



Dermot Ryan

# Message from the President

Aristotle believed that the best way to understand something was to understand its purpose. He radically identified the nature of something with its goal or final cause. He held that plants and animals are perfect examples of this, because they have a nature in the sense of something internal, he calls it their internal causal principle, which explains how the thing comes into being and behaves (Phys. II.1.192b32–3). An acorn, he notes, has an inherent tendency to grow into an oak tree, so that the tree exists by nature rather than by chance. All things, therefore, will move in every way possible towards the realisation of their end cause. For human beings our ultimate good or happiness consists in perfection, the full attainment of our natural end. Aristotle's theory, which was developed in the 4th Century before Christ, resonates perfectly with our Christian beliefs and, for that matter, with what Catholic education intends. Fulfilling potential, realising goals, achieving everything possible, becoming the best person you can be is the heart of education and formation. It is what we do in St Kieran's College.

Those who populate the grounds here spend formative years finding out what lies at the heart of their nature. What is their purpose? Where is their goal? Student days are intended to serve that purpose. They are the environment in which that nature can flourish and what an environment we have!

This year, as the Record documents, saw again an array of talent and achievements. We won a hurling "grand slam" taking the honours in the Juvenile, Junior and Senior Championships - with the senior team winning our 21st Colleges All-Ireland. We won a soccer All-Ireland and the team then represented our country proudly wearing the black and white of our tradition again coming out on top of the competition. Our athletic and many other sporting successes, our academic achievements, our contribution to the diocese and to many others in a spirit of giving and volunteering shows the nature that lies at our core emerging and finding fulfilment.

Maynooth University's growing presence on our campus, the work of the Diocesan Forum, the Adult Faith Development Group, the Vocations office, the office of the newly appointed Pastoral Plan Coordinator, the diocesan retreat evenings and the presence of students of theology show that the nature of St Kieran's is in its continued service to education, to the diocese, and to society.

Notably, this year saw a very welcome, and much worked for, announcement for St Kieran's College. The Trustees of the College have gifted a site for the development and relocation of a new ETB joint venture for a community school and Coláiste Pobail Osraí. The Department of Education and Skills have announced that work will begin on this, along with significant redevelopment of the '79 building on our grounds, by 2018. This will allow for an exciting future of immense possibilities for St Kieran's and its campus.

This year was also marked by the departure of John Curtis as Principal of our school. As is well known, John's contribution to St Kieran's College was phenomenal. Words can not do justice to his masterful shaping and guiding of the trajectory of our school. His ability to work so closely with all the partners of education - students, parents, staff, boards, associations and

various other bodies - was a defining characteristic, as was his obvious, and deep care for all who were part of this family. In losing him we have lost a colleague but certainly not a friend. His promotion to the position of General Secretary of the Joint Managerial Body, which represents all voluntary secondary schools in the country, is testimony to his immense ability and the high regard of him nationally. We were honoured to have journeyed with him.

However, in losing him we have not weakened our team. With Adrian Finan as our new Principal and Ken Maher as Deputy Principal St Kieran's is as strong as ever. Both Adrian and Ken are motivated by a deep love for, and dedication to, this College that is humbling to observe. Their selfless commitment to their roles and the ease in which they immediately settled in to work with all partners of the school family is wonderful to see. I wish them well in their new appointments. I am confident they will excel and that our future is as bright as our past.

This year also saw the departure of Don O'Connor from the teaching staff. He too will be sadly missed. Don's invariable good humour and warm smile reassured many a student and staff member alike. We know he will continue the tradition of former staff dropping back in to visit!

A community such as ours succeeds only on the strength of all of its partners giving real and selfless dedication to ensuring the very best is given. Only then will full potential be realised. I have, therefore, a debt of gratitude to the students and their Council, the parents and their Association, the School and College staff, my colleagues on the Board of Management, my fellow Trustees, Bishop Séamus our Patron and all those who make St Kieran's College a mystical place that somehow draws the best out of all.

It is in fulfilling our potential that we give most honour to God.

Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan, President  
Chairperson, Board of Management



Adrian Finan

## Message from the Principal

This is a period of change in the school and it is a great honour for me to be writing this message as Principal of St Kieran's College. Since taking up the post I have been struck by the courtesy and generosity of my colleagues on staff, the pupils and the parents and I look forward to further engaging with everyone in the school community in the years to come. I'm also very grateful to our new Deputy Principal, Mr Ken Maher, for his support and work during this time. I wish Ken well in his new role and I look forward to working alongside him in the years to come.

I would like to extend my congratulations and best wishes to Mr John Curtis in his new role as General Secretary of the JMB. This is a prestigious position in Irish Education and a great honour for John personally. It is also a recognition of the exceptional work done by John in his ten years as Principal here in St Kieran's College and previous to that in Knockbeg College, Carlow. It was a great pleasure and an education for me to work alongside John as his deputy for eight years. His leadership and dedication to everybody in our school community was an inspiration to all of us; St Kieran's College is a richer community today as a result. I can only hope to build on the rich legacy he has left the school.

I would especially like to acknowledge the contribution of Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan for the developments and improvements that continue to

take place on campus. In his role as President of St Kieran's College and Chairman of our Board of Management Dermot provides great stewardship and guidance, for which all in the secondary school are extremely grateful. Thanks to his leadership, vision and persistence we look forward to an exciting future for the school. The recent announcement by the Department of Education and Skills regarding the future of second-level schools in Kilkenny following the offer of a site by the Trustees of St Kieran's College for the relocation of two ETB schools will facilitate choice and real opportunity for students and parents. It will also present real opportunities for our school to redevelop in a way that will offer exciting possibilities for future generations of students.

As we celebrate the end of another school year the Record affords us the opportunity to celebrate the application and creativity of our current students and it is testimony to the breath of activity that takes place in St Kieran's College. The success of the school is predicated on academic achievement but we are fortunate in having such a broad spectrum of extra-curricular activity to help mature and develop the personalities and talents of our students.

As always I would like to thank my colleagues for the tremendous amount of work they have put in during the year in both the curricular and extra-curricular spheres. The achievements of our students, celebrated in this production, owe so much to the extraordinary contribution of our staff who nurture, encourage and engage passionately with all of our students. I also wish to extend my best wishes to Mr Don O'Connor, who retired during the year. Don will be missed by his colleagues and the students alike

but we all hope he enjoys a long and enjoyable retirement.

I would like to thank the student body and those who represented the pupils' voice on the Student Council for their cooperation and diligence. Ultimately it is the great pride they take in themselves and their school that makes St Kieran's College. The nature of the Catholic voluntary sector in the country is such that so much depends on the goodwill of people who serve on Boards of Management and Parents' Associations and I would like to thank all who served in any such capacity during the year, especially those who finish their tenure on the outgoing Board of Management, the three-year term which expires in October.

The publication of the Record is, as I'm sure you can imagine, a team effort that involves contributions from so many of our staff and students. In particular I would like to congratulate Ms Eadaoin Maher, and Ms Martina Lawlor on the quality of this production and to thank them on behalf of all my colleagues on the staff for the enormous effort and time they have put in to ensuring that it is a publication of which we can all be proud.

Finally on behalf of everyone involved in the school community I would like to wish the Junior Certificate and the Leaving Certificate students all the best in their upcoming examinations - their success reflects on us all and we are confident that the education received in the school will stand them all in good stead as they make their way in life.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Record and I wish you all a happy and safe summer.

Mr Adrian Finan  
Principal



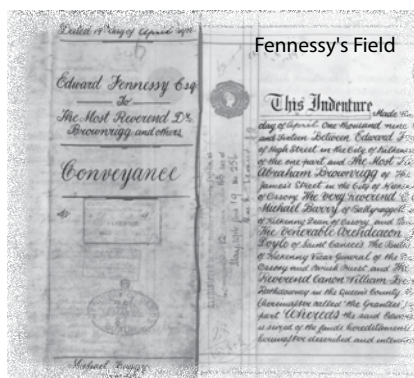


#### School Staff 2016

Back row: Mr Carl Lynch, Mr Larry Cotter, Ms Eilish Ahern, Mr Michael Kelleher, Ms Ann O'Shea, Mr Michael Forrest. Fifth row: Ms Bernie Boland, Ms Rebecca Loughnane, Ms Fiona Doyle, Ms Jo Staunton, Ms Regina Mulcahy, Mr Paul Fitzgerald. Fourth row: Mr Michael Walsh, Ms Jacqui Norton, Mr Eamonn Heffernan, Mr Richie Windle, Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Ms Mary Martin. Third row: Mr Joe Kavanagh, Mr Tom Brennan, Mr Jonjo Farrell, Ms Anne Wemyss, Ms Pauline Bergin, Mr Michael Rice, Mr Stephen Morgan, Mr Ger Buckley, Mr Tom Hogan. Second row: Ms Gillian Farrell, Ms Hollie Hickey, Ms Jane Moran, Ms Eadaoin Maher, Mr Liam Smith, Mr Ken Archbold. Front row: Mr John O'Keeffe, Mr Caiman Browne, Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal), Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Adrian Finan (Principal), Mr Richie Ruth, Mr Martin O'Neill, Mr Lester Ryan, Mr Niall Connolly. Absent from Photo: Mr Patrick Darmody, Ms Bernie Dowling, Ms Eileen Hanrick, Ms Sharon Keyes, Ms Loretta Mannion, Ms Olive O'Connor, Mr Simon Reddy, Ms Orla Reynolds, Mr Philip Walsh.

## Centenary 1916

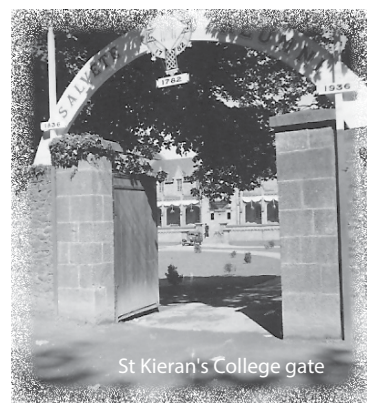
Our front cover this year honours the centenary of 1916. During a year that was formative for our nation much was also happening here at St Kieran's College: the last stages of purchasing of the land that we know as Fennessy's Field was underway; the front gate was different but still iconic; our motto was then what it is now; and the greats of 1916 were past staff members - Francis Sheehy Skeffington and Thomas MacDonagh. Who knows, maybe among our students today we, too, have the great leaders of tomorrow!



Francis Sheehy Skeffington



Thomas MacDonagh



St Kieran's College gate



# College Reunion 2015



College Jubilarians 2015

On the first Tuesday after the 15th August priests from around the diocese and those who were ordained from St Kieran's College but are serving elsewhere return to the College Chapel for the Annual Priests Reunion. This year it fell on the 18th August. As is tradition on that day the College was delighted to welcome back so many familiar faces of its past pupils. In all nearly fifty men made the journey to the College, from near and far, to recall time spent here in formation.

A concelebrated Mass of thanksgiving in the College Chapel, led by Bishop Séamus Freeman, was the focal point of the day. This year the homily was preached by Fr Roderick Whearty who, in celebrating his Silver Jubilee, recalled the days and years he happily spent forming friendships as

a student here. Fr Roderick noted that these supports and those friends are still among the closest he treasures. The bond that men forge together in their years in formation easily stand the tests of time. He also warmly remembered many of the wonderful traditions and stories that brought these wonderful corridors to life. The liturgy was enhanced, as is now the norm, by the choir from St Canice's Parish under the guidance of Eimear O'Shea.

Following the liturgy there was an opportunity for the traditional reunion photo of all those who were celebrating a Jubilee. The College then hosted a celebratory dinner and the conversations and laughter continued well into the evening. As the meal concluded Fr Dermot, as

President of the College, explained to those gathered some of what is happening in its grounds today. He noted, how it is, that the students today are proudly continuing the tradition that first started in 1782 and that those gathered, in their own time, also forged. He also noted that the reunion is the highlight of the College year, since it is, after all, an opportunity to say thank you to all those who, in their various ministries throughout the world, act as the best ambassadors for the College and its proud tradition.

The evening then continued with several of those who were staying over, and some who just dropped in, returning to the College sitting room to share refreshments and more than a few memories and laughs into the night.

## St Kieran's hosts Christian Unity Prayer

The words of Christ to his disciples "they may be one so that the world may believe" (see John 17.21) stand as a stark reminder to all Christians of the imperative to work toward real Christian unity. Each year Christian Churches come together to reflect on this calling, to pray together and to continue the dialogue that marks our relationship. Traditionally the week of prayer is celebrated between 18-25 January, between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul. However in the southern hemisphere, where January is more a time for holidays, churches often find other days to celebrate it, for example around Pentecost, which is also a symbolic date for unity since it is the day when God gifted the Holy Spirit to those who follow him.

This year St Kieran's College hosted an evening of prayer and conversation for the main Christian Churches in our Diocese. Gathered at the prayer was Bishop Séamus Freeman,

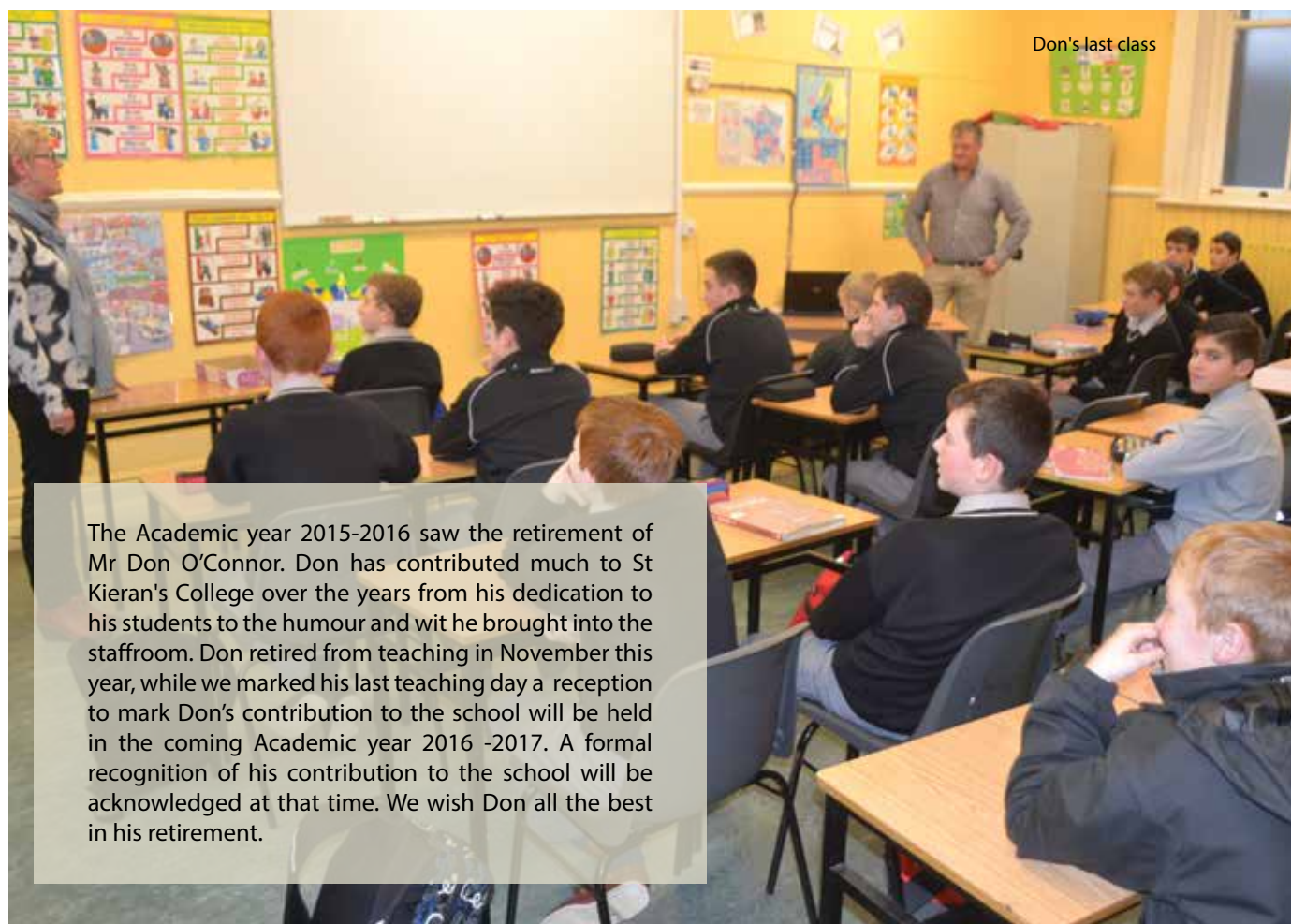
Bishop Michael Burrows (Church of Ireland) and Rev. Paul Maxwell (Methodist). Rev. Maxwell preached the homily and after a short prayer service Rev. Dr Ryan, as President of the College, invited those gathered to a reception and an opportunity for dialogue in the College sitting rooms.



Bishop Séamus Freeman (Catholic Bishop), Bishop Michael Burrows (Church of Ireland), Rev Paul Maxwell (Methodist) in the Chapel at St Kieran's College.



# Mr Don O'Connor



The Academic year 2015-2016 saw the retirement of Mr Don O'Connor. Don has contributed much to St Kieran's College over the years from his dedication to his students to the humour and wit he brought into the staffroom. Don retired from teaching in November this year, while we marked his last teaching day a reception to mark Don's contribution to the school will be held in the coming Academic year 2016 -2017. A formal recognition of his contribution to the school will be acknowledged at that time. We wish Don all the best in his retirement.



College Staff 2016: Back row (l-r): Ms Martina Lawlor, Ms Anne Meaney.  
Front row (l-r): Mr Frank Murphy, Sr Helen Maher and Mr Pat Drennan.

A photograph of Mr John Curtis, a man with glasses and a suit, smiling in front of a large, historic stone building with many windows. The building is St Kieran's College. There are cars parked in front of the building and a green lawn in the foreground.

## Mr John Curtis

### Dei Verbum 10

Now this magisterium is not above the Word of God, but serves it, teaching only what has been handed on, listening to it devoutly, guarding it conscientiously, and explaining it faithfully, by divine commission and with the help of the Holy Spirit

**This is what the document *Dei Verbum* from the Second Vatican Council, on Divine Revelation, tells us about the role of the Church in handing on the faith. It is clear the task of the magisterium is *only to hand on that which it received*. There is a reason for this - that which is entrusted into their care is something really precious...**

#### **To hand on the which they received...**

This, in fact, would not be a bad job description for anyone charged with the care of St Kieran's, its staff, its pupils and its tradition. We are a College with an immense and proud history. Since 1782 we have been doing education and anyone in a position of leadership here would certainly have to be cognisant of the burden of responsibility they hold in passing it on intact to the next generation having faithfully guarded it and its precious image and history. A lesser man would just protect, save, conserve, ensure that it is not damaged - afraid of the responsibility he has been given. But that man is not John Curtis.. No one here could doubt that the Kieran's he today hands back to us is vastly the better for having being in his care for these past eleven and a half years.

It is all but impossible to find the words, with a fullness of meaning, to do John's time here the justice it deserves - hence why I am seeking refuge in borrowing the words of the Council.

#### **Now this magisterium is not above the Word of God but serves it...**

For me this is an apt description of the manner in which John has

carried himself here during his time. In spite of his immense reputation as an educationalist and leader, in spite of his obvious ability, massive intellect, deeply reflective nature, this job, his days here in St Kieran's were never, not even in passing, about him or his career, or his name: the perfect servant of education and tradition John has always made others, the staff, the students, and this place as the focus of attention. As a servant of St Kieran's John had the uncanny knack of supplying the vision then prompting, encouraging, supporting and nudging others to realise that vision while he stepped back and smiled quietly to himself.

#### **Now this magisterium is not above the Word of God but serves it...**

##### ***Listening to it devoutly***

It is easy in management to have ideas, to have a vision, to have a drive. These are the staple characteristics of those in leadership - but immense leaders can do it differently. John listened devoutly. John listened deeply. Be that to parents, students, any member of the staff, and the musings from a delusional cleric over coffee - no matter if the words were spoken in joy or in pain, in anger or



in peace, with a vision or to conserve - no matter what we had to say - about ourselves, about the job, and even on occasion about others John wisely, calmly and unhurriedly listened with a deep concern so that we would be heard. This is real leadership.

**Now this magisterium is not above the Word of God but serves it, listening to it devoutly**

*Guarding it conscientiously*

It is a self evident tautology, to say that John Curtis cared. He guarded St Kieran's with all the love and protection of a father for a child; Sunday afternoons, Tuesday nights, Saturday mornings - on any random day at any hour John's car would be seen parked up in the grounds as he worked away, or simply dropped in to check all was still here. But John's real genius is not that he guarded the building but that he guarded that which made this building so imposing and so impressive - those people who populate its grounds. Staff and students and parents were the real focus of John's care and attention. One hundred percent of the time he was thinking of others here guarding us conscientiously: many a career he shaped with a gentle suggestion; a

classroom he saved with a gentle hand. Literally anything he could do for one of us - John did.

**Now this magisterium is not above the Word of God but serves it, listening to it devoutly, guarding it conscientiously**

*and explaining it faithfully*

This is the test of any teacher - explaining it all. John has faithfully done that here for the past eleven years. Keeping all of the partners of this school community onside by explaining all that was happening - honestly and openly. If there were occasions that you felt he knew more than you - you are probably right!! but in so far as he could and saving the dignity and nature of all involved John endeavoured to be open about what he was doing or what decisions had to be made. It is testimony to the man that he has lead here for eleven years - making decisions that impacted on us all, for the betterment of education and our students, and occasionally ourselves, without ever alienating anyone.

**Now this magisterium is not above the Word of God but serves it, listening to it devoutly, guarding it**

**conscientiously, and explaining it faithfully**

*By diving commission and with the help of the Holy Spirit*

John, you are a man of immense ability, with an intelligence I have rarely encountered, and a reflective personality with a depth that is unusual, you have a vision that infects those around you. But most of all you are a Christian - your deep faith, your love of others and your ability to see the good in all is inspirational.

You leave St Kieran's in these days a place, a staff, a school, better for having journeyed with you. Will we miss you? Yes. Will we survive without you? Yes. Will we go on to even better and greater things? Yes... but when we do we will all know it is thanks to the way you prepared us.

To an exciting future John, for you and your family. You're Kieran's now forever - on big decisions, no one would ever say that John Curtis was simply black and white, you are always willing to spend time in grey areas weighing all the possibilities, but on this fact for us, and forever, you are now black and white!







# Keep the rumour of God alive

It is the task of the Adult Faith development group, located in St Kieran's College, to keep the rumour of God alive. Thankfully, and obviously, this work is not the sole responsibility of this group: word about God, and the word of God, is shared in our parishes, schools, homes and by a great variety of groups in our diocese. It is, however, the responsibility of the Faith Development group to ensure that these groups are supported and encouraged. It is also the task of this group to resource, equip and help the people of our diocese deepen their faith. It is a task that we take seriously.

The members of the faith development group, Eadaoin Maher, Fr Kieran O'Shea, Olivia Maher, Michael Hogan, Declan Murphy, Derek Dooley and Fr Dermot Ryan along with Martina Lawlor, who runs the office in St Kieran's College, work to facilitate various ways to help people, parishes and groups to deepen their understanding of God. Each year the Faith Development group uses a mixture of some tradition, some tried and some new ways of furthering this objective.

Part of the staple diet of offerings of the Faith Development group is the provision each year of training for the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist of our parishes. The group offer this in three locations around the diocese during the weeks of Lent. At the end of this training nearly 500 people were commissioned or recommissioned in their parishes on Holy Thursday. It is wonderful to see so many willing to serve in our communities. The Group, this year, also began the process of offering similar training for Ministers of the Word. At the request of Bishop Séamus it is hoped that these too would

be commissioned for a period of time and prepared so as to best serve in their ministry in our parishes.

