



Cloyne Diocesan Pope John Paul II Youth Awards

Junior Certificate students celebrate

Leaving Certificate Success

Fáilte ón Uasal Ó Murchú



Tá fáilte romhaibh go léir i mbliana chuig Nuachtlitir an Gheimhridh. I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter which outlines the huge range of curricular and extra-curricular activities since our return to the College in August. Thank you to our Deputy Principal Mrs. Hartnett, all staff and students for all the organisation and work involved in contributing to the holistic education this College provides. It has been a very busy term with excellent work being done in classrooms, the huge range of field trips which took place, a variety of guest speakers visiting the College, and excursions to various events connected to our academic and extra-curricular work. We congratulate our Leaving and Junior Certificate 2015 examination students, their teachers and their parents who helped the girls along the road to success. Our students achieved outstanding results well above the national average. Comhghairdeas libh a chailíní. St. Aloysius' College, founded by the SMG Sisters in 1939 has provided top quality education to students over the past 76 years. I wish to thank all the former Principals, Deputy Principals, teachers and ancillary staff who have worked so effectively to make this College a centre of excellence. At the core of the educational experience is the importance of each person, and the emphasis we place here is on our students trying their very best and achieving their potential. As we approach 2016, let us do so working together as a community with confidence and great hope for the future.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas and a very successful New Year. Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi shonas agus faoi mhaise. Go n-éirí go geal libh i gcónaí.

Is mise le mórmheas,

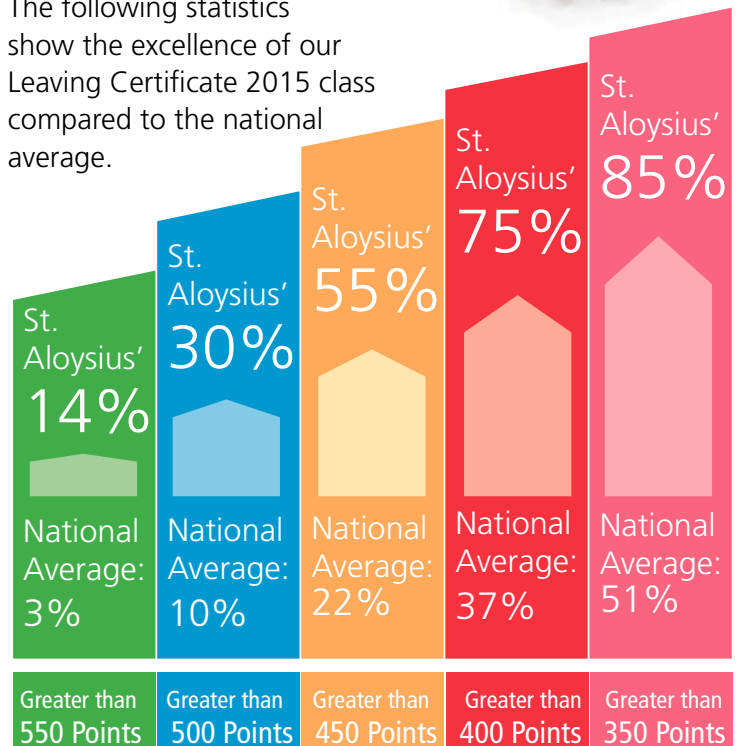
Donall Ó Murchú

Acting Principal

Comparison with National Average Results in Leaving Certificate 2015



The following statistics show the excellence of our Leaving Certificate 2015 class compared to the national average.



MLL Report



A Whole School Evaluation of management, leadership and learning was undertaken in October 2014. The report published in June is available on the DES website. The key findings are as follows; the Board of Management and senior management team were found to provide very effective leadership and management of the school and of student learning. The findings showed that parental and student satisfaction with the school was very high. Staff are afforded and avail of opportunities to lead pedagogic projects in a culture of professional development and collaboration. The quality of teaching and learning was very good with a wide range of teaching approaches observed. The school provides a positive, caring and inclusive learning atmosphere for its students. The school has demonstrated a very high capacity to continually improve and develop. This report reflects the excellent work being done in the College.

Excellence in Leaving Certificate

Well done to all our students on their wonderful results with a number of students achieving in excess of 580 points. We were delighted to be the top all-girls feeder school to third level in County Cork with 94% of our students taking up third level places.

