



ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE KILKENNY

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RECORD 2018



The start of a journey: First Year Class 2017-2018 on their first day



Dermot Ryan

Message from the President

This year we underwent a Department of Education and Skills Whole-School Evaluation – Management, Leadership and Learning inspection. Over a number of weeks department inspectors evaluated what we do and how effective we are in living out our mission – which claims that “academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally our students are encouraged to strive for all that is possible in the relentless pursuit of perfecting their individual gifts and talent”. In a wonderful affirmation of our students, teachers, management and families, they concluded that this “mission is lived out in practice”.

Thankfully, St Kieran's College still also remains at the heart of the Diocese by being the home for the Diocesan Forum, the Adult Faith Development Group, the Pastoral Plan Coordinator and the Diocesan Retreat Team. These allow us to serve the Gospel and the people of Ossory – far outside the walls of our campus – on a daily basis. Recently it was an honour for a number of our students to be present for the announcement that Dermot Farrell would become the next Bishop of Ossory. As Bishop he becomes Patron of St Kieran's College and thereby central to the ongoing history of this, the oldest Catholic Secondary School in Ireland. We welcome him and look forward to working with him in the years ahead.

This past year also saw the announcement that Maynooth University would discontinue its presence here in Kilkenny and, therefore, in St Kieran's College. This news was received with sadness – the ending of a long number of years of collaboration. Since 1997 Maynooth University has been on our campus offering Third Level education. It is also, however, with a certain pride that we look back on the great number of students who had an opportunity thanks to that collaboration.

In keeping with the spirit that of advancement and progress, that is St Kieran's, the space will not be unoccupied. I am delighted, then, to welcome Lighthouse Studios to St Kieran's College. This joint venture between Cartoon Saloon and Mercury Filmworks will provide high quality children's and family animated content development and end-to-end production services – from script writing, design, storyboard, animation and compositing to post production services – to a global client

base. In the creative space it is a perfect fit for our campus – allowing people with immense talent to express themselves.

Great work continues with our Alumni Group following on from the Reunion last year and another Corporate event in Dublin. These pages document that story and I thank all involved for their ongoing commitment to deepening our network of supports and connections among, and for, our past pupils.

Much work continues with the Department of Education and Skills and recently we have been given the design brief for the works to be carried out. Another step on the journey towards a very significant new build on the campus and a refurbishment of our existing iconic buildings. These works will be carried out so that we can continue to best serve our students, who are the very heart of St Kieran's College, into the years ahead.

In my role here I work closest, on a day to day basis, with the school management. In doing so, I get to see first hand the utterly selfless contribution and tireless commitment of Adrian Finan as Principal and Ken Maher and Liam Smith as Deputy Principals. They are Kieran's to their core. Their love for this place, its history, tradition and its people shapes their vision for the atmosphere of education that they facilitate here. It is impossible to quantify the impact that they have on our community but I know, and I know you will agree, that in their hands we can but continue to flourish and our tradition for success will only ever deepen.

If good education is the formation of a person who develops a pattern of learning, a manner of enquiry and a thirst for knowledge and self improvement that will never stop, then – we do good education at St Kieran's College. It is humbling to make that statement and know it to be true, but I do so thanks to all those who make it possible. I have, therefore, a real sense of gratitude to the students and their Council, the parents and their Association, the School and College staff, my colleagues on the Board of Management, the Trustees, Bishop Dermot our Patron, the Alumni Group and all those who add the air to the atmosphere of the relentless life-long learning and humble success that is St Kieran's College.

Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan, President
Chairperson, Board of Management

“Thoroughly understand what it is to understand, and not only will you understand the broad lines of all there is to be understood but also you will possess a fixed base, an invariant pattern, opening upon all further developments of understanding”. In recognising this, the Canadian Theologian, Bernard Lonergan points to what is at the heart of a good education – not the teaching of facts or conclusions but the formation of a person who develops a pattern of learning, a manner of enquiry, and a thirst for knowledge and self-improvement that will never stop.

It is what we do in St Kieran's College. To verify this we need only reflect on the continued breadth of achievements of our students which in this past year saw five of them attain the maximum points in their Leaving Certificate, 10% get 550 points or more, 20% get 500 points or more, 40% get 450 points or more and 51% get 400 points or more. Or the other successes of this past year: A Senior Colleges All-Ireland title - our 22nd; the Junior All-Ireland; Juvenile League Championship; defeated finalists All-Ireland soccer; the Marie Fitzpatrick award at the Kilkenny Music festival; winners of overall school in the All-Ireland Cross Country; and individual successes of 800m Gold; the FEI Pony world Jumping Trophy; representing Ireland in the World Junior Science Championship; three Silver National Swimming Championship Medals and so much more... We strive to create here a pattern of learning, a manner of enquiry, a thirst for knowledge and self-improvement that will never stop – even after we have left the glass hall.



Adrian Finan

Message from the Principal

have in our school and the positive nature of the relationships that permeate our community as we all work together to ensure the greatest possible experience for our students. On a personal note, it was apt that the extraordinary extra-curricular contribution of our staff and the participation of our students as evidenced again this year through the pages of the Record, was given due prominence in the final report.

I would like to especially acknowledge the role of Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan in his ongoing work in the development of the school and campus. As President, Chairman of the Board of Management and as Trustee of St Kieran's College, Dermot works selflessly on our behalf. In particular, his engagement with the Department of Education and Skills around the imminent redevelopment of our facilities deserves significant credit and will serve to position this school for a prosperous and vibrant future. I want also to acknowledge my other colleagues in management for their ceaseless work as they lead and support every member of our school community. In Mr Ken Maher and Mr Liam Smith, our school is served by two incredibly dedicated and talented Deputy Principals. It is, indeed, a privilege to work alongside such committed school leaders.

As a school we are very proud of the outstanding results achieved by the class of 2017 in their Leaving Certificate. It is not just the fact that five students achieved maximum points that is gratifying, but it is the extent to which the group as a whole performed so well that provides most satisfaction. These results are in no small way a testament to the great work of our dedicated staff but are also the outcome of the many initiatives undertaken by our teachers in recent years to enhance the learning and teaching that takes place in our school. We were acknowledged as 'educational entrepreneurs' this year at the launch of the new Leaving Certificate Physical Education course after St Kieran's College was chosen as a pilot school for that new subject for the next two years. We are excited by the possibilities that this and other initiatives present for our students as they journey through our school.

This year saw St Kieran's College revive a great tradition of school musicals with the successful production of High School Musical in collaboration with Loreto Secondary School. The show, involving Transition Year students from both schools was an enormous success. Everybody involved, in whatever capacity, can be justifiably proud of their contribution

to what was, without doubt, one of the highlights of the school year.

In any given year the achievements of our pupils are many and varied, with this year being no different. I would like to give special mention to our Senior Hurlers who in March were crowned All-Ireland Champions for a record 22nd time, when following an exhilarating campaign and a nail-biting finale, they overcame a gallant Presentation College, Athenry. There are of course many other notable achievements, all documented in these pages, of which we are also extremely proud, including many at national and international level in activities including equestrian, cross country, athletics, badminton, golf and soccer. To all those involved congratulations and well done.

I would like to thank all of those involved in the production of the Record, Tina Lawlor and Eadaoin Maher especially, for the countless hours and energy they give to providing such a fitting testament to the school year in St Kieran's College. We hope that you will enjoy it.

I would also like to thank all the student body and their Council, for their co-operation and diligence. Ultimately it is the pride they take in themselves and in their school that makes St Kieran's College what it is. We are very fortunate to have a very supportive parent body in the school. I especially thank the Parents' Association and in particular its committee, lead by Chairperson Ms Pamela McCluskey for all the work that they do. Their annual Fun Run was a huge success again this year, raising significant funds for the High School Musical. Congratulations too, to all involved with our Alumni which continues to go from strength to strength. We look forward to the weekend of activities again this summer following on from the success of last year's dinner and golf and the naming of the Fr Tommy Maher Field in the school. I would also like to acknowledge our Trustees and our Board of Management for their ongoing support in ensuring that this school remains, at all times, progressive and innovative.

Finally on behalf of everyone involved in the school community I would like to wish our Third Year and Sixth Year students all the best in their upcoming examinations and we hope that they can emulate the academic achievements of previous years. In particular we wish our Leaving Certificate students every blessing for the future as they make their way in life.

Mr Adrian Finan
Principal

This year began with a team of Inspectors from the Department of Education and Skills visiting the school, to conduct a Whole School Evaluation – Management, Leadership and Learning Inspection. The full report and the Board of Management's response to it, which can be accessed on both the St Kieran's College and DES websites, is tremendously gratifying for everyone involved in our school community. The findings are extremely positive and are a glowing endorsement of what the school seeks to achieve. We are told that:

- The quality of care for students is very good; student care strategies demonstrate very high levels of commitment to the wellbeing of students, co-ordinated by committed teachers.
- The quality of teaching, learning and assessment was good or very good in the majority of lessons observed.
- Students achieve to very high standard.
- The diverse TY programme enables students to achieve valuable experiences inside and outside the classroom.
- The range of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities support students' holistic educational development in line with the school ethos.
- Students are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of sports and other activities.

Congratulations to all concerned, the pupils especially, the parents, the teachers and all who make up the St Kieran's College community. A special word of thanks to all those who were surveyed and interviewed as part of the Inspection process. The feedback from those surveys highlight the sense of pride our students



St Kieran's College Staff 2018

Back row (l-r): Mr Peter Butler, Mr Michael Forrest, Mr Simon Reddy, Mr Richie Windle, Mr Pat Drennan, Mr Michael Kelleher, Mr John O'Keeffe, Mr Brian Butler. Fifth row (l-r): Ms Ann O'Shea, Mr Paul Fitzgerald, Ms Eilish Ahern, Mr Richie Ruth, Mr Joe Kavanagh, Mr Fergal Brennan, Mr Lester Ryan, Mr Michael Walsh, Mr David Hennessy, Mr Evan Walsh, Mr Brian Dowling. Fourth row (l-r): Mr Carl Lynch, Mr Ken Archbold, Ms Jo Staunton, Ms Pauline Bergin, Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Mr Eamon Heffernan, Mr Tom Brennan, Mr Philip Walsh, Mr Michael Doyle. Third row (l-r): Mr Larry Cotter, Mr Ger Buckley, Ms Jenny Kelly, Ms Jenny O'Dolan, Ms Orla Reynolds, Ms Regina Mulcahy, Mr Tom Hogan, Ms Ann Wemyss, Mr Niall Connolly, Mr Gerry Walsh. Second row (l-r): Mr Paddy Kelly, Mr Stephen Morgan, Ms Loretto Mannion, Ms Mary Martin, Ms Evelyn Allan, Ms Eadaoin Maher, Ms Hollie Hickey, Ms Tina Lawlor, Ms Jacqui Norton, Ms Rebecca Loughnane, Mr Martin O'Neill. Front row (l-r): Mr Ken Maher, Mr Adrian Finan, Rev Dr Dermot Ryan, Mr Liam Smith. Missing from photo: Ms Bernie Boland, Ms Marie Cantwell, Ms Olive O'Connor, Mr Patrick Darmody, Ms Bernie Dowling, Mr Jonjo Farrell, Ms Sharon Keyes, Ms Malu Treacy.

Student Council

The Student Council elections are held just before Easter each year. All classes are asked to nominate students from their class to go forward for election, and once this has happened voting takes place.

The work of the student council

is varied. They review the new and existing school policies and make suggestions. They meet with the Board of Management, Parents' Association and the management team in the school throughout the year. The Student Council did a lot of work this

year in conjunction with the School Food Company and made suggestions on the type of food students wanted to see in the canteen. Also this year the Council were very proactive in organising soccer blitzes for both the First Years and Third Years.



Student Council Back row (l-r): Sean O'Carroll, Jack McDonald, Barry Lennon, Brevin Benny, Mark Brennan. Front row L-R: Liam Healy, Kyran O'Sullivan, Jack McDonald, James Dowling, Jack Delaney, Kevin Benny.



Student Council Executive (l-r): David O'Carroll (Treasurer), Sean O'Carroll (Head Student), Brevin Benny (PR), Kyran O'Sullivan (Secretary), Jack McDonald (Chairperson).

College Reunion 2017



Some of this year's Jubilarians who attended the reunion.

Each year on the first Tuesday after the 15th August the College is delighted to welcome back those ordained from here who serve in many dioceses around the world. This year nearly fifty men returned for the Mass and celebration that is the annual priests' reunion. As is tradition, many started gathering throughout the afternoon and coffee and chat was the order of the day. Proceedings formally start with a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving in the College Chapel. Mgr Michael Ryan, as Administrator of

the Diocese, was the main celebrant and, as is now also tradition, the choir from St Canice's Parish added to the occasion by leading us in music and song. After the Mass there was an opportunity for the traditional reunion photo for all celebrating a Jubilee and then a reception for all gathered. It was wonderful to see so many from Ossory celebrate significant jubilees this year and we give thanks for their ongoing contribution to our Diocese. We are honoured, too, in the fact that many of them also have long connections with

the College! It is always wonderful to see many old friends come together to recall fondly days and years spent in the College. While several reunions take place here each year this gathering, of those ordained from St Kieran's, is the most special as the College was for all once their home. Many stories were told about those present and many not present were also recalled fondly throughout the days events. We look forward to hosting this year's reunion later in the summer.



Some of the men ordained from St Kieran's College who attended the reunion this year.

Past Pupils' Alumni

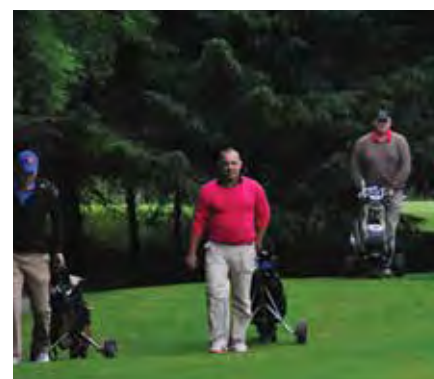


The weekend of Friday 30th June and Saturday 1st July saw the grounds of St Kieran's populated by many familiar faces as hundreds of our past pupils returned for the first St Kieran's College Alumni Association reunion. It was wonderful to see hundreds of past pupils coming together from the 'fifties right up to last year's Leaving Cert group for this unique occasion in the grounds of the College. This was the first major event for the Alumni Association who also held a number of smaller events throughout the year such as: coffee on the glasshall; Christmas Carols in the College Chapel and a Mass for deceased past-pupils in November. The major two-day event enabled all past pupils to come together to celebrate all that is unique and special about St Kieran's College and those associated with it. The event began with a Golf Classic at Gowran Golf Club on Friday, June 30 where 50 teams participated. The Golf was competitive but the real focus of the afternoon was the time spent chatting in the clubhouse or just as lads walked around the course. In fact at one stage a team of 6 were seen making the turn at the 9th! GUI rules were not a priority for some...

On Saturday, July 1 we had an open day at the College from 1pm to 6pm with guided tours led by current pupils and an opportunity for past pupils to meet with former classmates in this informal setting. A highlight of gathering was the official naming of the senior hurling pitch in honour of former College President, and past

pupil, Fr Tommy Maher. Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh lead proceedings for this to happen and in the company of Fr Tommy's family, many priests of the Diocese and hundreds of past pupils he fondly recounted stories of his encounters with, and the great reputation of, Fr Tommy. The weekend culminated with a Gala Dinner in the College Gymnasium where over 300 past pupils gathered long into the evening. Speaking at the dinner the Alumni Chairperson, Alan Buckley noted, "This weekend was an exciting occasion where generations of past pupils, who love the Black and White of St Kieran's, were welcomed back to their home. We hope to continue to connect past pupils with Saint Kierans and with each other at events such as this in the future".

The Association are again planning a gala weekend for this year and have penned it in for the weekend of 29th/30th June - making this an annual fixture to allow those who are travelling to make plans to be sure to attend. We thank the Alumni Committee members for all their work in making this happen: Alan Buckley (Chairperson), Diarmuid Healy, Eddie Keher, Billy Fitzpatrick, Cathal FitzGerald, Peter Barry, William Maher, Shane Doyle, Dermot Ryan, Pat Gannon. We note too that new members have recently joined their ranks to ensure that word continues to spread about this great association - we welcome therefore Liam Smith, Brian Roche and Pat Tynan to the association.



Resilience in Sport Lessons for Business 2018

lessonstorleaders.ie

On Thursday 18th January over 400 of Ireland's finest leaders in sport and business, and many past pupils and parents of our students, assembled to explore the key values that are integral to business, sport and success in life.

This, the second St Kieran's College corporate networking afternoon, is held in association with Kilkenny GAA. The afternoon was hosted by Pat Kenny who led conversations with Kilkenny Manager Brian Cody, Dublin Manager Jim Gavin, Taxback's Terry Clune and Racehorse Trainer

Jim Bolger about their experiences in the rise to the top of their respective fields. Insights were shared on the values, focus, passion, attention to detail and drive, as the key ingredients for success. Dublin Camogie Manager, and former Kilkenny hurler, David Herity, former Kilkenny hurler Tommy Walsh and Kilkenny Senior Camogie Managers, and former players, Ann Downey and Angela Downey joined in a panel discussion to discuss 'What Drives Success'.

In conversation with Pat Kenny,

they spoke about how teams and managers create an intimate bond in the pursuit of common objectives.

Opening the afternoon Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan, as College President, noted that "people are not born great, [but that] we are all born with the same God-given potential for success and how in the application of honest values, hard work, humility, passion and a relentless pursuit of attaining our goal, we can all achieve success on and off the field of play, and most importantly, in life itself."





As Ireland's most successful hurling manager, Brian Cody delivered a talk on 'Principled Leadership'. Brian had recently been confirmed for an unprecedented 20th season as Kilkenny Manager and he explored the leadership skills that have made Kilkenny the competitive and resilient force they are on the field of play. The event this year was again supported by Newstalk as media partner, and event sponsors - the Taxback Group, Morgan McKinley, Cosimo Venture Capital and Timoney Leadership Institute. We look forward to next year's event and preparations are already underway!