The Jubilee of Mercy provided the group with a wonderful opportunity to explore the mercy of God and how it is that people can understand it and experience it in their lives. As a result of this several lectures and days of reflection have been offered centred on this topic, with speakers from various backgrounds opening it to our diocese. The group has also embraced the offering of the Vatican office charged with the promotion of the year of mercy who have invited people to volunteer in Rome during this year to assist with pilgrims. As this piece is being written the first four successful applicants are having flights offered to them by the Faith development group so that, without cost to them, they can experience the Jubilee of Mercy in Rome and return to Ossory to share their experience. In fact more than this the AFD group has arranged a pilgrimage to Rome for later in the Summer. It was hoped that by offering this in December its forty pilgrimage places might be starting to fill by June - thankfully, and in a way that shows the popularity of this great Jubilee of Mercy, over fifty places were taken and bookings closed by the end of January. Much more is still planned for the year of mercy, and work in under way with some of the deanery councils in the preparation of local pilgrimages so that we all can share in this experience together.

The *Ossory Times* magazine, which was first floated by the Faith Development Group as a pilot idea to share news is now in its fourth year of production. It is growing with every

offering. It is offered for sale in all parishes for just €2 and is therefore accessible to all. This publication is intended to carry news from around the diocese so as to share with each other much of what we are doing. It also offers more educational pieces on aspects of the faith. In exploring its pages you see a diocese that is alive and active. The people of Ossory are doing lots to keep the rumour of God alive and it is wonderful that we support that and share that good news.

This year saw the creation of the diocesan retreat team too under the auspices of the Faith Development group. The new retreat team, which is documents elsewhere in the Record is a wonderful new beginning for the College in welcoming people into the Chapel and rooms on nights throughout the year. The theme chosen for reflection this year was, obviously, mercy. From all feedback received the nights were a great success. The retreat team are now well settled in their role and as this year winds down they are already planing the evenings, and some day retreats, for next year.

The Faith Development Group by now has its usual activities and they are continually offered: the Advent and Lenten daily texts; the Advent and Lenten scripture "Thought for the day" booklets, Sunday Scripture Reflection sheets, Mercy Prayer Cards, the Diocesan hurling and camogie Blitz.

Based in the College this group does all it can to support people in their faith and to help them explore it. If you have ideas or suggestions please let us know. We always welcome them...



## PARISH EVENINGS



# Annual Diocesan Hurling Blitz



## VOLUNTEERING

YEAR OF MERCY  
VOLUNTEERS  
ROME  
2016



## YEAR OF MERCY VOLUNTEERS

Julian Volunteers are needed in Rome for this year. Volunteers are asked to give at least a week (or 4 days for the most events) in Rome. The Volunteers will welcome pilgrims at several meeting points, providing information about the services available to pilgrims, they will accompany pilgrims on the pathways designated specifically for them to reach the Papal Basilicas, helping them to remain in prayer in the Basilicas with the proper focus, without distractions, and at the times and in the way planned ahead of time.

Volunteers should know how to speak more than one language in order to be able to help pilgrims from other countries (English is most helpful), but they should also all speak a sufficient amount of Italian to be able to communicate with the representatives of the volunteers (if needed the diocese can help you with that).

**TO BECOME A JULIAN VOLUNTEER**  
Julian Volunteers should work by the side of the pilgrims and represent a point of reference for them. This requires not only a spirit of service on the part of the Volunteers, but also that a guarantee of their trustworthiness be given to those who will coordinate their services. Therefore, to become a Julian Volunteer, you must send a letter of recommendation from your local Priest.

To become a candidate, you must fill out the application form which can be found along with other information at [www.ia-roomandboard.com](http://www.ia-roomandboard.com) while in Rome.

The Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization will provide room and board for those accepted as Volunteers on Monday during their days of service.

**FLIGHTS TO ROME**  
If successful in your application Ossory Adult Faith Development will offer a number of grants (max 100, up to 400 euros, to help with the cost of flights. Those interested in applying must first be successfully accepted as a volunteer before the grant will be issued. Apply now - for this experience of a lifetime.

Ossory Adult Faith Development  
Tel: 056 7753624 Email: [afad@ossory.ie](mailto:afad@ossory.ie) Web: [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie)



## PILGRIMAGES

**OSSORY DIOCESE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME**

**OSSORY DIOCESE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME FOR THE SPECIAL YEAR OF MERCY**  
August 29th - September 3rd 2016

For full details and booking contact:  
Ossory Adult Faith Development  
Tel: 056-7753624  
Email: [afad@ossory.ie](mailto:afad@ossory.ie)  
Pilgrimage Chaplain Fr Kevin O'Shea  
See [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie) for full itinerary

- Starting in the heart of Rome at the Irish College in an air-conditioned cruise centre
- Visiting all the major pilgrimage places of Rome
- Audience with the Holy Father
- Half day trip to the beautiful town of Castelgandolfo on Lake Albano
- Mass beside the tomb of St Peter, in St Peter's Basilica





## Liberal Studies at St Kieran's

The Liberal Studies Group offers a programme of lectures and cultural activities covering literature, music, poetry & art history. It has 120 members and a substantial waiting list. Classes run from September to April on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Lecturers are experienced in their field and include a published poet, college lecturers and established artists.

The theme for this year was Family. Lecturers included Francis Tansey, speaking of his family of paintings and his methodology. Niamh O'Sullivan spoke eloquently on the *ante-bellum* families of the southern US states and the slave families who served them. Novels on this theme were

The Power & The Glory, The Joy Luck Club, Edith Frome & Honeydew. Poetry and novels were chosen by Mark Roper, our resident literature lecturer. Prof. Harry spoke of the Bach and Mozart families (both composers also being examined in the 2015 and 2016 Kilkenny Arts Week programmes). Sean Kissane from IMMA gave two illustrated lectures on The Rising - A New Family. Other lecturers included Dr James Heaney, John McKenna, John Kirwan - all experts in their fields.

Christmas lunch in Lyrath House Hotel was attended by 75 members with an illustrated talk by local archeologist Coilin O'Driscoll on the excavations and current renovation of St Mary's Church in Kilkenny. To commemorate the centenary, a spring trip included the 1916 Freedom Trail in Dublin and a visit to "Juno and The Paycock" at the Gate Theatre. An end of term trip was organised to Castletown & Carton Houses, homes of some of the Anglo-Irish ascendancy families.

## Parish Evenings in St Kieran's

This year saw a new venture begin in St Kieran's as the host of the parish evenings. The Parish evenings are an experience for parishioners to come together away from their daily lives to spend time in prayer. The evenings bring neighbours and friends together to pray, reflect and meditate in the beautiful historic surroundings which is St Kieran's College.

During the evening we listen to the word of God, give praise through music and song as well as receive Jesus in the Eucharist. There is during the course of the evening an opportunity to receive the sacrament of confession for those who wish to do so and before the journey home, a cup of tea and a chat is shared.

This year saw parishes from all over the diocese experience through their parish evening, the theme of 'Mercy'.

Pope Francis Inaugurated this year, from 8th of December 2015, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, until the 20th of November 2016, the feast of Christ the King as a year of mercy and this was then chosen as the theme for the parish evenings for this year.

In experiencing the theme of mercy the parish evenings invite closer reflection on the meaning of mercy, mercy in the Old and New Testaments as well as our experience of mercy

in our relationship with God and our relationships with others. Those who come on the parish evenings are invited to bring various symbols representing their Parish. Water from a local well, children's art, the local teams' jersey and a chalice from the parish church all represent parts of who we are as parish.

The first part of the evening involves listening to the word of God, reflecting on the gospel and through meditation and becoming still an opportunity to allow God to speak to us. The second part of the evening held in the college chapel begins as gifts are carried to the altar representing all who are part of the parish and all their intentions. The Eucharist which Pope Francis describes as "not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak" is then celebrated in a spirit of thanksgiving.

The parish evenings allow parishioners an opportunity to return to daily life with a deeper sense of the presence of God among them and together with neighbours and friends they can continue to share the good news with others. Parish evenings have a long tradition in our Diocese and with a new retreat team formed and a new home in St Kieran's it is hoped that this tradition will continue into the future.





# Certificate in Theological Studies



Declan Murphy B.A.Th., M.A.

Course Director Certificate In Theological Studies.

Participants on the the Certificate in Theological Studies from across the diocese of Ossory have just completed the programme for this year. This course is intended for people with an interest in understanding the thinking behind the teachings of the church and the writings of scripture. It is, according to the students on the programme, both accessible to those new to theology and stimulating in its delivery and content. Those taking the course have learned about Old and New Testament scripture in a meaningful way and how it can be connected to their daily lives. Issues around how we live and should live our lives are addressed in an interesting and challenging way in Moral Theology. The Mass and the Sacraments take on a whole new meaning after completing an engaging

module on liturgy and sacraments. The origins of church teaching in prayers such as the creed are traced through the teaching councils of the church over the centuries. Finally the course brings people through an exploration and discussion on the Church and our role in it.

The programme is informed by the teachings of Pope Francis and in that context it is a welcomed part of the overall move to greater participation in adult religious education in order to open the way for greater involvement in the local parish community.

Next year we intend to offer additional input, focusing the learning of the existing programme on parish leadership and participation in parish ministry. We will offer skills training in group facilitation, to help course participants to understand the basic principles behind working with groups. From the module on Church, there will be support around the area of parish



pastoral councils and their formation. There will also be training to support those working with ministers of the Word through the development of greater insights into the way scripture is used across the year and in special liturgies. The liturgical module will focus its theory on helping participants to enhance the integrity of the celebration of the sacraments through a better understanding of liturgy. In this way course participants will be enabled to support those involved in both the ministry of the Word and ministry of the Eucharist.

While we hope that these additions will enhance the experience of participants and lead to the enrichment of ministry in parish, the course will also be of interest to those wishing to develop their own personal faith journey through greater insight and reflection.



# The Ossory Diocesan Forum

Sr Helen Maher

When the Forum began in 2004 the people of the diocese articulated a strong desire to see the Church move towards becoming more fully "the people of God". While some doubted that change could or would happen, the majority believed that priests and people working together under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, could bring a new vibrancy to the Church in our time.

A network of pastoral councils was established at parish, deanery and diocesan level so that good channels of communication would enable wide-ranging consultation and involvement of all in the life of the local church. These pastoral councils continue to provide an invaluable means of making it possible for priests, religious and lay people to be effectively co-responsible for the life of the church in our diocese.

A good example of how this can work has been the development of



a Diocesan Pastoral Plan. The Plan was asked for by members of Pastoral Councils following a thorough review by them of their own work. People considered that a Diocesan Plan was needed to give focus and direction to the work of all pastoral groups in the diocese. The Plan is now official as it has been ratified by Bishop Freeman.

The latest and very encouraging development has been the employment by the Diocese of a Plan Coordinator. Starting later in

the Summer Ms Gemma Mulligan, a native of the diocese who now lives in Tullaroan parish, has been appointed to this role by Bishop Séamus Freeman. Gemma brings with her immense experience in this type of work and a great energy for the task at hand. It is truly wonderful to see the pastoral plan come to life in her appointment. We look forward to having a dedicated person to encourage and lead us all in becoming a church that is continually more vibrant and alive.

# Kilkenny Archives at St Kieran's College

John Kirwan

During the course of the past year three local collections of archives have been vested in Kilkenny Archives Ltd, which has been located in St Kieran's College, since 2010, as guests and under the patronage of the President and Trustees.

The papers of Margaret Tynan, Kilkenny's first Lady Mayor, a post she held on eight different occasions, were the first to arrive.. During her political life Margaret was involved in many key issues: poverty in the community, Rights for Women, Keep Kilkenny Beautiful, the acquisition of the KDW complex, including Butler House for the city of Kilkenny, which led to the establishment of The Kilkenny Civic Trust, the founding of the Watergate Theatre with ongoing financial support from the Kilkenny Civic Trust and many other ventures.

Then came the family papers Mr & Mrs Adrian Bligh of Circular Road. Both were natives of Kilkenny city and during the course of their long lives were involved in many community



based activities, so their papers for the most part reflect this involvement. In the collection we have local theatre material (Ossory Players) and political material as Adrian was for many years in the 1930s an active supporter of Fianna Fail. The Kilkenny Art Gallery Society is also represented in this holding.

Lastly we received the papers of Kilkenny dentist, historian, wife and mother, Katherine M. Lanigan, née Harte, who was born in Kilkenny in December 1909, the third child of James Harte (solicitor) and his wife

Mary A. Harte, née Birch. Kitty is today best remembered for her book Kilkenny: its architecture and history (1977) which she co-wrote with Gerald Tyler of the KWD. Amongst the Lanigan Collection are near 2,000 slides and photographs, many of them of the city and its environs, which were used for this magisterial book, which is still in print. The Lanigan collection of images with the earlier Lawrence and Crawford collections means that here in Kilkenny we have a full photographic record of the city and its environs from c. 1890 to the 1970s.





An exciting new venture took place in St Kieran's College this year with the launch of the 'Michael Rice St Kieran's College Coaching Academy'. This is a coaching course for hurling managers and coaches.

## Michael Rice St Kieran's College Coaching Academy

Michael, who is an Economics and Irish teacher in the school, collaborated with the President of the college, Fr Dermot Ryan in putting this course together and bringing it to fruition. A number of weekends ran throughout the summer of 2015 and February 2016. This course is quite unique in that coaches get the opportunity to hear from players and professionals who are instrumental in the present game. It is a programme that combines the most effective modern coaching techniques with a thorough grounding in the traditions of the game. And where better to provide this course than the famed hurling fields of St Kieran's College. Coaches can learn from the experiences of All-Ireland winners and All-Stars including Tommy Walsh, David Herity, Brian Hogan, Richie Hogan, Richie Power, Michael Rice and others. All-Ireland winning coach, Martin Fogarty, gives an overall

view of his experience in coaching club and county. Various discipline experts that include physiotherapist, Dr Clare Lodge, strength and conditioning coach Seán Kelly, dietitian Lorna O'Neill and sports psychologist Shane O'Sullivan give their insights in how best to prepare your team both physically and mentally. This leads to a nice mix of on field learning with the players and classroom based theory with the professionals.

Coaches have come from many different counties throughout the country such as Cork, Galway, Offaly, Laois, Tipperary, Antrim, Tyrone, Derry, Dublin and Kilkenny. Another distinctive element of this course is that the participants can stay on the grounds of St Kieran's College with meals being provided throughout the day. This has proven to be extremely popular amongst the coaches as being on campus allows them to

move easily between the pitches, the gym and the lecture hall. Also, the coaches are not only learning from the presenters but from each other as they share their thoughts and ideas amongst the group. Numbers are limited to ensure that peer learning can take place and also to give everyone the opportunity to ask questions and get the maximum out of the weekends. Another feature which is very enjoyable is 'The Legends Talk'. Two former greats in Henry Shefflin and Eddie Brennan gave very honest accounts of the highs and lows of their careers during the courses last year.

St Kieran's College is already looking forward to hosting weekends in summer 2016 and beyond. For more information follow the twitter account @KieransRiceAcad or facebook at RiceKierans CoachingAcademy

# Maynooth University's Kilkenny Campus

Maynooth University has been running flexible programmes at its Kilkenny Campus, based at St. Kieran's College, for over nineteen years. Originally, the programmes were mainly aimed at mature students (those aged 21 and over) and since 2013 there has been an increasing focus on the new First Arts programme which is open to mature students and school leavers alike.

Over the years, over 1,600 students

of the Campus were awarded with qualifications ranging across the full spectrum from Level 5 certificate to PhD. Last year alone, two of those who commenced their academic studies on the part-time BA in Local Studies at the campus completed PhDs in History: Dr. Pat Bracken from Thurles and Dr. Richard Hyland from Clonmoran, just outside Kilkenny; Richard is himself a past-pupil of St. Kieran's College.

The Department of Adult and Community Education at Maynooth University has provided a home for the Campus since its establishment, and the ethos of that Department with its emphasis on the transformational power of education, and the creation of a supportive learning environment has informed and guided the campus through its ongoing development.



## First Arts at Maynooth University's Kilkenny Campus is thriving

In September 2015 the third group of First Arts students began their studies at Kilkenny Campus. Just under ninety students both from the local area and further afield are studying the first year of their Bachelor of Arts degree in Kilkenny (CAO Code MH901).

This full time programme which has attracted both Leaving Certificate and mature students, offers the option of studying four subjects out of a choice of eight. Some of the most popular subjects from the main Campus are

on offer including English, History, Sociology, Philosophy, Anthropology and Economics, and St. Patrick's College Maynooth is also offering Theology. The 2016-2017 academic year will also see the introduction of Law as a subject choice. On successful completion of their first year at Kilkenny Campus, students will transfer to the main campus, continuing with two of their first year subjects, to complete the Honours BA with Maynooth University (MH101), or the Bachelor of Arts and

Theology with St. Patrick's College, Maynooth (MU001) if continuing with Theology.

Many students from the local area find the financial benefits of living at home for their first year of college very beneficial. Others from further afield find the smaller numbers on campus very attractive, and opt for Kilkenny as an easier transition from second-level to university. For others, the opportunity to have the first year of their University experience in the





2016 First Arts  
Students

vibrant city of Kilkenny has been a selling point, and it has also brought revenue in to the city as many students lodge with local families.

Over the past two years, St. Kieran's College, where the University's Kilkenny Campus is located, have made student accommodation available for MH901 students, adding to the appeal of the Kilkenny offering.

Kilkenny students have been performing strongly in academic terms compared to their counterparts on the main campus and they have benefitted greatly from the smaller class sizes, student focused learning environment and the vibrant campus community. They themselves have given very positive feedback on their experience and have transitioned very well into their second year on the main Maynooth University Campus. Students have commented that "we are eased into college life in a friendly environment and we get to know everyone really well", and "smaller classes are better, the lecturers know your name".

The current group of First Year students are also seeing the benefits of the smaller campus experience in their feedback to date. Like their predecessors, they have performed



on a par academically with their counterparts on the main campus and they have also formed strong bonds of friendship with each other that they will take with them into their second year. The students have been active in the extracurricular areas of their college experience also, organising soccer matches against the first year team from the main campus and taking part in inter-cultural awareness day to name but a few. One of our students regularly represents the university in inter-varsity golf competitions, and we even have a few hurlers in the group!

**For anyone wishing to find out more about the First Arts programme the Campus is holding a number of drop-in days over the summer, details of which will be available on our website <http://kilkenny.nuim.ie>**

**You may also contact us on:  
Tel: 056 777 5910 or email  
[kilkennyfirstarts@nuim.ie](mailto:kilkennyfirstarts@nuim.ie)**





## Political visits

As 2016 was an election year we had many politicians who visited St Kieran's prior to polling day. Included are just a few photos of their visits.





# Sixth Year Signatures 2016

William Spencer Robbie Power Tim Howes Michael Ryan Lum Wallace  
 Ronan O'Connor Hugh Cannon Eamon Forristal Stephen James  
 Euan Tully Chris Keane James Clifford Carolan Drea  
 Alan Mooney John Fitzpatrick Conor Byrne Robert Kerwick  
 Shane Byrne Jake Edward Maylan Nathan Danby Whambar Euan Carrac  
 Paul Luttrell Darren Meany Oisín Gough Patrick Maher Brión Kinnear  
 Nicholas Milko Kelly-Kavany Thomas Maher Peter Scullin-Lalor Aidan O'Sullivan Thomas Murphy  
 Cian Browne Richie Stapleton Darragh Phelan Conor Purcell Danny Kehoe Eamonn Egan  
 P.J. Dalton Joe Cooney Seán Carey Brian Danny Egan Morgan Walshe  
 Stephen Bateman Robert O'Dwyer Power Wall Thomas Dorney Adam McElroy  
 Paddy Ryan Robert O'Dwyer Brian Power Wall Thomas Dorney Adam McElroy  
 Michael Kelly James Vigeat Patrick Kennedy Tommy Walsh Eamonn Egan  
 Connor Rafter James Vigeat Patrick Kennedy Tommy Walsh Eamonn Egan  
 Michael Cady Joe Summitt Diarmuid Minner Michael Haxel Sham Hennessy  
 James Mullally LARMAC Buggy Eamonn Byrne  
 Shane O'Shaughnessy Liam Walsh Kevin Slaghnessy Euan Swan  
 Abba Bohann Niall Delaney Eoin Kelly  
 Kevin O'Sullivan Marc Leahy James Walton Matt Kenny John Gillman Luke Gannon  
 Nick Colligan Tom Whitty Sean Maher Thomas Phelan Brian Crowdie Tamm Byrne  
 Jack McHugh Grace Morrissey Edmund Delaney  
 Niall Brennan Niko Doyle Padraig Roberts  
 Maurice Walsh Peter Lynch



### Michael Ryan

I often wonder if anything changes in St Kieran's. Every year these pages chronicle the magnificent achievements of our fellow students, traditional events such as St Kieran's Day and the awards night; but at the front there will always be a picture of an incoming First Year group, and at the back a picture of the departing Sixth Year group. It would seem that for an outsider looking in that we are all just passing through; and indeed we are but with each year group being different and every student being unique, gradually you will realise that change is the only constant here in St Kieran's. In that same vein, I thank Ms Keyes for allowing me to leave a mark on our time here in the school and to enlighten you to the story behind the 2016 Sixth Year signatures.

At this year's St Kieran's day mass Fr Ryan reminded us of our six year 'term of office'. What can we, as St Kieran's students, contribute to the school during our short six years in office here? As students however, there are many more things that we will remember our 'term of office' for than just contributions. When reflecting on the past six years, it probably won't be the sporting wins or academic results but rather the friendships, the camaraderie, the positive atmosphere and of course the enjoyment that will stand out in our minds. It is hard to believe that six years have passed since we first set foot in this school but yet we have learned so much, discovered talents that we never knew we had

and have done things that we never thought we could do. It is therefore no surprise that my tenure here is laden with nostalgia and fond experiences.

Long before my time in St Kieran's I had always marvelled at the iconic stature of this school. The spacious campus, the Hogwarts-like building and of course the appetite for success in all its endeavours rendered it very attractive when I was thinking about my second level education. I can still remember vividly taking a right turn onto the College Road on my first trip to St Kieran's. Walking through the arch for the first time, wearing the famous black jumper was most certainly a surreal feeling. All the famous alumni had departed the school and now I was one of the lucky few entrusted with the mantle of being a St Kieran's College student. Inside we met Mr Maher, Mr Smith, Fr Ryan and Mgr Kennedy, flanked by cairdeas students. There was definitely an emotive quality to the speeches that day, the message being that it was something special to become a St Kieran's student and the onus was on us to keep this famous tradition alive. Things that we now take for granted such as moving from class to class and navigating around the school seemed so foreign to us on that special day. Looking back on my first year here I, like every one of my classmates, was preoccupied with what now seems like trivial things.

The sprint to the now departed chicken roll stand at the 11 o'clock break, the necessity to buy every single item that the budding Transition Year entrepreneurs were selling and

a ferocious game of wall ball during lunch times stand out; but are, of course, a fundamental element to the rite of passage here in St Kieran's. What I soon also noticed as a First Year student was the myth of St Kieran's just being a hurling nursery debunked. Opportunities were presented to us in choir, athletics, debating, soccer and many other fields. Personally I was drawn in by the freedom of the lunchtime run, punctuated by a charismatic Mr O'Keeffe. Tearing around the Castle Park at lunch time seemed much more enjoyable than the pressurised environment of the hurling trials. Unbeknownst to us however was the prospect of study and exams and the challenge of Halloween exams; our first set of exams in the school and a far cry from the usual Friday morning spelling test that we were accustomed to, was a thundering shock to the system. On the morning of those exams, not a single student seemed to be outside playing hurling and Hall 33 was tense, filled with 140 panicking souls getting some 'first' minute revision in.

