

**St. Fintan's CBS, Doon**

# **Newsletter**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009**

Dear Parents

Welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter. The Easter holidays are approaching and our students are looking forward to a well-deserved break. Our Leaving Cert exam students have just completed their Oral exams and all projects are nearing completion also. The Easter break no doubt will give Leaving and Junior Cert students the opportunity to get ahead with revision for their upcoming exams.

## **IMMERSION PROJECT**

Next October we plan to take 10 5<sup>th</sup> Year students to Kenya as part of the Christian Brothers Immersion Project. This will involve spending 2 weeks living and working with a rural community outside Nairobi in Kenya. The 10 students and 3 teachers will stay in the Christian Brothers residence and will interact with students at the Br. Beausang Community School in the village.

The trip was open to all 5<sup>th</sup> year and Transition Year students. There was a huge interest among the students, with 33 boys applying for the 10 places. The 10 were chosen based on their application form and performance at interview. A very high standard was set and those interviewing remarked that they could have chosen any of the 33 applicants. Well done to all and congratulations to those who were successful.

The students selected have now planned a number of fund raising events to help contribute towards the cost and also to fund development in the village.

## **24 Hour Fast**

The first major fundraiser organised is a 24 Hour fast. This will take place between 6pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and 6pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April. 20 Fifth year students will fast in the school overnight and will fundraise in the Crescent Shopping centre on the Sunday. A big Thank You to all students and parents who supported this venture by sponsoring the students involved. To date €3,666.60 has been collected.

## **Pub Quiz**

A Monster Table Quiz is also being organised. This will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April in all 6 pubs in Doon and also in the Community Hall. Please come and support this event and a great nights entertainment is promised.

## **PARENTS COUNCIL**

The Parents Council recently hosted a talk on Drug and Alcohol abuse. Mr Justin Sheerin, a Drugs worker from the HSE made a Presentation to Parents and facilitated a very worthwhile question and answer session. We aim to highlight this very relevant issue each year and we hope to follow up with a presentation to students in the last term. Thanks to the Parents Council for their work in organising this event.

## **LEAVING CERT APPLIED COURSE**

We are currently making plans for the coming school year, 2009/10. We hope to offer Leaving Cert Applied for the first time. This programme is separate from the standard Leaving Cert and offers a more practical course. It will suit students who prefer ongoing project work and assessment as opposed to end of course exams. A number of students have expressed interest in taking this course.

## **LOURDES 2009**

Congratulations to Oliver Hill and Kevin Hayes, 5<sup>th</sup> Year students, who were selected to travel with the Cashel & Emly Diocesan annual trip to Lourdes in June.

## **ESSAY COMPETITION**

Congratulations to Killian Stokes Rodriguez, 5<sup>th</sup> Year, on being one of three winners in the recent Irish Examiner/Cork Opera House "What if Michael Collins hadn't been killed at Béal na mBláth?" essay competition. Killian won tickets for his entire class to attend the musical drama Michael Collins showing at the Cork Opera House. The class traveled to Cork on Saturday last and a great day was had by all.

## **JACKETS**

In response to parents' requests we are considering bringing in school jackets as part of our uniform for next year. The waterproof jackets sourced are hard wearing and machine washable and will have the school crest and logo embroidered on them. Samples can be seen at the school and will be available at the next Parents Council meeting. The jackets cost €50 each. Fittings will be done at end of April and a deposit of €20 must be paid when ordering the jacket. For a preview, please check out the school website [www.dooncbs.ie](http://www.dooncbs.ie)

## **TRANSITION YEAR NEWS**

Our Transition Year programme is going very well with a lot of activities taking place. One of the highlights of this term was the group's entry into this year's Fresh Film Festival. Since September the class have been working hard, writing, editing and filming on a weekly basis. The title of their film is '*The Truth of Lies*'. The regional finals of the competition were held in The Daghda Centre in Limerick and the group got through to the national final, which was held in Storm Cinema. There were 58 films from all over the country on show and although the boys did not win any of the top prizes, they held their own with the best the country had to offer. Well done to all of them and to their teacher, Mrs Mary O'Shea for all their hard work.

The Transition Year class has also been organising lunchtime activities for students in the school. They have so far set up a chess club, darts room and are refurbishing the table tennis tables for use in the assembly hall.

Interviews for Transition Year 2009/2010 have taken place and 14 students have been selected for the programme.

## **LCVP NEWS**

The LCVP is coming to an end and the Easter holidays represent the last opportunity for the classes to put the finishing touches to their portfolios. The written examination will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

## **1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR TOUR**

Our Delphi trip is fast approaching, with 18<sup>th</sup> May being the magic date. Information will be sent home to all parents after Easter with lists of what to bring, activities etc.

## **HURLING NEWS**

### **Munster U15 Championship**

The team met Tulla in the 1<sup>st</sup> Round in Dolla and had a 1 point victory. We then went on to meet Mitchelstown in Emly where we were defeated. The panel put in a great-determined performance throughout the year and we would like to thank them for their effort.

**U14 Rice Cup**

We were involved in a blitz in Dr Morris Park, Thurles, where we played four other teams namely, Árd Scoil Rís, Cashel, Abbey CBS and Tramore CBS. After a close victory over Árd Scoil Rís we easily defeated the other three teams and went on to qualify for the Quarter Finals of the Rice Cup. This was a tremendous achievement and well done to the lads for their effort. It is important that they keep training over the holidays, as a Limerick Colleges Competition will also be taking place. The future looks bright for Doon CBS Hurling.

**EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT (MUNSTER REGION)**

Eight students represented the school in the recent European Parliament (Munster Region) which took place in Cork. These students were Killian Stokes Rodriguez, Cian Eichholz, Luke O'Malley, Timmy McGrath, Peter Salat, David Lacko, Jan Poliak and Tomas Slamcik. These students enjoyed the experience.

**SPANISH STUDENTS**

At the end of the first term it was with much regret that we said goodbye to our 3 Spanish students. These boys, who came over to improve their English language skills, integrated really well with our own First Year students. We are happy to learn that 3 further Spanish students will be joining us for the last term. A word of thanks to the host families who have made this project possible.