Ossory Adult Faith Development

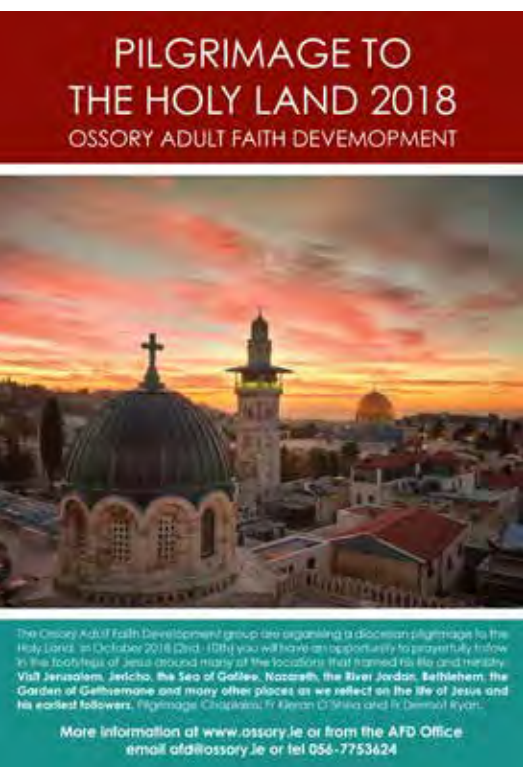
St Kieran's College exists to serve the Diocese of Ossory. Not only as the Diocesan Secondary School serving students from many of our parishes, but also in many ways, to serve the parishes themselves. From the College, at the heart of our Diocese, services such as Diocesan Communications, the Diocesan Forum and the Diocesan Pastoral Plan Coordinator are run. Among them, so overtly resonate with the mission of the College - given its mandate to teach - is the Diocesan Faith Development Group. The members of this group, Eadaoin Maher, Olivia Maher, Fr Kieran O'Shea, Michael Hogan, Declan Murphy and Fr Dermot Ryan along with Tina Lawlor, endeavour to help the people of our Diocese to deepen their faith. We hope to do this in a variety ways.

Most recently, the Faith Development Group offered again the Lenten training courses for the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. In a change from previous years, when it was offered in several locations, this course was held over two weekends here in St Kieran's College. The change was suggested last year as a means to bring more people together so that a real sense of our being together in ministry could be felt by all participants. With inputs from Michael Shortall and Aoife McGrath of St Patrick's College Maynooth and Ken Maher and Kieran O'Shea from our own Diocese, people were offered an opportunity to reflect upon, and prepare for, this valuable ministry in our communities.

Another aspect of our Lenten journey was a series of talks over five nights at which various topics were explored in a dialogical fashion to help people reflect on the call to all, in our communities, to live out their baptismal promises. Following from last year's very successful course in the Southern Deanery on a similar topic, these nights saw inputs on the Church, the formation of Sacraments, Liturgy, the Scriptures, and service itself.

The Faith Development Group are currently preparing for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land for our diocese and such was the demand for places on this that it filled to capacity within two weeks of being advertised. Later this year then over 60 people from around the Diocese will undertake this pilgrimage to the Holy Land - retracing the footsteps of Jesus.

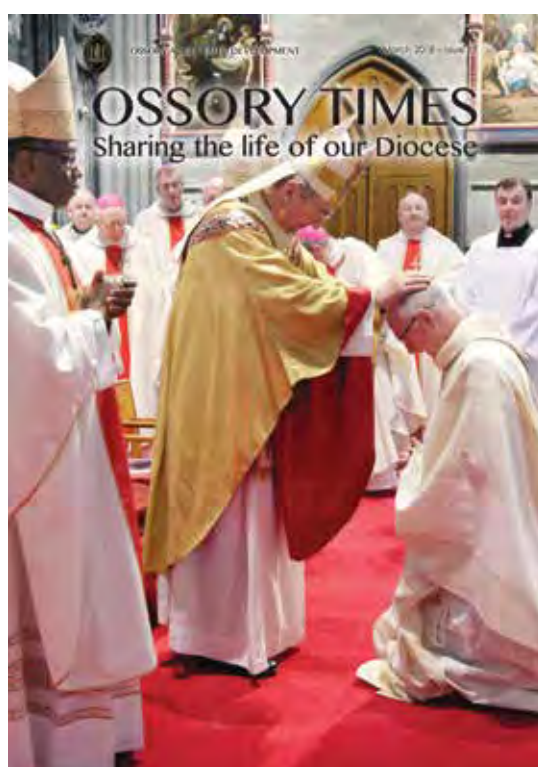
Parish evenings are now a central aspect to the life of the College. For the past three years the Diocesan Retreat team along with the Faith Development Group have welcomed people into the College to pray. The leadership team of Michelle O'Connor, Peggy Lyons, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Lorraine O'Shea, Gemma Mulligan Dermot Ryan and Kieran O'Shea ensure that the night's prayer is beautifully reflective. In fact this year several retreats were also offered by the team in parishes around the Diocese. These parish-based evenings are intended for parents of Confirmation and First Communion children as part of their journey of preparation. Work is also



PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 2018
OSSORY ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

The Ossory Adult Faith Development group are organising a diocesan pilgrimage to the Holy Land, in October 2018 (Wed - Fri) you will have an opportunity to prayerfully follow in the footsteps of Jesus around many of the locations that framed his life and ministry. Visit Jerusalem, Jericho, the Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, the River Jordan, Bethlehem, the Garden of Gethsemane and many other places as we reflect on the life of Jesus and his earliest followers. Pilgrimage: Chaperons Fr Kieran O'Shea and Fr Dermot Ryan.

More information at www.ossory.ie or from the AFD Office
email afd@ossory.ie or tel 056-7753624




St Mary's Cathedral Chapter Ho
Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 7.30pm

Sure of Unsure
An exploration of the upcom
Referendum

CHAIRMAN BY BISHOP DERMOT FARRELL
SPEAKER REV DR MICHAEL SHORTALL
SPEAKER DR KRISTEN MCCARTHY

On Tuesday 8th May, at 7.30pm in the Chapter St Mary's Cathedral Bishop Dermot Farrell will information evening on the Catholic understand current debate. The evening will feature Rev Dr Michael Shortall, moral theologian and Dr Kristen McCarthy, doctor. Please join us as part of your journey in yourself before the vote on 25th May.

Diocese of Ossory
www.ossory.ie

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underway to take our "College" Retreats to nursing homes around the Diocese - to share with their residents an opportunity for prayer and reflection - and hopefully a social moment, so much a part of the evenings here, too.

The *Ossory Times* magazine is now in its sixth year of publication and it continues to be a great success. Each edition sees over 3000 copies distributed throughout our Diocese. The *Times* is an invaluable means of our sharing good news of the life of our parishes and communities - a means for sharing resources, and an opportunity to educate on the faith. It is designed to be accessible to all in the Diocese and, in fact, many parishes have this year taken to simply covering the cost of their editions and then making them freely available to people.

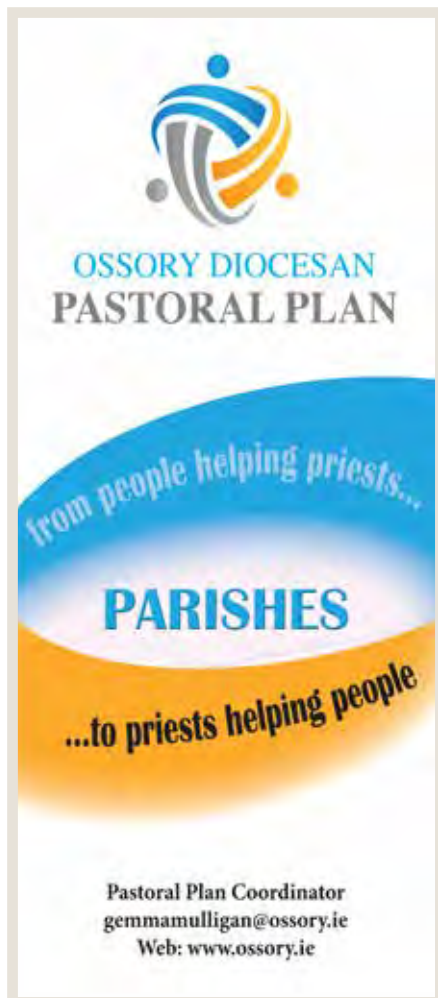
Just a few weekends ago we held the Diocesan U9 Hurling and Camogie Blitz here in St Kieran's. Reflecting the changes in age divisions across underage hurling this too has moved from u8 to u9 meaning that many who had competed here last year got the chance to play again. Old losses had to be corrected - and a great day's competition saw over 60 teams from the clubs of our Diocese bring over 900 boys and girls and their families to the College to compete. The grounds were awash with colour and laughter and all left exhausted and happy. Hurling for the pride of the parish is important business - and many a long career was no doubt started at this event.

The Faith Development Group continues its now staple offerings of Advent and Lenten texts and Twitter daily thought along with the Advent and Lenten scripture "Thought for the Day" booklets, Sunday Scripture Reflection sheets, Prayer Cards and various lectures throughout the year too. Among those talks was a recent evening of reflection on the upcoming Referendum on the 8th Amendment to our Constitution. Bishop Dermot Farrell chaired an evening of discussion and reflection stimulated by inputs from Dr Kirsten Fuller and Rev Dr Michael Shortall. A packed Chapter House at St Mary's Cathedral was brought to life in lively discussion around this important topic.

The Faith Development Group is always exploring new ways to help people deepen their Faith, so if you have any ideas or suggestions please let us know. We always welcome them...



Diocesan Pastoral Plan Coordinator



For almost two years now I have been working as pastoral plan coordinator in Ossory with my base in St Kierans College. One of the nicest parts of my day is driving through the arch at the entrance to the College. After spending some time navigating the traffic in the city it is like a breath of fresh air to turn into the beautiful lawns and vast buildings that are steeped in history and tradition and yet are so full of life and youth and energy. St Kierans College is the oldest Catholic school in Ireland and the depth of that history and tradition is not lost on me as I walk through the corridors. The walls are full of faces of young men who have walked these same corridors, some long gone, others friends today.

I began working in August 2016 and the steps of the front of the college were filled with young first year boys being photographed, smiling with relief as they completed their first few hours as new students of St Kierans proudly watched by their parents as the next step in their lives began.

Today these same young men are on the steps again not only for their class photos but also for their achievements in hurling, debating, badminton, mathematics, soccer, choir, athletics, and so much more. As I go about my work each day the break for coffee or lunch is known without having to check the time as the hallways and stairways overflow with youth and energy and laughter, it always brings a smile to

my face and reminds me that the work we do in our diocese is very much about them. Their future is what we are preparing for. These young men and lately young women (as I write this final preparations for High School Musical are underway) are a reminder to me of how important it is that we plan and prepare for the church of tomorrow. Most of the young men that pass my office have no idea that all across the diocese of people in parishes give of themselves because they care about young people and want the church in Ossory to be a place where these same young people can fulfil their potential and live faith filled lives.

Liturgy, communication, faith formation, nourishing faith, outreach and young people are some of the strands of our Diocesan Pastoral Plan and in parishes throughout the diocese people are striving to bring these strands to life. In St Kierans the pastoral plan for Ossory is being lived out through the many liturgical services throughout the year, through the "Aim High" programme which many students take part in each year, through the pilgrimage to Lourdes and by history, tradition and culture that exists in the college.

In our vision for our Diocesan Pastoral Plan we are told that the future shape of the church in Ossory is in all our hands under the guidance of the Holy Spirit... In St Kierans they are paving the way.

The Ossory Diocesan Forum

St Kieran's College has been home to the Ossory Diocesan Forum since its establishment in 2004.

The Forum Office is located near the main entrance and throughout the year the College hosts most of the Forum meetings, be it the regular meetings of the Ossory Diocesan Pastoral Council, which is the executive body of the Forum, the monthly meetings of the Middle Deanery Pastoral Council, occasional special focus gatherings and assemblies and a myriad of small working groups that meet throughout the year to progress the various pastoral initiatives being undertaken by the Forum. By creating a stable "home" for the Forum, St Kieran's College has facilitated its development over the years and contributed very

significantly to its work for the Diocese.

The title "Forum" was chosen for this significant diocesan body at its inception. This was a deliberate choice expressing the vision behind this courageous initiative. The goal of the Ossory Diocesan Forum was to create channels of communication throughout the Diocese that would make it possible for all the people of the Diocese, women and men, clergy and religious, to be actively involved, with the Bishop, in shaping the life of the Church in Ossory in the light of contemporary challenges and opportunities. The channels that have evolved are the pastoral councils that have been created at parish, deanery and diocesan levels and together they form the Ossory Diocesan Forum. The

network of pastoral councils makes good communication and dialogue a real possibility at every level.

Working as Coordinator of the Forum has been a privilege and a challenge. From the beginning to the present, the most encouraging aspect for me has been the willingness and enthusiasm of so many people to become involved in the work of the Forum. Their commitment and dedication has ensured that many pastoral issues have been addressed over the years, most recently the need to develop a Diocesan Pastoral Plan.

As it begins its fourth term of office I believe that the Forum is well placed to continue, in the words of its Constitution, to build "an effective, collaborative Church in Ossory".

Maynooth University



The 1998 edition of the *College Record* carried the headline "St Kieran's becomes a university campus in historic link with NUI Maynooth" thereby marking the beginning of a collaboration that was to last until this summer. It was hoped, then, that the linking of two of Ireland's longest established educational institutions might bring full-scale third level education facilities to Kilkenny City and while this was never realised, the union of these two Colleges certainly did bring about much good in the intervening years.

In the summer of 1996 discussions began with a view to beginning an outreach centre for Maynooth here on the grounds of the College. The initial offering was a modular part-time degree programme to be called a Bachelor of Arts in Local and Community Studies. With agreement reached by December 1996 an initial Steering Committee was put in place to help guide the growth of this early stages. On Friday 24th October 1997 the then Minister for the Environment,

Noel Dempsey TD, officially opened the Maynooth University Centre and paid tribute to the Steering Committee Chairman Pat O'Neill and then County Manager PJ Donnelly who had done so much to realise a vision for this collaboration. As it opened it had 54 students - among whom was Dr James Brennan - a priest of the Diocese of Ossory and a former Professor in the Seminary here at St Kieran's College. Since this early beginning, Maynooth University at St Kieran's College had continued to offer many part-time, mainly adult education, courses to students from the south east.

In recent years a concerted effort to explore the possibility of creating a greater footprint for the University here in Kilkenny had been explored. Led by Billy Murphy Chairman of the Steering Committee, Collette Byrne, Chief Executive Kilkenny Co Co and representatives from Maynooth University and the current Steering Committee, avenues were explored to expand what was on offer to students in this region. In fact, since September 2013

post Leaving Certificate students had the option of taking the first year of their BA Degree in Kilkenny at the St Kieran's College campus before moving to Maynooth University to continue their degree in their second year. This model of education allowed students on the campus here an introduction to university life with smaller class sizes, a close-knit student community, a student focused learning environment and a gentle transition into full-time university life. However, having successfully run this programme for five years, the decision was taken last May to discontinue the offering at the end of this present academic year and, as a result, for Maynooth to withdraw their presence from Kilkenny.

There is obvious sadness from all those involved in trying to grow a university presence here in Kilkenny and from all those who worked, and studied here at the Kilkenny Campus. There is also, however, a real sense of satisfaction that for twenty one years of third level education that was made possible here thanks to the collaboration of these two fine academic institutions. The result of this collaboration was increased educational opportunities for countless students from the region and beyond.

As this phase draws to a close we thank all those who made it possible - the current and past staff of Maynooth University here in Kilkenny, the many members of the Steering Committee throughout the years, the Presidents and Trustees of St Kieran's College and Maynooth University and of course the students who populated these grounds ensuring that learning and creativity continued to be a part of the Kilkenny and St Kieran's story.

As this concludes, however, we note that green shoots are also still emerging. Minister of State Mary Mitchell O'Connor recently made a recommendation for a proposed 1,000-student campus to be located in Kilkenny City which could tie in with plans for the Technological University of the South East (TUSE) that is currently being jointly pursued by Waterford IT and IT Carlow. A report suggesting this, commissioned by Kilkenny County Council, argues there is an educational, social and economic case for locating a higher education campus to cater for students in Kilkenny - a view long held by all on the steering committee. So the dream of Third Level education in Kilkenny continues - and we note too the very positive news of the presence of Lighthouse Studios here in St Kieran's College opening shortly in the space Maynooth occupied - continuing creation and advancement, so much part of the mission of St Kieran's College.

Lighthouse Studios



This summer Lighthouse Studios will establish themselves here in St Kieran's College as a location for part of their operations. Lighthouse Studios is a Joint Venture Collaboration between Canada's Mercury Filmworks and Kilkenny's Cartoon Saloon. It is an all-new 2D-focused animation studio that will create high-quality

children's and family animated content development and end-to-end production services – from scriptwriting, design, storyboard, animation and compositing to post-production services – to a global client base.

Over its 19-year history, Mercury has helped bring to life many of the most memorable modern animated television and film properties, including Disney's Tangled animated series and the Mickey Mouse shorts. Other multi-award-winning series include: The Lion Guard, Wander Over Yonder, Star v the Forces of Evil, Jake and the Never Land Pirates, Fish Hooks, Toot & Puddle, Gerald McBoing-Boing, and Atomic Puppet.

Kilkenny-based Cartoon Saloon is now a celebrated animation studio formed by Paul Young, Tomm Moore (a past pupil of St Kieran's College) and Nora Twomey in 1999. In 2010, the Studio's first feature film, "The Secret of Kells", was nominated for an Academy Award and in 2015, they received a second nomination for their film "Song of the Sea", and in recently in 2018 received a third nomination for their film "The Breadwinner". Their creative success is a phenomenal story and their gifted artists and many other specialities will now find a home here in St Kieran's College - we wish them well in these hallowed grounds.



Eddie and Kay Keher, and members of Kilkenny County Council, as Eddie was presented the Freedom of Kilkenny City - a great honour, well-deserved, for a proud past pupil.

Past Pupils and Scholarships



UCD Scholarships (above)
Back row (l-r): Ciaran Lennon, Gary Moore,, Eamon Fennelly, Conor Dyson, Conor Mahon, Conall Whelan.
Front row (l-r): Enda Keneally, Cian Burke, Brian Hennessy.

