



Coláiste Mhuire Newsletter



Winter 2009

Volume 15 Issue 1

School Management extends a warm welcome to all students and staff to a new school year. Coming up to the end of November, I hope all students are well settled back into school life, study and are taking part in the many extra curricular activities available in Coláiste Mhuire.

We extend congratulations to all who did so well in both Junior and Leaving Cert. It was wonderful to see many Leaving Certs attain over five hundred points in the Leaving Cert. They are studying at Universities in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Galway. The Junior Certs got outstanding results and this indicates the magnificent work done by both students and staff.

Congratulations to Joan Vaughan and Sean Warren in topping the recent parent's election to Co Kilkenny VEC. This was an astonishing result for parent power in our school and it reflects the continuous good work being done by the parents' council over many years. We thank Mrs Peg Barry for serving on the VEC over the last five years. Coláiste Mhuire benefitted greatly by having a voice on the VEC.

A lot of work has been completed since the last school year. All classrooms were painted during the summer months. The walls and attics were insulated recently at a cost of €27,000. During the mid term at end of October all the exterior doors were replaced with double glazed doors. We also hope to finish the new hockey/soccer all weather pitch in the next few weeks. This project will cost €200,000. New ball stop nets were installed on the hurling pitch.

Our Further Education Courses are booming. This year there are eighty adults pursuing further education. There are twenty students in each of the following courses: Childcare Level 5, Supervision in Childcare Level 6, Engineering/Welding and Secretarial/Computer courses. Due to expansion in this area there are now almost 440 attending our school.

During the coming weeks we are enrolling sixth class pupils for September 2010. Application forms are available

from our school office and it is advisable to book a place early on. Children in sixth classes will get an opportunity to sample life at second level on Friday 20th Nov. There will be an Open Night for parents of fifth and sixth classes on Thursday 26th November. Final enrolment and assessment will take place on Saturday 5th of December.

We welcome many new teachers to our staff: Mr. Roynane to Maths and PE, Ms. Murphy to Irish, Ms. Farrell to Science, Ms. O'Sullivan to Maths and Science, and Mr. Stapleton to PE. We wish them good luck in their careers.

**Thought for the year:
The winner is always part of the answer:
The loser is always a part of the problem.
The winner always has a plan;
The loser always has an excuse.**

Opening School Mass

Our school mass took place in

September and had a special emphasis on welcoming all our first year students and students to the school. Music was provided by our school choir and students were actively involved in presenting symbols and reading the liturgy of the word. Thank you once again to Fr. Maher and Rev. Cruickshank for their continued involvement and support.

First Year Bonding Day

First years attended the Pastoral Centre, Castletown this October for a

very special day. A day packed with pair work, group work and team building activities was enjoyed by all. Rachel Dermody, Michael Carroll and William Kenny reported on this trip stating that it was "a really good day", "I feel you really got to know others in the year" and "I would definitely recommend it for first years in the future".

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Coláiste Mhuire staff and students collected over 100 Christmas boxes for the Samaritan Purse Charity. Gifts go to homeless children, orphans and children living in poverty in countries in Eastern Europe and Africa. Thank you to the Student Council reps who helped and to the LCA class who had a big part in organising the operation this year. Finally,

thank you to the students and families who helped make this such a success.

Tá súil againn go bhfuil sibh go léir ag baint taitneamh as an scoilbhliain úr. Nach deacair a chreidiúint go bhfuil an Nolláig ag druimid linn agus na scrúdaithe!!! Tá a lán athraithe le feiceáil timpeall na scoile, doirse, muinteoírí agus daltaí nua— fáilte roimh go léir. Mar is léir do chách tá an scoil níos gnóthaí ná riamh, imeachtaí éagsúla ag tarlú gach lá. Comhghairdeas do na buachaillí a bhuaigh an chraobh shóisearaigh Laighin san iomáint.

Transition Year 2009/2010 Blasts Off

“Action-packed”, “different”, “enjoyable” “always-on-the-go” are just some of the words used to describe TY ‘09/’10. The Coláiste Mhuire TY programme certainly embodies variety, diversity and alternative learning. The students have had opportunities to participate in a dizzying number of activities and events so far this year and it’s set to get busier.

The students started the year with a very enjoyable excursion to the **National Ploughing Championships** in Athy where they visited many agri-related stalls, displays and exhibitions.

