

St. Fintan's CBS, Doon

Newsletter

December 19th 2008

WELCOME

Dear Parents

As the Christmas season approaches may I wish all our students and their parents a very happy Christmas and a well-deserved and relaxing holiday.

Edmond Bourke,
Principal

TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

As the holidays approached, the TY class finished the term with some activities. On Monday, the annual ice-skating and shopping expedition to Limerick took place. Most (no names will be mentioned) of the class were skating brilliantly by the end of the one-hour session. Unbelievably, Bobby Ryan and Daniel Hickey were approached by managers from the Irish Figure Skating team and offered a place with them - they declined, stating that when they had finished their second-level education they may reconsider. Two to watch out for in the future no doubt. However, it was Brian Leonard who stole the show with some slick moves of his own.....

On Tuesday the class, along with the rest of the school, made the short journey to the parish church where a beautiful Carol Service for the Christmas season took place. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all and great praise is due to the students and teachers who were involved.

On Wednesday the class travelled to Callan in Co. Kilkenny to visit the home of Blessed Edmund Rice, accompanied by Ms Fidelma O'Reilly. They got a tour from the Christian Brothers present, saw where Edmund lived and had time to reflect in the small church on the site. A unique experience. The week ended with no less than TWO parties: the official one, with hot chocolate and cookies whilst listening to soothing Christmas songs; the other, unofficial, one took place under the guidance of Ms O'Shea where, it is rumoured, up to €210 worth of sweets, crisps and minerals were consumed, some even by the students.

School Days, our yearly school magazine is a creation of the TY class- it is now in production and anyone wishing to have articles, artwork or other items of interest included in this years mag are asked to speak to any TY student.

The Transition year students have now finished their first Work Experience placement, which ran every Friday since September. The reports from the employers were very positive so well done to the boys on their effort and behaviour throughout. After Christmas, the class will be on their Social Awareness placement for 2 weeks. This involves working in a care environment e.g. a nursing home, day- care centre, hospice etc. Following this, Work Experience 2 will begin and last for 15 Friday's until the end of May.

Best wishes to all the TY class and their families for Christmas 2008 and the New Year.

School Website

The new school website has been up and running since mid-September. It contains many items of articles of interest to students, parents and staff including the school calendar, photo gallery, news from the school, past newsletters and links to various sites of relevance, with content being updated frequently. Please log on to www.dooncbs.ie.

State Examinations

Timetables for the 2009 State Examinations (Junior and Leaving Certificates) are now available from the school office or at www.examinations.ie.

3rd Year Journal Work

As part of their journal work for Junior Cert religion the third years visited the mosque to have a question and answer session with the Imam. It was very interesting and enjoyable trip for all.

6th Year Retreat

The sixth years traveled to St. Patrick's in Thurles for their annual Retreat. They had a great day and a great retreat experience led by Fr Joe Walsh.

3.2 Dell Tour

We went on a school tour to Dell on Monday last, 15th December. This field trip helped us to understand the secondary manufacturing industries section of the geography course. Dell has a big factory in Raheen in Limerick. We learned many facts about Dell as we were given a talk and a tour of the factory. On the tour we got to see the staff putting laptops, desktops and servers together. We also learned about how a large international company like Dell is run from day to day. Dell employs 4500 people in Ireland with over 60 different nationalities. They take much pride in their work and have goals and targets to achieve every day. On average a person can assemble a laptop every 5-7mins! This visit really opened our eyes to the running of a factory. In the words of Michael Dell, "success is no accident". Dell works hard at keeping up to date with modern designs and new inventions and aims at both business and personal use.

Daniel O'Malley & Paul McNamara

Carol Service

The Christmas Carol Service on Tuesday last, 16th December, was a brilliant success. Fr Ryan said it was the best service to date. It was a great reflection for all on the true meaning of Christmas. The Senior Choir organised by Ms Yvonne Moloney were absolutely fantastic. There were great solos including Cathal McNamara, Pdraig Franklin and Paddy Hogan. Thanks to all the boys involved in this very important liturgical service who participated so well in the prayers and bringing up religious symbols etc. Thanks to Miss Fox, Mrs Leahy and Miss O Reilly for helping to organise the service

St Vincent de Paul

Many thanks to all who contributed to this very deserving collection. 6th Years presented same to Ms Anne McCarthy of St Vincent de Paul today.



1st Year Hurling

Having put in a tremendous effort, unfortunately the boys were defeated by Charleville CBS in the 1st Year Hurling League Final. We are now looking forward to the U14 Competition after the Christmas break.

1st Year Football

We are eagerly waiting to play the semi final against Newcastle West. Earlier we had two good wins against St Clements and Bruff. It is important that the boys are continually training in both hurling and football during the Christmas break.

Mr Treacy would like to thank the boys for all their commitment to date.