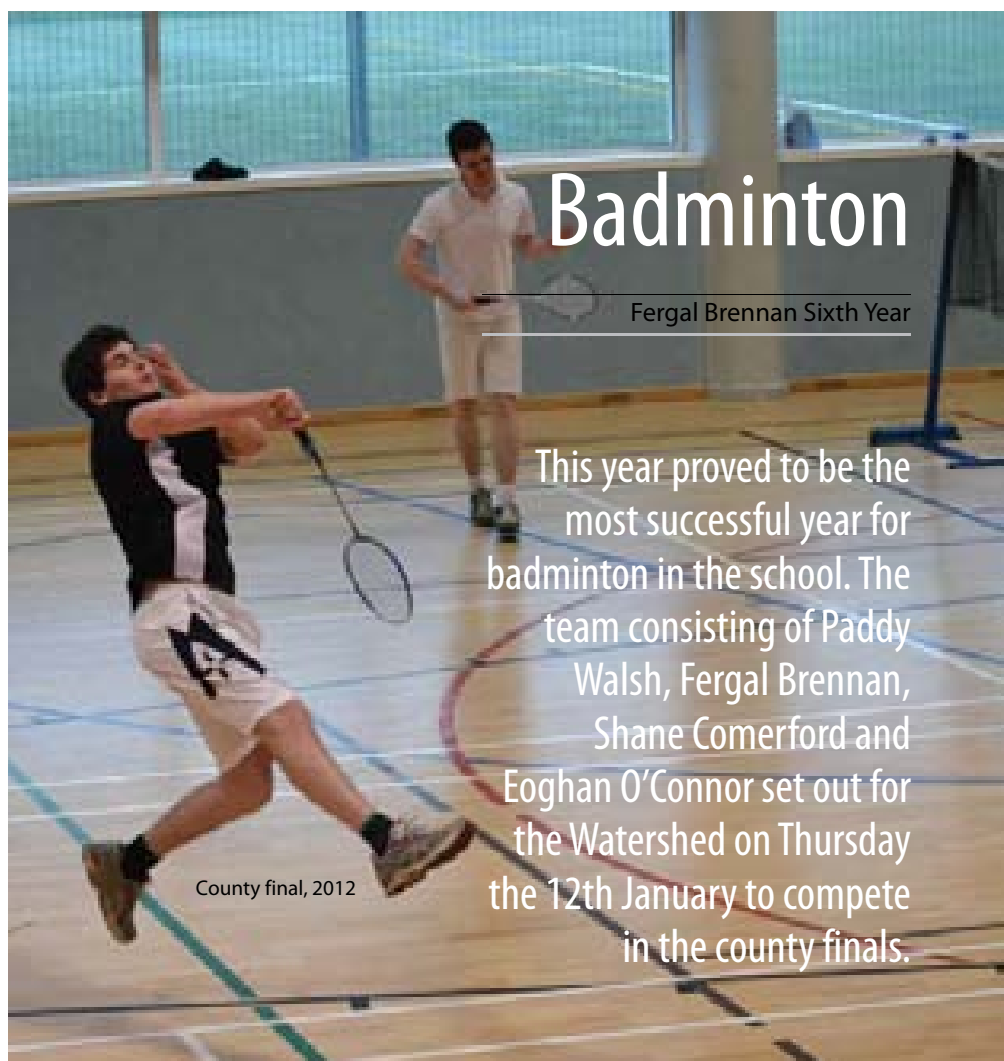
The team then went to Baldoyle in Dublin to compete in the Leinster finals the following Tuesday. The Team beat St Belinda's of Dublin, St Brendan's of Offaly and Moate "B" to progress to the final.

In the final they came up against a very strong Moate "A" team with the game finishing in a draw. The points from all the matches were then counted up and St Kieran's won by 14 aces. This was the first time a team from St Kieran's won the Leinster final.

Many thanks to Fr Ryan, Ms Lynch and Ms Ahern for their help throughout the year.



Badminton Leinster Champions 2011-2012: Eoghan O Connor, Paddy Walsh, Shane Comerford, Fergal Walsh.



## Badminton

Fergal Brennan Sixth Year

This year proved to be the most successful year for badminton in the school. The team consisting of Paddy Walsh, Fergal Brennan, Shane Comerford and Eoghan O'Connor set out for the Watershed on Thursday the 12th January to compete in the county finals.