Other trips to **local heritage** and **history sites**, the **CSI exhibition** and an eye-

opening and thought-provoking morning at the **Road Safety**

Show in the Watergate Theatre were attended by TY students.

A number of programmes that require motivation, commitment, leadership and good communication skills are on-going in TY.

Twelve students participated in **The 421 programme** which promotes peer-training in drugs awareness and is run by Ossory Youth Services. The students are currently making their presentations on drug-related issues to all first years as part of SPHE.

The school is proud to become one of the first schools in the county to be-

come involved in the **Level 1 Awards in Sports Leadership** in association with Kilkenny Sports Partnership. This certified programme is nationally recognised and enables students to successfully organise sports and recreational activities for young people in their school and locality. Students are so motivated they are coming into school on their days off to complete their training!!

One of the most enjoyable events in TY this year was the day spent at the **UL Outdoor Pursuits centre in Killaloe**. The TYs and their teachers Mr. Roynane

and Ms. Monahan spent an adrenaline-fuelled and sometimes terrifying day on high-ropes, canoeing, kayaking and doing team challenges. Students were given a CD with the photos taken on the day as a valuable memento.



Voluntary work and contributing to your community are well established TY ideals; students have fund-raised for Enable Ireland and the school sports fund, and made suggestions on how the area could be improved as part of the Spa Community Development Plan.

Other events in TY include **guest speakers in enterprise and banking and work experience with the defence forces**.

Students involved in the in-school programme on Fridays have been tutored in **self-defence, golf, bowling and successful interview skills** as well as discovering and trekking **local walkways**, proving that learning in TY can take place in many different environments.

Up-coming events include a trip to New Ross to see a mental health/comedy show called “**Psychospaghetti**”, the annual **TY retreat**, a **workshop to raise awareness about bullying**, a trip to the **Islamic Cultural Centre** and an opportunity for two students to participate in a **work experience programme with RTE**. We are also in the initial stages of planning both the school trip and the school musical.

Phew!! TY a dynamic and diverse experience!!

Student Council - Le Chéile

The senior members of the Student Council and many of the Leaving Cert

students are this year involved in a mentoring programme with First Years. The Le Chéile programme aims to support our new first years, helping them to get to know each other and familiarise them with all aspects of the school. The senior students meet with the juniors whom they are paired with, and are there to give a friendly insight to Coláiste Mhuire school life, listening to their questions and concerns and most importantly being a friendly face in the school. The new incoming Student Council reps for 2009 / 2010 will continue to build on the successes of this programme. Thanks to the Leaving Certs for getting involved.

1R take to the Caves

The 1R Geography Class

visited Dunmore Caves with Mrs. Birch as part of their study of karst regions. A very informative tour was provided by the guide. The students were impressed by the stalactites, stalagmites, pillars and curtains formed by minute particles of dissolved calcium carbonate, over millions of years.

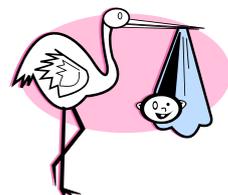
It was fascinating to learn how our ancestors sought safety in the caves from marauding Vikings. Coláiste Mhuire students showed little courage in the face of the occasional bat, who inhabit the caves.

The fitness levels of students were tested in the descending climb of over 500 steps. Mrs Carroll who assisted on the tour was the first member to ascend much to the annoyance of the many competitive sportsmen in our group.

The class agreed that a wealth of geology, history and natural habitats lie below the limestone plains of Dunmore and Castlecomer.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Ms. Bergin on the birth of her baby girl Charlotte, and also to Ms. Lyons who has a new arrival baby Eimear.



Le Cinéma

Senior French students were treated to a screening of the acclaimed French film "Entre les Murs" (The Class) at the Source, Thurles. The film was brought to Thurles by the Irish Film Institute as part of its Film in Education programme, which aims to introduce students to international cinema not often seen outside the capital.

Set in a deprived inner city school, the gritty urban drama deals with the relationship between a young teacher and his "difficult" class. However, the film avoids the cliché of the typical school drama and maintains an edgy and sometimes uncomfortable tension right to the end.

The overall reaction from the Coláiste Mhuire students was positive, and we look forward to further screenings in the future.