Second Year saw the departure of Jim, 'the chicken roll man' and a void remained in the school before the canteen was opened a few years later. One student in our year however had the presence of mind to start up his own enterprise – an underground shop! This proved to be very popular but was unfortunately shut down by Mr Smith. With the increasing emphasis on the academic element of school life in Second Year, festivities such as St Kieran's Day became the focal point of



the year. In Second Year, paint balling was generally the activity of choice. Pre-combat rivalry resulted in many of us students trying to come up with a plan to target a few of the teachers, some even had invested in extra bullets in a quest to reign supreme. I can't recall if we succeeded in doing so but it is positive days like those that I for one will certainly remember St Kieran's for.

The dynamic of school life changed in Third Year however with the Junior Cert looming in the background. We were no longer the minnows of the school and things began to get more serious. Although it seemed critically important at the time, and to certain extents it still is, the Junior Cert now constitutes for us just another stepping stone, a landmark on the learning curve. Most will remember the exams for the great, sunny weather that we were deprived of at that time, but it is through sacrifices, akin to that, that make us all stronger. Again, in what seemed like the relentless pace of secondary school, the exams were finished before we even had realised it and we had finally reached the odyssey that is Transition Year. Transition Year was probably the highlight of my time in St Kieran's and a chance to 'get outside the comfort zone' as I have heard many teachers say in the last few years. I don't think there was

anything more uncomfortable than standing up and making a speech in Mr O'Neill's class and then watching the video recording of the speech, with the class straight after it. Despite that hardship (and embarrassment!), it was a thoroughly enjoyable year however, a chance to get a breath of fresh air both literally and metaphorically given the arduous nature of State Exams Long walks along rivers and up mountains, were a frequent occurrence along with work experience, enrichment programmes and of course the Gaisce weekend: 25km kayaking from Leighlinbridge to St Mullins for the weekend along the Barrow, which was nothing short of gruelling. Some may question the point in transition year, but when embraced it is certainly as effective as any amount of time spent in the books, in creating a more rounded individual.

After the excitement of Transition Year, Fifth Year was most certainly a shock to the system. The Leaving Cert was no longer some faraway prospect in the future, but a reality. For some, it was a chance to be a member of the Cairdeas team. As in King Lear 'the wheel hath come full circle' and we were now helping those filling shoes that we had left not so long ago and maintaining the wonderful ethos of the school through pastoral care. It

was only then we could appreciate the hard work of the school to cater for the needs of every student. Thinking of Fifth year, it wouldn't seem right if I didn't include the word 'shock' in the same sentence, as we were finally in the position where our study would influence our ability to

succeed in the Leaving Certificate. Now as the Leaving Cert beckons, school life represents a new landscape. I have watched the news in early June for many years now as commentators discuss the likelihood of certain

poets to appear on the Leaving Cert but now this actually affects us. The exams this year will of course be another media frenzy and of course a great challenge, but when equipped with the qualities of 'Kieran's men' that have been instilled in us over the last six years, I, like my class mates, will have confidence in our abilities.

This Leaving Cert year has undoubtedly been very memorable; especially on the extracurricular front. The achievement of the Senior Hurling Team capturing their third All-Ireland in-a-row cannot be underestimated. It is however a testament to all the members of this fraternity and exemplifies the willingness of everyone here to go beyond the call of duty and contribute to school life. The synergy of these contributions however are what truly makes St Kieran's unique. Most will remember this victory this year but we must also remember Mr Darmody and Mr Forrest organising a hurling league after school for us in First Year, acting as a mould for this success years later. Being a member of the cross country team finally stepping up on the All Ireland podium after six years of trying was very sweet and finally made us feel we had done something to the same tune as our hurling counterparts! Likewise moments such as Liam Wallace putting the hair on the back of our neck standing during Proclamation day and the performances of the music department in the carols and the music festival will be equally cherished.

As our time here draws to a close, part of me can't believe that I am writing this. Leaving St Kieran's was always a long distant prospect and now the time has come for our group photo to become immortalised on the walls of St Kieran's. Looking back on our 'term of office', I think it is clear that we contributed our fair share in all domains of school life to the 'snowball' of tradition in St Kieran's that just keeps on getting bigger. This would simply not have been possible however if it wasn't for the trojan work of the teaching staff to which we will be forever indebted to. Fellow class mates I wish you the best of luck in future life and of course in the next few weeks. As I write this during Irish oral season it simply would not be possible to finish this piece without the inclusion of a seanfhocal - "Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí!



# School Awards 2015

## SUBJECT AWARDS

<b>Mathematics</b>	Junior - James Phelan	Senior - Conor Aylward
<b>Gaeilge</b>	Junior - Fergus Byrne	Senior - Vladyslav Medvensky
<b>English</b>	Junior - Niall Doheny	Senior - Conor Aylward
<b>Business</b>	Junior - Shanly Sebastian	Senior - Sean O'Neill
<b>Spanish</b>	Junior - Darwish Bourke	Senior - Vladyslav Medvensky
<b>French</b>	Junior - Shanly Sebastian	Senior - Mark Doyle
<b>Technical Graphics</b>	Junior - John Nolan	Senior - Bill O'Neill
<b>Technology</b>	Junior - Robbie McCauley	Senior - Eoin Holligan
<b>Scinece</b>	Junior - David O'Carroll	Senior - Jack Larkin
<b>History</b>	Junior - Conor Drennan	Senior - Eoin Walsh
<b>Geography</b>	Junior - David Griffin	Senior - Sean Cuddihy
<b>Religion</b>	Junior - David Walsh	Senior - Jack Kavanagh
<b>Art</b>	Junior - Kasper Mazurkiewicz	Senior - Liam Costello
<b>Agricultural Science</b>		Senior - Jack Keoghan
<b>Music</b>	Junior - Conor Archbold	Senior - Alan Hayes
<b>Frank Muldowney Award Best Junior Cert 2015</b>		Kieran Lucey
<b>LCVP Student of the year</b>		Alex Lalor
<b>The President's Award</b>		Alan Hayes

## ACADEMIC STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

<b>First Year</b>	David Delahunty
<b>Second Year</b>	Fionn Whelan
<b>Third Year</b>	Darkish Bourke
<b>Fifth Year</b>	Michael Ryan
<b>Sixth Year</b>	Vladyslav Medvensky

## AWARDS OF MERIT

<b>First Year</b>	Dacel Fwamba, Ronan Lavelle, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Peter Connellan, Kieran Buckley
<b>Second Year</b>	Killian Egan, Jason Kelly, Philip Hayde, Krystian Pawlowski, Luke Gannon
<b>Third Year</b>	Ruairi Breen, Sean Manogue, Alex Doheny, James Phelan, David O'Carroll
<b>Transition Year</b>	Tommy Walton, Robert Fitzgerald, Ciaran Lennon, Thomas Comerford, Liam Rafter
<b>Fifth Year</b>	Bill Whelan, Darragh Phelan, Patrick Kennedy, John Hession, Stephen Carolan
<b>Sixth Year</b>	Alan Hayes, Vladyslav Medvensky, Eoin Walsh, Jason Byrne, Tom O'Keeffe.

## SPORTS AWARDS

<b>Boxing</b>	Kevin Kehoe
<b>Snooker</b>	Stephen Bateman

<b>Orienteering</b>	Conall Whelan
<b>Badminton</b>	Dara Glynn, Conor Kelly, Ciaran Brennan, Peter Connellan
<b>Bowling</b>	Kieran Conway, Ted Drea, Kevin Fennelly, Adam Power, Jack Manning
<b>Cross Country</b>	
- <b>Minor</b>	Adam Fitzpatrick
- <b>Senior</b>	Peter Lynch
<b>Soccer Player U13</b>	Ciaran Brennan
<b>Soccer Player U15</b>	Jack Roche-Callan
<b>Soccer Player U17</b>	Kyran O'Sullivan
<b>Soccer Player U19</b>	Eoin Delaney
<b>Gaelic Footballer of the Year - Alfie Sheehy Perpetual Trophy</b>	Victor Costello
<b>Handball</b>	Eoin Brennan
<b>Hurling</b>	
<b>Juvenile Hurler of the Year</b>	Ciaran Brennan
<b>Junior Hurler of the Year</b>	Martin Keoghan
<b>Senior Hurler of the Year</b>	Jason Cleere
<b>Sports Star of the Year</b>	Peter Lynch

## STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

<b>First Year</b>	Ciaran Brennan
<b>Second Year</b>	James Kearney
<b>Third Year</b>	Conor Archbold
<b>Fifth Year</b>	Cian Burke
<b>Student of the Year</b>	Cillian Fitzpatrick
<b>Patrick Kilroy Award</b>	Sean Lynch



## STUDENTS OF THE YEAR



Back row: Mr Adrian Finan (Deputy-Principal), Mr Tomm Moore (Past Pupil Guest of Honour), Ms Liselott Olofsson, Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Niall Connolly, Ms Jean Fitzpatrick and Mr John Curtis (Principal). Front Row: James Kearney (Second Year), Conor Archbold (Third Year), Killian Fitzpatrick (Fifth Year), Sean Lynch (Sixth Year), Cian Burke (Transition Year) and Ciarán Brennan (First Year).

## ACADEMIC AWARD



Back row: Mr Adrian Finan (Deputy-Principal), Mr Niall Connolly, Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Tomm Moore (Past Pupil Guest of Honour), Ms Liselott Olofsson and Mr John Curtis (Principal). Front row: Fionn Whelan (Second Year), Darwish Bourke (Third Year), Vladyslav Medvensky (Sixth Year), Michael Ryan (Fifth Year), Kieran Lucey (Transition Year) and David Delahunty (First Year).

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Alan Hayes and Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President).

## SPORTS AWARD



Back row: Mr Adrian Finan (Deputy-Principal), Mr Niall Connolly, Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Rev Dr Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Tomm Moore (Past Pupil Guest of Honour), Ms Liselott Olofsson and Mr John Curtis (Principal). Front Row Sean Morrissey, Jason Cleere, Peter Lynch, Ciaran Brennan.



# Pastoral Care in Kieran's

## New Chaplain

Mr Liam Smith is the new Chaplain in St Kieran's College. Mr Smith is a past pupil of the school and joined the teaching staff in 2007. We wish him well in the important work that he does which is so central to upholding the Catholic ethos of our school and to the Catholic education that our students receive.

The Chaplain provides pastoral support to all of the school community. Its open door policy allows each member of the school to come and receive support in a confidential and safe way.



## RETREATS

Every year the students of St Kieran's College have a day set aside for retreat. A retreat is a chance for our students to relax, to take some time out of their busy schedules and to spend some time together with their friends. Retreats provide opportunities for students to reflect on their lives and to perhaps discuss and think about what direction they are going. Retreats can also be spiritual experiences with some time set aside for prayer or meditation.

Our First Year students receive their

retreat in the school theatre. This is a "Friendship Day" which focuses on the importance of friendship and the importance of not tolerating bullying as a part of our school. This is a day which gives each of the First Years a good opportunity to meet and get to know everyone in their class in a more informal setting. The day begins with a couple of games which encourages the students to speak to others that they haven't yet spoken to. The retreat team spend a good part of the day on their anti-bullying workshop. There is

also some time allocated for questions, answers and prayer. In the afternoon, an activity is planned to encourage First Years to relax, have fun and enjoy each others company.

In Second and Third Year, students visit the Castletown Retreat Centre, Co Laois and go on a walking retreat after mass in Duiske Abbey, Graigueenamanagh, Co Kilkenny to the picturesque village of St Mullins, Co Carlow. Time is allocated along the walk to reflect on their lives. It allows for class groups to bond and to take



some time to think a little about some of life's other issues and for prayer.

In Fourth Year the retreat takes on a slightly different dynamic. Students go on a pilgrimage for a day. This year the Transition Years journeyed to the monastic site of Glendalough, Co Wicklow. Here, we follow in the footsteps of St Kevin. Our journey begins and ends at the lake. Various thoughts, prayers and readings are given throughout the day and mass is celebrated upon return to the lake. We pray for good weather particularly on this day!

In Fifth Year the students get the opportunity to re-visit Castletown, three years on for a little more time out, discussion and prayer. Finally, in Sixth Year students receive a retreat with a difference. The retreat is held in the school theatre. The theme for the day is "Life After the Leaving Cert" and three guest speakers meet the lads to give them their experience of life after the Leaving. The class of 2016 met Cormac Connolly, past pupil who is currently studying in Dublin, Commandant Robert Kearney, officer in the Army Corps and past pupil and Kilkenny hurler Paul Murphy. An opportunity to pray and a good lunch in Langtons helps the lads to enjoy this day, while focusing them on the Leaving Cert and their future lives beyond the gates of St Kieran's.

Retreats offer a break from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In St Kieran's College we feel that it is important for all students to get an opportunity to take time out of their busy lives during the school year. We often hear of things which can happen in life that puts things into perspective for us. May we never lose sight of the real meaning of our lives and give thanks for the many blessings we have.

### First Year Retreat

Seamie Hughes Kennedy

For our First Year Retreat at the start of the year we got a talk from our school Chaplain Mr Maher about how he wants us to keep bullying out of the school. We were talking about the negative effects it has on people. We were also put into groups with our Cairdeas leaders so they could help us if we had any questions. Then we all headed down to K - Bowl in MacDonagh Junction where we had a great time.

### Second Year Retreat

Leo Capasso & James Shirley

For our Second Year retreat we went on a walk from Graiguenamanagh to St Mullins. At the beginning of the day Mr Farrell and Mr Smith brought us into Duiske Abbey. While there we had mass and got ready for our retreat. Once mass was over we went up to SuperValu to get our lunch for the walk ahead. It was a lovely sunny day when we started out on our walk to St Mullins. It was a very enjoyable walk made even more memorable when Mr Farrell nearly fell into the river trying to get

a hurling ball! When we got down to St Mullins we saw a Motte and Bailey, we climbed to the top of the hill. We were then brought up to see the graveyard which had a special well in it. Overall it was a very good day and thanks to Mr Smith and Mr Farrell for bringing us.

### Third Year Retreat

Szymon Lukasiak

For my Third Year retreat this year we did a walk from Graiguenamanagh down to St Mullins along the river Barrow. We were very lucky with the weather as it was a nice sunny day. The day started with a short prayer service in Duiske Abbey. We then began our walk.

Most of us thought that the retreat was going to be boring but it turned out to be very enjoyable as we got to talk to each other the whole way down and hit stones into the river! I would definitely recommend doing the Third Year retreat.





## LITURGIES

Throughout the school year we hold many prayerful liturgies. In September we celebrate our Opening of the School Year mass which welcomes our new First Year students to the school as well as all teachers, staff and students for another school year. During November we remember our deceased loved ones and friends which quickly leads up into Advent when we prepare for the birth of Christ with class prayers. Before Christmas exams we gather for a Christmas Carol Service. Since 2013 we have had the tradition of evening Carols in the College chapel. A whole school liturgy is celebrated every year for the feast of St Kieran in St Mary's Cathedral as part of St Kieran's Day. Lenten preparations consist of reflections and prayers for all classes, with pieces of scripture presented on the TV screens around the school. The end of the school year is marked by the celebration of mass for all students with special prayers for those sitting exams. The final school duty for every Leaving Cert student is to attend the Graduation Mass at the end of the school year where we bid farewell to the Leaving Certs and pray for a safe, healthy and successful future for all. Our liturgies are an integral part of life in St Kieran's College as it is through our liturgical prayer that we get the opportunity to express our faith and celebrate the important events and moments in our lives together.

## CAIRDEAS

Each year a group of our Fifth Year students take part in the Cairdeas

programme. This programme has been set up in the school to help First Years to settle into their new school environment. The Cairdeas team agree at the beginning of the year to help initiate our First Years. Each Fifth Year was assigned approximately ten students to look after. They met each of their students on their first day and at regular intervals throughout the year particularly during the first term. The beginning of secondary school can be difficult for First Years with so many new subjects and new faces to get used to. The Cairdeas team aim to help First Years with any concerns they may have at this challenging time and indeed, throughout the year the Cairdeas team are present in the school to assist with the needs of their assigned First Year group if necessary.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

From 1st February – 5th February 2016, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. In celebrating Catholic schools as places of faith and learning we are acknowledging that Catholic education is not closed or self-absorbed. It is open to the world and to new ideas. This year, Catholic Schools Week gives us an opportunity in our homes, schools and parishes to affirm Catholic schools as places of faith and learning.

We marked Catholic Schools Week with a number of reminders around our school. Inspirational quotes and messages could be found on the television screens and in strategic places in our corridors. Some of these were inspirational thoughts about life from famous people. Others were

### Ben Lawler and Joe Cashin tell us about their experiences of teaching primary students:

For Catholic Schools Week a group of Fifth Year students were asked by Mr Smith if we would be interested in going to teach a Religion class in two local primary schools, Gaelscoil Osraí and St John of God. We were delighted to have the opportunity to take part in this activity. We were divided into pairs teaching 4th, 5th and 6th class. We were asked to teach the class for an hour about a religious topic and to explain to the students about Catholic School's Week. Our pairs got to choose the topic we were going to teach the class which meant we would all have different ideas. We were all nervous the day we were teaching as we have never had this experience before of teaching a class. Especially the lads that had to teach through Irish! Thankfully the classes responded enthusiastically and seemed to enjoy the experience. It was a useful exercise for us as it helped us to gain some insight into life as a primary school teacher and we also found it an interesting way to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. All of the lads involved enjoyed teaching the classes and it might even encourage some of us to go on to become teachers in the future!



Cairdeas 2015 -2016

Back row (l-r): Evan Shefflin, Kevin Kehoe, Denis Carrigan, Liam Rafter, Liam Fennelly, Martin Keoghan, John Burns, Ben Whelan, Barry Cleere. Front row (l-r): Enda Kenneally, Ben Lawler, Eamon McPhillips, Kevin Murphy, Brian Busher, Sean Walsh, Tommy Walton, Joe Cashin, Bill Cuddihy.





Lourdes 2015 (l-r): Ciaran Hogan, Ethan Butler, Eoin Keneally, Conor Archbold, Brevin Benny, Rory O'Keeffe. Absent from photo: Eoghan Moylan.

quotes from some of the other World Religions. Quotes were taken from our own sacred text, inspirational quotations from both the Old and the New Testaments. In our busy daily routines, these quotes serve to remind our students and staff about what's important in our lives.

During Catholic Schools Week, some of the Fifth Year students also got the opportunity to teach Religion in the local primary schools. This has become an annual project between the schools. It is used as a way of creating awareness of the importance of our identity as a Catholic School while also promoting the values of the Gospel through the teaching of Religious Education to the young people in the local primary schools. This year twelve Fifth Year students from St Kieran's taught six Religion classes ranging from Fourth class to Sixth class. Both students and teachers found it an enjoyable experience. We would like to thank the principals and teachers of the St John of God, St Canice's National School and Gaelscoil Osrai for facilitating this project again this year.

## MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

During Lent, four Transition Year students from St Kieran's College trained to become Ministers of the Eucharist. All were commissioned in their parishes on Holy Thursday night and have been commissioned to serve as ministers in St Kieran's College during their remaining years here in

the school. We are very grateful to the lads for volunteering to live out their faith through their ministry. We would also like to thank our out-going Sixth Year Ministers of the Eucharist, Bill Whelan, Peter Scariff Lalor, Alan Mooney and Patrick Kennedy, for all of their service at school liturgies over the past two years. Our four new Ministers of the Eucharist are: Conor Rowe, Shanly Sebastian, Conor Archbold and Ms Rebecca Loughnane

## LOURDES

In October of 2014, Evan Shefflin, Ciaran Lennon, Peter Walsh, Martin Keoghan, Tommy Walton and myself were chosen to go to Lourdes the following May as helpers for some of the assisted pilgrims going from the Ossory diocese. This was part of a much larger group, with about 50 young people going from different schools around the diocese. The preparation for Lourdes started in November when we first gathered as a group to learn about what we would be doing in Lourdes and also to get to know everyone going. There was also a lot of fundraising done throughout the year, such as bake sales, sponsored cycles and bagpacking.

In the early hours of May 22, we headed off from SuperValu and arrived in the foothills of the Pyrenees in southern France at 5 o'clock that evening. Later that evening we went to the hospital on the pilgrimage site to meet the pilgrims we would be helping over the week. We called these pilgrims our Grannies and

Grandads. The next night we walked in an enormous candlelight procession, each helper pushing their Granny or Grandad around in a wheelchair. Every day we attended a different mass, and one of the highlights was the baths, where we were fully submerged for a few seconds in a freezing bath. On a few occasions we visited the grotto, the focal point of the site. This is where Mary appeared to Saint Bernadette. We were also lucky enough to lead the candlelight procession one night. On the last day we brought our Grannies and Grandads out shopping in the town, which was great because it was a much more relaxed occasion.

Overall Lourdes was an amazing experience, and nothing like anything any of us had ever done before. It's just like we were told in the preparation for Lourdes, that it's nearly impossible to describe because everyone experiences it differently. All I know is that we'd love to go back again.

## POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II AWARDS

The school year 2015 / 2016 saw another great uptake with students participating in The Pope Saint John Paul II Award. This award highlights the commitment of Pope John Paul II to young people and the trust, passion and belief he had in them.

The award allows students to play an active role in their church and in their community. It allows young people to understand that religion is not just for learning, nor is it a list of rules, but that it is for living.



Pope Saint John Paul II Award Recipients

Back row (l-r): Eoghan Moylan, Conor Condon, Rory O'Keeffe, Niall Doheny, Shanly Sebastian, Brevin Benny  
Front row (l-r): Joe Breen, Ethan Butler, Kyran O'Sullivan, David Walsh, Conor Archbold. Absent from photo: Eoin Kenneally.

Following a year of participation, twelve students from St Kieran's College will receive their awards this coming May in their local parishes. They began their participation in the award in September 2015. Some of the activities that students engaged in involved training as Eucharistic Ministers, visiting the elderly, reading at mass, preparing prayers for mass, altar servers, member of a choir to mention just a few.

Gold certificates and medals will be awarded to those who worked in their parish and in their communities for a combined forty weeks. Silver awards were awarded for twenty-eight weeks of work and bronze for sixteen weeks. The Award is running in schools around the Diocese of Ossory over the last few years.

The 2015/2016 participants included: Ethan Butler, Brevin Benny, Eoghan Moylan, Eoin Kenneally, Joe Breen, Shanly Sebastian, Conor Archbold, Rory O'Keefe, Kyran O'Sullivan, Niall Doheny, Conor Condon, David Walsh. Well Done to all involved!

***Trust Christ; listen attentively to his teachings, fix your eyes on his face, persevere in listening to His word.***

***Allow Him to focus your search and aspirations, all your ideals and the desires of your heart.***

***Pope Saint John Paul II***



### TEAM HOPE – CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL

Luke Holohan, First Year

One of our school's Religion teachers told us about The Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal and asked us to fill a shoebox with toys and essentials for children from poor backgrounds. We had to have the boxes in school by the 10th of November.

I decided to make a shoebox because there are a lot of poor children in the world that don't receive anything for Christmas and I thought to myself that it would be a nice thing to do.

We were shown a video of the children receiving the shoeboxes and their reactions were lovely to see. They seemed extremely happy with their presents and some were trading bits and pieces from their shoeboxes with each other. They were so delighted with the small gifts and I couldn't help thinking that the amount of presents we get in our stockings at Christmas alone would be a lot more than they probably get in their shoeboxes.

Each year, Team Hope asks people to fill a shoebox with gifts for children of different ages. The boxes are then delivered to children in hospitals, schools, shelters, street children, orphanages, community centres and family homes. This year Team Hope sent boxes to Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union and Africa.

I plan on filling at least one shoebox every year as it makes you feel good to give a gift that can make such a big difference.

### SKC – PRAYER FOR EXAMS

Every student sitting the Junior and Leaving Certificates receive this prayer as a bookmark to keep with them throughout the exams. We wish all those sitting state examinations the very best in June.