JP McManus Scholarships (right): Brian Hennessy and Kieran Lucey.

DCU Scholarships (bottom right): Jack Manning and Diarmaid Minnock.

Alan Hayes (below), past pupil and President of the Students' Union UCC, is in his final year studying social science at UCC. He is hoping to do a Masters in sustainable development or in psychology after his tenure as president of the Students Union is over. We wish Alan every success in his year as President.



Kilimanjaro 2017

Jack Kavanagh, Past Pupil



On the 8th of July 2017 I set off on my trip to Tanzania. Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro was something that I wanted to do since I was 11 which added more to the anticipation while driving up to the airport that day. A month beforehand I had picked up my flag from both the Emeralds and from Fr Ryan in St Kieran's. There was a sense of pride by representing Kieran's and my club when packing those flags in. It was the first time either would have reached the top of the highest free-standing mountain in the world which is known as the 'Roof of Africa' and I felt a great sense of pride representing both.

We flew through Addis Ababa in Ethiopia on our way to Kilimanjaro Airport in Tanzania. Having never met any of my other trekking companions before, the 14 hour journey was a great help to get to know the 15 other members on the trip. Walking out of the airport at Kilimanjaro we all were immediately reminded of the enormous task at hand as to our right the towering Kibo (as it is known in Swahili), stood at just under 20,000 feet. The stifling heat seemed not

to affect us as we looked up at the snowcapped mountain.

The next day we began our 10-day trek. It would be seven days to the top and three days to get back down. The first day and a half of trekking was through hot rain forests and clammy conditions. Despite this we got to see much of Tanzania's vegetation and animals such as Howler monkeys and the Gaboon viper. On the second and third day as we broke away from the dense tree line we began to walk in very rocky and barren landscapes and the temperature began to drop. It went from 30 degrees in the tree line to 15 to 20 degrees which was a lot more comfortable but a little more uncomfortable to sleep in at night with howling winds blowing at the tents as we slept!

As we trekked higher and higher the vegetation began to disappear, and the air began to get thinner, which was noticed with headaches and altitude sickness. By the 6th day of our ascent the landscape was completely barren and consisted of rocks, shingles and dust with many people feeling very sick and lightheaded constantly,

including myself. The sixth day's route consisted of the climb of the Branca wall was a more technical climb which was a nice break from the 8-10 hour a day monotonous trekking we had been doing for the previous five days.

On summit night we began our 8-hour trek to the top at midnight through snow and ice. Altitude sickness and exhaustion were now setting in but the desire to see that sunrise at the top of the mountain and the two flags in the bag kept the appetite whet to keep going. When we reached the top the sense of achievement was incredible. Despite the sickness, the group had stayed united and helped each other along the way to get the summit at 19,341 feet. Pulling out those flags on the top and getting the group photo was something that I will never forget. We had all worked together to get each other up there. The feeling of pride representing places that developed me as I grew up is something that I will always remember and a special thank you to Fr Ryan for his support and the opportunity to represent the school again.

Leaving Certs

Congratulations to all of our students on receiving excellent results in their Leaving Certificate examinations in August. Once again, the results were fantastic with 6% getting 600 points or more (5 students the maximum 625 points), 10% obtained 550 points or more, 20% earned 500 points or more, 40% received 450 points or more and 51% got 400 points or more.

It was a remarkable achievement to have five students obtain the maximum 625 points. A reception was held in the College reception rooms for Eamonn Fennelly, Brian Hennessy, Ciarán Lennon, Kieran Lucey, Jack Manning and their families to mark such a wonderful achievement.

On behalf of all the staff in St Kieran's College, we would like to wish all of last years Leaving Certificate class the very best in their chosen paths from here. We trust that the lessons learned, the hard working habits formed and the friendships made here will serve you well now and in the future. We look forward to hearing of your progress. We wish you well.



Leaving Cert: Eamonn Fennelly, Ciaran Lennon, Kieran Lucey, Brian Hennessy. Missing from photo: Jack Manning.



JCPA Programme

This year saw the first cohort of students receive their results in the new JCPA programme. As the new programme is being rolled out more and more subjects are coming into the new curriculum. Our Second Year students are currently completing their CBA's in both English and Science. The teachers have been on inservice throughout the year to ensure that all are ready to embrace the new curriculum changes.



A selection of students who received the first-ever JCPA Award of Achievement in St Kieran's College.

Junior Cycle: A broad education for your child

The new junior cycle will place the student at the centre of the learning process. It allows for new ways of learning and a broader range of skills to be properly assessed. This leaflet aims to inform parents of post-primary school students about the key changes underway.

Principles, Key Skills and Statements of Learning

Underpinning the new junior cycle are a set of principles, key skills and statements of learning. These will ensure that your child receives a rich educational experience that has both breadth and depth. Your child will have access to a varied curriculum of knowledge, understandings, skills and values.

Eight principles underpin the framework for Junior Cycle. These inform the planning for, as well as the development and implementation of, junior cycle programmes in all schools. The eight principles of Junior Cycle are:-

- Learning to Learn
- Choice and Flexibility
- Quality
- Creativity and Innovation
- Engagement and Participation
- Continuity and Development
- Inclusive Education
- Wellbeing

Eight key skills permeate across the entire curriculum



Through engaging with the key skills students will:

- be more actively engaged with learning
- take greater ownership of their learning
- have a critical engagement with digital technology
- be encouraged to problem solve and think critically and creatively

The twenty-four statements of learning describe what your child should know, understand and value having participated in junior cycle. Schools will ensure that all statements of learning feature in the programme offered to their junior cycle students.

New subject specifications are being implemented in schools on a phased basis



How student achievement at Junior Cycle will be assessed

The most significant change in the new Junior Cycle is in the area of assessment. A dual approach to assessment, involving classroom-based assessment across the three years and a final externally-assessed, state-certified examination can enable the appropriate balance between preparing students for examinations and facilitating creative thinking, engaged learning and better outcomes for students. From Autumn 2017, junior cycle students will receive a new Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA). The JCPA will reflect a much wider range of your child's achievements over the three years of junior cycle. The JCPA will report on a number of areas, including:-

1. Subjects (State Examination and Assessment Task)
2. Classroom Based Assessments
3. Short courses
4. Other Learning Experiences

Subjects

Schools will be able to choose from a total of 21 different subjects for inclusion on their junior cycle programme. All subjects are being revised and each one will have its own specification replacing what was previously known as a syllabus. Each specification describes the learning that takes place as part of the student's study of a subject in junior cycle. By 2019 all new subject specifications will have been introduced. Students can study a maximum of 10 subjects for the JCPA, and if their school offers short courses they can study 9 subjects plus 2 short courses or 8 subjects plus 4 short courses for certification purposes.

The state examination that students sit in their subject at the end of their junior cycle will also be graded differently. Instead of A, B, C, D, E, F and NG the following descriptors will now be used:

Distinction	90	to	100%
Higher Merit	75	to	89%
Merit	55	to	74%
Achieved	40	to	54%
Partially Achieved (not graded)	20	to	39%
	0	to	19%

Classroom Based Assessments

Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their learning and skills in ways not possible in a pen and paper examination, for example, their verbal communication and investigation skills. CBAs will be undertaken in subjects and short courses and will be facilitated by the classroom teacher.

“Six years that go by way too fast”

My Six Years Experience in St Kieran's College
Liam Hoban



The first day of secondary school, for me, was a leap of faith into a new, uncharted world. I was dropped off at the main gate by my father, who bid me farewell on the most important solo journey thus far in my life; the march from the School Gate to the Red Door under the Arch that leads on to the Glass Hall. The cause for my anxiety on that first day was simple: Would I be put in the same class as my primary school mates? As I trudged on, I witnessed the enormous, monstrous building that stood before me. This was St Kieran's College. I reached that narrow, red door under the arch and pulled the door open with all the power and might that a poor little First Year has. There before me, sitting on the windowsill of the Glass Hall (instead of the benches) were my friends. I felt much more at ease with them beside me, my confidence began to rise, and we set off to climb the 58 steps to the Study Hall. Here, the large white study hall welcomed us, and we quickly sat down in the middle row of chairs that were fanning out across the hall. We were welcomed by Mr Curtis, the former principal of the school. Mr O'Keefe rose to the stage and introduced himself as our Year Head. My heart began racing... Was I with my friends or not? Before my concern could be answered, Mr O'Keefe explained to us the difference between two simple words: "Pupils" and "Students". We were pupils in primary school, reliant and dependent on our teachers for almost everything. Now though, we were moving on, starting

to do things for ourselves, we received some autonomy. With this in mind, he began to read the class rosters. When your name was called, you had to stand. "In class 1A1, we have...". He progressed down the list, then my name rang throughout the room. My heart exploded in my chest. I rose, and nervously looked on the rest of the people in the room. Just two seconds later, my friend from primary school was called out. My worries evaporated. A third friend of ours was also put in our class, and I became flooded with relief. We took off cheerfully to the first class, the first of the thousands of classes we were about to sit in in our time at Kieran's.

Second Year was definitely one of my favourite years. The '79 building was where the first and second years had their social areas, and so now we felt that we owned the building. Up the tight, narrow stairs that are completely jammed between classes, you could find our hallway. It's an image I'll never forget; 140 students packed in every morning, either talking with friends, finishing homework due that morning, or playing games on our phones. At that time, we all played the fad that was 'flappy bird', a simple tapping game. Everyone wanted to be the best, we used every spare minute of the day, between classes, to try improve our own high scores. The game is almost unheard of today, but it feels like only yesterday that we were watching each other almost get a high score, long after the bell had echoed through the hall. We were certainly more mischievous in Second Year. No doubt the teachers were annoyed by our misbehaviour, but our common rogue attitude really teamed us together. We created bonds in second year that I hope will survive the individual and diverse paths we take into our own, unique futures.

Third Year was quite different. The year of the Junior Certificate. We had the pressure of an official, (somewhat) important, state exam. In truth, the exam doesn't count for very much in your life on its own, but we must look at it in the larger picture. The Junior Cert allows us to experience the hustle of a state examination, preparing us nicely for the Leaving Cert. That reminds

me of when my Leaving Cert Irish teacher, told us a short time ago, that the Leaving Cert won't count for very much either in our futures. It's certainly a substantial milestone, but we will look back at the Leaving Cert as we do at the Junior Cert now. Similarly, many employers would rather know what qualifications and/or experience you have in their field of work rather than how many H1s, H2s, H3s and so on you got in the Leaving Cert. I don't want you to think that I'm not concerned about my results in the Leaving Cert instead I want to show how the Leaving Cert is just another simple step on our path forwards. To me, this highlights what is really important during our time in school. Our time in Kieran's is much more than academic learning, it's about the community. Six years together with the same people, seeing those same faces day in, day out... it simply becomes one large, extended family. And just like any family, there are disagreements, arguments, or squabbles, but also warmth, laughter, and a sense of belonging. I cannot sum up this family feeling any better than the time we came back from our third-year school trip and played a game of 'Bullrush takedown'. We came back to school half an hour too early, but instead of going back to class, we were allowed to go up onto the first-year hurling pitch to play the game, which nearly the whole year took part in. The game started with three lads standing at the halfway line of the pitch, while the rest of us all stood spread out behind the goal line. The aim of the game; to make it to the other side of the pitch without getting tackled to the ground by the lads that were on. I made it through two rounds, then distinctly remember being tackled to the ground. Now I was on, and slowly we caught the rest of the year until only one or two remained. We cooperated so well as a team that day, working hard to catch one of our own, and hurling him to the ground. It was a fine day that I'm sure many of us will remember fondly when we look back at our days in Kieran's.

Our year overcame the Junior Cert, despite the hot, humid temperatures of the exam week in the Summer of

2015. After the exams, I enjoyed a real sense of freedom for the remainder of that Summer. We began back in September in Transition Year, which the vast majority of our year chose to do. If you put yourself out there and get involved in the year, it can prove to be the most exciting, worthwhile year of your life at Kieran's. I did the enrichment programme in TY at the nearby Alzheimer's Centre every Wednesday for an hour and a half. Playing board games, helping in the garden, serving tea and biscuits to the clients, and simply chatting with the people were just a few of the activities we did. Throughout the year, I got to know the people of my year even better, and also felt I began to know my teachers better too. There's such a difference in the attitudes of the teachers towards the young first years and the mature sixth years. From authoritarian rulers of the classrooms to helpful, approachable, friendly people. I felt this change the most in TY, when we entered the Senior half of the school. Another important aspect of TY is leaving your comfort zone. I did a little bit of debating in fourth year with the school, but I still felt fairly nervous to speak in public. The TY coordinator asked me to do a talk to the parents of the third years about the advantages of TY. That night we were complimented for our hard work and I ended up really enjoying myself. Stepping out of your comfort zone is so important for us as students, TY offers us this chance. I encourage all to seize the opportunity and enjoy the year as much as I did.

Unfortunately, the year of bliss must come to an end. When Fifth Year comes around, you hit the wall of work straight away when you're back in school that September. A towering block of school books gets jammed into a big, heavy bag on your strained back. Mid-term exams are approaching quickly, you have to be back in the swing of homework every night again. But Fifth Year was, for me, a real eye opener. One Sunny, sparsely clouded day, in May of Fifth Year, I was at home in one of the fields of my farm. It's a field far up on a hill with a view of the entire County of Kilkenny and beyond. I travelled up the hill to move some of our cattle into the next field to graze the fresh grass, when suddenly a line from Gerard Manley Hopkins's poetry came to me: "For skies

of couple coloured as a brindled cow". I had just been learning the quotes of Hopkins for the Summer Exams that were coming up soon, but it wasn't until now that I finally saw it. The sky truly was as scattered with clouds in the same shapes as the colours of a cow. I looked around me then, and for the first time actually appreciated the magnificent view before me. I felt as if a third eye had finally been opened, I couldn't believe my own blindness and ignorance towards such an imposing and elegant panorama. Family and friends often said how beautiful the view is from our house when they visit, but I had never recognised it for myself. Hopkins's quote had finally awoken an appreciation in me for the scenic views found just outside my doorstep. What would my life have been without the opening of this 'third eye'? I have my English teacher to thank, for offering the poetry of Hopkins to us, and examining his poetry in such excellent precision. Without her, and without the education that is to be received at Kieran's that is so appreciative of the aesthetics, I would have lived my life as one of the poor men in Plato's allegory of the cave, forever unaware of the beauty of reality that laid right before my own two eyes.

Summer Exams came soon after that, they were a relief to have completed that year. However, the prospect of the year we were about to experience that September had me feeling a bit nauseous already. All too soon, the final year had arrived. This was the Leaving Cert, a year that can be summed up as constantly hearing a gospel of teachers preaching their Holy words: 'study, study, study!' In truth though, the final year is such a rollercoaster of a year. We experience the ups and downs, from week to week, day to day, but continue to rocket on toward the finish line at such an incredible speed. Near the start of the year though, our career guidance teacher told us this; "Sixth Year is a year like none other in your life so far. This is because for the first time in your lives, you don't know where you are going to be one year from now. A world of possibilities is waiting for you to seize the endless opportunities." For me, the possibility to choose anything I want paralysis me. I want to pursue a career that I will enjoy. She went on to say that we must look at life as

if we are fishermen. In youth, we can explore the whole pond, trying out all the different locations where we 'catch the most fish'. Then, in later life, we can settle down to the spot where, for us, the fish are most easily caught. This analogy speaks volumes to me. It's almost impossible to know what our 'passion' is at this stage of our lives. Instead, we should go out and get experience with different people, experiment with the different jobs that we would like to do. We don't have to be locked into the one career path in life. Kieran's has opened up the endless possibilities to me, and allowed me to become greedy, in a good way. I don't have to choose just one path in life, I can enjoy as many of them as I want.

In writing this essay, I have written about different episodes I have experienced here in Kieran's, but when I look at the overall picture, my entire six years, I am filled with wonder and bewilderment. How has it all went by so rapidly? It is truly a mystery to me how six years of my life have gone by in a flash. How is it possible that a school day can sometimes stretch out so exhaustingly long, but the school year slips by so fast? I remember my English teacher talking to us at the end of First Year about how fast the year had gone by. He said to us then, that every year goes by faster than the last. This illusion is very accurate for my experience here in Kieran's. Looking back at these past six years, I sometimes wonder if I got the most out of them, did I really seize enough opportunities in what feels like such a short space of time? I must have. Time would not have flown by so quickly if I had not thoroughly enjoyed myself. Kieran's is a proud school, one with countless sporting trophies, academic awards and an excellent record. However, I feel that more important than all these successes is that every student enjoys his time at Kieran's. We are a school of many talents, and are blessed to have such skilled students, but we are just as lucky to have a school with such a pleasant, supporting atmosphere, one in which everyone thrives. I feel I can speak on behalf of the entire First Year class of 2012, that every pupil who arrived through the College gate on their first day will leave through those same gates as a student, with six of the most enjoyable years of our lives behind us.

School Awards 2017

SUBJECT AWARDS

Mathematics	Junior - Eoin Morgan	Senior - Eamon Fennelly
Gaeilge	Junior - Colm Nolan	Senior - Ciaran Lennon
English	Junior - Jim Kirby	Senior - Eamon McPhillips
Religion	Junior - Vincent Gornicki	Senior - Evan Walsh
Business	Junior - Kieran Buckley	Senior - Cian Burke
Technology	Junior - Bill Kavanagh	Senior - Denis Carrigan
Tech Graphics	Junior - Michael McInerney	DCG - Ted Drea
History	Junior - Michael Lewis	Senior - Ben Whelan
Geography	Junior - Liam Barron	Senior - Eoin Rudkins
Science	Junior - Eoin Morgan	Senior - Eamon Fennelly
Ag Science		Senior - Kevin Kehoe
Spanish	Junior - Joe Cowhig	Senior - Cian Burke
French	Junior - Stephen Walsh	Senior - Peter Mullan
Art	Junior - Oisín Doyle	Senior - Donal Brophy
Music	Junior - Theo Yordanov	Senior - Ben Whelan
Frank Muldowney Award Best Junior Cert 2017		Jason Kelly
President's Award		Jack McDonald

ACADEMIC STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

First Year	Conor Booth
Second Year	Seamus Hughes-Kennedy
Third Year	Joe Cowhig
Fifth Year	David O'Carroll
Sixth Year	Eamon Fennelly

Fifth Year	Conor Archbold, John Nolan, Liam Hoban, Ruairi Breen, Feargus Byrne, James Phelan, Conor Drennan, Daniel Cotter.
Sixth Year	Cian Burke, Michael Carey, Thomas Comerford, Ciaran Lennon, Cian Enright, Conall Whelan.

STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

First Year	Darragh Dwyer
Second Year	JJ Ryan
Third Year	Michael McInerney
Patrick Kilroy Award	Tom Bolger
Fifth Year	Ben Lanigan
Sixth Year	Conor Dyson

AWARDS OF MERIT

First Year	Eoin Deely, Conor Booth, Luke Burke, Luke Dunne, Pdraig Lennon, Alan Dunphy.
Second Year	Oisín Doyle, Senan Forristal, Andrew Brennan - Smyth, Seamus Hughes Kennedy, Patrick Brennan, Aaron Condon.
Third Year	Dacel Fwamba, Eoin Morgan, Peter Connellan, Jim Kirby, Pdraic Moylan, David Delahunty.
Fourth Year	Adam O'Brien, Luke Gannon, Conor Foley, Killian Egan, Sean Comerford, Alex McCluskey, Tom Kennedy.

SPORTS AWARDS

Badminton	Peter McDonald
Handball	Eoin Brennan
Swimming	Robbie English
Cross Country	Junior -Brogan McAviney Senior - Adam Fitzpatrick
Soccer	U13 Player - Adam O'Connor U15 Player - Brian McDonald U17 Player - Ciaran Brennan U19 Player - Dara Keane
Juvenile Hurler of the Year	Andy Hickey
Junior Hurler of the Year	Ciaran Brennan
Senior Hurler of the Year	Martin Keoghan
Sports Star of the Year	Adrian Mullen

STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Back row (l-r): Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal), Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Adrian Finan (Principal), Ms Pamela McCluskey (Parents' Association), Mr Niall Connolly. Front row (l-r): Michael McInenery, Ben Lanigan, Conor Dyson, JJ Ryan, Darragh Dwyer. Missing from Photo: Tom Bolger.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan (President) and Jack McDonald.

SPORTS AWARDS



Back row (l-r): Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal), Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Rev. Dr. Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Adrian Finan (Principal), Ms Pamela McCluskey (Parents Association), Mr Niall Connolly. Front row (l-r): Andy Hickey, Martin Keoghan, Adrian Mullen, Adam Fitzpatrick.

STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD



Ms Pamela McCluskey (Parents' Association) and Conor Dyson.

ACADEMIC AWARDS



Back row (l-r): Mr Ken Maher (Deputy Principal), Ms Jean Fitzpatrick, Rev. Dr. Dermot Ryan (President), Mr Adrian Finan (Principal), Ms Pamela McCluskey (Parents Association), Mr Niall Connolly. Front row (l-r): Seamus Hughes Kennedy, David O'Carroll, Eamonn Fennelly, Joe Cowhig.

Pastoral Care at St Kieran's



Sixth Year Retreat

LITURGIES / RETREATS

Every year the students of St Kieran's College receive either a group or a class retreat and attended numerous liturgies celebrating our faith. The Leaving Cert students received two talks: one from Angela Hayes from Teac Tom suicide prevention centre and the other from past pupil, Cormac Connolly who spoke about the options available to students after they complete their time in St Kieran's. This was followed by a group meal in Langton's with this retreat taking place on Tuesday, March 20th. Second and Third Years swapped retreats from previous years with half going to Castlecomer Discovery Park. This group prepared and carried out a liturgy based on the theme of 'Remembrance' incorporating music, readings and reflection into the service. The remainder of the students received Mass in Duiske Abbey followed by a walk from Graignamanagh, Co Kilkenny to St Mullins, Co Carlow. Important local religious places were visited along the journey. It is important that we all take some time out of our busy routines to reflect on what our lives are about and to think about what paths we may choose in life.

First Years were introduced to a one-day anti-bullying programme which has been running in the school for many years now. This presentation, outlined by Ms Loughnane and Mr Brennan was followed by bowling in K Bowl, Kilkenny under the theme of 'Friendship Day'. Fifth Years received a similar retreat to the Sixth Year students with past pupils Robbie Kearney, Sean Morrissey and Niall Walsh giving individual talks on a variety of different aspects of life after school and the important decisions which they would make next year prior to their leaving cert year. This retreat took place on Friday, April 20th. Finally, Transition Year students went on a pilgrimage to Glendalough, Co. Wicklow.

Our retreats entail having a relaxing day, giving students a break from their studies to spend some time together socialising, reflecting and praying. Being a Catholic school, we believe that retreats are an essential part of the school-going experience and serve as an opportunity for each student to

take some time out to appreciate the important things in our lives. Overall, this year's retreats were a great success and an enjoyable experience.

During the school year there were also many opportunities for the students to gather in prayer. Our beginning of year Masses which took place in St Patrick's Church seems to be a long time ago. At these masses, Fr Ryan, the school President, welcomed everyone back to school and looked forward to another year. Fr Ryan also blessed the hurls and instruments of the students to mark the many skills and talents that we have within our school community. In November, we remembered our deceased loved ones and friends through a student led liturgy in the College chapel. Fr Ryan also led the celebrations for our St Kieran's Day Mass which was celebrated on Wednesday, March 7th.

We are currently making preparations for our end of year liturgies in which we will pray for those about to complete examinations. Our Leaving Certificate graduation ceremony will also take place. During this celebration, we will give thanks for the gifts and talents of our Leaving Cert students, give thanks for the love of their parents and wish them every blessing and success in their future lives.

Once again, it's been a busy year but one in which we hope that through the liturgies and retreats provided, God's love, Christ's compassion and the gifts of the Holy Spirit can be nourished, nurtured and truly experienced in the hearts of the students in St Kieran's College.



First Year Retreat



Second Year Retreat

ST KIERAN'S CHAPLAINS



The Chaplains provide pastoral support to all of the school community. Its open door policy allows each member of the school community to come and receive support in a confidential and safe way.

Our school Chaplains are Ms Rebecca Loughnane and Mr Fergal Brennan. Ms Loughnane teaches Religion, Wellbeing and SPHE while Mr Brennan, a past pupil of St Kieran's, teaches Religion and Music. However, primarily, they work together to tend to the pastoral needs of all students and staff in the St Kieran's College Community.



Third Year Retreat



Second Year Retreat



Cairdeas Group 2017-2018

Back row (l-r): Seamus Farrell, George Murphy, Gavyn Blanchfield, Thomas Kennedy, Killian Egan, Conor Foley, Eric Kearney Second row (l-r): Tim Corkery, Eoin Cody, Thomas Rice, Conor Byrne, Eamon Mahon, Padraic O'Neill, Martin O'Connell, Adam O'Brien Front row (l-r): Alex Duggan, Sean Keyes, Ross Ellis, Jamie Young, Michael Prendergast, Tommy Farrell, Darragh O'Keefe, Liam Fennelly.

CAIRDEAS:

During the summer, Ms Loughnane and Mr Brennan contacted twenty-four students asking if they were interested in taking part in the Cairdeas programme. The group met with the chaplaincy team prior to the First Years entering St Kieran's College.

The Cairdeas Programme aims to provide support for our First Year students – individually and as a group, to help them settle in, make progress and to achieve their full potential within St Kieran's College. Each year approximately twenty-five to thirty of our Fifth Year students take part in the Cairdeas programme. Each Fifth Year is assigned approximately five students to look after. They meet each of their students on their first day and at regular intervals throughout the year particularly during the first term. The beginning of secondary school can be difficult for First Years with so many new subjects and new faces to get used to.

Mentors will provide individual and group support from the initial stages of the First Year's life within St Kieran's College. They will be selected and given training to ensure that they have the skills necessary to support young people who might be daunted by some of the obstacles they face during their transition from primary to secondary school. The Cairdeas Programme encourages Fifth Year students to play a responsible role in the school community and to ensure that new students are secure in the knowledge that there are always older pupils available and willing to help them.

The process of recruiting students with similar skills has already begun for next year. Any student who is interested in the programme is now expected to answer a series of questions based on why they may be suitable to fulfill the role of a friend to our incoming First Years. The students interested will then be interviewed by Ms Loughnane and Mr Brennan. Overall, this is an excellent initiative with the sole focus of aiding First Years to settle in our school.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2018

Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration that invites schools to give expression in an exceptional way to the ethos of Catholic education. It acknowledges the tremendous contribution that our Catholic primary



and post-primary schools make, not just to Irish society, but to the mission of the church. This year's theme is Catholic Schools: Called to be a Family of Families.

Catholic Schools Week 2018 took place from Monday 29th January to Friday 2nd March. To mark the beginning of Catholic Schools Week a liturgy was prepared by First Year students and each class group had an opportunity to carry out this liturgy in our school chapel. It was a very special occasion, made even more so as all of our First Year pupils were involved in the ceremony. The theme was linked to "The World Meeting of Families".

The week was also celebrated with a display of religious symbols across the school and blessing of the throats also on Friday 2nd March (the Feast of St Blaise).

The highlight of this week included many of our Fifth Year students visiting our local primary schools to teach the topic of "Family and Me" to various classes in primary school. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience teaching as a profession but to also promote the message of Christian love in our parish.

Many thanks to all involved in the preparations for this week.

May St Kieran's College continue to be a place where one learns 'to appreciate the meaning and beauty of the faith, to pray and to serve our neighbour' (Pope Francis).



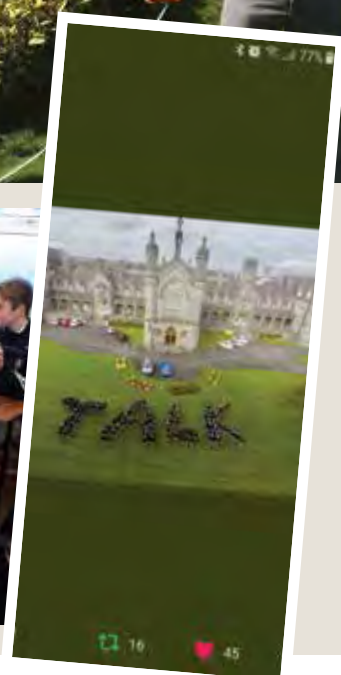
THE AMBER FLAG / MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2018

Throughout the school year students of St Kieran's College have made it their mission to retain The Amber Flag for our school.

The Amber Flag is an ideal, to strive towards, an initiative that aims to promote positive mental health in Irish Secondary Schools. If we can retain this flag for our school we will have completed our goal of successfully promoting positive mental health in our school, helping to remove the stigma surrounding one's feelings.

In order to promote this idea, we established a goal of organising a Mental Health Week in our school. Mental Health Week took place from Tuesday 20th March to Friday 23rd March 2018. We invited guest speakers from local organisations Teac Tom and Taxiwatch to speak to our senior students about Mental Health and suicide prevention and Elma Walsh (Donal Walsh Live Life Foundation) spoke to our TYs. HumorFit presented an anti-bullying workshop to our First and Second Years. During this week our Amber Flag was proudly raised at the front of the college along with many posters and leaflets being displayed on the corridors to create even more awareness of the importance of Positive Mental Health.

The Amber Flag initiative continues to aim to help any student who feels down and to promote Wellbeing in our school. Well done to all students involved in the initiative.





Lourdes Group
 Back row (l-r): Jamie Harkin, Patrick Phelan, Colm Nolan. Front row (l-r): Darragh Hackett, David Fogarty, Conor Gleeson.

LOURDES

The Lourdes Youth Helpers are a voluntary group of approximately 50 young people who accompany the Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Youth Helpers enable the assisted pilgrims to partake in the activities of the Lourdes pilgrimage by helping with transport (including wheelchairs, voitures and blue chairs) and most importantly their time, talent, friendship and good humour. Students from St Kierans have helped with the Lourdes Pilgrimage for the past 13 years.



CHOIRS IN THE CHAPEL

On the night of the 12th and 14th of December, the school choirs performed for the annual Carols in the College. Guests were entertained by the Junior and Senior choir who were joined by the Staff choir. It was two most enjoyable evenings of song, prayer and festivity.



Junior Choir



Senior Choir

Whole School Evaluation

Following the Department inspection of St Kieran's College the Board of Management are invited to submit a formal response to the report published by the inspectorate. Given the very positive and affirming nature of the report this was an easy and welcome task. Here below, then, is the formal response to that inspection.



A N R O I N N | DEPARTMENT OF
OIDEACHAIS | EDUCATION
AGUS SCILEANNA | AND SKILLS

PART A

Please comment on the content of the inspection report (approximately 100-150 words)

The Board of Management welcomes this very positive report following the recent WSE MLL. Our mission states that academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally our students are encouraged to strive for all that is possible in the relentless pursuit of perfecting their individual gifts and talents. It was heartening to see that the inspectorate saw that this "mission is lived out in practice". In particular we welcome recognition of the fact that "the board and senior management promote excellence in teaching and learning", that we "promote a culture of learning" in St Kieran's, that "very well-organised student support structures are in place" and that as a result our "students were very focused and able to work purposefully". Finally an appreciation of the manner in which "in all lessons, there was a good atmosphere for learning, students were motivated to learn and showed high levels of respect towards their teachers and each other" is very affirming of the dedication and commitment of our students, staff, management and parents who all work so closely together to create this positive school environment.

PART B

Please indicate the actions that the school has taken or plans to take to address each of the recommendations in the report (approximately 350 -400 words)

In observing "since a culture of review, improvement and self-evaluation has been established by school management in collaboration with teachers" the inspectorate notes that "the school's capacity for improvement is good". In continuance, therefore, of this ongoing self-evaluation all recommendations will be integrated into the regular development and improvement so much part of the fabric of daily life in St Kieran's College.

Work, which was already begun, is ongoing in the reviewing and updating of our posts of responsibility to continue to ensure they best promote leadership in learning. We are heartened by the ongoing response and enthusiasm of staff in this area. This is resonate with the approach, recognised by the inspectorate, of management who "empowers staff to take on leadership roles and is willing to distribute significant leadership responsibilities".

The Board will continue its pursuit, now many years in progress, for even better facilities on behalf of our students. We welcome, therefore, the inclusion of the school on the list of those who are to be in receipt of significant capital projects in the more

immediate future and we look forward to working with the Department of Education and Skills in realising this long held dream. In the short term any and all works possible will, as always, be carried out on the science facilities.

The report recognises that "the principal and other school leaders are committed to junior cycle reform and have taken measures to help ensure [its] successful implementation". Work is, therefore, ongoing, and collaboration taking place, to ensure that all subject plans best reflect the framework for the New Junior Cycle.

As was recognised by the inspectorate a review of study periods as part of the timetable structure has already begun and before the inspection was over all those study periods in the teachers timetables had been removed and the remaining work will be brought to a completion by the end of this academic year.

In endeavouring to extend the "very effective teaching, learning and assessment" observed by the inspectorate, work will be undertaken to continually promote more active methodologies, assessment for learning practices and formative developmental written feedback on assignments all undertaken within the framework of our ongoing SSE. This remains part of the observed "definite focus on improving teaching and learning" so much a part of St Kieran's College.

High School Musical

Regina Mulcahy, Lorraine Maher and Fergal Brennan (Producers/Directors)



The cast of High School Musical from St Kieran's College and Loreto Secondary School.

This original venture was first mentioned in February 2017, as a way of our TY students having a distinct memory from their Transition Year with memories that they could take with them for the rest of their lives. Together, we felt that we had the enthusiasm and confidence in these students to put on a memorable show.

The cast rehearsed rigorously throughout the year with the hope of producing a fantastic event. School musicals were very common within St Kieran's College through the mid-nineties with the last musical coming in the form of 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat', 18 years ago in 2000. School musicals began in the

school in 1987 under the guidance of Fr Richard Scriven as Musical Director.

So many hours of planning, preparation, talents and skills have gone in to bring you this performance! This task is only possible with the backing of a horde of unsung heroes.

Behind the scenes, our costume club have worked to transform our



Back row (l-r): Ms Marie Cantwell (Set Manager), Ms Rebecca Loughnane (Property Manager), Mr Michael Kelleher (Set Design and Construction). Front row (l-r): Mr Richie Ruth (Set Construction and Design), Ms Jenny O'Dolan (Costume), Mr Fergal Brennan (Musical Director), Ms Regina Mulcahy (Acting Director). The play is produced and directed by Ms Regina Mulcahy and Mr Fergal Brennan. Missing from photo: Ms Olive O'Connor (Front of House) and Lorraine Maher (Musical Director Loreto).



My High School Musical Experience

Cian Kenny

When we found out we were doing a musical at the start of Fourth Year everyone was excited. When we were told that we were doing 'High School Musical' with Loreto Secondary School we were all looking forward to do something different.

For me, I wouldn't have thought this would suit me and I told Mr Brennan I wouldn't take part in the singing, dancing or acting but I would help out with the backstage and behind the scenes. Then one rehearsal I started to get involved in dancing and singing and I really enjoyed it so I asked Mr Brennan and Ms Mulcahy could I be in the musical and they put me in the jock group.

We were all split up into particular groups: Brainiac's, Drama Queens, Cheerleaders and Jocks. Each group has different scenes and dances that they feature in. For the next few weeks we began rehearsals every Tuesday from 11-1 and also on Friday evenings. Michelle, our talented choreographer was teaching us all our dances and we quickly picked up the steps. We would go over the songs with our music teacher, Mr Brennan and the girls would do the parts with Ms Maher. Our confidence was building with each rehearsal.

We began discussing what costumes would suit each person's role for whatever group they were in. To ensure that the entire production ran smoothly, we assigned each boy in our year to different committees. The group on the Art committee painted the set and backdrop for the stage along with Mr Kelleher. Jenny on the costumes ensured that each person had a costume to match. All the people on the Promotion committee handed in posters to shops and stuck them up around the school.

We are all so grateful to everyone who has helped this musical come to life. Our production of High School Musical will definitely be the highlight of our Fourth Year.

students into Cheerleaders, Jocks, Braniacs, Skater Dudes and Drama Queens. All these costumes are testament to the incredibly hard-working Ms Jenny O'Dolan.

