



ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE KILKENNY

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RECORD 2019





The start of a journey: First Year Class 2018-2019 on their first day





Dermot Ryan

## Message from the President

Ireland. We are Leinster Junior Champions, All-Ireland semi finalists in poetry, Irish record holder in 100m obstacle swimming; Junior Champion of cross county, the best overall cross country school in Leinster, music awards, academic awards and so much more.

It is a privilege for us to be part of that work, to watch at first hand all that our students do in their relentless pursuit of perfecting the person they are; it is a joy to witness the houses that they are building.

In this past year we signed the Service Level Agreement with the Department of Education and Skills to ensure the delivery of a major project for St Kieran's College. This work will see the complete refurbishment of our existing buildings which have a floor space of over 3,000 square meters and the construction of additional buildings of over 5,000 square meters. Thereby delivering a most wonderful facility for education here in the midst of our iconic campus.

In fact, during the course of this past school year we have appointed our Design Team for this project assembling all the necessary specialities to help us 'build that house'. Thankfully, the delivery of this project has been devolved from the Department of Education and Skills to the College and this will allow for greater control and input at every stage of the realisation of this exciting major project. These negotiations have also ensured that a new, more suitable, location has been found for the City Vocational School and in time they are set to leave the campus, felling the buildings, and returning that space to the College. Much work has been done in getting to this stage and more will be done to help to continue to progress these exciting developments.

St Kieran's College lies at the heart of the Diocese of Ossory both literally and figuratively. It is wonderful, then, to see the continued, and ever growing, diocesan activity here in the College. The Diocesan Forum, the Ossory Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator, the Diocesan Faith Development office, and the Diocesan Retreat team all find a home here and their work helps animate much of the life of our diocese. This past year has seen the Trustees, along with Bishop Dermot as our Patron, do much to progress this mission of the College.

In fact, during this past year two of our Trustees, who had given many years of service to the College, have retired. I thank Mgr Kieron Kennedy and Mgr Jim Cassin for their long years of dedicated service and tireless commitment to St Kieran's College as Presidents and then as Trustees. I welcome also the addition of some new Trustees and I greatly look forward to working with them. Sadly too, however, this year saw

the death of Fr Nicholas Flavin a former Principal of St Kieran's College. Nicholas was a great friend of the College and gave a great number of years tirelessly working to ensure that the quality of education here was second to none. As Principal here during my own school days I saw first-hand his dedication to St Kieran's College, its staff and pupils. This past year also saw the death of our former Patron and Bishop of Ossory Laurence Forristal. His interest in, and his involvement with, the College continued long after he retired as Bishop of Ossory. He too is fondly remembered and sadly missed. We say goodbye also to Michael Forrest as he retires from the teaching staff of the College. Having given many dedicated years to students inside the classroom, and outside it in so many extra-curricular activities, Michael now steps back. I thank Michael, and through him this year, all of the wonderful teachers who gave so much to the College while they served here - ensuring that the education we offered was always the very best, and improved year-on-year.

Wonderful work continues with our Alumni Association and at our now annual corporate networking event in Dublin. The Alumni Association and this event now play a vital role in widening our footprint and in deepening the awareness of all that St Kieran's College and its pupils, past and present, can achieve.

On a daily basis I am fortunate to work closely with those who make all this possible. I thank Adrian Finan as our Principal, Ken Maher and Liam Smith as our Deputy Principals. Both individually, and seamlessly collectively, they work tirelessly do everything that is necessary to ensure that the College remains at the forefront of every aspect of education. Their real passion for the work, their ceaseless energy, their drive for and commitment to every aspect of the College life and their vision for its future is breathtaking. Their ability to balance a relentless pursuit of the highest standard of education with a deep care for each individual involved ensures that the College remains a special place.

It is humbling to see the houses our students build. As the appointment of our Design Team taught us, construction involves many partners. I have, therefore, a real 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, the Trustees, Bishop Dermot our Patron, the Alumni Association and its past pupils and all those who make St Kieran's College the special place that it is.

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

During the celebration of Mass for St Kieran's day, earlier this year, I told the lads a story about a wealthy builder who had called his top assistant to explain that work would have him travelling for the next ten months. While he was gone however, he wanted his assistant to oversee the construction of a new home as the owner was planning to retire soon and he wanted to begin to make preparations. Now immediately after he had gone, the assistant thought to himself that he had worked tirelessly for this man for years and now in preparation for his retirement he was still only thinking of himself. So in building this house the assistant decided to use cheap material and cheap labour to save costs at every opportunity. The house when finished would look fine but it certainly wouldn't last.

On the owners return the assistant showed him the house in all its apparent finery but when he went to hand over the keys the owner refused to take them. The owner explained that he wanted to care for his assistant in his retirement and that he had this house built, not for himself, but for his loyal friend. We each will live in the house that we are building...

How do we spend our days? Are they anger, hurt, confusion, exhaustion and complaints or are they happiness, family, friends and fun as we energetically chase some dream. We might like, on occasion, to blame others for how we are but deep down we know the truth - we each live in the house that we are building.

This is true for us all, throughout life, but it resonates as particularly true for those working on the foundations of that house - in their school days - and what houses they are building... Our Leaving Certificate students once more excelled in their results. We again won the All-Ireland Applied Maths along with our 23rd Senior College's All-



Adrian Finan

## Message from the Principal

undertake professional development for the betterment of our students. With the support of our Board of Management we also invested in professional development workshops for eight members of our teaching staff. The Magenta Principles by educationalist Mike Powell and Building Learning Power by Graham Powell are a highly sought after series of workshops with a focus on enhancing classroom practice and improving learning experiences for students. We are excited by the possibilities that these and other initiatives present for our students as they journey through our school. I would like to especially acknowledge the central role of our Deputy Principals, Mr Liam Smith and Mr Ken Maher, in the management of the school and in the implementation of all of these initiatives during the past year.

We are blessed to have so many students with such varied gifts and talents and there have been many notable achievements again this year of which we are extremely proud. Retaining the Croke Cup for a record 23rd time and winning the IAMTA Applied Maths All-Ireland Senior Title deserve a special mention but there were many other notable achievements, all documented in these pages, of which we are also extremely proud, including many at national and international level in activities including equestrian, cross country, athletics, orienteering and soccer. To all those involved congratulations and well done.

This year saw St Kieran's College revive the collaboration with the Presentation Secondary School in the area of music and drama, that dates all the way back to 1987, with the staging of The Greatest Variety Show. The show, involving Transition Year students from both schools was an enormous success, showcasing the varied and exceptional musical and dramatic talents of our respective students. Everybody involved, in whatever capacity, can be justifiably proud of their contribution to what was, without doubt, one of the highlights of the school year and we now look forward to the potential that this collaboration between our schools presents to our students in the years ahead.

We continue to work with the Department of Education and Skills on the new school build and the refurbishment of our existing buildings and this year saw the appointment of the Design Team charged with the responsibility of leading this exciting project. We look forward to the possibilities that this major development will offer in the future and I applaud the drive and application of the College President Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan, the

Trustees and the Board of Management in their unwavering commitment to this project and to the betterment of what we can offer our students.

I wish to acknowledge the Parents' Association and Student Council, and indeed, all of our parents and pupils for helping to make this yet another successful year. We are very fortunate to have such a supportive parent body and active student voice in the school. I would like to thank all concerned for their contribution and ongoing commitment to the school. This collective effort of all in our school community ensures that we will continue to enjoy positive outcomes for our students.

I would like to extend my best wishes to Mr Michael Forrest, who retired during the year. On behalf of all my colleagues on staff and, indeed, the whole school community I would like to thank Michael for his contribution to St Kieran's over a long number of years and to wish him well in his retirement.

This year, too, saw the sad passing of Rev. Nicholas Flavin, a former Principal of St Kieran's College and our former Patron and Bishop of Ossory, Laurence Forristal. Bishop Forristal was a dear friend to St Kieran's College for so many years and will be sadly missed. Fr Flavin was a Principal of immense vision and was hugely important in the development of the school. He was deeply committed to making the College all that it could be and I can only hope that we continue to build on the rich legacy that he left the school. Ar dheis Dé go raibh siad.

I wish to acknowledge and thank all of those involved in the production of the Record again this year. The publication of the Record is, as I am sure you can imagine, a team effort that involves contributions from so many of our staff and students but Ms Eadaoin Maher and Ms Tina Lawlor have to be thanked especially for the countless hours spent on editing and bringing together what I hope you will agree is another marvellous production. We hope that you will enjoy it.

And finally, to our exam students, we wish them all well and we hope that, following another very productive year in the school, the results the students achieve will reflect this. As another group of Sixth Years now leave us, we hope that the lessons they have learned and the formation they have received will stand them all in good stead. We congratulate them on their accomplishments in St Kieran's College and wish them only the very best for the future.

Mr Adrian Finan  
Principal

The Record is a celebration of the school year and allows us to reflect on, and celebrate, the achievements and creativity of our students. In this publication, we hope you can see that the core learning and teaching process with which we are engaged is augmented by a wide range of activity, academic and otherwise, that is indicative of our aim to provide a broad, holistic, education for our students. As you read through these pages you will get some idea of the talent, enthusiasm and all-round ability of the student body; we applaud and take pride in their achievements. All of this endeavour, which gives the school its unique identity, is testament to the capacity of my colleagues on staff to engage with the students, to get involved. For their ongoing commitment and dedication to this school, we are very grateful.

We are, again this year, very proud of the outstanding results achieved by the class of 2018 in their Leaving Certificate. The depth of the results and the number of students who did so well was most gratifying. These results are in no small way a testament to the great work of our dedicated staff but are also the outcome of the many initiatives undertaken by our teachers in recent years to enhance the learning and teaching that takes place in our school. This year saw the establishment of Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) among our teaching staff, where over ten teachers volunteered to meet in their free time to discuss and share teaching methodologies and practice. Building on the excellent WSE/MLL Report from 2017/2018, and with Peer Collaboration the remaining one area of focus in our School Improvement Plan, these PLGs reflect the commitment of our staff to learning and teaching and a willingness to





**St Kieran's College Staff 2018-2019**

Back row (l-r): Mr Michael Kelleher, Mr Simon Reddy, Mr Gerry Walsh, Mr John O Keeffe, Mr Patrick Darmody. Sixth row (l-r): Mr Paul Fitzgerald, Mr Eamonn Heffernan, Ms Bernie Dowling, Mr Jonjo Farrell. Fifth row (l-r): Mr Stephen Morgan, Ms Eilish Ahern, Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Mr Fergal Brennan, Mr Brian Dowling, Mr Michael Walsh, Mr Lester Ryan. Fourth row (l-r): Mr Paddy Kelly, Ms Jo Staunton, Mr Evan Walsh, Ms Olive O'Connor, Ms Evelyn Allan, Ms Jane Moran, Mr Niall Connolly, Mr David McCormack. Third row (l-r): Mr Tom Brennan, Mr David Hennessy, Mr Martin O'Neill, Ms Regina Mulcahy, Ms Marie Cantwell, Mr Richie Ruth, Mr John O'Neill, Mr Tom Hogan, Mr Ken Archbold. Second row (l-r): Mr Larry Cotter, Ms Martina Lawlor, Mr Michael Connolly, Ms Eadaoin Maher, Mr Gerry Buckley, Ms Jacqui Norton, Ms Orla Reynolds, Ms Jenny Kelly, Ms Hollie Hickey, Ms Mary Martin, Mr Joe Kavanagh. Front row (l-r): Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal), Mr Adrian Finan (Principal), Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Liam Smith (Deputy Principal). Absent from photo: Ms Pauline Bergin, Ms Bernie Boland, Mr Pat Drennan, Ms Debbie Ghanem, Ms Sharon Keyes, Mr Carl Lynch, Ms Loretta Mannion, Ms Ann Meaney, Ms Jenny O'Dolan, Ms Ann O'Shea, Mr Philip Walsh, Ms Anne Wemyss, Mr Richie Windle.

## Parents' Association

The Parents' Association would like to thank the numerous parents of students of St Kieran's College for their continued support. With regular meetings discussing issues arising in the school, The Parents' Association play a crucial role in policy development, support for the student body and supporting the school through some fundraising. This year the Parent's Association organised a Fun Run in aid of the St Kieran's College Music and Drama groups who performed the end of year TY Greatest Variety Show. All in St Kieran's College are very grateful for the great work and support carried out by the Association. We would especially like to thank all who supported and helped out with the Fun Run fundraiser and give a special word of thanks to Ms Pamela McCluskey (Chairperson), Ms Cindy O'Connor (Secretary) and Ms Deborah Whelan (Treasurer) for their hard work and commitment to the Association. Finally, the Parents' Association would like to wish all of the students, staff and parents of the St Kieran's College a very peaceful and happy summer and also wish every success to the Third and Sixth Year students who will sit State Examinations in June.



St Kieran's College Parents' Association Executive  
L-r: Ms Deborah Whelan (Treasurer), Ms Pamela McCluskey (Chairperson), Ms Cindy O'Connor (Secretary).

# St Kieran's College Priests' Reunion 2018



Bishop Dermot Farrell and Fr Dermot Ryan (College President) welcome priests from Ossory, and around the world, who were ordained from St Kieran's College at the annual reunion.

The College can't be 237 years old without having many established traditions. Special among them is the annual reunion of men ordained from St Kieran's. As is tradition, then, on the first Tuesday after the 15th August, this year, over fifty men made the journey back to the College. During the afternoon many gathered to stroll around the College grounds and to catchup with old friends and relive old memories. The more formal celebrations began with a Mass of Thanksgiving in the College Chapel. Bishop Dermot Farrell welcomed all those who had come back to a place that was for them so significant in their life's journey. A combined choir from Danesfort and St Canice's Parishes directed by Noreen Cooney added wonderfully to the atmosphere with beautiful music and song enhancing the liturgy. During his homily, Bishop Farrell reflected on the nature of the life of the priest and in a timely fashion, given that the World Meeting of Families was also being opened in Ireland on this evening, he noted that while the priest who does not form a new family of his own, he does, as a result of this, have the ability to love all without restrictions. The parishes and places we serve are, then, for the priest

a new family. Bishop Dermot noted that when lived properly the life of the priest is a life of selfless love and care of others and is, as such, wonderfully fulfilling. Following the Mass all who were in attendance had a their picture taken on the College steps.

Once the formalities were concluded all gathered for a key element of any reunion - dinner and the all important chats. Reunions, by their nature, allow old friends to come together and on this night many old classmates recalled fondly days and years that they spent in the College. Welcoming those who had returned, St Kieran's College President, Fr Dermot Ryan, thanked the guests for their contribution to the history, and present life, of St Kieran's College. Fr Dermot noted that the success of the College today is largely rooted in the work of past pupils when they set the bar of achievement. Today's students, then, simply try to succeed in the manner that their predecessors did... Fr John Keenan, of Dromore Diocese who celebrated his Golden Jubilee, recalled fondly the time he, his brother Frank, and his class spent in St Kieran's and how it prepared them and so many others for the varied lives and ministry they went on to have.

More than anything those of us in the College today recognise that we are but holding on, for a short time, to that which was handed to us to care for by the generations before. We hope then, as they did, to pass it on to the next generation a little better as a result of our work. We are always proud of past pupils and thankful for the way they shaped the tradition that is St Kieran's College.



Mgr Liam Bergin and Fr Karl Bergin flank Fr Willie Treacy, a native of Killasmeestia, and a past pupil of St Kieran's College, at the celebration of his 100th birthday. Fr Willie has ministered in the Archdiocese of Seattle since his ordination from Maynooth 75 years ago.



# In fide et Caritate

## Bishop Laurence Forristal

James Cassin

Bishop Laurence Forristal choose as his motto 'In Fide et Caritate' which means 'in faith and in love.' You will find the motto in the 3rd Eucharistic Prayer "Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim church on earth."

These were his words of inspiration as he lived out his life as bishop. When asked what would be urgent for him as bishop he said: "As a priest I tried to serve the people entrusted to my care. As a bishop I notice that my role is not one of honour but of function - to serve rather than to rule. I will try to serve people in faith and in love all of my life."

The symbols on his coat of arms represent: Laurence O'Toole, the Archbishop of Dublin whom he sought to emulate in everything he did. He was ordained as auxiliary bishop of Dublin on the 20th January 1980 and Bishop Laurence Forristal served as auxiliary bishop for one year until he succeeded Bishop Peter Birch as Bishop of Ossory. Two arches are reminiscent of Jerpoint Abbey in his native territory where he grew up. The spear symbolises the Forristal family into which he was born.

It is noteworthy that as priest and bishop he sought to bring together in reconciliation all people by nourishing them on the Word of God and making them holy through the sacraments. As bishop of Ossory he was conscious of offering the Word of God to people. 'In faith and in love' were close to his heart. He followed 'in faith and in love' towards becoming a bishop.

Precious to him was his willingness to be close to the people of God. It was a characteristic of Bishop Laurence Forristal that he was willing to stay chatting with people long after ceremonies ended. He never seemed to tire of talking to people. His appointment to Rivermount and Raheny are cases in point. Bishop Forristal worked very closely with the community. He lived in a housing estate and participated in the community's affairs. He retained a familiarity with people right up to the end of his life. Many people called to him in Mollasy, Freshford Road, Kilkenny and in Gowran Abbey Nursing Home. Laurence Forristal became Bishop of Ossory on September 13th 1981. He was a keen follower of hurling and that helped him relate with Kilkenny people.

He took special care of teachers and all those entrusted with handing on the faith. Particularly he payed attention to schools. Bishop Laurence Forristal said: "many times



in meetings I hear people talk of the need to care for the young and where do they spend most of their time? In schools."

As successor to Bishop Peter Birch, Bishop Forristal became the third person to be appointed Bishop of Ossory in the twentieth century - the others being Patrick Collier and Peter Birch.

Bishop Forristal continued the work of Bishop Peter Birch in Seville Lodge and he maintained the Social Services.

As bishop of Ossory he had to deal with challenges and change. While in Ossory, Laurence Forristal had a busy time with many highlights. The landmark celebration of the bicentenary of St Kieran's College took place in 1982 at which 400 priests and hundreds of past pupils of the secondary school returned for the historic occasion.

On St Patrick's Day in 1983 Bishop Forristal opened Jenkinstown Church and in 1992 he opened St Fiacra's Church in Loughboy, Kilkenny. In 1998 Bishop Forristal celebrated the Capuchin 350th Anniversary in the Diocese of Ossory. In that same year also St Patrick's Church celebrated the centenary of its foundation in Kilkenny.

In the Priests' Assembly (1984) in Killarney a programme was prepared which determined his years as Bishop of Ossory.

Following consultation with the staff and trustees of St Kieran's College Bishop Forristal decided to suspend seminary studies after 212 years preparing students for priesthood. It was followed by CREIDIM, which continued faith development among the people of Ossory Diocese, and an outreach education programme sponsored by Maynooth University. It allowed people to continue their interest in education.

In 1996 on behalf of the Irish Bishops'

Conference Bishop Forristal and a dedicated team produced the so-called 'Green Book' (Child Sexual Abuse: Framework for a Church Response) which outlined the future for dealing with the protection of children. This was a major step forward for the Catholic Church in Ireland.

The process which led to the establishment of the Forum began in 1999. Bishop Forristal led a listening process throughout the diocese which lead to the Forum and succeeded in preparing people and priests to face the issues of the future together and please God it will succeed in being of service as we address the issues of the day.

On the 60th anniversary of his ordination to priesthood the words of local journalist, Jimmie Rhatigan, described Bishop Forristal well as "A caring sharing bishop - a man with a warm sense of humour who enjoyed first class communication with his flock and his team of clergy. At this age he is as sharp as a proverbial razor."

Fr Jim Murphy was the homilist at the Diocesan celebration of his 50 years as priest and his silver jubilee of episcopal ordination in January 2006. Fr Murphy said "It's a day to rejoice. The mood recognised the years of goodwill and camaraderie between a bishop and his clergy. We can easily miss the pearl. Priesthood is the priesthood of Christ who is compassionate and trustworthy."

Fr Murphy acknowledged that Bishop Forristal has given us many gifts: "You have given us an example of prayerfulness and reverence." "You cared for the people." "You kept in touch with us on the phone when people died." "You went to visit people from Dublin to Kilkenny." "You have an amazing memory. Thank you."

Bishop Forristal welcomed the appointment of Bishop Seamus Freeman to Ossory. "I promise him my full support and welcome him on behalf of the people and priests of the diocese."

Bishop Laurence Forristal died peacefully on 10th October 2018 having been twenty six years Bishop of Ossory. Speaking at his funeral Mass Bishop Dermot Farrell said: "Bishop Larry now returns to the House of the Father, making that journey to eternity which we all must one day make. He gave all these things away and much more; he brings them with him as he continues his journey into the eternal embrace of the Father." His life's labours are done. May he rest in peace.

# Fr Nicholas Flavin

Denis Bergin

The sudden death of Fr Nicholas Flavin while on holiday in Spain on September 24 2018 brought to an end a remarkable life as student, scientist, athlete, teacher, headmaster, community administrator and pastoral priest. His ministry on the staff of St Kieran's College for almost two decades, and then in parish assignments in Rathdowney, Dunamaggin and (on an interim basis) Windgap ensured that he was known to thousands in every part of the diocese of Ossory, north and south.

Nicholas, a Past Pupil of the College was ordained priest by Bishop Peter Birch on Sunday June 8th 1975 in St. Mary's Cathedral and having returned to Maynooth to study for his Higher Diploma in Education he was appointed to the staff in St Kieran's in 1976. Over the next seven years Fr Flavin would establish a teaching style that defined a new generation of educators in mathematics.

Outside of the classroom, throughout his secondary, university and seminary education, and in his early years as a priest, Nicholas Flavin was a prominent athlete locally and in college competitions and this love of sport was always to stay with him.

In 1983, Nicholas Flavin became Headmaster at St Kieran's College at the same time as the presidency of the College passed to from Mgr Tommy Maher to Fr Martin Campion. Fr's Nicholas and Martin would lead the College through one of the most dynamic periods in the history of Irish education, embracing the new emphasis on computer learning in a serious manner that culminated in the opening of the College's computer centre by Donal Creed, Minister of State at the Department of Education, in March 1984.

During his twelve-year tenure as headmaster, the College maintained its high standards of academic achievement, expanding its staff by over 30% and introducing a variety of new curricula and support services. The College also maintained its dominance in championship hurling, winning the Dr. Croke Cup in 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993 and 1996 while also featuring in the All-Ireland final in 1984, 1987 and 1991. Nicholas would continue his



Fr Nicholas Flavin with Bishop Laurence Forristal at the official opening of the new classroom block, 1991.

love of sport and his support for Gaelic games in his parish appointments, at one time serving as a selector for Laois senior hurling teams.

In 1995 Fr Nicholas was succeeded as headmaster by his colleague and the College's first lay headmaster, Micheál Ó Diarmada. Nicholas then took a sabbatical by attending Trinity College to study for a Master's Degree in Education. This was followed by appointment to a curacy in Rathdowney, where his parish priest was the former longtime College dean and spiritual director Fr Timothy O'Connor.

In Rathdowney he found a community that had survived the economic downturn of the early 1990s with its main industry (meat processing) intact, and would soon benefit from the construction of a major retail outlet complex, which opened in 2001. He worked with local interests to create a greater community support system with an emphasis on facilities and services, including the promotion of the credit union.

In the same year Fr Nicholas was appointed parish priest of Dunamaggin, succeeding Fr. William Dalton on the latter's appointment to Callan. Here he took over one of the diocese's most rural parishes, with its three villages of Dunamaggin, Kilmoganny and Kells at the heart of the south-west part of the diocese alongside the neighboring parishes of Aghaviller and Windgap (where he would also assume

responsibility as parish priest from 2012 to 2016, following the death of Fr. Martin Cleere).

Here once again Fr Nicholas threw himself into the dynamic role not only of spiritual guide and pastoral minister, but also of community activist, going so far as to become the local correspondent of the 'Kilkenny People', where he became the channel for communicating all of the local happenings and events.