Author's Audience

First Year students had an opportunity to meet popular teenage fiction writer Michael Carroll during his recent visit to Urlingford Library. Michael is best known for his series "The New Heroes" with titles such as "The Quantum Prophecy" and "Sakkara". Michael spoke about the writing process, and was delighted with the enthusiastic response from his young audience, who had many questions for the author. The students were also treated to a sneak preview of the spine-chilling opening chapter of the soon-to-be-published third book in the series. Judging by their reaction, it's clear that many of them would be delighted to find one of these books under the tree on Christmas day!

3U Talking through the Chair

The 3U class decided on the topic Local Government for their Junior Cert CSPE project. It was decided to interview Councillor Mary Hilda Cavanagh to gain an insight into the duties and responsibilities of this post. Mrs. Cavanagh agreed to give a presentation in early September. The class was impressed by the Councillors' contribution to improving the services and amenities for her Constituents. Mrs. Cavanagh's special area of interest is education; this was evident in her membership of Coláiste Mhuire's Board of Management, and her endeavours to lobby the council for funding

for the school's new tennis courts.

In early October, the class visited the Council Headquarters in John Street. Mr. Waldron, the Corporate Events Organiser, presented the class with a detailed description of the role the council plays in developing zoning, providing infrastructure and services to Kilkenny City and County. The class was disappointed to hear of the lack of employment opportunities in the council, due to the recession. Mrs. Birch was permitted to sit in the Chairperson's chair and maintain order, a position held by Mrs. Cavanagh for two terms of office. There are 26 councillors attending the council meetings, all competing to have their views put forward. "Very like the classroom", was the retort of Mrs. Birch.

The history students in the group were in awe of the 17th Century facade of the council building, which was originally the home of Dean Jonathan Swift and in latter years, the building that housed Kilkenny College. The class have had their interest in government whetted and a tour of Dail Eireann on Wednesday 18th November is being looked forward to. "I hope to have cultivated future councillors, T.D.s and even Taoisigh from this project", said Mrs. Birch.

Leaving Certificate Applied

This year saw the beginning of the third group of Leaving Certificate Applied students since its introduction to Coláiste Mhuire four years ago by Mrs. Codd.

The LCA course is an alternative Leaving Certificate course designed to focus on preparing students for the world of work and equipping them with the life skills required when they leave school, without the huge pressure of exams that is associated with the traditional Leaving Cert. It also places large emphasis on the use of ICT which fully equips students for further studies in PLC courses and work.

Since its introduction, students who completed the two year course have successfully gained entry into further education, become apprentices, gone to agricultural college or gone straight into work placements.

This year's group is made up of ten students and their subjects include English and Communication, Maths Application, French, Social Studies, Vocational Preparation, Guidance, Drama, Leisure and Recreation, ICT, Graphics and Construction, Childcare and Community Care, Office Administration and Customer Care and Religion. Every Thursday they attend work placement in areas chosen by them which is hugely beneficial in helping them decide on future career paths.

Over the two years students will be continuously assessed in all subjects, gaining credits which will make up their overall result at the end of year two. Students will also have to complete seven tasks over the two years the first of which is happening on the 27th November when the students will hold a French afternoon under the watchful eye of Mrs. Costello. This will include the staging of a French play when students with the assistance of a visiting drama group will perform for the first year students. The afternoon will also include the teaching and running of a boules competition and highlighting many other aspects of French culture.

PLC

There are now four Post Leaving Cert courses including Engineering, running in Coláiste Mhuire. The new classroom for our F.E.T.A.C. Level 5 and Level 6 Childcare students in the Urlingford old national school is now completely kitted out with new computers and has internet access.

Most of our PLC students have completed a three day occupational first aid programme, including defibrillator training. This counts for one complete module for their Level 6 award from F.E.T.A.C.

Our F.E.T.A.C. Level 5 and Level 6 Childcare students with their tutor Mrs. Catherine Keane are going on a bonding day to Cork in early December (to see Santa Claus, mind the visa lads!).

All of last year's students received their F.E.T.A.C. Level 5 and Level 6 awards at a ceremony in Coláiste Mhuire recently. They looked smart in their caps and gowns. Mr. Brendan Griffin from F.E.T.A.C. commended the students, their relations and all at Coláiste Mhuire for their efforts to make this day a reality.

