

St. Colman's College

FERMOY, CO. CORK.

Linkwell Newsletter 2010

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November 2010



Student Council Elections

By Cian Sewell

Voting for the St. Colman's College Student Council took place on Friday last 8th of October. The results were as follows;

1st Year

Cian Lau
Gary Mahon

2nd Year

Tomasz Lipinski
Declan Varner

3rd Year

Luke Coffey
Richard Cronin

T.Y.O

Thomas Carroll
Sean Moloney



5th Year

Colin Eason
Darren Howard

LCA

Brian O' Donoghue

6th Year

Steven Forde
Jason Mannix

Student Council Elections

As always two students from each year were elected to represent their classmates. First year saw the most competition for a place on the student council with ten candidates submitting their names. Throughout the last week candidates made election posters which were hung around the school building and featured famous faces ranging from Cheryl Cole to Barack Obama. Time was also set aside for the candidates to make a speech in a bid to get more voters on their side. While the Junior Cycle candidates prepared

detailed speeches vying for votes; the senior candidates didn't rely too much on their speeches, and decided to adlib in their plight to be elected. An especially memorable speech was made by TY representative Thomas Carroll who simply stated "I am a man of few words." and commenced eating a chocolate bar for the remainder of his speech. These students represent the student body of St. Colman's College. Overall the election campaign was as feisty, "chocolatey" and electric as ever!

Important St. Colman's College Dates

- The Annual Awards Night will take place on Thursday 11th November 2010. All are invited to attend.
- Christmas Exams commence Monday 29th November 2010.
- School is closed on Wednesday December 8th 2010
- Classes finish at 12.05pm. on Thursday 23rd December 2010 for the Christmas Holidays.



PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

LEAVING CERT & JUNIOR CERT RESULTS

Well done to our Leaving Cert and Junior Cert pupils on their excellent results this year.

One of our Leaving Cert pupils achieved 600 points and we are especially pleased with the high number of pupils who achieved their own personal targets.

21% of our Leaving Cert pupils achieved 500 points or more (National figure for CAO Applicants 8.4%)

80% of our Leaving Cert pupils achieved 350 points or more (National figure for CAO Applicants 43%)

We wish all our Leaving certificate pupils of 2010 well in their lives and their careers.

Professional Development

The school management strongly espouses the necessity, and value, of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). It is important that teachers stay in tune with new developments in their subject areas and in the delivery of their teaching material through IT advances etc. The CPD undertaken by teachers does impact on pupils' learning and on their

examination results. Some of this CPD takes place during school time (hence teachers being unavoidably absent) but many teachers also undertake CPD at evenings and weekends. In September and October teachers from SCC partook of CPD in; Gaeilge, RE, Project Maths, Technical Graphics, Road Safety, Mentoring, 'Developing Successful Schools', History, Physics, Teaching Languages using IT, Guidance



Field Trips (September, October)

Biology	5 th Years	Fota
Hill Walking	1 st Years	Ballyhouras
Adventure	T.Y.	Kenmare
Ag. Science	Open	Ploughing Championships
Geography	5 th Years	Killarney
History	6 th Years	U.C.C
Careers Options	5 th & 6 th Years	Cork Careers Exhibition
Careers Options	5 th & 6 th Years	UL LIT Mary Immaculate
Art	5 th & 6 th Years	National Museum Of Art

Information & Communications Technology (ICT)

As part of the implementation of the Smart Schools = Smart Economy Report ICT grants were recently issued to schools. St. Colman's had begun its 'Smart Schools' drive two years ago by equipping some class rooms with ICT equipment to aid the teaching and learning. Out of our own resources (with the support of the Parents Association) we

have fitted 15 ceiling projectors, 4 mobile projectors and 13 Desk top Pcs. Many teachers now store their class lessons etc on their own laptops. The recently received grants will allow us to further develop our ICT capacity. During the summer considerable work was carried out in our Computer Room 2 (25 Pc's networked) and on Computer Room 1 (30 Pc's networked).