Our set, decorated in red and white, was created by the Art Committee under the guidance of Art teacher, Mr Michael Kelleher and Technology teacher, Mr Richie Ruth. No words can describe the attention to detail and hard work that has gone into the setting for our production. We are hugely grateful also to assistant musical director, Ms Lorraine Maher, Prop manager, Ms Rebecca Loughnane, and Front of house manager, Ms Olive O'Connor who have all been hugely helpful in lessening a quite hectic workload.

Special mention also goes to Transition Year students Joe Cowhig and Ian Wallace who have run the booking office solely on their own with a small aspect of help from us.

Preparation for this musical has been a truly educational experience and we know the Fourth Years will remember it with pleasure in the years ahead. It has been a delight to interact with the many talented and co-operative students in bringing our musical to the stage. It is with a huge sense of pride, that we have seen all these students develop throughout the year. It has been a hugely enjoyable but often difficult experience to get to where we are. We now hope that you enjoy the show. So at this stage "We are all in this together"!!



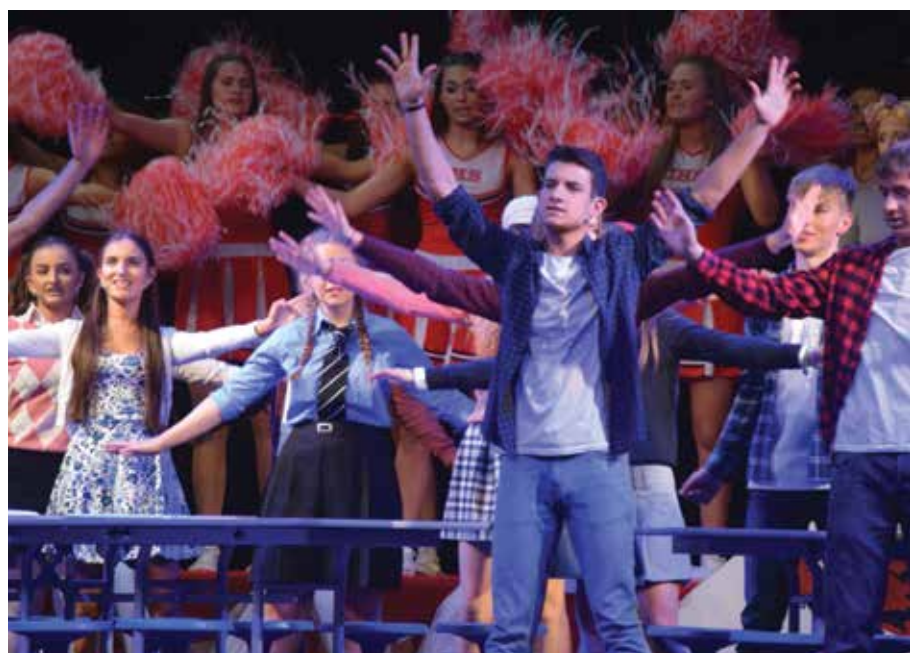
My High School Musical Experience

Theo Yordanov

When we got the news that we were going to be doing a musical, most of the lads in my year weren't too excited about taking part until they realised that we would be doing the musical with Loreto Secondary School. After announcing that we were doing 'High school Musical', we all watched the movie so we could become familiar with the whole story. When the movie finally finished, auditions for the main cast were announced. At that time I had no interest in being part of the main cast, but I really regret not going for the main cast as it seems quite interesting.

In the beginning, after the cast was chosen, progress was very slow, as there was some kind of barrier between the boys and girls. We were all too shy and nervous to sing out. The boys and girls were split up into the different groups: Jocks, Brainiacs, Skater dudes and Thespians. Every group had different scenes and dances that they had to learn. With the help of our choreographer, Michelle, we started to learn the dances fairly quickly. We started to have practices as a whole group on Tuesdays and Fridays every week.

It was a great experience doing this musical with everyone. I got to meet new people and I would do it again if I could. This whole experience is something I will never forget and I would like to thank all the teachers involved for making it happen.





St Kieran's Day

Liam Connelly

On the Friday closest to the 5th of March each year we celebrate the feast of St Kieran. The festivities begin with a Mass in St Mary's Cathedral for the entire school which is said by Fr Ryan. The teachers arrange activities for us to do. This year there were activities in the school and then others which we had to travel for. For St Kieran's Day I went to airsoft, which included axe-throwing, archery and the target range. St Kieran's Day is a fantastic day and one which the whole school looks forward to each year.





Parents' Association

The annual 5k Fun Run organised by the Parents' Association took place on Sunday 15th April. The event was held in the grounds of the school. Although the day began with rain showers, it remained dry and despite the threat of rain, a good crowd turned out to support the event. The route began in the Quad area of the school followed by four loops of the College campus. Some well-earned refreshments greeted the runners upon completing the race in the famous Glasshall area of the school. Younger participants received a medal for their efforts and a few nice prizes in the raffle made it a very pleasant way to spend an hour or two on a Sunday afternoon. We would like to thank the Parents' Association for all of their hard work in organising this event, those who sponsored prizes for the raffle and to everyone who came out to support the event by running, walking or jogging around. All proceeds go to the St Kieran's College / Loreto Kilkenny High School Musical which was performed in May.



Back row: Ms Regina Mulcahy, Mr Fergal Brennan, Ms Lorraine Maher Front Row: Cindy O'Connor, Rian Edwards, Sorcha Polak and Pamela McCluskey



Meeting the Bishop

Liam Healy and Adam O'Shea

On the 3rd of January this year the Diocese of Ossory announced that Fr Dermot Farrell would be elected Bishop to replace Bishop Freeman. The Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Dermot Farrell for the Diocese of Ossory was held on the 11th March 2018. The Episcopal Ordination was held in St Mary's Cathedral. This was a big day for both Bishop Farrell and our Diocese as it was official and he would now begin his work as the new Bishop.

With this announcement we went to meet with Bishop Elect Farrell as he is the Patron of our school. During the visit he met with some students in the church and shook hands with them. He also said a few words about his new role as the Bishop of Ossory. We as Kieran's students take great pride in the fact that we are a Diocesan school with the Bishop as our Patron. We look forward to meeting Bishop Farrell again soon.





Truck and Tractor Run

Liam Healy

St Kieran's College held their very first Truck & Tractor Run this year on the 21st of January in aid of The Irish Cancer Society and Embrace Farm.

Although it was a rainy morning it did not hamper the efforts of organisers Laurence Mahon, Liam Healy, Darren Cuddihy and Steven Keoghan as tractors began arriving at 11:30 for a 1:30 start. They took off in a convoy, in excess of 60 travelled down the Dublin Road to Gowran, the trucks went further down to Thomastown and linked up again with the tractors who went direct to Bennetsbridge. They then travelled up the Sion Road and back to Cillín Hill for refreshments kindly sponsored by Langton's Kilkenny. Before the raffle with prizes donated by local businesses from all over the county there were speeches made by Deputy Principal Mr Maher and President Fr Dermot Ryan.

The school and the organisers would like to sincerely thank every person who bought raffle tickets and entered trucks and tractors, and those who gave us their time on a wet Sunday in January especially the TY Hiems Transiit group, Rooters Motor Cycle Club and Conahy Vintage Club, in particular Enda Healy who gave us help throughout the process. We would also like to thank all the businesses who donated prizes for the raffle. It makes organising events like these easier knowing that if you need a donation or a helping hand that you can turn to local clubs or businesses

or the people around you. Thanks to all we raised €2607.50 to be split between the two charities. The money given to The Irish Cancer Society will allow them to spread and offer information about cancer, teach people about cancer prevention, give support to those going through cancer treatment and support to those guiding others through cancer treatment. The donated money will allow Embrace Farm to assist families affected by farm accidents causing death or severe injury. It is a small charity based in Laois and helps families through the grieving process and/or adjustment process also rebuilding and strengthening family ties.

The story of the first SKC Truck and Tractor Run began in September when Laurence and Liam came up with the idea while in the glass hall before class one morning. Within minutes, classmates Darren and Steven got on board and by talking to Deputy Principal Mr Smith a few days later the wheels were put in motion. From then on, they could not be stopped spurred on by encouragement of others. Organising it was an experience of a lifetime and I want to thank everyone who gave us support throughout the process, we received a huge amount of help from the SKC staff in particular Mr Smith and Martina Lalor. It also has potential to be a permanent fixture in the SKC calendar as there is a group of Third Years who have already expressed interest in organising the second annual SKC Truck & Tractor Run and I want to wish them the best of luck in doing so.



Art in St Kieran's



Ben Lanigan Sixth Year



Oisin Drennan Third Year



Billy Brennan Third Year



Peter Holohan Third Year



Jake Malone Third Year



Sam Hickey Sixth Year

Review of Macbeth by William Shakespeare produced by Icarus Theatre



By Conor Dermody

Macbeth (a.k.a. full title "The Tragedy of Macbeth") is a tragedy written by William Shakespeare and is thought that it was first performed in 1606. It is the story of how a brave Scottish general named Macbeth receives a prophecy from a trio of witches (weird sisters) that one day he will become King of Scotland. Consumed by ambition and spurred to action by his wife, Macbeth murders King Duncan and takes the Scottish throne for himself. He is then wracked with guilt and paranoia which lead him to commit more and more murders to protect himself from enmity (conflict) and suspicion, he soon becomes a tyrannical ruler. His confidence in the prophecies eventually lead to his downfall and he is overthrown and killed by those he has wronged.

My review of this production of Macbeth by Icarus Theatre Collective is positive in parts and negative in others. I thought the props, costumes, sound, lighting, projections and special effects were absolutely brilliant. All were simple yet striking as a whole. I very much enjoyed how the sound effects such as the clashing of swords between characters were perfectly in sync with the choreography. The costumes were

extremely detailed, showing true appreciation of Macbeth's era. The lighting and cyclorama used in this production were superb, the transition from scene to scene was seamless and really gave the production that sense of impending tragedy and haunting atmosphere, Macbeth is known for.

This is where I talk negative about the play's production, specifically the acting. All the actors I think played their individual parts very well but when it came to transitioning from character to character I felt the play became a bit confusing and misrepresented. For example, characters that died in the scenes previous, that actor was playing different roles later on and Macduff, being played by an actress, by the name of Rowan Winter. Even though she played the role of Macduff very well, Macduff's lines coming from a woman's mouth I deemed a bit strange since there were male actors that could've done the role instead of Rowan Winter. Overall, I thought the acting/co-ordination of the play was poor.

Especially when the main actor of the production, Lawrence Stubbings who was meant to play Macbeth couldn't partake due to illness (Macbeth curse) being replaced by James Heatlie, who was meant to play Banquo but since you

require both Macbeth and Banquo in a scene together, Jay Wilson took on the part using a script as a prompt which he used the majority of the play for most of his speaking roles, this ruined my immersion and many others. But, at least he made a joke out of it during the play by throwing the script onto the stage as he entered through a trapdoor beneath, whether it was deliberate or not. The interaction the actors had with the audience was funny and kept the play alive, but it shouldn't have been necessary, especially for a production of Macbeth.

To conclude, this production of the play was both good and bad and even though there were catastrophic faults in the play's production most of them on another day mightn't be present in the play. So, I would highly recommend this play just make sure that the actors do the remedy of getting rid of Macbeth's curse (offender must step outside, turn around x3 times, spit, and say the foulest word he/she can think of) and Icarus organise the next production more carefully for example, making sure understudies know their lines, just in case.

So, because of this I would give this production of Macbeth a 3/5 stars.

Poetry

TY students Aod O'Connor and Conor O'Shea were prize winners in KEC 20th Anniversary School Poetry competition. Their prizes were presented by Margaret Maxwell Director of Kilkenny Education Centre in the Watershed Kilkenny on Thursday April 26th to celebrate Poetry Day 2018.

LESSON AT THE PARK.

by Conor O'Shea

Five years old,
I keep trying to balance but keep wobbling,
My father is here alongside me,
The scenery around me,
The lake the trees the birds chirping away,
Is where I fall and cut my knee.

I keep coming back and never give up,
Always improving on my balance,
The same scenery, only much more sunshine.
The lake the trees the birds chirping away,
And do not forget the sunshine,
Shining down on me.

My cut has now healed,
My father is here alongside me,
Less wobbling and more balance,
The scenery around me,
The birds chirping away,
And the sun shining down on me.

It's a new day, down by the lake,
The trees and the birds chirping away,
Cuts on my legs but also healed cuts.
I can say I am no longer afraid,
My father alongside me no more,
No cuts, no bruises.



L-r: Aod O'Connor, Conor O'Shea and Margaret Maxwell.

HOW TO SHAVE

By Aod O'Connor

My father's room
the steam of the hot water
manly scent of shaving foam
tickle of the sharp blade gliding over skin.

The tears in my dad's eyes
my grinning face in the mirror.
He hands me the blade
says 'Now you try.'

My hands begin to shake
it eases with every deep breath.
All that remains, slight stubble
and the memory of triumph.

Library visit

First Year students on a class visit to Kilkenny County Library, Loughboy branch. Librarian Catriona Kenneally introduced the students to the various services available. Each student was given a membership card allowing them to borrow books, cds and dvds.

1A2'S TRIP TO THE LIBRARY

David Mulrooney 1A2

A few weeks ago as a class we had a trip to Loughboy library with Ms Kelly and Mr Cotter. We were given forms to complete in order to sign up for a Library membership. The next day we entered the classroom, left our bags and set off for the library with our forms.

After a ten minute walk down from the school, we reached the library. We submitted our forms into the library reception and picked out a book to read. We were then brought together and had a very interesting talk about what we could do with our memberships. We discovered that we



Evan O'Neill, Conor Molloy and Tadgh Blanchfield in Kilkenny Library, Loughboy branch.

can borrow CDs, video games and movies, as well as books. We are also allowed to use the computers in the library and, if an item isn't available in a local library we're able to log onto the national library website and request to borrow it.

We then left the library and were back for lunch. A week later, we received our individual Library cards which we can use any time we want.

Wellread National Award



L-r: Ms Jenny Kelly and Ms Marie Cantwell

The PDST 'Wellread National Award' is a national initiative that aims to create and promote a culture of reading in school communities. It requires the participation of students, teachers, staff, parents and the local community. In October, as part of this initiative, a mobile library was made available for students to access books more conveniently in the Glasshall and the main library was opened every Tuesday and Thursday at lunchtime. The Red Read Wall was set up near Hall 33 and featured many interesting book reviews from our students throughout the year. At the beginning of the school year, many of the teachers and



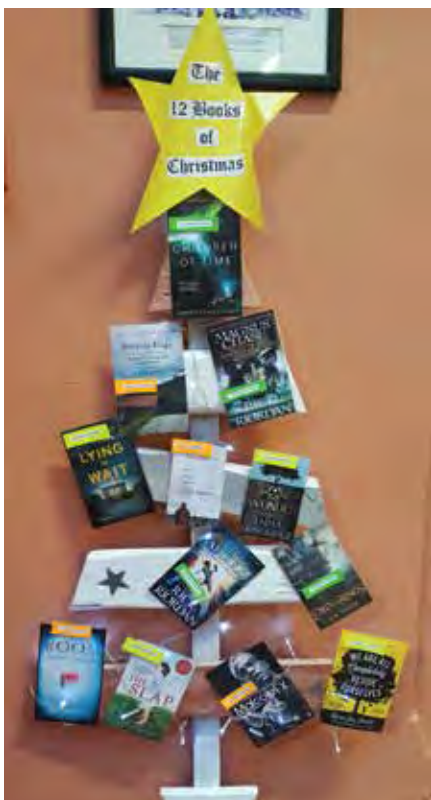
students signed up for a subscription to The Irish Farmer's Journal.

The staff also had a Bookswap Bookshelf made available to them in the staffroom for easier access to extra reading materials. Many of the staff took part in the 'One Staff One Book' and attended the Wellread Workshop on their staff day. Several teachers promoted reading in their classes by doing 'Drop Everything and Read' with their students at various times throughout the year.

In December, a mixture of students, teachers and parents participated in the 12 Books of Christmas in association with Kilkenny City Library.



For World Book Day in March, Khan's Books donated a copy of 'Maze Runner' by James Dashner to all of our First Year students. Overall, it was a successful year in the promotion of reading in the school community. Thanks to all who have helped and participated to make this a success.



Scrabble competition for Literacy Week.

Kildalton Trip 2018



The Fifth Year Agricultural Science class went to Kildalton Agricultural College on Thursday, March 8th. The purpose of the trip was to fulfil the requirements for the practical component for Agricultural Science in the leaving certificate. We were accompanied by Mr Darmody and Ms Mulcahy.

We got a tour of the college farm and attended twelve stands. At each stand a lecturer gave a presentation. We were informed about the benefits of growing catch crops on the farm, which include; less leaching, less soil erosion, retention of soil nutrients and a fodder source. We also received information on grassland management, fertiliser use and calibration of the fertiliser spreader.

Farm deaths were highlighted to us and that 48% of farm deaths have occurred from tractors and farm machinery. In order to avoid becoming a statistic it's important that

- all farm vehicles and machinery are in good working order,



- operators are competent using the machinery,
- not to take short cuts,
- no distractions (mobile phones),
- avoid tiredness,
- no loose clothing and
- to slow down.

We got to visit the dairy shed, beef house and sheep shed. It was emphasised to us that 90% of beef produced in Ireland is exported and that half of that goes to the U.K. Trade deal agreements under Brexit will therefore have huge implications for Irish Agriculture. Most of the animals

were still indoors at the time of our visit because of the poor spring weather. Silage and concentrates were being fed to all livestock, which are costly feeds compared to grass. There was lost productivity such as reduced milk yields and milk solids, reduced liveweight gains and a higher labour load from the extended housing of animals.

Overall, the trip was very worthwhile to see theory being put into practice. We wrote up a report on the farm visit, which will be presented to the state examiner in May 2019.



2018 ECDL recipients.

Eoin Morgan Represented Ireland in the World Junior Science Olympiad

Eoin Morgan, Transition Year student from St Kieran's College, was selected to represent Ireland in The International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO) in the Netherlands.