County final, 2012

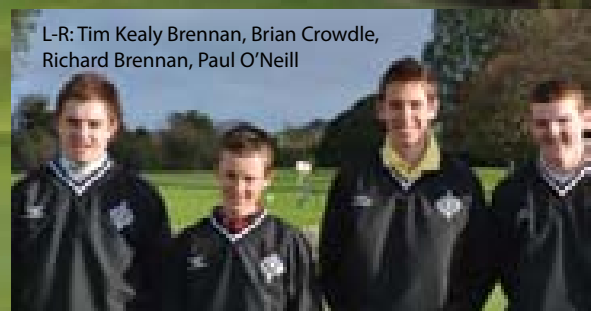


## Golf

Tim Kealy Brennan,  
and Brian Crowdle

Golf, under the watchful eye of Ms Wemyss, in St Kieran's is going from strength to strength. Each year the numbers who are interested in playing golf for the school is increasing. This year we had great competition for team places. The increased interest in golf could be especially seen when St Kieran's day approached. There were over 20 students who played golf on courses around the city.

L-R: Tim Kealy Brennan, Brian Crowdle,  
Richard Brennan, Paul O'Neill



L-R: Michael Freeman, Gearoid Kennedy,  
Kevin Maher, Eoin Cooney



# Equestrian

Cian Drennan Second Year

St Kieran's College equestrian events commenced in September with the showjumping competition in The White Cup, hosted by Kilkenny College in Warrington Equestrian Centre. A total of two teams from St Kieran's competed, unfortunately neither team was successful.

Our next event was our own leg of the Hoofprints Inter-Schools Showjumping League on a cold November day. The day was a huge success with large numbers attending from all provinces. We would like to thank our sponsors, teachers and parents for their help and support, making this a great day.

The All-Ireland Inter-Schools Hunter

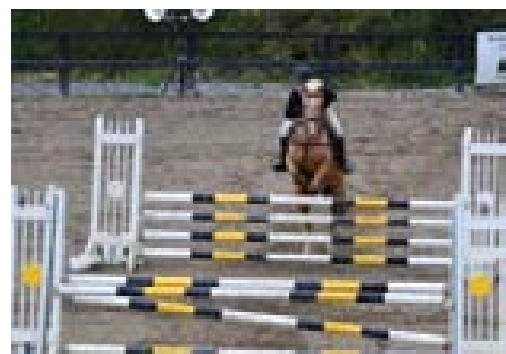
Trials was our next big competition which took place on a beautiful spring day in Ballinaclogh, Co Waterford, hosted by St Declan's community college.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEW  
EQUESTRIAN STUDENTS WHO WILL  
JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER 2012.

A total of three teams from the school participated at Senior and Junior level, unfortunately two of our teams were not successful but our youngest team members, Cian Drennan, Paddy Maher and Victor Costello, went on to

take sixth place in the Teams of Three event. Cian Drennan finished seventh overall in the Junior Singles and David Mullins finished sixth overall in the Senior Singles.

We would like to thank all who have been involved with the equestrian teams, Paddy Drennan, James Cullinan, Diarmuid O'Brien, David Mullins, Brendan McSorley, Patrick Maher, Victor Costello, Thomas Allen, Paddy Vaughan, Paul Holden and Cian Drennan. We would like to give a special thanks to Ms Brennan and all the teachers who help us with our events and we look forward to our new equestrian students who will join us in September 2012.





## Equestrian Competition

St Kieran's College Secondary School hosted a leg of the Hoofprints Inter-Schools Show Jumping Competition courtesy of the Moloney Family at Warrington Equestrian Centre, Kilkenny. This is the fourth year of this particular event which was held on Sunday, November 20. It has been growing in popularity and has been going from strength to strength amongst the equestrian teams in secondary schools around the country.

Over forty schools entered the competitions hailing from all over Ireland including schools from as far away as Trim, Limerick and Mullingar. The day was a fantastic success, with teams competing in two arenas, an indoor and an outdoor course. The courses in both arenas were designed by local man, Mr Pat Drennan, who has been course building for over thirty years.

Ardscoil Na Trionoid from Athy won the Novice competition while Newbridge College took the honours in the open competition. St Kieran College students Tomas Kehoe and Liam Walsh came second in the Team Novice Competition while Fifth Year student Jimmy Callanan, came in a notable sixth place out of over fifty competitors in the Individual jump off.

This rounded off a very successful and enjoyable day for the Moloney family at Warrington Equestrian Centre and for St Kieran's College Secondary School.



# Cross Country 2011/2012

"Grouping well" - South Leinster Championship Intermediate race (l-r): Javier Marroquin, James Maher, Cormac Buggy, Jack Keogh, Gary Keogh, Luke O'Connor.

Lunchtime training in the Castle Park starts the first week of September. This incremental run which intensifies over the season provides the all important stamina and speed for the inter-school competitions. All students are welcome to run regardless of their athleticism and fitness levels. The focus is always on team, supporting and respecting other runners regardless of their ability, is our code.

The opening event of the Cross Country calendar was the Michael Brannigan Memorial Run. This popular inter-class competition for First Years was won by Kevin Keogh who led home his class 1A1, the team prize winners.