*Ever loving and eternal God be with me as I prepare to sit my examinations. Give me peace of mind and quietness of heart so that I may approach each exam with confidence and trust.*

*Open my heart to believe that with you all things are possible and because you have created me I am worth much more than all the exams in the world.*

*Teach me Lord that there will be many opportunities for using my gifts and talents in the future. Bless that future and be with*

*me, my family and my friends especially when the road is difficult, and when all is going well may I give thanks for your care and love through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*







Start of Year Mass



# St Kieran's Day

Daniel Hughes, First Year

On St Kieran's Day there was a number of activities that we could choose and I picked golf with Mr Windle. Some activities were in school, or at least you had to go to school first, and other activities you could go straight to the venue. For golf we had to go straight to Kilkenny Golf Club with our own clubs. We all were told to go to a certain hole and my group were assigned to the third hole. After we were finished golf there was a restaurant where we could get chips. After that we got collected. It was a great day and I look forward to St Kieran's Day next year.









## 5K Fun Run



The St Kieran's College 5k Run in association with the Parents' Association was held on the 17th April. A beautiful sunny morning greeted the runners as they lined up to compete.

A competitive race ensued which was eventually won by Shay McEvoy. Well done to all who participated in the event and to all who helped to make the day such a success.



## Hurlers' visit

11th September 2015







## Trophy Cabinet

In February 2014 a particularly violent storm hit Kilkenny. Like many other places around the county St Kieran's was affected. Many of the trees which had adorned our campus were damaged. One of the major losses to the tree population on that day was a very mature walnut tree. Fr Ryan wished to use the fallen tree to the benefit of the school and so it was decided that a new trophy cabinet for the glass hall be commissioned. The work was carried out in Kings River Community under the directorship of Noel Doherty. The tree first had to be dried and treated before work could take place. We received the cabinet at the beginning of this school year and it has taken its place on the glass hall.





# Choir

The Senior Choir kicked off the year with a joint performance of *The Rose of Mooncoin* on live television (Irish TV). This performance saw the joining of Loreto, St Kieran's and CBS for a great celebration of local characters in the lead up to the All Ireland Final. At October midterm, the Senior Choir then joined forces with the Sixth Year Loreto Choir and performed two pieces in a fundraising concert for Teach Tom in St Canice's Cathedral. The two pieces they performed were 'I Say A Little Prayer' and 'Goodnight Sweet Heart'.

Rehearsals for both choirs then quickly turned to the Carol Service at Christmas at which we saw them perform arrangements of "Away in a Manger", "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" and "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas". Both choirs braved the elements and succeeded in raising over €780 for the Irish Wheelchair Association during our annual carol singing under the Town Hall.

In February of this year the Junior and Senior Choirs participated in the 18th Annual Kilkenny Music Festival. Both choirs had been preparing for this event since early in the New Year. The Junior Choir performed "Bring Him Home" from *Les Miserables* and achieved a 'Highly Commended' for their performance in the Meubles Cup. The Senior Choir were entered into two competitions, their two pieces were "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" and "My Lord What a Morning". The Senior Choir were Runners-Up in the Rena Brett Memorial Cup with their spirited performance of "Joshua".

The Senior Choir also performed with a Transition Year choir from the Loreto Secondary School. Their song "The Bare Necessities" from *The Jungle Book* which was performed for the Ann P. Smithwick Cup was described as the 'crowd's favourite' by the adjudicator on the day. Well done to Ms O'Connor who prepared both choirs for the event.

The Senior Choir went straight from the music festival competition in to rehearsals the next day for the annual mass of our patron saint St. Kieran. Within three rehearsals they had learned off two more pieces, *Panis Angelicus* (2 part) and *Pie Jesu* (3 part) to add to their music festival hymns. The challenges set to the Senior Choir throughout each academic year is huge and they never fail to achieve what is being asked of them. Every one of the members must be commended for their dedication, commitment and hard work that they show without such we wouldn't have such a fantastic resource in St Kieran's.

Well done to the Senior Choir on their performance in the Thomas Hayes Fundraising Concert during the midterm.



Senior Choir



Junior Choir



Music Trip: The Second and Third Year music classes attended the National Concert Hall this year as part of their music course. The National Symphony Orchestra performed pieces from the Third Year music course. It was a very enjoyable trip and one that will help the lads with their Junior Cert curriculum.



## NIALL BRENNAN

Congratulations to Leaving Certificate student Niall Brennan who was offered a place in the National Youth Orchestra of Ireland after successfully auditioning. He is one of five clarinets in Ireland in the orchestra which consists of players under the age of 18. The National Youth Orchestra has a week-long residential course during Christmas and during the summer. As well as this, they perform in concerts throughout the year, touring around the country, including performing in the national concert hall and on tour abroad.

Niall is also a member of the Kilkenny Youth Orchestra and the

Dublin Symphony Youth Orchestra who have performed all around Ireland and abroad over the years he has been with them. Niall received distinction in his grade 8 ABRSM exams on Clarinet and RIAM piano grade 8 in 2014 and has won many competitions in the Kilkenny Music Festival on clarinet and saxophone. He received the high achievers award for grade results throughout the process.

Not only is Niall preparing for his Leaving Certificate this year he is also currently studying for his Diploma of Licentiate. We congratulate Niall on all of his achievements to date and we wish him all the best for what promises to be a very busy but exciting future.



Niall Brennan



Patrick Kennedy

## PATRICK KENNEDY

Patrick has been accepted for a place in the National Youth Choir. Auditions for the prestigious choir have been taking place all around the country since March. This course will offer him a great opportunity to train his voice, conduct and perform.

## PATRICK O'SHEA

Patrick won first prize in the Tom Manning Cup U15 during the Kilkenny Music Festival.



Patrick O'Shea



## SECOND YEAR QUARTET

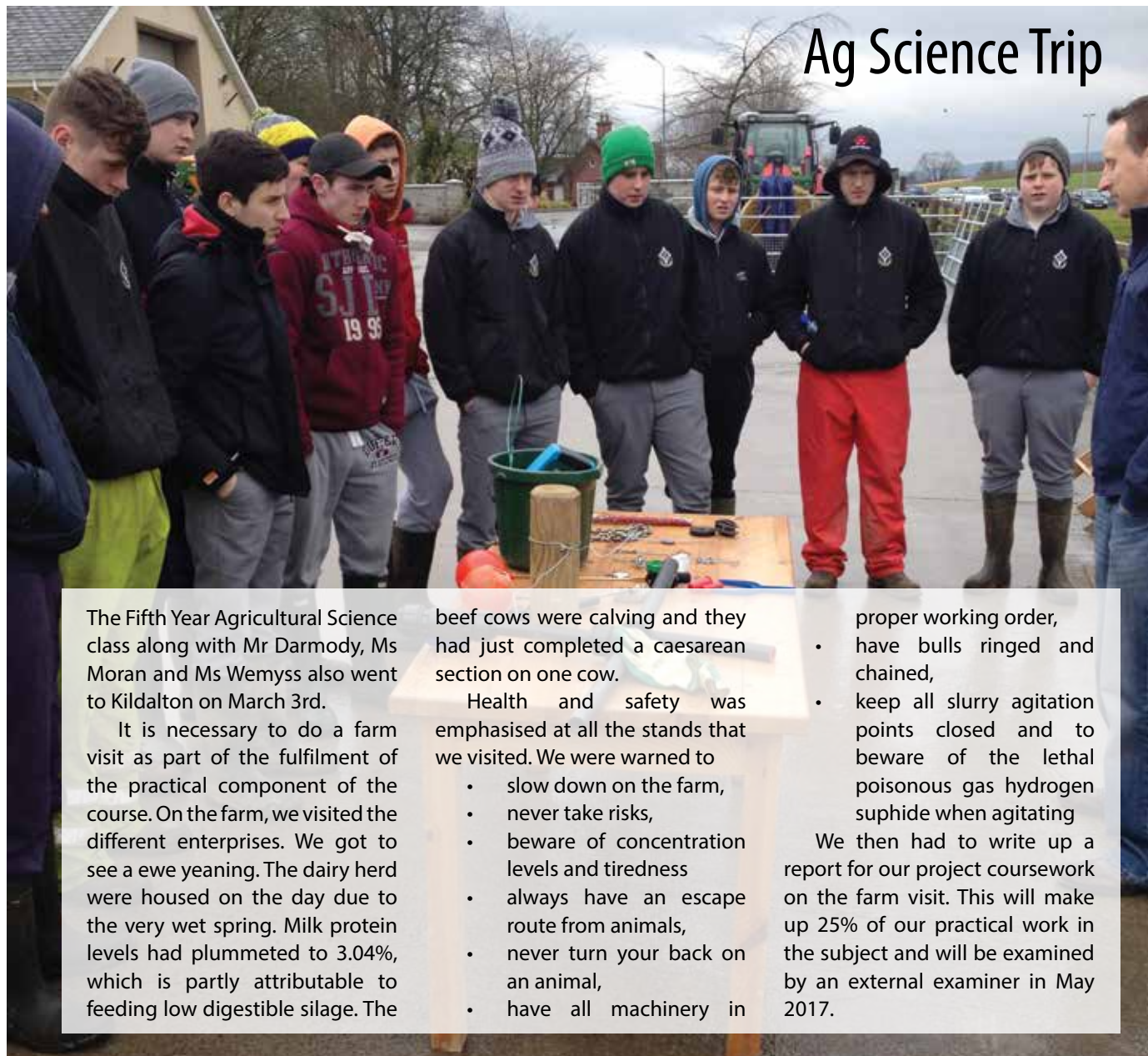
The Second Year Quartet were Runners-Up in the Junior Wind Ensemble in the Kilkenny Music Festival.



Christmas carols at the Town Hall.



## Ag Science Trip



The Fifth Year Agricultural Science class along with Mr Darmody, Ms Moran and Ms Wemyss also went to Kildalton on March 3rd.

It is necessary to do a farm visit as part of the fulfilment of the practical component of the course. On the farm, we visited the different enterprises. We got to see a ewe yearling. The dairy herd were housed on the day due to the very wet spring. Milk protein levels had plummeted to 3.04%, which is partly attributable to feeding low digestible silage. The

beef cows were calving and they had just completed a caesarean section on one cow.

Health and safety was emphasised at all the stands that we visited. We were warned to

- slow down on the farm,
- never take risks,
- beware of concentration levels and tiredness
- always have an escape route from animals,
- never turn your back on an animal,
- have all machinery in

proper working order,

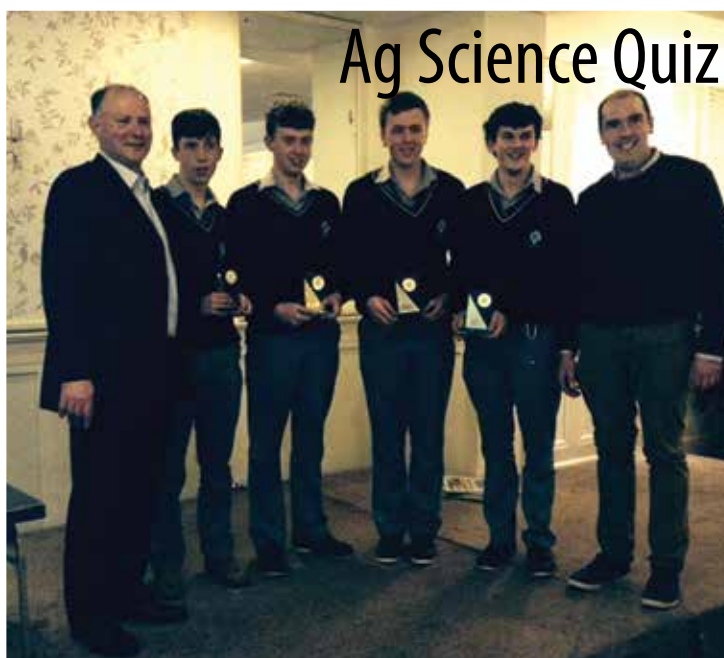
- have bulls ringed and chained,
- keep all slurry agitation points closed and to beware of the lethal poisonous gas hydrogen sulphide when agitating

We then had to write up a report for our project coursework on the farm visit. This will make up 25% of our practical work in the subject and will be examined by an external examiner in May 2017.

The All-Ireland Final of the IASTA (Irish Agricultural Science Teachers Association) table quiz was held in the Abbyleix Manor Hotel on Thursday April 7th. Paddy Gannon hosted a sugar feast in Ballyragget to jump start the grey matter! Questions came from the Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science Course. Topics asked were based on animal and plant physiology, microbiology, genetics, soil science, ecology, botany, zoology, crop and animal husbandry. It was an opportunity to get all these topics revised for the practical and theory exam.

Thirty teams from all over the country competed in the final. Two teams from St Kieran's College qualified for the final. Tommy Allen, Michael Cody, Cian Drennan and Paul Luttrell obtained an impressive 49 points out of 64. Eamon Forristal, John Hession, Paddy Gannon and Sean Maher were just one point off the tie breaker for first place. They were awarded third place, after some controversial questions! Overall the night was very enjoyable and we got to work on our debating skills!

## Ag Science Quiz







## Fifth Year Soil Trip

The Fifth Year Agricultural Science class along with Mr Darmody and Mr Heffernan went to a soils workshop in Kildalton on Thursday November 12th.

2015 was the International Year of Soils and so it was fitting to carry out field experiments to assess soil quality. We examined the ped structure (soil

particles coming together) of a poached soil and we could clearly see that even just with minimal poaching it disrupts the drainage capacity of a soil.

We also did a field study to estimate the number of earthworms in one hectare of soil, soil sampling techniques, soil flocculation and soil

cation exchange capacity experiments. Overall, it was an excellent learning experience to put theory into practice. Soil science is a major component of the leaving certificate agricultural science syllabus and it is always questioned in the terminal exam.

## Technology

To mark the centenary of the 1916 rising Mr Ruth's Second Year Technology class made an acrylic Irish tricolour.





# The Young Entrepreneur

Alex Doheny, Transition Year

The Young Entrepreneurs or Student Enterprise award is a project for all Transition Years where they are encouraged to set up or produce a business idea for which they can sell products to the public. All students in Transition Year must do Business and therefore are encouraged by their Business teacher to do the project and if the project is good it will be entered into the Student Enterprise competition and hopefully be placed into the finals. This year many mini-businesses came about but only four groups made it to the competition. Conor Archbold, Conor Rowe, Liam Hoban and Shanly Sebastian were the largest of the groups that entered. They sold authentic soccer jerseys to the other students in the school. John Hynes and Colin McKenna set up a website called "game swap" where you can trade videogames with others. Bill Cody set up a small chicken company where he sold eggs and invested that money in wood. Finally Darwish Bourke and I compiled, designed and manufactured a business directory for professional services in Kilkenny city.

On the day of the competition we were set up in a large room and we had a stall on which to present our business. It was held in the Newpark Hotel. Our stall consisted of a few copies of the directories along with a computer showing all the businesses in the directory. Behind us were some pages and diagrams of our business market sales, research profit and some posters designed to promote the product. There were a multiple of projects of every description from healthy lollipops to clothes to organic lipstick. At the end of the day the awards were given out. Bill Cody was given a prize for "most original idea".



Bill Cody Young Enterprise Most Original Idea Award



WIT Business winners

Back row: Darwish Bourke, David O'Carroll, Alex Doheny, Damien Cahill, John Nolan, Shanly Sebastian. Front row: Daithí Barron, Jack Nolan, Sean Minogue, David Griffin, Rep WIT Business Faculty.

## ECDL



Leaving Cert students receiving their ECDL Certificates.



# Sean Kelly's visit to St Kieran's College



## Ciarán Shortall and Michael O'Keeffe

On Thursday the 27th of November, the M.E.P. Sean Kelly came into 3A4 to talk to our class about Ireland in the EU and what is like to be an M.E.P. for our C.S.P.E. action project which is about raising awareness of Ireland in the EU. We are also doing a poster campaign and a first year quiz on the European Union.

Sean Kelly is from Kerry and is a member of Fine Gael. He is one of the eleven Irish M.E.P.s, and one of four representing our constituency of Ireland South. He began with talking about his past, before he was an M.E.P. He was a teacher in St. Brendan's College in Co. Kerry. In 2003, he was elected as President of the G.A.A.

He remembered handing the Liam McCarthy Cup to the O'Connor twin brothers when Cork won the All Ireland Hurling Final in 2005 after defeating Galway. After he had finished with his G.A.A. career, he ran for Fine Gael in the European Parliament elections in 2009.

He spoke about his work as an M.E.P. One week every month the 751 M.E.P.s meet in the European Parliament's head office in Strasbourg. He spoke about how they vote and what it is like to travel back and forth every month. Starting from his house in Kerry, he wakes up at 5:30am, he leaves and drives to Dublin for his flight. Once he arrives he waits for other M.E.P.s to arrive and they all take a 3.5 hour drive, on a bus, to Strasbourg. Once in the building they talk about several

different topics, and over the week, hundreds of votes are taken as the M.E.P.s vote on several topics. After he had finished speaking about the parliament and how it functions, he spoke about his recent and future visits to different places.

The week after our visit he travelled to Paris for the COP21 talks on the topic of Global Warming. He mentioned different ways that they are trying to reduce the Carbon Dioxide emissions. He said that by 2030, the EU hope to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions by 40%. After he had finished his talk our class asked him questions on different topics and two students presented him with a card and gift. We really enjoyed the event and would like to thank Sean Kelly for coming in to speak to us.

## Garda visit



## National Youth Awards



Joe took part in the National Youth Awards as the representative of the Kilkenny No Name Club. Joe won his regional final and was one of 16 host and hostess that went forward to the national finals which were held in the Lyrath Estate Hotel.



# Concern Debating

This year St Kieran's College, in their opening debates, had to face two extremely tough opponents. The first opponent being Waterpark College, Waterford. The team consisted of Ben Lanigan (team captain), Conor Rowe, Conor Archbold and Nathan Connolly. The chairperson for that night was Shanly Sebastian, the chief adjudicator was Ian Coulter and the assistant adjudicators were Ann Tierney and Gerry Moran. The motion was "Young people should be trusted to vote at sixteen". This debate was held in St Kieran's College. Both teams battled well with great points and arguments being constantly tossed around the room. In the end though St Kieran's pulled short with a loss of 2-1.

The second match was against CBS Kilkenny. For this match we changed the team. The new team was made up of Conor Archbold (team captain), Liam Hoban, William O'Sullivan and Alex Doheny. The Location of this debate was in the CBS School and the role of chairperson was passed onto one of their Sixth Year students. The motion of that night's debate was "the COP21 agreement will succeed where others have failed". This was a very heated debate as both sides argued to the best of their abilities but the decision on the night went to the CBS.

The debaters had a lot of support this year with a special thanks to Darwish Bourke, Maron Murray, Nathan Lawlor, Owen Lynch and Conor Lalor. Also thanks to the teachers that helped us throughout the debates Ms Moran and Mr O'Neill.



English Debating

Back row (l-r): Nathan Lalor, Conor Lalor, Liam Hoban, Ben Lanigan, Conor Rowe. Front row (l-r): Shanly Sebastian, Nathan Connolly, William O'Sullivan, Conor Archbold.



## Drama Group

Ben Lanigan Transition Year



I was inspired by my Grandad Jack Lanigan who directed and acted in numerous plays in St Kieran's College theatre to get involved with the establishment of a drama group in school. I asked Fr Ryan if there was room for a drama group and he was interested in the idea. He told me that the school would definitely cater for such a group. I approached my English teacher Ms Mulcahy to see if she would be interested. With her help, and that of Ms Mannion, my friends and I revived the drama group. We have decided that our first production is going to be of John B Keane's "The Field". We look forward to our inaugural performance later this year.



# MacDonagh Junction Poetry Competition

This project began when last September when we began looking at how we might join with others in commemorating 1916

Both Thomas MacDonagh and Francis Sheehy Skeffington were part of the teaching staff of St Kieran's in the early years of the last century. They were extraordinary men, MacDonagh was a teacher, a poet, a playwright, a trade unionist and a leader of the rising. Skeffington, a journalist, a pacifist, a feminist, a vegetarian and a teetotaler was a victim of the violence.

We decided that we would like to focus not just on the rising but on their vision and hope for the Ireland of the future, the Ireland of today Hence a competition focusing on the theme of Ireland. It is a poetry competition entitled Young Kilkenny Voices. We asked the First Year students from all the schools in Kilkenny to write creatively on the theme of Ireland and they did so in huge numbers.

When Thomas MacDonagh died he was commemorated by a poem written by his friend Francis Ledwidge, who would die in 1917 on the western front fighting for king and empire as part of the Enniskillen Fusiliers. It is a short poem in which the cow is an allegory for Ireland

## **Lament for Thomas MacDonagh**

***"He shall not hear the bitter cry***

***In the wild sky where he is lain***

***Nor the voices of the sweeter birds***

***Above the wailing of the rain***

***But when the dark cow leaves the moor***

***And pastures poor with greedy weeds***

***Perhaps he will hear her low at morn***

***Lifting her horn in pleasant meads"***



MacDonagh, Skeffington and Ledwidge were all proud Irishmen, each in their own way endeavouring to make this small island a better place.

Congratulations to the students involved and to their teachers who took the time to introduce their students to these men and to the idea of creating new voices.

## Poetry Aloud

Liam Wallace



This year, St Kieran's College once again enjoyed success in Poetry Aloud, Ireland's premier spoken poetry competition.

The College theatre played host to the regional round of the competition, with schools from all over the South East taking part. Competitors were asked to recite two poems and the judges then selected who would advance to the national finals. Fifteen students from St Kieran's took part, ranging from First-Sixth years. Luckily Oisín Doyle (1st year) and I were picked for the next round. The semi-final took place in the National Library of Ireland at the end of November. There was a very high standard of performance and unfortunately neither of us made it into the final round. It was an excellent event to be a part of, and a huge thanks must go to Mr Cotter for the support he gave us leading up to the semi-finals.



## A BEAUTIFUL PLACE

Peter Lynch

On a cold damp winter morning I am standing at the top of the hill in the Castle Park in Kilkenny. I am earlier than usual and I am waiting for the rest of our training group to arrive. I am sitting on the solitary bench, a bench which has been battered for many harsh winters. It is probably older than myself, although it is difficult to tell. The two planks of timber which were once horizontal and at a right angle to the back of the bench now gloop sadly. Judging by its appearance this bench is swiftly approaching the end of its reign as 'King of the hill.' Then again, it has looked like this for as long as I can remember.

I sit unconventionally, my rear supported by the back of the bench, with my feet on the two lower beams, so as to limit the surface area of damp timber pressing against my clean tracksuit.

To my right, I have a beautiful view of a natural scene. The hard frost glistens on the dark grass. The trees all around stand tall and bare and maintain their formidable presence over the wide open field that they guard. A large birdfeeder, filled earlier this morning is almost depleted of its nuts. Birds of all kinds flap and squawk fighting for what morsels of food remain. The worms escape, saved for today by last night's big freeze. On my left is the big twelfth century which once controlled the entire South East. Now though, it is topped in a thick cloud of freezing fog. Its

majestic stonework features hidden from view, for now at least.

My friends arrive and we begin our warm up. The cold air against my face hits me as I run down the steep hill. The sound is terrific. Ten pairs of feet hitting the ground each with a crunch, breaking the frosted blades of grass. As we pass by more and more trees we are reminded that not everyone is a native. The foreign trees, stick out like a sore thumb. They have tried so hard all summer to fit in but in the end their leaves betray them, stubbornly holding on through the brutal cold months.

Although winter in the Castle Park is beautiful the memories of this place that I will look back on, when I am old or exiled, will be of spring and summer.