This is a phenomenal achievement for Eoin, as he joined only five other students from around Ireland to make up the Irish team. Eoin qualified for the Irish team when he received a silver medal in the Irish Junior Science Olympiad (IrJSO) which was held on 21st October in DCU. The top 1% of Maths and Science students (based on their Junior Cert results 2017) were invited to this prestigious exam. The exam lasted for over two hours, during which, Eoin had to answer over sixty multiple choice questions. To achieve a silver medal in such an examination, when pitted against the best students in Ireland, requires great knowledge, skill and understanding.

Eoin then joined the Irish Team consisting of six of the top students in



the country and trained with them to prepare for the IJSO, which was held in The Netherlands last December. Over fifty countries were represented at the IJSO, the main focus being a number of exams focusing on the theme of "Water and Sustainability".

Following a week away in the Netherlands, Eoin returned home from Amsterdam with an International Junior Science Olympiad bronze medal for his efforts, so concluding a very challenging but rewarding experience for Eoin.

BT Young Scientist

Patrick O'Shea, James McOwen, Luke Morrissey

For our project this year we studied Domestic Anaerobic Digestion. During the months of September and October we came up with our project idea and formulated our entry. We learned just after the Mid Term Break that our entry had been successful and now the real work began!

We decided to visit Ormonde Organics in Portlaoise, Co Waterford to gain a deeper insight into recyclable waste. Ormonde Organics are the people who take organic waste from companies within every industry and municipal authorities and use it to generate green energy (biogas, electricity, heat) and nutrient-rich soil amendment products (compost). This helps to significantly reduce our carbon footprint. We found this very useful as the basis of our project was looking at how food waste could be used to make electricity. Our experiments consisted of giving twelve families small bins for



food waste. Whenever that bin was full, we weighed it, and using the plant in Portlaoise, we were able to work out how much energy that waste could produce. We discovered that it isn't viable for household waste but if you upscaled it to commercial waste it would be worthwhile investing in a digester and there could be a viable business in this area.

The BT Young Scientist Exhibition lasted three days with judging on each of the days. It was a great experience that we'll remember for a long time to come. It was a lot of hard work but very enjoyable and we certainly learned a lot in the process.

We'd like to thank Mr Hennessy for all of his work in helping us to prepare for the exhibition.

Music in St Kieran's

The St Kieran's College Junior and Senior Choirs lent their voices to the numerous school Masses that were held throughout the year. They also performed at Kilkenny Music Festival where the Junior Choir won the Marie Fitzpatrick trophy. This trophy is offered to the best performing Kilkenny school for Junior Sacred Music. Led by Ms O'Connor, the boys performed their piece, "Steal Away" arranged by Harry Dexter, at St Canice's Church. Their performance was first on the day so they had a long and nervous wait to hear the result of the competition. The announcement, when it finally came was met with great excitement from the boys in the church. The Junior Choir were then invited to perform at a musical evening in the Ormonde Hotel where they were highly commended for their performance.



Senior Choir

Back row (l-r): Alex McCluskey, JJ Ryan, Rian Edwards, Vincent Gornicki, Cormac Rafter, Kevin Benny, Omatayo Bakare. Front row (l-r): Bill Kavanagh, Conor Lawlor, Conor Archbold, Charlie Nolan, Stephen O'Keeffe, Michael Burke.



Junior Choir

Back row (l-r): Liam Maloney, Adam Walshe, Sean Og Hetherington, Max Burke, Harry McIntyre, Ruadhri Holden, Kevin Benny. Front row (l-r): Liam Walsh, Michael Harrison, Ronan Fernando, Jacob Newman, Sean Dowling, Damien Cuddihy, Omatayo Bakare.

Trad Group

The school's Irish traditional music group had a successful year performing at various events both in and outside of school. The group consisted of students between first year and sixth year and met every Thursday lunchtime to rehearse.

Having put together a sizeable number of tunes between September and Christmas, the group visited residents of Archersrath nursing home and Tinneypark nursing home in early December to perform some of the music they had learned throughout the year as well as some festive favourites. The group performed at the school's carol service in the school chapel during the Christmas period also. For Seachtain na Gaeilge the group participated in an Coláiste Pobail Osraí's annual trad session involving the trad players from schools around Kilkenny. The group paid a second visit to Archersrath Nursing home in the lead up to St Patrick's day and had residents dancing and clapping along to lively



Trad Group (l-r): Micheal Harrison, JJ Ryan, Adam Noonan, James Phelan, Jim Cantwell, John Canny, Alex McCluskey, Laurence Campion.

jigs and reels. The group members included: First Year: Adam Noonan (fiddle), Micheál Harrison (bodhran), James McEvoy (tin whistle); Second Year: Daniel Bowe (guitar), Alan Dunphy (bodhran), Jim Cantwell (tin whistle); Third Year: JJ Ryan: (button accordion, tin whistle, guitar, voice), John Canny (fiddle, spoons), Peter Holohan (bodhran); Fifth Year: Alex McCluskey (piano, flute, piano accordion); Sixth Year: James Phelan (flute, tin whistle), Laurence Campion (fiddle).





Junior Choir winners.



Alex Doheny Winner of the Senior Saxophone Competition at Kilkenny Musical Festival.



John Canny Third Year and Joe Canny First Year, winners of the Junior Chamber Music Festival - Larry Doyle Memorial Trophy - String Quartet - KK Music Fest 2018.



DJ Delaney won the Larry Daly Cup - Junior Wind Recital



Jazz Band visit Garda HQ



Trad Group



Jazz Band

Young Entrepreneur



Michael McNerney

The Young Entrepreneur Programme is a programme designed to spark a bit of brilliance in the minds of young people. The objective is to come up with an idea for a business, develop that idea, and turn it into a profitable business in a short period of time. There are three categories, junior, intermediate, and senior. The group can have a maximum of four students working together and a minimum of one person.

We spent from the start of the school year in August until the end of November thinking of ideas. Then it was up to the different students to make their money. As we went along through the different stages of our business development we filled in a diary that documented each step. We then had to turn this into a detailed report of exactly how our business was structured. Then in February we brought our project reports to the school final. About six groups entered the school final where Mr Ryan, and Mr Connolly interviewed us about our business. The groups that were well prepared were sent through to the County final in the Newpark Hotel on February 4th. The teachers decided that four groups had what it took, they were my business Mick McCommerce, DJM Speakers (D. Hackett, C. Mullen, J.

Cowhig), SKC bobble hats (P. Moylan, J. Ryan), and Brandon Ryan's Christmas logs.

My business was called Mick Mc Commerce and I sold iPhone chargers, Portable Powerbanks and iPhone screen protectors. I sold a lot of my products in the school and more outside of school.

The county final was held in the ball room in the Newpark Hotel. There were about 30 teams in total there from all over Kilkenny. Each team was given a notice board behind them and a table in front of them. I filled my notice board with various graphs and pictures of my products and I filled my table with my products and also a slideshow that I

presented on a loop on my computer. After we were finished setting up three judges came around at different times to ask us questions about our business, I thought that two of them were quite ruthless and blunt about the answers that I was giving but the competition was so stiff that there was no room for error while talking to the judges.

Grennan College and Castlecomer Community School won the majority of the awards and rightfully so. But nevertheless the whole Young Entrepreneur Programme kept me very busy during TY, not to mention that I learned some valuable lessons about being organised and getting things done on time.



BSTAI Award – back row (l-r): Mr Paul Fitzgerald, Killian Rudkins, Stephen Barron, Kieran Buckley, David Delahuty. Front row (l-r): Joe Cowhig, Eoin Morgan, Stephen Walsh.

La Semaine Française



French Debating Team Wednesday v Loreto on the Green: David Delahunty, Alex Duggan, Stephen Campion and James Kearney.



Winner of the French Bake-Off: Ms Evelyn Allen, David Delahunty with judges Ms Georgia Quealy and Mr Paul Martin.



The Bake-Off.

Pendant une semaine au mois d'avril, nous avons célébré et promu l'importance du français dans notre école. Nous avons essayé de créer une ambiance française partout dans l'école avec des drapeaux, panneaux et décoration en bleu, blanc et rouge !

Les plus jeunes de nos élèves ont eu de la chance d'avoir deux événements surtout pour eux ! Les soixante élèves de 1A1 et 1A4 sont venus au théâtre pour participer à un quiz sur la culture de la France et du monde francophone. Un comité de l'Année de Transition a aidé énormément. Deux équipes ont gagné des prix délicieux et on s'est très bien amusé!

Il y avait aussi des films français en classe, un quiz pour les élèves de 2A1, 2A3 et 2A5, et un peu de musique française partout.

Le jeudi, on est allé au marché avec 1A1 et 1A4 pour acheter des crêpes en parlant la langue au propriétaire parisien. Ensuite, ils sont allés en ville pour trouver autant de noms de produits français que possible à Kilkenny.

Les garçons pouvaient voir que l'apprentissage d'une langue n'est pas juste pour la salle de classe ou pour les examens. Ils apprécient maintenant que c'est vraiment utile et réelle !

Finalement le vendredi, les



élèves plus âgés étaient invités au « Concours de Discours ». Cinq jeunes hommes courageux ont présenté un discours sur le thème de « l'importance d'apprendre une langue étrangère de nos jours ». Ils ont parlé au sujet pendant 5 minutes devant leurs camarades de classe. Il y avait un prix généreux pour le vainqueur ! Bravo à tous les participants!!

Nous étions très fiers de nos élèves du français pendant cette Semaine Française.

Merci aux professeurs de français, Mme. Allan et Mme. Norton.

History

FIRST YEAR HISTORY TRIP

This year on our History trip we went to Ferrycarrig Heritage Centre and Jerpoint Abbey. We got to see how people in Ireland would have lived during the stone age and during the time of the Celts. In Jerpoint Abbey we learned about how monks would have lived when they were in a monastery. We had a really enjoyable day.



SECOND YEAR HISTORY TRIP

Matthew O'Neill

For my Second Year history trip we went to Cahir Castle and the Rock of Cashel. We went to Cahir Castle first and got a tour of the castle. It had a working portcullis and a cannon ball that had been lodged in the wall when the castle was under siege. We then watched a video on the castle after which we could explore the castle. Our next stop was the Rock of Cashel, we also got a guided tour here. We learned the history of the church and the many different episodes it went through. It was a very good trip.



3RD YEAR HISTORY TRIP

Daniel Smithwick

At the beginning of the year all Third Years went on a trip to Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin. Before the trip we researched Glasnevin so we would know what to expect. When pulling into the graveyard the first thing I noticed was the round tower which stands over Daniel O'Connell's grave. When we got off the bus we were split into our groups and met our tour guide. The first grave we were shown was that of Michael Collins who died in 1922. Around him there were 183 soldiers of the Irish Free State. Other graves we visited were those of Eamonn De Valera, Charles Stewart Parnell, Arthur Griffith and Seán McBride. The last part of our tour was getting to go inside the tomb of Daniel O'Connell. Inside we were given the chance to take pictures of the marble on the walls. While looking around the tomb we were told it was O'Connell's dying wish to be buried in Glasnevin and he was honoured with a 150ft round tower. On the way home we stopped in Liffey Valley to get our lunch and do some shopping.



Geography



The Leaving Cert geography trip took place in October at Tramore beach in Co. Waterford. As part of their project the boys measured the height of the sea cliff, the gradient of the wave cut platform and carried out a beach fabric analysis of the beach material.



Maths



David Mulrooney, Adam Walsh, David Williams - finalists IMTA quiz.



Numeracy Week Treasure Hunt Winners.



Ciaran Lennon first in Ireland Honours Leaving Cert Maths 2017 with his teacher Mr Joe Kavanagh.



Junior Applied Maths Association winners (l-r): Andrew Devereux, Michael McInerney, Eoin Morgan, Seamus Hughes Kennedy.

Transition Year

THANK YOU MR O'NEILL

For the past ten years Mr Martin O'Neill has been the Transition Year co-ordinator in St Kieran's College. Transition Year is an extremely important year in the holistic development of our students and Martin's vision for the make-up of Transition Year has been instrumental to its success.

Over the past ten years, Mr O'Neill has worked hard to develop a programme which is educational, active, inspirational, and fun. He has brought many new courses, activities and modules to the Transition Year programme. Mr O'Neill's positive and energetic approach to Transition Year has been infectious and has led to many students taking on new tasks and activities they may never have had the opportunity to do.

From work experience to climbing Sliabh na mBan, from Public Speaking to Tag Rugby, from Car Safety Demonstrations to River Walks, and from Gaisce Awards to the new Hiems Transiit Award, Martin has always been innovative in keeping the TY programme fresh, relevant and fun.

However, Martin has decided that this year will be his last as the TY co-ordinator so we would like to thank him for his enormous contribution that has made Transition Year such a successful, significant and special programme in St Kieran's College. As teachers we sometimes forget the impact we can have on the lives of our students.

For a decade now, Mr Martin O'Neill has guided many hundreds of young men through this very important stage in their lives. For that we thank him.

BENNETTSBRIDGE WALK

On a dry day in October the whole year walked from Kieran's to Bennettsbridge and back, we enjoyed the views of the river Nore and the local landscape. When we arrived in Bennettsbridge we went to the local shop and then walked to the hurling pitch to eat our lunch and relax because we knew we had to do the same walk again to get home, and after about an hour we got back up to retrace our steps.

MAHON FALLS

We met under the arch at ten to nine, we then got on to the buses and left. Our first stop was a wood that would lead us up to Coumshingaun lake where we got lunch. When we were finished lunch we then started to

head back down the mountain. When we were on the bus we then went to Mahon falls. It was raining when we got to the Falls but when it stopped everyone got off the bus and ran down to the waterfall. We got a chance if we wanted to explore the area which was very enjoyable.

TIPPERARY TRIP

In late November in the cold we walked to the Tipp-Kilkenny border through a woodland and then up to the Wellington monument. The family who owned the land built the monument to celebrate the British victory in the Napoleonic wars thanks to the Duke of Wellington. We ate lunch there and then walked to an old monastery and looked at the layout

and the architecture, here we also got a history lesson from Mr O'Neill before we got back on the bus and headed back to Kilkenny.

SLIABH NA MBAN

On a dry but windy day in September the whole year got on a bus and headed to Sliabh na mBan in Shanbally Co Tipperary. After Mr O'Keeffe's pep talk saying that 'she is an unforgiving mountain with its false peaks and uneven surface' we unwillingly set off and very early on we found out he was not lying. We ate lunch on top of the mountain and then we started the most dangerous part which is heading back down. There were no serious injuries but a few close calls!

Riverwalk to Bennettsbridge





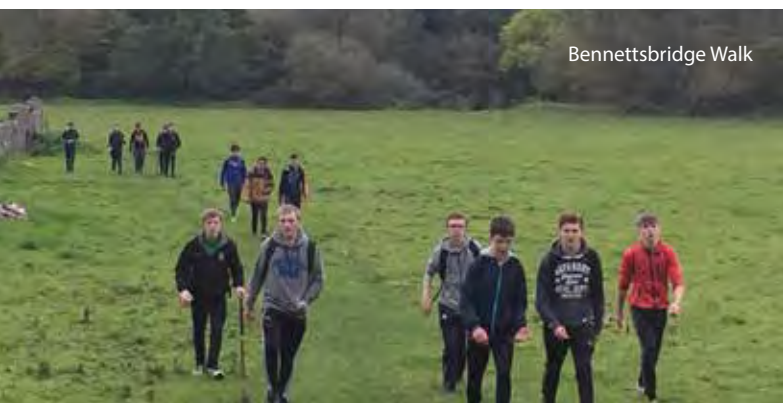
Sliabh na mBan



Sliabh na mBan



Sliabh na mBan



Bennettsbridge Walk



Tipperary Trip

TRIP TO WIT

TYC and TYD got a bus to WIT sports campus for a business opening day, where we saw many local businesses from Waterford, Carlow and Kilkenny who set up stalls to give people information about their businesses. There were many speeches from entrepreneurs on the day, giving advice to anybody looking to start up their own business.

CAR SAFETY DEMO

All four classes got a talk from the RSA. He brought with him a car trailer which had an old car with the roof missing. During it he talked about the importance of seat belts and not drinking and driving. He made a quite an emotive subject more enjoyable by having a joke here and there as well!

THE GREENWAY

The Greenway was our first trip of the year. The Greenway is a 46km trek from Waterford to Dungarvan but we just did Kilmacthomas to Dungarvan and back. The Greenway follows the old railway line of Waterford which they converted for recreational use some years back. We went over viaducts and under old railway tunnels. With a 120 lads on a track that is suited to two at most at one time there were a few accidents but that didn't ruin the fun! With the sun shining and the wind blowing into our faces, it wasn't a bad way to start the year.



Trip to WIT



Car Safety Demo



Car Safety Demo



Greenway Cycle



Greenway Cycle

TAG RUGBY

On the 21st of March 2018 all of our TY classes went to play tag rugby with Loreto in Kilkenny Rugby Club. When we arrived we were straight into matches with seven players on each team. There were three boys and four girls on each team with each team playing five matches. Everyone had great fun throughout the day and we also improved our rugby skills.

LAW DAY

In hall 10 for the day we watched a presentation from a local solicitor about several aspects of law including the work of a solicitor which ranges from defending citizens in court to writing peoples wills.

We talked about how the Irish judicial system worked and we talked about famous past cases and the basic things needed to make a case. It was very interesting and at the end we preformed our own mock trial to

practice what we learned which made it all the more enjoyable.

SLEEP IN

We had a sleep in the school gym to help raise money for the Musical. We had to sell lines then come and sleep in the gym for the night. We arrived around 8 o'clock and played soccer and basketball with the teachers till around 11pm, then we got pizzas from apache. It ended up being a late night with most people not getting asleep till early morning then we were back up at 8 o'clock in the morning to have breakfast in the canteen. Overall it was a really good night with loads of craic and helped raise money for the musical.

GAISCE TRIP TO MOUNT MELLARY

As Gaisce was coming to an end we only had one task left to complete and

this was our trip to Mount Mellary. We left school around 9 and headed there on the bus. When we arrived we put our bags into the dorms and began the walk. We walked 25km the first day up the mountains. That night we played a soccer tournament and had a bonfire. The next day we walked another 5km up to the cross then headed home on the bus for 1pm.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

We left for the mountain biking early in the morning we were headed for the Ballyhoura Mountains, basically in the middle of nowhere. We were split into two groups, one group would do the mountain biking first while the other group would go for a walk around the area then swap halfway. The tracks for cycling on were very narrow and very uneven and at times you felt you were going to get hopped but overall the biking was very good.