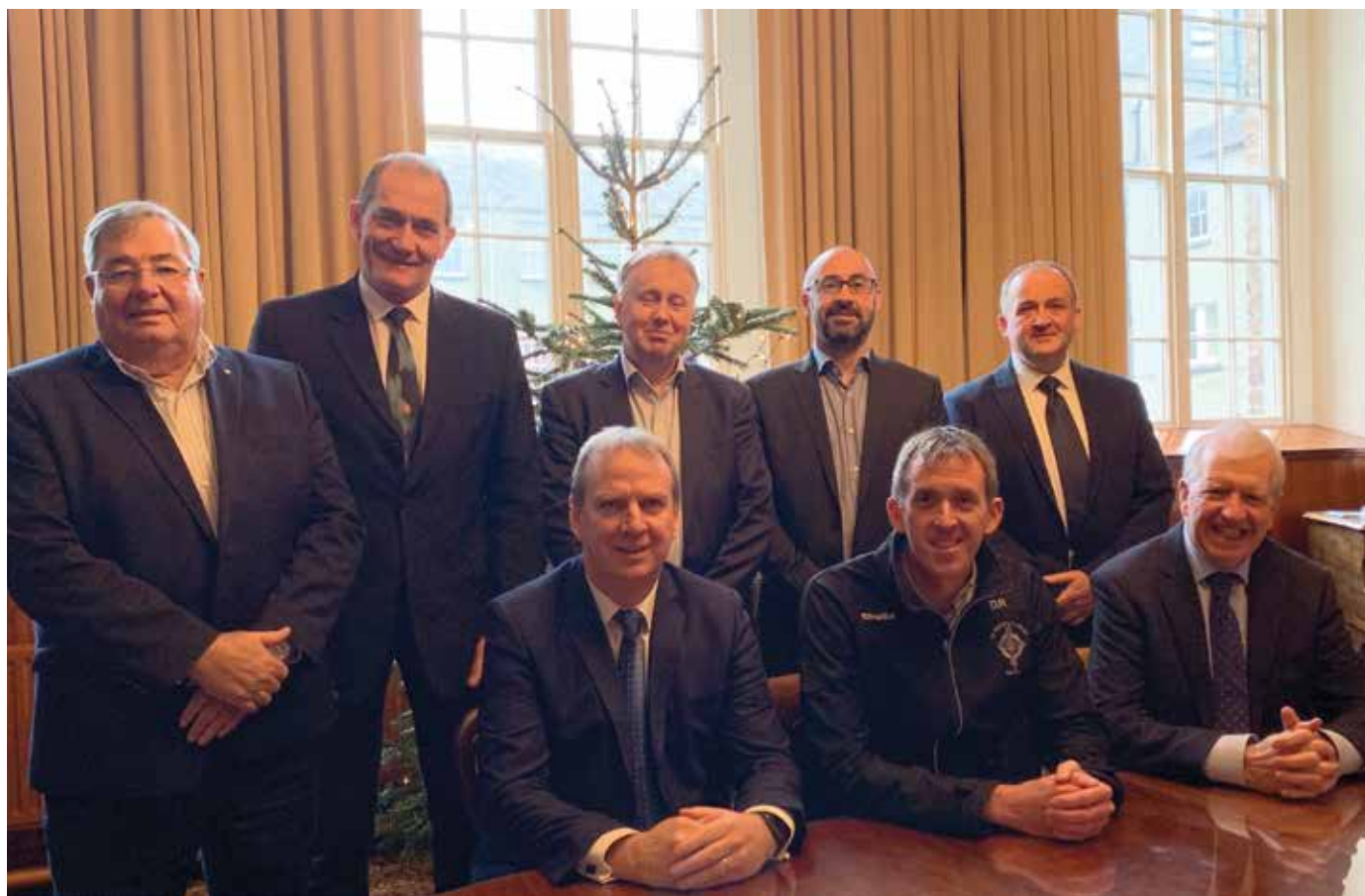
Despite the onset of a debilitating illness, Fr Nicholas maintained his energy levels and involvements, supervising single-handedly the activities at four churches and four national schools at the height of his responsibility for the two adjoining parishes.

Fr Nicholas's priesthood was based on a solid faith which was underpinned by his scientific mind and his organised approach to every task, as well as a commitment to service in the community and to the individual and the family. He played a significant role as one of the three elected priest members of the diocesan Pastoral Council and a board member of Kilkenny Leader Partnership.

Fr Nicholas will be sadly missed by all in St Kieran's and in the parishes he served. His energy for work and passion for the people and places he founds himself stand as a great testimony to the man so fondly remembered. May he rest in peace.



# Design Team and the new school build



Pictured (standing): Mr Paul Nolan, Nolan, Construction Consultants; Mr John Hayes, Hayes Higgins Partnership; Mr Michael O'Doherty, Delap and Waller; Mr Robert Nolan, Nolan Construction Consultants; Mr Gerry Egan, Moloney O'Beirne Architects. Seated: Mr Adrian Finan, Principal St Kieran's College; Rev Dr Dermot Ryan, President St Kieran's College; Mr Noel Merrick, JMB.

As the school year ended, last year 2017-2018, discussions were ongoing with the Department of Education and Skills on the delivery of the new school build and the refurbishment of the existing buildings here in St Kieran's College. These discussions were another phase in many years of ongoing work with the Department and some recent years of very active discussions. Thankfully as the school broke up a Service Level Agreement was reached, and just as the school reopened for the current academic year (2018-2019) this agreement was signed between the College and the Department of Education and Skills. The agreement devolved delivery of the works to the Board of Management and it allowed the College to begin the work of the next, concrete, step in the process - the appointment of a design team.

Over the early months of this academic year, then, the Board of

Management along with the help of Mr Noel Merrick of the JMB, underwent the tender process seeking to appoint the best design team for the major works to be undertaken. Thankfully, just before Christmas of this year that team was appointed. It will be led now by Gerry Egan the lead Architect from Maloney O'Beirne Architects, Dublin. Of the five firms necessary to complete a design team three of them are from Kilkenny - underlining the ability and depth of expertise of local firms competing for this major project. Welcoming the news Rev Dr Dermot Ryan, President of the College, noted that this was "a very significant and exciting development in what has been a lengthy process. It gives this generation an opportunity to leave its mark on an already iconic set of buildings gifted to us by generations before. It is exciting, in that, it allows us to shape the school buildings and campus to continue to offer the very best education possible

to our students who in time will be the ones making their mark on the world around them". Adrian Finan, Principal of St Kieran's College, welcomed the appointment saying "much work has been undertaken to bring us to this exciting point and we look forward not only to the process ahead and working with our design team but also to the many new possibilities that it brings to our school community".

Work is currently being undertaken on drafting a number of possibilities for the design and layout of the new buildings to compliment the existing magnificent structures that make up St Kieran's College. Conversations are also ongoing with the Board, staff, parents and students about likely new subject offerings then possible with these new buildings. It is an exciting time for all involved in this project and in the years ahead we look forward to continuing the work to progress it.

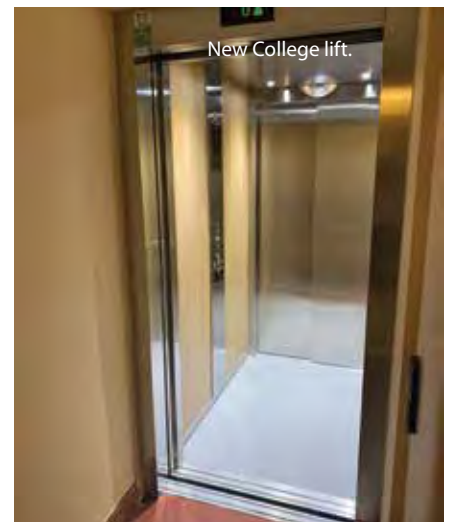
# Lighthouse Studios

Claire Finn

Since May 2018 Lighthouse Studios is happily at home here in St Kieran's College. And what a great place to work, especially for our multi-national crew as we currently have over 20 nationalities. Working on 2D animation TV series and features we are busily creating work for Amazon, Apple, Disney and the likes. Our first show Bug Diaries went live on Amazon Prime in April. We don't only work hard but use the copious space to provide yoga, music, film and other such activities to our crew. In fact some of the crew even tried out hurling which was kindly taught to us by the students of St Kieran's. We hope to be here for quite some time.



## Ongoing works at St Kieran's 2019





# St Kieran's College Alumni Association

For the past number of years a new and active alumni group has been working to re-establish the connection of Past Pupils with the College and with each other. Various events and occasions throughout the year act as focal points for the Alumni Association. Without doubt the largest and most significant of these is the now annual summer reunion which this year took place on 29th June. The day began with competitive day's golf at Kilkenny Golf Club where a great number of past pupils battled it out for the honours. The weather obliged and hours were easily passed as many men chatted and strolled easily around the course. The clubhouse too was a location of much laughter and the odd surprise as "old" faces were recognised and many stories told. The afternoon saw many past pupils assemble in the College grounds as they received tours of the School and College by students of the College today. A key element of these tours was the ability of men to find their own face on the College walls among the many that look down from the archive photos.

The evening then was a celebration of those memories as over 200 alumni gathered for the reunion dinner in the nearby Ormonde Hotel. Among those in attendance were a number of class groupings who came together to make this reunion their class reunion too - the classes of 1968, 1978 and 1992 were all well represented and their tables provided much of the background "atmosphere" for the evening. Given that the College was thankfully again the winner of the Croke Cup this year there was an opportunity for former team mates - and Colleges All-Ireland winners too - to have their team pictures taken once more with the Croke Cup. In fact, all three Croke Cups were there on the night - making this a very special picture. The chats and laughs went on well into the evening and some were even rumoured to have continued elsewhere.

The Alumni Association is an opportunity not only for people to come together to share memories, although that in itself is a worthwhile venture, but it is also an opportunity for past pupils to network today.



Much "work" can also be done among friends and across years when the common ground of the College past is discovered. In fact, this opportunity to network is of itself one of the greatest aspects of the Alumni Association - opening doors and providing opportunities for pupils past and present.

Much work is done by the Alumni Association committee to ensure that this and other events are a great success and sincere thanks must be given to them. Under the guidance of Alan Buckley as Chairman, the committee of Eddie Keher, Diarmuid Healy, Billy Fitzpatrick, Pat Gannon, Cathal Fitzgerald, Dermot Ryan, Liam Smith, Brian Roche and Martin Tynan, have given the Association great time and commitment to have it so firmly rooted

as another great aspect of the life of the College. Having guided the work and ensuring that this newly formed group is well established, Alan has recently stepped down as Chairman to focus on work commitments. We thank Alan for his leadership and his great energy in bringing this group through its first years, and as he steps back into the role as guest at our events he can do so proudly having given so much to the Association. We thank him and wish him continued success in his business.

The next gathering of the Alumni will take place on 21st June this year - so make sure that you book early and as always keep an eye on the College website for this and all other Alumni Association events throughout 2019/2020.

# Dublin Corporate Networking Event 2019



## lessonsforleaders.ie

### maintaining the hunger

Monday 3rd December saw the launch of our now annual Dublin Corporate Networking Event for 2019. It was wonderful to have Hugo MacNeill, former Irish and Lions Rugby player and now Managing Director of Goldman Sachs; Group Chief Executive of FBD Holdings, Fiona Muldoon; and our own Brian Cody, along with current students Killian Corcoran and Harry Shine from our Juvenile team together for a fun afternoon. Lots of cross-sport skills were tested as the event was launched at Newstalk Studios in Dublin. Interest in the afternoon was high and the event was sold out just shortly into the New Year.

This event itself took place on Friday January 25th 2019. Now in its third year, those in attendance have

come to know what to expect and the afternoon, once more, delivered on its promise. Nearly 400 people gathered at the Intercontinental Hotel, Dublin for this corporate networking afternoon and among the assembled leaders of Irish business were many familiar faces of past pupils and parents of our students.

Opening the event College President Rev Dr Dermot Ryan noted that "mediocrity is simply not acceptable for students of St Kieran's nor, presumably, for anyone in the room and so it is the relentless pursuit of the real depths of our ability that drive us all to find our own successes". Hugo MacNeil, Fiona Muldoon and Brian Cody are all synonymous with success and each of them in their own

field have tasted great achievements and they all know that these moments are often built on many hours of unseen and often thankless work. Throughout the afternoon, then, they each explored from their own perspective what it is that enables that success - and more importantly how it is that you can maintain the hunger for continued success and how you can lead others to work towards, what can be at times, an unseen goal.

Pat Kenny, Newstalk, was the host for the afternoon and he easily encouraged each of the speakers to speak honestly and openly about their journey, joys and sorrows, on-route towards their great successes. Tommy Walsh, one of our proud past pupils led a panel discussion with former players





Eoin Kelly (Tipperary) again a past pupil, Anthony Daly (Clare) and John Mullane (Waterford). It was a most relaxed, honest and funny encounter, this panel discussion was enjoyed thoroughly by all in attendance and many great insights were shared about their drive to success.

This event, each year, is not only an opportunity to learn, nor is it simply a chance for corporate Ireland to network, it is a chance for all in attendance to gain some insight into what is so special about St Kieran's College, our students that make it, and the ability and each of so many of our past pupils. Work is again underway for next year's event - scheduled for Friday 24th January 2020!





## Adult Faith Development

One of the many diocesan services that are run from St Kieran's College is the office of the Adult Faith Development Group. This group has as its purpose to help develop the faith of the people of our Diocese. One of the realities of parish life today is the fall off in the practise of faith, or more simply, Mass attendance. A consequence of this is that aspects of the faith which until now we took for granted as being understood or being passed on to the next generation are no longer part of the language or knowledge of people. There is a sense of a loss of the "corporate" understanding

of faith or corporate memory - the next generation does not necessarily know those things which the previous generation knew and learned by osmosis. Often these things can be some of the basic or foundational aspects of our faith and traditions and the AFD Group then works to help people pick up this knowledge. The Group try to do this in a variety of ways and through a variety of offerings.

The nature of our Church, Diocese and Parish is also changing and in recent months Bishop Dermot has been engaged in a series of conversations all ultimately leading to the establishment

of pastoral areas in our Diocese. These conversations are emerging from the new reality that parishes face and a recognition that it is only by collaborating that we can continue to best serve our parishes and the people within them. One aspect of interest to the Faith Development Group, that arose from these conversations, is a desire by people in parishes to be better equipped to take on leadership roles in the parish community. So many people in our parishes are happy to lead and serve others. As Ministers of the Word, extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Finance Committees,



## AFD annual diocesan U9 Hurling Blitz

Parish Councils and in so many other ways people have willingly, and continually, stepped forward to help serve others in their parish - the request that is emerging, however, is for more support and training for these people. With this in mind the AFD Group is working with St Patrick's College Maynooth to devise a course of study and formation which will help people prepare for, and be supported in, their ministries in our communities. It is hoped that this course might be some way adaptable depending on the participants desire for a particular formation. Ideally modules on then more traditional subjects of theology, history, liturgy etc. will, then, also sit alongside modules on more practical but equally necessary aspects such as financial management, IT skills and these, then, alongside the all important formation and spiritual aspects of preparation. It is hoped that such an adaptable course will allow for greater upskilling and support for those who serve in our communities. The Faith Development Group are working to try deliver this course by September or January of this coming year and are now awaiting it approval by faculty in Maynooth.

The Faith Development Group has also arranged a number of key lectures throughout the year to reflect this exploration of the new reality of church and our parishes and some wonderfully informative gatherings on this theme were led by Bishop Dermot, Fr Albert McDonnell of Killaloe Diocese and our Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator Gemma Mulligan. Lectures are a staple part of the diet of education and the Group arranged several throughout the year on topical and timely subjects such as the Right to Life; the Family; the





# Adult Faith Development Holy Land Pilgrimage





## Adult Faith Development Lectures



various theological topics and a series of several nights on ministry in parishes. Lectures were held too as part of the programme of preparation for our Ministers of the Word and we were delighted to welcome Prof Seamus O'Connell from Maynooth to lead one of those nights and our own Olivia Maher to lead another; and as part of the programme of preparation for Ministers of the Eucharist Prof Salvador Ryan, Fr Dermot and Ken Maher led these evenings.

Prayer too is at the heart of developing faith and the Group is delighted to have worked on preparing and supporting the parish evenings which are now an established element of the life of the College. These evenings see groups from the various parishes of our Diocese come to the College for some time of reflection and prayer - a change of pace from

the hectic nature of our busy lives. The Group has expanded this offering in this past year by also travelling to parishes to lead parish retreat evenings and have also done this very successfully for parents of children preparing to celebrate the sacraments. Recently the group also offered a night's retreat to the Minister of the Word of our Diocese and Fr Jim Murphy led those gathered in prayer, reflection and song! through the pages of a well thumbed bible as they reflected on their ministry in our midst.

The Group is always trying to imagine new ways of helping support people in deepening their faith and in this past year among other innovations we have developed children's activity booklets around various aspects of the faith and even local diocesan knowledge. These activities not only educate and entertain children but also are designed to lead to conversations between the children and their parents on different aspects of our faith - helping one generation teach the other (in both directions!) about the richness of the faith we profess.

The Group also continues its regular offerings of seasonal daily text messages and twitter movies (Advent and Lent); Scripture reflections booklets; "Thought for the Day" booklets; various educational sheets such as those recent ones of Lent and Easter Explained, prayer cards and many other publications. In truth, most notable among its publications is the *Ossory Times* diocesan magazine which is now in its seventh year of publication. Each edition sees over 3000 copies produced and distributed throughout the Diocese. Many parishes charge just €2 with some others simply buying the publication to make it freely available to people. As a resource it is intended to offer articles that share news of what is happening in our Diocese - good news about all that is going on - along side the more educational pieces. Its existence, and the news it shares, is our means of taking up the challenge to show just how alive our faith is and how well it is lived out in Ossory. Its pages, then, are a testament to the life that faith can bring.

It would be impossible to capture all that the Group endeavours to do in a single year but another notable aspect of this past year was the AFD pilgrimage to the Holy Land. This pilgrimage saw the maximum number of nearly 60 people, from all around our Diocese (and one or two beyond) travelling together for eight days to the many sites and locations of the Holy Land - reading scripture and reflecting on the life and ministry of Jesus as we walked in his footsteps. The pilgrimage was a wonderful blend of prayer, education, reflection and of course simply fun times spent together. A real opportunity to allow the pages of our bibles to spring to life and a shared journey together to nurture our faith.

The work of the Faith Development Group will continue since the faith of no-one is ever complete. As believers we are all on a journey to continually deepen our faith - and it is wonderful that we can oft times do that together in so many varied ways. The members of the Faith Development Group are Eadaoin Maher, Olivia Maher, Fr Kieran O'Shea, Michael Hogan, Fr Dermot Ryan, Declan Murphy, and along with Tina Lawlor, we are always exploring new ways to try to help people understand more and develop their faith, so if you have any suggestions - please let us know. We welcome all ideas!

# Kilkenny Archives

John Kirwan

Kilkenny Archives, which was founded in 1995, has been open to the public since it set up its office, storage and reading room, on the Campus of St Kieran's College in 2010. We are very grateful to the President and Trustees of SKC for this vital support.

Over 300 boxes of archives have been collected and catalogued which are fully available to the general public. Collections range from family and or estate papers to business records such as Willoughby Jewellers of High St (closed c. 1973) and Glanbia PLC. For example we hold papers relating to the Kilkenny essayist Hubert M. Butler, the local county councillor and activist, Ms Margaret Tynan who was eight times mayor of Kilkenny city, and the Bligh family of Maudlin St and Circular Road, to name but a few of the collections. Members of the Bligh family were involved in local business (Kilkenny Journal), various cultural groups (a Kilkenny theatre group known as the Ossory Players) with local history societies (the Kilkenny Archaeological Society) and in politics (local Fianna Fail branch).

Last week the Tom Brett Photographic Collection which has been purchased by Kilkenny County Council, for the people of Kilkenny, was given into our care. This is perhaps one of the largest and most important collections that Kilkenny Archives is ever likely to receive. Tom Brett, who was the official photographer of the Kilkenny People from c. 1967 to c. 2005, covered most aspects of Kilkenny life during his career. In the years to come this archive will be a huge research resource for anyone interested in the activities of Kilkenny people, during this period, which saw dramatic change in our daily life. A major catalyst for such change being our entry into the E.E.C., in the early 1970s. The writer was a boarder in SKC at that time.

The collection runs to a couple of hundred thousand images (three are included here): Aerial view of Kilkenny city from the 1960s, The Holy Communion Class of St Patrick's Parish 1972 and a view of engineering works on the river Nore at Bennetsbridge. These views give us some indication of the wealth of topics covered by this newspaper photographic journalist.



## The Ossory Diocesan Forum

Sr Helen Maher

As the name implies, the Forum was established in 2004 to facilitate communication throughout the Diocese. In the past year, the Pastoral Council established by the Forum at parish, deanery and diocesan levels have been very important in helping us to respond to Bishop Farrell's invitation to address the question "Where is God leading the Diocese at this time?"

Recognising that these are challenging times for people of faith there was also an awareness that we are being offered an opportunity to

look with fresh eyes at how we live our faith today. Having pastoral councils in place made it possible to easily gather representative groups of people, lay religious and priests, to look at the changed and changing circumstances in the Diocese and propose a response. Having a Diocesan Pastoral Council facilitated working with the Council of Priests at an organisational level. At a series of meetings culminating in a Diocesan Conference last November, the decreased and decreasing number of priests available for ministry in the Diocese and the changing patterns of Mass attendance were among the many aspects of parish

life that were considered. The picture that emerged called for new thinking about parish and diocesan ministry.

When Bishop Farrell introduced his initial response, proposing the grouping of parishes throughout the Diocese into Pastoral Areas, Parish Pastoral Councils were key groups to consult with and be asked to carry the message to the wider parishes.

The work of coordinating the various pastoral councils that make up the Forum continues to be done from an office in St. Kieran's College. Email: [diocesanforum@ossory.ie](mailto:diocesanforum@ossory.ie) Tel: 0567789714



# Diocesan Pastoral Plan Coordinator



Gemma Mulligan

In 2004, LEGO the toy manufacturer was on the brink. Sales were declining, there was huge company debt and there was little or no cash flow. Lego was almost at the point of destruction.

Today in 2019, LEGO, which is over 80 years old, is a global enterprise and one of the world's largest toy manufacturers, reporting in 2018 their revenue grew 4 percent to 36.4 billion. The CEO of the company, the man responsible for saving LEGO, Jorgen Vig Knudstorp has been interviewed many times and is continually asked how he managed to turn the company around. He said that they had to ask themselves the questions 'Why do we exist?' And 'What are our core values?' By going back to their core values and understanding why they exist they were able to grow and develop into the success story they are today and this is what sets them apart from other toy companies.

In our Diocese here in Ossory similar questions have been asked over this past year. Bishop Dermot began a consultation process last June inviting members of Parish Pastoral Councils, Finance Committees, Deanery Representatives, Religious, men and women, ordained and non-ordained to be part of an ongoing conversation about the future of our church in Ossory. The priests and people of this Diocese have asked themselves, what are the core values of their faith and their parishes? What will the future church in Ossory look like?



Many conversations have taken place across the diocese at parish and deanery level as well as at diocesan level and at a conference in November held in St Kieran's College, among many action steps proposed, the development of Pastoral Areas was prioritised.

This is when a number of neighbouring parishes co-operate together in the spirit of our Diocesan Pastoral Plan united in the one mission to bring new life to the Diocese. Pastoral Areas allow for greater collaboration between neighbouring parishes and through sharing resources and gifts it is hoped that we can continue to build strong, vibrant, life-giving communities of faith.

As the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for Ossory is leading us from parish to pastoral area we are conscious that the identity of each parish community should be preserved and that the central place of the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist must be recognised. Through this sharing of resources there are greater opportunities for

better liturgies and celebrations which invite the whole community to participate. This time in our Diocese is a time of change and as the summer break approaches the work in our parishes and our diocese continues as we prepare for new beginnings in the autumn.

Everyone I know has LEGO in their homes. I would say that everybody at some stage has held some LEGO in their hands. From a small idea that began in a carpenter's workshop Lego has been part of families all over the world for decades. But Lego began with one small brick which is of little use by itself. It is only when all the pieces are brought together that something special can be created. I hope that as we move from being individual parishes to being part of a Pastoral Area, the creativity and inspiration that comes from working together will lead us to a stronger community of faith in Ossory. That by understanding our core values and why the Church exists, the faith we believe and profess will also be part of every family and in every home.