**Leaving Cert '09
Where are they
now?**

The Leaving Cert Class of 2009 are spread far and wide, with

- most students getting their first choice.
- Ciarán Beehan - Computers WIT
 - Patrick Brennan - Mechanical Engineering WIT
 - Chen Lin Chong - Dentistry in India
 - Thomas Corcoran - Arts NUI Galway
 - Orlaith Curran - Sports Science DCU
 - Daniel Dermody - Construction Teaching UL
 - Aaron Fogarty - Business UL
 - Hannah Gilshenan - PLC Beauty Therapy
 - Rory Hickey - History and English UL
 - Mary Hughes - PLC Childcare
 - Lucas Kozak - Electrical Engineering in Krakow
 - Adam Kozak - Electrical Engineering in Krakow
 - Michael Lennon - Mechanical Engineering LIT
 - Nicholas Marum - Kildalton Agriculture
 - Shona Nolan - PLC Childcare
 - Shona Ryall - Employed
 - Nicola Ryan - Legal Studies WIT
 - Philip Stranger - Mechanical Engineering CIT
 - Ting Zhi Wong - PLC Computer Studies
 - Niamh Brennan - Engineering UL
 - Damien Clyne - Employed
 - Thomas Costigan - Dairy Business UCD
 - Michael Dawson - Arts WIT
 - Lorina Duggan - PLC Computer Studies
 - Sinéad Holohan - Arts UCC
 - Laura Kenny - Biology and Chemical Science UCC
 - Martin Lonergan - Venture Management Maynooth
 - Dean McGarry - PLC Art Portfolio
 - Jason Moore - PLC Engineering
 - Emma Murphy - PLC
 - Karina Nolan - Arts WIT
 - PJ Nolan - Employed
 - Gary Peters - PLC Engineering
 - Brendan Phelan - Agricultural Science UCD
 - Shauna Pollard - Legal Studies WIT
 - Nicola Power - PLC Computer Studies
 - Mark Ryan - PLC Computer Studies
 - John Sweeney - PLC Engineering
 - Owen Warren - Employed.



We wish them every success in their future careers and assure them that they will always be welcome to drop in for a chat and a cup of tea in Johnstown.

**Guidance and
Counselling
News**

Sixth Years are busy studying College websites and prospectus to finalise their college choices and to help in their choice a number of speakers have visited the school from Waterford Institute of Technology, UCC, Carlow Institute of Technology and Thurles Institute. Students also attended the Higher Options and Open Days in University of Limerick, Kildalton College and an Occupational therapy Course in Kilkenny. Ms. Eilis Ryan, a 4th year student in UL, gave a presentation to 5th and 6th years on life in UL from a student's perspective.

The CAO application system is up and running and students are logging on to receive their CAO Number. They have until the 1st February 2010 to enter their course choices but some have already opted for specific courses.

A CAO night for parents will take place on Thursday 10th December in Coláiste Mhuire organised by the Parents' Council. Ms Lynn Bannon from UCC will give a presentation for parents on college life and Mr. Martin Fahey will give a short presentation on financial supports available to students.

Congrats to all our Leaving Certs from 2009; they were a credit to their families and their school. They are scattered in Colleges all over the country and the world pursuing the courses of their choice. A new Dairy Business course in UCD proved very attractive to our Agricultural Science students.

**Senior Camogie girls
have had a fantastic
start to their year.**

Their first match took them on the long journey to Presentation Convent Wexford which took a total of 3 hours; but that did not stop the Johnstown girls. The girls, captained by Davina Tobin, took an early lead and were to retain this lead right until the end. Amazing skill was to be seen right through the panel from the full back

line all the way to the full forward line. Davina Tobin's outstanding play proved that Johnstown would go home with a big win. The attacking line proved that every ball they could get would come out as a score. Scores from: Jessie Ryan (1-0), Emma Bergin (1-2), Davina Tobin (1-3), Mary Corcoran (1-1), Shauna Geoghan (0-1), Sarah Dermody (0-1), and Lisa Hickey (0-1).

With a great defence by Aishling Webster, Siobhan Corcoran, Rebecca Phelan, Sarah Whelan, Sarah Molloy and Shonagh Ahern, Johnstown were not going to let anything get by them. Keeping strong and fighting for every

Murphy outstanding in Goal

ball, Grace Murphy was outstanding in the goal trying her hardest to keep the ball out of the back of the net, hitting and blocking each ball left and right.