The South Leinster Championship was held in Clongowes Wood College at the end of January. We won three of the four team titles which was a considerable achievement. The Junior Boys (U15) led home by Peter Lynch and Thomas Allen secured a 12th consecutive title for the College. But it was the Intermediate Team (U17) who had four runners - 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th respectively who were the team of the Championship, inspired by captain Jack Keogh. The Minor Boys (U14) won their race comfortably and the Senior Team (U19) were third. All four



South Leinster Championship Intermediate Race (l-r): Gary Keogh and James Maher.



South Leinster Championship Junior U15 Race (l-r): Michael Ryan and P.J. Dalton.

of our teams qualified for the Leinster Championship.

This year Santry Demesne in Dublin provided the venue. Sensationally the U17 team won the Intermediate title by the closest of margins. St Kieran's and St Fintan's Sutton both finished up with 85 points. When teams end up with the same score they count back to the position of the third finisher on each team and nominate the winner. In addition the Minor Boys finished up third in their race.

Two teams represented the College in the All-Ireland Colleges event which were held in St Mary's, Galway city. The Minor team ran exceptionally well and ended up bronze winners. Team captain Kevin Keogh and Luke Fitzpatrick had great personal runs. The most competitive run of the day was the Intermediate Boys. Again we had to be content with third place. The All-Irelands rounded off another successful cross country season.



The focus is  
always on team,  
supporting and  
respecting other  
runners, regardless  
of their ability,  
is our code.



Minor U14 Team: South Leinster Champions, All-Ireland Team Bronze 3rd - back row (l-r): Eric Mahon, Eamon Fennelly, Jack Manning, Martin Keoghan. Front row (l-r): Peter Mullan, Kevin Kehoe, Jack Smith, Luke Fitzpatrick.



Intermediate U17 team: South Leinster Champions, Leinster Champions, All-Ireland Team Bronze 3rd - back row (l-r): James Maher, Tom O'Keeffe, Cormac Buggy, Luke O'Connor. Front row (l-r): Sean Morissey, Jack Keoghan, Gary Kehoe, Gary Tynan.



Senior U19 Team: 3rd Bronze Team South Leinster Championships - (l-r): Cormac Everard, Sean O'Callaghan, Anthony Forristal, Conor Mahon, Ben Lahart, Conor Quinlan.



Sean Byrne Memorial Run - back row (l-r): Stephen Farrell, Michael McDonnell, Javier Marroquin Mingot, James Maher. Front row (l-r): Tom Phelan, Dylan Cullen, Luke O'Connor.



Junior South Leinster Champions - Back row (l-r): Michael Ryan, Brandon Aschcraft, PJ Dalton, Thomas Allen. Front row (l-r): Patrick Maher, Peter Lynch, Cian Drennan.



# Handball

St Kieran's took part in all grades of the schools handball competitions 30x60 and 40x20.

All players played very well, some were unlucky not to proceed to the later stages of the various competitions, the senior doubles were particularly unfortunate to be beaten in the Leinster final having played very well in the previous rounds. The highlight of the year was the Leinster final win by Brian Mahon and Dylan Walsh who were vastly superior to their Meath opponents in the Leinster final in Croke Park, this pair were unlucky to meet the eventual winners in the All-Ireland semi-final.

The school was represented by:  
Mikey Carey (First Year singles)

Jack Crehan and Ian Clifford (First Year doubles)

Sean Carey (U15 singles)

Aidan Nolan and Niall Walsh (U15 doubles)

Brendan Hyland (U17 singles)

Brian Mahon and Dylan Walsh (U17 doubles)

Ger Dunne (U19 singles)

Cillian Treacy and Fergal Lalor (U19 doubles)



## Kilkenny Secondary School Teachers Inter-Firms Team

All-Ireland and Leinster Champions 2011.



### DIARMUID HICKEY

#### Rugby

- Fifth Year student who was selected to play with the Leinster U18 clubs this year



### STEPHEN BATEMAN

#### Snooker

- Member of the Irish snooker team who travelled to Prestatyn in Wales, came third in the competition
- Winner of the stars of the future Ireland U-13, U-14 and U-15
- Ranked number 3 in Ireland U-16



### CORMAC CONNOLLY

#### Rugby

- Fifth Year student who was selected to play with the Leinster U-18 Schools Rugby Panel this year



### JACK MANNING

#### Track & Field

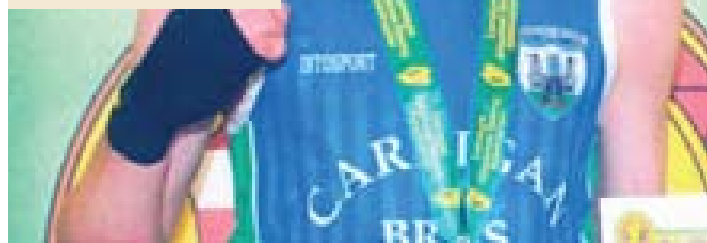
- U14 Indoor shot putt winner
- U15 Pentathlon All Ireland Winner
- U15 Leinster Indoor High Jump Winner, 3rd U15 All Ireland High Jump