# TY Variety Show with Presentation Kilkenny 2019



## JJ Ryan

At the beginning of the year, Mr Brennan and Ms Mulcahy gathered together any students that would be interested in performing in a TY musical later on in the year. Some students who took part in last year's extremely successful production of "High School Musical" were also in attendance to tell us about their experience of the musical and they said it was "the highlight of the year".

We met every Thursday each week to begin practising for our upcoming show with the Presentation Secondary School.

This year's show is based on the theme "The Greatest Showman".

The Variety Show features a number of dances and songs from the movie such as "This is Me", "The Greatest Show" and "The Other Side". The show also features a number of singing duets between students from both schools. Amongst the songs being performed are "Shallow", "You are the Reason" and "A Million Dreams".

A number of students are opening the show by performing a brilliant dance routine to the song "Footloose".

The St Kieran's College traditional music group along with a number of fantastic Irish dancers from Presentation are performing two sets of tunes and a folk song.

The Variety Show also features a

number of hilarious scenes from the smash hit TV series "Mrs. Browns Boys" with students from both schools taking to the stage.

The show finishes with an exhilarating dance and choral performance of "The Greatest Show". A fitting way to end the show.

I really enjoyed taking part in the Variety Show this year and I would definitely recommend all future TY's to take part in next year's show.

On behalf of all TY's involved in the show, I would like to thank Mr Brennan, Ms Mulcahy, Mr Walsh and Ms Davern for all their hard work over the past number of months and helping us to achieve "The Greatest Variety Show!"







# John Needs Pembro Campaign



There are many reasons why the 'John Needs Pembro' campaign has achieved the attention and support it has.

John Holmes' stoic bravery in the face of a harrowing seven-year ordeal naturally elicited sympathy. His standing in the community as family man, a good friend and loyal employer assured him goodwill when he took his battle public last November.

Earlier this year, a group of the St Kieran's College Transition Year group supported the "John Needs Pembro" cause by attending and contributing to a sponsored breakfast held in the Clubhouse Hotel. It is fitting that the students of St Kieran's got involved in helping out with the fundraising for John as he himself is a past pupil and his many friends from his time in St Kieran's are now rallying together to help in whatever way they can. The fundraising committee is comprised of past pupils all of whom became life long friends during their time in the College. This is a testament to the community and family spirit that are forged behind the walls of the College.

October, 2018 was a dark time for John and his family. He had first been told that he was a match for Pembrolizumab and then told the HSE would not help pay for it. His life was distilled to this – find €5,111.50 or else... Six months of arduous fundraising later, things are looking a little better.

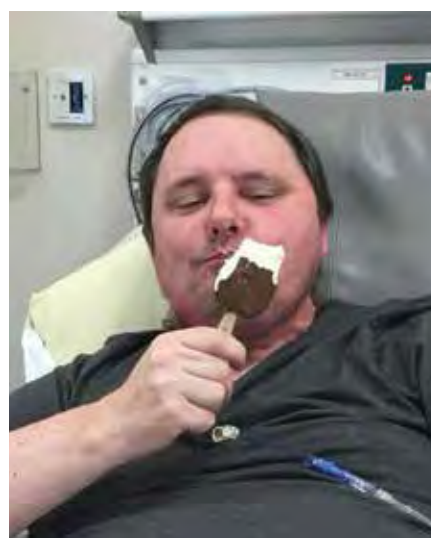
In March Professor John Crowne gave John the welcome news

that he was very satisfied with the progress made after eight infusions of Pembrolizumab and was recommending a further series of infusions. This is the best news John has had in years and he was understandably buoyant.

In May, 2019 we enter our sixth month of fundraising. Our goal was to raise €150,000 which is the cost of thirty infusions of Pembrolizumab. We are more than half-way there but, honestly, the fundraising committee is feeling the pressure that comes with thinking up and planning event after event. It's hard. So our appeal to you on behalf of John Holmes, fellow alumnus, is simple. Please help us get there before we run out of steam. John Holmes has fought cancer for seven years; he has sacrificed his lymph glands and his voice box to the struggle but he has kept going. Last year, with deepest reluctance, he sacrificed his privacy too. We think he is one of the bravest, most inspirational men we have ever met and we are proud to call him a friend. That friendship was forged in St Kieran's College.

The John Needs Pembro Fundraising campaign has an account in St Canice's Credit Union. Name: John Needs Pembro. A/C #: 8553300. Our GoFundMe Account is 'John Needs Pembro: <https://gofundme.com/manage/john-needs-pembro>

We are so grateful for your support.





# Michael Forrest



Michael Kelleher

It gives me great pleasure to write about Michael Forrest. Michael retired at the end of February 2019. He is a proud Cork man, having been born and educated there, receiving a B.A. in History and Geography and a H.D.E. from UCC. Michael worked in temporary posts like many others in the economically depressed eighties in Cork City and West Cork. During this time he studied for a second B.A. in Mathematics and a Catechetics Diploma by night in UCC. This led to a full time position in St Kieran's beginning in September 1990 as a History, Geography, Maths and Religion teacher.

Michael's academic ability was a great asset to the college. His wide range of subjects made him a very valuable member of the St Kieran's College team. His kind and obliging nature endeared him to students, staff, management and parents. He was a valued member of each of the subject departments in which he worked. He gave of his best while as a classroom teacher and recently as a member of the resource team.

In the nineties Michael along with Christina Warner, was instrumental in St Kieran's involvement in the European Studies Programme of Projects in Geography and History which required communication with schools in Northern Ireland, England, Belgium, France and Germany. Michael was one of only three correctors in Ireland overseeing these projects.

These projects were a precursor to the Leaving Certificate Geography syllabus changes in the nineties which led to the compulsory Leaving Certificate Geography Project. Michael was always a very willing adviser to his colleagues in the St Kieran's Geography Department if help was required.

Michael was always willing to lend a hand throughout his time in St Kieran's, taking a full and active part in college life and was always willing to give up his time for extra-curricular activities. He helped with all of the school musicals of the nineties. One in particular, 'Seven Brides for Seven

Brothers' produced an extra bride as it introduced Michael to his future bride, Mary who was also helping out.

Michael's name is synonymous with the extra-curricular First Year hurling leagues. Involving himself each year for the past twenty nine years. His philosophy was one of inclusion for all of those who wanted to take part. He was also involved in the Second Year hurling leagues in the nineties.

Michael's kind and endearing nature was also evident in his welcoming of new members of staff. He always went out of his way to make them feel at ease. His caring, helpful attitude to everybody, pleasant nature, sunny disposition and presence in the staffroom will be sorely missed.

Michael has been a great colleague and friend to me since he started in St Kieran's, he is a thorough gentleman, one of a kind. Though he is sorely missed we wish him the very best on his retirement.



# Student Council

The Student Council is the students voice in the school. We are a democratically elected group. Five Sixth Years run the Council with two representatives elected by other years. We meet fortnightly to discuss events in the school. This year we have:

- Created a new evening study space for Leaving Cert students.
- Given students over 18 an opportunity to give blood.
- We have created a social space with kitchen facilities for Sixth Years.

On behalf of all in the St Kieran's College community we would like to take this opportunity to thank all in the Student Council for their continued work and commitment.



**Student Council**

Back row (l-r): Anish Lal, Eamon Mahon, Fionn Whelan, Eoin Walsh, Jamie McGrath, Liam Healy. Front row (l-r): Ryan Cody, Aaron McAllister, Larry Cody, Rory Farrell, Leonard Farrell, Robbie English.



**Senior Members**

Back row (l-r): Adam Fitzpatrick, Fionn Whelan, Alex McCluskey. Front row (l-r): Eoin Walsh, Eamon Mahon.

# Student Leaders' Congress



This year we were delighted to attend the 2019 Congress in the 3 Arena on Tuesday, 9th April 2019.

Cycle Against Suicide school's programme culminates each year with our Student Leaders' Congress. This event is a contact based education

day, where students participate in a day of mental health talks in a fun and inclusive environment. Research shows that contact based education is one of the most powerful tools of learning.

Members of our Student Council,

Young Social Innovators and Truck & Tractor Run attended this wonderful day.

Many speakers spoke about their experience culminating in a concert by Kodakline and The Academic.



# Leaving Cert 2019 Signatures

Niall Walsh Killian Egan James Jim Conkery  
 Fiona Ben Powell Dowling Foley  
 Whelan Eric Kearney Alex McCluskey Ruairi Green Alex O'Connell  
 Sean O'Connell Sack Brennan Brian Kearney  
 John Shortall Sean Keyes CONOR Doyle Shaun Lister  
 Aeden Moylan Doyle Seán Burke  
 MARK TWOMEY Kevin Murray Philip Hayde  
 Seamus Waine Thomas Rice Aaron O'Brien Mikey Prendergast  
 Seamus Farrell Matthew Russell Ciarán Shortall  
 Eoghan Maylan Gabriel Tardieu James Kearney Harry Kealy  
 Jack Barry Adam Fitzpatrick Darragh Corcoran  
 James Reid Dean Mason Ethan Kerwick Dylan Hughes  
 James Young Paul Mason Barry Lennon  
 Darragh O'Connell Jack Roche Euan McDonald Ross Ellis Paul Ryan  
 Keefe Lillian Jacob Vachon Paul Prendergast  
 Conor Murphy Jim Kehoe Eddie Dunne Dan O'Neill Paul Prendergast  
 Paul Hogg Jack Keogh Cian Russell Conor Hoban Ryan O'Connell  
 Tom O'Dwyer Luke Phelan Seán Comerford Liam Fenelly  
 Tom Kennedy Tommy Farrell Peter O'Neill Sammon Delaney  
 George Murphy Gareth Singh Hennessy Jamie Slattery Frayne  
 Gary Anderson Eddie Elban  
 Michael Burke

# Delving back into the past six years



Class of 2019 on their first day in St Kieran's College in 2013.



Fionn Whelan

It is not often that we take a moment to reflect. We are so concerned with the present and the future, that we forget the past. Writing this piece has forced me to pause, and delve back into the past six years of my life. And I'm glad for it.

The memories began as a trickle, my first day, Hall 33, religiously carrying the hurl from class to class. One memory leads to another, suddenly the floodgates open, all the events of the past few years come rushing back to me in glorious detail. I'm transported back in time to when I was a first year, and before that even. I remember the first time I set foot in St Kieran's College, not as a first year but back when I was in Sixth class.

My father drove me in the front

gates one Saturday evening, and I stepped out of the car. 'This is your new school' he said with a beam on his face. I thought it was a joke at first, this place couldn't be a school! The often used Hogwarts comparison is merited in my opinion, in more ways than one. Not only is there an uncanny resemblance between the buildings, but this school seems to have a magical quality to it. That summer after Sixth class I spent in anticipation, the image of the school burning in my mind.

Everybody talks about the nerves of First Year, of stepping into the unknown. They existed undoubtedly, but lasted a day or two at most. From then on we had other things to worry about, whether it was finding our way around the maze of corridors, steering clear of the more menacing looking Sixth years, or being the first to the chicken roll stand at the break. Back then everything seemed so much more important than it really was. I distinctly remember the tense atmosphere in Hall 33 before the October Exams, everybody trying to cram in dates or poetry in the final minutes. We'd look back on ourselves and laugh. Not to belittle the importance of First Year, but back then those exams felt like the difference between life and death.

One memory of First Year I'm sure everyone will share would be playing wall ball out in the yard. For one reason

or another we decided to form groups and attempt to drill a tennis ball at each other. Not your most typical bonding exercise, but a successful one nonetheless. It was a harmless game but it provided endless entertainment for us, as well as for any onlookers.

The First Year hurling league was also something that stuck out in my mind. Organised by Mr Forrest, it was a unique opportunity to play alongside your classmates, as well as against them. Most will remember the senior hurlers All-Ireland success this year, but we must also remember every small step along the way to that victory. That First Year hurling league kicked off the six years of hard work that resulted in the retention of the famed Croke Cup. Rome wasn't built in a day, after all.

First and Second Year have blended together in my memory. The biggest change was that we were no longer in the safe haven of Hall 33, and also that we were no longer the new faces in the school. This latter reality gave us, I think, an undeserved confidence and certain students became more mischievous. I can even distinctly remember a number of my peers attempting to do something not entirely appropriate having been egged on by some Sixth years. Some things in life are hard to explain, and the reasoning for their falling for this is definitely one of them.

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. Kieran's day is a fantastic opportunity to take a break from your studies and have some fun with school friends. In Second Year we made the trip to Carlow to go Paintballing. Our excitement was evident in the fact that almost everyone ran through their supply of paintballs within the first few minutes. However a teacher kindly offered to buy extra supplies with money from her own pocket, and the action continued.

There was a distinct change in attitude as we made our way through the gates at the start of Third Year. This was hammered home by Mr Finan's speech on the first day. We couldn't coast along as we had done in our previous two years in the school. The mountains of quotes, geography, and science that had to be learned was daunting. Our only reassurance from the teachers was that the Leaving Certs had twice as much to learn. On the one hand, the whole of that year centred around a few weeks in June, but at the same time it didn't really feel that way. It was a year just like any other, we laughed and joked together, and the exams felt like they'd never come. As June approached however there were a few among us who began to feel the pressure. It is natural to build something like that up in your mind, but I remember being surprised at how relaxed I felt after the first exam. This was just a stepping stone for us, a landmark on the learning curve. In what seemed like the relentless pace of secondary school, the exams were finished before we had even realised, and summer rolled on.

I recall striding into school at the beginning of Transition Year with an empty bag, care-free, as I looked on at the forlorn Sixth Years weighed down by a mountain of books. This was a year like no other, in that you could make of it exactly what you wanted. The rigid constraints of constant examinations and piles of homework were a thing of the past, instead replaced by a kind of liberty we may never get again in our lives. Transition Year was like an empty vessel that you could fill with whatever you so desired, be it Gaisce, sport, or anything at all that pricked your interest. Gaisce was something I found to be very rewarding. Volunteering in

St John of Gods primary school was a unique experience that taught me a number of valuable lessons. The Gaisce weekend was one of the few chances we got to stay overnight as a group, and we made full use of it. Our task that weekend was to climb some of the Knockmealdown mountains near Mount Mellary. As we neared the top our competitive nature took over, as each of us subtly overtook one another to be the first to the peak.

The work experience we got in TY was invaluable. I had always wanted to be a doctor growing up, but after experiencing a hospital first hand, I've come to realise its not for me. TY is something that opens your mind up to different experiences, it's about stepping outside of your comfort zone. It gives you something that no amount of books ever could - real life experience, and helps to make you a more rounded individual.

There is a marked difference when you enter the school as a Fifth Year, both in your own attitude and how you are treated by others. You are a senior student now. The Leaving Cert was no longer some faraway prospect in the future, but a reality. The increased workload was a shock to the system no doubt, but it's offset by the fact that you are studying the subjects that you enjoy. In Fifth Year you lay the foundations for the years ahead - in the words of Fr Ryan, you are building the house you live in.

Father Ryan's speeches are something that will stick with me from my time in Kieran's. His last was particularly memorable, so inspirational in fact that a group of Sixth Years walking out of the front door of St Mary's Cathedral decided to raise the Croke Cup once again, this time in front of the onlooking students from a neighbouring school, peering over the wall. To say this caused a stir would be an understatement.

Every speech is completely unique, each with its own metaphors and anecdotes, but the message is always the same - you must do your absolute best at anything and everything you put your mind to. This is, in essence, the Kieran's ethos, the unofficial motto. The brimming trophy cabinet you see in the Glasshall is the fruit of this ethos. No other school succeeds at such a high level in such a wide range of pursuits. You could take any one of

the school's various achievements on their own; be it winning five of the last six Croke Cups, a soccer All-Ireland and two Applied Maths All-Irelands, any of those would be hugely impressive. But when you put all these achievements together they are a tour de force.

These achievements 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. Teams must be trained, choirs must be perfected, timetables must be drawn up. Whether it's Mr Kavanagh's charming, and sometimes unintelligible ramblings or PJs domineering control of the Academy Hall, everyone makes their contribution.

Now as the Leaving Cert beckons, school life represents a new landscape. No longer are we competing with our classmates, but the entire country. The exams this year will of course be 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 classmates, will have confidence in our abilities.

When you hear talk of Kieran's, hurling follows closely behind. The two are inextricably linked. Perhaps it is this then that dampens the fact that St Kieran's College is one of the most academically successful schools in all of Ireland. This really hit home for me in the summer of 2017. This was the year five students achieved maximum points in the Leaving Cert. I was talking to a friend in school elsewhere, when he said the highest points in his school that year was 500. 'But that lad was just really smart' he said. I didn't even bother to tell him about the results in my school. He mightn't have believed me anyway.

As my time here in Kieran's draws to a close, I look back with fond memories. The time has come for our group photo to become immortalised on the walls of St Kieran's. Many of my classmates I may never see again. It is a unique atmosphere in Kieran's that all kinds of people from all walks of life mix together so well. Never again in our lives will we form such intimate bonds with such a diverse range of people. It is something that I will miss from my time in Kieran's. Fellow classmates I wish you all the best of luck in the future, and of course in the next few weeks.

# School Awards 2018

## SUBJECT AWARDS

Mathematics	Junior - Seamus Hughes Kennedy	Senior - David O'Carroll
Gaeilge	Junior - Senan Forristal	Senior - James Phelan
English	Junior - Senan Forristal	Senior - Paul O'Dwyer
Religion	Junior - JJ Ryan	Senior - Mark Nolan
Business	Junior - Ciarán Rice	Senior - Daithí Barron
Technology	Junior - Eoin O'Brien	Senior - Ciarán Hogan
Technical Graphics/DCG	Junior - Michael McCarthy	Senior - John Nolan
History	Junior - Oisín Doyle	Senior - Seán Carroll
Geography	Junior - Patrick Brennan	Senior - Kyran O'Sullivan
Spanish	Junior - Robert Vasilachi	Senior - David Griffin
French	Junior - JJ Ryan	Senior - Liam Hoban
Science	Junior - Seamus Hughes Kennedy	
Biology		Senior - Conor Archbold
Physics		Senior - Alex Doheny
Chemistry		Senior - Shanly Sebastian
Agricultural Science		Senior - Eoin O'Shea
Home Economics		Senior - Jason Egars
Art	Junior - Oisín Drennan	Senior - Ben Lanigan
Music	Junior - JJ Ryan	Senior - Conor Archbold

## ACADEMIC STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

<b>First Year</b>	David Williams
<b>Second Year</b>	Conor Booth & Dylan Duggan
<b>Third Year</b>	Seamus Hughes Kennedy
<b>Fifth Year</b>	Fionn Whelan
<b>Sixth Year</b>	Darwish Bourke

## STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

<b>First Year</b>	David Williams
<b>Second Year</b>	Daire Mahon
<b>Third Year</b>	JJ Ryan
<b>Fourth Year</b>	Jack Canavan
<b>Fifth Year</b>	Eamon Mahon
<b>Sixth Year</b>	Ned Kirwan

## AWARDS OF MERIT

<b>First Year</b>	Rory Farrell, Mark McEneaney, Adam Walsh, Frank Kankou, David Mulrooney, Killian Doyle.
<b>Second Year</b>	Dylan Duggan, Patrick Langton, Brogan McAviney, Noel O'Brein, Liam Moloney, Sean Moore
<b>Third Year</b>	Seamus Hughes Kennedy, Eoin O'Brien, Patrick Brennan, Matthew Treacy, Ciaran Rice, Senan Forristal
<b>Fourth Year</b>	Michael McInerney, David Fitzgerald, Joe Cowhig, Ian Wallace, Theo Yordanov, Killian Ridkins, Darragh Hackett
<b>Fifth Year</b>	Fionn Whelan, Killian Egan, Conor Hoban, James Kearney, George Murphy, Adam O'Brien

<b>Sixth Year</b>	Ruairi Breen, John Nolan, Daithi Barron, Shanly Sebastian, Conor Archbold, Liam Hoban, Ben Lanigan
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## SPORTS AWARDS

<b>Taikwondo</b>	Jack Dennehy
<b>Orienteering</b>	Eoghan Whelan
<b>Swimming</b>	Robbie English
<b>Badminton</b>	Peter McDonald, Andrew Devereux, Joe Cowhig, Luke Holohan, Padhraic Foley
<b>Golf</b>	James Everard, Michael O'Shaughnessy, Sean Manogue, Ned Kirwan, Shane Whelan, Brian Staunton, Patrick O'Shea
<b>Cross Country</b>	Junior Brogan McAviney Senior Shay McEvoy
<b>Soccer</b>	U13 Michael Raggett U15 Shane Fennelly U17 Padraic Moylan U19 Kyran O'Sullivan
<b>Handball</b>	U19 Eoin Brennan and Jack Doyle
<b>Gaelic Footballer of the Year</b>	Sean Moore
<b>Juvenile Hurler of the Year</b>	Killian Carey
<b>Junior Hurler of the Year</b>	Conor Kelly
<b>Senior Hurler of the Year</b>	Adrian Mullen
<b>Sports Star of the Year</b>	Seamus Hughes Kennedy



## STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2018



Recognising the outstanding contribution of these students to St Kieran's College

Back: (l-r) Mr Eoin Everard (Guest of Honour), Mr Liam Smith (Deputy Principal), Rev Dr Dermot Ryan (President, St Kieran's College), Bishop Dermot Farrell, Mr Adrian Finan (Principal St Kieran's College), Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Mr Niall Connolly, Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal). Front: (l-r) David Williams (First Year), Jack Canavan (Transition Year), Ned Kirwan (Sixth Year), Eamon Mahon (Fifth Year), JJ Ryan (Third Year), Daire Mahon (Second Year).

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD 2018



In recent years the presentation of the President's Award has become one of the highlights of the night. This year the award went to Leaving Certificate two students Liam Healy and Darren Cuddihy. Presenting the award Fr Dermot, the College President, acknowledged the wonderful contribution that Liam and Darren have made to life in St Kieran's during their Transition Year in the school, not just in the classroom but also in the numerous activities available in St Kieran's. At the ceremony this year, we were delighted to be joined by Bishop Dermot Farrell who also presented awards.

## SPORTS AWARDS 2018



Recognising the outstanding sporting achievements of these students

Back: (l-r) Mr Eoin Everard (Guest of Honour), Ms Pamela McCluskey (Chairperson of Parents' Association) Mr Liam Smith (Deputy Principal), Rev Dr Dermot Ryan (President, St Kieran's College), Mr Adrian Finan (Principal St Kieran's College), Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Mr Niall Connolly, Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal). Front: (l-r) Conor Kelly, Robbie English, Seamus Hughes Kennedy (Sports Star of the Year), Bishop Dermot Farrell, Adrian Mullen, Dean Mason.

## ACADEMIC AWARDS 2018



Recognising the outstanding academic excellence of these students

Back: (l-r) Mr Eoin Everard (Guest of Honour), Ms Pamela McCluskey (Chairperson of Parents' Association) Mr Liam Smith (Deputy Principal), Rev Dr Dermot Ryan (President, St Kieran's College), Bishop Dermot Farrell, Mr Adrian Finan (Principal St Kieran's College), Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Mr Niall Connolly, Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal). Front: (l-r) David Williams (First Year), Eoin Morgan (Transition Year), Fionn Whelan (Fifth Year), Darwish Bourke (Sixth Year), David Delahunty (Transition Year), Seamus Hughes Kennedy (Third Year). Absent from Photo: Conor Booth (Second Year), Dylan Duggan (Second Year).





## Leaving Cert Results Day

Congratulations to all of our Leaving Cert students who received their results in August.

David O'Carroll, from Lisdowney achieved the maximum 625 points and once again, this was another very successful year for the Leaving Certificate students of St Kieran's College. Almost 20% of students received over 500 points with 52% of the class of 2018 obtaining over 400 points.

We congratulate the students, parents and teachers on the part that each have played in making these achievements a reality. It takes a lot of dedication and hard work to achieve such grades in the Leaving Cert and it is always rewarding to see all of this work paying off. Well done to all involved.

We now wish our class of 2018 every success in their bright futures ahead.





