

Scoil Iognáid de Rís

Spring 2012

CBS Primary School, Kilkenny

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Fáilte

We would like to welcome our new Board of Management who will serve the school for the next four years. They are Chairman, Conor O'Higgins, Teachers' Nominees Mr. Denis O'Reilly (Principal) and Mrs. Anita Bolger, Dónal O'Hanlon and Carol Keenan (Community Representatives), Geraldine Buckley (Patron's Nominee), James Walsh and Mairéad Mc Morrow (Parents' Representatives).

The following officers have been elected on our Parents' Council: Nick Bennett (Chairman), Aisling Barr (Treasurer) and Lisa Walsh (Secretary). Our best wishes to them and a sincere thank you to the outgoing officers: Mairead Mc Morrow, James Walsh and Geraldine Buckley.

We thank our Board of Management and Parents' Council for all their hard work on behalf of the school.

We also take this opportunity to wish Mrs. Kinsella every happiness in her retirement and to extend our congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Bergin on his upcoming marriage to Eilis.

Retirement Day - 29th February 2012



Left - Right Mr. O'Reilly (Principal), Blake Hanley, Mrs. Kinsella and Luke Burke.

and a card on Wednesday, 29th February, her final day in the school. Afterwards, surrounded by her teaching colleagues, past and present, she enjoyed a time of relaxation with light refreshments, before leaving the school for the last time as a teacher. The day was one of mixed emotions - happiness and sadness. Happy because of the many years service she gave to the boys of the CBS. The sadness is in leaving behind a job she loved and the many friendships she made with pupils, teachers and parents. She will enjoy a formal meal and presentation with staff, Board of Management and Parent's Council on Friday, 1st June.



Mrs. Kinsella on her last day, surrounded by her last class.

Kilkenny where she was soon to meet her husband Paul, settle in Coon and raise her four children there. Mrs. Kinsella has a keen interest in Traditional Irish Music, Gaelic Games and Golf. She will be missed by her pupils and staff but we wish her health and happiness in her retirement years with lots of opportunities to pursue her hobbies.

We congratulate Mrs. Noreen Kinsella on giving 34 years service as a teacher to the CBS Primary School Kilkenny, both as a classroom teacher and Learning Support teacher. On behalf of the staff and pupils of the school Mrs. Kinsella was presented with a bouquet of flowers

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and a card on Wednesday, 29th February, her final day in the school. Afterwards, surrounded by her teaching colleagues, past and present, she enjoyed a time of relaxation with light refreshments, before leaving the school for the last time as a teacher. The day was one of mixed emotions - happiness and sadness. Happy because of the many years service she gave to the boys of the CBS. The sadness is in leaving behind a job she loved and the many friendships she made with pupils, teachers and parents. She will enjoy a formal meal and presentation with staff, Board of Management and Parent's Council on Friday, 1st June.

Before coming to Kilkenny Mrs. Kinsella, who was then Ms. Noreen O'Connor, spent six years teaching in Dublin, but being from Kerry, decided that it was time to move to somewhere a bit more rural. Lucky for us, she settled on a move to

Kilkenny where she was soon to meet her husband Paul, settle in Coon and raise her four children there. Mrs. Kinsella has a keen interest in Traditional Irish Music, Gaelic Games and Golf. She will be missed by her pupils and staff but we wish her health and happiness in her retirement years with lots of opportunities to pursue her hobbies.

CBS Boys Choir



Our CBS Boys Choir Singing at Mount Juliet – December 2011

Following a meeting between parents of choir boys, Mr. Brennan and Mr. O'Reilly a decision was made to continue the tradition of "A Choir Trip Abroad" so boys were very excited to hear that they would be travelling to London this year on Thursday, 7th June and returning home on Saturday night, 9th June. Their trip will include a guided bus tour of London, a Thames River Cruise, a flight on the London Eye, a visit to The Natural History Museum, Science Museum and Madame Tussauds and an evening performance of "The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe". The boys will fly through Gatwick and stay at The Meininger Hotel. We will give you a full report on the trip in the Summer Newsletter. We wish all travelling, a safe and enjoyable journey.

Eucharistic Congress Bell



We would like to thank Mr. Joe Malone for arranging to bring the Eucharistic Congress Bell and the four icons to our school on Friday, 13th January. The bell itself is one hundred years old and we were very surprised to hear that each icon is worth around €5,000. Four 6th class boys carried the bell into the school hall, followed by four

2nd class boys carrying the four icons. The procession was followed by a short prayer service in which boys from some classes said prayers and got a chance to ring the Eucharistic bell. Mr. O'Reilly

spoke to the boys about the role of "the bell" in Irish Christian History.