The next match for the Senior Camogie team was against the Presentation Kilkenny. That proved to be a hard and challenging match, with the Pres girls coming out fighting and proving to the Johnstown girls this was not going to be an easy match. By the end of the first half the Pres girls were winning well, but by inspirational speeches from the two coaches, Mr

Inspirational speech

Broderick and Ms. Kilkenny, the Johnstown girls came into the second half with fire in their bellies and proved that the match was not over yet. The defence lines were fighting hard to keep the ball out. The mid field line were grabbing every opportunity and placing each ball into the full forward line. In the rain Davina Tobin got a free from the twenty one yard line and rattled the net. After two goals from brilliant play by Aideen Beehan the Johnstown girls came back and landed a draw.

With great play from Jessie Ryan and Siobhan Corcoran in the half back line, the girls should be really pleased with their performance. Eilish Brennan was very good and did not let much pass from the mid field area. Sarah Dermody worked really hard in the full forward line.

Our next match was against Castlecomer, and it was a very hard match. It was raining heavily, the pitch was not in very good condition and was very slippery. The Johnstown girls were

all up for it and did not let the weather keep them from playing the match. In the first few minutes the Castlecomer girls proved that they were an excellent team and they showed great fight. The Johnstown girls had all ready met the Castlecomer girls in a challenge match early this year and that match was very close but Johnstown

Tobin always brilliant

escaped with the win. Davina Tobin as usual was outstanding bringing ball from the full backline all the way out to the full forward line. Emma Bergin was showing a great deal of talent and strength at centre forward ensuring that the ball was going to stay at our forward end of the field. Eilish played very well in mid field also showed a great deal of talent. The back line were under a great amount of pressure but they fought every ball and got it up the field.

An enormous thanks to our goalie Grace Murphy, who proved that once again no ball was going to get behind her into the back of the net. Showing great goalie

Grace blocks every ball

skills, Grace blocked every ball that came her way. Great credit to the full back line which included Jessie Ryan who scored two goals. Along with Aideen Beehan the pair were fighting to keep the ball in the Castlecomer net. Siobhan Corcoran and Sarah Whelan were very good in the half back line.

Finally this match came to an end and in saying that I would say the girls were happy to go away with a draw. Well done to the senior girls - keep up the great work!!

Senior Panel: Grace Murphy, Sarah Molloy, Shonagh Ahern, Sarah Whelan, Siobhan Corcoran Aisling Webster, Davina Tobin. Eilish Brennan, Shauna Geoghan, Sarah Dermody, Lisa Hickey, Mary Corcoran, Aideen Beehan, Jessie Ryan, Cliona Burke, Niamh Buggy, Ciara Mackey, Linda Sweeney, Kate Delaney, Carrie Grant.

Junior Camogie

Junior Camogie got

underway last week in the local hurling field in Johnstown. The junior Camogie team ranges from first years up to fourth year. They were up against Ballyhale. In the opening minutes of the game Ballyhale proved to be very strong in all areas of their panel, but the junior Camogie girls of

Johnstown put up a great fight. Ballyhale proving to be the better team on the day had a great win with the final score 4-11 to 4-4. Some outstanding performances from the Johnstown girls came from Brid Moore and Jessie Ryan. Brid Moore only being in first year played very well and showed that she has great skill and she is a major asset to the junior Camogie team. Siobhan Corcoran, Laura and Kate Delaney were some of the scorers on the team. The junior Camogie girls may have lost this game but they will go out even stronger in their next match and win. Our goalie Sarah Moriarty O'Connor is only in first year and being in goal is very new to her. Best of luck Junior Camogie girls.

Junior Panel: Niamh Dunne, Rebecca Pembroke, Michelle Hickey, Rachel Dermody, Sarah Moriarty, Brid Moore, Aisling Webster, Cliona Burke, Kellie Ann Quinn, Shauna Geoghan, Jessie Ryan, Kate Delaney, Mary Corcoran, Ciara Maher, Shonagh Ahern, Sarah Whelan, Linda Warren, Chelsea Power, Laura Hickey, Laura Nolan, Siobhan Corcoran, Caolain Horgan
Report by: Sarah Dermody, Mary Corcoran and Sarah Whelan.