# Scholarships

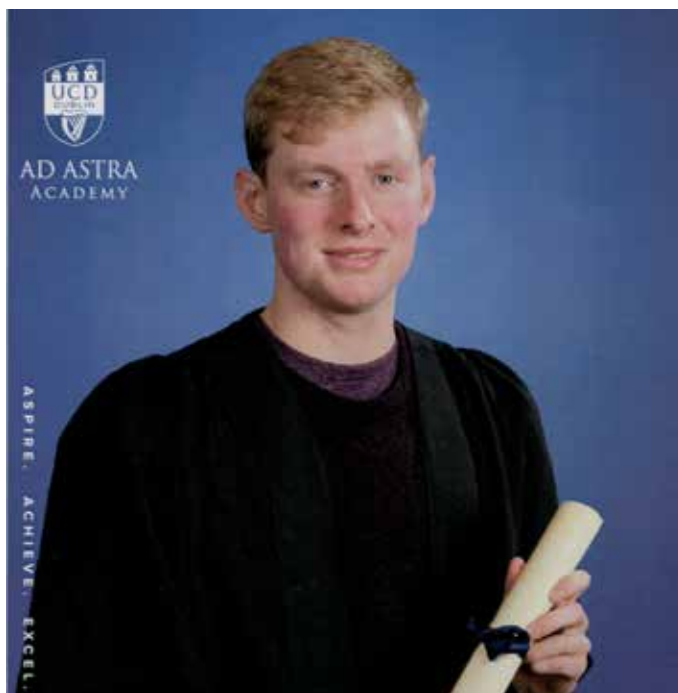


Above: Mr Ken Maher, Deputy Principal, David Griffin, David O'Carroll, Deputy President UCD Dr Mark Rogers, Shanly Sebastian, John Nolan, Liam Hoban.

Left: Mr Adrian Finan, Principal, with David O'Carroll, at the Naughton Scholarship.

Below left: At the Trinity College Entrance Award Mr Liam Smith, Deputy Principal, with Alex Doheny.

Congratulations to past pupil Conor Dyson who was awarded the prestigious Ad Astra Award in UCD this academic year. This is a programme which seeks motivated students who can demonstrate high intellectual achievement, yet want to reach further through undertaking a challenging new programme. Each year only seventeen scholarships are awarded to students. We wish Conor every success as a UCD Ad Astra Academic Scholar





## Pastoral Care at St Kieran's

### BISHOP FARRELL VISIT

On Monday, December 17th, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Dermot Farrell to our school to meet our Sixth Year students. Bishop Farrell spoke with students about their time in St Kieran's and their goals and ambitions for the future. This was followed by a question and answer session with some very interesting questions being asked by our students. Bishop Dermot, our school patron, spent this time with our Leaving Cert students mainly wishing them well for the year ahead.

### CAIRDEAS

During the summer, Mr Brennan contacted twenty-four students asking if they were interested in taking part in the Cairdeas programme. The group met with the chaplaincy team prior to the First Years entering St Kieran's College.

The Cairdeas Programme aims to provide support for our First Year

students – individually and as a group, to help them settle in, make progress and to achieve their full potential within St Kieran's College. Each year approximately twenty-five to thirty of our Fifth Year students take part in the Cairdeas programme. Each Fifth Year is assigned approximately five students to look after. They meet 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.

Mentors will provide individual and group support from the initial stages of the First Year's life within St Kieran's College. They will be selected and given training to ensure that they have the skills necessary to support young people who might be daunted by some of the obstacles they face during their transition from Primary to Secondary school. The Cairdeas

Programme encourages Fifth Year students to play a responsible role in the school community and to ensure that new students are secure in the knowledge that there are always older pupils available and willing to help them.

The process of recruiting students with similar skills has already begun for next year. Any student who is interested in the programme is now expected to answer a series of questions based on why they may be suitable to fulfill the role of a friend to our incoming First Years. The students interested will then be interviewed by Mr Brennan. Overall, this is an excellent initiative with the sole focus of aiding First Years to settle in our school.

### LOURDES

Senan Forristal

Our Lourdes journey began when our names were picked out early in the year. I was delighted to be



**Cairdeas Group 2018/2019**

Back row (l-r): Joe Cowhig, Padraic Moylan, Niall Reid, Jack Canavan, Aidan McGree, Rian Edwards, Dylan Comerford. Second row (l-r): David Delahunty, Jason Butler, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Conor Brett, Ger Coffey, Jim Kirby, Cian Kenny. Front row (l-r): Bill Kavanagh, Killian Rudkins, Ian Wallace, Ronan Lavelle, Ciaran Mullen, Dara Glynn, Theo Yordanov.



picked, as I had heard how brilliant an experience going to Lourdes is. To be given the opportunity to go for the Lourdes pilgrimage, we first had to become members of our local parishes' 'Aim High' programme. This is a programme aimed at increasing the participation of young people in the parish. When the group of students was finalised, our first task was to discuss fundraising. Each member of the group had to fundraise money to cover the cost of their trip. Our fundraising began by providing tea, coffee and refreshments to parents at the school's parent-teacher meetings. We did this for all six parent-teacher meetings, and were delighted with the generosity of parents with their donations. We had the opportunity to fundraise on our own or as part of a group, and there were many cake sales and coffee mornings held around Kilkenny for our cause. We also had to attend numerous meetings for all the



Lourdes 2019 (l-r): John Canny, Andrew Brennan Smyth, Aaron Condron, JJ Ryan, Senan Forristal, John Muldowney.

young people in the diocese going to Lourdes. We met on many Saturday mornings in the Friary hall to prepare for the pilgrimage, and to brief us on helping the assisted pilgrims out in Lourdes. Our trip takes place from May 21st to May 26th and will be full of long days helping the pilgrims to and from the different masses and ceremonies. We thank all those who supported us in so many ways for the trip and we are all really looking forward to being helpers in Lourdes. We hope the trip is a great experience.

### GRANDPARENTS' MASS

A Mass was celebrated on Wednesday 30th January for all the First Year students and their grandparents. Afterwards, the grandparents were invited to the school for some refreshments and a chat. This is a wonderful way to acknowledge the importance of the role that grandparents play in the lives of our students. This event was a welcome new development in our school calendar and we hope to continue this

in the years to come as it was such an enriching experience for grandparents, students and everyone involved.

### SECOND YEAR TRIP TO CLONSKEAGH MOSQUE

James McEvoy

Mr Brennan and Mr Farrell brought us to the Clonskeagh Mosque to show us the place of worship for the muslim faith and to learn a little bit about their style of life. In our religion classes we are learning about different faiths including the Islamic religion. We went on this trip to find out about their way life. We found the trip very good, we were shown a video on the history of the religion. We went into the praying area and they told us about their book the Quran. We learnt why there were no chairs as they pray either sitting down or standing up.

They also showed us one of their songs. We learnt a lot about their religion from the day. Thanks to the religion teachers for organising the trip.





## RETREATS

Every year the students of St Kieran's College have received either a group or a class retreat and have attended numerous liturgies celebrating our faith.

The Leaving Cert students received two talks, both from past pupils: one from Donagh Carney and the other from Alan Hayes, current President of UCC students union, who spoke about the options available to students after they complete their time in St Kieran's. This was followed by a group meal in Langton's with this retreat taking place on Friday, April 5th.

Second year students received Mass in Duiske Abbey followed by a walk from Gaignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny to St Mullins, Co. Carlow. Important local religious places were visited along the journey.

Third year students also visited Mahon Falls as a valuable day of reflection during the busy year that lay ahead for them. It is important that we all take some time out of our busy

routines to reflect on what our lives are about and to think about what paths we may choose in life.

First years were introduced to a one-day anti-bullying programme which has been running in the school for many years now. This presentation, outlined by Mr Brennan, Mr Farrell and Mr Connolly, was followed by bowling in K Bowl, Kilkenny under the theme of 'Friendship Day'.

Fifth Year students began a new style of retreat with a trip to Tramore at the end of the year where team-building exercises incorporating both mental and physical exercises were presented to the students. Finally, Transition Year students went on a pilgrimage to Glendalough, Co. Wicklow.

Our retreats entail having a relaxing day, giving students a break from their studies to spend some time together socialising, reflecting and praying. Being a Catholic school, we believe that retreats are an essential part of the school-going experience and serve

as an opportunity for each student to take some time out to appreciate the important things in our lives. Overall, this year's retreats were a great success and an enjoyable experience.

## SECOND YEAR RETREAT

Eoin Byrne

I enjoyed the retreat to Gaignamanagh, we went on Thursday the 13th of October. The Mass in the church was said by a new priest who only flew into the parish the day before. The Mass was nice because the church was small and peaceful. After the Mass when we went to the shop before we started the walk. Then we went for a walk.

The walk was nice and peaceful because there was no-one else there so we were able to talk with our friends and have fun. There couldn't be any messing because there was a river right beside the walk. I think that if we didn't stop at the shop before it most people would be hungry because they didn't bring any lunch with them.







After the walk there was a cafe where you could sit down and get something to eat. There was also plenty of space for people to walk around or to play hurling with your friends. After a while at the cafe we got back on to the bus and came back to school. Altogether I think it was a very good day out.

### 3RD YEAR RETREAT

Conor Booth and Cian Moore

On a rainy morning the Third Years went to Mahon Falls county Waterford. Everyone was dressed in coats and old clothes as it was a bumpy ride up the side of the hill. Everybody got off the bus and the teachers told us to head down a small trail towards the waterfall, you could hardly see the waterfall with the mist and fog, the walk was wet and cold. We eventually got there but we could hardly see the waterfall so we walked further to get a good view of the waterfall, everybody was soaked but the sight of the water made it worth the walk. Everyone took in the scenery and soon it was time to head back to the bus. At this stage everyone was starving so the teachers that were with us decided to take us to a shop. In the shop there was a Subway which most people got food from. The rain then stopped. We got back on the bus and the teachers told us we were walking on the greenway for 7 km. We met the locals and talked to them and made the most of the day even though the weather was poor. At the end of the walk everyone was tired and got back onto the bus. Although the weather was against us on the day we made the most of it and we all had a very enjoyable experience.





## Truck & Tractor Run

The St Kieran's College Truck and Tractor Run was held in aid of local charity Cois Nore took place at Cillín Hill on Sunday 20th January. The event was organised by a group of Transition Year students; Eoin Carroll, Senan Forristal, Sean McBride, JJ Ryan and Jack Walton. This group of Transition Year students organised the entire event from beginning to end including logistics, promotion, finance, sponsorship and the running of the day. The boys did have help from their fellow TY students on the day who helped to sell raffle tickets, act as stewards and direct traffic. The tractor run built on last years success and a large crowd turned out to support the event which was being held for a very worthy cause. Well done to everyone involved in this special event.



## Parents' Association Annual 5K Fun Run

The annual 5k Fun Run organised by the Parents' Association took place on Sunday 7th April.

The event was held in the grounds of the school. After the early morning fog cleared, it turned out to be a beautiful Spring day and a good crowd turned out to support the event. The route began in the Quad area of the school followed by four loops of the College campus. Some well-earned refreshments greeted the runners upon completing the race in the famous Glasshall area of the school. Younger participants received a medal for their efforts and a few nice prizes in the raffle made it a very pleasant way to spend an hour or two on a Sunday afternoon. We would like to thank the Parents' Association for all of their hard work in organising this event, those who sponsored prizes for the raffle and to everyone who came out to support the event by running, walking or jogging around.

All proceeds went to the St Kieran's College Drama and Music Groups which gave performances in the school in conjunction with the Presentation Secondary School at the end of the school year.





# CSPE Action Projects / Fundraisers



Central to the Civic Social and Political Education Syllabus is the importance of social awareness, individual and communal responsibility. Students are therefore requested to come up with their own ideas to form an Action Project for their school and/or community for the better of those in that community. CSPE classes take on this project during Third Year and write a report about it as part of their Junior Cycle. This year our Third Year CSPE classes came up with some great ideas to help others in a variety of communities.

Students from 3A1 and 3A5 took part in the Christmas shoe box appeal as part of their CSPE action project this year. Two guest speakers described the work of Team Hope and the impact that the shoe boxes could make at Christmas time for children in poorer countries. Over 70 shoe-boxes were collected in the lead up to Christmas. Students from 3A2, 3A3 and 3A4 raised money for the Irish charity Bóthar by organising a soccer tournament for all First years. Bóthar speakers explained how the money raised could help to purchase farm animals for developing communities and were very grateful to the students for their support. Well done to all of the students involved and to Mr Dowling for organising these fundraisers.





# Junior Cycle Programme



In December 2018, our current Transition Year students were awarded with their Junior Cycle Profiles of Achievement (JCPA). As the new programme is being rolled out, more and more subjects are coming on

board and our incoming First Years will be the first cohort to complete the Junior Cycle in its entirety. Classroom based assessments in English, Business Studies, Science, French, Spanish and Visual Art have kept our Second Year

students busy this term. The teachers have also been busy with a variety of subject specific training, and also in the areas of student wellbeing and SPHE to ensure that all are ready to embrace the new curriculum changes.

## ACADEMIC YEAR 2019 - 2020

The following dates will help you to plan ahead for the next academic year. Please note that a more detailed list of our Key Dates for the next academic year will be available on the School website.

- Friday 25th October 2019 (1pm) - Mid Term break begins
- Monday 4th November 2019 (8:50am) - School reopens after the Mid Term Break
- Friday 20th December 2019 (1pm) - Christmas Holidays begin
- Monday 6th January 2019 (8:50am) - School reopens after Christmas
- Friday 14th February 2020 (1pm) - Mid Term Break begins
- Monday 24th February 2020 (8:50am) - School reopens after the Mid Term Break
- Friday 3rd April 2020 (1pm) - Easter holidays begin
- Monday 20th April 2020 (8:50am) - School reopens after Easter
- Friday 29th May 2020 (1pm) - Summer Holidays begin



**JUNIOR CYCLE PROFILE OF  
ACHIEVEMENT (JCPA)**

## ECDL Achievements





# Third Year Art



The Shark by Oisín Keyes



The Cat by Conor Lynch



The Skull by Brendan Staunton



The Insect by Joseph Lalor



The Graffiti Artist by Adam Langan



The Hippo by Dylan Gordon



## St Kieran's Day

Luke McNena

On the Friday closest to the 5th of March each year we celebrate the feast of St Kieran. The festivities begin with a Mass in St Mary's Cathedral for the entire school which is said by Fr Ryan. The teachers arrange activities for us to do. This year there were activities in the school and then others which we had to travel for.

For Kieran's Day this year I took part in soccer in the Watershed. Mr Kelly and Mr Kavanagh organised a tournament for us. There were teams of six a side. We got to decide on the names for our team and then a knockout competition was set up. It was a really enjoyable day and one we look forward to each year.









# Seachtain na Gaeilge 2019

I mbliana, bhí imeachtaí éagsúla ar siúl ón 11ú-16ú Márta le haghaidh Seachtain na Gaeilge. Ghlac an chéad bhliain páirt i dTráth na gCeist ar an Luain. B'iad na buaiteoirí ná Foireann Z le Jamie Peters, Andy Murphy, David Butler agus Tomás Roche. D'fhéach an dara bliain ar an scannán, An tSaothraí (The Breadwinner) san amharclann ar an Máirt. Ghlac an cúigiú bliain páirt i dTráth na gCeist ar an Aoine. B'iad na buaiteoirí ná Foireann E le James Casey, David Conway, Joe Cowhig, Rian Edwards, Jake Hickey agus Andrew McGrath. Comhghairdeas leis na buaiteoirí uile!



## Business

The Young Entrepreneur Programme is an annual fixture on the Transition Year calendar, this year was no different.

The brainstorming and SWOT analysis was completed both inside and outside the classroom in the early stages of the academic year. This led to many ideas being scrapped while others were developed further. All groups went forward to the school final which was held in February. From there a number of businesses were selected to represent the school at the county final in Lyrath Hotel some weeks later. These businesses included a customised clothing service for clubs and schools that focused on niche Irish based brands, another business selected, involved the creation of a website that facilitated the online exchange and sale of school books. Unfortunately it wasn't to be for the groups that travelled to Lyrath on the day but all students are older and wiser and the experience will stand to them in the years ahead.



Young Entrepreneur Programme.



BSTAI - back row (l-r): Eoin Delahunty, David Fleming, Oisín Doyle. Middle row (l-r): Ms Joan McDonald, Head of Dept, Management & Organisation, Andrew Brennan Smyth, Conor Fitzpatrick, Senan Foristal, Mr Niall Connolly. Front row (l-r): Dennis Walsh, Patrick Brennan, Andy Hickey, Ciaran Rice.



# French Debating



French Debating team (l-r): David Delahunty, Bill Kavanagh, Robert Wemyss, Stephen Walsh, Ms Evelyn Allen.

## La Semaine Française – French Week

Pendant une semaine au mois de mai, nous avons célébré et promu l'importance du français dans notre école. Nous avons créé une ambiance française partout dans l'école avec des drapeaux, panneaux et décoration en bleu, blanc et rouge !

Les plus jeunes de nos élèves ont eu de la chance d'avoir deux événements surtout pour eux ! Les quatre-vingt-dix élèves de 1A1, 1A3 et 1A5 sont venus au théâtre pour participer à un quiz sur la culture de la France et du monde francophone. Un comité de l'Année de Transition a aidé énormément. Deux équipes ont gagné des prix et on s'est très bien amusé !

Il y avait aussi des films français en classe, un quiz pour les élèves de 2A2 et 2A4, un peu de musique française partout et un effort en classe de montrer la culture et les actualités du monde francophone.

De plus, nos plus jeunes élèves sont allés au marché pour acheter des crêpes en parlant la langue au propriétaire parisien. Ensuite, ils sont allés en ville pour trouver autant de noms de produits français que possible à Kilkenny. Les garçons pouvaient voir que l'apprentissage d'une langue n'est pas juste pour la salle de classe ou pour les examens. Ils apprécient maintenant que c'est vraiment utile et réelle !

Finalement, les élèves plus âgés étaient invités au « Concours de Discours ». Cinq jeunes hommes courageux ont présenté un discours sur le thème de « l'importance d'apprendre une langue étrangère de nos jours ». Ils ont parlé au sujet pendant 5 minutes devant leurs camarades de classe. Il y avait un prix généreux pour le vainqueur ! Bravo à tous les participants!!

Nous étions très fiers de nos élèves du français pendant cette Semaine Française.

Merci aux professeurs de français, Mme. Allan et Mme. Norton.



# Science Week

James Brennan

On the day of the science show at the watershed First Years were shown what happens in the digestive system. First we were shown what happens when the acid in your stomach breaks down food. There were two volunteers brought down to the stage (one from St Kieran's and one from Pobail Scoil Osraí) who had to mash up beans, spit and phlegm. Some people found it quite revolting while others found it amusing. The scientist even showed footage of his Digestive System. Overall everyone enjoyed the day.



## Ag. Science Trip - Kildalton 2019

On March 12th, the Fifth Year Agricultural Science students went on their annual farm visit to Kildalton College accompanied by Mr Darmody and Ms Mulcahy. We got a tour of the farm and received a series of twelve talks. Throughout the visit we got information on ruminant and monogastric digestive systems, cereal production, grassland management, fertiliser application, farm safety, horticulture, producing high quality

beef for the export market, sheep husbandry and quality milk production. In addition, Dawn Meats and Glanbia showcased their companies and their role in the agri business sector.

The grassland and fertiliser stands were the most interesting. We realised how important it is to produce quality leafy grass. This is achieved by measuring the quantity of grass on the farm and then to take out surplus grass for silage when it arises throughout

the grazing season. It is important to graze the grass at the three leaf stage of growth because beyond this older leaves die off and the sugars are turned into fibre which forms stem to support the future seed head when the plant goes to flower.

Overall, the trip was very worthwhile. We wrote up a report, which will be submitted with our portfolio for examination next May by a state examiner.





# Applied Maths All-Ireland Champions 2019

St Kieran's College were crowned Senior Applied Maths All-Ireland Champions for 2019 and were also represented in the Junior Problem Solver All-Ireland final on Saturday 23rd March in Athlone. This is a very prestigious honour for both teams and for the school with St Kieran's College joining a select list of previous winners.

Both Junior and Senior teams won their Regional finals and were therefore representing the South East in the National Finals. This competition is an annual event hosted by the Irish Applied Maths Teachers Association (IAMTA).

For the Senior Quiz, the questions are based on the Leaving Cert Applied Maths Curriculum with five topics assessed – Linear Motion, Relative Velocity, Projectiles, Pulleys and Collisions. Competition was very strong with schools from all over the country grappling with two Applied Maths Questions and one Logic Question per round. There were six rounds in total and teams were given six minutes per round.

In an outstanding display, the St Kieran's College team, made up of captain Liam Fennelly, Fionn Whelan and Eoin Morgan outscored the nearest rivals by just one point to secure the victory. The lads took home a beautiful glass trophy in acknowledgement of their fine achievement.

Well done to both Junior and Senior Maths Teams and to the teachers who helped to prepare them for this competition, particularly Mr Hennessy and Mr Kavanagh.



Senior Applied Maths Team (l-r): Eoin Morgan, Liam Fennelly, Fionn Whelan.



Junior Applied Maths Team (l-r): Robert Kelly, Liam Moloney, Jamie McGrath, Daire Mahon

## Maths@theCollege

St Kieran's College launched its Summer Maths at the College in August 2018. The course was a resounding success at both post-primary and primary level.

The focus at primary level was on the introduction of post-primary First Year maths to students through activity based methodologies. Students were introduced to topics such as Sets, Probability, Statistics, Area and Volume, Geometry and Algebra. These are all topics which are covered in First Year in St Kieran's College. The purpose of the camp is to show students how maths is incorporated into everyday life around them. The students really enjoyed the week long camp and they felt it gave them confidence coming into St Kieran's in September. They also enjoyed looking at how maths could be applied outside of the classroom

setting and the context behind what they were learning each and every day in the classroom.

The focus at post primary level was on topics that are covered at junior cycle level including probability and Sets, Statistics, Algebra, Area and Volume and Trigonometry. Leaving cert students covered similar topics at their own level. Students got a different mentor each day with different

teaching strategies which they enjoyed as it wasn't the same method of relaying information each day. The break in between classroom activities, which allowed the students to explore the campus aided the development of the key learning points through real life concepts, students felt that this helped them to understand the topic at hand.





# History

## FIRST YEAR HISTORY TRIP

Sam Larkin

For the First Year history trip we went to Ferrycarrig Heritage site in county Wexford. When we were there we learnt about how the vikings lived, we got to go inside of the vikings huts and see how they built their homes and how different they lived to us. We got to learn about how they cooked their food and luckily we got to try the meat that was cooked in a *fulacht fia* with steaming hot water inside, it was quite nice. We got to go inside their fort and see how they defended themselves. On the way home we stopped in Jerpoint Abbey in Thomastown to see how the monks lived.