Green School News

On Tuesday, 7th February Kilkenny Environmental Officer, Bernadette Moloney, visited our school to carry out the final inspection in preparation for awarding the school our first green flag. Prior to the inspection the school received a highly complimentary letter from An Taisce in Dublin praising the school for all its hard work and dedication to the Green Schools Programme over the last three years. We anticipate receiving the flag in the near future and will keep you informed in the next issue of the school newsletter.



The *Down to Earth* Theatre Group from Dublin, visited the school on Wednesday, 7th March to encourage the children, through a stage performance called "The R-Factor", to continue to think seriously about key environmental issues and the importance of being socially aware. After the performance our Green Schools Coordinator was presented with a certificate – "The CBS Has The R-Factor"



Confirmation and First Communion

The 6th class boys from Rooms 6 and 10 will be on retreat in Peace in Christ on 28th and 29th March, in preparation for their Confirmation which will be held on April 22nd. They will also hold a Ceremony of Light for parents and god-parents in St. Mary's Cathedral on Thursday, 29th March.

Our second class boys are really excited about their First Communion which will be celebrated on Sunday, 13th May. In preparation for the big day they celebrated their First Confession on 8th March in St. Mary's Cathedral.

PPU Presentation



Left – Right: Dónal Gibbons and Seán Breathnach, CBS PPU, Mr. Denis O'Reilly Principal, Noel Lanigan, CBS PPU and Mr. Dónal McCarthy, Deputy Principal.

On Friday, 27th January, Mr. Seán Breathnach, presented a cheque for €1,500 to Principal, Mr. O'Reilly on behalf of the CBS PPU. This money was raised at the local bingo held in the Carlton Ballroom every Monday and Friday night. Also present were Mr. Dónal Gibbons and Mr. Noel Lanigan of the PPU and Mr. Dónal McCarthy, Deputy Principal of the school. Our sincere appreciation to the PPU for this very generous donation and for all the voluntary work they do on behalf of the CBS schools in Kilkenny

Visit to the Edmund Rice Homestead

Second class pupils from rooms 2 and 3 visited the Edmund Rice Centre on Wednesday, 21st March and our 5th class pupils from rooms 7 & 10 visited on Tuesday, 27th March.

“On Wednesday, 21st March the two second classes went to Westcourt in Callan, Edmund Rice’s house. We had to take two buses to his house and it wasn’t long until we were there. When we got there we watched a movie and it was about Edmund Rice. The person who was telling the story was Mr. O’Reilly. Then we went out to the cottage and we saw a gun. They had a well and a water pump. We saw a mill stone which was used to grind flour.

There were two girls and seven boys in Edmund’s family. The boys slept in the attic and the girls slept downstairs. Edmund had a secret box. After that we went over to the fish pond and there were lots of fish. Then we went to the church and our friend

Leon lit a candle. After that the buses brought us back to our school.”

By Evan O’Hara and Conor Hayes (2nd class R 3)

Handball

The group stages of the U/11 and U/13 Kilkenny Schools County Handball Championships were held in the O’Loughlin Gaels Club on Tuesday, 6th March. The school was represented at U/11 by Padraig Hally, Michael O’Brien and Ben O’Shaughnessy from Room 9 and at U/13 by John Delaney Room 10, Jamie Malone, Room 6 and Paul Hayes, Room 7. Our U/11 doubles team of Michael O’Brien and Ben O’Shaughnessy narrowly lost out to a more wily and more experienced team from St. Johns. Our U/11 singles player, Padraig Hally got a bye into the semi-final coming head to head with



fellow hurling club member, David Fogarty from St. Johns. Their first game was a very closely fought encounter with Padraig narrowly losing on a score of 11-8. Unfortunately for Padraig, it wasn’t to be his day and much to his disappointment he conceded the second game as well.



Our U/13 doubles partnership of a much improved Jamie Malone and Paul Hayes gave a good account of themselves but unfortunately they too, eventually lost out to a slightly stronger team from Gowran.

We congratulate our U/13 singles champ, John Delaney on storming through his semi-final match against Seán Muineóg from Gaelscoil Osraí to meet Mark Nolan from St. Canices in the group final. Both boys put on a wonderful display of

handball with lots of long rallies throughout the match. However, John remained focused throughout, winning both games convincingly on a scoreline of 13-8 and 13-6, displaying lots of class, which he has in abundance.

His victory earned him a place in the Schools County Finals on March 22nd but unfortunately it wasn't to be John's day. John is the current U/13 Leinster Singles Champion, a title he earned recently in Croke Park.

Seachtain na Gaeilge



Winners of Best Outfit for Lá Gaelach.

Back Row Left to Right: Patrick Jakunas Room 3, Cathal Maguire Room 8, Aaron Burke Room 10, Nazar Biletsky Room 9 and Ryan Phelan Room 5.

