



Lantern

News from Presentation College, Carlow

Prize Giving

Our annual prize giving ceremony was held on the morning of Friday, 24th May. **Ms Noreen O' Looney** extended a warm welcome to the students and staff who had gathered for this special occasion when we would celebrate the many achievements of our students throughout the school year. **Mr Ray Murray** emphasised the importance of the occasion in the school community. He stressed the need for students' willingness to embrace the opportunities available in our school. He also said it was an occasion to pay tribute to all the teaching staff for their hard work and commitment to the school.

Awards were presented to the students who had distinguished themselves in many categories including Sport, Music, Home Economics, Rotary Club, Lion' Club, Young Ambassador Award, Computers, Construction Studies, Materials Technology Wood to name but a few. **The Sports Person of the Year Award** was presented to Sixth Year student, **Graham Power**. This is awarded for outstanding sporting ability and contribution to school life. **Cormac Walshe** was the popular and deserving recipient of the **Bridín Quinn Award**. **The Student of the Year Award** is one reserved for Sixth Year students and voted for by staff. This is a prestigious and highly-coveted award and **Oisín McHugh** was the deserved recipient.

The **Meitheal Leaders** were given special recognition for their work throughout the year and they, alongside the **Prefects**, made several presentations on behalf of the Sixth Years. They paid tribute to **Mr Murray, Mr Delaney, Ms Siobhán Doorley (Prefect and Meitheal Coordinator)** and **ancillary staff**.

The inclusion of beautiful musical performances, co-ordinated by **Ms Maeve Lyons**, enhanced the mood of the ceremony.

The ceremony concluded when Mr Murray thanked Ms O' Looney who was responsible for the organisation of prize giving and the fluidity of its progression. He wished everyone well, especially those who would be sitting exams in the coming weeks.

State Examinations

Well done to all students who have just completed their Junior or Leaving Certificate examinations for all of their hard work over the years and in the Examination Centres. We wish them a relaxing holiday, tremendous exam results in August and September and every success for the future to the Leaving Certificate students!

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Return to School

Dates

Please note students will return to school as indicated below;

First Year students (and Meitheal Leaders)

Friday, 22nd August,
8.50am – 1.05pm

Third Year and Sixth Year students

Monday, 25th August,
8.50am – 4.00pm

Second Year, Transition Year and Fifth Year students

Tuesday, 26th August,
8.50am – 3.55pm

Transition Year Referees

Twenty TY students took part in a 'Go Games' GAA referees course given by Mr. Brendan Hayden, Carlow GAA Development Administrator, on Tuesday 1st April. The students were drilled in the rules of the game and were given situations where they had to decide on the right outcome. They can now be called on by their club if needed to referee a 'Go Games' match. All those who took part thoroughly enjoyed it.

K Factor Participation

Seven acts from Presentation College took place in the recent K Factor competition in Killeslin. Ciara O'Doherty, Alison and Alexander Holland-Walsh, Colm Broderick, Peter Thompson and the Presentation College Choir, who won the audience vote with their rendition of 'Bring Him Home' from Les Miserables featuring soloist Conor Heffernan.

Bord Gais Energy Student Theatre Awards

Congratulations to Roisin Regan (Second Year) who was recently shortlisted in the top 100 of the Junior Secondary Category in the Bord Gais Energy Student Theatre Awards. Roisin was one of over 7,500 students who entered this inaugural short story competition.

Active School Week

The importance of physical activity and an active lifestyle was highlighted recently during Active School Week. All students participated in and completed the now traditional 'Presentation Mile' by completing almost four laps of St. Laurence O'Toole's Athletics Track. A variety of other sporting events took place during the week such as a visit by the Elvery's Power Team to the gym, archery, cricket, tug of war, Paralympic sports, 'Penalties against the Principal' and a teachers verses students wheelchair basketball match. The emphasis during Active School Week was on 'sport for all' and full participation was encouraged throughout.

A very successful sporting year culminated with a 'Sports Day' on Friday 16th May. All students took part in nine sporting activities throughout the day including rounders, tag rugby, table tennis and novelty events in glorious weather. The day finished with the presentation of medals to the 'Pres Mile' champions and all students dancing to three wii dance songs in the sportshall.