## THIRD YEAR HISTORY TRIP

Liam Walsh

During Third Year we went on a history trip to Glasnevin Cemetery and the Botanical Gardens. We started off at Glasnevin cemetery and went to various graves of important historical figures. Some of the graves we went to were Micheal Collins, Charles Stewart Parnell and Eamon de Valera. This tour lasted about an hour. The one place in Glasnevin that really caught all of our eyes as we were driving in and walking around the cemetery was the Round Tower marking The Liberator Daniel O'Connell. His tomb is surrounded by fifteen smaller tombs. When we were standing in his tomb we were able to see and touch Daniels coffin and his family coffins. After the tour of Glasnevin we walked through the cemetery to get



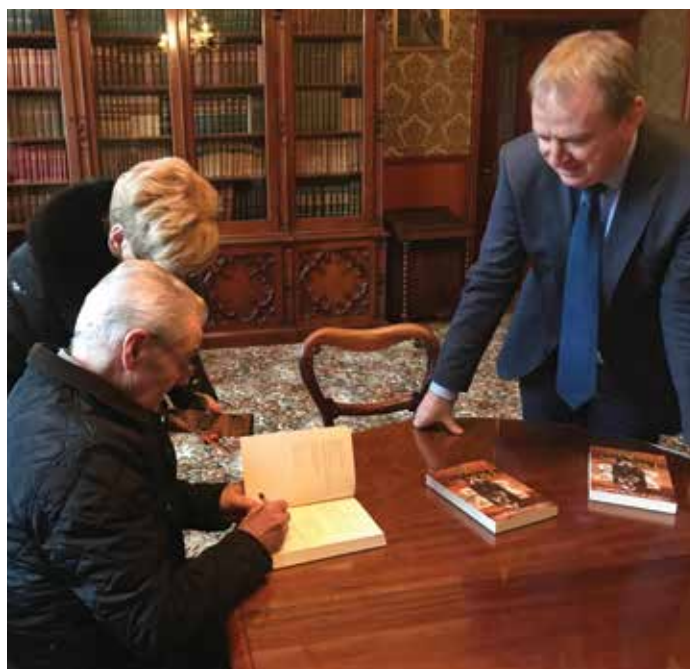
to the Botanical Gardens. The tour of the Botanical lasted an hour also. We went to various green houses to look at different plants. The oldest plant in the botanic garden is a row of yew trees known as "Addisons Walk" which has been in the gardens since before 1795. We were also shown a remake of a viking settlement. We got to see lots of wild life in the gardens. While walking around there were lots of

squirrels running around and climbing up the trees. We were also shown a bee hive and we were told about about the life of a bee hive. This history trip really payed off because we learned about different people buried in the cemetery. In the Botanical gardens we learned the importance of plants in todays world. We would like to thank our history and geography teachers for organising the trip.





# Visit of Mr Tomi Reichental



On Friday 7th December, Holocaust survivor Mr Tomi Reichental visited St Kieran's College. He spoke to all Third Years and Transition Years and brought his story "so that the holocaust may never be forgotten".

He captivated his audience with his story of growing up in Slovakia, the propaganda they had heard from the newspapers, eventually being sent

away to Belsen Concentration Camp and surviving the hell that was Belsen.

Tomi is 83 years old now and stood for two hours with the students, telling his story and answering their questions. He told them that when in Belsen, his mother told him that they would survive no matter what they had to do. His message of hope, and resilience in the face of torture

and suffering was inspirational for all gathered to hear his story.

It was an honour to have Tomi, and his partner Joyce, visit our school and we thank him for his motivational and inspirational talk.

Many thanks to Ms Maher for organising the talk. It was a privilege to witness living history.





# Second Year Geography Trip

Adam Walsh and Frank Kanko

This year for our Second Year geography trip we went to Castlecomer Discovery Park and Dunmore Caves. We took a bus to the Discovery Park with the journey taking about half an hour. When we arrived we were told we were doing orienteering. We were split into groups of five with a map given to each group. The objective was to follow the mark to numbered points around the park, at each point there was a set of numbers and letters on a wooden post. Each group had to visit every numbered point and write down the set of numbers and letters. The first group back with all the correct letters and numbers were the winners. We then ate our lunch and had a puck around. We then got on the bus and headed off to Dunmore Caves. Before going to the caves we watched a video about how they were formed and the history surrounding them. When the video was finished we met our guide and headed down into the caves. We visited all the different parts of the cave and learned a lot from our guide. Everyone enjoyed both trips and learned a lot from both. Thanks to our teachers for organising the trip!



# Leaving Certificate Geography Investigation Class

Sean Burke

In September 2018 our Sixth Year Geography class went to Tramore, Co. Waterford to carry out our Geographical Investigation. This is worth 20% of our Leaving Cert Geography exam. We left school at 9am in a bus and reached Tramore shortly after 10am. We got stuck into our tasks right away so as to allow ourselves free time later on in the day to relax and explore the area.

Firstly, we carried out the task of counting the number of waves that passed a fixed position within one minute to identify the waves as constructive or destructive. Following this we measured the average wind speed within one minute and found the wind direction. Remaining on



the beach, we then took notes and photographs of the beach fabric. We took samples of the beach material at different locations and also measured the gradient of the beach. Following this we moved down to the cliff face to identify the slope and height of the cliff. From the "Ladies Slip" we made observations on the cliff face.

At this point we concluded our

investigation with all of our results recorded, equipment used and photographs captured. As we were very efficient and completed our investigation successfully, our teachers allowed us to enjoy our lunch on the beach. Overall it was an enjoyable and successful day. We would like to thank our teachers Ms Mulcahy and Mr Morgan for organising the trip for us.





# Kevin McDermott Workshop

Gavin McMahon

Before Easter around Christmas time we did a workshop with Kevin McDermott an Irish writer from Dublin who does workshops with secondary school students from all around Ireland for Poetry Ireland. He is an author of several short stories. A few people from each class were chosen to go up.

Diarmuid and I went up from our class. There were some Second Years doing the workshop as well. Mr McDermott did things such as, writing stories, writing ideas, read books and we read an Irish written novel called the Breadwinner about a girl who has to dress up as a boy in 2001 to get food for her family while hiding from the Taliban. The days we were there we stayed for three classes and did different things each day. We all got to know each other and over all it was a great experience for all of us as we had fun and learned about writing.



## Poetry Aloud



Conor Lynch and Rory Farrell.

### Rory Farrell

The first round of Poetry Aloud was held in St Kieran's College. We had many representatives from St Kieran's. The standard was very high and two of our students qualified for the finals. Rory Farrell (SecondYear) and Conor Lynch (Third Year) both had All Ireland semi finals to look forward to.

### All Ireland Semi Final

The semi finals were held in the National Library of Ireland. The standard was very high, Conor and Rory performed very well. Rory competed in the junior category whilst Conor was in the intermediate. The boys did extremely well but unfortunately didn't win.

I have learned so much from Poetry Aloud this year, it gives you so much confidence talking or delivering a speech to a large group of people. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and I hope to take part next year and hopefully go a step further.



# Wellread National Award



The PDST 'Wellread National Award' is a national initiative that aims to create and promote a culture of reading in school communities. It requires the participation of students, teachers, staff, parents and the local community.

Since September, the main library was opened every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at lunchtime for students to read, study and research. The Red Read Wall near Hall 33 featured many interesting book reviews from our students throughout the year. It displayed many reviews of 'The Breadwinner' by Deborah Ellis which was the featured book in the Cross-Curricular Literacy Project for Post-Primary Schools in Kilkenny, 'One Book, One School'. Teachers of various subjects incorporated 'The Breadwinner' in multiple lessons throughout the year. On the 13th of May, a mixture of students, teachers and parents participated in a lunchtime discussion and reviewed the book together.

The staff had a Bookswap Bookshelf in the staffroom, many of the staff took part in the 'One Book One School' and attended the Wellread Workshop on their staff day. Several teachers promoted reading in their classes by doing Drop Everything and Read with their students at different times during the year. At the beginning of the school year, many of the teachers and students signed up for a subscription to The Irish Farmer's Journal.

For World Book Day on Thursday 7th March, Khan's Books and Eason's kindly donated books for our First and Second Year students. Each student was delighted to receive a copy of 'Percy Jackson and the Singer of Apollo' by Rick Riordan or 'Snap' by Patrice Lawrence.

Overall, it was a successful year in the promotion of reading in the school community. Thanks to all who have helped and participated to make this a success.

## 'One Book, One School'



'One Book, One School' is an inter schools cross curricular project based on 'The Breadwinner', a novel by Deborah Ellis set in Afghanistan, was organised by Kilkenny Education Centre for 2019. St Kieran's College focused on many activities across a range of subject areas concluding with a reading group. The group of adult and student readers included teaching and non-teaching members of staff as well as parents and students from a number of year groups.

Our event held in the Lanigan Room was chaired by Ms Marie Cantwell. A number of questions raised by the students were addressed and all readers present were invited to discuss these topics. In addition we were joined by Margaret Ward a local journalist whose unique perspective on Afghanistan shed light on the setting for the story. 'One Book, One School' is a new literacy initiative and forms a key part of the school's Well Read Award campaign.





# "Admissions" a short story



Mark Twomey

Finally. It's been years. The queues were still clogged up since the Second World War. My feet are sore from waiting for so long. I see the pearly gates ahead of me. Their ornate gold spikes shine brightly, pearls adorn the base of the gate and there isn't a speck of dirt on them. The white cloud floor isn't the same though. Millions have walked on the floor and no one ever bothers to clean it because people die every day.

"Next," Saint Peter calls out.

The woman in front of me steps forward. The registration into Heaven had gotten extremely official and bureaucratic since I was last here. Even the gates and walls are new. The Reformation and the discovery of America had all happened relatively quickly and caused an awful lot of deaths. Heaven was forced to adopt a more regulated approach to their admissions policy. A man told they used to let anyone in, now you had to repent your sins.

Saint Peter taps away at his keyboard, barely paying attention to the woman. The technological revolution of the past century had changed Heaven, Hell and Earth. The woman mutters something and Peter's computer flashes. He turns to the woman and sighs.

"I regret to inform you but unfortunately, you have not adequately listed your sins in a truthful manner. Please make your way to the back of the line and wait again."

"But this is my third time, I died

years ago. Can't you just let me in?"

"No I'm sorry Madam, but rules are rules. Now please, we are very busy at the moment, step to the back of the line," he says diplomatically.

She steps back and walks silently to the back of the line, with disappointment and anger written all over her face. I take out my phone and double-check how I look before I'm called. My clothes were still dirty from the war I fought in. The war tore the fabric of the world apart. It was very easy to find dirty clothes after the war, corpses were everywhere and thankfully I didn't have to search far to find them. Any old trench was perfect.

"Next," called Peter

I step forward. Peter looks at me curiously.

"Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell," he says cheerfully.

Fear runs through me

"What, what do you mean. What are you talki-

"You're new, aren't you? I don't remember seeing you before. It's Shakespeare; he's a rather boring man. I recommend you don't hold a conversation with him. Awful man, still chatting in that ghastly Anglo-Saxon language. Everyone uses modern English, but he insists on staying true to his time"

Peter stares down at me. His glasses make me think he's peering into my soul.

He's being unusually happy and upbeat.

"Aah, you heard me testing that woman. I was kind to her to the first few times, she came for admissions, but honestly three times in a row and she still lies about killing her husband. Now, your name sir"

"Lu-"

"No, just your forename, middle name, Christian name and your full surname please"

"L.T.F Angel."

Peter taps his keyboard lightning fast, quickly searching my name in his archives of humanity. His eyes skim his screen, as if all his attention is devoted to his computer.

"Yes, there is an Ayngel here with those initials. Now, for admission, you need to place your hand on the

Bible and list your sins. I have to warn you however, any lies and you will be sentenced to approximately ten years in Purgatory per lie. You look worried, don't be. Most people do have to take the test at least twice."

"How often do people get in on the first try?"

"Not many, the last one was back in 1798. Now, let's begin. Place your hand on the Bible, it doesn't matter which right hand or Devil's hand. It's your choice."

I place my left hand on the Bible. Peter starts the interview. His eyes are locked onto his computer screen. He starts the interview process.

"Ayngel, that's an Australian name. Tell me about your homeland."

"Well, it's a really a desolate wasteland. Everything wants to eat you, bite you or kill you. Not much opportunities either, it's devoid of any hope or happiness. The land is barren and arid. The temperatures are hotter than the sun; honestly I've seen people's skin melt off with the heat. The people aren't exactly nice; all of them are cruel tormenters."

"You certainly don't like Australia."

"No, not particularly."

"I see. You may begin Mr Ayngel to list your most grievous sins and faults," he tells me still staring at his computer.

\* \* \* \* \*

My sins are terrible. There was one time when I lied to a woman. I told her to steal from her father. She did and her dad kicked her and her boyfriend out. Looking back, I was a snake. Both of them were innocent and I still manipulated them into wrongdoing.

As well as that, I've treated my wife cruelly. Her name is Lilly and I love her dearly. I always forced her into doing what I wanted. One time, I was jealous of my neighbour and I sent her to kill him. She didn't do anything wrong, it was all me. Their deaths are on my conscience. I was always a vile, depraved predator living a lustful life, all outside the bonds of marriage. I betrayed her with my infidelity.

Another time, I met a man in the desert. He was a holy man and was fasting for forty days and forty nights. I admired his perseverance through his fast, but I still tried to tempt him. I

told him I'd give him food and that his saviour had abandoned him. Luckily, he didn't heed my temptations and ignored me. He forgave me and I had to respect his determination.

My gluttony was boundless. I also spent my days devouring all the exotic foods of the world. Whale meat, veal and even a lamb I stole from a shepherd. I haven't treated animals kindly at all. I always killed birds because I hated how they flew and I couldn't. I used to clip their wings. I inflicted pain on innocent creatures, I can only imagine the pain of having your wings ripped off. I shouldn't have eaten those things or stolen them. The commandments said they were wrong, but I did them all the same, so they are my sins and mine alone.

My worst sin is easy. I chose to wrong other people instead of helping them and I took pleasure in doing so. Once I betrayed my father and tried to fight him and take his lands. I convinced some of my other brothers and sisters to betray him as well. By the grace of God my friend Gabe stopped me. As punishment my now estranged father cast me out. My dad's lands were paradise to me. Even now I hate him,

but I knew what would happen when I tried to steal it from him.

\* \* \* \* \*

"And those are my most grievous faults and sins," I finish.

"That was very honest, I'll search you again in the archives," Peter tells me.

"Hmm... that's odd, you don't appear to be in our archives."

I take my hand off the Bible.

"But I've repented and crave the forgiveness of Christ our Lord and Saviour."

"I'll check the archives manually. Don't worry about it. I'm sure I'll find you in the archives. You're already guaranteed to get into Heaven. You've passed the admissions test. Never have I ever seen someone pass admissions on their first try, so well done."

Peter pauses before asking me.

"You seem like an honest fellow Mr Ayngel. Now I'm not allowed to leave the gates unattended unless it's someone I trust. The last time I had to leave the gates the queues were delayed for forty years. Could you possibly fill in for me?"

"I'd be honoured to help you."

I place my hand back on the Bible.

"I promise to only let the ones that I deem worthy through the pearly gates."

Peter nodded and quickly showed how everything worked.

"You're a lifesaver, Mr.Ayngel. In another life you could have been an actual angel."

Once Saint Peter is out of sight, I open the gates letting the entire queue in. I see the woman who was before me in the line pushing her way to the gates. A feeling of satisfaction overwhelms me as I hear the stampede of people streaming into Heaven, like cows going into an abattoir. I take out my phone and check myself on the camera. My eyes are blood red and my pupils are black. I call home.

"Hello, who's this?" his voice cracks on the phone. The signal's bad.

"Codename L.T.F.Angel. Mission has been successful."

"L.T.F.Angel. Why that's...it can't be... can it?"

"Yes it's me. Lucifer The Fallen Angel. I've completed the mission. Send in the army. Today's the day."

"What day is that my Lord ?" he says excitedly.

"Judgement day".

## The Breadwinner - by Deborah Ellis

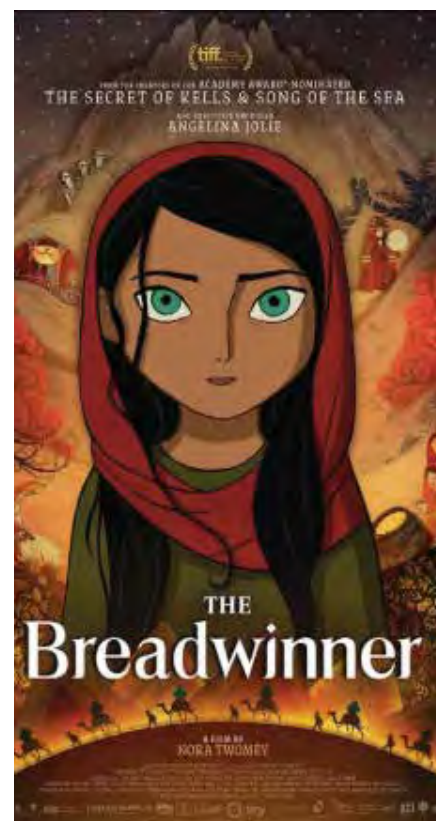
For a number of reasons, there has been a lot of talk in St Kieran's College this year about the novel "The Breadwinner" by Deborah Ellis. Firstly, it was the novel that was chosen as the featured book for the Inter-Schools Cross-Curricular Literacy Project. Therefore, students have studied this novel through a variety of subjects and through various different mediums and secondly, the teachers and the Parents' Association have been invited to read the novel and to join students in a general discussion with local journalist Margaret Ward. The novel has been made available for study both in the form of text, as a graphic novel and it can also be viewed as an animated film.

### SYNOPSIS OF THE NOVEL

Since the Taliban took over Afghanistan, 11-year-old Parvana has rarely been outdoors. Barred from attending school, shopping at the

market, or even playing in the streets of Kabul, the heroine of Deborah Ellis's engrossing children's novel *The Breadwinner* is trapped inside her family's one-room home. That is, until the Taliban hauls away her father and Parvana realises that it's up to her to become the "breadwinner" and disguise herself as a boy to support her mother, two sisters, and baby brother. Set in the early years of the Taliban regime, this topical novel for middle readers explores the harsh realities of life for girls and women in modern-day Afghanistan.

Overall, the themes explored in *The Breadwinner* engaged students, teachers and parents alike. Parvana's story is intriguing and the story tends to grip the reader from the beginning. Therefore, we would recommend this book should you get the opportunity to read. Enjoy.





# Traditional Irish Music at St Kieran's College 2019



St Kieran's College Trad Band (l-r): Daniel Bowe, Jimmy Cantwell, John Canny, JJ Ryan, Alex McCluskey, Joe Canny, Adam Noonan.

## DJ Delaney

September started with the multitalented Mr Gerry Walsh seeking out new recruits for the St Kieran's College Trad band. Mr Walsh's repertoire of melodies and jigs, had us swaying in our seats, and from that moment on we were hooked.

St Kieran's Trad Band is made up of Alex McCluskey on piano, flute and tin whistle, with JJ Ryan on tin whistle, guitar, vocals and button accordion. Brother's John and Joe Canny both on the fiddle, Jimmy Cantwell on tin whistle, Daniel Bowe on guitar, Adam Noonan on the fiddle and DJ Delaney on the bodhrán.

Our first public performance was in Archersrath Nursing Home, where we played to jovial residents who sang, clapped and jigged in their seats to the beat of Irish Trad. We then prepped and played some trad and festive favourites to a full theatre, for the St Kieran's Christmas Carol service.

For Seachtain na Gaeilge we played trad to an enthusiastic audience on High Street. The light music of the Marino Waltz with its moody and timeless quality made an agreeable interlude to the noise and rush of the Medieval Mile. Watch this space, perhaps next year you may see St Kieran's Trad Group perform

at the Kilkenny Music Festival! We are currently practising, and look forward to performing at the St Kieran's College Awards night, which is in itself a great honour.

Ba mhaith lion buíochas le Coláiste Naomh Chiaráin as ucht an deis a bhronnadh orm ceol a sheinm.





# Choir

Charlie Fitzgerald

Every Monday and Wednesday the choir which is organised by Ms O'Connor come together to meet up and practice in room 32, we are seated in our groups and we get started.

During the first term we practiced for the competition that takes place in March, "The Kilkenny Music festival". This year the seniors chose to sing "Jonah" and "Mary did you know" while the junior choir did "hakuna matata" and "steal away" and the chamber choir sang "cant help falling in love". For the second term we focused on the Christmas Mass and carol service. This is a very busy term for everyone as there are many different groups performing, eg the choir itself plus two chamber choirs. A chamber choir is singing in a small group with no instruments backing the song. After the carol service we did carol singing in the town hall to fundraise for many different charities. When the Christmas season is over its time to focus on the competition. Everyone put in full dedication and was there every Monday and Wednesday until the final day we had one last practice and headed down to St Canice's church. As a small choir we felt the pressure towards the bigger choirs. The junior choir came second with their song "steal away" and third with "Hakuna Matata" the senior choir came second with "jonah" and third with "Mary did you know" and the chamber choir came second with "cant help falling in love". We did ourselves and the school proud by placing in every competition we entered. We have one more event to sing at this year and that is the awards night which we are singing viva la vida by Coldplay. As a reward for all our hard work this year we are going to Tayto Park on the 22nd of May! We wouldn't have any of the certs or plaques if it wasn't for Ms O'Connor who didn't let us down once she was always there every Monday and Wednesday without fail, she made sure we all knew our notes and she got us through the songs. The choir is good fun and good craic and you really get to like doing it. I don't know anyone who has regretted joining are always looking for new members!



Christmas Carol Service



Senior Choir

Back row (l-r): Vincent Gornicki, Bill Kavanagh, Jimmy Cantwell, Kevin Benny. Third row: Nicholas Mullins, JJ Ryan, Teo Yordanov, Adam P Walshe, Jamie Owens. Front row: Stephan O'Keeffe, Charlie Fitzgerald, Rory Farrell, Liam Walsh, Micheal Burke. Missing from photo: Rian Edwards, Dylan Gordon, Luke Gannon and Alex McCluskey.



Junior Choir

Back row (l-r): Ben Phelan, Ronan Hackett, Robert Murphy, David Butler. Fourth row: Eoin O'Neill, Charlie Cleere, Paddy Walsh, David Fitzpatrick, Max Coffey, Timmy Brennan, Darragh Lawlor. Third row: Conor O'Gorman, Brian Gladney, Finn Drennan, Brian Murphy, Charlie Bibby, Luke Hanrahan, Ross O'Neill, James Patchell. Secoond row: Alexis Fitzgerald, Alex Reynolds, James L Comerford, Edward Langton, Josh Owens, James Comerford, Rory Smithwick, Robin Carey. Front row: Eoin Dowling, Tommy O'Keefe, Jon Hayes, Jamie Peters, Sean Cahill, Edward Whelan, Cian Kelly, Gavin McMahon, Luke O'Donnell.





## Kilkenny Music Festival



DJ Delaney Senior wind recital.



Artem Arlukov U15 Senior Saxophone.



Mikey Ragget U15 Clarinet.

The Kilkenny Music Festival took place in early March with a host of competitions for all age groups. Once again, St Kieran's College students enjoyed the opportunity to show their musical talents and achieved great success to reward their hard work. Both Junior and Senior choirs were runners

up in their respective competitions and the Senior Choral Group were pipped at the post following their fine rendition of Elvis Presley's "Can't Help Falling in Love". St Kieran's College Jazz players, led by Mr Eamon Cahill, also achieved great success with DJ Delaney winning the Senior Wind Recital while Mikey

Ragget and Artem Arlukov won the U15 Clarinet and the U15 Saxophone competitions respectively. Well done to Ms O'Connor who conducted the choirs, Ms Fitzpatrick who accompanied on the Piano and to Mr Cahill for his guidance with the Jazz musicians.

## Feis Ceoil

Congratulations to DJ who won the All Ireland Feis Ceoil Junior Clarinet A final. This is a wonderful achievement for DJ who faced very strong opposition to win this coveted prize. This is a very prestigious award as it is an All Ireland and required a lot of skill, commitment and hardwork to achieve. DJ was also very successful in the Kilkenny Music Festival claiming first prize in the Senior Wind Recital category. Well done to DJ who is a very talented musician, we wish him well in his future competitions.



DJ Delaney All-Ireland Feis Ceoil Winner Junior Clarinet A Final.

## The St Kieran's College Jazz Band



Mr Eamon Cahill, Music teacher and Jazz Band co-ordinator got to work early in the year to prepare the Jazz band for their concerts at Christmas and Summer. The Jazz Band kicked off their Christmas program on Saturday 8th December at Market Cross Shopping Centre where they went busking for Irish Charity "Fields of Life" to raise money for the installation

of a clean water well in Uganda. On Friday 14th they performed alongside the best of Kilkenny's young talent at The Watergate Theatre in The "Cream of Kilkenny Cats" Christmas Jazz Spectacular. More recently, the St Kieran's College Jazz Band performed at the end of year Summer Concert held in the Lyrath Hotel on 15th May. Once again the boys performed with

the best of students from around the region and gave some fine performances in front of a large crowd. We would like to thank Mr Eamon Cahill for the wonderful work that he continues to do with the Jazz Band as this is an area of extra curricular school life which is growing from strength to strength.