First Year Parents' Night

A very well attended First Year Parents' Night was held in the College on Monday October 4th. This provided both parents and school staff with the opportunity to talk about how this year's First Year group is settling in. The

transition from Primary to Secondary can be quite daunting for some and the more communication between home and school the better. This close link fosters positive co-operation and ensures better outcomes for our pupils.



Staff Changes 2010/2011

Teachers Who Have

Retired: David Rea, Jerry O'Sullivan, Martin Heffernan, Gus Kelleher,

Teachers Who Have Moved

School: Laura Kelleher and Bernie Walsh

New Staff: Ian Lehane (Physics, Maths and Applied Maths), Elaine Cronin (English

and French), Elaine Clifford (Gaeilge), Lorraine O'Dwyer (Biology and Maths), John Tobin (History and English), Alan O'Connor (SNA, Geog.Business), Tomás Walsh (SNA), Catherine Dineen (German and Gaeilge), Eoin Barry (SNA), Sheena O'Hanrahan (French),



Fran Sabrina Glab (German Assistant),

and Michelle O'Shea (Biology and Maths)

Owen O'Keefe – Young Person of the Year 2010

By Séan Connolly



Owen decided to do the Channel Swim to raise money for the Irish Cancer Society when his grandmother was diagnosed with cancer. Owen completed a lot of training in preparation for the swim, swimming in the River Blackwater and later in the sea at Sandycove, Co. Cork. Under the coaching of Jackie Power, Owen perfected his technique and fully prepared himself for the swim.

At 12:00pm on the 21st of September 2009, Owen O'Keefe emerged from the English Channel at Cap Gris-Nez in France after completing

a 10 hour and 19 minute gruelling, continuous swim which began in the early hours of the morning. This unbelievable feat earned him the impressive title of **Young Person of the Year Award for 2010**. The award was presented at a glittering reception in the Citywest Hotel on Saturday, 11th September 2010, hosted by RTÉ's Gráinne Seoige and broadcast live on RTÉ. The following Monday morning saw an RTÉ news crew in the College for a follow up interview. He is an inspiration to us all at St. Colman's College.



What do Muck, Wellies and Cattle All Have in Common?

By Philip Leahy

The answer is that they were all at the 2010 Ploughing Championships along with the ***Inkwell*** crew. The championship this year was held between the 21st and the 24th with an estimated crowd of 66,000 people attended the opening day of the Ploughing Championships near Athy in Co Kildare. The huge rural festival took place for the second year running on a 700-acre site at Cardenton, close to where the event was first

held 79 years ago. The championship is mainly based for the agriculture industry but it also hosts sporting challenges, machinery exhibitions, educational stands, health, leisure & lifestyle pavilions, alternative enterprise, bio fuels and many other special attractions. This year the Inkwell Magazine Crew and other students went up in a bus organized by Colman's very own Mr. Cashman.

Poetry Aloud

On Monday 18th October 2010 57 St. Colman's Yeats' scholars arrived at St. John's Central College armed with their poems and ready for recitation.

Yeats would have been proud to hear the renditions of his poems in such strong and confident Cork accents. Congratulations to Barry

Pierce who reached the National Semi-Final which will take place on Friday 3rd December 2010 in the National Library of Ireland. Seán Mannix, Michael Brennan, and Adam Clarke also were highly commended on the day. Well done to all involved, it was a thoroughly rewarding experience.



Castlelyons Win the Colman's Blitz!



T.Y. PRIMARY SCHOOL BLITZ

By Mark Fenlon

This year's T.Y. Primary School Blitz was yet another great success due to the organisation of Mr. Queenie and all of the T.Y.'s hard work .I was very happy to be a part of it and I felt that it was a very enjoyable day. Although trying at times, the job of referee was very rewarding on the day. At 9:30a.m. the

teams began to arrive. I was mentoring Ballynoe. After the two finals were finished the winners of the 7-a-side cup were Ballynoe (woo hoo!) and the winners of the 11-a –side cup were Castlelyons. All in all it was a great success thanks to the hard work of everyone who took part.



