

CINNLIOTE SPORT - SPORTS ROUNDUP

ST. JOSEPH'S WINS 2 CONNAUGHT FINALS



Senior GAA Final

On Wednesday evening, May 7th. the Senior Football GAA team captured the Connaught League Title in a very keenly contested decider against Enniscrone. They emerged victorious with a score of 1-9 to 1-6. There were many notable performances all over the field and this deserved victory was reward for the hard work that the team has done during the year. The members of the team were: D. Flatley, E O' Hara, T. Langan, P. McNulty, G O Láimhín, M. Butler (capt), B. Gilmartin, D. Quinn, S. McHale, S. Gilmartin, J O' Neill, B. Mooney, J. Rice, J. Faughnan, R. Conlon, M. Dockery, E. McNamara, R. Langan, A. Jordan, C. Donnellan, B. Timlin and C. Ruane.

Juveniles claim county final

Our juvenile footballers had an outstanding victory over Ballinrobe Community School in a thrilling county final in Castlebar. The Brian Hughes tally of 4-1 was a major influence on the result but nevertheless a huge team performance from 1 to 15 ensured that the title belonged to Foxford. Hopefully this title is only the start of things to come for this group during their time in St. Joseph's. The panel that represented the school with such distinction was: J. Flynn, N. Brogan, C. Sherry, K. Mills, B. Hughes, R. Conlon, J. Rice, J. Smyth, B. Timlin, A. Jordan, G. O Laimhin, C. Faughnan, B. Heneghan, G. Gilmartin, D. Murray, D. McHale, T. Hanley, B. Gilmartin, T. Mc Dermott, T. Clarke, J. O' Neill, and P. Ruane.

Girls Basketball



The 1st and 2nd year girls basketball teams started off the season in Charlestown on the 7th February. They played both Charlestown and Kiltimagh. All four matches were very close resulting in one win and one loss for the 1st years and one win and one loss for the 2nd years. This meant that their next match against Swinford would decide who would move forward in the competition. Unfortunately both teams lost by one basket which meant that they were knocked out of the competition. Well done to all those who took part.

Boys Basketball

The 1st year boys had an impressive victory at a blitz in Gortnor Abbey which meant that they were entered into a higher grade in the competition. This meant that both the 1st and 2nd year teams had some difficult matches this season. Both teams gained 2 victories which was a great achievement at this level. Well done to all who took part. Track and Field

Over 20 students from St. Joseph's have qualified for the Connaught Finals of Track and Field.

The competition will be held on Wednesday May 14th. in Daingean, Galway. The participants are hoping to reach the All Ireland championships. Recent All Ireland qualifiers have included Daniel Murray, Cliona Mulroy and Brian Gilmartin. All are wished well.



*We wish all of our Leaving and Junior Certificate students energy and inspiration in their forthcoming examinations, which commence on Wednesday June 4th. The full timetable is downloadable from www.examinations.ie.
Guímid gach adh agus fíis orthu.*



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CINNLIOTE NAOMH IOSAIF BEALTÁINE 2008

BISHOP KELLY TO RAISE GREEN FLAG ON MAY 29TH.

St. Joseph's Secondary School has been awarded the major environmental award of the Green Flag by An Taisce in conjunction with Mayo County Council. It will be raised by the school Trustee, Bishop Brendan Kelly on Thursday, May 29th after 11am Mass. All Parents/Guardians are invited to the Mass in St. Michael's Parish Church, Foxford and afterwards to the raising ceremony in the school. The ceremony will be attended by T.D's, Local Representatives, Community Representatives, Board of Management, Parents Council, school Staff and students. Great credit for the award is due to Mrs. Breege McHale,



Green Flag Co-ordinator, her team comprising of Transition Year and 10 Second Year students, staff members Miss Heavey, Mrs. Fielding, Anthony Ruane, Local Community and the whole school community. There is a pathway of 7 steps to be undertaken to the award of a Green Flag, which involve environmental awareness, recycling, the implementation of a substantial environmental plan and application to the County Council/An Taisce. All of the steps were carried out successfully by St. Joseph's. Comhghairdeas le chuile dhuine a bhí bainteach ann.

The school is delighted that Bishop Kelly has agreed to celebrate Mass and to raise the flag on May 29th.

Display of Projects and Presentation of Awards

The annual display of projects and presentation of awards takes place on the afternoon of Thursday May 29th. this year. The presentation will follow in the afternoon (1.30pm) after the raising of the Green Flag. This year Bishop Kelly will present the awards including Student of the Year, academic and sporting prizes and the Presentation of the Parents Council Shield. All Parents and friends of the school are invited to view projects and to attend Prizegiving on May 29th. As in other years a sample of the work of the school will be on display to include Construction Studies, Art, History and Engineering projects. Fáilte roimh gach duine.

Meanwhile Transition Years will present their Portfolios on Wednesday May 28th. in the school. Parents and friends of Transition Year pupils are invited to attend.

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- Major prizes at Mayo Fleadh for students
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MAJOR RECOGNITION FOR HOME ECONOMICS TEACHERS AND SCHOOL

Teachers of Home Economics at St. Joseph's have been chosen by the Department of Education and Science to participate in a new publication e Quality Measures in schools. Teachers will write lesson plans for the new publication. The following is a quote from the Inspector's letter:

"I have selected/approached your school as I was very impressed with the very high uptake of Home Economics i.e. two thirds of junior cycle students and over half of senior cycle students. In addition the participation of male students in Home Economics is most impressive 27% at junior cycle and 18% at senior cycle (when I last visited, perhaps the figures are similar now), considering that the national average is around 10%. This uptake is highly commendable.

The Chief Examiners report for LC Home Economics 2007 is now available on www.examinations.ie, for your teachers information."