Front Row, Daniel Oglesby Room 5, Rory Halton Room 7, Seán Devane Room 6, Paul Kiely Room 1 and Morgan Leefarr Room 2.



All pupils and staff in our school celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge with great enthusiasm, from Monday, 12th March to Friday, 16th March this year. The week was about learning more about the Irish language and culture in a fun way. We had our usual Tráth na gCeist each morning for senior and junior pupils. This was

called out over the intercom so that the boys had to listen carefully to all the clues and work out the answers for themselves. There was a prize for one winner in each class.

Each class took part in a variety of fun activities during the week, culminating in a fun jamboree concert in the school hall on Friday, 16th which was designated Lá Gaelach. The boys were allowed to wear their Irish colours and each class prepared an activity which they performed for the whole school. Those performances were not only great fun but, it would have to be said, were of a very high standard indeed. They included dances like the "High Caul Cap", "Ionsaí na hInse" and the "Waves of Tory", Poetry, Songs, like "Cailín na Gaillimhe", "Abair Leat" and "Cóisir Rac", Short Plays and the Haka, as Gaeilge.

"We had a fun Tráth na gCeist for Seachtain na Gaeilge recently in the hall. All the senior classes on the top floor were involved. Ms. Brennan ran the quiz and other teachers corrected. Around 130 boys took part in the quiz in teams of four. Bhuaigh Foireann 12. Seo iad na hainmneacha – Jamie Kirwan – Malone, Ben O'Shaughnessy, Adam Doyle and Jason Anca. Fuair siad duaiseanna ó Ms. Brennan."

Written by Fiachra O'Callaghan

The following short account of the week was written by Vincent Roberts from Room 5, 3rd Class.

"Bhíomar ag caint alán gaeilge an tseachtain seo chaite. Seachtain na Gaeilge a bhí ann. Ghlaoigh Mr. Mc Carthy amach ceisteanna as gaeilge gach lá. Bhuaigh Harry, Matuez, Oran, Tadhg, Chase agus Tommy. Dé hAoine chaitheamar eadaí glas, bán agus oráiste. Chuaigh an scoil go léir go dtí an halla ar ceathrú tar éis a haon. Rinne na ranganna amhráin, dánta, dramaíocht, rince agus rapanna trí gaeilge. Bhí an-spraoi againn."

Promoting Literacy

Book Reading

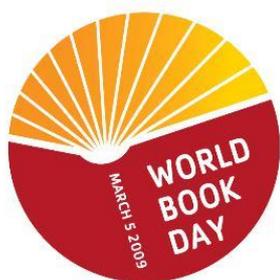
Martin Brennan (aka Edward Crane), who is a past pupil of our school and author of "The Havishams", visited the school on Tuesday, 7th February to read from his novel. The following report was written by Jamie Dalton from Room 5.

Martin Brennan came to our classroom today. He talked to us about his new book called "The Hive of Nightmares". His book is about a brother and a sister who both have a gift. Martin loved comics and comic characters when he was a boy. He gave us some tips about writing. His next book will be called "The Minions of Mace".

School Book Fair

The annual school book fair was held in the school from 06/02/12 to 15/02/12. There was a wide variety of books to suit all ages and tastes. The school received 60% of all sales in books to stock class libraries. We would like to thank all the parents and pupils who supported this event by purchasing books.

World Book Day 01/03/12



www.worldbookday.com

Our 2nd Class boys from Rooms 2 and 3 went on a trip to the library on John's Quay to celebrate World Book Day.

"We walked down to John's Quay Library with our teachers Mrs. Ryan and Ms. Rafter. The

librarian came over to talk to us and told us that we could pick two books. She also showed us where all the different books are in the children's section. The trip was good fun. We couldn't wait to read our new books. We all said "thank you" to the librarian and went back to school. We think it was an excellent trip.

Drugs Awareness - 6th class pupils

As part of the Drugs Awareness Programme there was an information evening for parents of 6th class boys on 21st March. The meeting was addressed by John Leahy, Drugs Education Officer with the HSE and Jo O' Mara, Addiction Counsellor with the Aislinn Centre. There was a great attendance of parents and this programme, which is in its second year in this school, is a great success. Thanks to the class teachers, Mr. Bergin and Mr. Cunniffe, who deliver the important lessons to the pupils.

Hurling 2012

The hurling season has begun already with trials being held on a very cold Monday, 5th and

Wednesday, 7th December. There was a strong turnout despite the weather. Mr. Cunniffe and Mr. Bergin have picked a panel of 32 boys who will train throughout the winter. The hurling A and B championships began on 7th March. We will have two strong teams who will be prepared to take on all the challenges ahead. The panel will train on Mondays and Thursdays every week with matches being held on Wednesdays. Lifts to Palmerstown for training, at 2.45pm are always appreciated. Panel members can be collected in Palmerstown at 4pm after training or at 4.05pm at the school.