The first hint that spring has returned is given to us by the snowdrops. The earth, still thawing out from its hard three month freeze, is no match for these resilient buds. Their flowers, small white droplets brings hope back to many. Looking just like a tiny pieces of snow they are a taunt to the winter which is now dead and gone.

A new sound invades this space. This time it originates from the gravelly path that patrols the perimeter of the park. It is the sound of New Year's resolutions as men and women flock to try and burn off some of that unnecessary fat or train for that marathon they always wanted to complete. An inspiring picture was taken last year and appeared on Facebook. It was a view from the top of the castle and panned out to show off her great wall. In the distance, a train of two hundred men, women and children can be seen running across the courtyard on their weekly Parkrun race. Behind them lies the large expanse of grass, wet with the heavy dewfall and slowly regaining the bright green that summer had temporarily robbed.

Summer is my overall favourite time in the park. Magic drifts through the air as people of all ages take advantage of the beauty of the place. The sun is shining and I lie down on the grass with my friends after another tough workout. The smell of summer is strong and a faint buzz can be heard from the tractor mowing in a distant part of the field. The grass itself is beautiful now, like a smooth golf course running seamlessly up and down the hills. Lying here I listen to the excitement and laughter of children. For some of them it is their first time to visit the park since winter's end.

As I walk towards the car with my shoes in my hands and my feet on nature's carpet I pause. I am back at the bench. I look out across the sward spreading out to my right. A variety of trees stand at the fringes of the bright grass. Copper coloured leaves, dark green shoots and sparkling yellow branches surrounding the calm green sea. The birds, more of them now, chirp in a happier tone. They pounce and bound after insects in the soft ground. Squirrels out of hiding after months can be seen scurrying up trees fleeing hidden dangers. Dogs scamper after balls and frisbees and sticks.

In the distance under the cloudless sky I can see the faraway hill of Castlewarren. Closer still the Hogwarts style tower in St. Canice's hospital. Behind me the Castle stands restored to its elegant glory, the stonework clean and impressive as ever.

Mam beeps the car horn and I realise it's time to go. I cannot wait to get back again.

## RETURN TO KNOCKNACREE

Liam Wallace

A warm May Day in 1916,  
Sitting in your darkened cell,  
You find your heart surprisingly serene,  
Your part is played; in this,  
The nation's greatest scene,

You could have sat contently,  
In the shadow of the Slieve Blooms,  
But in your soul you knew,  
That there would be no resting by the Shannon,  
Until your destiny was met,

Your race is run MacDonagh  
Return to Knocknacree,  
Take solace in the knowledge,  
The proclamation lives,  
Ireland will be free.

***'Return to Knocknacree' was written by Liam Wallace as a response to the poetry of Thomas MacDonagh. It was printed in a unique souvenir newspaper "A Poets Revolution" This eight page newspaper printed poems from Padriac Pearse, Roger Casement, Thomas MacDonagh, James Connolly, and Joseph Plunkett along with contemporary Irish poems from young Irish writers. Five thousand copies were distributed around O'Connell Street and Dublin City Centre as part of the 1916 commemorations.***



## Art 2016



Alex McCluskey



Barry Lennon



Tom Bolger

Mark Twomey



Jacob Vuchiri



Paul Prendergast





# Gaeilge

Ón 1ú-17ú Márta, bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge 2016 á cheiliúradh i gColáiste Naomh Chiaráin. Mar thús bhí Maidin Scannáin eagraithe don 1ú Bhliain san amharclann agus deis mhaith a bhí ann am a chaitheamh i gcomhlúadar a chéile agus a gcuid Gaeilge a fheabhsú. Chaith an 3ú Bliain tráthnóna Dé Céadaoin ag tabhairt faoi Thráth na gCeist ar neart ábhar idir chúrsaí spóirt agus chúrsaí ceoil. Rinne an 2ú Bliain amhlaidh tráthnóna Dé Luain.

Bhí sos breá ag an 6ú Bliain tráthnóna Dé hAoine i mbun Tráth na gCeist ar eolas ginearálta bunaithe ar an Ardteist. D'oibrigh na scoláirí le chéile chun ceisteanna a fhreagairt as Gaeilge agus bhí duaiseanna ann do chách ar na laethanta úd. Ní tharlódh a leithéad gan cúnamh breise ó fhoireann na scoile agus tá buíochas ag dul dóibh.

Dé Céadaoin 16ú Márta, ghlac an fhoireann scoile agus na scoláirí uile páirt i Lá Gaeilge. Tá moladh ag dul d'fhoireann na scoile agus a n-iarrachtaí an Ghaeilge a úsáid sna ranganna agus iad ag múineadh na hábhair éagsúla.

Ghlac roinnt scoláirí páirt i dTráth na gCeist a d'eagraigh Scoil na Toirbhirte sa chathair. Bhí oíche den scoth ag na mbuachaillí agus iad ag baint taitnimh as an gcaint agus an comhrá. Is iontach an rud é go bhfuil scoláirí an Choláiste sásta an Ghaeilge a úsáid lasmuigh den seomra ranga.

Ghlac triúr scoláirí ón 2ú Bliain páirt i nDíospóireachtaí An Phiarsaigh i gcomhar le Gael Linn i mbliana. Ba é seo an chéad uair gur ghlac na scoláirí seo páirt i ndíospóireacht Gaeilge. Ba iad Joe Cowhig, Thomas Nugent agus John Ring. Cé nár éirigh leo sa chomórtas, chaitheadar neart ama ag ullmhú don chomórtas agus bhaineadar an-sult as.

Bhí na sóisir agus na sinsir ag obair as lámha a chéile ag na comórtais a d'eagraigh Feachtas i rith na bliana. I ndiaidh oíche spraoi le scoileanna eile ó chontaetha eile, d'éirigh le foireann amháin an Chraobh a shroichint agus an 3ú áit a bhaint amach ar an lá úd in Óstán an Aisling, Baile Átha Cliath, i mí an Mhárta. Ba iad Liam Wallace, Peter Scariff-Lalor, Ciaráin Brennan, Jim Ryan, Alan Mooney, Patrick Kennedy, Cian Kenny agus Seán McKee.



Irish Debating (l-r): John Ring, Thomas Nugent, Joe Cowhig.



## AN GADAÍ

I mí na Nollag rinne RANG 2A4 an dráma an Gadaí le Padraig Mac Piarais. Chuireamar an drama ar siúl do na daltaí sa dara bliain agus sa triú bliain. Antaine, Eibhlín agus Neans Beag ab ea na príomh characterair. Ghoid Antaine bábóg ó Neans Beag dá dheirfiúr Eibhlín mar ní raibh aon breagáin ag Eibhlín. Bhí imní ar Antaine an t-am ar fad ach bhí an bhábóg ag cur bisigh ar a dheirfiúr. Lá amháin, tháinig Neans agus a máthair go teach Antaine. Nuair a chonaic Nean an bhábóg dúirt Neans go raibh cead ag Eibhlín an bhabog a choimeád agus go dtabharfadh sí teach báboige d'Eibhlín. Tá an scéal lán le grá agus cairdeas.

Comhairgeadeas do na daltaí go léir a ghlac páirt.



# First Year Maths Quiz

Seamie Hughes-Kennedy, First Year

Last November all the First Years did a Maths test. We all went up to the study hall and sat a 45 minute exam. Nine others and I were in the top ten and we went through to a regional Maths competition. I won that competition and Andrew Devereux came third. It was in Borris Vocational School and this time we had one hour to do 25 questions. After the test we all had refreshments in one of the classrooms and the results were read out.



L-R: Andrew Devereux (3rd) and Seamus Hughes-Kennedy (1st) First Year Regional Maths Quiz in Borris CS 6th May 2016.

# IAMTA-Junior Problem Solver Competition



Ciaran Shortall and Jack Brennan

The South East IAMTA 2016 junior problem solving competition took place in Kilkenny College on Thursday 21 January. St Kieran's College had entered four teams The quiz consisted of six rounds, the first four rounds being eight minutes and the last two rounds being ten minutes, each round had four questions. At the end of the competition Ciaran Shortall, Jack Brennan and Krystian Pawloski were successful in defeating the other teams and went on to the All-Ireland IAMTA Junior Problem Solving Final in the Portlaoise Education Centre on the Saturday 12th of March. Each member



received a lovely IAMTA plaque for our remarkable achievement.

Conor Hoban joined the team and we prepared for the final. It was similar to the quiz in Kilkenny, but we knew it was going to be a lot harder to beat our new opponents. This quiz gave us a great experience of Applied Maths. The rounds began, the eight minutes

flew by in each round and after all the answers had been corrected, we had received the unfortunate news that we had finished fourth. However it was a great experience and we enjoyed the challenge. We received certificates for reaching the National IAMTA Final and hope to win it next year when we have more training completed.



# Science Day

Conor Drennan

As always for Science Week, we held a "Primary Science Workshop", organised by Ms Hanrick in the theatre for one hundred and eighty Sixth Class students from around Kilkenny City. Many of the TY students helped out setting up experiments, facilitating the workshop, interacting with the primary students and demonstrating the experiments. Ms Hanrick started off the event by doing the more dangerous experiments at the top of the theatre, getting some of the Transition Years to help her to get everyone gasping in shock! For the second part of the event the primary school students rotated around to different stations where there were more experiments set up. This was a chance for the students to try out these experiments themselves and it was very hands-on. The Transition Years helped the students with their investigations. It was a very successful day for all, as everyone enjoyed themselves and might have even learnt something!



Science Quiz: Peter Lynch, Conor Purcell and Jack Lynch represented the school in the science quiz which was held in Carlow IT.

# BT Young Scientist

Ben Lanigan Transition Year

I received a letter nearly a month after I entered the BT Young Scientist competition. It was my acceptance letter into the finals in the RDS in Dublin. Preparation started a few days later with huge help from Ms Hanrick. She kindly picked up parts for me and the other students in Limerick and Dublin. At Christmas myself and the other group got accepted - Conor Rowe, Owen Lynch and Brevin Benny came in over the holidays to work on our display and our projects.

On the 8th January we gathered our projects and squeezed into Ms Hanrick's car and travelled to the RDS. We received our passes and began the task of setting up our display stands. We had barely our stands ready when the first round of judges were upon us. The following day was open to the public and we had both interested members of the public and the second round of judges to contend with. On Friday night we went to the awards presentation, just standing in



line waiting to be seated was nerve wrecking enough! After the ceremony we went back to our displays where our spirits were lifted. We had received display awards! My mood was further lifted when I discovered that my project has been recommended as one of the top five exhibits to see by

the Sunday Independent newspaper. It was a hugely enjoyable experience and we would like to thank all our family and friends who supported us but we would like to give a special word of thanks to Ms Hanrick for all the extra time that she gave up to help us with our projects.





# First Year Geography Trip



Keith Lanigan

The Geography trip started with a video of Dunmore Caves. This video was a blend of History and Geography. The cave consists of a series of chambers formed over millions of years. When we were about to enter the cave there were over five hundred steps to the bottom. There were millions of stalactites on

the ceiling. There was a structure called the buffalo which formed from stalactites and stalagmites. The lowest chamber contains an impressive pillar six feet high.

We then went to Castlecomer Discovery Park. We learned what rocks occur naturally on the earth in different places in Ireland and we also got to see different rocks. We saw a video about

evolution and how animals evolved over millions of years. During the tour we learnt about the Castlecomer mines and what a difficult job it was to work there.

We had a great trip and we would like to thank Ms Moran for organising it for us and to Ms Maher, Mr Morgan, Mr O'Keeffe and Ms O'Shea for coming with us.



Mr Morgan's 6th year Geography class who visited Mahon Falls to conduct their Geography Field Work Project.





# History

## FIRST YEAR HISTORY TRIP

Jack Cleere

In October we went on our First Year History Trip. We went to the National Heritage Park in Ferrycarrig County Wexford. We learned a lot about how people lived their lives during the Stone and Bronze Age, we also learned about how people lived during Celtic times.

We saw how they cooked their food in the Fulacht Fiadh and afterwards we got to taste some bacon that was cooked in it. The park also contained replica dolmens and cist graves. On the way home we stopped in Jerpoint Abbey where we did a treasure hunt to learn about how monks would have lived their daily lives. It was a very enjoyable trip and we look forward to our History trip next year.

## 1A3 HISTORY TRIP

Andrew McGrath

As part of our First Year History course we learned about how people would have lived during Medieval times. To bring this information to life our History teacher brought us to some of the medieval sites around Kilkenny city. This was a very enjoyable experience







and we enjoyed visiting some of our local sites.

## 2ND YEAR HISTORY TRIP

James Shirley

On our Second Year History trip we went to the Rock of Cashel and Cahir Castle. It was very interesting because I learned that the castle was built around the 12th Century. We saw the round tower, this was used as a defensive function to look out for invasions. Cahir Castle was built around the 13th Century. It was given to James 3rd, Earl of Ormond, who was head of the Butler family. I also saw the Butler coat of arms over the Castle gate. We are looking forward to our next History trip.

## THIRD YEAR HISTORY TRIP

Darragh Corcoran

On December 1st all Third Years went on their History trip to Dublin, we were divided into two groups, 3A1 and 3A2 went to Collins Barracks first and then on a walking tour of historical sites while 3A3 and 3A4 did the reverse.

In Collins Barracks we were given a very informative talk about the Barracks and the types of things it contains. We were then allowed to walk around freely to look at all the memorabilia of the 1916 Rising.

After having our lunch in Collins Barracks we went on the walking tour of Dublin visiting; The Four Courts, the G.P.O. and Dublin Castle with our teachers who gave interesting facts on each of the places we visited. While at Dublin Castle we saw soldiers marching and when we arrived at what was the centre of The Rising, the G.P.O. we saw bullet holes in the pillars.

It was an enjoyable and informative trip.

## SENIOR HISTORY

To commemorate the people who fought in World War I a special exhibition was held in the Castle Park. Some of our senior History students went, to learn more about the exhibition and the people from Kilkenny who fought in the Great War.







## Proclamation Day 15th March 2016

The community of St Kieran's College commemorated the 1916 Rising on 15th March, Proclamation Day. The day began with the entire school population gathering at the front of the college. Dr Dermot Ryan, President of St Kieran's began the commemoration by reflecting on the changes that have taken place in St Kieran's since 1916. The Proclamation was then read by Liam Wallace (Sixth Year) followed by a rousing rendition of *Amhran na*

*Bhfiann*. Liam Wallace then read out the modern day Proclamation for a New Generation. This Proclamation was the winning entry in the Third Year History competition which had been organised to coincide with the centenary. This was followed by the raising of the tricolour flag which had been presented to Leaving Cert students, Liam Wallace, Alan Mooney and Conor Byrne at a special ceremony in Croke Park on 7th March. The flag

was raised by Conor Byrne under the guidance of Army Officer Keelan O'Toole who was in attendance with other guests of the College.

At 9.30am the commemoration continued. Students and guests were invited to the school theatre where 1916 speeches, poetry and theatrical performances relating to the events of 1916 were acted out by the students. Former History teachers of St Kieran's College were invited back to the



Some of the invited guests: Back row: (L-R) Mr Martin Byrne, Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan, Mr Nicky Cashin, Mr Adrian Finan, Mr Mícheál Ó Diarmada, Mr John O'Keefe. Front row: Mr Ken Maher, Mr Tomás Ó Murchú, Ms Jacinta O'Connor, Ms Joan Mahon.





Mr John O'Keeffe, Liam Wallace, Army Officer Keelan O'Toole, Conor Byrne and Bishop Séamus Freeman



Flag Collection.



History Winners: Back row: (l-r) Vincent Gornicki, Michael McNerney, Liam Wallace. Front row: (l-r) Mr Nicky Cashin, Eoin Crowley, Diarmuid Galway, Bill Kavanagh, Adam O'Brien.



Students who performed the monologues to the school community: Back row: (l-r) Robert Fitzgerald, Thomas Comerford, Ben Whelan, Finan Phelan, Adam Grogan. Front row: (l-r) Jack Tynan, Conor Wallace, Mikey Larkin, Lorcan Whelan, Jack Beale, Dylan Drennan-Smyth, Conor Hackett, Mr John O'Keeffe.



Art Winners: (l-r): Jack Canavan, Donal Brophy, Brian McDonald, Mr Tomás Ó Murchú.

school for this special occasion. Mr Mícheál Ó Diarmada, former Principal of the school, also gave his insights on 1916. Following the performances, refreshments were on offer in the College reception rooms.

Throughout the day, there followed more pop-up monologues, speeches and poetry recitals in all classrooms around the school. The students portrayed a number of key players of the revolution and brought these stories to life for the school population. It was a very enjoyable day and a truly special way to commemorate the leaders of 1916, two of whom taught in St Kieran's College, Thomas MacDonagh and Francis Sheehy Skeffington.

Special thanks must go to the History Department in the school for organising the day's events with particular gratitude to Mr John O'Keeffe who put in a huge effort into making Proclamation Day such a memorable, special and commemorative day for all.



# Proclamation for a New Generation

ADAM O'BRIEN, CONOR HOBAN  
AND LIAM WALLACE

Irishmen and Irishwomen, in the past 100 years, through great sacrifice we have emerged from the shadow of the Empire. A new nation has been born; diverse, vibrant and free of the shackles of our troubled past. We have gained our sovereignty but the time has come for us to rise against the troubles of our age.

The Republic we have today is not the one envisioned by those who fought for our freedom in 1916. The greed, the wastefulness and destructive vision of those past has damaged our great nation. Our children have fled, not just to America but to all the corners of our globe. The poorest of us live lives of fear and disadvantage, the richest of privilege and consumption. Our environment is struggling as we take more and more and leave less for our descendants. It is our duty, to our nation, to our children and to ourselves to rid Ireland of these great grievances.

Pearse proclaimed the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, we reinstate that right and open our nation to all those who wish to be a part of it. It is the dream of every true Republican to see the whole of Ireland as one nation once again; but there are those who hold a different dream and they must be acknowledged. Never again will the Irish people resort to arms to achieve our goals, but instead we must create a society in which even those who hate us most will want to be involved in. We will not give our lives to the cause but instead we will dedicate our lives to progress, and if we do, one day a Unified Ireland will stand tall among the countries of the world.

Never again will a man or woman be constrained by race, religion, gender or sexuality. From this point on we are all given the same equal opportunity: To mould for ourselves a life worth living, and the potential of every Irish man and woman to aspire to their greatest aspiration. The guarantee of equal rights is reaffirmed and the state vows to protect all its citizens in particular those who suffer most.

Until a day that brings further change our country will be solely run by our elected representatives, our democratic constitution and our President as Head of State. We will never allow a foreign body to take our sovereignty again; we must protect our right to manage our own affairs and never compromise our proud Irish identity.

Ireland calls on all her people, to stand up and fulfil the quest begun in 1916. We must serve something greater than ourselves, the creation of a Republic that we can be proud to call our own; one of equality, harmony and solidarity. We must stand with pride under the Irish flag, a symbol for peace and unity and fight for the high ideals we have proclaimed. Our future is bright; the road is long and dangerous but if we believe in ourselves, we can make this optimistic vision of the future possible.





John Power and Alan Hayes

## Scholarships

Two recent past-pupils of St Kieran's College, Alan Hayes and John Power, were recent recipients of Elite Scholarships at the Quercus Talented Students' Gala Awards Night in the Aula Maxima, UCC. They were each presented with Quercus Scholarships in recognition of their exceptional contributions in the areas of active citizenship and sport respectively. Mr Ken Maher was in attendance to represent the school in congratulating the boys on their wonderful achievements. Well done lads from everybody in St Kieran's College.



Brian Mahon, who is studying Veterinary, is pictured at the UCD Entrance Scholars Awards Ceremony with Mr Curtis.



Jason Byrne receiving the award for Fresher Player of the Year at DCU.



Rob Lennon receiving the award for Player of the Year at DCU.





## Transition Year Activities



Our names are William O'Sullivan and Conor Archbold. We were asked to be the editors for the TY pages by Mrs Maher. Our job was to write up reports on the events that we did over the year, such as the sports days, the walks and special activity days. The aim of this section is to tell people about what Transition Year is really like as many people are unsure about what happens in Transition Year. Transition Year is unlike any other year in school, it is different in many ways to other years because there are many opportunities that are not available in other years as you don't have exams to focus on. We get a lot of responsibility to take on through events like open nights, community event, presentations, and projects. We would like to thank Brevin Benny, Alex Doheny, Darwish Bourke, Conor Rowe, Shanly Sebastian, Liam Hoban, Nathan Connolly, Conor Lalor and Ben Lanigan for their help in compiling these pages.

### THE SLIEVENAMON TRIP

The morning was cold so I packed up on warm clothes like hoodies and extra pairs of socks. Ireland tends to have unpredictable weather so I had to be prepared for anything. The bus left at nine o'clock sharp and what awaited my friends and I none of us expected. The bus ride took the guts of an hour and the bus parked in a little slanted village. I really did think the bus would roll down the hill but thankfully it didn't.

We started the climb up to the peak of the mountain; the first incline was steady and rocky. It hurt my ankles walking on all the stones. We managed to get to a cross where we all gathered for a year group photo which was kindly taken by Ben Lanigan. This was the first time I actually saw the peak of the mountain. I have climbed plenty of mountains before but most of them were on the west coast of Ireland where the summit is never truly visible as it is covered in clouds. That means I never know when I'm at the top and that curiosity keeps me going, but every step I took on this mountain made the top look further away.

From the cross to the top the incline was not gentle. It was not nice and it did not show any mercy whatsoever. Every time I passed one hill a bigger and steeper one presented itself from out of nowhere. The climb was hard but when we did reach the top the view was stunning. I mean absolutely breathtaking. The sun's beams reflected off the mist and bounced up at us. It was a stunning look on the world. We





had our lunch on a big bunch of rocks and had a look around the summit.

The journey down I must admit was a challenge. I mean a challenge in not falling over. It was hard not to run down as the gradient was so steep and if you did start to run the only way you could possibly stop was by falling. The trip down only took about twenty minutes and it made the mountain actually feel small.

When we reached the bottom we sat down and waited for every one to return. Afterwards we went to an old abbey and on to Windgap Slate Quarry. All in all I found it a great day and I would recommend it to anyone who wanted a good day trip outdoors.



## TY FASHION SHOW

Nathan Connolly

The TY fashion show was organised by Karen Morrissey. Karen showed up to the school and asked for a group of young male models for her fashion show. Most of the lads were reluctant but I was delighted to do it. The show was to take place in Langton's hotel. A lot of preparation had to go into the fashion show. We spent a couple of weeks practicing our modelling stance and walks. The models were both teachers and students from both St Kieran's College and Loreto Secondary School. The fashion show was a fundraiser for the Loreto.

On the night of the show we were modelling clothes from Pennys, Pauls and Detail. I also did a collection from St Vincent de Paul. I was the only one to model from SVP. The clothes we wore on the night included casual wear from Pennys and suits from both Detail and Pauls. I loved the suits as they made me feel sophisticated and empowered. I really did feel at home on the cat-walk. The fashion show was hosted by Karen Coster from TV3's Xpose. At the end of the show I was given great praise and I was told I was very flamboyant.

The Lads From St Kieran's that got involved were Conor Archbold, Eric Oyat, Liam Hoban, Daniel Cotter, Martin Murray, Niall Doherty and Laurence Campion. Also Paul Healy and Joey Walsh acted as great managers. It was my favourite experience of TY.







## THE NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2015

This year's National Ploughing Championships were held in Ballacolla, Co. Laois. The bus left at seven o'clock. When we arrived, after the hour long bus ride, we got our passes and headed straight in. We instantly sprinted to the Aldi tent where there were free samples from every food group and we stocked up on food for the day. We were looking forward to seeing every attraction this fine festival had to offer. To give that excitement a boost we headed for the carnival. Besides the over pricing of the rides it was trilling. To gain back all the sugars we lost after all the exertion in the theme park the group went to the only place that free sweets were being given out - the "eir" tent. The next half an hour was spent going in and out and getting as much chocolate, popcorn and cotton candy our bags could hold. We eventually got caught, but we did make it out with a lot! The rest of the day was spent mainly looking at the cattle, going to the sport stalls like O'Neill's and testing how comfortable many of the new cars were. The evening snuck up faster than expected and it was time to go home. We really did enjoy the ploughing and we would love to go again next year.

