



St. Mary's High School, Brollagh Newsletter 10-11



Newcomers to Brollagh

September 2010 sees our biggest intake for some years. Forty year 8 pupils join the school. It is very evident from this increase that parents and pupils continue to insist on their right to rural education. In November staff and pupils were very delighted to welcome our new school Principal Mr Michael Burns. As a local man we know that he will feel very at home with us here in Brollagh. We wish him every success in his new role. We would also like to acknowledge the immense contribution that the late Gerry Gallagher made to the school in his role in the board of governors. We extend our sincere sympathy to the Gallagher family.



Induction of New Year 8 Pupils

This year again the school organized a series of activities to welcome the new year 8 pupils. The aim was to help the new pupils to get to know each other and to settle in quickly. On their first day, the pupils were involved in a number of icebreaking exercises. They competed in a treasure hunt that took them all around the school. The pupils also enjoyed a great afternoon bowling in Bundoran. The process greatly aided the pupils' self esteem and helped them to settle in much more quickly.

Brollagh Primary School Challenge

Don't miss the "Brollagh Primary School Challenge." This is a unique competition for P7. It will take place this year early in the new year. The day will be both fun and challenging and you will get a chance to win great prizes both for yourself and for your school. Open night takes place on the 2nd February. Do come along with your parents and have a look around.



Prize giving Evening

Congratulations to all our award winners. Top G.C.S.E. Cups was awarded to Eoghan Kelly and Patrick Mullan. Other awards were received by, Emma Leonard- Music, Lisa Galligan- Drama, Katie Mc Cann- Art and Design, Rachael Monaghan, Shane Mimna and Stephen Gormley for Sports. The night was a great success. Guest speaker and past pupils the Mc Grath sisters, Rosie, Geraldine, Christina, Michelle and Sinead spoke of the many memorable moments they enjoyed at St. Mary's. The girls are now running their own businesses in Enniskillen, both the Toddle In Crèche and Castle Island. They were a great inspiration to all those present. As usual huge thanks go to the very many local businesses who sponsored this year's event.

Rosemary is the Key Stage 3 "Young Cook of the Year"

Our winner of the Key Stage 3 category in the Western Education and Library Board Regional final, Rosemary McGowan travelled to Ashfield Boys School on the Hollywood Road in Belfast, on Friday 19th March 2010 where she had to cook the main course of her chosen meal. She competed with the four other Education Board finalists in the competition.

Entrants had to plan a healthy, nutritious value-for-money two course meal for a family of four costing less than £8.00 which had to include some dairy products and as many locally produced foods as possible.

Rosemary then went on to win her category in the Dairy Council sponsored "Young Cook off the Year" with **Rosie's Chicken Wraps served with Glazed Carrots**.



Sentinus Robotics Roadshow

The students put their problem solving skills to very good use by working through a series of robotics challenges. Working in pairs, supported by a team of trained fourth form mentors, the pupils were taught how to write simple programmes to control their own robot. They then wrote their own programmes to get it to carry out a range of specific tasks set within the context of lunar exploration. The event concluded with a competitive challenge for the teams at the end of the day.

House Trip

The winners of the house system enjoyed a day out at Dublin zoo last June.

Carrickfergus

Year 8 pupils travelled to Carrickfergus to view a real Norman castle. Education and Fun!



FULLY ALIVE

This was another very busy term packed full of religious celebration.

September began with the opening of the year assembly led by year 12 pupils. All staff and pupils were prayed for and another successful academic year ahead hoped for. October marked the beginning of the year with school mass. Pupils from Years 12 and 8 participated in the liturgy led by Fr McVeigh. Thanks to Fr McVeigh for saying the school mass and encouraging our students in their faith. November marked the month when we remember our dead. During this month pupils compiled of deceased relatives and friends who they miss dearly. We especially remembered any past pupils of the school who have died. A special whole school assembly was led by Year 12 pupils. December is the month when we prepare for Christmas. A special assembly was led by Year 8 focussed on the birth of Jesus. The pupils led the dressing of the Advent Wreath and the Nativity Crib. Year 8 pupils completed a beautiful nativity scene and enactment of the true meaning of Christmas at the Carol Service.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPERS

All form Classes made up beautiful hampers that were sent to Enniskillen's St Vincent de Paul. These hampers will be distributed to the needy in the run up to Christmas.