Gaisce Trip



Gaisce Trip



Gaisce Trip



Mountain Biking in Ballyhoura



Mountain Biking in Ballyhoura



Law Day



Mountain Biking in Ballyhoura



Sleep In



Tag Rugby



Sleep In

First Year Class Photos



Back row (L-R): Adam Ankodvich, Sammy Rochford, Eoin Egan, Zack Lawlor, Barry Dunne, Third row(L-R): Oisín Doyle, J Thomas Dillion, Conor Fitzmorris, Johnny Keane, Eoin Forde, Evan O'Neill. Second row (L-R): Tadgh Blanchfield, Louis Jameson, Michael Cullen, Dylan Pratt Stapleton, Adam Fomin, Jack Cody, Sam Kane, Front row (L-R): James McEvoy, Shane Gleeson, Fionn Cody Bill Nolan, Michael Harrison, Conor Molloy, David Williams, Patrick Foley, Aaron Maher.



Back row (L-R): Mark McGeeney, Michael Raggett, Conor Dooley, Ben Whitty, Michael Carroll, Harry O'Grady. Third row (L-R): Brendan Keech, Dylan O'Shea, Bill Smith, Tom Lodge, Sean Byrne, Dylan Teehan, Stephen Sokiri. Second row (L-R): Jack Aylmer, Anthony Ireland-Wall, Niall Shortall, Conor Kavanagh, Cathal Keegan, Paucir Kirwan, Jack Guiry. Front row (L-R): David Mulrooney, Przemyslaw Lukasiak, Billy Keogh, Diarmuid Greene, Darragh Ruane, Sean Adams, Darren Coffey, Ben Murphy.



Back row (L-R) Max Burke, Mark Holohan, Alex Sheridan, Billy Dowling, Sean Og Hethrington, Adam Walsh, Ben Irwin. Third row (L-R): Padraig O'Mahony, Jack Murphy, Leon Browne, Cillian Corcoran, Michael Butler, Kieran Brennan. Second row (L-R): Ben Moore, Mark McEaney, William Wallace, Noah Burke, Alex MacDonald, Eoin Forde, Andrew McEvoy. Front row (L-R): Edward Dwyer, Jimmy Carter, Frank Nkeakou, Joe KEarns, Oran Lavery, Jimmy Maher, Jack Brennan.



Back row (L-R): Max Burke, Mark Holohan, Alex Sheridan, Billy Dowling, Sean Og Hetherington, Adam Walsh, Ben Irwin-Walker. Third row (L-R): Padraig O'Mahoney, Jack Murphy, Leon Brown, Killian Corcoran, Michael Butler, Kieran Brennan, Aaron Heffernan-Barcoe. Second row (L-R): Ben Moore, Mark McEaney, William Wallace, Noah Bourke, Alex McDonald, Eoin Byrne, Andrew McEvoy. Front row (L-R): Jamie Carter, Edward Dwyer, Joe Kearns, Frank Kankou, Damien Cuddihy, Oran Lavery, Jimmy Maher, Jack Brennan.

Second Year Class Photos



Back row (L-R): Aaron Korthout, Jack Delaney, Jamie McGrath, Eoin Turner, Eibhan McEvoy, Joshua O'Rourke. Third row (L-R): Seán Keane, Conor Lynch, Nicholas Conway, Jack Forristal, Conor Walton, Kevin Molloy, Liam Connelly. Second row (L-R): Ros Dermody, Ború Bergin, Emmet Nolan, Luke Wallace, Liam Moloney, Adam Bowe, Peter Conroy, Kelan Donohue. Front row (L-R): Philip Prendergast, Joseph Lalor, Cathal Foley, Charlie Miller, Cillian Kelly, Conor Brennan, Alan Dunphy, Jack Archbold.



Back row (L-R): Cathal Redmond Brett, Oisín Meegan, Oisín Keyes, Niall O'Brien, Luke Malone. Third row (L-R): Luke Connellan, Oisín O'Connor, Julian Maher, Joe Brennan, Ben Higgins, Conor Cody, Cathal Murphy. Second row (L-R): Charlie Murphy, Ruaidhrí Holden, Jack Dennehy, Shane Fennelly, Darragh Kennedy, Luke Dunne, Dáire Mahon. Front row (L-R): Eamon Óg Holland, Darragh Dwyer, Seán Dowling, Conall Ruane, Luke Doyle, Stephen King-Kohler, Seán Fitzpatrick, Seán Lanigan.



Back row (L-R): Moses Daku, Nicholas Doheny, Liam Walsh, Jack Ryan, Patryk Bogusz. Third row (L-R): Josh Casserly, Noel O'Brien, Eoghan Whelan, Adam Walsh, Charlie Watts, Fionn McGarry, Craig Shelly. Second row (L-R): Samba Batchilly, Killian Carey, Kyle Fox, Jimmy Lennon, Larry Cody, Seán Moore, Jimmy O'Neill. Front row (L-R): Conor Brett, Oisín Cahill, Ryan Grace, Eoghan Phelan, Kada Embarek, Ronan Fernando, Conor Gleeson, Michael Ibrahim.



Back row (L-R): Dylan Duggan, Will Lanigan, Cian Moore, Tommy Phelan, Robert Kelly. Third row (L-R): Dylan Gordon, Conor Booth, Zak Dwyer, Paul Mulligan, Cathal Quinn, Jack Dowling, James Gladney. Second row (L-R): Matthew O'Neill, Justin Okonkwo, Adam O'Connor, Nicholas O'Keefe, Brogan McAviney, Patrick Langton, Eoin Deely, Sam McEvoy. Front row (L-R): John Madigan, Luke Burke, Jamie Dempsey, Darragh Slattery, Pete Walsh, Christian McInerney, Aaron Wemyss, David Parle.



Back row (L-R): Aaron Moore, Jimmy Cantwell, Robbie Cord, Charlie Delahunty, Naoise Dempsey, Joe Fitzpatrick. Third row (L-R): James Kenny, Kevin Benny, Aaron Dorney, Jacob Newman, Ben Canavan, Eimhin Cassin, Ben Dermody, Shaun Rafter. Second row (L-R): James Carroll, Liam Walsh, Richard McEvoy, Pdraig Lennon, Daniel Bowe, Harry McIntyre, Jack Butler, Adam Langan. Front row (L-R): Artem Arlukov, Patrick Kennedy, Edmar Basillio, Simon Bowe, Charlie Fitzgerald, Omotayo Bakare, Adam Walshe, Ben Bourke

Third Year Class Photos



Back row (L-R): Michael McCarthy, Peter McDonald, Tom Carroll, Tom Buckley, Myles Kehoe, Alexis Fitzgerald, Eoin Southgate. Third row (L-R): Ciarán Rice, Sebby Ruianu, Jack Clifford, Aaron Tully, Senan Forristal, Oisín Doyle, Harry Murphy, Cathal Kearney. Second row (L-R): JJ Ryan, Dara Mason, Jake Malone, Oliver Baros, Mark McBride, Brian McDonald, Charlie Nolan. Front row (L-R): Gavin Cleere, Seán McBride, Jack Walton, Denis Walsh, Luke Bateman, David Fleming, Oisín Quirke, Ramon Newman.



Back row (L-R): Matthew Shortall, Dylan Carroll, Tommy Doyle, Conor Nolan, Ciarán Keher-Murtagh, Keith Lanigan, DJ Delaney. Third row (L-R): George Burghilea, Daniel Hughes, Ronan Carroll, Liam O'Reilly, Padhraig Brennan, Mohammad Zeb, Robert Vasilachi. Second row (L-R): Tomás Barron, Seamus Hughes Kennedy, Dominik Gorny, Daniel Smithwick, Jamie Chisholm, Jack Cleere, Aidan Kenny. Front row (L-R): Oisín Drennan, Darragh Casey, John Muldowney, Michael Molloy, Cormac Brogan, David Hoyne-Casey, Craig Cummins.



Back row (L-R): Billy Brennan, David Walsh, Eoin Delahunty, Oscar Fomin, Daniel Cahill. Third row (L-R): Conor Farrell, John Paul Gamble, Pádraic Foley, Matthew Foley, Jack Connolly. Second row (L-R): Marko Bistrovic, Adam Walsh Brennan, Daniel Murphy, Peter Holohan, Josh Dempsey, Luke McDonald, Huzaifau Butt, Oisín Ronan. Front row (L-R): Richard Cash, Ivan Kelly, Shaun O'Keeffe, Luke Holohan, Brian Barry, Jay Maguire, Andrew McGrath, Edmond Dowling.



Back row (L-R): Killian Norton, James Duggan, Eoin Crowley, Vincent O'Grady, Cathal Mulhall, Eoin Carroll, Darragh Walsh. Third row (L-R): Conor Fitzpatrick, Andy Hickey, Patrick Brennan, Jack McGuirk, Conor Beale, John Canny, Dylan Kenny. Second row (L-R): Aaron Condon, Eoin O'Brien, Niall Ward, Kieran Keech, Finbar Dunne, Conor Whearty, Ciarán Byrne. Front row (L-R): Robbie English, John Ruane, Andrew Brennan Smyth, Eoin Dalton, Luke Hennessy, Nicholas Mullins, Brian Fahy, Tomasz Gruca.

Transition Year Class Photos



Back row (L-R): Jamie Phelan, Darragh Maher, David Conway, Mark Brennan, Rían Edwards, Colin Morrissey. Third row (L-R): Luke Campion, Anish Lal, Harry Walsh, Stephen Barron, Diarmuid Rowe, Pdraig Hally. Second row (L-R): David Fogarty, Adian McGree, Jack Canavan, Cormac Burns, Sean McInerney, David O'Sullivan. Front row (L-R): James Kennedy, Ian Wallace, Patrick Phelan, Stephen O'Keefe, Conor T Kelly, Jack Sheridan, Bill Bryan.



Back row (L-R): Dylan Comerford, Niall Reid, Pdraig Moylan, Liam Barron, Jack McGrath. Third row (L-R): Peter Connellan, Adam Barcoe, Tomás Leahy, Jim Ryan, Conor Whitty, Kevin Fitzpatrick. Second row (L-R): Jack Murphy, James McOwen, Darren Cuddhiy, Liam Healy, Patrick O' Shea, Dermot Noonan, Oisín Carroll. Front row (L-R): Seán McKee, Pdraic Kehoe, Cian Kenny, Mark Gormley, Cian Leahy, Daragh Quinlan.



Back row (L-R): Aod O'Connor, Killian Rudkins, Stephen Keoghan, Oisín Egan, Vincent Gornicki. Fourth row (L-R): Jason Butler, Luke Whelan, Zac Cummins, Ger Coffey, Ronan Lavelle. Third row (L-R): David Delahunty, Bill Kavanagh, Conor Brett, Nikita Rjabkovs, Ciarán Murphy, Eoin Morgan. Second row (L-R): Jamie Harkin, James Carrigan, Conor O'Shea, Luke O'Dwyer, Robert Wemyss, Stephen Walsh. First row (L-R): William Slattery, Jamie Owens, Michael Lewis, Laurence Mahon, Conor Gleeson, Adam Byrne, Kevin Burns.



Back row (L-R): Ben King, Conor Kelly, Ciarán Brennan, David Fitzgerald, Joe Cowhig. Third row (L-R): Nobin Rebi, Rían Houston, Daniel Lynch, Ross Ten Bohmer, Darragh Hackett, Shay McEvoy. Second row (L-R): Leo Capasso, Luke Dermody, Ciarán Mullen, Theo Yordanov, David Kelleher, Peter Donohoe. Front row (L-R): Adam O'Shea, Fintan Brennan, Brandon Ryan, Jake Hickey, Thomas Nugent, Dara Glynn, Ryan Metzger.

Fifth Year Class Photos



Back row (L-R): Cathal Ryan, Shaun Liston, Alex Moore, Conor Hoban, Glen Gormley. Second row (L-R): Krystian Pawlowski, Seán Keyes, Ross Ellis, Conor Dermody, Kevin Murray, Gareth Singh. Front row (L-R): Jack Brennan, Mark Twomey, Eoin Walsh, Seán Comerford, Jamie Reid, Alex McCluskey, Gary Anderson.



Back row (L-R): Seán Ware, David Blanchfield, Dillon Wall, Fionn Whelan, Dacel Fwamba, Ciarán Shortall. Second row (L-R): Dylan Carey, Adam Fitzpatrick, Finn Lanigan, Matthew Russell, Liam Fennelly, Pádraic O'Neill, Alexander Duggan. Front row (L-R): Evan McDonald, James Trant, Luke Phelan, Seán O'Neill, Darragh O'Keeffe, John Shortall, Jack Keogh.



Back row (L-R): Ben Powell, Seán Burke, Cameron Taylor Mullan, Gavyn Blanchfield, Krzysztof Gruca. Third row (L-R): Ethan Kerwick, James Dowling, Conor Byrne, Aaron Varley, Matthew Comerford, Krzysztof Gruca. Second row (L-R): Edward Dunne, Jacob Vuchiri, Cian Russell, Alan Thompson, Padraig Robinson. Front row (L-R): Jamie Slattery, Szymon Lukasiak, Paul Hayes, Shane Walsh, Michael Prendergast, Michael Burke.



Back row (L-R): Eoin De Buitleir, Martin O'Connell, Tom Kennedy, Dean Mason, Jamie Young, Eoin O'Connor, Harry Kealy. Third row (L-R): Dáire O'Neill, Paul Prendergast, Tom O'Dwyer, Tim Corkery, Thomas Rice, Aaron Brennan, Jack Roche. Second row (L-R): Dylan Crehan, Eamon Mahon, Eddie Ilban, Barry Lennon, Danny Coyne, Jamie English, Aeden Moylan, Jody Frayne. Front row (L-R): Luke Gannon, Harry Kavanagh, Tommy Farrell, Aaron O'Brien, Killian Egan, Páraic Barragry, James Kearney.



Back row (L-R): Bob Cody, Paul Cody, Eoin Cody, Conor Foley, Darragh Corcoran, Barry Lennon, Ruairi Breen. Second row (L-R): Conor Murphy, Jason Kelly, Philip Hayde, Conor Kealy, George Murphy, John Doyle, Jim Kehoe. Front row (L-R): Cathal Jordan, Simon O'Dwyer, Jack Carrigan, Adam O'Brien, Conor Doyle, Sean O'Connell.

Sixth Year Class Photos



Back row (L-R): Brian Staunton, Conor Rowe, Liam Hoban, Rory O'Keeffe, Eoin O'Shea, Daniel Blanchfield, Eoin Brennan. Third row (L-R): Sean Greene, John Dillon, Ian Walsh, Liam Brennan-Smyth, Luke O'Brien, Nicholas O'Shea, Jack McDonald, Jakub Czakiert. Second row (L-R): Nathan Lawlor, Ben Lanigan, Adam Byrne, Jessie Dhillon, Owen Lynch, Evan Doyle, Joe Breen, Sam Hickey. Front row (L-R): Kyle Fanning, Daniel Cotter, Jay Meagher, Sean Grant, John Hynes, Hugh McOwen, Seán Carroll.



Back row (L-R): Richard Phelan, Seán Carroll, Robbie McCauley, Darwish Bourke, Peter Murphy, Conor Condon, Adam Tallis. Third row (L-R): Bailey Byrne, Eoin Keneally, Cian Dawson, Jessie Roberts, Sean Cassin, Joseph Walsh, Daniel Kenyi. Second row (L-R): Owen Wall, David Graham, Tommy Hennessy, James Phelan, Mark Nolan, Mohammad Buff, Nathan Connolly. Front row (L-R): Tommy Ronan, Shane Murphy, Jason O'Keeffe, Kyran O'Sullivan, David Griffin, David Walsh, Ali Zabad.



Back row (L-R): Jeffrey Coyne, Martin Murray, Evan Walshe, Eamon Morrissey. Third row (L-R): Cathal Power, Conor Lalor, Brevin Benny, Conor McGree, Feargus Brennan, Tim Ferris. Second row (L-R): Ciarán Hogan, Ned Kirwan, David Bourke, Alex Doheny, David O'Carroll, Shanly Sebastian. Front row (L-R): Shane Guilfoyle, Conor Archbold, Evan Clarke, William O'Sullivan, Conor Drennan, Brian Madden, Jordan Brett.



Back row (L-R): Robert Butler, Paul O' Dwyer, Andrew Whelan, Rory Cleere, Jack O'Connell. Third row (L-R): Ciarán Walsh, Cormac Nolan, Killian Duffy, Ciarán Brennan, Eoghan Moylan. Second row (L-R): Robert Dowling, Conor McHugh, Tim Ryan, Damien Cahill, John Prendergast, Kasper Mazurkiewicz. Front row (L-R): Chris Barcoe, Joey Organ, Kevin Holohan, Ciaran Fitzpatrick, Liam Healy.



Back row (L-R): Michael O'Shaughnessy, Niall Doheny, Jack Nolan. Third row (L-R): Jessie Dihllon, Tom Dunphy, Sean Manogue, Diarmuid Phelan, Bill Cody, Laurence Champion. Second row (L-R): Alex Pawliczek, Shane Whelan, Harry Murphy, John Nolan, Ethan Butler, Daithi Barron, Blaise Wall. Front row (L-R): David Maher, Sean Richardson, Sean Walsh, Tom Gormley, Ruairi Breen, Jason Egars, Conor O'Keefe.



Sports Day



Basketball

Oisín Keyes

St Kieran's College boys basketball team returned to the courts and both an enjoyable and successful season. Our coach Mr Laurence Summers with help from Mr Brennan and Mr Butler we played in the regional league reaching the finals. Unbeaten in the league stages we lost to Castlecomer Community School in the final. We also travelled to Cork for the nationals. Thank you to everyone who helped out with the basketball team and we hope that it continues to be as strong in the future.



Back row l-r: Robert Kelly, Jamie McGrath, Oisín Keyes, Adam Langan, Larry Cody, Artem Arlukov. Middle row l-r: Cathal Quinn, Sean Moore, Eoin Deely, Daniel Bove, Josh O'Rourke, Omatayo Bakare. Front row l-r: Robbie Cord, Liam Maloney, James Gladney, Oisín Cahill, Ruaidhri Holden.

