

RE News

Our 5th and 6th Years took part in a school retreat last month. This was given by a new Retreat Team called Connect. Students enjoyed the day.

Thanks to Fr Tony Ryan who organised our annual visits to the graveyard for the month of November. Each class group took part in a Remembrance Service in the local Cemetery.

Archbishop Dermot Clifford visited our school on Monday, 29th November, when the whole school community took part in a prayer service. The Archbishop was welcomed by the Students Council who also took part in the readings and prayers of the faithful.

The boys who were successful following interviews for the Anois Leadership course are as follows: Eibhin O'Meara, Luke Ryan, Fearghal Ryan, Sean Gardiner. Brian McCarthy, Kevin Heuston, Con Berkery and Andrew O'Brien (fifth year). Congratulations to you all!

They will participate in this residential course in Thurles on the 9th-13th of January. We look forward to the group using their enhanced leadership skills in the new Year when they return to school and undertake a project.

Our annual Carol Service will take place between 12 and 1 on Tuesday the 21st December, very appropriately on the shortest day of the year. We will focus on the true meaning of Christmas and all year groups will participate in the choir and the liturgy. We look forward to a meaningful and spiritual experience.

Primary School Table Quiz



We hosted our first table quiz for Primary Schools in the area on Tuesday 14th December. The number of tables exceeded all our expectations with over 140 participants and supporters packing the school hall on the night. Quizmaster on the night was Mr. Denis Leonard and the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Special mention to members of the Student Council who were present on the night and were of great assistance in the smooth running of the event. After 10 rounds there were two teams on equal scores and after a sudden death playoff **Cloverfield NS** emerged victorious over runners up **Upperchurch NS**. The winners were presented with a trophy for their school and book tokens for themselves; the runners up also received book tokens. Congratulations to all the students who represented their schools very well with their co-operation and excellent behaviour.



U14 Soccer

In the North Munster Soccer league, the U14 team's winning streak continues with an impres-

sive 6-0 victory over Shannon Comprehensive on Wednesday 15th December in Cappamore. Star players on the day included Shane O'Connell, Darren Ryan, Adam Coleman and Eoin Hayes. The win puts us joint top of the group with St. Clement's College, Limerick, who are our next opponents. That game is scheduled for January.

Dancing at Lughnasa

On 2nd December, seventeen 6th years travelled to UCH Limerick to see a production of Dancing at Lughnasa by Second Age Theatre Company. The experience enriched their understanding of the play which is part of their Leaving Cert Course.

Christmas Variety Show

Well done to the students and staff who took part in the Variety Concert. There was a lot of talent on show which was greatly enjoyed by the audience. The Christmas sing-a-long put everyone in a festive mood. Thank you to the Student Council for organising it. Roll on the Talent Show which is planned for the new year.

St Vincent de Paul Collection



Our RE Department and Student Council have to be commended on organising our annual collection of non-perishable items for St Vincent de Paul. A tremendous thank you to all who contributed. Your generosity at this time is very much appreciated.



St Fintan's CBS Newsletter



17th December 2010

Welcome to our Christmas newsletter. May I wish all our students, staff and parents a very happy Christmas and a well deserved break over the holiday period. We have said farewell to Jose, Pablo and Jacoba, our three Spanish students who were with us since September while our two Slovakian students, Martin and Adam are returning home for the Christmas holiday but will be back in St. Fintan's in January. We wish them a safe journey and a happy Christmas with their families at home.

IT Developments

We have recently received a substantial grant from the Department of Education to enhance our IT facilities in the school. We have used this to equip all our classrooms with a laptop computer and a digital projector. This will give our teachers the opportunity to use the most modern teaching methods and should enhance our students' learning experience in the school.

Code of Behaviour

A committee comprising of Staff, Students, Parents and Board of Management have been reviewing our Code of Behaviour. They presented a draft to the Parents' Council at a recent meeting. It will now be brought to the Board of Management for ratification. It will then be circulated to parents and published on our website.

New School

Following on consultation with the partners of all three schools it was proposed that the name of the new school be Scoil na Trionóide Naofa. This name which refers to the Holy Trinity was seen as appropriate, symbolising the bringing together of three schools into one. This name has now been sent to the Trustees (CEIST) for their approval. A committee comprising staff, students and parents of all three schools recently met with a supplier to decide on a uniform for the new school. Further meetings have been arranged and mannequins with sample uniforms will be set up in all three schools as part of the process. An art competition will also be held in which pupils will be invited to design a crest for the new uniform.



Transition Year News

The TY group travelled to the 'Lifesaver' presentation, hosted by the Gardai and Limerick County Council at the Southcourt Hotel, Limerick. The class saw a reconstruction of a roadside crash scene, with the

occupants being dealt with by the emergency services. This was followed by several hard-hitting and harrowing accounts from emergency personnel and car crash survivors with the message being to **slow down and drive responsibly**.



Judo continued for most of this term with the 7 week course finishing on Wednesday, 15th December.

A presentation was made to the class by **AWARE** on mental health issues and depression, recognising the signs and how to deal with it.

Work Experience 1 finishes on Friday, 17th December. This will be followed in the new year by the **Social Awareness** placements which will see the students working in care environments such as nursing homes, hospices and day-care centres.

Further highlights for next term include an African drumming workshop by Wassa Wassa, a trip to Galway to Pure Skill indoor sports arena and the entry of this year's movie into the Fresh Film festival.