The picture below shows the varied and excellent range of career choices taken by students of the class of 2015. Front Row: Eva O'Sullivan (Sports and PE with Irish), Niamh Power (Law International with German), Niamh Meaney (Primary Teaching), Kim Fitzgerald (Law and Business), Rachel O'Donoghue (Dentistry) Aoife Piggott (Law Clinical), Emma Creaner (Drama), Edel Cashman (Agricultural Science) Back Row: Ciara Rohan (Commerce and French), Aisling Crowley (Childrens and General Nursing), Chloé Sullivan (Politics and International Relations) Lorna Murphy (Commerce), Sinéad O'Driscoll (Finance), Deirdre Keane (Primary Teaching), Leah Bashford (International Commerce), Faye Cooney (Medicine), Fiona O' Keeffe (Childrens and General Nursing).



Past pupils pictured with Mr. Lee and Mrs. Hartnett. Excellence in Leaving Certificate 2015

UCD Entrance Scholarships

Congratulations to Natalie Barry and Leah Bashford who were awarded Entrance Scholarships to UCD based on academic excellence in Leaving Certificate 2015.



Entrance Scholars Natalie Barry and Leah Bashford

Junior Certificate Excellence



Junior Certificate students celebrate

In the Junior Certificate all students did brilliantly with a large number of A grades in all subject areas across the board. Congratulations to all the girls.

Well Done Aoife

Congratulations to Aoife Mc Mahon who achieved outstanding results in Junior Certificate Mathematics and Science and was invited to participate as one of the high achievers at the Irish EU Science Olympiad in DCU. Aoife is also very talented in swimming achieving a spectacular first place in the 100 metres breaststroke and second place in the 200 metres individual medley in the Munster Schools Swimming Competition.



Congratulations Aoife

Chaplaincy and RE News

Beginning of Year masses were held for Senior and Junior Cycle. A Mass was organised for First Year students. Retreats were held for Transition year students and 85 Leaving Certificate students enjoyed a day of reflection in Glenstal Abbey, Murroe, Co. Limerick. The girls were a credit to the College. Well done to Fifth year students Grace O` Shea, Christine Moran, Niamh Olden, Ciara Counihan and Laura O` Donoghue who received medals at the John Paul 11 award ceremony in Mallow on October 21st for their social and pastoral work in their communities, parish and school. Prayer services to remember the faithful departed were held during the month of November. The Concern Fast was held. Hampers were organised for the needy at Christmas time. Nursing home visits at Christmas were held. Eucharistic Minister training is ongoing for Transition Years.



Leaving Cert choir sing at Open Night

Literacy and School Library

Our literacy initiative which is part of our School Self-Evaluation programme has continued this year. A Drop Everything and Read event was organised on Friday September 11th and our Library Committee is doing excellent work in our newly opened Mother Magdalen Taylor School Library. The Library Committee attended an event in City Hall Cork with renowned author Michael Morpurgo. Storyteller Patrick Ryan visited the College and held workshops with all First Year students.



Pope John Paul II award winners

Open Night

Open Night was held on Tuesday October 6th. Thanks to everybody who helped to make the night a great success. Approximately 350 families visited us over the two hours. Our First Year intake 2016 will be 120 students.



Storyteller Patrick Ryan with First Years



Open Night 2015



Michael Morpurgo with Ms O'Donovan and Library Committee

Science Week and BT Young Scientist

A number of interesting events and intercom announcements with scientific facts were held during our Science week. Congratulations to our Transition Year students Kelly Steele, Aoife Mc Mahon, Clodagh Clery, Mavis Ode, Sarah Hoare, Rebecca Crawford and Grace Wilcock who will represent the College at the BT Young Scientist Competition in January 2016.



Debating

Our debaters Orlaith Geaney, Beth O` Reilly, Chloe Barry and Hanna Vahi are enjoying fantastic success in the Concern Debates defeating Coláiste an Chraoibhín Fermoy. We wish the students well in upcoming debates against Buttevant and Mitchelstown. Well done to Orlaith Geaney and Beth O` Reilly who achieved second place in the Munster Mace Debating Competition in UCC. The debating club meets every Tuesday at lunchtime in Room 30. All are welcome.

Jump for Joy

All First Years participated in a basketball event to raise funds for Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin. Fourth Year students assisted in many ways on the day. Well done to all staff and students involved. The amount raised was a spectacular €2405.