## Crag Walk Loop Waterloo Hill

We got on the bus and we headed in the direction of Tipperary. The bus ride was about forty minutes and the weather seemed to be just cloudy with no signs of rain. We arrived at the base of the hill in a small village that only contained a shop, a post box and about three houses. Leading the walk were







Mr O'Neill and Mr O'Keefe. The climb itself was not that difficult. The gradient wasn't too steep although there were a few twists and turns in the path. We stopped to take many pictures of the year group while walking. When we got to the top of the hill, the cold wind pierced like a sharp knife. From the top of the monument we could see a vast country side. It was truly stunning.

After completing the walk we all crammed back into the bus and headed to our next destination Kilcooly Abbey. When we arrived our teachers gave us a quick summary of the History of the abbey. It was a small walk out to the abbey. The abbey was large and had many different buildings in it, some of which are the cloister, scriptorium, chapter house and refectory. There was also a little beehive hut. It was a little anti-climatic as it really had nothing in it but what was interesting was the way the roof was built.



Conor Drennan, Transition Year student, was the school photographer for the academic year of 2015/16. No job was ever too big or too small and Conor would often give up his free time to get the photos that are such a crucial part of life in St Kieran's. It is because of Conor that we have such wonderful photos that capture the vast array of events and the phenomenal amount of successes that are documented in this record and will be displayed in the corridors of the school for generations to come. We are very grateful in St Kieran's College to have teachers and students who are truly passionate about their work and their extra curricular activities. Conor's passion for photography has greatly developed during his Transition Year and the enjoyment he gets from his work is clearly evident through the photos he takes. We know he will continue to develop his photography skills next year in his free time and we wish him all the best in any further photography ventures. All who pick up this Record can be very grateful to Conor for his great contribution.



## TY RUGBY

This year tag rugby was played in Kilkenny rugby club with the Presentation and Loreto's girls. The day started out dry, but cloudy. We all met in school and at nine o'clock we had a roll call and headed straight on to the bus to the rugby club. We got togged out and headed out on to the pitch for a quick stretch. Shortly after that the girls arrived we were separated into different teams. The rules were that on each team there had to be three girls and four boys playing at the one time. Also girls got three points for a try while the boys only got one. There were four fields each containing four teams. Each team had to play each other at least once. After the groups stages we had

lunch where Mr O'Neill generously gave us icecreams. After the breaks the cup and shield finals were held. Every team battled well and even though I didn't win I still had a great time and I made a few new friends.

## TY SOCCER

The TY soccer day was held in the Watershed in Co. Kilkenny. It was a cloudy and misty day. We met in the school and we had the roll taken. Much to our dismay we had to walk over to the Watershed. When the teachers arrived we went into the dressing room and got togged out. Mr Windle and a few other teachers organised us into teams of 9 but only five could play at a time. The good thing was

that everyone got a game as people were substituted every few minutes. Teams had to win three games before advancing to the semi-finals. Each match was very tense with each final having to go to penalties. Afterwards we had a quick mess about and we headed home.

## TY TENNIS

Like many other days in Transition Year, the tennis day is just a day for fun and enjoyment. Days like the tennis days are used so we can get a break from the routine of class and give us different experiences of sport. This year the tennis day was held on the 12th of April and it was located in the Kilkenny tennis club.

For most of the Transition Year students this was the first time to play a proper tennis match. On the day we were blessed with the weather as it was one of the sunniest days I have seen all year. When we got there we were split into teams of two and we started the matches. It was fifteen minutes per match or the first team to three sets. There was no real competition but it was as I said a fun day out.









## DUTCH TEACHERS' VISIT

Liam Hoban

On September 17th a group of Dutch agricultural teachers came to our school. They were all with the Vereniging Buitengewoon Groen (VBG), an association of agricultural schools who work together to educate students in agriculture. The group were VGB teachers, advisers and directors. They came here to Ireland on a study trip. It was our job to give them a tour of the school, answer any questions and help in any way we could.

They all arrived at the school at half nine. They were all welcomed into the Parlour of the school, where Mary Martin, school secretary, welcomed them. I then told them a bit of information about the school and what the plan was for their visit... in Dutch. They all applauded me and thought it was brilliant, I then explained that I'm half Dutch and speak it fluently.

Then we started the tours, I headed on first with a group of 5 along with Conor Archbold, our tour was bilingual, I answered as much as I could in Dutch. We started off by bringing them to the church, then to the hurling pitches. We had to describe the game of Hurling to them, they never heard of the game before of course. During the class changes we were able to show them some of the hurleys and sliotars.

They were asking us about Transition Year, they were extremely fascinated by it, as in the Netherlands, a year of activities, work experience and career orientation doesn't exist. So we explained what we do and told them that it's a nice relaxing year after the Junior Cert. In Holland, students must decide on a rough career path, as pupils are completely divided into different schools, based on academic achievement.

We went through the glass hall and the '79 building and had a stop at the canteen before finishing up back at the parlour. Here they got tea and coffee and a copy of the yearbook of the school. Mr Darmondy and his Ag Science class had conversations about agriculture and so on. We also showed them the hurling All-Ireland to let them see what hurling is like.

Once they had to go, several of the teachers I had been talking with gave me their business cards, one was just that if I ever needed anything while in Holland, that I was to give him a call, the other was interested in starting a foreign exchange with Ireland.

The whole experience was amazing and great fun, afterwards I received the most beautiful "Brabantse Broeder" which is a lovely South Dutch cinnamon bread cake, it was lovely. I really enjoyed every moment of the experience, that I will remember for life.





## WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Liam Hoban

Every year we have the opportunity to take part in the enrichment programme. This involves us helping out with the local community in some way or form. We were assigned to many different locations for example, primary schools, volunteer shops like St Vincent de Paul and homes for old and disabled people. Mr Lynch and Ms Wemyss were over the whole programme.

Every Wednesday we went to our assigned places. Myself and Shanly Sebastian went to the Alzheimer's day care centre on Cootes lane. We really enjoyed the experience of helping and doing the many activities with the patients. It felt very rewarding. We played Ludo, Draughts, snap and other board and card games with the elderly people. Those who did not do the enrichment programme stayed at school and did P.E. or Music.

After Lunch on Wednesdays we were divided into activity classes. The activities included Italian, cooking, public speaking, ecology and gym. Ms Therese Tallant did the Italian classes and the cooking was done in the Vocational school with Ms Doyle. Each of these activities lasted roughly a month, and then we moved on to the next activity.



Enda Kenneally  
in St Canices School



Conor Drennan  
in Carrigan Library, St Kieran's College



Kevin Murphy  
in St Canices School





# First Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Alexis Fitzgerald, Michael McCarthy, Eoin Southgate, JJ Ryan, Jack Clifford. Third row (l-r): Oliver Baros, Gavin Cleere, Ciaran Rice, Tom Buckley, Senan Forristal, Peter McDonald, Sebastian Ruianu. Second row (l-r): Ramon Newman, Jake Malone, Denis Walsh, Luke Bateman, Cathal Kearney, Aaron Tully, Myles Kehoe, Tom Carroll. Front row (l-r): Sean McBride, Charlie Nolan, Jack Walton, Oisín Quirke, Oisín Doyle, Brian McDonald, Harry Murphy, David Fleming.



Back row (l-r): Conor Nolan, George Burghlelea, DJ Delaney, Robert Vasilachi, Tommy Doyle, Matthew Shorthall. Third row (l-r): Daragh Whelan, Dominik Gorny, Keith Lanigan, Padraig Brennan, Daniel Hughes, Ronan Carroll, Craig Cummins. Second row (l-r): Liam O'Reilly, Daniel Valadkevich, Jack Cleere, Dylan Carroll, Tomas Barron, Seamie Hughes-Kennedy, Ciarán Keher Murtagh, Aidan Kenny. Front row (l-r): Daniel Smithwick, Oisín Drennan, Daragh Casey, Jamie Chisholm, Cormac Brogan, John Muldowney, Ivan McCauley, David Hoyne-Casey, Michael Molloy.





Back row (l-r): David Walsh, Marko Bistrovic, Finnian Shefflin, Eoin Delahunty, Padhraic Foley, Oscar Fomin. Third row (l-r): Dan Cahill, Billy Brennan, John Paul Gamble, Cormac Rafter, Matthew Treacy, Luke McDonald, Luke McNena. Second row (l-r): Conor Farrell, Brian Barry, Jack Connolly-Dalton, Josh Dempsey, Daniel Murphy, Oisín Ronan, Jack Doyle, Stephan Robinson. Front row (l-r): Jay Maguire, Shaun O'Keeffe, Andrew McGrath, Peter Holohan, Luke Holohan, Richard Cash, Edmond Dowling, Ivan Kelly, Adam Walsh Brennan.



Back row (l-r): Vincent O'Grady, Kieran Keech, Darragh Walsh, Killian Norton, Niall Ward, Conor Fitzpatrick. Third row (l-r): Jack McGuirk, Andy Hickey, Eoin Crowley, Eoin Carroll, Cathal Mullhall, Eoin O'Brien, Finbar Dunne. Second row (l-r): Andrew Devereux, Patrick Brennan, James Duggan, Dylan Kenny, Conor Beale, Tomasz Gruca, Conor Whearty. Front row (l-r): Brian Fahy, John Ruane, Luke Hennessy, John Canny, Nicholas Mullins, Andrew Brennan-Smyth, Aaron Condrón, Robbie English.



# Second Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): James Carrigan, Dacel Fwamba, Oisín Egan, Daire Cassin, Vincent Gornicki, Stephen Walsh. Third row (l-r): Bill Kavanagh, Aidan McGree, Kevin Burns, Kieran Walshe, Robert Wemyss, Stephan Keoghan, Mark Brennan. Second row (l-r): Zac Cummins, Colin Morrissey, Eoin Morgan, Luke O'Dwyer, Padraig Hally, Darragh Maher, Jamie Phelan, Jim Kirby. Front row (l-r): James Kennedy, Adam Byrne, Mikey Lewis, John Ring, Ian Wallace, Luke Campion, Laurence Mahon, Bill Bryan.



Back row (l-r): Ross Ten Bohmer, Padraic Moylan, Theo Yordanov, Niall Reid, Peter Donohoe, David Fitzgerald. Third row (l-r): Adam Barcoe, Shay McEvoy, Rian Houston, Jim Ryan, Oisín Doyle, Ben King, Thomas Nugent. Second row (l-r): Peter Connellan, Seán McKee, Cian Leahy, Darren Cuddihy, Dermot Noonan, Nobin Rebi, Cian Kenny. Front row (l-r): Brandon Ryan, David Kelleher, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Mateusz Karasinski, Ryan Metzger, Ciarán Mullen, Conor Whitty, Daragh Quinlan.





Back row (l-r): Oisín Carroll, Daniel Lynch, Luke Morrissey, Leo Capasso, Darragh Hackett, Dylan Comerford. Third row (l-r): Liam Barron, Conor Kelly, Jack McGrath, Pádraig Kehoe, Liam Healy, Michael McInerney. Second row (l-r): Diarmuid Galway, James Casey, Adam O'Shea, Luke Dermody, Cathal Ryan Phelan, Kieran Buckley, Fintan Brennan. Front row (l-r): Brandon Walsh, Bryn Wall, Jake Hickey, Dara Glynn, Mark Gormley, Jack Murphy, Jason Walsh



Back row (l-r): David Conway, Stephen Barron, Aod O'Connor, Harry Walsh, Colm Nolan, Jason Butler, David Delahunty. Third row (l-r): Luke Whelan, Patrick Phelan, Ciarán Murphy, Jack Canavan, Killian Rudkins, Diarmuid Rowe. Second row (l-r): Conor O'Shea, Ronan Lavelle, Jamie Owens, Seán McInerney, Cormac Burns, William Slattery, David Fogarty. Front row (l-r): Conor Gleeson, Conor T Kelly, Nikita Rjabkovs, Jack Sheridan, Stephen O'Keeffe, Conor Brett, Eoin Guilfoyle, Ger Coffey.



# Third Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Eoin De Buitleur, Harry Kealy, Martin O'Connell, Tim Corkery, Jason Kelly, Daire O'Neill, Sean Burke. Third row (l-r): Johnny Doyle, Conor Foley, Eric Kearney, Darragh O'Keeffe, Barry Lennon, Liam Fennelly, Killian Egan, Cameron Tayler Mullan. Second row (l-r): Edward Dunne, Paul Prendergast, Harry Jordan, Aaron Brennan, Harry Kavanagh, Ethan Kerwick, Seamus Farrell. Front row (l-r): Paul Hayes, Shane Walsh, Simon O'Dwyer, Jack Roche-Callan, Luke Phelan, Tom Bolger, Eoin O'Connor, Thomas Rice.



Back row (l-r): Tom Kennedy, Conor Murphy, Éamon Mahon, Darragh Corcoran, Fionn Whelan, Sean Ware. Third row (l-r): Edward Ilban, Jim Kehoe, Conor Byrne, Dylan Crehan, Jacob Vuchiri, David Blanchfield. Second row (l-r): Finn Lannigan, James Kearney, Padraig Holohan, Dylan Carey, Conor Kealy, Szymon Lukasiak, Alex Duggan. Front row (l-r): Evan McDonald, Tommy Farrell, Danny Coyne, Jack Carrigan, Michael Prendergast, Luke Gannon, Tom O'Dwyer.





Back row (l-r): Barry Lennon, Adam O'Brien, Alex Moore, Krystian Pawlowski, Sean Keyes, Conor Hoban. Third row (l-r): George Murphy, Padraic O'Neill, Eoin Walsh, Kevin Murray, Conor Dermody, Gavyn Blanchfield, Glen Gormley. Second row (l-r): Jamie Reid, Adam Fitzpatrick, Sean O'Neill, Jack Kenny, Garry Anderson, James English, Ross Ellis. Front row (l-r): Brian Kearney, Mark Twomey, Cathal Jordan, Matthew Russell, John Shortall, Ben Powell, Jack Kehoe, Padraig Robinson.



Back row (l-r): Gareth Singh-Hennessy, Ciaran Shorthall, Cathal Ryan, Ruairi Breen, Aaron Varley, Jack Brennan. Third row (l-r): Dillion Wall, Aaron O'Brien, James Kelly Trant, Shaun Comerford Liston, Eoin Cody, Philip Hayde, Michael O'Keeffe. Second row (l-r): Alex McCluskey, Sean Comerford, Paul Cody, Conor Doyle, Paraic Barragry, Jordan Grant, Krzysztof Gruca. Front row (l-r): Cian Russell, Alan Thompson, Adam Byrne, Aeden Moylan, Jamie Slattery, Troy Walsh, Matthew Comerford.



# Transition Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Stephen Kirwan, Jack Nolan, Robert Butler, Richard Phelan Ciaran Hogan. Third row (l-r): Eoin Wall, Adam Tallis, Dylan Doyle, Nick O'Shea, Fergus Byrne, Darwish Bourke. Second row (l-r): David Griffin, Sean Minogue, Liam Brennan - Smyth, Alex Pawliczek, Conor Drennan, Ciaran Fitzpatrick. Front row (l-r): Daniel Cotter, Edward O'Neill, Joseph Walsh, Blaise Wall, Chris Barcoe, Kyle Fanning.



Back row (l-r): Peter Murphy, Sean Carroll, Conor Rowe, Jack O'Connell, Cathal Power, Daniel Maher. Third row (l-r): Jordan Brett, Cian Dawson, Tom Dunphy, Ben Lanigan, Liam Hoban, Ross Whelan. Second row (l-r): David Bourke, Eoin Kenneally, Damian Cahil, Conor Archbold, Nathan Conolly. Front row (l-r): Kyran O'Sullivan, Shane Murphy, Jason O'Keeffe, Ger Doheny, Paul Healy, David Walsh.





Back row (l-r): Andy Whelan, Dan Blanchfield, Jack McDonald, Jesse Roberts. Third row (l-r): Colin McKenna, Shane Guilfoyle, Owen Lynch, Ciaran Brennan, David Mollereau-Graham. Second row (l-r): Ciaran Walsh, Jakub Czakiert, Ethan Butler, Ryan Scanlon, Tommy Hennessy, Luke Murphy. Front row (l-r): John Hynes, Evan Clarke, James Everard, Sean Carroll, Conor O'Keffee.



Back row (l-r): Michael O'Shaughnessy, James Phelan, Rory O'Keeffe, Eoghan Moylan, John Nolan. Third row (l-r): Tim Ferris, Luke O'Brien, Erick Oyat, Conor Condon, Sam Hickey. Second row (l-r): Evan Doyle, Nathan Lawlor, Kealan Coyne, Ned Kirwan, Mark Nolan, Tim Ryan. Front row (l-r): Ian Walsh, Bailey Byrne, Joe Breen, David Barron, Tommy Ronan.



Back row (l-r): Sean Cassin, Evan Walsh, Paul O'Dwyer, Brevin Benny, John Prendergast. Third row (l-r): Jeffery Coyne, Bill Cody, Rory Cleere, Robert Dowling, Harry Murphy, Conor Lalor. Second row (l-r): Jason Egars, Brian Staunton, Jessie Dillon, Laurence Campion, Shane Whelan, Daniel Kenyi. Front row (l-r): Ruairi Breen, David Maher, William O'Sullivan, Kevin Holohan, Conor McHugh, Jay Meagher.



# Fifth Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Adrian Mullen, James Bergin, Dylan Aylward, Adam Flynn, Jack Smith. Third row (l-r): Denis Carrigan, Leon Butler, Cahal McAuley, Dylan Drennan-Smyth, Padraig Buggy, David McInerney. Second row (l-r): Alex Johnston, Kevin McQuillan, Cian Enright, Michael Rafter, Jim Nugent, Donal Brophy, Conor Wallace. Front row (l-r): Brian Hennessy, Eamon McPhillips, Jeff Kealy-Brennan, Sean Walsh, Leon Duffy, Joe Cashin, Ian Clifford.



Back row (l-r): Thomas Comerford, Conor Dyson, Calum Malone, Michael Larkin, Barry Cleere. Third row (l-r): Shane Donohoe, Conor Hackett, Luke Fitzpatrick, Robbie Kirwan, John Burns, Jack Connelly. Second row (l-r): Ben Whelan, Dylan Smithwick, Padraig Mullan, Dara Keane, Leroy Slattery, Ben Lawlor. Front row (l-r): Cian Burke, Paddy Bolger, Jack Beale, Matthew Powell, Eoin Minnock, Simon Cullen, Evan Walsh.





Back row (l-r): Jason Maher, Liam Rafter, Fintan Fleming, Colum Prendiville, Aironas Miliauskas, Robert Fitzgerald. Second row (l-r): Rory Lodge, Gary Moore, Noel Leahy, George Murphy, Brian O'Hanrahan, Adam Grogan, Jonathan Tshimbalanga. Front row (l-r): Ciaran Byrne, Ted Drea, Gavan Delaney, Dylan Simpson, Evan Shefflin, John Dooley.



Back row (l-r): Jack Manning, Eoghan Twomey, Kieran Conway, Kevin Fennelly, Peter Mullan, Andrew Parsons. Third row (l-r): Damian Skrzypek, Adam Ronan, Peter Walsh, Killian Ten-Bohmer, Kevin Kehoe, Ciaran Dalton, Conall Whelan, Eric Mahon. Second row (l-r): Patrick Parle, John Farrell, Shane Dawson, Tommy Walton, Daniel Young, Kieran Lucey, Jack Tynan. Front row (l-r): Jack Smith, Namuel Hossain, Adam Power, Pdraig Healy, Dean Gleeson, Jack Crehan, Tom Lalor, David Busher.



Back row (l-r): Pdraigh Lennon, James Tennyson, Ciaran Lennon, Eoin Rudkins, Ryan Poyntz. Middle row (l-r): Kevin Fennelly, Callum O'Dwyer, Brendan Fitzgerald, Mikey Carey, Patrick Lowry, Martin Keoghan. Front row (l-r): Kevin Murphy, Damian Smialek, Lorcan Whelan, Enda Kenneally, Andy Walsh, Evaldus Gerulaitis.



# Sixth Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Tom Whitty, Evan Swan, Brian Power, Eamon Forristal, Aidan Nolan. Third row (l-r): Mick Cody, Danny Kehoe, Paddy Maher, Paddy Doyle. Second row (l-r): Shane Byrne, Liam Walsh, James Mullally, Dan Fahey, Tadhg O'Dwyer, Thomas Dorney. Front row (l-r): Michael Ryan, Morgan Walshe, Joe Sinnott, Stephen Carolan, Daniel Egars, Connor Rafter, Luke Kelly. Absent from Photo: Mateusz Stefanski



Back row (l-r): Jack Lynch, Tyler Lennon, Michael Harold, Robert O'Dwyer, Marc Leahy. Third row (l-r): Peter Lynch, Eamon Byrne, Artur Helizon, Kevin O'Shaughnessy, Brandon Rochford-Freaney. Second row (l-r): Dylan Jordan, Robert Freeman, Liam Wallace, Robbie Power, Niall Holligan. Front row (l-r): Jody Dwyer, Eamonn Egan, Tommy Byrne, James Walton, William Spencer, Chris Keane.





Back row (l-r): Roman Hartman, Richie Stapleton, Cian Drennan, Joe Cuddihy, Niko Doyle. Third Row L-R: John Hession, PJ Dalton, Tommy Allen, Robert Kerwick, Brian Wall. Second row (l-r): Conor O'Neill, Niall Brennan, Jack McHugh, Stephen Bateman, Nathan Donohoe, Brian O'Neill. Front row (l-r): Dylan Collins, Padraic Roberts, Sean Carey, Brian Crowdle, Dylan Dunphy-Wallace, Shane Hennessy, Victor Costello.



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



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



# Chess

Conor Archbold

All and all this year has been a good year for chess. There were four teams which included two under 16 teams and two under 19 teams. At the start of the year we held trials to see who was good enough to make the teams. The trials were held in the study hall and it took a good amount of time as the games were very long because each match was very heated and competitive. When the teams were picked Conor Lalor our team captain got straight to organising games against other schools throughout Leinster. Every time we played a match, the results were very close and we never had a full victory for example in Bray the score for the under 19 match was 3-2 to us thankfully. We had a great year overall and the under 19 team qualified for the All-Ireland semi-finals but unfortunately could not make it because the players were busy with other activities. Overall playing Chess this year was an enjoyable experience and I hope to do it next year. Many thanks to all the teachers who came to the chess matches with us and to Conor Lalor and Eoin Minnock for all their great effort organising the trips and buses.



Robbie English

## Swimming

Robbie English who is one of our First Year students won two medals at the Leinster Special Olympics in November. Robbie competed in the U15 Swimming Championships and received his medals in the 50m Free Stroke and the 50m Butterfly.

# Badminton



U14 Kilkenny Badminton Champions (l-r): Conor Fitzpatrick, Patrick Brennan, Peter Connellan, Padhraic Foley, Pete Mc Donald and Eoin O'Brien.



# GUI Junior Golf All-Ireland

Congratulations to the St Kieran's College Junior Golf team who were runners up in the Irish Schools Junior Championship in Athlone Golf Club on Wednesday, 20th April. The team comprising of Ned Kirwan, Sean Manogue and Patrick O'Shea had come out on top at the Regional Qualifiers in Abbeylisk Golf Club and were crowned Leinster Champions at the finals in Killeen Golf Club in November 2015.