### KEVIN KEHOE

#### Boxing

- 52Kg Boy 2 All Ireland Champion
- 3 Leinster Titles – Boy 1 50Kg, Boy 2 52 Kg, Boy 3 60 Kg
- Michael Andrews Memorial Tournament Champion Boy 2 52Kg
- Having won the National Junior Cadet Championship at 63kg he will now represent Ireland in the European Championships in October in Russia



### LEON BUTLER

#### Tetrathlon

- First Year student who was selected to represent Ireland on this year's Irish U14 Tetrathlon team





# Futsal

Futsal is an indoor five-a-side soccer competition. The five players have to include the goal keeper. This year the FAI organised a competition in Gormanstown for schools around the country. The competition is unlike other indoor soccer competitions as it is played on a hard surface. We were also allowed to make as many substitutions as we wanted. Futsal is played with a smaller ball, this is to improve the players skill level as well as ball control in a small area.

We had a fantastic day and would like to thank Mr Flood and Mr Cotter in the soccer department for organising it for us.



Trip  
to the  
Aviva for  
Ireland v  
Armenia





# First Year Soccer

“ St Kieran's College First Year squad was looked at as one of the best panels in five or six years. ”

## Ryan Poyntz First Year

St Kieran's College First Year squad was looked at as one of the best panels in five or six years. They won many games which eventually got them to a Leinster semi-final.

St Kieran's first game of the season was against Grennan College from Thomastown. Grennan had a good squad but on the day it was their goalkeeper that kept them in the game. During the game Jack Smith scored a fantastic free kick. This was just one of the four goals that helped Kieran's to a 4-0 victory.

After this game St Kieran's suffered a great loss as one of their star players Eoin Rudkins broke his leg. St Kieran's next match was against Dublin Oak Academy. We played well but despite our efforts things did not go our way early on. We eventually got three goals scored by Jack Smith, and Kieran's top

score Andy Walsh scored two to win 3-2.

As the cup was going well, we lost both our league games. Their first game was a defeat to Carlow CBS. The first goal was a chip over the goal keepers head and the second was deflection which left us speechless. Our second league game was another defeat.

Finally, the day came and we went to north Dublin to play Chanel College. We got off to a flying start with Daragh Keane scoring a fantastic header from a cross by Jack Smith. That goal was later matched by a free kick which slipped under the arm of our keeper.

The match ended in a draw. We went to penalties, we were punished for our mistakes and we lost 5-4. We had a fantastic season and would like to thank Mr Cotter and Mr Lynch for all the hard work they put in during the year.



First Year Soccer Team - Back row: Mr Cotter, Mr Lynch (Trainers). Third row: (l-r): Colm Prenderville, Rory Lodge, Liam Rafter, Conor Hackett, Jack Smith, Dylan Smithwick, Jeff Kealy Brennan, Cathal McAuley, Naimul Hossain. Second row (l-r): Jack Manning, Ben Lawlor, Dara Keane, Dylan Simpson, Luke Fitzpatrick, Jim Nugent, James Bergin, George Murphy. Front row (l-r): Martin Keoghan, Eoin Rudkins, Adam Power, Kevin Murphy, Ryan Poynts, Andy Walsh, Tom Lawlor, Enda Kenneally, Shane Dawson.

# U14 Soccer

Christopher Keane Second Year

This year St Kieran's College took part in the FAI schools' cup competition. The panel was made up of students from Second and Third Year. There were a number of trials to determine who would be picked for the squad. The trials ran over three lunch times and Ms Brennan and Fr Ryan who were our trainers again this year faced a tough decision.

After the squad had been picked we started training. We would train every week at lunchtime. Our first match was a friendly against the First Year team - after that we were straight into our competitive matches. All the teams we played were from Leinster.

We didn't have a very successful campaign but we enjoyed all the matches that we played and the away matches that we went to. We would like to thank Fr Ryan and Ms Brennan for training us during the year.



Back row (l-r): Mark Ryan, Patrick Clifford, Donagh Mahon, Shane Keown. Third row (l-r): Timmy Howes, Artur Helizon, Brion Kirwan, Ronan O'Connor, Padraic Purcell, Shane O'Shaughnessy. Second row (l-r): Gareth Graham Mollerau, Christopher Keane, Hugh Corkery, Patrick Earle, Conor Byrne, Victor Costello, Eoin Kelly. Front row (l-r): John Gillman, Robert Kirwan, Dylan Dunphy Wallace, Dylan Jordan, Morgan Thomas, Bill Whelan, Aidan O'Sullivan.