2012 Panel

Ben Maher, Feargus Byrne, Jamie Ryan, Declan Coffey, David McCormack, Dean Ryder, John Delaney, Leon Hayes and Niall Flanagan from Room 10. Joe Murphy, Oisín Murphy, Niall McEvoy, Colm O'Hara, Jack Walsh, Oscar Bennett, Cormac Kennedy, Seán Dowling, Oisín Tynan and Fiachra O'Callaghan from Room 8. Jamie Malone, Michael Butler, Stephen Holden, Daniel Blackmore, James Griffin, Nicky Burke-Hayes, Dylan Kinchella and Luke Kinchella from Room 6. Jamie Phelan, Michael O'Brien, Ben O'Shaughnessy and Nazar Biletsky from Room 9.

The first game of the championship for our A Team was played at home, on 14th March against Gaelscoil. Despite putting in a very strong first half performance, to finish level, the second half efforts were below our usual standard so we lost out to a better team on the day.

The boys put in a much improved performance in their second away game against St. Patrick's Boys. The score - line of 4 - 6 to 7 - 6 does not reflect the closeness of the game. Their third game is against St. John's Boys School and will be played on Wednesday, March 28th.

School Trip

Our School Trip this year will take place on Friday, 1st June. Our Junior Classes (2nd and 3rd) will visit the Tayto Park in Ashbourne, Co. Meath. Our Senior Classes are off to Cork to visit the Titanic Experience in Cobh, followed by a trip to Fota Wildlife Park. We will give you a full report on the trip in our Summer Newsletter.

Lenten Campaign

Our annual fundraising for charity takes place every year during Lent. This year as usual it began on Ash Wednesday, 22nd February. Last year the boys, with the support of family and friends raised a total of €3,740. This money was used to help the CBS Mission in Peru and charities such as the Jack and Jill Foundation, Special Olympics Ireland, the Aislínn Drug Treatment Centre and other local projects.

We are very much aware of the gloomy economic climate that exists but again this year we will endeavour to raise as much money as we can. Each year we try to choose charities that have an association with the school. This year we plan to support the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the CBS Secondary Immersion Experience in Zambia. We will also contribute to Edmund Rice Development which supports the work of the Christian Brothers in the Missions. Other small donations will be made to the Knights of Columbanus who sponsor our Drug Awareness Project, Mount Sion Heritage Centre and the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland.

To date we have raised €2,000. This has been achieved by the various fun activities organised by the teachers in each class. All junior classes are taking part in sponsored walks while our senior boys are participating in a Skittles Tournament, Cake Sale, Sponsored Soccer Match, Sponsored Readathon and Futsal Tournament.

We will inform you of the final amount raised in our Summer Newsletter.

Rice Cup Soccer Competition



*Back Row Left to Right: Br. Kevin, John Delaney, Feargus Byrne, Stephen Holden, Girtz Rudzitis and Mr. Cunniffe, Teacher and Team Manager.
Front Row Left to Right: Ben Maher, Leon Hayes, Raz Jalali (Captain) and Jamie Ryan.*

The Integration and Support Unit for New Communities, Mount Sion, and the Football Association of Ireland hosted another successful and well organised Rice Cup for soccer this year on Thursday, 15th March in Mount Sion grounds in Waterford. It is the second competition since it was begun in 2011. It was won by a Waterford team last year but the title and shield has now been brought to Kilkenny by a CBS Team, pictured above.

The team displayed great skill and determination, winning all their matches, to qualify for a coveted semi-final slot, which they won on penalties. The final was won on a scoreline of 1 – 0, with Leon Hayes chipping the goalie with the most delicate of touches to get the winning goal.

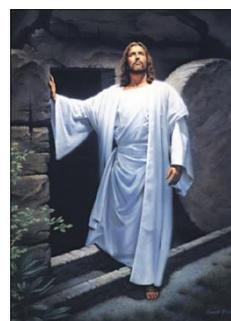
Our B Team, pictured below, also did very well, winning two games and losing two competitive games. However, they just failed to qualify for a semi – final place even though they won their last game by 5 – 0. All eight boys gave one hundred per cent and we're very proud of them.



B Team, Back Row Left to Right – Oisín Murphy, Nicky Burke-Hayes, Alex Pawliczek, David Buckley and Daniel Docherty.

Front Row Left to Right – Oscar Bennett, Declan Coffey and Jacob Vichuri (Captain)

Easter Greetings



We wish you and your family a very happy Easter and we hope the weather will remain dry and warm. Enjoy your holiday from school and we look forward with anticipation to our final school term which will be full of joy, excitement and activity.