'Zambia Week' at Presentation College Carlow

The highlight of 'Zambia Week' was hosting a visit from Ms Mutumba Munyima, History, Geography and Social Studies teacher and Mr Mwangala Mufaya, Art, Social Studies teacher and Deputy Principal at Kaoma Community School, Zambia. They received a warm welcome from Principal, Mr Ray Murray and from the Transition Year Zambia committee. They spoke to many classes and also to the parishioners of Askea, Bennekerry and Tinryland about Zambian traditions, cultural ceremonies and the many challenges of life in Zambia.

Africa Day 2014

Irish Aid invited Presentation College Carlow to attend 'Africa Day' in Farmleigh House, Dublin on Sunday 25th May. This annual celebration marks the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Seven Transition Year students from our Zambia Committee (Leah Coffey, Lee Campbell, Laura Murphy, Mariola Neumann, Pauric Dempsey, Katie Mooney and Marta Pela) displayed our 'Zambia Project' and enthusiastically described our partnership with the Presentation Sisters' Mission in Kaoma, Zambia to all who visited our stall. They explained our 'Solidarity not charity' project, which aims to develop and sustain an equitable partnership with Kaoma Mission.

The students also enjoyed the rhythm of the African drums and Afrobeat music from the many African and Irish bands. They embraced the African culture and traditions displayed at the many stalls from Morocco, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Botswana, Tanzania and South

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Africa. They also sampled traditional African food and heard about the role of Irish Aid and NGOs, including GOAL, Concern and Trocaire. They also met with the Minister of State for Trade and Development, Mr. Joe Costello TD, who chatted to them about their Zambian partnership.

Rowing Success

Congratulations to Ross O'Brien, Finn McHale and Kevin Murphy (Second Year) who represented the school in the recent Schools Regatta in O'Brien Bridge, Limerick. Ross won the gold medal in the Junior 15 Single Sculls with Finn and Kevin well placed in the Junior 15 Double Sculls.

Sky Sports 'Living for Sports'

On May 6th a select number of Transition Year students were lucky enough to meet Olympic kayaker Eoin Rhinisch. The school's participation in the Sky Sports 'Living for Sport' project meant that these students got the opportunity to experience a half day sports tutorial from this world class athlete and also get to ask him a few questions about his rise to success. Not only were students taught about the physical effort needed to reach such a high standard, but also the mental strength required to compete at any level. Through powerpoints, video clips and team challenge activities Eoin emphasised the importance of sport and physical activity in every person's life. It was a thoroughly enjoyable learning experience for everybody involved, and with the added bonus of being given a wristband and t-shirt at the end of the day, all students came away very happy!

Junior Winner in the 2014 Austrian Society Essay Competition.

Congratulations to Katie Cullen (Third Year) who was recently invited to the Austrian Embassy to collect the St. Fergal Perpetual Trophy as the Junior Winner in the 2014 Austrian Society Essay Competition. Katie wrote an essay in German about travelling over Austria in a hot air balloon. She was accompanied to the ceremony by her parents, Ms. Amanda O'Mahony (German

Teacher) and Frau Jessica Noehring (German Assistant Teacher) and was presented with her prize by His Excellency, the Austrian Ambassador, Dr. Thomas Nader.

First Year History Trip

All First Year students recently enjoyed a historic journey through time as they travelled to the National Heritage Park in Wexford. Three coaches ferried the large group to their destination to meet with their guides. Following a short audio visual presentation, the students embarked on a leisurely stroll through the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, the Iron Age and into the early Middle Ages, viewing reconstructions of settlements and burial sites. The guides provided an invaluable insight into the daily lives of our ancestors. Following lunch at the Heritage Park, the three coaches brought the students to three separate historic destinations closer to home: Altamont House and Gardens, Duckett's Grove and Browneshill Dolmen.

Transition Year Graduation

The final weeks of Transition Year were very busy with a trip to Waterford IT and a sleepover in the school gym. The week was completed by an impressive graduation ceremony on Thursday night at which students displayed some of their work from the school year and received their certificates of graduation.