# Senior Soccer



The Senior Soccer team enjoyed a very successful year with an exciting winning run in the league, the team played some excellent football, beating Tullow C.S., Borris V.S., and Carlow V.S. in the early rounds.

The highlight of the year was our victory over city rivals Kilkenny CBS in Scanlon Park in very windy conditions, the College won 3-2 with goals from Emmett Nugent, John Power and our man from Madrid Javier.

Unfortunately, due to technical issues and the development of a new computerregistrationsystem, St Kieran's, along with sixty other teams, were dropped from the competition, this was an unfortunate end to the senior soccer year, a year in which all involved, players and management, gave their all to the team.

Managers: Ger Flood, John Quane.







# U14 Football

“Training was tough and intense, because of the combination of cold and wet conditions and each and everyone determined to gain a place on the team.”



The U14 football season began in mid-October. The managers of the team were Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Connolly.

The season began by St Kieran's playing challenge matches against Good Counsel New Ross and Kilkenny CBS. Following these challenge matches we started training for the league. We trained mostly after school on Wednesdays and Fridays. Training was tough and intense, because of the combination of cold and wet conditions and each and everyone determined to gain a place on the team. The league campaign started off with the first

game against a strong Portlaoise CBS team.

We were aware that this would be a tough game. The game started off slowly for us due to the intensity of their game. At half time Portlaoise were leading, by the second half we had settled down and made our comeback. In the end we had won convincingly.

The next game we played was in Athy against Athy. They were a very strong side and outplayed us in the first half, we didn't know what hit us. In the second half we played better and narrowed the gap but it still was

not enough. Unfortunately, we had left the comeback too late and had lost the game. In the final league game we travelled to Portarlington to take on Portarlington. We trained very hard leading up to this game because if we lost we were out of the league and if we won we would be in a Leinster semi-final. The bus journey up to Portarlington was quiet because everyone was focusing and concentrating on the big game. We arrived in Portarlington, did our warm-up, had our team talk and got into the game.

It was a very close match and we led at half time by a very slim margin. In the second half Portarlington started to pull away. With about five minutes remaining, there was a five points difference in favour of Portarlington. We scored a goal but it was not enough and we lost by two points.

We were extremely disappointed because we felt we could have done a lot better or even won the league outright. Through the season we had ups and downs but overall the team's spirit never dwindled. Thanks to our managers Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Connolly.



Juvenile U14 Football - Back row (l-r): Conor O'Neill, Aidan Nolan, Tommy Walsh, Jack Condren, Tommy Murphy, Colum Penderville, Tom Whitty, Edmond Delaney. Third row (l-r): Mr Paul Fitzgerald (Trainer), Shane Byrne, James Mullally, Michael Cody, Hugh Corkery, Conor Byrne, Evan Carroll, Mr Niall Connolly (Trainer). Second row (l-r): Padraig Purcell, Lyndon Brannigan, Brion Kirwan, Patrick Doyle, Niall Walsh, Sean Carey, Evan Shefflin, Adrian Mullen. Front row (l-r): Ted Drea, Martin Keoghan, Joe Connolly, Dylan Jordan, Evan Swan, Jake McDonald, William Spencer, Darragh Phelan, Jody Dwyer.

### Willie Bergin Transition Year

This year the under 16 football team was managed by Mr Windle and Fr Ryan. The team had a few training sessions before a challenge match against Good Counsel of New Ross, Wexford. Despite a good performance by Good Counsel we stayed with them in a tight game until half-time. It was in the second half that New Ross, the Roinn A side, showed their class and dominated until the final whistle. However, it was a good taste of football for St Kieran's College.

Next was the first competitive match against Portlaoine. They were a very good side and immediately showed class when they pulled into an early lead and took the game to St Kieran's. However, St Kieran's had a good attitude and didn't give up and gave them a good match until the last whistle sounded. We might have been well beaten but St Kieran's showed some pride with their hard work throughout the game.

The next game was the Portlaoine

match in St Kieran's College. This was a must-win match because Portlaoine had already beaten Portlaoine. It was an extremely close game the whole way through the match.

The Kieran's footballers reached their full potential in this match and showed good footballing skills. It was very close at the end and St Kieran's came very close to scoring goals

on numerous occasions. The match finished and Portlaoine were victorious by a narrow margin of four points. The match could easily have gone to the College lads. Although there was no silverware to go back to the Kilkenny school, we did our school and county proud in never giving up. At times St Kieran's showed very good footballing skills and showed great potential.



U16 Football - Back row (l-r): Billy Hanlon, Liam Fennelly, Graham English, Jason Cleere, Liam Blanchfield, Peter O'Sullivan. Middle row (l-r): Jason Byrne, Daniel Burke, Kevin Blanchfield, William Bergin, Kieran Freeman. Front row (l-r): Ben Hickey, Mark Dowling, Alan O'Beirne, Alan Hayes, Shane Keown, Kevin Brennan.