We have had a busy year in the Art Dept. We were involved in two cross border projects. Working with St. Clare's in Manorhamilton we created kites to highlight the plight of the Irish Golden Eagle. The pupils climbed to the top of picturesque Glencar mountain to fly their kites.

Renowned ceramic artist Cathy Carmon visited the school along with pupils from St.Mogue's in Bawnboy. Year 9 pupils created a series of unique vessels. The G.C.S.E. exhibition was it's usual success with many parents attending to view their children's work. Footballers in clay by Eoghan Kelly feature below. We have had our usual Credit Union success with Dineka Maguire taking 1st and Marie Maguire 2nd place in 14-17 yrs, Aimee Freeburn 1st and Caoimhe Rooney 2nd in 11-14yrs.



TRIPS ABROAD

Paris

Our next Paris trip will take place during the first week of October 2011. Pupils will spend 5 days and 4 nights there. They will stay in a hotel in the outskirts of Paris. Whilst there a number of visits have been organized, among them are; a trip to Euro Disney, a trip on the "Bateaux Mouches" on the river Seine, a visit to the Eiffel tower, a visit to some art galleries for the art and design students and a guided tour of Paris. This trip has always proved to be a great experience for all the pupils involved.

Miss Higgins returns to the slopes!

This year's ski trip is to the Italian resort, Folgaria in the Trentino region. Pupils will be 2000 metres above sea level at the summit. On the 22nd of January 22 pupils from St. Mary's will join pupils from 4 other schools in the Western Board for a week long trip of their lives. Hopefully everything will go as well as the ten previous ski trips the school has organized and that everyone returns home safe and sound with the school's excellent reputation enhanced. We wish the boys and girls all the very best.





“Stars in yer Eyes”

Stars in yer Eyes was it’s usual great success this year with Tara Flanagan taking first place and representing the school at the second round in ?

St. Mary’s High School Choir

St Mary’s school choir were this year invited to the Higher Bridges Gallery in Enniskillen to sing along with a choral group from Poland. Along with The Collegiate school from Enniskillen the choir performed in The Ardowen Theatre and in their respective schools.

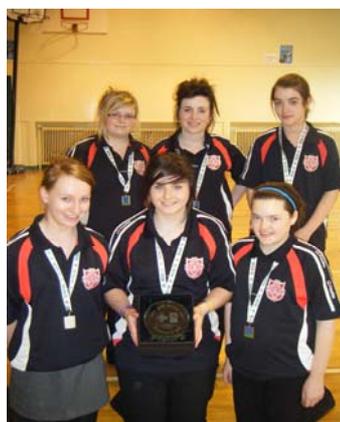
St Mary’s High School choir worked extremely hard after Halloween preparing for numerous Christmas events. They performed in Derry on Thursday 16th December in the Foyleside shopping centre and afterwards enjoyed some retail therapy! Preparations are already underway for the School’s “Stars in Yer Eyes” concert on ?



Sport stars

Donna Furey Year 11 proudly holds the cup on behalf of Fermanagh under 16 team which won the All Ireland B Shield Championship.

Dineka Maguire is World Champion in Bog Snorkelling. Year 11 pupils were runners up this year in the Dale Farm indoor soccer tournament.



Active @ School Fun Fitness Day

St.Marys recently held a health and fitness fun day in aid of various charities. Under the direction of Freddy Kinnerley of “Energy Fitness”, pupils took part in activities that focused on promoting heath and fitness through music. The event also provided a unique oppportunity to fundraise, allowing the school to raise £1400 and 360 Euro for Marie Curie Cancer Care, Autism and The British Heart Foundation. Energy Fitness provided great fun and entertainment for all the pupils and teachers involved. Prizes were awarded to top fund raisers with Damien Lawn raising a fantastic £114 and 76 Euro for charity. Well done, Damien.