This is a great tribute to the teachers and the school for their proactive promotion of equality of access to subjects in the school. Well done to all.

TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

Once again Transition Year students have been busy with many different activities and tours taking place. In April the students enjoyed a five day trip to Venice, Milan and Lake Garda in Italy. The highlight of the trip was a visit to "Gardaland", Europe's most famous theme park. Students had a thoroughly enjoyable week and got to see many places of interest.

One of the biggest achievements for the Transition Year students to date this year is the achievement of the Green Flag. This is a huge honour for the school and without the hard work and dedication of the Transition Year students, this would not have been possible.

One of the final outings planned for Transition year students this year is a trip to Killary Adventure Centre, which is taking place later this month.

The presentation night for Transition Year students will take place on Wednesday 29th May, where students will present their portfolios of work completed throughout the year and will be presented with their certificates of achievements from throughout the year.



ST. JOSEPH'S STUDENTS WINNERS AT SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Six students from St. Joseph's entered 3 projects in the IT Sligo Sci Fest competition on April 26th. This is a regional competition, which encourages Science in schools. It is the first year the competition has been held in Connaught. Si-néad McLoughlin entered 'Study Habits' and her project was awarded best in the category. Meghan Smith and Aoife Boyle entered 'Addicted to Codine' and were awarded runners-up in their category. Finally, Aisling Reilly, Phoena Morris and Grace Moran entered 'An investigation into the depletion of Salmon in the river Moy' and this widely acclaimed study was awarded best project in its category. Well done to their Science teachers also.

Pictured below are Phoena Morris and Grace Moran with the former Rose of Tralee, Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin



Gearrscéalta

- Congratulations to Darragh Quinn and Shane McHale who are members of the Mayo Minor GAA team. Deirdre Gallagher is a member of the Mayo Ladies GAA teams at Senior and Junior levels.
- The First Years spent a most enjoyable day in Inis Mór, Aran Islands on May 9th. Following a long trek to Dún Aenghus, they enjoyed a barbecue on Cill Muirbhí beach before returning home after a most pleasant outing.
- Transition Year students participated in the St. Vincent de Paul Project in Sligo on May 7th. with their guiding teacher, Mrs. Mary Corocran.
- Retreats in Knock have now taken place for Junior and Senior students. The school is most grateful to Fr. Joseph Gavigan and the Religion teachers for their hard work and attention to the religious faith of our pupils.
- A number of students in the school are involved in a Pilot programme to investigate the impact of Bebo, My Space and other networking websites. Their opinions were canvassed by Carol MacKeogh of The Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dun Laoighre on May 12th. A Report will be issued later.

- At the Mayo Fleadh Cheoil recently in Ballycastle, 3 céili bands from Foxford were placed. In the under 18 competition, Eamonn Walshe, Kevin Doocey, Ciara Walsh and Siofra McHugh were members of the winning band. In the under 15 competition Megan Henry, Oisín McHugh and Gary Gilmartin were members of the victorious ensemble. Comhghairdeas freisin do Kevin Doocey, Gearóid O Láimhín agus Ciara Walsh a bhuaigh duaiseanna eagsúla ag an bhFleadh.
- The school has recently developed a second Materials Technology (Wood) in the Top School costing €40,000 which was funded by a Grant from the Department of Education and Science. This reflects the popularity of the subject in the school.
- Numbers of students in St. Joseph's will increase next year. Enrolment of new First Year students will cease shortly as our quota has been reached given space available. The school applied to the Department of Education in October 2005 for a new extension.
- Thank you to the Parents Council for fundraising during the year. The recent Parents Council Social was a great success also.
- Pictured below are Transition Year students who visit the Balckrock Nursing Home regularly with Mrs. Mary Corcoran, Teacher



THE BT YOUNG SCIENTIST EXHIBITION 2008

St. Joseph's was strongly represented in the BT Young Scientist Exhibition this year with 3 projects. Whilst all projects from the school qualified, the entry entitled 'Timed Drug Dispenser' achieved Second Prize in its category and a major prize for the students, Eamonn Walsh, Sean Hynes and Ciaran Phillips. The boys and their teacher Mr. Cafferkey, who was supported by Miss Lavin and Mr. Thornton deserve great praise for their hard work and achievement. Pictured below are the students with the BT Young Scientist Representative.



SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The Review of Posts of Responsibility is now complete and teachers will assume duties for the revised Schedule of Posts in September. The following is the Schedule: There are 6 Assistant Principals which comprise 5 Year Heads and Examination Secretary. There are 8 Special Duties Posts comprising Co-ordinators in Pastoral Care, Environmental Awareness, Transition Year, Information Technology, Mentoring, Special Educational Needs, Book Rental Scheme and Students Council.

The school has adopted a Plan for managing Critical Incidents and it has a Critical Incidents team in place.

The staff recently adopted a Draft Policy in SPHE and RSE. These policies will now go to the Students Council, Parents Council and the Board of Management.

A full list of school policies is available on the school website www.stjosephsfoxford.com.

CALENDAR FOR 2008-9

The school calendar for next year is available on the school website. The school opens on Monday August 25th. for a Staff Meeting and School Development Planning. On Tuesday August 26th. and Wednesday 27th. there will be First Year Induction and various staff meetings. Fifth Years return on August 28th. whilst Second Third and Transition Years return on August 29th. All students are back in school on Monday September 1st.

FIFTH YEAR FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITY

The tradition of fundraising for charity is firmly embedded in school tradition since the era of the Sisters of Charity. Next week the Fifth Year students will have their Concert, a Basketball Match with teachers, a sponsored walk, collection for the Irish Heart Foundation and an Ice Cream Party for the Down Syndrome Association. There will also be a Jersey Day on May 23rd. All funds generated will be donated to charities of the students' choice.