Walsh's Words of Wisdom

By Darragh O' Carroll

In early October the Colman's Harty Cup Team had the privilege of a training session with Cork Senior Hurling Manager Denis Walsh. This session was a valuable and worthwhile experience in preparation for the game against Árd Scoil Rís. Denis' great knowledge of the game and advice was taken on board by all members of the panel in what was an extremely beneficial and

enjoyable session. A fresh and new approach was brought by Denis and the panel listened intently as he touched particularly on the importance of concentration. The session was a very structured and enjoyable experience for all involved. It certainly provided the panel with the platform needed for the first round clash. We would like to thank Denis for his time and hopefully we will have other opportunities for more sessions in the future.

East Munster Golf Qualifiers

By Cillian Twomey

On the 30th of September the Colman's golf team took a visit to West Waterford Golf Club, in the East of Munster qualifiers. There were great hopes set out for the team which comprised of Cillian Twomey, Shane Stephenson, Matty Condon and Thomas Stephenson.

After a good start by all four boys, things started to

deteriorate and the weather followed with heavy showers in patches. With twelve other teams entered, the competition was tough with De La Salle College emerging the well earned winners. The Colman's team narrowly missed out this time, but we're sure there will be future Ryder Cup winners amongst us soon!



1st Year Hike

By Brendan McAuliffe

This year on the first year hike we went to the Comeragh Mountains. It was a great day had by all. We were accompanied by Ms. Burke our year head, Mr. Tobin and Mr. Rea. There were also three fifth years that came with us Eolann, Ryan and Dave. We all had a great day. The weather was great for a hike, or so we thought! As the day progressed it became very drizzly and foggy. The majority of us arrived home covered in mud face masks which is apparently good for

the complexion! I enjoyed the hike because it was a great experience for all of us and a great way to make new friends. One of the best parts for me was the black ditch. It's a very narrow lump that goes on for about a mile and is surrounded on the two sides by bogs. This was the only part of the hike where everyone fell, even the tall fifth years! That concludes my account of the first year hike! We are all very grateful to everyone who organized it and we will all cherish the experience forever.



T.Y. Killarney Trip



By Brian Fenton

On Monday, September 13th 2010, the Transition Year students of St. Colman's took part in the annual trip to Killarney. We started out by going to Ballyhass Lakes. Here we went kayaking, did the 'Leap of Faith' and also team building exercises. Everyone had a great time here including Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Tobin. From there we headed to Killarney. We had an early start the next morning. The first stage of the hike began

with a boat trip up the Lakes of Killarney. Here we saw two white tailed eagles which were only just released. It was magnificent. From there, our day began with an eight mile hike through the 'Black Valley.' This was a very enjoyable experience as the natural landscape was of sheer beauty. Overall, everybody really enjoyed this trip. I dare not say any more as Mr. Cashman said, "What happens in Killarney, stays in Killarney!"

Prefects

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Conor Fenton (Head Prefect) | Matthew Condon |
| • Shane Healy | Rory O'Connor |
| • Eolann Sheehan | Stephen Ford |
| • Cian Clarke | David O' Sullivan |
| • David O'Sullivan | Martin Purcell |



Dean Ryan Championship

By Daniel Murphy



On a hot day down in Ballygiblin the Dean Ryan panel took on a determined Clonmel team. The teams were ready to fight the first half was mainly dominated by Clonmel but the boys weren't finished. At half time the two managers said some harsh but inspirational words. Colman's fought their way back to level. It was tense. The referee blew the whistle for extra time.