# Belfast Trip

In late March 2019, a group of Second Year students visited Belfast for the annual exchange trip to Belfast. This exchange trip has been in place for many years now, since relations were forged with Mr Paul Buchanan, a History teacher and Promotion Officer for De La Salle College, Belfast. For years, students from St Kieran's College have had the opportunity to visit Belfast, De La Salle College and the local hurling clubs in the area. Students play hurling matches and get to visit many local tourist attractions and restaurants.

It is always a very enjoyable experience and this year was no different. Over the years, these exchange visits have enabled students from both schools to develop friendships, learn about one another's communities and to experience something new through travel. It is wonderful to be able to continue our relations with our friends from Belfast. We look forward to welcoming Mr Buchanan and his group of Year 8/9 students to our school later this year. Many thanks to Mr David McCormack and Mr Richie Ruth for organising this trip on behalf of St Kieran's College and to Mr Paul Buchanan, who dedicates so much of his time to these trips every year.

*David Mulrooney tells of his experiences on the most recent of these exchange visits in March:*

David Mulrooney

When Mr Ruth told our class about the schools Belfast exchange, I was intrigued and immediately wanted to be a part of the experience. I was soon delighted to have been chosen to go up to Belfast and represent our school.

We set off on the bus to Belfast at the early time of 6:15 and we were all eager to arrive at our destination. We reached De La Salle at around 11:30 where we were given a warm welcome by Mr Buchanan and his students. A delicious hot breakfast was provided in the school canteen before we played a challenge match against De La Salle's junior team. After a quick stop in McDonald's we were treated to an open top bus tour of Belfast with Mr Buchanan teaching us about Belfast's astonishing heritage, culture and history. After the tour we had our dinner before heading to one of the highlights of the trip... The O'Neills Superstore. We were all in awe as we got to see the best of what O'Neills had to offer with jerseys from all around the world including DR Congo of all places! After cleaning out the store we headed over to the cinema to cap off a great day.

On Friday Morning while eating breakfast in our hotel Mr. Bucannon quizzed on our tour of Belfast with right



answers winning a De La Salle jersey, in fact I was lucky enough to win one myself. Soon after we were given a great session by the local gaelfest coaches which I found was a great bonding experience for all of us.

We then capped off our trip at the Airtastic trampoline park where we had great fun bouncing around and battling on the balance beam. Unfortunately we had to say goodbye and return to Kilkenny but the trip will live long in the memory and I look forward to seeing the lads down here in September.





# Transition Year Review 2019

Dylan Smithwick and John Canny

Overall Transition Year was a really enjoyable experience for students, it gave us an opportunity to experience things in life that we might not get to do during the regular school year. We had great opportunities to get involved in so many activities, from work experience to down hill mountain biking, from surfing to the Transition Year Variety Show and much more in-between. When we were asked to prepare these pages it really highlighted how much we did this year. We would really recommend TY to every student as there is so much to do and you really do get out of it what you put into it. We would like to thank Ms Moran for organising so many of the activities that we have done this year and all the teachers who have accompanied us on those activities.



Dylan Smithwick and John Canny, TY Editors



## SURFING

On the 30th of August we went on our first trip of the year to Freedom Surf School Tramore. The weather was nice this particular day, a rare sight at the end of August. The weather encouraged everyone to get into the sea but we soon found out that the weather had not reflected the temperature of the water. We were split into two groups and played games such as Water Polo, and of course we were given surf boards and given a brief demo on how we were to stand up on it, this was far easier on land than on water as most of us failed to ride a single wave, I think its safe to say we were no Bondi Rescue. While

we were on our break everybody went for an Ice Cream and to the arcades. While in the arcades Dylan Carroll won a Playstation 4 in the stacker machine, probably the first person in the history of the game mind you. When we were finished surfing we were given a bag of chips and a drink.

## SLIABH NA MBAN WALK

On the 5th of September we got on the bus and went to Slaibh na mBan. The bus journey only lasted around an hour and a half and we got off the bus ready for the walk. The weather was nice so some people chose to walk in t-shirts on the way up. The walk took around an hour to complete and we all

had a snack on top of the mountain. On the way back we stopped in nine mile house where some students bought chicken rolls at a discounted price. The Guards happened to be there so some students took pictures on their bikes.

## GREENWAY CYCLE

On the 24th of September all TYs cycled a stretch of the newly built greenway cycle in Waterford. This was a very popular trip among students. The cycle was around 25k with a stop for a break in the middle. There wasn't any injuries and only some minor falls. We all were given helmets and bikes suitable for the greenway. The weather stayed dry so it was good conditions for cycling.



## DRUMMING WORKSHOP WITH JEREMY LYNCH

The famous musician Jeremy Hickey came to our school to give each class a two hour workshop on two separate occasions. For a lot of people this was their first taste of playing an instrument. It was a very eye-opening experience as most people thought they would walk in bang a few drums and they would sound good. Oh how wrong we were. We definitely walked out with a greater respect for musicians and especially drummers.

## MEDIEVAL MILE MUSEUM

Over two Fridays our year visited the Medieval Mile Museum on St Marys Lane. The former St Mary's Church has been converted into a modern museum showcasing local history. The 13th century St Mary's church and graveyard is the finest example of a medieval church in Ireland. As the starting point of the 'Medieval Mile' trail, it brings to life Kilkenny's history as Ireland's premier medieval city. 800 years of Kilkenny history has a modern twist with maps and facts displayed on touch screen plasma screens. This made the trip a lot better for all involved.

## CROKE PARK VISIT

Our whole year went to Dublin to get a tour of Croke Park. On this tour we got some history of the stadium and we were brought around and were shown the dressing rooms, the training wall, the President's seats and the corporate boxes. As most of us are interested and involved in GAA we found this trip to be really good. We were brought into a meeting room and asked to come up with the best slogan to promote the GAA in 2019. After our tour we took part in some competitions outside the stadium where we had to try put the ball over the bar and the team with the most points got a sliotar each.

## ICE SKATING

In December our year went to Waterford to go Ice Skating and to a movie. We went Ice Skating first in the morning. This was really fun because none of us knew how to skate properly and there was a lot of falling down. Thankfully no injuries were had. Afterwards we went shopping for a couple of hours in the city which mainly resulted in everyone in McDonald's.

## ACTIVITIES IN PORTLAOISE

We got a bus to an industrial estate in Portlaoise. Once we got there we were split into 4 groups. The first group started with bowling, the second with laser tag, the third with rollerskating and the fourth with soccer. We were given chips and either chicken nuggets or sausages for our lunch. Everyone found the bowling very competitive and was really good fun. The laser tag was really good for 15 minutes but lasted a bit too long and everyone was tired afterwards. I think it was fair to say that everyone bar a few were pretty horrendous at the rollerskating but everyone escaped a little bit sore but mostly unscathed. Soccer, plain and simple, a classic.

## TABLE QUIZ WITH LORETO FOR COIS NORE

We took part in a table quiz with the Loreto Secondary School in aid of Cois Nore. The event was organised by students who take part in The Enrichment Programme and help out in Cois Nore on a once a week basis. There were forty teams consisting of three boys and around five girls. We were asked questions on







various topics such as Sport, Geography, Music, Celebrities and General Knowledge. There were plenty of prizes for the winning groups. It took place in our canteen and went on for two hours.

### CEILÍ WITH LORETO

A group from the Loreto organised a fundraiser with us to raise money for their sister school in Africa for their YSI project. I think its fair to say the the lads were not mad about the idea of Irish Dancing but none the less we willingly arrived. Some lads who had previously been taught the dance were brought on stage and were asked to dance with the girls as an example for everyone else. As far from Riverdance as humanly possible we danced away. Definately was not something we would consider fun to do but taking part was definately an experience we won't forget.

### KILKENNY ACTIVITY CENTRE

On this day our whole year walked down to the Kilkenny Activity Centre over in New Orchard. We were split into two groups and the activities we took part in were paintballing, bubble soccer and we all finished by attempting the obstacle course. It was a great day out which is something you wouldn't normally get to do. Everyone was covered in muck after the assault course but it was worth it and there were





warm showers waiting for us. Have to say there are few better feelings. Then we walked down to McDonald's for a feed. All in all great day out which everybody enjoyed thoroughly even if it took a full twenty four hours to thaw out.

### BENNETTSBRIDGE WALK

On the 28th of March we prepared to walk out to Bennettsbridge on a lovely scenic path. The sun was splitting the stones and everyone was in good form. As we walked further and further everybody began shedding layers which as we all know is a rare sight in March in Ireland. We arrived in Bennettsbridge and headed to Cullen's Centra to refuel. We then strolled down to the pitch for a puck. We stayed there for about an hour and then proceeded along but not before another stop in Cullen's for an ice-cream. We then walked the three hours back to Kieran's. Great day and the weather truly made it.



### SLEEP OUT FOR LOURDES

On the 4th of April the TY students that are going to Lourdes ran a sleep out in the PE hall to raise money for the Lourdes trip. It cost a fiver which also paid for pizza. We arrived in the PE hall for around 8pm and started the night off with a soccer tournament which got very competitive. After the soccer tournament food arrived where we were given pizza, chips and a can of mineral. We then watched a movie played through a projector. The average time for people to go to asleep was around 4am so everybody was tired the next day



### GAISCE TRIP TO MOUNT MELLERAY

After completing 26 weeks of self improvement and helping within the community, those who took part in the Gaisce award went on an overnight trip to Mount Melleray.

After our hike the first day we attended a Mass service where all the Gospel was sang. The sun was shining for both days of the walk which made it a very enjoyable trip.

In the night time we were given a chicken curry at around 5pm and then we got a bag of chips and a mineral around 10pm.





# First Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Darragh Lawlor, Rory Smithwick, Cathal Hickey, James Hughes, Kealan Gray, Alexis Fitzgerald, Connor Mulhall. Third row (l-r): Aaron Dowling, John Davis, Ben Crow, Jacob Breslin, Bill Coogan, Cormac Burke, Joe Hughes. Second row (l-r): John Hayes, Alex Reynolds, Guy Watts, Aaron Coogan, Eoghan Dowling, James Hickey, Sean Brett. First row (l-r): Dean O'Brien, Arron Russell, Charlie Bibby, Ryan Cody, Jamie Peters, Darragh Treacy, Tommy O'Keeffe.



Back row (l-r): Joe Greene, Cormac Moore, Robert Murphy, Edward Mc Dermot, Rory Connellan, Sean Counihan. Third row (l-r): Liam Russell, Colm Fitzgerald, Paddy Walsh, John Dermody, James Comerford, Sean Roberts, Noah Gilmore. Second row (l-r): Ben Little, Jacob Cassin, Joseph McInerney, Edward Langton, Finn Drennan, Tom McPhillips, Charlie Cleere. Front row (l-r): Jack Murphy, Pauric Curran, Eoin O'Connor, Fred Odano, Sean Bergin, Josh Tallis, Conor O'Gorman, David Fitzpatrick



Back row (l-r): Patrick Bourke, Niall Farrell, Ciallin Brennan, Thomas Cleere, Dayo Kingston, Brian Gladney. Third Row (l-r): Andy Murphy, Sam Larkin, Warren McGuinness, Eoin O'Neill, Max Coffey, Luke Phelan, Luke McBride. Second Row (l-r): Brian Murphy, Josh Owens, Andy O'Connor, James Brennan, Sean Young, Sean Hunt, Cian Farrell, Richard Nolan. Front Row l-r: Jake O' Brien, Jack Johnson, Charlie Fitzgerald, Calum Meagher, Jeff Neary, Gavin McMahon, Edward Whelan, Diarmuid Langton, James O'Connor





Back row (l-r): Aidan Ryan, Aaron Doyle, Eoghan Bennett, Ben Phelan, Joe Murray, Ben Cummins, Donal Kealy. Third row (l-r): David Butler, Thomas Brennan, James Comerford, James Brennan Smyth, David Hogan, Cian O'Reilly. Second row (l-r): Stephen Manogue, Sean Casey, Harry Boyle, Cian Kelly, Sean Cahill, Lee Greene, Paul Mahon. Front row (l-r): Killian Butler, Conor Gamble, Aidan Cashin, Mark McPhilips, Matthew Mulligan, Rory Glynn, Joey Dalton, James Patchell.



Back row (l-r): Martin Brennan, Jamie O'Brien, Killian Tallon, Aidan Cahill, Tim Kelly, Stephen Power Kellett. Third Row (l-r): Nathan Ryan, Aaron McEvoy, Timmy Brennan, Bryce Cummins, Christian Connick. Second Row (l-r): Luke O'Donnell, Robbie Brown, Oisín Bateman, Joseph Prendergast, Conor Doyle, Kieran Walsh, Aaron McCallister. Front Row (l-r): Oisín O'Reilly, Paddy Fleming, Jake Stanley, Ronan O'Brien, Liam Holohan, Mark Fitzpatrick, Tomas Roche, Robin Carey, Sean Carrigan.



# Second Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): James Cash, Rory Farrell, Eoin Egan, Adam Ankudovich, Barry Dunne, Sammy Rochford. Third row (l-r): Eoin Forde, Sam Kane, Louis Jamieson, Conor Fitzmaurice, Zach Lawlor, Adam Fomin, Evan O'Neil. Second row (l-r): Aaron Maher, Patrick Foley, Dylan Stapleton, Aaron Heffernon, Thomas Dillon, Jack Cody, Johnny Keane. Front row (l-r): Conor Molloy, Fionn Cody, Micheal Harrison, Shane Gleeson, David Williams, Bill Nolan, James McEvoy, Tadgh Blanchfield, Brian Kerwick.



Back row (l-r): Ben Whitty, Mick Carroll, Michael Raggett, Harry O'Grady, Huge Finnegan, Mark McGeeney. Third row l-r: Connor Dooley, Tom Lodge, Bill Smith, Dylan Teehan, Sean Byrne, Cathal Keegan. Second row (l-r): Jack Alymer, Sean Adams, Conor Kavanagh, Dylan O'Shea, Ben Murphy, Jack Guiry, Anthony Ireland. Front row (l-r): Darragh Rouihan, Niall Shortall, Diarmaid Greene, Prezemek Lucasea, Brendan Keech, Billy Keogh, Dermot O'Leary, David Mulrooney.





Back row (l-r): Bill Hughes, Shane Glynn, Joe Canny, Cathal Walsh, Mathew Kelleher, Ciaran Nolan. Third row (l-r): Killian Doyle, Padraig Naddy, Pierce Ryan, James Larkin, Harry Shine, Josh Dennehy, Dualtach O'Flaherty. Second row (l-r): Billy Egan, Robin Lanigan, Dennis Dalton, James O'Shea, Louis Todd, Jack Foley, Konrad Palczynski, Daire Phelan. Front row (l-r): Kevin O'Connor, Sean Keenan, Robert Ring, Brian Whelan, Christopher Kealy, Adam Noonan, Oisín Mealy, Mathew Banville, Eoin Cahill.



Back row (l-r): Adam Walsh, Kieran Brennan, Max Burke, Jack Murphy, Alex Sheridan. Third row (l-r): Killian Corcoran, Billy Dowling, Sean Og Hetherington, Michael Butler, Ben Irwin Walker, Leon Brown. Second row (l-r): Andrew McEvoy, William Wallace, Leonard Farrell, Mark Holohan, Ben Moore, Padraig O'Mahoney, Noah Burke. Front row (l-r): Jamie Carter, Alex McDonald, Mark MacEaney, Eoin Byrne, Frank Noukeu, Jimmy Maher, Edward Dwyer, Joe Kearns, Damien Cuddihy, Oran Lavery.



# Third Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Nicholas Conway, Eibhan McEvoy, Jack Delaney, Charlie Miller, Jamie McGrath, Eoin Turner, Jack Forristal. Third row (l-r): Emmet Nolan, Aaron Korthout, Liam Connelly, Cathal Foley, Alan Dunphy, Philip Prendergast, Jack Archbold. Second row (l-r): Kelan Donohue, Conor Walton, Josh O'Rourke, Ros Dermody, Peter Conroy, Killian Kelly, Sean Keane. Front row (l-r): Boru Bergin, Matthew Lawlor, Adam Bowe, Joseph Lalor, Conor Lynch, Kevin Molloy, Luke Wallace, Liam Molloney.



Back row (l-r): John Kenny, Luke Connellan, Conor Cody, Oisín O'Connor, Daire Mahon, Cathal Murphy. Third row (l-r): Oisín Keyes, Rory Holden, Julian Maher, Joe Brennan, Shane Fennelly, Darragh Kennedy, Luke Malone, Cathal Redmond Brett. Second row (l-r): Eamon Holland, Cathal Murphy, Steven King, Ben Higgins, Sean Lanigan, Luke Dunne, Niall O'Brien. Front Row (l-r): Jack Dennehy, Dylan Lawless, Conall Ruane, Sean Dowling, Bill Dalton, Luke Doyle, Sean Fitzpatrick, Darragh Dwyer.



Back row (l-r): Fionn McGarry, Sean Moore, Noel O'Brien, Nick Doheny, Mario Moses Duku, Liam Walsh, Charlie Watts. Third row (l-r): Jack Ryan, Patrick Bogusz, Samba Batchilly, Eoghan Phelan, Darragh McMullen, Eoghan Whelan, Adam Walsh. Second row (l-r): Conor Gleeson, Larry Cody, Josh Casserly, Oisín Cahill, Conor Brett, Brendan Staunton. Front row (l-r): Ronan Fernando, Craig Shelly, Killian Carey, Jimmy Lennon, Coby Cummins, Michael Ibrahim.





Back row (l-r): Dylan Gordon , Tommy Phelan , Cian Moore , Will Lanigan , Brogan McAviney. Third row (l-r): Paul Mulligan, Eoin Deely, David Parle, James Kenny, Adam O'Connor, Dylan Duggan. Second row (l-r): Nick O'Keefe, Matthew O'Neill, Patrick Langton, Aaron Wemyss, Sam McEvoy, Jack Dowling , Robert Kelly. Front row (l-r): Darragh Slattery, James Gladney, Luke Burke, Pete Walsh, Conor Booth, Christian McLnerney, Justin Okonkwo, John Madigan.



Back row (l-r): Jimmy Cantwell, Ben Darmody, Robbie Cord, Eimhin Cassin, Aaron Moore, Joe Fitzpatrick. Third row (l-r): Charlie Delahunty, Richard McEvoy, Ben Canavan, Artem Arlukov, Kevin Benny, Adam Langan. Second row (l-r): Ben Burke, Naoise Dempsey, Padraig Lennon, Edmar Basilio, James Carroll, Harry McIntyre, Adam Walshe, Daniel Bowe. Front row: Charlie Fitzgerald, Jack Butler, Tayo Bakare, Aaron Dorney, Liam Walsh, Simon Bowe, Patrick Kennedy, Jacob Newman.



# Transition Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Tommy Doyle, Eoin Crowley, Cathal Mulhall, Daragh Walsh, Killian Norton, Tomasz Gruca, Robert Vasilachi. Second row (l-r): Jamie Chisholm, Dominik Gorny, Kieran Keher-Murtagh, Andy Hickey, Padraigh Brennan, Craig Cummins. Front row (l-r): Micheal Molloy, Vincent O'Grady, Dylan Kenny, George Burghlelea, Andrew Devereux, Brian Fahy.



Back row (l-r): Luke McNena, Ciaran Rice, Jack Clifford, Eoin Delahunty, Finnian Shefflin, Oscar Fomin. Third row (l-r): JJ Ryan, Harry Murphy, Matthew Treacy, Aaron Tully, Marko Bistrovic, Dara Mason. Second row (l-r): Oisin Ronan, Luke McDonald, Charlie Nolan, Cathal Kearney, Senan Forristal, Adam Walsh Brennan, Conor Farrell. Front row (l-r): Luke Holohan, Shaun O'Keeffe, Luke Bateman, Ivan Kelly, Brian McDonald, Jack Walton.





Back row (l-r): DJ Delaney, Jack McGuirk, Niall Ward, Eoin O'Brien, Daniel Hughes, Daniel Smithwick, Mohammed Zeb, Conor Beale. Second row (l-r): Daragh Casey, Patrick Brennan, John Canny, Conor Fitzpatrick, Luke Hennessy, Liam O'Reilly, Aidan Kenny. Front row (l-r): Jack Cleere, Cormac Brogan, John Muldowney, Eoin Dalton, Ivan McAuley, Nicholas Mullins, David Hoyne -Casey, Robbie English.



Back row (l-r): Michael McCarthy, Sebastin Ruianu, Eoin Southgate, Tom Buckley. Third row (l-r): Padraig Foley, Jack Doyle, Sean McBride, Denis Walsh, Alexis Fitzgerald. Second row (l-r): Josh Dempsey, Jay Maguire, Daniel Murphy, Tom Carroll, J.P. Gamble, Billy Brennan. Front row (l-r): Peter Holohan, Oliver Baros, Oisín Doyle, Mark McBride, David Flemming, William Fox.



# Fifth Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Jason Butler, Luke Whelan, Padraig Moylan, Nobin Rebi, Diarmuid Galway. Second row (l-r): James Casey, Darren Cuddihy, Ciaran Brennan, Patrick Phelan, Mark Brennan, Kevin Fitzpatrick. Front row (l-r): Michael McNerney, Brandon Ryan, Padraig Keogh, Ciaran Mullen, Daragh Maher, Killian Rudkins, Fintan Brennan.



Back row (l-r): Aidan McGree, Peter Connellan, David Conway, Ben King, Luke Dermody. Second row (l-r): Daniel Lynch, Bill Kavanagh, Jack Murphy, Conner Brett, Stephen Keoghan, Padraig Hally. Front row (l-r): Conor Gleeson, David Fogarty, Nikita Riabkovs, Sean McKee, Jack Sheridan, Bill Bryan, Ian Wallace.



Back row (l-r): Ger Coffey, David Fitzgerald, Joe Cowhig, Oisín Egan, Ross Ten Bohmer. Second row (l-r): Shay McEvoy, Thomas Nugent, David Kelleher, Robert Weyms, Colin Morrissey, Theo Yordanav. Front row (l-r): Eoin Morgan, Luke Campion, Ciaran Murphy, Cian Leahy, Dara Glynn, Oisín Carroll, Kieran Buckley.





Back row (l-r): Jamie Phelan, Eoin Guilfoyle, Jack Canavan, Vincent Gornicki, Colm Nolan. Second row (l-r): Adam O'Shea, Darragh Hackett, Rian Edwards, Stephan Walsh, Liam Barron, Jamie Harkin, Harry Walsh. Front row (l-r): Stephan O'Keefe, Sean McInerney, Laurence Mahon, David O'Sullivan, Ronan Lavelle, Mark Gormley, Stephan Barron, Tomas Leahy.



Back row (l-r): Luke Morrissey, Niall Reid, Conor Whitty, Dylan Comerford. Third row (l-r): Rian Houston, William Slattery, Jake Hickey, James Carrigan, Anish Lal. Second row (l-r): Adam Barcoe, Andrew McGrath, James Kennedy, Luke O'Dwyer, Cormac Burns, Zac Cummins. Front Row (l-r): Jamie Owens, Conor T Kelly, Ryan Metzger, Darragh Quinlan, Kevin Burns, Conor O'Shea, Liam Healy.



# Sixth Year Class Photos



Back row (l-r): Barry Lennon, Liam Fennelly, Cameron Mullan, Gary Anderson, Alex Moore. Third row (l-r): Phillip Hayde, Aaron Varley, Ben Powell, Krys Gruca, Edward Ilban, Daire O'Neill. Second row (l-r): Paraic Barragry, Barry Lennon, Paul Prendergast, Jacob Vuchiri, Jamie Slattery. Front row (l-r): Dean Mason, Micheal O'Keeffe, Dylan Crehan, Evan McDonald, Tom Bolger, Paul Hayes, Jody Frayne.



Back row (l-r): Ruairi Breen, Paul Cody, Gareth Singh, David Blanchfield, Eoin Moylan. Third row (l-r): Darragh Corcoran, Dacel Fwamba, Conor Foley, Eoin O'Connor, James English. Second row (l-r): Luke Phelan, Conor Kealy, Jamie Reid, Troy Walsh, Jack Carrigan, Jack Keogh, Aeden Moylan. Front row (l-r): Thomas Rice, Harry Kavanagh, Darragh O'Keeffe, Aaron Brennan, James Kearney, George Murphy, Adam Fitzpatrick.