Art display for our 75th Anniversary 2015

Art

Up to 50 Transition Year students will participate in the Junk Kouture competition this year. It is a competition where post-primary school students make dresses out of recycled materials. The students then model the dresses. Please save your sweet wrappers over Christmas and bring them in to the Art Department. Thank you very much. Thanks to Kanokwan Utchariyawinyoo, Abigail Webster and Amy Meanwell for their beautiful illustrations of reflections by Venerable Mother Magdalen Taylor to mark our 75th Anniversary.



Beautiful Batik by past pupil Kafayat Elegushi



Participants in Jump for Joy

Maths Week

Congratulations to the following students who designed winning posters for the competitions held during Maths Week. In the poster competition Halimat Adegboyega won first prize and Rebecca Kavanagh got second prize. In the Maths Eyes Competition Jennifer Mc Carthy came first and Klara Manning second.



reached All-Ireland Cup Semi-Finals beating teams from Cork, Dingle and Westmeath thus far.



U19A County Finalists

Athletics

Congratulations to the students involved in Athletics last year who won 15 medals in the Junior and Senior categories. A warm welcome to all new members who have joined athletics and best of luck in the coming year. A big thank you to the Uniform Shop for sponsoring a new singlet for our athletic teams. Congratulations to our Cross Country relay team, Sarah Cashman, Clementine Kamekpo and Caoimhe Mulkeen who won bronze medals recently at Cross Country championships and individual medals were also awarded to Caoimhe Mulkeen who came third in her race and Helena Vahi, who came fifth in her race.



Coach John Sheehan with Mrs Lyons and Mrs Radley from the Uniform Shop and athletes.

Camogie

Camogie has been progressing well in the College since September. Training is scheduled for every Wednesday. The highlight of the year so far has been the victory at the first year blitz in Coachford on the 16th of October. The junior team participated in a blitz in Mallow. The junior team narrowly lost to Loreto Fermoy in the Cork Colleges final and now await the Munster Colleges competition. The senior team will compete in the Cork Colleges Final against Carrignavar. Thanks to past pupil Ciara Daly who helps with the training. Special thanks to GE Healthcare and the Parents' Association who sponsored a new set of camogie jerseys.



First Year Camogie Blitz Winners

Basketball

Well done to the four cadette and senior basketball teams on a very successful year to date. The U16 A team won the County Championship beating Presentation Bandon. The U19A and U19B teams both made County Finals and received silver medals. The U16 and U19A teams have



U16A County Champions



New Jerseys thanks to GE Healthcare and Parents' Association

Football

So far this year, St Aloysius' College teams have represented the school at junior and senior levels in the Munster Championship. The senior footballers had a great win over St. Mary's Midleton on a scoreline of 7-12 to 3-7 and battled hard in difficult conditions against Blackwater CS and Ardscoil na nDéise. The team look forward to Cork Colleges games in 2016. The Junior footballers having won two games against St Declan's Kilmacthomas and Pobalscoil na Trionoide Youghal in very dominant fashion are into the Munster Quarter-Finals against Ballincollig CS. It is great to see so many first years playing Gaelic football. The first year games will begin in the New Year. Training every Wednesday 1.30 to 2.30pm.

Hockey

The school hockey season is in full swing now and a number of league games have already been played. The first years played well against Cobh and defeated Crosshaven before Christmas. The minor team had a good win against Christ the King, our junior team played well against Midleton College and drew with Crosshaven also before Christmas. Please check the sports Notice Board for training times.



Soccer

Soccer training takes place every Friday on Astroturf pitch weather permitting, kindly supported by Carrigtwohill Community Council. Well done to the girls on a great 5-3 win against St Mary's Mallow.



Sporting news

Congratulations to Emma Noonan and Aoife Harrington on representing the school at the Munster Senior Schools Swimming event. Good luck to the 5th year PE class who are running a Sky Sports project in the New Year under the mentorship of Cork hurler Lorcán Mc Loughlin.

Activities

The following after school extra-curricular activities have commenced recently in the College. Zumba takes place on Monday and Tuesday, guitar on Tuesday, pilates on Wednesday, modern dance and drama on Thursday. Please check notices for times and updates on these activities.

Congratulations Sarah

Well done to Sarah Hoare (TY) who won the Irish Junior Lead Championship for climbing and who also came second in the Blockstock and G- Force Bouldering Competition.