African Film Festival

The Presentation College Choir were recently invited to perform in the George Bernard Shaw Theatre as part of the African Film Festival. Their programme included the 'Gahu Songs' from Ghana and 'Siyahamba', a popular South African hymn. The Senior Choir also performed the beautiful 'Bring Him Home' from Les Miserables, featuring soloist Conor Heffernan. The choir will be performing at the Junior and Senior Award Ceremonies in Presentation College, Carlow this month. They also hope to take part in an exciting Gospel Music Concert on the Courthouse steps on Sunday 8th June as part of Carlow Arts Festival 2014.

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Credit Union Secondary Schools Quiz Winners

Well done to the teams from Presentation College Carlow who took part in the recent Credit Union Secondary Schools Quiz. Four teams from First Year and Second Year competed with teams from five other Carlow secondary schools. The First Year A team of Jordan Hennessy, David Lalor, Tadhg Downey and Daniel Pender emerged as winners while the B team of Ben Dorgan, Beka Minnock, Roisin O'Connor and James Kelly put in a fine performance. The Second Year teams of Luke Fleming, Finola Hayden, Jacqueline McGuill, Jack Holmes, Rose Walsh, Idris Jimoh, Caitlin Buggy and Paraic O'Connor also competed well.

Music Generation Carlow Scholarship Schemes

Five students from Presentation College Carlow have been awarded the Music Generation Carlow scholarship schemes. These students were successful in their auditions and interviews and were competing with a large number of young people throughout Carlow town and county for the scholarships.

Martha Dolan (Third Year), John Harding (Transition Year) and Callum Browne (Fifth Year) have been selected to be part of the Young Composers Club. This club will meet once monthly and will work with the renowned composer Linda Buckley in composing a number of pieces for performance by the Outstanding Young Musicians Club.

Colm Broderick (Second Year) and Steven Grant (Transition Year) have been awarded the Outstanding Young Musicians Club. Colm is an exceptional uilleann piper, already having won many awards at a young age. Steven is a very talented pianist and they are both looking forward to developing their skills through this scheme. They will have the opportunity to work in master classes with visiting expert musicians.

Table Tennis

Congratulations to the boys on the Juvenile Table Tennis team who recently won the Leinster Schools League Cup. Tomas Becher, Tadhg Downey, Jack Honnen, Cormac Walsh, Nikita Fennelly and Kirill Fennelly (all in First Year) rounded off an impressive year with an emphatic victory over Blackrock College in the final. The boys were coached by Mr. Ray Cleare of Carlow Table Tennis Club.

Athletics Report June 2014

The last term is the Track and Field season for the athletes and after a very promising start at the South Leinster the season came a little unstuck due mainly to injuries picked by some of our top athletes.

The South Leinster at the start of May was one of the best ever for the school particularly at Minor and Junior age groups which is First and Second students. Presentation College won best Boys school at Junior level by a huge margin and missed the Minor Boys trophy by only one point with a whole host of boys winning medals or finishing in the top six in their event. We also had success from the girls with Laura Ward, Caitlin O'Sullivan, Ella Hyland and Leah Hutton all winning medals.

The success was carried through to Leinster where medal winning performances came from

Laura Ward gold in Junior 800m;

Torik Adegoke gold in Minor 75m hurdles;

Sean Deay silver in Junior 200m;

Niall Harvey bronze in Junior 800m;

Ella Hyland silver in Inter Pole Vault;

Danny Lawler silver in Senior 800m

Scott Cooper bronze in Minor 500m

With Sean Deay and Laura Ward picking up injuries and unable to compete at the All-Ireland our representation in Tullamore was very much

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depleted. Danny Lawler in his last race for the school took a bronze in the Senior 800m in 1m 52.24s a time that would win that race most years. Niall Harvey and Ella Hyland finished just outside the medal positions with Niall running a P.B. 2m 5s for his 800m.

We have two athletes, Leah Hutton in the Javelin and Ella Hyland in the Pole Vault selected on the Leinster team for the Tailteann Games which is an Inter Provincial competition which takes place on June 21st.

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