Patrick O'Shea was the first to tee off at 9am in excellent weather conditions. From his drive on the first right through to the approach shot to the 18th green, Patrick's striking was impressive. He managed to reach both the 7th and 9th par 5's in two but was not rewarded on the greens. He struggled with the pace but was not deterred and when his shot to the 17th par 3 spun back off the green, he chipped in for birdie.

Ned Kirwan was the second team member to tee off. His ball striking was superb and he played a very solid game which featured two birdie 2's. Ned carded a nett 72 on the par 73 course, only one shot behind the best score of the day. Sean played a very consistent round of golf but was unlucky to lose a ball on the blind 13th driving hole. This cost him two shots but he recovered well and went on to birdie the 16th hole. His score, combined with Sean Manogue's 76, gave St Kieran's College a team total of 148, only two shots behind the Munster champions, St Colman's of Fermoy.

This capped off what has been an excellent year in Golf for the students of St Kieran's College, led by Ms Anne Wemyss. Well done to all involved.



Leinster Golf Chairman John Ferriter with the team





# Orienteering

Orienteering is a competitive international sport that combines running with navigation. Races are timed; individual participants use a specially created, highly detailed, map to select routes and navigate through diverse terrain visiting control points in sequence. The majority of Orienteering events involve running in forest, open mountain areas or urban areas.

We had a very successful year in the field of Orienteering this year with Fifth Year student Conall Whelan winning the Schools All-Ireland Championships in Fota House & Gardens, Co. Cork. He also won the All Ireland Orienteering Championships in Medium and Long distance, competing in the tough open, mountainous, terrain of the Comeragh mountains. Conall will be representing Ireland in the European Youth Orienteering Championships in Poland in early July.



## Maurice Walsh

Maurice is a Sixth year student who will be leaving us this year. He has made an enormous contribution to the archives in St Kieran's College. He was asked in Fourth Year to get involved in photographing different events that were taking place around the school. He not only did this but he also up skilled and became involved in recording some of the important games that were taking place. He took on his role with passion and skill and ensured that some of the most memorable days in Kieran's were captured for future generations to enjoy. Maurice will be missed in St Kieran's for his professional attitude to filming and photography. We wish Maurice all the best with his leaving cert and his college years ahead.





# Handball

2015/2016 was a successful year for St Kieran's College handballers. Multiple Leinster championships were won at both 60x30 and 40x20 categories. The 60x30 championships were played off before Christmas and Leinster titles were won by Sean Carey and Dion Bourke (u19 Doubles), Eoin O'Brien and Padhraic Foley (First Year Doubles) and Jack Doyle (1st Singles). Sean and Dion went on to the All Ireland series where they just came up short against a very strong pair from Hazelwood College of Dromcollogher, Limerick. Eoin Brennan, Conor Condon, Jack Crehan and James Shirley also performed well at 60x30 level.

The 40x20 Championships were played over numerous games in the second half of the year. Eoin Brennan (u17 Singles) breezed through the Leinster side of the draw and won his All Ireland semi final before losing a great final by the narrowest of margins. Jack Doyle, along with Eoin O'Brien and Padhraic Foley completed the Leinster First Year Singles and Doubles clean sweep for the school at 40x20 also, a great achievement. Well done to all handballers and thanks to parents for helping throughout the year too.



Eoin Brennan - All-Ireland runner up.



L-R: Jack Crehan and Conor Condon U17 Handball Doubles.



Jack Doyle Leinster 60x30 1st Year Singles 2016.



L-R: Eoin O'Brien and Padhraic Foley Leinster 60x30 Boys 1st Year Doubles 2016.



L-R: Sean Carey and Dion Bourke Leinster U19 60x30 Doubles Champions.



Eoin Brennan Leinster Singles Champion and All-Ireland runner up.



# Equestrian



## Paddy Parle

On the 15th November we held our own inter-schools competition in Warrington Top Flight Equestrian centre. There were over 50 entries into the teams competition with 15 in the novice and 37 in the open.

The day started off with the novice competition. The jumping was spectacular with 7 teams getting through to the jump off. Each team had to pick two riders to jump off against the clock. The novice individual was the next competition to take place. There was a big entry for it, it consisted of a round outside against the clock.

After the novice was finished it was time for the open teams. Our open team was the first to compete. Our team consisted of Paddy Parle, Hugh McOwan and Jack Brennan, Conor Fitzpatrick and David Flemming also participated but on combined teams.

We managed to go through to the jump off without any problems. Hugh McOwan and Jack Brennan were called upon to participate in the jump off. The boys did us proud and managed to secure a fourth place position. We would like to thank everyone who put in so much work to make the inter schools a success. Our parents for all the help and the teachers Mr Ryan, Ms Hickey and Ms Maher.







**Congratulations to one of our past members of the Equestrian Club, David Mullins, who won the Grand National at Aintree this year.**



**David Mullins 2010**



# Athletics

The students who participated in athletics this year had a very successful year both for St Kieran's and for their clubs. Rory Lodge (Fifth Year) is the National Indoor 1500m U18 Champion and Adam Fitzpatrick is the National Indoor 1500m U17 Champion. Our students who participated in the Leinster Athletics Championship over two days in Santry, qualified for the All-Irelands which will take place in Tullamore in the weeks before the Leaving Cert. Well done to all the lads who took part.

## John Muldowney

This year the South Leinster Track and Field event was held on Thursday 28th April at Waterford Regional Sports Centre. Mr Reddy picked a team to represent St Kieran's. James Kearney ran the 1500m steeplechase, Kevin Burns ran 1500m and I ran 1100m. When we arrived we were surprised to see the amount of people who had attended. Our team was not competing until 3 o'clock so we spent the day watching the other competitors in their events. When 2.30 came we began our warmup, which consisted of

jogging, stretching and sprints. When 3 o'clock came James Kearney lined up for the 1500m steeplechase against a very strong field. He looked cool, calm and confident. Once the starting gun went James exploded off the line and ended up coming third, to the delight of the team. Before I knew it, it was my race. I lined up feeling nervous, I pulled away with the front group. My aim was to qualify for the Leinsters, with 200m to go it finished in a sprint with inches between us all. I was delighted that I qualified. Kevin's race came next and he looked calm and confident on the line. His race finished with a similar

sprint but it was much spread out. To our delight he also came third. We would like to thank Mr Reddy for his support.



Adam Fitzpatrick, 1500m.



Jack Manning, 400m.



James Kearney, Steeplechase.



John Muldowney, 1500m.



Kevin Burns, 1500m.



Krystian Pawloski Shot Putt.



Luke Fitzpatrick, 800m.



Peter Lynch, 5000m.



Rory Lodge, Mile.



Shay McEvoy, Mile.





Intermediates: (l-r) Shay McEvoy, Rory Lodge, Adam Fitzpatrick, James Kearney, Keyston Pawloski.



Adam Fitzpatrick National Indoor Champion 1500m U17.



Rory Lodge National Indoor 1500m U18.



John Muldowney



James Kearney and David O'Carroll



Peter Lynch



Cormac Buggy



# Cross Country



2015-2016 was another very successful year for cross country in St Kieran's College. The South Leinsters were held in January this year in Heywood College, Ballinakill, Laois. We fielded teams in the four available races. The Minor U14 boys were second in the team event to Naas CBS, with Cathal Kearney and Padraig Foley featuring strongly. The Junior Boys U15 reversed the order of the first race, narrowly beating Naas to secure the title. Kevin Burns lead home the Junior team. The Intermediate Boys U17 were the most impressive team at the event with Adam Fitzpatrick and Rory Lodge first and second respectively. The Senior Boys won their title too with Peter Lynch featuring strongly.



This paved the way for all our teams to run in the Leinster Championship which were held at Santry Demesne, Dublin in early February. Success at Leinster secures qualification for the All-Ireland Championship. Cathal Kearney after a poor start made a great recovery to qualify for the All-Ireland's in Sligo. Kevin Burns continued his impressive season and was also Sligo bound. The Intermediate team with a score of 53, won team silver, losing out narrowly to a really determined Colaiste Mhuire Mullingar outfit. The Senior Boys won the bronze team medal and qualification too for the All-Ireland Finals in Sligo.

At the All-Ireland Championships, Adam Fitzpatrick, a Third Year student, beat off very strong competition to become the Intermediate All-Ireland Champion. This is the first time that a student from St Kieran's has won an All-Ireland individual gold medal in Cross Country. His success was followed by Peter Lynch who was placed second in the U19 competition. There were medals also for the Intermediate and Senior Teams who both won Bronze medals. We were delighted with our success at this the flagship event of the Cross Country season.

To finish up, the sport of Cross Country in the school, is much more than facilitating elite athletes. The lunchtime runs have become a ritual in the College with both students and teachers taking part. All those who are interested in wellbeing, health, sport, training, fitness, and athletics are welcome. It is important to acknowledge all those who run in the school, both the fun and serious athletes, who together make the lunch time sessions so enjoyable and beneficial.



Intermediate Team

Back row (l-r): Luke Whelan, Shay McEvoy, Eric Oyat, David O'Carroll, James Kearney. Front row (l-r): Conor Drennan, Adam Fitzpatrick, Rory Lodge, Tom Bolger.



Junior Team

Back row (l-r): Liam Barron, Aidan McGree, Eoin Morgan. Front row (l-r): Ian Wallace, Ciaran Mullen, Kevin Burs, Senan Forristal.



Minor Team

Back row (l-r): Jack Doyle, Vincent O'Grady, Eoin Delahunty, Conor Fitzpatrick. Front row (l-r): Edmond Dowling, Ivan Kelly, Tomas Barron, Cathal Kearney, John Muldowney, Oisín Drennan, Andrew Devearux



Senior Team

Back row (l-r): Lorcan Whelan, Conall Whelan, Tommie Allen, Patrick Maher. Front row (l-r): Luke Fitzpatrick, Donal Brophy, Peter Lynch, Cormac Buggy.



# Represented Ireland

**AARON VARLEY**



Aaron competed in the Sports Karate Amateur Internationals held in Buffalo. The awards were for the following:

- 2nd in the Junior teams division.
- 4th in Intermediate Creative forms division.
- 6th Intermediate Male sparring division.
- 7th Intermediate Open Musical Forms.

**ADAM FITZPATRICK**



Adam represented Ireland in the Schools International Cross Country Championship in Falkirk Scotland. Adam competed in the 6k Intermediate competition.

**CIARAN BRENNAN**



Ciaran Brennan represented Ireland on the U15 soccer team on numerous occasions this year.

**CONALL WHELAN**



Conall won the Schools All Ireland Championship and will be representing Ireland in the European Youth Orienteering Championship in July.

**MORGAN THOMAS**



Morgan took part in the European 8ball Pool Championships in Nantes, France during February. In the team competition, Morgan hit the number one individual Junior player spot in Europe. He is hoping to make the Irish team for the World Championships this summer.

**KEN ARCHBOLD**



He is the current 2015 Masters Leinster Champion in the 400m and 800m events. He also holds the silver medal in the 800m and gold in the 400 meters at All Ireland level. Ken represented Ireland within his age group in Lyon, France at the recent World Masters Championships.

**PETER LYNCH**



Peter has represented Ireland on two occasions this year, firstly in the European XC in December and then in the Great Edinburgh XC in January. He also during his Easter holidays took place in an Irish training camp which was held in Poland.

**SEAN KEYES**



Sean represented Ireland in the ISM Berlin in March of this year. He qualified for the 100m backstroke (1.10), 100m breaststroke (1.25) and 50m backstroke (34).

**STEPHEN KIRWAN**



1st place in amateur adult u-63kg (61.65kg) category, lifting 48kg Jerk and 24kg Snatch in the World Kettlebell weightlifting championships held in Dublin on the 25th-28th of November. In the summer 3rd place in European Championships in Lithuania U16 age group and in August, 1st place in All-Ireland adults category in Wexford.



# First Year Soccer



First Year Soccer

Back row(l-r): Daragh Walsh, Eoin Delahunty, Dan Cahill, Cormac Rafter. Third row (l-r): Ciaran Keher, Daniel Murphy, Jack McGuire, Sebastian Ruiaru, Josh Dempsey, Daniel Smithwick. Second row (l-r): John Paul Gamble, Eoin Dalton, Jamie Chislom, Luke McNema, Cathal Kearney, Darragh Casey, Harry Murphy, Vincent O'Grady. Front row (l-r): James Duggan, Andrew Devereux, Thomas Carroll, Peter McDonald, Luke Hennessy, Patrick Brennan, Eoin Crowley, Oisín Doyle. Missing from Photo: Adam Walsh Brennan, Padhraic Foley.



U15 international soccer success Winners of the Allen McKinstrey International Cup Competition.  
St Kieran's beat teams from Northern Ireland and England to claim the Cup.



# U15 Soccer



## Ciaran Brennan

The year started off with trials that were well attended and highly contested. The panel was whittled down to 24 and the first rounds of the league came and went with the Kieran's team being unbeaten in all games. Tullow Community School would be a close rival at all ages and when we heard that we would have to play them in the South Leinster League final we were looking forward to a tight game. Unfortunately the week of the final came and Tullow handed us a walkover. Not the way we wanted to win a title but won it we did. This would prove to be the first piece of silverware this season. In the quarter final we came up against St. Mary's DS Drogheda 2-1, whom we had already beaten in the cup and we went on to complete the double over them. We then went on to meet St. Fintan's HS Sutton in the semi-final in Newbridge. What started off

as a tight game soon became a walk in the park and we beat them 5-1 to reach the Champions League against Colaiste Choilm, Tullamore. The League final has yet to be played

## National Cup

In between League games the Cup games started to pile up. In the 1st round we drew Tullow and again we were convincing 7-2 winners. Round 2 saw the visit of Gorey and again we won in style. The third round put us up against Maynooth and after a late equaliser from Maynooth to make it 2-2 the game went to extra time. We dug deep and scored two more goals to win the game. St. Mary's Drogheda came next and we came through on a score of 4-2. The Dublin teams then started to emerge, Colaiste Padraig CBS Lucan stood in the way of a final appearance. A tight game, ensued with Kieran's taking the slimmest lead of 2-1 to the final whistle.

## Leinster Final

Our opponents in the final were St. Declan's College, Cabra. This was the same team that the 1st Year team beat last year to win the 1st Year Champions League.

What was expected to be a very tight affair developed into a routine match with Kieran's coming out 5-1 to become Leinster Champions.

The support we had in Portlaoise that day surely helped us. We drew the Ulster Champions Buncrana in the semi-final which was played in Oriel Park in Dundalk. The pitch was exactly what you would expect from a league of Ireland team and suited our style of play. We went on to win the game with ease 4-1.

St Kieran's College captured the Bank of Ireland FAI Schools Minor Boys National Cup following a penalty shoot-out at Waterford's RSC on Wednesday April 6.





Douglas forced the game into extra-time when midfield skipper Adam O'Reilly scored a fabulous last minute equaliser but this elatio turned to despair and disappointment when the Cork boys went down 5-4 in the deciding shoot-out.

St Kierans overcame the Ulster charge of Scoil Mhuire SS, Buncrana with an impressive 4-1 scoreline in Clones.

There was an abundance of talent in both squads as Douglas featured two internationals in striker Adam Idah and central midfielder Adam O'Reilly who captained his side while Kilkenny's imposing striker Ciaran Brennan was in the frame for St Kierans. He also wore the captains armband on match day. The trio definitely stood out over the 70 minutes of action.

St. Kieran's had an early chance but Tim Corkery's volley on the far post from Conor Kelly's deep cross went wide and after ten minutes Andy Cotter for Douglas had a 40-yard free kick go straight into 'keeper Stephen Barron's arms St Kierans played with the breeze behind them in the first half and they had the better of the play to the interval. It was an evenly contested first 35 minutes in a mixture of sunshine, biting wind and rain.

St. Kieran's went close to a lead goal on 22 minutes when George Murphy's free was headed on by Jamie Young but Cillian O'Donovan in the Douglas goal was positioned well to make the first of several good saves.

Six minutes later, St. Kieran's Ciaran Brennan went on a mazy solo run but his chipped finish was held by O'Donovan. Ben Lucey was denied a Douglas goal inside the opening minutes of the second period by a great covering tackle from Killian Rudkins while Brennan's snap shot was saved by O'Donovan again.

The breakthrough arrived three minutes into the second half when man of the match Brennan broke free down the right and his cross picked out midfielder Jim Ryan who drove the ball home. Adam Idah fired a free kick over at the city end minutes later and then met Adam O'Reilly's cross but Barron dived to his left to push his downward header away from goal.

Brennan's first touch surprisingly let him down in the 55th minute when in on goal and O'Donovan easily collected the loose ball.

A nice bit of skill and trickery by George Murphy set up Brennan again on the far post but O'Donovan kept his side in the tie with another save before Douglas' Adam O'Reilly forced extra-time with his last minute 30 yard drive and O'Donovan saved from Ryan in added time in an incredible climax to the game.

Barron made a fine diving save from substitute Chris O'Reilly in extra-time as the tie ended in a shoot-out.

Conor Kelly, Jamie Harkin, skipper Ciaran Brennan, Jamie Young and Jim Ryan all scored from the spot for the newly-crowned champions.

ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE, KILKENNY: Stephen Barron, Conor Kelly, Padraic Moylan, Killian Rudkins, Cian Kenny, Jamie Harkin, Jim Ryan, George Murphy, Jamie Young, Tim Corkery, Ciaran Brennan (Captain). SUBS Peter Connellan, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Jamie Reid, Eoin Delahunty, Shay McEvoy, Michael Lewis, Oisín Carroll, Ross Ellis, Jack McGuirk, Ronan Lavelle, Sebby Ruian, David Kelleher, Conor Brett TEACHERS: Carl Lynch, Larry Cotter, Eamon Heffernan.

We will compete in a 3-day international event against England, Scotland and Wales in Dublin. Hopefully we will go on to win all our matches and have a very enjoyable weekend. We thank the teachers, parents and well wishers who followed us on our journey. We had a great year, great fun and some unbelievable results.





# Football



## JUVENILE FOOTBALL

This year's u14 football team had a long and relatively successful campaign which began in early September with a challenge match against St Peters. Despite the fact that St. Peters regularly compete in the latter stages of the A competition and St Kieran's, who would compete in the B competition, showed fantastic potential with an impressive victory. This was an early sign that this side were clearly committed to putting in a fantastic effort for the year ahead.

In total this team played 8 championship games, winning 7, only suffering defeat in the Lenister final against the institution of Gaelic football that is St Mary's from Edenderry. Indeed it would be fair to argue how such a famed Gaelic football school even ended up in the B section of the competition in the first place.

Comprehensive early round victories were secured against Portlaoise, Carlow and Portarlington which qualified St Kieran's for a south Lenister quarter final against Enniscorthy. These games allowed the team to put into practise their skills that were honed on many evenings from September to November. Victory in the quarter final ensured a crucial home venue against competition favourites Gorey C.S. from Wexford. Gorey had reached last year's final and were determined to go a step farther this year. Such was their determination that former all star Mattie Forde was drafted in to coach the team and he took the line against St Kieran's in what would be a defining game for this team. In a tough and sometimes bruising encounter this group of boys showed many of the traits that marked them out as champions such as discipline,



heart and bravery; traits which would go on to serve many of these boys well in the soccer and hurling campaigns to come. Physically the Gorey team was on a par with the St Kieran's boys but mentally our boys proved to be their better, especially after the early injury of centre back Podge Moylan in a late tackle. This set back would have been a mortal blow to many other teams but not so on this occasion as we rallied to surge ahead of the Gorey team to win by 9 points much to the dissatisfaction of their mentors!!

The South Lenister final was played in early December against St. Kevin's Dunlavin of Wicklow. The semi final victory had taken its toll with Podge Moylan unavailable and Harry Walsh struggling with a leg injury. The game was played in the pleasant surroundings of Dr. Cullen Park in Carlow. This was not the team's finest performance of the championship in football terms but none the less the ability of the team to get the victory despite this is a trait worthy of champions. The final score line of 1-10





to 1-9 in favour of St Kieran's highlights how evenly match both teams were. The game had many turning points but the deployment of team captain Conor Kelly as a 3rd midfielder and the ability of Jim Kirby to marshal the strong running of the St. Kevin's centre forward were crucial in this regard. The final whistle was one of relief and joy among players & supporters alike and a special rendition of "We a dream of a team of Rurai Breen's" rang out loudly in the dressing room!

As South Lenister champions St Kieran's now faced Dublin champions Malahide in a Lenister semi final. Facing the Dublin champions in football would make most teams apprehensive but in the case of this group they simply relished the opportunity to prove themselves against a team from one of the best footballing counties in Ireland. However from the warm up it was evident that Malahide were clearly not expecting much of a challenge from St Kieran's. This assumption on their behalf would prove unfounded as we took control of the game from the outset to deliver what was probably the team's most complete performance of the year as we won handsomely on a score of 3-9 to 0-7.

St Mary's Edenderry awaited St Kieran's in the final that was played in Hawkfield in Kildare on a crisp and cold morning in January. The game began at a blistering pace as Jack Sheridan swept home an early goal to rock St Mary's. St Mary's responded in a slow but methodical fashion as the first half wore on stretching out to a 4 point lead as the whistle approached. Their possession game and point taking ability was causing the Kieran's defence significant problems, but another St Kieran's goal by Rian Edwards reduced the lead to a minimum just on the stroke of half time. Despite not displaying our full ability in the first half the mood was good at half time and with some inspiring words from Mr Windle the team resolved to take the game to St Mary's in the second half. St Kieran's again goaled early in the second half but was finding it difficult to gain point scoring opportunities against a disciplined defence. St Mary's however were finding it easy to raise the white flag and some of their score taking in this regard was exemplary. As the game was heading towards a close St Kieran's launched everything forward

trying to regain parity and despite two goals from Peter O'Donoghue it proved to be not enough to catch St Mary's on this occasion who added three goals of their own in the final minutes to ensure their victory.

Great credit is due to this panel of players for their commitment to Juvenile football this year. Every player played his part in winning one of the most competitive championships in schools competitions. A special word of mention must also go to TY helpers Ruari Breen, Eoin Kenneally, Kyran O'Sullivan and David O'Connor whose help was invaluable all year.

#### Panel

1 Stephen Barron, Ballyhale Shamrocks; 2 Alex Moore, Dunnamaggin; 3 Harry Walsh, Dunnamaggin; 4 Liam Barron, Ballyhale Shamrocks; 5 Oisin Egan, Graigue Ballycallan; 6 James Kirby, The Harps (Laois); 7 Stephen Keoghan, Graigue Ballycallan; 8 Darragh Maher, St. Lachtains; 9 Ciaran Mullen, Danesfort; 10 Killian Rudkins Barrow Rangers; 11 Jamie Harkin, Bennettsbridge; 12 Rian Edwards, The Harps (Laois); 13 Jack Sheridan, O Loughlins; 14 Peter Donohue, Danesfort; 15 Conor Kelly, O Loughlins; 16 Oisin Carroll, Carrickshock; 17 Hary Kealy, St Martins; 18 Luke Whelan, Clara; 19 Shay McEvoy, Dicksboro; 20 Kevin Fitzpatrick, Dicksboro; 21 Conor Whitty, Danesfort; 22 Kieran Buckley, Dunnamaggin; 23 Michael Lewis, Bennettsbridge; 24 Conor Fitzpatrick, Young Irelands; 25 Cormac Rafter, St Lachtains; 26 Mathew Shorthall, St Martins; 27 Ciaran Byrne, Young Irelands; 28 Denis Walsh, Dunnamaggin; 29 Brian McDonald, Danesfort; 30 Patrick O Shea, Dicksboro; 31 Luke Morrissey, Dicksboro; 32 Aiden McGree, Danesfort; 33 Adam Byrne, Danesfort; 34 Padraic Moylan, Dicksboro; 35 Conor Brett, Dunnamaggin; 36 Jim Ryan, James Stephens; 37 Luke Campion, Lisdowney

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Ruairi Breen and Kieran O'Sullivan

The trials for the junior football team were held in late October. There was great interest in the trials with a final panel of 30 being selected. Our first match was against Presentation Carlow at home, in early November. We got off to a slow start when conceding an early goal. The team showed character when clawing their way back into the game. Presentation showed their experience to extend the gap once again. We were not helped by our centre back being black-carded in the second half. We were not able to recoup the deficit and ended up losing.