Congratulations Sarah

Activity Day

A very successful and enjoyable Activity Day for all students in the College was held on October 9th. Students are now organised in Houses with approximately 20 students from all year groups together in each house. All houses have a distinctive name and colour and all students have a house badge. The House System encourages students to get to know each other better, build community with a sense of belonging and inclusiveness in the College. Further activities for houses will be organised throughout the year.



Congratulations Sarah

First Year Club

The First Year club meets every Tuesday lunchtime. This club gives our first years the opportunity to get to know each other better in a relaxed pleasant environment.

Meitheal Team

It has been another busy start to the school year for the Meitheal team. Throughout September the main focus was to help first years to settle in to the College. A very enjoyable Getting to Know You Day was organised. Meitheal students helped on the day of the first year vaccinations. A Halloween treat for first years which was a fundraiser for the Jack and Jill foundation was organised. A very successful Breakfast morning for Fifth Years was held recently. The Meitheal team are Ciara Counihan, Megan Doyle, Lauryn Dunphy, Christine Moran, Liz Mulcahy, Rebecca Murphy, Niamh O` Shea and Katrina Walsh.



Meitheal Team 2015/16

Fifth and First Year Information Evenings

Two very beneficial and interesting information evenings for students in Fifth and First Year and their parents were held. The focus of the Fifth year evening was effective study skills and achieving potential in Senior Cycle. Thanks to Ms. Begley, Mrs. Molloy, Mrs. Hartnett and Mrs. Lawlor. The First year parent information evening was also very helpful and informative for parents. Thanks to Ms. O` Donovan, Ms. O` Reilly and Mrs. Hartnett.

TY School Tour

The destination for this year's Transition year School tour will be Vienna and Bratislava, departing on May 21st. 2016. A group of 76 students will travel on tour.

School Bank



School Bank 2015/16

Transition Year students have recently opened the School Bank. The School Bank Team for this year are Kate Dolan Crowley, Andrea Linehan, Emma Bashford, Ciara O` Gorman, Sophie Murphy and Ciara Brennan. The Bank opened officially on December 10th.

Student Council

Congratulations to all students democratically elected by their peers to the Student Council. The Student Council for this year are Georgina Cassidy, Emily Daly, Ciara O` Callaghan, Niamh Olden, Miriam Curtin, Abigail Sheehan, Abbey Delaney, Rosie Forde, Ciara Leahy, Lauren Foley, Stephanie Long and Kate Gardiner. Representatives of the Council attended Comhairle na nÓg in County Hall, Cork. The Student Council meet at lunchtime on Tuesdays.



Student Council 2015-16. Missing from photo: Kate Gardiner, Miriam Curtin and Abigail Sheehan



Leaving Cert Choir sing at Glenstal Abbey

Music

It has been a very busy year so far for the Music Department. Choirs from the College took part in the Songs of Faith concert in Mayfield Church on November 22nd. Ian Callanan who wrote the Le Chéile theme song was the facilitator. Well done to Sixth Year student Beth O' Reilly on her new EP, "See you in November" which was recently launched and went to Number 1 in the iTunes charts. On December 9th the Choir and traditional music group took part in the Glounthaune Church Carol Service. The St. Aloysius' College, Carrigtwohill annual Christmas Carol Service was held in St. Mary's Parish

Church on Tuesday December 15th. Our annual fundraising collection for our Lifelinks Kenya education development fund and our local society of St. Vincent de Paul was held. The Music Department and LCVP Department had a wonderful fundraising event on October 23rd for the Neo-Natal Unit in CUMH. On Sunday December 20th carol singing was held in Market Green Shopping Centre between 2pm and 4pm. Transition Years are busily preparing for their production of "Beauty and the Beast" which will run in the College Hall as two matinees at 12pm and 3pm on Sunday January 31st and from February 1st to 4th at 7.30pm each night.



Students from St. Aloysius' College among the participants at the Songs of Faith concert.

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association held two fundraising backpacks in Tesco Midleton on November 7th and December 20th. Thanks to all parents and students who supported these bag packs. They held a talk on Mindfulness by Lillian Griffin. A talk on the No Name Club was also held. Thanks to the Parents' Association for all their work for the College.

Special thanks to all Staff

All the aforementioned activities in this newsletter would not be possible without the time, effort and total dedication of all College staff. A special thank you to all involved in co-ordinating, coaching and organising the events outlined in this newsletter.

*Merry Christmas
We wish you all a very
Happy 2016*

*Aibhliain faoi shonas
is faoi mhaise.*

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