Magnificent Mhuire Under 16 Hurling

Coláiste Mhuire made history this year by capturing the Under 16 Leinster Colleges B title. Captained by Robert Barnaville from St Lachtains, the U-16 team began their campaign with a victory over Callan CBS on a scoreline of Coláiste Mhuire 2-10 Callan 1-4. Travelling down to Abbey C.C on the outskirts of Waterford city for their second match the Johnstown team were expecting a tough match. With the lead in the game changing hands various times throughout, it was the south Kilkenny team that emerged victorious by the narrowest of margins on a score line of Coláiste Mhuire 1-12 Abbey 1-13.

In the final match in the group Callan defeated Abbey to ensure that Johnstown finished on top of the table to progress to the south Leinster semi-final. Played in Johnstown, the local lads were up against Borris V.S from Carlow. With some of the panel recovering from injury this was a game

where the strength of the panel was tested to its limits. Playing against the wind in the first half the Coláiste Mhuire team started very well and went in at half time leading by 5 points. Unrelenting pressure from the Johnstown team in the second half resulted in a well deserved victory by 9 points.

In the south Leinster final Coláiste Mhuire were pitted against Abbey C.S. once again. Going into this game Coláiste Mhuire were under no illusions of the task ahead having been beaten by Abbey earlier in the competition. Selecting from a full squad the

Tested to limit

Johnstown team started very well and approaching half time had established a lead of 6 points. Due to the excellent defending by all the backs and in particular Kieran Skehan the Abbey team was limited to very few scoring chances throughout. In attack the excellent Conor Martin caused problems for the Abbey defence all through the game and Johnstown ran out easy victors to progress to a Leinster semi-final.

Leinster semi-final Coláiste Mhuire 2-12 Mullingar 2-11. As the final score would suggest this was a close encounter between two evenly matched teams. The Johnstown team were playing with the aid of the wind in the first half and started well with a point each from Conor Martin and Kevin Sweeney. From an early stage in the game it was evident that Conor Martin was going to cause a lot of trouble for the Mullingar defence. With both teams battling hard for possession, defenders were on top for each team. With the scores tied at two points each, the Johnstown defence launched another attack; the ball broke to the corner forward Brian Webster, who finished to the net. This was a lead that the Kilkenny team built upon to go in at half time leading by 1-7 to 1-4. At the beginning of the second half James Kenny from the Emeralds club scored a goal and Conor Martin scored a point to put the Johnstown team seven points ahead. Playing with a strong wind the

Opposition leads

Mullingar team surged forward with attack after attack and reduced the

deficit to the minimum. With five minutes remaining the Westmeath team got a goal to take the lead in the match for their first time. There was considerable pressure on Johnstown and the Mullingar outfit were asking serious questions of their defence. Johnstown stood up to the challenge and gave everything to bring the game level with two points from the Lisdowney player Kevin Sweeney. With the game into injury time Conor Martin won a ball around midfield, as he raced towards goal he was brought down and was awarded a free. As it was the last puck of the game the Emeralds player showed nerves of steel to put the ball between the posts and Coláiste Mhuire ran out winners by the narrowest of margins. Shane Moriarty had a solid game in goals, in defence Thomas Moriarty had an excellent game and he was helped by Willie Brennan, Ciarán Bergin, Shane Quinlan, Shane Donnelly and Michael Drennan. The captain Robert Barnaville and David O'Gorman covered the whole pitch from midfield and in the forwards Frank Phelan, James Kenny, Brian Webster, Colm Dunphy and Kevin Sweeney played well. As already mentioned, a man of the match performance, from the Urlingford player Conor Martin, and he finished the game with a personal tally of nine points. Leinster Final

Coláiste Mhuire 2-9 St Benildus 1-4

In the Leinster final the Johnstown team made history by becoming the first team from the school to win this title on a scoreline of Coláiste Mhuire 2-9 St. Benildus 1-4. In a very close first half with both sides giving their all Coláiste Mhuire took an early advantage scoring two unanswered points. At half time the Johnstown team had a lead of three points 0-6 to 0-3. At the start of the second half the Dublin team got a goal to bring the sides level. Throughout this competition Coláiste Mhuire had been asked some serious questions and once again they provided the answers. Kevin Sweeney produced a goal out of nowhere to put the Dublin team on the back foot. Once again the Dublin team came on the attack to reduce the lead.