Back row (l-r): Shaun Liston, Dillon Wall, Conor Murphy, Martin O'Connell, Jason Kelly, Eoin de Buitleur. Third row (l-r): Finn Lanigan, Cathal Jordan, Eoin Cody, Conor Byrne, Gavyn Blanchfield. Second row (l-r): Eamon Mahon, James Dowling, Cian Russell, Jamie Young, Padraig Robinson, Alex Duggan. Front row (l-r): Killian Egan, Simon O'Dwyer, Shane Walsh, Alex McCluskey, Luke Gannon, Micheal Burke.





Back row (l-r): Seamus Farrell, Sean Burke, Eoin Walsh, Eric Kearney, Johnny Doyle, Brian Kearney. Third row (l-r): Mark Twomey, Padraic O'Neill, Harry Kealy, Ethan Kerwick, Matthew Comerford. Second row (l-r): Micheal Prendergast, Padraig Holohan, Aaron O'Brien, Matthew Russell, Jack Roche, James Kelly Trant. Front row (l-r): Sean O'Connell, Tommy Farrell, Conor Doyle, Dylan Carey, Tom O'Dwyer, Liam Brennan Smyth.



Back row (l-r): Tom Kennedy, Conor Hoban, Glenn Gormley, Cathal Ryan, Ciaran Shortall, Fionn Whelan. Second row (l-r): Tim Corkery, Adam O'Brien, Jack Brennan, Sean Keyes, Kristan Pawlowski. Front row (l-r): Sean Comerford, Sean Ware, Eddie Dunne, Jack Kenny, John Shortall, Sean O'Neill.



# Sports' Day









# Irish Achievements



Brogan McAviney

## BROGAN MCAVINEY

Brogan's achievements for the past 12 months:

### Water Safety

- National Junior Still Water Lifesaving Championships.
- Gold in 100m obstacle race (Irish Record Holder).
- Silver in 50m manikin carry and fins.
- Silver in 100m manikin carry and fins.
- Bronze in 200m Super Lifesaver.

### Swimming

- Leinster Schools Swimming Championships
- Intermediate category – Leinster champion 100m butterfly, Leinster silver medal 400m freestyle on
- Represented Leinster at the National Interprovincial Championships on 14th April at which Leinster won.

## INTERNATIONAL ICE-HOCKEY

Jamie O'Brien, Bryce Cummins and Adam Fomin - U14 Sparta Cup played in Barcelona, Spain. Now training for a competition in Slovakia this summer.

Coby Cummins and Oscar Fomin - U16 Sparta Cup in Barcelona

Coby will be travelling to Finland this summer for development squads.



Jamie O'Brien, Coby Cummins, Bryce Cummins and Adam Fomin



Robbie English



Seamus Hughes Kennedy



## ROBBIE ENGLISH

Robbie completed the European Down Syndrome opening swimming competition 2019 in Southampton. He completed the 50m Backstroke where he came 4th, the 200m Freestyle where he came 1st, 200 m backstroke where he came 5th, 50 m freestyle where he came 1st, 100m Butterfly 1st and 3rd in 100m backstroke, 100m freestyle 3rd place. He achieved 6 personal bests.

## SEAMUS HUGHES KENNEDY

Seamus' achievements for the past 12 months:

- August 2018: 3rd in the 148cm Pony Final in the main arena at the RDS
- September 2018: Member of the Irish Team that won the Inaugural FEI Youth Nations Cup Final for Ponies in Opglabbeek, Belgium, jumping a double clear with Rock Dee Jay to force a jump off and securing victory with a clear in the jump-off against the home nation.
- Member of the Nations cup team that secured victories in Opglabbeek, Belgium and Hagen, Germany to qualify for the Finals.
- September / October 2018. Competed for four weeks at the CSI 3\* Horse Show in Vilamoura, Portugal with 3 horses and gained his first Senior FEI Longines World ranking points.
- November 2018: 3rd in the Pony World Cup Qualifier in Lyon, France. Top 6 finish in the CSI 1\* Grand Prix at Cavan Equestrian Centre
- December 2018: Competed in the World Cup Finals in Mechelen, Belgium with a pony and horse.
- February/March 2019. Competed for 4 weeks at the CSI 3\* Horse Show in Vilamoura, Portugal with 4 horses, with numerous placings in the young horse classes.
- April 2019. Member of the Irish Junior (Under 18) Nations cup team that came 4th in Opglabbeek, Belgium.

## SENAN FORRISTAL

Senan Forristal won the Liffey Descent Sunday 16th Sept U18.

## TOM LODGE

- South Leinster Schools Cross Country Junior Champion



Senan Forristal



Tom Lodge

- Leinster and All Ireland runner up
- Was chosen to represent Ireland in the Student International Cross Country Championships in Santry

## EOGHAN WHELAN

Eoghan was selected to run in the European Youth Orienteering Championships in Belarus in June. He

will be travelling with a team of twelve juniors from all over Ireland. In the past few months he has been running many selection races including the Irish Championships, held in Fermanagh and Cavan last weekend where he came Second in the Long distance and third in the middle and sprint in his age group.



Eoghan Whelan



# Equestrian



Back row (l-r): David Flemming, Charlie Watts, Padraig Keogh, Conor Fitzpatrick, Sean Fitzpatrick, David Parle. Front row (l-r): Ms Hollie Hickey, Evan O'Neill, Timmy Brennan, Robin Carey, Guy Watts, John Dermody. Missing from photo: Paddy Flemming

TRI Equestrian Interschools hosted by St Kieran's College held at Topflight Equestrian Centre, Warrington, Sunday 30th of September.

St Kieran's College held their annual leg of the TRI Equestrian sponsored Interschools Showjumping Competition in Warrington on Sunday 30th September. This year saw a change for St Kieran's College as we usually host during the cooler winter months. The day was bright and fresh, leading to a fantastic day of competing.

The Novice Team competition started off the day with ten teams competing for the coveted prizes. The first place went to Newbridge College Black Team with Hannah Lawlor (Boston Hill Buster) and Sophie O'Neill (Blackwoodland Willow) representing their team mates Aoife Keane and Alice O'Neill and clearing the course in a combined time of 78.47 seconds. Second place went to Borris Vocational School and finally Third place went to Gorey Community School. Best Turned was awarded for the second year running to the Newbridge College

White Team. Well done to all our Novice riders.

Molly O'Shaughnessy and Magic took home first place in the Novice Competition, followed by Killian Murphy on Cullintra Bonfire in second place and Michael Fogarty on Chino in third place.

The main event was the TRI Equestrian Open Team Competition. In what was a very competitive jump off between Borris Vocational School, St Kieran's College, Scoil Mhuire Carrick on Suir, St Mary's New Ross and Presentation Secondary School Kilkenny, there could only be one winner. In a very proud moment for the host school, St Kieran's College took home the big prize on the day. Ciarán Byrne (Golden Puissance) and Timmy Brennan (GCS Rambo) represented their team mates David Parle and David Fleming and raced around the course without fault (the only team

to do so!) on a time of 77.74 seconds. Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny took 2nd place and Scoil Mhuire, Carrick on Suir took home 3rd prize on the day. Best turned out went to Loreto Secondary School, Pemroke Hill.

Martha Hughes, Kilkenny College & her mount Bravo were victorious in the Individual Open Competition in a time of 31.25 sec. Lucy Bolger, Kilkenny College took second place on 32.25 sec and Killian Murphy, Good Counsel taking 3rd place with 33.33 sec.

St Kieran's College would like to thank the Moloney Family, as well as all the students, parents and sponsors (Gain, Red Mills, Euro Farm, Kilkenny Builders Providers, CF Pharma & Foulkstown Feeds) who helped with the running of the event leading up to and on the day. Thanks also to Ms Hollie Hickey who runs and organises the Equestrian club in St Kieran's.





## ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE EQUESTRIAN EVENT RESULTS

### Open Team

- 1, St Kieran's College: Timmy Brennan (GCS Rambo), David Parle (Outrath Kroontime), David Fleming (Rosie), Ciarán Byrne (Golden Puissance)
- 2, Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny: Claire Forde (Marvel), Orla Walsh (Patsy), Issey Hughes (Fleur), Aoife Drea (Sam)
- 3, Scoil Mhuire, Carrick on Suir: Ava Lynch (For Sure), Katie Doyle (Eye Wonder), Hazel Barden (Ballydavid out of the Mist)
- 4, St Mary's, New Ross: Roseann Ryan (Little Pearl), Niamh Redmond (Little Romeo), Leah Murphy (Joe), Eimear Furlong (Thistle town Rose Royale)
- 5, Borris Vocational School: Patrick Doyle (Boley Boy), Áine Kavanagh (Mellview Surprise), Claire Kavanagh (Clonagose Daniel Dubh), Catherine Kavanagh (Coppengh Blitz)
- 6, Good Counsel, New Ross: Jack Ryan (DHS Cluen Castle), Tom O'Shea (Golden Daylight), Killian Murphy (Killowen Leo), Ruairí Aylward (Tom Sparrow).

### Open Individual

- 1, Kilkenny College: Martha Hughes (Bravo)
- 2, Kilkenny College : Lucy Bolger (Dark Legend)
- 3, Good Counsel, New Ross: Killian Murphy (Killoowen Leo)
- 4, St Kieran's College: David Parle (Outrath Kroontime)
- 5, St Kieran's College: Ciarán Byrne (Suresheen Gentle Breeze)
- 6, Good Counsel, New Ross: Ruairí Aylward (Viking)

### Novice Team

- 1, Newbridge College Black Team: Aoife Keane (Congeniality Indi), Hannah Lawlor (Boston Hill Buster), Alice O'Neill (Castlestrange Misty Boy), Sophie O'Neill (Blackwoodland Willow)
- 2, Borris Vocational School: Tess Staunton (Covalier's Too Posh To Posh), Caoilfhionn Ní Stóirí (leanmore Dipstick), Caoilfhionn Lawlor (Coolroe Apollo), Kayla Ryan (Mullarney Lass)
- 3, Gorey Community School: Lauren Spencer (Royal Champion), Eimear Ní Chinnéide (Pleasant Pepper), Cora Quigley (Bleu), Angelica McGee (Clounamon Smokey)
- 4, Good Counsel, New Ross: Michael Fogarty (Tynan Cappuccino), Eamon Byrne (Misty), Killian Murphy (Cullintra Satnave), Ruairí Aylward (Coppengh Paprika)
- 5, Newbridge College White Team: Robyn O'Donnell (Cairbre Lad), Hannah Popplewell (Liza Vander Meete), Alice O'Sullivan (Mary Rose), Clare O'Ryan (Carriganog Rince)
- 6, Kilkenny College Red Team: Minna Kavanagh (Mater), Ava Murphy (Halo Magic), Luke Murphy (RLE River Rock), Holly Smith (Mr Jingles)

### Novice Individual

- 1, Loreto Secondary School, Kilkenny: Molly O'Shaughnessy (Magic)
- 2, Good Counsel, New Ross: Killian Murphy (Cullintra Bonfire)
- 3, Good Counsel, New Ross: Mikey Fogarty (Chino)
- 4, Scoil Mhuire, Carrick on Suir: Ellie Mathias (Dixie)
- 5, Newbridge College: Aoife Keane (Congeniality Indi)
- 6, Gorey Community School: Abbie Spencer (Silver Bobbin).



# Cross Country

Cross-Country Running in St Kieran's College just keeps going from strength to strength. The academic year 2018-2019 has been the most successful year to date.

As has become the norm in St Kieran's, training began early in the year with the now famous lunch time runs to the Castle Park beginning the first week back last September. It was great to see so many First Years getting involved in these runs to put in the mileage for the big competitions which would begin early in 2019. The season began in earnest in January with the usual DCU Cross Country Invitational which always provides an opportunity for the boys to judge where they are at and to focus their training. Shortly after, all of the St Kieran's College Running Teams enjoyed great success at the South Leinster Cross Country Championships on Thursday 31st January with the Minors, Juniors, Intermediates and Seniors all winning their Team events. Shay McEvoy came first in the Senior race while Tom Lodge won the Junior followed closely in second by David Williams.

Wednesday 13th February brought another very successful day for all of the St Kieran's College Cross Country Teams with some fine individual performances once again from Shay McEvoy and Tom Lodge. The Junior Team won the Leinster title and for the first time, all St Kieran's College teams qualified for the All-Ireland Competition which would be held in Clongowes Wood on Saturday 9th March. This is a phenomenal achievement and as a result St Kieran's reclaimed trophy for the Best Overall School in Leinster.

On 9th March, the All-Ireland finals were hosted by Clongowes Wood College where the The Minors, Juniors and Seniors came third, with Tom Lodge coming in third overall and Shay McEvoy placing fourth in their respective races. Tom Lodge went on to represent Ireland at the SIAB Schools International Cross Country at the end of March capping off a very impressive Cross Country season for him. Well done to all of our Cross Country runners on what has been another fantastic year. The dedication and commitment of these young and talented runners is inspirational. Many thanks to Mr O'Keeffe and Mr Darmody for their hard work, time and commitment to organising Cross Country Running throughout the school year and for making Cross Country Running such an integral part of the St Kieran's College tradition. Many thanks too, to the numerous parents, staff and the wider running community in Kilkenny for their ongoing support.



**Senior Team**

Back Row: (l-r) Eoin Walsh, James Kearney. Front Row: (l-r) Shay McEvoy, Luke Whelan, Senan Forristal.



**Intermediate Team**

Back row (l-r): Cian Moore, Christian McNerney, Conor Brett. Middle row (l-r): Jack Delaney, William Fox, John Muldowney, Eoghan Whelan. Front row (l-r): Jack Arcbold, Cathal Kearney, Brogan McAviney, Alan Dunphy, Robbie Cord.



**Minor Team**

Back Row: (l-r) Joseph McNerney, Seán Bergin, Luke Phelan. Front Row: (l-r) Kealan Gray, Harry Boyle, Charlie Fitzgerald, Aidan Cashin.



**Junior Team**

Back Row: (l-r) Padraig Naddy, Tom Lodge, Cillian Doyle. Front Row: (l-r) David Williams, Robert Ring, Joe Kearns.





#### Best Overall Cross Country School in Leinster

Back row: (l-r) Conor Brett, Eoin Walsh, Cian Moore, James Kearney, Alan Dunphy, Jack Delaney, Jack Archbold. Third row: (l-r) Mr John O'Keeffe, Pdraig Naddy, Eoin Whelan, Cathal Kearney, Senan Forristal, John Muldowney, Christian McInerney, Mr Patrick Darmody. Second row: (l-r) William Fox, Charlie Fitzgerald, Aidan Cashin, Luke Phelan, Robert Ring, Joe Kearns, Joseph McInerney, Kealan Gray, Seán Bergin, Robbie Cord. Front row: (l-r) Cillian Doyle, Brogan McAvinney, Luke Whelan, Shay McEvoy, Tom Lodge, David Williams, Harry Boyle.





# Athletics

This year has been another successful one for Track and Field in St Kieran's College.

Fourteen athletes qualified for the Leinster competition following qualification in the South Leinster competitions.

Some of these athletes are first time competitors while others are seasoned competitors.

A huge congratulations must go out to our medal winners, and to all who represented the College in all competitions.

We wish these athletes the best for the forthcoming Leinster and All Ireland Competitions.

Thanks to Mr Simon Reddy and Ms Jenny Kelly for all the organisation for these competitions.

- Sam Young - Silver - Minor 800m
- Luke Phelan - Silver - Minor - long jump, 75m hurdles & bronze javelin.
- Harry Boyle - Bronze - Junior - triple jump.
- David Williams - Gold - Junior 800m
- Tom Lodge - Gold - Junior - 1500m
- Jack Delaney - Silver - U-16 Shot
- Brogan McAvinney - Bronze - Inter 1500m steeplechase, Bronze 3000m
- William Fox - Silver - Inter - 1500m
- Cathal Kearney - Bronze - Inter - 800m
- Shay McEvoy - Gold - Senior - 1500m
- Kevin Burns - Silver - Senior - steeplechase
- Luke Whelan - Silver - Senior - 5000m,
- Alan Dunphy, Jack Archbold, Jack Delaney and Brogan McAvinney - Bronze U-16 relay



**U17**

Brogan McAvinney and John Muldowney.



**Junior**

Back row (l-r): Killian Doyle, David Williams, Leonard Farrell, Tom Lodge. Front row (l-r): Noah Gilmore, James McEvoy, Joe Kearns, Joey Dalton.



**Minor**

Back row (l-r): Sean Young, Joesph McInerney, Luke Phelan. Front row (l-r): Aidan Cashin, Edward Whelan, David Hogan, Paul Mahon.



**Senior**

Back row (l-r): Aidan McGee, Luke Whelan. Front row (l-r): Shay McEvoy, Eoin Guilfoyle, Kevin Burns.



**U16**

Back row (l-r): Alan Dunphy, Boru Bergin. Front row (l-r): Brogan McAvinney, Robbie Cord, Jack Archbold.



# First Year Basketball

Colm Fitzgerald

The 1st Year basketball team of St Kieran's College Kilkenny have had great success in the 2019 season. They competed in the Southeast Boys Division C league and made it all the way to the play-off final. In their league they played Gaelcoláiste Carlow, Presentation College Carlow, St. Mary's Academy C.B.S and Coláiste Pobail Osraí with an unfortunate loss to Presentation College Carlow.

They trained every lunchtime on Tuesday with the American, Irish Super- League player for Templeogue, Lawrence "Puff" Summers. He was a great coach, he really motivated and encouraged us to get better and play as a team.

In the play-offs, they started with a narrow, quarter-final win over Ramsgrange Community School. In the semi-final they had a good win over CTI Clonmel. However in the Southeast Finals they had a tough loss to Presentation College Carlow.

We worked hard and had a good season, and also made it through to the All-Ireland Playoffs in our division. We played Knockbeg College and Coláiste Coilm. We played Well but had an unfortunate loss to Knockbeg College in the first match. In the second match against Coláiste Coilm, we were losing for most of the game but came back and won by a point. Unfortunately we didn't get through to the All Ireland Quarter Finals because Knockbeg College won their second match.



Back row l-r: John Hayes, Stephen Manogue, Charlie Bibby, Colm Fitzgerald, Aaron Coogan, Jacob Breslin, Joe Greene.

Front Row r: Edward McDermott, Sean Carrigan, Joseph McNerney, Cian Kelly, Charlie Cleere, Jamie Peters, Robbie Brown.

# Second Year Basketball

Adam Walsh

The Second Year basketball team started off the season by playing Presentation Carlow. We had been training every Tuesday at lunchtime with our coach. We sadly lost to a very good team. Our other group games involved St Mary's CBS Carlow, and two wins against Castlecomer CC and Colaiste Pobail, two games which we won. Unfortunately we were unlucky not to progress to the next round on scoring difference. We would like to thank Lawrence "Puff" Summers for his hard work and for making Tuesday lunchtimes very enjoyable.



Back row (l-r): Hugh Finnegan, Jack Cody, Joe McNerney, Frank Noukeu, Adam Walsh, Leon Browne, Cathal Keegan, Evan O'Neill. Front row (l-r): Bill Nolan, David Mulrooney, Aaron Coogan, Stephen Manogue, Aaron Maher, Jamie Carter.



# School Badminton

Oisín O'Reilly

## U14

Starting in September there was badminton training after school on Fridays, with coach Declan Bennett coming in. These were all aimed towards the county schools competition down in the Watershed in February. Four teams entered the U14 section and one of the teams we played were Scoil Aireagail, Grennan College and Kilkenny College.

Jay Maguire

## U16

The team of four for U16 consisted of Cathal Foley, Matthew Banville, Michael Butler and I. We played in the U16 county schools tournament in the Watershed, against many schools from around the county. We won our section and advanced to the Leinster finals. These were held in Baldoyle, Dublin against different teams from around the province. It was a great experience.

## U19

The under 19 team this year won out division 1 of the county championships and progressed to the Leinster finals also. It was a great achievement as most of the team is still underage next year.



**U14 Badminton**

Back row (l-r): Sean Counihan, Aidan Cahill, Ronan O'Brien, James J Comerford, Oisín O'Reilly, Joseph McInerney, Rory Connellan. Front row (l-r): Charlie Bibby, Mark McPhillips, Matthew Mulligan, Andy O'Connor, Jake O'Brien, Mr Michael Connolly.



**U16 Schools County Champions**

Jay Maguire, Cathal Foley, Matthew Banville, Michael Butler.



**U19 Badminton**

L-r: Nobin Remi, Peter McDonald., Patrick Phelan, Andrew Deveraux.

# Handball

As always the school had numerous players taking part in the Leinster handball competitions this year in the different age groups.

The First Year players in particular gave some great performances in the

competitions. Many players played trial games in the alleys, eager to represent the school. In the singles 40x20, Conor Doyle became the Leinster champion, beating schools from Kilkenny and Wexford along the way.

In the doubles, John Hayes and Cathal Buckley reached the provincial final of both the 40x20 and 60x30 competitions.

Well done to all players on their efforts this year



**First Year Handball** Doubles and singles

L-r: Cathal Buckley, John Hayes, Conor Doyle.



**U15 Handball Team**

L-r: Mick Carroll, Noah Bourke, Eoin Forde.



**U17 Handball**

L-r: Padraic Foley, Jack Doyle, Tom Carroll.



# First Year Blitz





# Soccer



## First Year Soccer

Back row (l-r): Mr Paddy Kelly, Noah Gilmore, Luke Phelan, Joe Greene, Ben Phelan, Andy Murphy, Mr Evan Walsh. Third row (l-r): Tim Kelly, Ross O'Neill, James Hughes, Tom Cleere, Oisín O'Reilly, David Fitzpatrick, Thomas Roche. Second row (l-r): Sean Roberts, Paddy Walsh, Stephen Manogue, Cathal Hickey, Cathal Buckley, Sean Hunt, Bobby Murphy. Front row (l-r): Oisín Bateman, Ned Langton, James Comerford, Adam Coyne, Tom McPhillips, Aaron McEvoy, Jeff Neary, Sean Bergin.

## FIRST YEAR SOCCER

It was a good year for First Year soccer within the school as over 100 students tried out for the team. The First Years had a good run in the Blue Ribbon event in the Leinster cup. Their path to the semi-final required them to beat three Dublin West schools along with Bray in the quarter finals. However in the semi-final of the cup Clane would be the opposition, unfortunately we lost out on a score line of 2-1. There was success however in the league. They won out the Carlow/Kilkenny league beating Tullow CBS by 5 goals to 0 in an excellent performance. They then progressed to the semi-final of the Champions league on the back of

this victory but at the semi-final stage they would fall unlucky again. Clane again the opposition. This time extra-time would be needed to separate the sides on a score-line of 4-3. Clane would go on to win the First Year All-Ireland competition. Our First Year team is a good team which shows huge promise for the future.

## U15 SOCCER

Eoin Forde, Killian Corcoran, Conor Dooley

The year started off with three series of intense trials with around fifty hopeful students looking for a

place on the team. After the team was selected we started off our campaign with a devastating loss against a tough Wexford team the score was 4-1 but that didn't represent our teams hard work. This loss meant we were into the shield competition. This loss only made us stronger as a whole. Our next match was at home in sloppy conditions.

The first half was tight with us going in at half time 2-0 up. We started the second half off rapidly scoring two goals by the captain Cillian Kelly. The game ended 7-1 with other goals coming from Conor Dooley and Eoin Forde.

The next game we played was in the round of 16 they set up very



## U15 Soccer

Back row (l-r): Mr Ken Archbold, Sean Moore, Bill Hughes, Paul Mulligan, Matthew Kelleher, Jack Archbold, Killian Corcoran. Middle row (l-r): Alan Dunphy, Eoin Forde, Michael Raggett, Shane Glynn, Daniel Bowe, Ross Dermody. Front row (l-r): Mark Maceaney, Conor Dooley, Jack Aylmer, Cillian Kelly, Pauric Kirwan, Alex Sheridan, Liam Moloney.