The boys really dug deep with a goal from Alan Fenton and a great point from Michael Wade. It was a great win from the Dean Ryan team

with great performances from the panel. Final Score 1-18 to 3-6. The team included 1. Darragh O Callaghan 2. Sean Linehan 3. Aaron Neville 4. Ronan O Regan. 5. Ronan Bransfield 6. Thomas Carroll 7. James Neville 8. Anto Spillane 9. Daniel Mangan (0-7) 10. David Geary (0-5) 11. Kevin O Neill 12. Mickey Wade (0.2) 13. Cormac Mulcahy 14. Alan Fenton (1-3) 15. Shane Walsh

(Subs used) 18. Josh Pyne 19. Peter Murphy 20. Brian Fenton.



Maths Week

By Séan Connolly

Maths Week was a huge success in St. Colman's this year. There was a large amount of entries for the competition which involved solving the problems on the

posters around the school. There was also a large amount of people getting involved in the online maths game Manga High which could result in new equipment such as computers being won for the school.

Pitch and Putt

By Cillian Twomey

On the 13th of October the school's two junior Pitch and Putt teams played in the Munster Qualifiers on the Fermoy Pitch and Putt Course.

James Devonshire, Daniel O'Regan and Ryan Sexton comprised of the winning team with an impressive score

of 34 under par for 36 holes. This team came in 3rd place and qualified for the All-Ireland which is being held in Tullamore Pitch and Putt course. We would like to thank Mr. O' Connor and Father Barry who through out the day never ceased with their supportive words of encouragement and refreshment drinks.

St. Colman's Students Hit Big Water At Castleconnell

By Eolann Sheehan

Last weekend fortnight students from St. Colman's College raced in the infamous Castleconnell "Head of the River" challenge. The Fermoy eight consisting of five students from St. Colman's achieved the second fastest overall time and also won their category outright.

St. Colman's College Leaving Certificate student Paul Mannix and his partner Evan Harris O'Sullivan were the heroes of the day snatching a tremendous victory in a well renowned race "The Bulls and the Bears". Paul beating a team comprising of four international rowers was quoted after the race as saying "It's a good day for the Parish, a big buzz, probably the fastest race of my life." Congratulations Paul!



Sports Roundup

Dean Ryan Hurling

St Colman's College beat Clonmel CBS.
They are now through to the Semi-Final where they will meet St. Flannan's College on the 11th November 2010.

Senior Football

St Colman's College lost against Dingle in the first round.
They are due to play Coláiste Chríost Rí very shortly.

Harty Cup

St Colman's College lost against Árd Scoil Rís Limerick in Charleville before the Mid-Term.
They will meet Waterford Colleges on 17th November 2010.

O' Callaghan Cup

St Colman's College beat Coláiste Chríost Rí before the Mid-Term.
They will meet Rochestown College in the semi-final very soon.

U16 Soccer

St Colman's College lost against The Patrician Academy Mallow.
Best of luck in their next match at home against Presentation College Cork 12th November 2010.

U 15 Football

St. Colman's College won Against Youghal and are now through to the second round of the competition.

U14 Hurling

St Colman's College lost against Midleton CBS in the second round of the competition.

Boxing

We wish to commend Brendan Wilson who represented Ireland in the World Boxing Championships in Lons Le Sonnier in France this year. Ten medals were won by Ireland and his sister Siobhán placed 1st in her category. Well done to the Wilsons!



Christmas Inkwell Magazine

By Sean Moloney

*I wrote this poem for Inkwell,
With any luck now it'll sell well,
They'll be queuing up in the canteen,
To buy a magazine off this shamfeen,*

*We'll advertise on facebook,
Put a poster here and there,
But all that really matters,
Is that Josh gives tips on hair,*

*If the magazine is successful,
We might just strike a deal,
With good old Cian Sewell,
For a good old Happy Meal,*

*So I'll finish up my poem,
And throw my pen away,
Buy Inkwell this Christmas
For news, the Colman's way!*