Martin Unstoppable

With both sets of backs controlling the game Conor Martin collected the ball in the middle of the field and raced for goal, from thirty yards he rifled an unstoppable shot to the net. This was the score that settled the

match and Robert Barnaville collected the cup on behalf of a tremendous Coláiste Mhuire team. Throughout this competition Shane Moriarty played very well in goals. In defence Thomas Moriarty and Willie Brennan were excellent and they were assisted by Shane Quinlan, Shane Donnelly, Ciarán



Bergin and Michael Drennan. In midfield the captain Robert Barnaville and David O'Gorman were tremendous. In attack James Kenny, Frank Phelan, Kieran Skehan, Colm Dunphy, Brian Webster, Jason Stanley all played well during the competition along with the clinical combination of Kevin Sweeney and Conor Martin.

Senior Hurling

COLAISTE MHUIRE 2 - 12
ST. FERGALS RATHDOWNNEY 1 - 15

This first round tie between neighbouring schools, Coláiste Mhuire and St. Fergals ended all square after a hectic hour's hurling. Despite all the rain the pitch at Johnstown was in excellent shape. Both defences played extremely well, with the result that both sets of forwards found scores difficult to get.

In the early minutes Conor Martin opened the scoring for Johnstown. Patrick Whelan replied with a similar score for Fergals. Emmet Jones and free taker Conor Martin traded points to leave both sides level after ten minutes. This was the pattern of play right through the first twenty minutes. Conor Martin and Denis Lennon added points for Johnstown, while Patrick Whelan, Willie Dunphy, Brendan Redden added points for the Laois side. Just at the twentieth minute mark, Johnstown were awarded a penalty and Conor Martin sent a rasping shot to the net. However the Laois side replied with a like score through Patrick Whelan.

The tempo of the game went up a few gears, and the tall Freshford player

Lennon goals

Denis Lennon banged home a second goal for Coláiste Mhuire after good outfield work by Conor Martin and Michael Grace. Jamie Ryan sent over a point from an acute angle to leave Johnstown ahead by two points. Willie Dunphy and Michael Grace swapped points before the interval to leave the scores at 2 - 6 Coláiste Mhuire to 1 - 7 Fergals.

Early in the second half Ross King and Stephen Maher added points for the visitors (Fergals). Michael Grace and Patrick Whelan traded points to leave only a single point between the sides. Willie Dunphy added a point to level the game after forty minutes. Brendan Reddin put Fergals in front for the first time with a long range point. Johnstown recovered with points from Denis Lennon and Conor Martin. Stephen Maher replied with a minor score for Fergals. Conor Martin added two points by frees. Wing half back Pat Guidera secured a long range point for Rathdowney. Johnstown introduced Donal Wilson and he immediately made an impact, getting in on the scoring with a point, to leave the home side ahead by two points and two minutes left. However Stephen Maher and Brendan Reddin fired over two great points to level the game.

This was an entertaining game by evenly matched sides. Lachtain Kennedy, Brian Murphy and Anthony Farrell were terrific in defence for Johnstown. Jamie Bergin, Michael Grace and Jamie Ryan tried hard Johnstown: Shane Moriarty, Michael Bourke, Lachtain Kennedy, Willie Brennan, Anthony Farrell, Conor Tobin, Brian Murphy, Tom Phelan, Jamie Bergin, Jamie Ryan (0-1), Michael Grace (0-2), Denis Lennon (1-2), Kevin Sweeney, Richard Power, Conor Martin (1-6)

Subs: D. Wilson and Jimmy Kenny.

The second match for the Seniors was against Banagher
Banagher Vocational School 1-11
Coláiste Mhuire 1.08

Banagher overcame a stiff challenge from Coláiste Mhuire in the second round of the Leinster Senior A Hurling played at Lisdowney. This was a great game of skill, score setting by both well

coached sides. In the opening fifteen minutes Banagher gradually picked off nice points through Stephen Quirke 0-3, Sean Kenny 0-1, Conor Kelly 0-1 and Adrian Treacy.

Johnstown replied with points from Conor Martin and a great effort from Brian Murphy. The Johnstown defence played well for most of this half, however, a half chance fell to nippy corner forward Seán Dolan and he found the net from close range to leave the half time scores at:-

Banagher 1-7
Coláiste Mhuire 0-2

Mhuire Boys Determined

The Coláiste Mhuire boys came out with a determination for the second period. However they sent approximately six wides early in this period. Michael Grace and Jamie Bergin slotted over two neat points from forty metres out. However, Stephen Quirke converted two frees for the Offaly side to keep an eight point margin between the sides.