#### U17 Soccer

Back row (l-r): Mr Tom Brennan, Oisín Meegan, Jack Clifford, Ben Canavan, Moses Duku, Sebastian Ruiana, Josh Dempsey. Second row (l-r): Shane Fennelly, John Canny, Edmond Dowling, Dylan Kenny, Darragh Casey, Cathal Mulhall. Front row (l-r): Cathal Kearny, Luke Connellan, Oisín Carroll, Jack McGuirk, Adam O'Connor, Eoin Delehanty.

defensively against us and they were very hard to break down. A free kick from Cillian Kelly sent us in at half time 1-0 up. The second half started off with us being put under severe pressure. With ten minutes to go we conceded a goal. It looked like it was going to penalties but a late winner by Shane Glynn by a header sealed the deal. Next was the quarter final against St Killians.

We were expecting a tough game but it didn't turn out like that. The game ended 10-0 with goals coming from Killian Corcoran, Cillian Kelly, Conor Dooley, Sean Moore and Mikey Raggett. This win meant that we were now in the semi-final against Naas in Port Laoise. We knew this was going to

be our toughest match as Naas were set up well and very disciplined. Naas were the better team early on but we eased into the game and just before half time Cillian Kelly lobbed the keeper from a free kick. In the second half a goal was controversially disallowed. Rapid striker Jack Archbold burnt the defense but the linesman deemed it offside. We were now dominating the game and two late goals from hat-trick scorer Cillian Kelly made it a 3-0 win.

We are now on a four win streak and looking forward to the upcoming Leinster final on the 22nd of May. A big thanks to our managers Mr Ken Archbold and Mr Evan Walsh.

#### U 17 SOCCER

Eoin Delahunty

Mr Brennan looked after the U17 soccer panel this year. We had a few matches this year which we played in the Carlow Kilkenny league. We had a tough year as many of our panel were also involved in other teams throughout the year and it was difficult to get our full panel together. One of our matches was also held during our work experience so many of us found it hard to get time off to attend. We would like to thank Mr Brennan for looking after our team throughout the year and organising our matches.



#### U19 Soccer

Back row (l-r): Ciaran Shortall, Finn Lannigan, Stephen Keoghán, Colm Nolan, Jamie Phelan. Third row (l-r): Ross Ellis, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Aldan McGree, Adam Barcoe, Padraig Hally, Mr Gerry Walsh. Second row (l-r): Mr Larry Cotter, Ronan Lavelle, Conor Brett, Jack Canavan, David O'Sullivan, Robert Wemyss. Front row (l-r): Eoin Guilfoyle, Jamie Reid, Oisín Carroll, Tom Bolger, Jack Keogh



# Gaelic Football



## Junior Football

Back row (l-r): Jack Doyle, Peter McDonald, Ben King, Tom Carroll, Eoin Delahunty. Third row (l-r): Mr Paul Fitzgerald, Tomas Barron, Jack McGuirk, Conor Fitzpatrick, Cathal Mulhall, Harry Murphy. Second row (l-r): Ciaran Rice, Eoin Crowley, Andy Hickey, Luke Holohan, Matthew Shortall, Mr Niall Connolly. Front row (l-r): Vincent O'Grady, Padhraic Foley, Denis Walsh, Cathal Kearney, John Canny, J.P. Gamble, Andrew Deveraux.

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Vinny O'Grady and Padraic Foley

Our year started off with football trials at the start of December with Third and Fourth Years who were interested in representing the school in Junior Football. After a few good training sessions we started off our campaign down in Wexford with a thrilling match against Bunclody. After a slow first half we found ourselves down by 15 points at the half time mark. We came out in the second half all guns blazing with nothing to loose and with 10 minutes to go we found ourselves only down by 3 points. A penalty and a last minute point sealed the victory for us as we took our first win of the season.

Two weeks later we had our second match of our year on our home ground here in the school against St Mary's Carlow. After a few early scores in the first half we started to pull away only for St Marys to shorten the gap at half time. Mid way through the second half we started to dominate and took the win in a hard fought match giving us our second victory of the year.

After a bye in the third match of our group we found ourselves in Leinster semi final against Gorey down on their home pitch. It took us a while to get going but we left it too late as Gorey had pulled away with their scores, leaving us with too much to do as Gorey eventually won out the fixture.

It was a great year for all involved and we would like to thank our managers Mr Niall Connolly and Mr Paul Fitzgerald and our fellow players for a great year of football with the school.







#### Juvenile Football

Back row (l-r): Bill Hughes, Ben Whitty, Barry Dunne, Harry O'Grady, Aaron Moore. Fourth row l-r: Matthew Kelleher, Padraig Naddy, Conor Dooley, Bill Smith, Eoin Forde, Conor Kavanagh, Denis Dalton. Third row (l-r): Mr Stephen Morgan, Billy Dowling, Michael Carroll, Cillian Doyle, Damien Cuddihy, John Keane, Tom Lodge, Edward McDermot, Mr Richie Windle. Second row (l-r): James Hughes, Sean Adams, Harry Shine, Sean Keane, Niall Shortall, Sean Hunt, Padraig Kirwan, Robert Ring. Front row (l-r): Tom McPhillips, David Williams, Harry Boyle, Aaron McEvoy, Padraig Hickey, Adam Coyne, Sean Roberts, Jack Alymer.



## JUVENILE FOOTBALL

Killian Doyle

The year was started with trials in September followed by a good challenge match against St Peters College Wexford away. The Peters game prepared us and showed us what was ahead in the coming year.

Our first game out was against Portarlinton. It was a close enough match until halftime. In the second half St Kieran's pulled away from Portarlinton, we had a strong breeze at our backs.

Next in line was Athy. The conditions were terrible, it was a wet, cold, slippery day and it was a real dog fight. Both teams battled hard but St Kieran's just wanted it more on the day and we won by 5 points.

For our next match we faced a brilliant Carlow CBS side that we would later meet in the final. The match was held in Carlow. These were our hardest opponents yet however we had momentum on our side, we had been unbeaten up to now and we didn't want that to end. We met Carlow CBS with everything they had and managed to come out victorious on the day.

St Kieran's progressed to the South Leinster semi - final where we met Enniscorthy. The match was held on the senior pitch in Kieran's and we had the support of the school to help us beat an impressive Enniscorthy side.

St Kieran's now faced Carlow CBS in the South Leinster final, a team we had already beaten, however we were under no illusion at how tough a match this was going to be. It was a clear mild day in Dr Cullen Park for the day of the final. It was a close match up to half time with both teams exchanging points, however unfortunately in the second half Carlow CBS came out on top and were the better team on the day. It was a disappointing end to a great year.

A massive thanks to our mentors Mr Windle and Mr Morgan.



# First Year Hurling



**First Year Hurling Leinster Champions**

Back row (l-r): Mr Evan Walsh, Thomas Brennan, Ben Phelan, Edward Mc Dermot, Cormac Moore, Ciallin Brennan, Thomas Cleere, Joe Hughes, Mr Jonjo Farrell. Second row (l-r): Paddy Walsh, Cian Farrell, Harry Boyle, Stephen Manogue, Edward Langton, Cathal Hickey, Sean Carrigan, Cian Kelly. First row (l-r): Aaron Mcevoy, Sean Bergin, Ben Crow, Rory Glynn, Tim Kelly, Sean Roberts, Tom Mc Philips, Diarmuid Langton, Charlie Cleere, Sean Hunt.

## Cian Farrell

The 2018/19 campaign culminated in a fantastic victory in Bunclody against a spirited St Peters team. This year every pupil in First Year was involved in the journey to the final. In our first match against St Peter's in Wexford pupils from 1a1 and 1a2 played the 2 matches and helped out as water boys, umpires etc. Unfortunately we were defeated in this game 4:9 to 2:3. Next we used pupils from 1a3 and 1a4 as we defeated St Brendan's, Birr on a score of 5:12 to 2:7. This led us the quarter final against Colaiste Mhuire Johnstown and in a hard fought encounter in terrible conditions we prevailed using the 1a5 students.

This brought us into a semi final against a very strong Good Counsel team. That match was away in Good Council so their whole school were watching and supporting them, as well as the parents of the Counsel players. But the parents of Kieran's players made themselves heard and supported us all through the match.

Our backs played phenomenal that day with our full back line mopping up everything, half back line catching everything, midfield tackling like dogs, half forward line getting some great scores and full forward line causing chaos inside. Also our goalie made some fabulous saves and catches.

Kieran's went on to win the match by 4 points on a scoreline of two goals and nine points to eleven points.

The day finally came, St Kieran's and St Peter's, two of the best schools in Leinster for hurling, go neck and neck to see who will win this years Leinster's schools Championship. Sean Roberts, the Kieran's full back, is captain. Charlie Cleere, our centre back, was given a difficult task in marking their best player which he did brilliantly.

On the day the team went into an early lead and getting scores when needed in the second half. Aaron McEvoy and Ben Phelan both contributed greatly to the scoreboard from

frees and from play. Joe Hughes got 3 points from centre forward. Our full forward line caused them so much trouble they weren't able to handle us. Tim Kelly got man of the match from midfield while Sean Hunt scored a goal and two points from midfield also. The half backline were superb and all played brilliantly while our full back line were as solid as a rock. Our goalie Stephen Manogue made some fabulous saves as well. The subs made a huge impact coming off the bench giving the team new life.

Panel for that final was: 1. Cathal Hickey, 2. Joe Hughes, 3. Sean Bergin, 4. Ned Langton, 5. Edward McDermott, 6. Tom McPhilips, 7. Cormac Moore, 8. Sean Roberts, 9. Paddy Walsh, 10. Charlie Cleere, 11. Ciallin Brennan, 12. Thomas Cleere, 13. Cian Farrell, 14. Sean Hunt, 15. Jeff Neary, 16. Ben Phelan, 17. Stephen Manogue, 18. Thomas Brennan, 19. Harry Boyle, 20. Sean Carrigan, 21. Tim Kelly, 22. Aaron McEvoy, 23. Rory Glynn, 24. Cian Kelly.





# First Year Hurling League



**First Year Hurling League**

Once again our ever popular First Year hurling league took place at lunchtime on Tuesday and Thursday every week beginning in the middle of September. In total 120 students of all hurling abilities took part under the directorship of Mr Forrest and Mr Hennessy. They were split them into seven teams. Each lunchtime two matches were held and the standard of hurling was very high. Definitely we have some future stars on the way to be excellent replacements for the likes of Lester Ryan, Jonjo Farrell, Cillian Buckley and T.J. Reid etc, so Kilkenny hurling will be safe for years to come. As is well known not everyone will make the Kieran's juvenile panel but every First Year gets a chance in these leagues to play. I must congratulate the first years for turning up in big numbers every lunchtime and participating with enthusiasm and encouraging each other at all times.

We have to thank the Kilkenny county board for agreeing every year to supply us with a set of trophies for the winners and set of medals for the runners up. Thanks to everyone for their help and co - operation thought the league. This year marks the end of Mr Forrest's involvement with the league as he retired during the year. We would like to thank Mr Forrest for all the time he has given to the league and wish him a restful retirement!





# Juvenile Hurling



Back row (l-r): Bill Hughes, Ben Whitty, Barry Dunne, Bill Smith, Aaron Moore, Sam Mcevoy, Kilian Doyle. Third row (l-r): Padraig Naddy, Billy Dowling, Mick Carroll, Conor Doyle, Eoin Forde, John Keane, Niall Shortall, Mr Jonjo Farrell. Second row (l-r): Matthew Kelleher, Thomas Brennan, Sean Adams, Harry Shine, Sean Keenan, Tim Kelly, Tom Lodge, Mark Holohan, Rob Ring. Front row (l-r): Ben Phelan, Charlie Fitzgerald, Tom McPhillips, David Williams, Rory Glynn, Harry Boyle, Aaron McEvoy, Sean Hunt, Sean Roberts, Jamie Carter. Absent from photo: Mr Lester Ryan.

Juvenile hurling for the year started with trials for First and Second years in December 2018 and January 2019. A provisional panel was picked for a challenge match against Thurles CBS from Tipperary.

A further panel was then picked for the start of the league. We played our first round of the league against Dublin North in St Kieran's College.

With a very comfortable first half we thought it was over but they came right back into it. We held out for a 1 point victory. Next up was St Peter's of Wexford. On a very windy day and a very tense finish we held out by 2 points in a very even match. This meant we had topped the group and went straight through to a league Semi Final but little did we know we'd have to play St. Peters again.

We played St Peter's on a very wet and windy day in St Kieran's College. We started the game well with a goal and a point but Peters kept us on our toes throughout the first half. We knew we had a very strong wind in the second half and dominated St Peter's beating them by 14 points. We were then in a league final against a very impressive Good Counsel, New Ross, who had been winning comfortably in all their matches. The game was played in Thomastown. After a very good start, Good Counsel were knocking on the door. With a very strong wind against us we held out for a very well-deserved victory, with Padraig Naddy captaining our team presented with the League Title.

We wish our Juvenile Panel every success in the upcoming Leinster Championship.





# Junior Hurling



Back row (l-r): Dan Cahill, Eoghan Delahunty, Joe Fitzpatrick, Cormac Rafter, Peter MacDonald, Dara Mason. Fourth row (l-r): Mr Richie Ruth, Ciarán Rice, Alex Sheridan, Tommy Phelan, Jimmy Lennon, Harry Murphy, Mr Brian Dowling. Third row (l-r): Tom Carrol, Matthew Shortall, Kieran Kerr Murtagh, Jack Cleere, Conor Cody, Jimmy O'Neil, Richie Cash. Second row (l-r): Brian McDonald, Paddy Brennan, J.P Gamble, Sean O'Keefe, Patrick Langton, Killian Carey, Vincent O'Grady, Daniel Murphy. Front row (l-r): Padraig Brennan, Padraig Lennon, Denis Walsh, Andy Hickey, Jack Doyle, Conor Fitzpatrick, Eoghan Crowley, Padhraic Foley.



Andy Hickey

Trials for this year's St Kieran's College Junior hurling team began on the second week back with over a hundred students trying out. After winning the All-Ireland final last year the team were looking forward to trying to retain the All-Ireland title again this year.

Our first match was away to St Peter's down in Wexford. There was a very strong wind in our favour in the first half and it was neck and neck at half time. We came out in the second half knowing we had to work an awful lot harder if we wanted to win, the game finished in a draw which was disappointing for us as it was not the start we had hoped for. We then played at home against Good Counsel. After a blistering start with early goals from Conor Fitzpatrick we ran out convincing winners. Our next game was against CBS Kilkenny in Palmerstown. We did not perform as we would have liked to on the day, we finished strong but still lost by three points, we knew there was a lot more in us than we showed that day. We then played Borris to get into a Leinster semi-final. After being clear victors we marched on to play Good Counsel. We travelled to Thomastown on a blustery day. We opened the game with a few points and by half time we found ourselves up by two. Good Counsel threw everything at us in the second half and we barely scraped over the line.



The Leinster final took place in Nowlan Park. It was the day we all had been looking forward to and training so hard for. CBS got an early goal but we went straight back up the pitch to reply with a point. Both teams exchanged points before Conor Fitz and Vincent O'Grady got goals to put us ahead at half time. CBS came back and got another goal shortly after half time and now they had all the momentum, going five points up with ten minutes to go. Peter McDonald took control of the game from centre back really grabbing the game by the scruff of the neck. We fought back and the game was a draw with two minutes to go and the game finished as a draw and went to extra time. CBS took the lead and dropped a sweeper back early in extra time. In the second half we came out with fire in our bellies and in the 75th minute a goal from sub Padraig Lennon saw Kieran's win on a score line of 3-15 to 2-15. The Leinster title was the highlight of the year as we went on to lose to Thurles CBS in the All-Ireland semi final by six points in a hard fought second half. Thanks to our mentors Mr Ruth and Mr Dowling for all their hard work throughout the campaign



# Senior Hurling



Tom Hogan

The hurling league started in October with a good win over Coláiste Eoin from Dublin. This was followed by a comprehensive win over Borris in Carlow. We beat Birr in the Laois Centre of Excellence in Portlaoise in early November which qualified us for a final appearance against CBS Kilkenny on November 28th in Dunmore. CBS deservedly beat us on the day by 1-12 to 0-11 to become Leinster League champions. The Leinster championship was just around the corner and we needed to do some serious training. Conor Murphy was appointed captain and Eoin Cody vice-captain for the new campaign. We were in a better position now because the local U 19 and U 21 championships were coming to a conclusion and more players were available.

We commenced the championship on December 12th in WIT's Carriganore pitch against Good Counsel. We played well against a young Wexford team and came out on top by 3-20 to 1-10. Our next championship game was fixed for January 9th 2019 so we spent a few weeks training hard and playing a few challenge games. We played three very competitive games

against WIT Freshers, Thurles CBS and CBC from Cork. The game against CBC was especially close and was a good indicator of what we might expect when we met later in the All Ireland semi-final.

On a perfect day for hurling, January 9th, in the Wexford Centre of Excellence at Ferns we faced St Peter's from Wexford town. It was an unseasonably balmy day with no wind and a perfect pitch. We played up the hill in the first half and were leading by a couple of points approaching half-time when we lost one of our players to a red card. Fortunately, Eoin Cody scored a goal almost immediately and it cushioned the blow. On the restart our fourteen players took complete control and we finished on a scoreline of 3-17 to 0-12.

After a break of over a month we met Dublin North in the Leinster semi-final again in the Laois Centre of Excellence in Portlaoise. There was a strong wind blowing down the field and we had it in the first half. Things were looking bad early on as we trailed Dublin by a couple of points, having conceded an early goal. Once Cian Kenny scored a goal after 15 minutes we took over and ran out convincing winners by 2-22 to 1-10. Coláiste Eoin

whom we had beaten narrowly in the league were our opponents in the Leinster Final on Sunday February 24th in O'Moore Park in Portlaoise. It was a cold, windy day and we chose to start against the elements. Coláiste really put it up to us and we were lucky to be level at half-time. However it was Coláiste Eoin who started the better in the second half and it was only in the last ten minutes that we pulled away to win the Leinster Final by 1-17 to 2-7.

Next up was an All Ireland Semi-final meeting with CBC from Cork city who are more noted as a rugby nursery. For our three Ballyhale Shamrocks players, Dean Mason, Eoin Cody and Darragh Corcoran it was a quick turnaround. Crowned All Ireland club champions just three days previously it was a chance for them to make their own piece of history. We headed for WIT again on Wednesday March 20th and we faced a physically big and skilful Cork team. It was a great tussle from start to finish and after a couple of close shaves we were thrilled to win by two points. The team of 2019 had reached the All Ireland final.

Seample Stadium in Thurles was not available for the All Ireland final so we headed to O'Connor Park in Tullamore. Our opponents were familiar,



Presentation Athenry with whom we had a terrific battle in the 2018 final. We knew we would be up against it but we were happy to be there and we prepared accordingly. Mr Michael Walsh continued the great work he had been doing all year in getting the lads ready for the big day. We arrived in Tullamore ready for battle on Saturday March 30th. It was a cool dry day with the usual strong wind blowing down the field towards the Town end. We lost the toss and had first use of the wind. Unfortunately we didn't make good use of the breeze and we were fortunate to be level at half-time, seven points apiece. The lads did start the second half the stronger and took control of the game with Eoin Cody putting three points in it. However, with fifteen minutes remaining Athenry had scored an excellent goal and a couple of points to go two ahead. This was the moment our players responded magnificently and with the help of a flicked goal from Conor Kelly, two points each from David Blanchfield and Killian Egan and some great defending we held out for a memorable two point win, 1-15 to 1-12. Our captain, Conor Murphy, who led his men from the front all year accepted the Croke Cup on behalf of

the team. All credit to the players who dug deep and showed great character to overcome a fantastic Presentation Athenry team.

Leinster and All Ireland champions 2019! This was a great achievement by a panel of 35 students who put in trojan work on the pitch and in the gym since last November.

Special mention must go to the above mentioned Ballyhale Shamrocks players who won a unique double in the space of a fortnight, All Ireland senior club and All Ireland Senior Colleges' medals. Also, Dunamaggin were crowned All Ireland Junior champions in February and we had Eddie Dunne, Adam Fitzpatrick, Conor Hoban and Darragh O'Keeffe winning another unique double. Well done lads.

Thanks to our Transition Year students who helped out at every training session and every game since last October. They are Andrew Brennan-Smyth, Andy Hickey, Ivan Kelly, Dara Mason, Finnian Shefflin, Darragh Walsh and Jack Walton. The players and mentors would like to acknowledge the support of Conor Ryan whose good humour and sharp wit makes training and matches more enjoyable for everyone. A special

word of thanks to DJ Carey and Grace McCormack for their help in preparing the team during the year.

### All Ireland Team

Dean Mason, Darragh O'keeffe, Pádraic O'Neill, Jamie Young, Darragh Corcoran, Conor Murphy (captain), Killian Egan, Martin O'Connell, David Blanchfield, Darragh Maher, Eoin Cody (vice-captain), Aaron Brennan, Ciarán Brennan, Conor Hoban, Cian Kenny, Subs: Conor Kelly, Dacel Fwamba, Jack Brennan (used), Eoghan Moylan, Stephen Keoghan, David Fogarty, Daire O'Neill, Jamie Harkin, Liam Brennan-Smyth, Dylan Crehan, Eddie Dunne, Seán Burke, Adam Fitzpatrick, Harry Walsh, Conor Foley, Pádraic Moylan, Dylan Carey, Barry Lennon, Killian Rudkins, George Murphy (inj.)

PS: The team mentors Mr T Hogan, Mr Philip Walsh and Mr Michael Walsh would like to acknowledge the support of our teaching colleagues, staff and management during the year. There were classes to be covered, sideline support on match days, organising gear for the All Ireland final and fundraising for the final. We do appreciate it.











**St Kieran's College: All-Ireland Colleges Senior A Hurling Croke Cup Champions 2019**

Back row: Dacel Fwamba, Padraig O'Neill, Stephen Keoghan, Seán Burke, David Blanchfield, Adam Fitzpatrick, Conor Foley, Eoghan Moylan, Daire O'Neill, Conor Hoban, Dean Mason, Dylan Carey, Conor Kelly. Middle row: Mr Tom Hogan, Conor Ryan, George Murphy, Liam Brennan-Smyth, Killian Egan, Eoin Cody, Jack Brennan, Eddie Dunne, Jamie Harkin, Harry Walsh, Pádraic Moylan, Barry Lennon, Martin O'Connell, Mr Michael Walsh, Mr Philip Walsh. Front row: Darragh O'Keeffe, Aaron Brennan, Dylan Crehan, Cian Kenny, Jamie Young, Conor Murphy (Captain), Ciarán Brennan, David Fogarty, Darragh Corcoran, Darragh Maher, Killian Rudkins.





**St Kieran's College: All-Ireland Colleges Senior A Hurling Croke Cup Champions 2019 for a record 23rd time. Many thanks for the continued support from all the clubs around the Diocese of Ossory.**

Back row: Padraig O'Neill (Young Irelands), Stephen Keogh (Graigue-Ballycallan), Sean Burke (Emeralds), David Blanchfield (Bennettsbridge), Adam Fitzpatrick (Dunnamaggin), Conor Foley (Windgap), Eoghan Moylan (Dicksboro), Daire O'Neill (Danesfort), Conor Hoban (Dunnamaggin), Dean Mason (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Dylan Carey (Young Irelands), Middle row: Dacel Fwamba (O'Loughlin Gaels), Liam Brennan-Smyth (Dicksboro), Killian Egan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Eoin Cody (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Jack Brennan (Young Irelands), Eddie Dunne (Dunnamaggin), Jamie Harkin (Bennettsbridge), Harry Walsh (Rower Inistioge), Pádraic Moylan (Dicksboro), Barry Lennon (Carrickshock), Martin O'Connell (Clara), Conor Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels), Aaron Brennan (Dunnamaggin), Dylan Crehan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Dylan Crehan (Dunnamaggin), Cian Kenny (James Stephens), Jamie Young (O'Loughlin Gaels), Conor Murphy (Bennettsbridge), Ciarán Brennan (Bennettsbridge), David Fogarty (O'Loughlin Gaels), Darragh Corcoran (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Darragh Maher (St Lachtain's), Killian Rudkins (Barrow Rangers).





St Kieran's College, Leaving Cert Class 2019