## U16 Football



“

St Kieran's showed very good footballing skills and great potential.

”



This year was another busy year for First Year hurling. The first hurling blitz took place in October with almost all of First Year taking part. Following on from the success of that day other competitions were organised throughout the year for the First Years. The blitzes are a great way to encourage involvement in hurling for all students regardless of ability.

“The blitzes are a great way to encourage involvement in hurling for all students, regardless of ability.”

## First Year Hurling Blitz







“ The purpose of the development squad was to improve the fitness and hurling skills of the students involved. ”

## First Year Development Squads



This year a new partnership was initiated between St Kieran's College and Carlow Institute of Technology. First Years were given the opportunity to participate in a development squad which was run by the sports' department in CIT and managed by Mr Smith in St Kieran's. Each Friday for 10 weeks members of the sports' department in Carlow came to the school and ran coaching classes with the First Years. Each First Year who wanted to participate got the opportunity to do so. The purpose of the development squad was to improve the fitness and hurling skills of the students involved. This programme was offered to a number of schools throughout Leinster with the culmination of the initiative being a competition between all the participants on the 9th March.





## First Year Hurling League



Mr Forrest and Mr Darmody once again took on the organisation and running of the First Year Hurling league. The league begins in late September and runs until December. All First Years have the opportunity to take part in the league. The matches took place after school on a specific day each week. All the teams had the opportunity to play each other with the final being played between the teams with the highest number of points. All involved thoroughly enjoyed the league and it gave the First Years another opportunity to practise their hurling skills.





## Visit from De La Salle College



On Friday 9th September St Kieran's College welcomed a group of players and coaches from De La Salle College, Belfast. It was the latest exchange of a long standing sporting tradition between the schools which stretches back to 1985. This year our visitors received a special welcome as their arrival coincided with the parading of the Liam McCarthy cup in the College by the victorious Kilkenny hurling team.

As is usual, some fast and competitive challenge games were the highlight of a great weekend. Impressive skills were on display from both sides in closely contested matches. New friendships were made between both students and teachers and the return visit to Belfast is eagerly awaited.

# Juvenile Hurling

“The Juvenile hurling trials began with over two hundred lads competing for a place on the panel”



The Juvenile hurling trials began back in September and over two hundred lads competing for a place on the panel. Eventually a panel was picked and the first competitive game was against Dublin North in February. It was a poor enough game from both sides although St Kieran's could take a few positives from it. Tommy Walsh put in a solid performance at full back and Brian Crowdle delivered great ball into the full forward line. Both wing backs, Aidan Nolan and Michael Cody also put in good displays while Joe Cuddihy held his nerve on the frees to score six points. The game ended a draw but it was there for the taking for either side. Kieran's knew they would have to be better the next day.

The second league game was a home game against the eventual winners of the Dr Barry Cup, Good Counsel. On this occasion, St Kieran's dominated the proceedings. Although the first half was tight, a strong wind in the second half helped the likes of Tom Murphy and Joe Cuddihy to put the ball in on the full forward line. It ended an easy win for Kieran's scoring

3-23 to Good Counsel's 2-9 All that was stopping Kieran's from winning another League title was Kilkenny CBS. The final took place on a sunny but windy day at St John's Park. Both teams started strongly and it was anyone's game at half time. However, Kieran's came out a new team in the second half and some

great points scored by Michael Cody and Joe Cuddihy inspired Kieran's to a well deserved victory. Eddie Delaney, Edward Moylan and Niall Walsh were also instrumental in the heart of the Kieran's team. Captain Niall Walsh was presented with the League trophy at the end of the game.



Back row (l-r): Colm Prenderville, Conor O'Neill, Edward Moylan, Tom Murphy, Joe Cuddihy, Tom Whitty. Fourth row (l-r): Mr Liam Smith (Trainer), Lyndon Brannigan, Thomas Walsh, Evan Carroll, Michael Cody, Aidan Nolan, Mr Ken Maher (Trainer). Third row (l-r): Brian Crowdle, Sean Carey, Brion Kirwan, Conor Fennelly, Conor Byrne, Joe Connolly. Second row (l-r): Matt Kenny, Martin Keogh, Robert Kirwick, Jake McDonald, Dylan Jordan, Patrick Maher, Naimul Hossain. Front row (l-r): Geoff Brennan, Paddy Brennan, Victor Costello, Niall Walsh, Thomas Allen, Shane Byrne, Oisín Gough.