Conor Martin and Kevin Sweeney added points for the Kilkenny side. Adrian Treacy replied with a minor score for Banagher. From here to the finish Johnstown boys upped their game. Tom Phelan 0-1 and Conor Tobin 0-2 brought this game to life with ten minutes left. The big centre back, now operating at centre forward, grabbed the ball, soloed fifty metres and rifled a perfect shot to the net, to leave only two points between the sides. However, in fairness, when Banagher were under pressure, they replied with a point by Stephen Quirke to give them a deserved three point win.

Shane Moriarty was tremendous in goal. Lachtain Kennedy was supreme at full back. Conor Tobin, Brian Murphy, Anthony Farrell and Michael Burke did extremely well in defence. The Johnstown forward line were very young yet they did well in winter hurling.

Scorers for Coláiste Mhuire: Conor Martin 0-2, Conor Tobin 1-1, Brian Murphy 0-1, Michael Grace 0-1, Jamie Bergin 0-1, Kevin Sweeney 0-1, Tom Phelan 0-1.

Team

Coláiste Mhuire: Shane Moriarty, William Brennan, Lachtain Kennedy, Michael Burke, Tom Phelan, Conor Tobin, Anthony Farrell, Brian Murphy, Jamie Bergin, Jamie Ryan, Michael Grace, Denis Lennon, Conor Martin, Richard Power, Kevin Sweeney.

Subs: D. Wilson, Brendan Quinn, Eddie

Curran, Tom Lanigan, Ciaran Bergin, David Ryan

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association are running the following event in the near future.

Thursday 10th December 7.30p.m. - A talk by Lynn Bannon of University College Cork and our own Martin Fahey explaining all you need to know about third level education. This will be of special interest to parents and guardians of fifth and sixth year students, but also to those with students in Transition Year where subject choices are made which will have a bearing on career choices.

The Parents' Association would love to have your support at these events.

Past Pupil Profile

Continuing our popular profile section we have chosen

more past pupils to profile.

SHONA & SELINA POWER CLOMANTAGH
Shona and Selina

completed their Leaving Cert in 2004.



Shona then went on to study a Bsc. in General Nursing at Dundalk Institute of Technology, in Co. Louth. The time she spent here she greatly enjoyed, meeting new people from all over Ireland. The course consisted of theory and clinical placement. which continued into fourth year. The remainder of fourth year was theory based. All of her clinical placement was conducted within the North- Eastern Healthboard.

She completed she four year degree and successfully gained a 2.1 in Bsc. in General Nursing in 2008. Following this she worked in Beaumont Hospital Dublin. She finished in Beaumont Hospital in August 2009. She now work in Clonakilty Community Hospital in Co. Cork which she loves. Nursing is a very demanding profession and like all jobs it has many highs and low to it.

Some good aspects of the profession.

One gains a good circle of friends, meeting lovely friendly patients - it's wonderful to see them recover from surgery. There are opportunities for personal and professional development by taking courses such as midwifery, public health nursing, school nurse, practise nurse etc.

On the other hand.

There are unsociable hours, 12 hr shifts including night shift (7 nights 12hrs), demanding and challenging workplace, very quick turnover of patients salary could be a lot better than it is, demanding doctors!!!

Selina completed her Leaving Cert in 2004. She went on to study psychiatric Nursing in Dundalk Institute of Technology in Co.Louth. During her training she travelled the country!! She started in Co. Monaghan then went on to Cavan, Meath and Louth, so Bus Eireann according to Selina has definitely got a fair share of her money. She graduated in 2009 and at present she is working in forensic services in the Central Mental Hospital in Dundrum Dublin.

Ups of Nursing:

"Over the last four years I have learn to appreciate my own mental health and the value it means to me".

"I'm thankful I have a job in this climate".

"The hot doctors are always a bonus!!"

Downs:

"Going on strike in the freezing cold - Its hard work in college but worth it".

Upcoming Events

10th December - TY Retreat in Mount St. Annes

21st December - Christmas Service

8th January - 6th Year Retreat

21st January - 1st & 4th year Parent Teacher meeting

28th January - 4th Year Trip to the Islamic Cultural Centre and Irish Aid Centre & Workshop in Dublin

Late January - Christian Unity Week Service.

2nd February - 2nd & 5th Parent Teacher Meeting

4th February - Mock Exams may start.