Our next outing of the league was away to Athy. We got off to a great start and were two points up at the break. We were not helped by injuries during the game. Athy came out in the second half all guns blazing and took the lead again. We were unable to reply and eventually they ran out cosy winners.

What would be our final outing of the league against Carnew of Wicklow in Carnew, we trained hard for the game. After travelling the hour and a half journey, we were mid way through our warm-up in the terrible conditions for the ref to say the pitch was unplayable. With the match being abandoned we gained our 1st and only point in the group. Sadly this meant that we would not advance any further into the competition.



Junior Football: back row (l-r): Paudric Moylan, Cormac Rafter, Jim Ryan, Alex Moore, Oisin Egan, Harry Walsh, Kieran Buckley, Luke Morrissey. Third row (l-r): Luke Whelan, Shay McEvoy, Aidan McGree, Stephen Barron, Rian Edwards, Peter O'Donoghue, Oisin O'Carroll, Conor Brett, Kevin Fitzpatrick. Second row (l-r): Killian Rudkins, Jack Sheridan, Brian McDonald, Darragh Maher, Michael Lewis, Matthew Shortall, Conor Fitzpatrick, Jim Kirby. Front row (l-r): Luke Campion, Liam Barron, Stephen Keoghan, Conor Whitty, Conor Kelly, Jamie Harkin, Ciaran Mullen, Adam Byrne, Dennis Walsh. Missing from photo: Ciaran Byrne, Harry Kealy, Patrick O'Shea.





## First Year Blitz

First Years took part in a number of blitz's this year. Each student had the opportunity to play on a team if they wanted to. They are a very successful introduction to hurling for First Years in St Kieran's.



## Good Counsel Blitz

Each year Good Counsel, New Ross host a First Year Blitz for schools in the surrounding area. Each school is invited to send one team into what has become a hotly contested competition. This year St Kieran's were runners up to the Good Counsel team.







## First Year Hurling League

The ever popular hurling league for our First Year students got under way in mid-September 2015, progressing quickly to the semi-final which took place in mid-November. Due to the many other sporting and school commitments, we settled on Tuesday April 26th for the much anticipated final.

Approximately 100 students participated in this competition and displayed the usual very high standard of hurling which we are accustomed to in St Kieran's and indeed in Kilkenny! The matches were played at lunchtime two days per week and each day had four teams (60 students) competing. Of course this wouldn't be possible without our very competent referees drawn from fourth year – Tom Gormley and Ruairi Breen and we must especially thank these lads for their commitment and expertise in dealing with the younger students. The final consisted of Team A and Team E – a keenly contested match which Team E coming out on top.

As in all hurling matches, the spectators have their role to play and indeed, we had a very vocal and enthusiastic group of First Year students to cheer on their colleagues. Of course, having Mr L. Ryan and Mr M. Rice watching, added greatly to the excitement.

No final is complete without a 'party'.....we had the usual 'treats'.... and in particular, my chocolate biscuit cake which I personally baked the night before, was a great 'hit'!!!!?? This year, with so much emphasis on the



reduction of sugar intake by young people, we decided to replace the usual fizzy drinks with water and this worked very well with the lads.

Last but not least, we must acknowledge and thank the continued generosity and support of our County Board for their sponsorship of plaques and medals for our young hurlers which will no doubt encourage the lads in continuing their hurling career with St Kieran's, and hopefully with the Black and Amber in the future.

Teachers involved: Mr Michael Forrest, Mr Patrick Darmody and Mr Caimin Browne.

### FIRST YEAR HURLING LEAGUE

Oisín Drennan

The First Year Hurling league took place at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There were six teams with

most of the year taking part. Each team played each other one with the two top scoring teams going through to the final. The final took place on Tuesday 26th April between team E and team A. Both teams showed great skill on the day, but team E came out on top. All of First Year came out to support and cheer on the teams. When the final whistle was blown and we realised we had won there was great excitement. Our team photo was taken and then we couldn't wait to get back to the dressing rooms. When we got back Mr Darmody and Mr Forrest gave us all a bottle of water, biscuit cake and a bag of taytos and jellies. We would like to thank the TY students who referred the matches and we would also like to give a special thank you to Mr Darmody and Mr Forrest for organising the league.



# U14 Kilkenny County Board Blitz



Each year the Kilkenny County Board organise a First and Second Year Hurling Blitz to promote the game of hurling throughout the county. This year 9 St Kieran's College teams participated in the blitz with all lads from First and Second Year getting the opportunity to wear the school colours if they wished. It was a fantastic day and huge gratitude has to go to Mr Windle for organising the teams from St Kieran's College. This was no easy job as he had almost 300 lads who wanted a match!!







## Juvenile Hurling

Another year and another group of enthusiastic young hurlers vying to wear the black and white. Great interest was shown by both First and Second Years who turned out in huge numbers to fight for a place on the Juvenile hurling panel. Trials went on in the months of November and December before the panel was finalised in January. The great run by the Juvenile footballers gave us momentum as we had many from the football panel. As the evenings started to stretch we trained on Monday and Wednesday evenings and on Friday afternoon.

Our first outing in the league turned into an exciting battle against Westmeath Schools in early February. We eventually won in wet miserable conditions. We then had two wins against St. Peters away and Mountrath Community School out in the Dunmore training facility. We faced our biggest challenge in March against Dublin South up in O'Toole Park in Crumlin. After a dreadful opening 15 minutes when we went 10 points down, we started to hurl. The game ended all square on a scoreline of 4-14 each, leaving teams, mentors

and supporters happy. We qualified to meet Dublin North in the league semi-final which took place in Ballykelly, Monasterevin in April. After a good display, especially by the forwards, we won on a scoreline of 4-13 to 1-13. Then in the space of three days we had two important games to play. On Wednesday April 20th in the Éire Óg pitch in Carlow we faced Dublin South in the league final. While we were flat on the day and never got to grips with the opposition Dublin were on fire and beat us comprehensively on a scoreline of 3-9 to 1-8. We had to



Juvenile Hurling

Back row (l-r): Oisín Egan, Stephen Barron, Peter Donohue, Killian Rudkins, Darren Cuddihy, Eoin Delahunty, Conor Kelly, Padraic Foley. Third row (l-r): Mr Philip Walsh, David Conway, David Fogarty, Kieran Buckley, James Carrigan, Peter McDonald, Conor Fitzpatrick, Vincent O'Grady, Mr Tom Hogan. Second row (l-r): Jack Sheridan, Ciaran rice, Stephen Keoghán, Eoin Guilfoyle, Jim Kirby, James Duggan, Diarmaid Galway, Andy Hickey, Richard Cash. Front row (l-r): Denis Walsh, Daragh Maher, Liam Barron, Alex Moore, Padraig Moylan, Harry Walsh, Jamie Harkin, Ciaran Mullen, Dara Glynn, Luke Campion.



get over our disappointment quickly as we were facing St. Peters in the the championship semi-final on the Friday following. We duly dispatched St. Peters but there was one concern. Though we scored 2-15 we scored 2-10 in the first ten minutes and only five points in the remaining forty minutes.

The way was now clear for the final against Good Counsel, New Ross on May 6th. Sun drenched Thomastown was the ideal venue with just a swirling breeze preventing it having the ideal conditions for a Leinster final. We played against the breeze in the first half and were good value for our six point lead at half-time. Knowing Good Counsel like we do we knew there would a strong comeback. They dominated the first twenty minutes of the second half and brought the deficit back to two points. Our players responded magnificently and we finished the game strongly, winning by 4-13 to 3-6. The Dr. Barry Cup was back in St Kieran's.

Panel: Stephen Keoghan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Liam Barron (Ballyhale Shamrocks), David Fogarty (O'Loughlin Gaels), Kieran Buckley (Dunamaggin), Harry Walsh (Dunamaggin) (capt.), Pádraig Moylan (Dicksboro), Jamie Harkin (Bennetsbridge), Conor Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels), Killian Rudkins (Barrow Rangers), Darragh Maher



(Freshford), Alex Moore (Dunamaggin), Oisín Egan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Stephen Barron (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Peter Donohoe (Danesfort), Ciarán Mullen (Danesfort), Diarmuid Galway (Thomastown), Conor Fitzpatrick (Young Irelands, Gowran), Vincent O'Grady (O'Loughlin Gaels), Padraic Foley (Windgap), Ciarán Rice (Conahy Shamrocks), James Carrigan (St Martins), Peter McDonald (Thomastown), Eoin Guilfoyle (James Stephens), Luke Campion (Lisdowney), James Duggan (Harps, Durrow), Darren Cuddihy (Conahy Shamrocks), Eoin Delahunty (Graigue-Ballycallan), Denis Walsh (Dunamaggin), Andy Hickey (Dunamaggin), David Conway (Dicksboro), Dara Glynn (Clara), Richard Cash (Tullaroan, Jack Sheridan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Jim Kirby (Harps, Durrow).

Many thanks to our TY students who helped at training and at the games during the year and often doing so in their own free time. Our helpers this year were Ruairi Breen, Eoghan Moylan, Ciarán Hogan, Jack Nolan, Mark Nolan and James Phelan. And for the final we had to draft in Ryan Scanlon and Kyran O'Sullivan. Not forgetting our cameramen, Conor Drennan (TY) and Maurice Walshe (Sixth Year) who has done Trojan work for all our teams for the past three years and is leaving us this June. Thanks lads.





# Junior B Hurling



Ruairi Breen and Jeffrey Coyne

Mr Farrell, Mr Rice and Mr Browne were over the Junior B hurling teams this year. There was great interest in the teams with nearly 100 students turning up for the trials. After two weeks the three teams were formed from the remaining players. For our first match we were at home against Abbey Community College we had a comprehensive win. Our next match was against near rivals CBS and once more we had another good success with great performances from Darragh O'Keeffe in midfield and Shane Murphy in corner forward. We played our final game of the group against Callan CBS to see who progressed to the semi final. We got off to a quick start with our forwards finding their range early. This was central to us winning the game. So we progressed to the semi final to face another Kieran's team. In the meantime a panel of players from two of the teams was formed to play against St. Colmans in a challenge match in Kieran's. It was a fiercely competitive game with nothing separating the sides at the final whistle. After a long wait the semi final was ready to be played. Held on the Birchfield pitch on a damp day the two Kieran's sides locked horns. Mr Farrell was over team 1 and Mr Rice over team 3. It was a very close game with there being only 3 points in the



Junior B Hurling Champions 2015-2016

Back row (l-r): Mr Caimin Browne, Tom Kennedy, Padraic O'Neill, Aod O'Connor, James Kelly Trant. Third row (l-r): Kyran O'Sullivan, Darragh Corcoran, Martin O'Connell, Conor Kelly, Sean Comerford. Second Row L-R: Mr John Joe Farrell, Ruairi Breen, Darragh O'Keeffe, Shane Guilfoyle, Eoin O'Connor, Mr Michael Rice. Front row (l-r): Jack Cadigan, Shane Murphy, Jeffrey Coyne, Dylan Carey, Adam Fitzpatrick.

difference between the two teams at half time, with team 3 leading. The second half was just as good with the two teams going score for score, team 1 got a purple patch at a vital stage of the match to take the lead. Adam Fitzpatrick was brilliant on the free's to put team 1 into the lead with only minutes remaining. Team 3 piled on the pressure but were unable to draw back the lead with team 1 progressing to the final by the slimmest of margins. On the other side of the draw St Kieran's team 2 failed to hold out against a strong Scoil Aireagail side setting up a final of team 1 vs Scoil Aireagail. The final was held on February 1st on the main pitch here in St Kieran's. With the wind with us in the first half we made

use of it and held a 6 point lead at half time. With a strong wind against us Scoil Aireagail put it up to us but we maintained our lead right until the final whistle and won the Monsignor Thomas Maher perpetual trophy. There was one final game for Fourth Years as a panel was made to re-play St Colmans down in Fermoy in the month of April, we played against a strong wind in the first half and were down by a few points at half time but with great use of the wind we got on top and eventually won the game which was a great way to end the year. A huge well done to all players involved in all teams. Thanks to the TY helpers and of course to the teachers over the teams.



# Junior Hurling



Junior Hurling

Back row l-r: Conor Hoban, Diarmuid Phelan, Conor Murphy, Ciaran Hogan, Jack Nolan, Evan Shefflin, Ross Whelan, Tom Dunphy, Brian Staunton, Killian Egan, Mr Richie Ruth. Second row l-r: Mr Lester Ryan, Mark Nolan, Dacel Fwamba, Eoin Wall, Jesse Roberts, Ciaran Brennan, Adam Tallis, Luke Murphy, Cian Dawson, Ryan Scanlon, Mr Adrian Finan. First row l-r: Jamie Young, James Phelan, Ciaran Brennan Tommy Ronan, Adrian Mullen, Liam Brennan Smyth, Eoghan Moylan, Eoin O'Sea, Conor O'Keeffe, David Barron

Trials for this year's Junior team started in the first week back with over a hundred lads trying out. After losing the Leinster semi-final due to an unfortunate last minute goal to Good Counsel the year before, many players returned ready to take on whatever came at us. Our first match was a home game against a strong Borris side. We started well and soon produced a convincing win. Our second league

game was against Good Counsel, the then All-Ireland Champions. We travelled down to New Ross ready for a tough game. Both teams seemed even on the day until we pulled away in the second half satisfied with our win. We then faced a Leinster semi-final against St Peter's College of Wexford. We travelled to Fenagh in Carlow. It was a wet, blustery day making conditions difficult for everyone. Once again we

came out the winners. We then found ourselves in a Leinster final against Kilkenny CBS.

On the Friday before our Hallowe'en break the match was fixed to be in St. Johns Park. It was a thrilling game with only a two point gap between the two teams in injury time if it wasn't for Ciarán Brennan's brilliant goal. There were also brilliant performances all around the field from







players like Diarmuid Phelan, Daithí Barron and Eoghan Moylan. The score line at the final whistle showed 4-10 to 1-14. After lifting the Fr Cosgrave Cup we then focused on our next game which was against Ard Scoil Rís of Limerick. They were Munster Champions so we were sure we would be in for a battle. We trained hard in the weeks in between our matches through all the cold and wet nights after school and at lunch. In the middle of November we travelled to Templemore for the game. The first half was tight with scores coming from both sides. However, into the second half the teams remained close with Kieran's only winning by a few

points until Jesse Roberts sent in a high ball on the goalie who fumbled leading to a goal. Ard Scoil Rís' heads dropped and we powered on to finish the game with a great win. We had now booked ourselves a place in the All-Ireland Final in two weeks time.

On the 5th of December we got on the bus and made our way to UL where the final was to be held on the astroturf against Presentation College, Athenry. We played the game on one of the wettest and stormiest days of the year. The game started at a quick pace with the ball moving fast on the astroturf. At half time only a single point stood between the two of us with Adrian Mullen's terrific goal and inspirational point keeping us in the match on a score line of 1-5 to 2-1. We went in at half-time soaked to the skin but still determined to win the game. In the second half we stormed out and played the best hurling we had played all year with brilliant performances from Luke Murphy, Eoin O'Shea and Killian Egan and everyone who was playing. The game finished on a score line of 3-12 to 2-4. Adrian Mullen, our captain, accepted the Niall McNerney Cup and made a speech. It was a great win for everyone on the team, our managers Mr Finan, Mr Ruth and Mr Ryan.



# Senior Hurling



The 2015/16 season started off with Kieran's going for three in a row All Ireland titles. There were plenty of players still available from last year's panel and a new face in management with Mr Walsh coming into the set-up with Mr Smith and Mr Maher who were in their fourth year over the senior team. Trials started in October and a panel of 37 was chosen.

The League started off just before the Halloween holidays with comfortable wins over St Brendan's of Birr and Good Counsel and a one point victory over Dublin South in UCD with plenty of past pupils in attendance including Billy Ryan, Sean Brennan, Bill Lahart, Tom Phelan and last year's captain Sean Morrissey. The team qualified for the league semi final against Coláiste Eoin of Dublin where they won on a scoreline of 1-18 to 0-14. The league final was two weeks later in Fenagh against Dublin North in which Kieran's came out victorious 4-12 to 1-14.

The League was over so now it was time to move on to championship. Over the Christmas holidays, Kieran's played a challenge against Ard Scoil

Rís on Heywood's astro turf pitch due to the horrible weather in the country at the time. After Christmas they also played challenge matches against the Tipperary minors and WIT. They were due to face either St Brendan's of Birr or Borris VS on January 31st. However the game between Birr and Borris ended

in a draw after extra time so the first round was put back a week to February 7th which was tough on the Sixth Year players as it was the week before the mocks.

The first round of the Leinster championship started on February 7th on a freezing wet day in Fenagh. The







team were without many key players such as Joe Connolly, Joe Cuddihy, Edmond Delaney due to injuries and illness. Borris started off the better team going 0-4 to 0-1 ahead until a goal from Sean Carey levelled it 1-1 to 0-4. Adrian Mullen pointed to put us in the lead 1-2 to 0-4. However Borris kept fighting and went into the lead at half time 0-8 to 1-3. The second half started off much better as Kieran's went into a four-point lead after 46 minutes. However, Borris didn't stop playing and with just three minutes left they had scored a goal and a point to leave just a point between the teams. To make matters worse, Kieran's were down to 14 men when substitute Eoin O'Shea was dismissed. Kieran's just about held on and won 1-10 to 1-9 but there were no celebrations just relief after the final whistle.

The Leinster semi final happened a week later on February 14th at the same venue Fenagh on a better day for

the team as the mocks were over and the midterm was starting. Before the team left for Fenagh on the bus from the school, An Taoiseach Enda Kenny was paying a visit to the school also earlier that day. The team improved hugely with Joe Connolly, Joe Cuddihy and Edmond Delaney back in the fray but unfortunately without Dylan Jordan who had sustained an injury to his collarbone. At half time they lead 0-7 to 0-5 and in the second half Martin Keoghan helped sweep in a loose ball to put Kieran's into a five point lead 1-8 to 0-6. However Dublin came straight back with a goal from a 20 metre free that opened up the contest again 1-8 to 1-6. But Kieran's showed why they were All-Ireland Champions when Edmond Delaney won the puckout and rattled the net from 25 metres. The game was decided shortly after when Joe Connolly and Joe Cuddihy worked the ball from the right wing to set up Sean Carey who finished to the net

towards the left upright. Kieran's were now into the Leinster final against their arch rivals Kilkenny CBS.

Before the Leinster final they played another challenge against the Cork minors over the midterm in Dunmore and training intensified through that week and the weeks leading up to the final. The Leinster final took place on February 27th in Nowlan Park. The atmosphere was electric with great vocal enthusiastic support from both schools in an attendance of 1,931. CBS started off well going 0-5 to 0-1 in the lead with it taking 12 minutes for Kieran's to score. Six minutes later Kieran's took the lead when Tommy Walsh cleared the ball forward towards Adrian Mullen who caught it on the '40'. He took past his marker Shane Mahony and scored a well-worked goal into the bottom right corner. The teams went in level 1-3 to 0-6 at half time. The second half saw CBS go into the lead 0-9 to 1-4 ten minutes into it.





Mullen hit back with a point but in the 41st minute Martin Keoghane received a handpass from Edmond Delaney who ran with force and determination and made the CBS net shake, 2-5 to 0-9. Kieran's widened the gap going past the three-quarter mark going five points ahead with less than five minutes left and they were down to 14 men when captain Tommy Walsh was sent off in the second half for a second yellow. However, two minutes later CBS scored a scrambled goal from joint captain Marc Drennan to put only two points between the teams 2-10 to 1-11. But Kieran's finished the better team with points from Sean Carey and Adrian Mullen to seal Leinster title no. 54 on a final score of 2-12 to 1-11.

The All Ireland Semi Final took place on the 12th of March in Clonmel Sportsground against Our Lady's Templemore who were beaten in the Harty Cup Final by Ard Scoil Rís. Kieran's had the better start going 1-1 to 0-0 up due to a goal from Colum Prendiville. With 20 minutes gone, Kieran's had a seven point lead 1-8 to 0-4 but it was shortened to four when Templemore got four of the last five scores in the first half. At half time Kieran's were up by four 1-9 to 0-8. In the second half, Templemore started in a determined style putting two points between the teams 1-9 to 0-10. It took 13 minutes for Kieran's to open their account in the second half thanks to a Sean Carey point. The lead could have been more when Kieran's were awarded a penalty in the 45th minute when Colum Prendiville was hauled down. The penalty was saved and the Tipp side were fired up from that save and were on the attack bringing the deficit from six points to two. Kieran's then stepped on the gas in the second half and pulled away. In the 52nd minute, Sean Carey provided a brilliant offload to set up Joe Cuddihy for a superb goal with a clinical finish. Kieran's booked their place in the All-Ireland Final against Ard Scoil Rís of Limerick on a scoreline of 2-16 to 0-13.

The team preparations were increased as the team trained over the Easter Holidays and even paid a visit to Thurles. The final took place on the Easter Bank Holiday Monday in Semple Stadium. Like last year, the team were greeted to a heart-warming tribute from the Kieran's supporters outside Hayes Hotel while on the bus to the





stadium with banners of support. The match was delayed because the match before it had gone to extra time.

The match began and Ard Scoil started off well going 0-6 to 0-4 ahead in the opening quarter but by the 19th minute Kieran's drew level 0-6 a-piece. Then three minutes later, Joe Cuddihy pounced on to a breaking ball and ran straight for the goal. He was hooked but he rattled the Ard Scoil net by pulling on the ball putting Kieran's in the lead 1-6 to 0-6. At the Interval Kieran's went in ahead 1-8 to 0-7. In the second half, Ard Scoil started with a bang scoring a goal after 25 seconds. But Kieran's did not let them back into the game and kept their composure. Into the last quarter of the game Kieran's went comfortably ahead 1-12 to 1-7. However the Limerick men bounced back into the game bringing the margin back to two with four points and Kieran's replying with one from Edward Moylan to make it 1-13 to 1-11 with eight minutes remaining. When the 60th minute came it was just a one point game 1-14 to 1-13. Then Joe Connolly got the insurance point to go two ahead and settle it. The final whistle blew and title no. 21 and the three in a row was achieved. Captain Tommy Walsh lifted the Croke Cup to mark another great year for the senior hurling team. A special word of thanks goes out to Mr Smith, Mr Maher and Mr Walsh for their work with the team throughout the year. For the remaining players who are still available next year we extend our best wishes as they go on their quest for four in a row for the first time ever.







**Senior Hurling All-Ireland Colleges Champions 2015-2016**

Back row: (l-r) Oisín Gough, Martin Keogh, Conor Byrne, Geoff Brennan, James Phelan, Colum Prendiville, William Spencer, Edmond Delaney, Padraic Mullen.  
Third row: (l-r) Mr Michael Walsh, Victor Costello, Adrian Mullen, Ben Lawler, Eamonn Fennelly, Jake Cullen, Patrick Brennan, Dylan Jordan, Evan Carroll, Tommy Ronan.  
Second row: (l-r) Mr Ken Maher, Bríon Kirwan, James Mulally, Robert Kerwick, Darragh Phelan, Aidan Nolan, Eoin O'Shea, Ciarán Brennan, Niall Delaney, Brian Crowdle, Mr Liam Smith.  
Front row: (l-r) Diarmuid Phelan, Joe Cuddihy, Matt Kenny, Joe Connolly, Michael Cody (Vice-Captain), Tommy Walsh (Captain), Edward Moylan, Darren Mullen, Sean Carey, Tom Whitty.