A month later, Kieran's found themselves in a championship semi final against St Peter's of Wexford. The lads went in at half time with a one point lead with the St Peter's forwards looking dangerous. However, once again, the team came out as new men in the second half. Joe Connolly and Niall provided two of the goals with Sean Carey scoring 1-2. Altogether eight of the Kieran's players scored in the second half in what was an all round excellent performance. Another Wexford team awaited Kieran's in

the final. This time it was a second encounter with Good Counsel. The final was held in Thomastown and a big crowd turned out for it. This was a tough, close fought game with chances at both ends. Joe Cuddihy's points from frees and a goal from Joe Connolly gave Kieran's a two point lead at half time. However, Good Counsel had the wind in the second half and their midfield was very strong. Niall Walsh, Eddie Delaney, Michael Cody and Aidan Nolan all battled hard. Good Counsel grabbed two goals within five

minutes of the second half starting. Most felt that this had killed off the game. But the Kieran's boys didn't give up and clawed back to within a goal of Good Counsel. In the final minutes Niall Walsh was pulled down and many felt it might have been a penalty for Kieran's but it was not to be and the day belonged to Good Counsel on this occasion. The final score was 3-8 to 2-9 – a two point margin. Naturally this was a very disappointing end to what was overall a good year for the Juvenile hurling panel.



# U16A Hurling

James Tyrell Fifth Year

This year St Kieran's College were hoping to retain the Fr Cosgrave cup, the Leinster Junior A schools title. Trials quickly began and numbers were whittled down to a final squad of 35 players by our trainers Mr Ruth, Mr Flood and Mr Hogan. Our season began mid September away to Birr Community School. Scores were hard to come by in the first half and the teams were nearly level at the halfway stage. It was a tough battle but Kieran's came out on top comfortably after a much better second half performance.

Next was the match against St Peter's College of Wexford. Again our match was away and we travelled to the coast of Wexford and faced another tough encounter against a physical Peter's side. Kieran's came away with a win by the narrowest of margins but a win nonetheless. The teams were level all through the game and if it wasn't for some fine defensive work by players such as Darren Mullen, Ben Hickey and Eoin Walsh in the dying moments the result mightn't have been in our favour. We were through to the knockout stages which left us with only two weeks to prepare for the semi-final, enough time for a challenge match to be organised against Thurles CBS,



Back row: Eoin Walsh, Kevin Mullen, Ricci Drennan, Liam Blanchfield. Fourth row: Greg Aylward, Ray Lahart, James Tyrell, Kevin Blanchfield, Dylan Drennan, Sean Morrissey. Third row: Tom Phelan, Darren Mullen, Josh Haines, Paul White, Jack Keoghnan, Richard Leahy, Mr Ger Flood (Trainer). Second row: Mr Richard Ruth (Trainer), Tadhg O'Dwyer, Billy Ryan, Conor Murphy, Alan O'Beirne, Eoin Delaney, Ben Hickey, Mr Tom Hogan (Trainer). Front row: Dylan O'Shea, Bill Carrigan, Jason Byrne, Jason Cleere, Eoghan Kearney.

who travelled to the College, and this game showed up some problems that needed to be ironed out. The Munster College was on top form on a day on which St Kieran's never got going.

Our semi-final was held in Thomastown on Thursday the 20th of October, against worthy opposition in the form of Good Counsel. From the throw in they hit us hard. St Kieran's went behind early on but eventually came out on top in a keenly contested game that finished on a scoreline of St Kieran's 0-14, Good Counsel 0-12. St Kieran's were now through to a Leinster final.

Final day arrived on the 9th of November 2010 in St John's Park. Our opposition was our old city rivals Kilkenny CBS. Both sides had the support of the majority of the schools'

student body. The size of the crowd provided a great atmosphere to a fixture which was going to tense. Both sides were evenly matched throughout, it has to be said, with neither side getting a run on the other.

The rain started to come down heavily at half time and got worse throughout the second half making conditions difficult for both teams, however both teams battled through the horrible conditions. Both sides traded points in the second half, scores were hard to come by. In the 60th minute James Maher leveled the game with a wonderful free. However, CBS were awarded a free in the dying minutes and Robbie Buckley was cool under pressure and got the last score of the game. The final score, CBS 0-10 St Kieran's 0-9.

# U16B Hurling

This year two teams from St Kieran's participated in the U16B competition, with both teams reaching the semi finals, unfortunately both were unable to progress to the final.

The team which I played with played three matches during the course of the year. Our first match was against Johnstown. It was a well contested match but we pulled away near the end and we left Johnstown with our first win under our belt. Our next opponents were CBS. This game was especially important to us with CBS being our greatest rivals. It was right down to the wire until the dying minutes of the match when we managed to convert a few chances, giving us a narrow victory. It was then on to the semi final where we faced



Back Row (l-r): Padhraic Dunphy, Billy Hanlon, Sean Farrell. Jack Keoghnan, Ray Lahart, Richard Teehan, Ronan Tynan, Sean Brennan. 3rd Row (l-r): Eamon Hennessy, Sean Cuddihy, John Fitzgerald, Noel Whelan, Daniel O'Connor, Brian Busher, Bill Brennan, Jack Kavanagh, Liam Fennelly. 2nd Row (l-r): Luke Dowling, Jonathon Barron, Bill O'Neill, Robbie Donnelly, Ben Leydon, Philip Cooney, Conor Aylward, Richie Keoghnan, Sean Lynch, Colin Corrway. Front Row (l-r): Brian O'Carroll, Richie Leahy, Billy Ryan, Conor Browne, Jason Barcoe, Gary Tynan, Jason Cleere, Philip Dreeling, Jack Brett, Shane Walsh, Kevin Brennan, Conor Phelan.

Callan. Both teams played very well but Callan emerged victorious, with us bowing out of the competition. The other Kieran's team faced Callan in the first round of the competition, but Callan proved too strong an opponent. This, however, did not end their season

as they still qualified for the semi-finals where they faced Johnstown. They put up a gallant effort but Johnstown clinched it in the end. On behalf of both teams I would like to thank Ms Hanrick, Mr Rice and Mr Butler for training us throughout the year.

# Senior Hurling 2011/12



“Healthy rivalry developed for every starting place on the team.”

The Senior Hurling season started in October with a series of trials to choose a squad. We eventually ended up with a panel of thirty four committed hurlers. Robert Lennon was appointed captain and he was ably assisted by Jack McGrath as vice-captain. The routine of regular training was quickly established.

The first League match was at home to Good Counsel and a comfortable win helped to instill confidence and settle the squad. We played Dublin South next up in Rathfarnham on a synthetic pitch and quickly adjusted to the different surface winning on a score line of 2-17 to 0-7. We faced St Brendan's Birr in the League final in December. On route to O'Moore Park, Portlaoise, the game was postponed, incredulously, less than two hours before the throw in, due to a frozen pitch. The rescheduled final was played on Heywood's all-weather facility. On a cold wintry day with flurries of snow and sleet we pulled away in the last ten minutes from a determined Offaly side and won out 1-13 to 1-8. Peter Kenneally was outstanding not just in the final but throughout the League campaign.

Training for the Championship began with real intent and focus.

Healthy rivalry developed for every starting place on the team. We looked for and played a number of meaningful challenge games against teams such as WIT Fresher's, St Flannan's of Ennis, Thurles CBS, Colaiste na nDeise of Waterford and Kilkenny Minors. These games were invaluable and were the ideal preparation for the Championship.

Our Leinster Championship commenced on February 4th in Rathineska, Co. Laois against the much fancied Dublin North. The team from the first whistle exploded into action

that day and were deserving winners on a score line of 5-7 to 1-5. It was an excellent team performance with the half back line, particularly Emmet Byrne, dominant throughout the game. Thomas O'Hanrahan scored four goals, a wonderful individual contribution from the full forward. The Leinster semi-final versus Colaiste Eoin was played in Dr Cullen Park, Carlow. We struggled to win 0-15 to 1-8 against a physically, strong Dublin side who had huge team spirit. Michael Donnelly's eight points – six from frees – were impressive on the day. The Leinster final was against





local rivals Kilkenny CBS in Nowlan Park. The first half belonged to CBS but we kept in touch and only trailed by three points at half time. We fought our way back into the match and won the College's 52nd Leinster title on a score of 2-9 to 1-10.

In preparation for the All-Ireland series we played the Offaly Minors on St Kieran's Day. Every player made a valuable contribution to the really solid performance that day in Banagher. The mood among the squad was positive and jovial on the return bus journey to Kilkenny.

On the same day the All-Ireland

semi-final against Nenagh CBS was confirmed. This match proved to be a fiercely competitive and tense encounter. The first half was low scoring with only seven points scored each at the interval. After the break we quickly went two points up but disappointingly were unable to hold on to the lead. It proved to be Nenagh's day with a score of 0-17 to our 0-14.

The management of the team, Mr John O'Keeffe, Mr David McCormack and Mr Ken Archbold would like to acknowledge the dedication of the panel and the support of the school community.





# Senior Hurlers 2011/2012



Back row (l-r): David Burke, Ciaran Prendergast, Michael Donnelly, Eoin Gough, William Allen, Vincent Teehan, Thomas Talbot, Shane Parsons, Chris Bolger, Diarmuid Cody, James Maher, Billy Leydon, Middle row (l-r): Mr. Ken Archbold, Mr. David McCormack, Cillian Tracey, James Tyrell, Stephen Farrell, David Hennessy, Jack Bruton, Paddy Mullan, Robert Hayes, Emmett Byrne, Aidan Cleere, Peter Keneally, Robert O'Hanrahan, Peter Walsh, Mr. John O'Keefe. Front row (l-r): Ciaran Breen, William Murphy, Jack McGrath, James Deasy, Robert Lennon (Captain), Noel Kehoe, Enda Morrissey, Thomas O'Hanrahan, Cormac Wafer. Missing from photo: Paul O'Neill.