Senior Golf

Patrick O'Shea

We started the year off having to qualify for the Leinster Schools in Carlow Golf Club. It was a stroke play event, three out of three scores to count and two schools with the lowest total went on to the next stage. St Kieran's and CBS Kilkenny went through. The next stage was the Leinster semi-final in Dunmurray Springs Golf Club. The four semi-finalists were St Kieran's vs Blackrock along with CBS vs Malahide Community School. Kierans won 3-2 and Mullingar bet CBS 4-1. We then went on to play Malahide in Newbridge Golf Club in the Leinster Final which we won. Our next match was the All-Ireland's in Monkstown Golf Club in Cork. We were unfortunately beaten in the semi-final by a better side on the day, CBS Roscommon which consisted of one Irish International along with three Connacht Interprovincial players who went on to win outright.



Senior Golf - Leinster Champions and All-Ireland Runners-Up



All-Ireland Golf l-r: James Everard, Michael O Shaughnessy, Sean Manogue, Ned Kirwan, Shane Whelan, Brian Staunton, Patrick O'Shea.

Handball



U19 60x30 All Ireland Doubles champions, beating Omagh Secondary school (21-0) (21-1) and U19 60x30 Leinster Doubles champions



Michael Brannigan Memorial Run



On Monday afternoon, 9th October, the annual Michael Brannigan Memorial Run was held on the St Kieran's College Campus. All First Year students participated in the event which involves a one mile run around

the College grounds. This is a great event which assists with the induction of First Year students and it proved to be a great afternoon of sport for the wellbeing of all First Year students. David Williams won the race with Tom

Lodge a close second and Killian Doyle coming in third.

Well done to Mr O'Keeffe and all who helped with the organisation of this important event in the St Kieran's College calendar.



Robbie English

Robbie is a member of the Irish Down Syndrome Swimming Team which has been very successful this year. Robbie began the year by winning his races (five Gold Medals) at the Downs Syndrome European Open Competition in Paris through which he qualified for the Down Syndrome International World Swimming Championships which will take place in Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada in July 2018. Because of these achievements, Robbie was invited to meet with President Michael D Higgins at Áras an Uachtaráin on World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March. So far this year Robbie has competed in Southampton, England and in Paris. However, his biggest test will come at the World Championships in Nova Scotia where he will participate in six different events and four relay events. We wish Robbie all the best in July when he will compete for his country.



Equestrian



The annual St Kieran's College Equestrian Event was held in Warrington Top Flight Equestrian on Sunday 19th November. A cold day didn't deter the many competitors who turned out on to participate. Thanks to the fantastic facilities in Warrington the day ran off very successfully. This day would not be possible without the help of some many pupils both past and present and their parents who so kindly donate their time to this event. We would like to thank Mr Pat Drennan who once again designed and built fantastic courses throughout the day and the Maloney family for helping us run a very enjoyable event.





SEAMUS HUGHES KENNEDY - AN EXCEPTIONAL TALENT

Seamus Hughes Kennedy Third Year student has experienced an incredible year in showjumping. Seamus is a very talented young show jumper has proved that this year on numerous occasions by winning many high profile events, some of which are listed below.

- FEI World Pony trophy December 2017
- Pony Grand Prix in Belgium 2018
- Pony Nations Cup Belgium Sentower Park 2018

To win such prestigious events on a world and European level takes enormous commitment, dedication and handwork from both Seamus and his family, yet Seamus remains extremely humble and level headed despite his enormous success.

Seamus competes for the Ireland Pony Team, his next competition is in June and we wish him every success.



Congratulations to past pupil David Mullins on winning the Gold Cup at Punchestown aboard Bellshill.

Cross Country

Shay McEvoy

DCU INVITATIONAL

As always the DCU Invitational marked the start of the 2018 campaign. This event as usual proved a great fitness indicator and baptism of fire for our Cross Country teams. Schools from all over the country travelled down to the DCU Sports Ground to kick off the 2018 Schools Cross Country season.

The races proved very successful for our teams. The Minor boys who were first up gave a brilliant account of themselves led home by Tom Lodge in fifth and with four scorers in the top 12 they comfortably won the team title and showed great potential for future races. Brogan McAviney gave a fantastic individual performance in the Junior Boys rank with a 2nd place finish with the team coming home in a solid 3rd position. The Inter Boys were also crowned champions with some great team packing. Last but not least was the Senior Boys race with Shay McEvoy giving a classy display in winning the race with an under strength team showing great spirit coming home in 2nd.

SOUTH LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Alas after a winter spent training, the championship season was upon us. The venue was the mucky playing fields of Good Counsel College New Ross. The Minor Boys once again proved they were a force to be reckoned with clinching the team title after a titanic battle with Nass CBS led home this time by David Williams in 3rd they packed superbly with four athletes in the top 7. In the Junior ranks Brogan McAviney was his usual determined self with a fine 2nd place performance the team sealed qualification with a great 1st place finish. Kevin Burns was the outstanding individual performer of the day leading from gun to tape in a fantastic front running display the Inter team came home in 2nd. The Senior boys secured their passage to the Leinsters with a dominant team victory led home by Shay McEvoy in 2nd place. This capped off a great day with St Kieran's bringing 3 out of the 4 titles available back to Kilkenny.



Overall Best School Cross Country.



Intermediate Cross Country - Back row: (l-r) Kevin Burns, Senan Forristal, Cathal Kearney. Front row (l-r): Cathal Quinn, Liam Walsh, Eoin Morgan, John Muldowney.



Junior Cross Country - Back row (l-r): Paul Mulligan, Conor Bret, Jack Archbold, Clan Moore. Second row (l-r): Jack Delaney, Christian McInerney, Brou Bergin, Daire Mahon. Front row (l-r): Eoin Whelan, Eoin Deely, Brogan McAviney, James Gladney, Alan Dunphy.



Minor Cross Country - Back row (l-r): Padraig Nady Micahel Carroll, Tom Lodge, Cillian Doyle. Front row (l-r): Conor Kavanagh, David Williams, Joe Kearns, Robert Ring.

LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

As in previous years the Leinsters were held in the on the smooth grass terrain of Santry Demesne in Dublin. Kieran's were well represented by all four teams. The Minor Boys team showed what their made of with an exceptional example of team running with the boys running as a pack and coming home in 7th, 9th, 10th and 11th while receiving many plaudits for their commanding victory. The highlights for the Junior and Inter Boys races were individual performances with Brogan McAviney and Kevin Burns earning qualification to the All Ireland's with top 15 finishes. The final race of the day saw the Senior Boys secure an All Ireland spot coming home in 2nd they were led home by Shay in 4th and Adam Fitzpatrick showing a return to form in 7th. After great performances all around it was announced that St Kieran's had won the Best Overall Boy's School which was just reward for the athlete's superb performances.

ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP

At last after months of preparation the



Senior Cross Country - Back row (l-r): David O Carrol, Adam Fitzpatrick, Shay McEvoy. Front row (l-r): John Nolan, Kieran O Sullivan, Luke Whelan, James Kearney. Missing from photo: Eric Oyat.

day had arrived the All Ireland Schools Cross Country to be held in the WIT Arena.

The Minor's boys were up first and were so close to claiming the coveted All Ireland title but were just edged out by a mere 4 points by St Joseph's Nenagh. The scorers were the same four as all year those being David Williams, Tom Lodge, Robert Ring and Killian Doyle. Up next for Kieran's was Kevin Burns in the Inter Boys race who found

the hilly and muddy conditions tough going but still gave a good account of himself. The Senior Boy's gave it their all but ultimately finished outside the medals in 5th led home by Shay McEvoy in 7th one must wonder if the outcome would have been different had the team been at full strength. The All Ireland's capped off a great cross country season for the school once again proving they are a force to be reckoned with on the National stage.

Athletics

On Friday 27th April a strong Kierans team participated in the South Leinster competition. Our team participated in both the track and field events. We had a very successful inaugural event with six members bringing home medals. The six lads who brought home medals go forward to the Leinster competition which will be held at the end of May.

- Brogan McElviney 1500m (1st)
- James Kearney Senior Steeplechase (1st)
- David Williams - Minor (800m)
- Mikey Ragget - Junior high jump (3rd)
- Jack Delaney - Junior shot put (3rd)
- Jack Archbold - Junior 200m (3rd)



Medal Winners - Back row (l-r): Jack Delaney, Charlie Filtzgerald, Jack Archbold. Front row (l-r): Brogan McAviney, David Williams, Mikey Ragget



Front row (l-r): Eoin Whelan, Brogan McAviney, Darragh Ruane, Alan Dunphy, David Williams, Simon Bowe. Second row (l-r): Philip Prendergast, Conor Brett, Aaron Heffernan-Barcoe, Charlie Fitzgerald, Mikey Ragget, Adam Bowe, Ms Jenny Kelly. Back row (l-r): Jack Delaney, Nick Doheny, Jack Archbold, Charlie Delahunty, Mick Carroll

First Year Soccer



Back row (l-r): Mr Tom Brennan, Mikey Raggett, Conor Dooley, Matthew Kelleher, Shane Glynn, Mr. Paddy Kelly. Second row (l-r): Brian Whelan, Killian Doyle, Billy Dowling, Bill Hughes, Seán Keenan, Alex Sheridan. Third row (l-r): Robert Ring, Anthony Ireland, Diarmuid Greene, Jack Aylmer, Ben Moore, Andrew McEvoy, Frank Noukeu. Front row (l-r): Fionn Cody, Pauric Kirwan, Bill Smith, Matthew Durnan, Jimmy Maher.

LEINSTER CHAMPIONS & ALL-IRELAND RUNNERS-UP

It has been a very memorable year for the school's First Year soccer team, with the Leinster Cup and Carlow/Kilkenny League trophies won. The team has also qualified for the National Cup final against St Francis College, Rochestown, so hopefully there will be one more trophy added before the year is out. Over 70 First Year students tried out for the team over a series of trials during October 2017, with the quality and enthusiasm shown by all outstanding. Each player on the final squad of 22 showed great commitment throughout the season by attending training and matches, with each individual hungry to leave an impression.

The Leinster Cup campaign featured some great, close games, and the team's efforts all the more impressive considering only one game was at home, all 22 players got game time and just one goal was conceded in the six games. There were big wins against Kishoge Community College, Moate Community School beginning the campaign on a confident note. The squad had to dig deep in the last 16 up in Coolock, defeating Chanel College on penalties after Alex Sheridan's goal in normal time left the score 1-1. Keeper Bill Hughes made some fantastic saves during the shootout, with Robert Ring scoring the winning penalty. Next up was Luttrellstown in the Watershed on a freezing cold day in Kilkenny, with Michael Raggett scoring

two in an impressive 4-0 win. The semi-finals were delayed due to snow, with Raggett again scoring to defeat a strong Ardgillan CC, Balbriggan in Newbridge FC's grounds. That left the Leinster Final to be played against an always-strong Salesian College outfit from Celbridge. It proved to be a very tough contest with Alex Sheridan's early goal proving the difference. The performance of the defenders that day was particularly fantastic from Jack Aylmer on the right across to Whelan on the left proving impenetrable for the opposition. A few days later, a freshened team won the Carlow/Kilkenny league, with goals from Anthony Ireland Wall and captain Bill Smith beating Presentation College Carlow to cap off a great week before the Easter holidays. A very strong Naas CBS side were the opposition for the Leinster League quarter final. Unfortunately, but not without a huge effort, our lads were beaten after extra time, for the first time all year. The St Kieran's lads didn't let this loss affect them however and bounced back in the National Cup semi final against a much fancied Carndonagh CS of Donegal in a hugely impressive 4-1 win after extra time, with goals from Matthew Kelleher, Michael Raggett, Killian Doyle and an own goal, along with massive performances from Billy Dowling, Pauric Kirwan and Conor Dooley highlights of the game. The National Cup final will be played in May, and hopefully the lads will finish the year with a day to remember.





U15 Soccer

Back row (l-r): Mr Ken Archbold, David Parle, Charlie Miller, Aaron Dorney, Cathal Brett, John Canny, Oisín Doyle. Second row (l-r): Boru Bergin, Shane Fennelly, Paul Mulligan, Peter Conroy, Oisín Meegan, Tom Buckley. Front row (l-r): Luke Doyle, Daniel Bowe, Luke Burke, Jack Archbold, Ross Dermody, Conall Ruane, Pete Walsh, Liam Moloney.



U17 Soccer

Back row (l-r): Oisín Carroll, Padraic Moylan, Cian Kenny, Ciarán Brennan. Second row (l-r): Mr Carl Lynch, Colm Nolan, Ronan Lavelle, Peter Connellan, Stephen Barron, Mr. Gerry Walsh. Front row (l-r): Ian Wallace, Killian Rudkins, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Stephen Keoghán.



U19 Soccer

Back row (l-r): Padraic Moylan, Ethan Butler, Eric Oyat, Jack O'Connell, Sam Hickey, Ciarán Brennan, Stephen Barron. Middle row (l-r): Mr Larry Cotter, Owen Wall, David Maher, Seán Ryan, Tom Bolger, Sean Comerford, John Nolan, Mr Michael Doyle. Front row (l-r): Daniel Cotter, Seán Grace, Kyran O'Sullivan, Martin Murráy, Gavin Blanchfield.

Football



First Year Football

Back row (l-r): Michael Raggett, Conor Doley, Ben Whitty, Barry Dune, Shane Glynn, Bill Hughes, Harry O'Grady. Third row (l-r): Mr Stephen Morgan, James Cash, Alex Sheridan, Billy Dowling, Michael Carroll, Eoin Forde, Cathal Walsh, Tom Lodge, Pdraig Naddy, Mr Richard Windle. Second row (l-r): James McEvoy, Robert Ring, Killian Corcran, Johnny Keane, Harry Shine, Killian Doyle, Jack Cody, Kieran Brennan, Sean Keenan. Front row (l-r): Fion Cody, Michael, Harrison Pauric Kirwan, James O'Shea, James Carter, Niall Shortall, Seán Adams, Jak Aylmer, Andrew McEvoy, Damien Cuddihy.

FIRST YEAR FOOTBALL

First Years took part in an all Lenister football blitz this year for the first time. It was a great opportunity for students to wear the Kieran's jersey and to improve their football skills. St Kieran's played 3 group games against Bunclody, Gorey & Carnew winning all three very convincingly. A semi final game versus St. Mel's of Longford awaited and was fixed for

the fantastic "Faithful Fields" in Offaly. Unfortunately tired minds and legs overcame the Kieran's boys as St. Mel's went on to score a decisive victory to qualify for the final. Well done to all the First Years and the TY's for taking part and helping out this year!

JUVENILE FOOTBALL

As defending champions for the previous two years, sealing a hat trick

of South Lenister football crowns was always going to be a very difficult task. Preparations began in earnest in early September with trials for all juveniles held along with a very worthwhile challenge match against Heywood College. The fixture gods smiled favourably on us as we received two home games versus Carlow CBS & Portlaoise with one away game to Portarlington. The first game was



Juvenile Football

Back row (l-r): Ben Canavan, Ben Witty, Luke Connellan, Joe Fitzpatrick, Bill Hughes, Jack Delaney, Cathal Brett. Third row (l-r): Cian Moore, Brogan McAviney, Naoise Dempsey, Oisín O'Connor, Aaron Moore, Sean Moore, Jimmy Lennon, Conor Cody, Oisín Meegan. Second row (l-r): Charlie Delahunty, Jimmy O'Neill, Eibhan McEvoy, Alex Sheridan, Pdraig Naddy, Jack Almher, Tom Lodge, Tommy Phelan, Aaron Dorney. Front row (l-r): Cillian Doyle, Cillian Corcoran, Jack Butler, Pdraig Lennon, Johnny Keane, Cathal Keegan, Harry Shine, Cillian Carey, Conor Booth.



Junior Football

Back row (l-r): Mr Niall Connolly, Harry Walsh, Ben King, Oisín Carroll, Peter Donohoe, Diarmuid Rowe, Mr Paul Fitzgerald. Third row (l-r): Eoin O'Brien, Vincent O'Grady, Jack Canavan, Rlan Edwards, Jamie Harkin, Daragh Maher, Liam Barron. Second row (l-r): Mark McGurk, Eoin Crowley, Killian Rudkins, Sam Wallace, Ronan Lavalle, Brain McDonald, Conor Brett, Padraic Moylan. Front row (l-r): Mikey Lewis, David Fogarty, Adam Byrne, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Ciaran Mullen, Stephen Keoghan, Aidan McGree, Stephen Barron. Missing from photo: Conor Kelly, Thomas Nugent, Eoin Guilfoyle, Jim Ryan.

played at home to Portlaoise on a heavy main pitch. After a slow start the Kieran's team ground down their opponents to win by a few points. The next game was against Portarlington in Gracefield GAA club, always a tricky opponent, on their home patch. The first round win had instilled great confidence in the team and they produced a masterful performance as they blew their opposition off the field with two great goals by Charlie Delahunty. The final group game was at home against Carlow CBS on Birchfield. The winners would top the group and secure a home semi-

final. This game turned out to be one of the best games of any description played by any Kieran's teams over the years. The level of tough, hard, yet fair tackling combined with amazing feats of skill and scoring by both sides was tantalizing and a joy to behold for the small number of spectators lucky enough to be in attendance. The game hinged on a last minute goal by Naoise Dempsey, who finished to the net at the second time of asking after his initial shot was hit straight at the goalie, as the Kieran's men came from two points down to win by the minimum. It was iconic! The semi-final

was set for the main pitch in Kieran's against Enniscorthy. The Wexford men were well prepared for this encounter and set up with a very defensive mindset designed to frustrate the Kieran's team before hitting them on the break. On a day when our shooting boot deserted us, Enniscorthy managed to win out on the day to progress to the south Lenister final.

Thanks to all the players for their efforts during the year and to the TY helpers Ger Coffey, Bomber Brett, Ben King & Jamie Harkin and to our mentors Mr Stephen Morgan and Mr Richie Windle.



Thank You...



Connor Drennan

Conor has been our school photographer for the last three years. He began his time when he was in Fourth Year and has volunteered ever since. Conor has documented many sporting moments for the archives of St Kieran's and for that we want to thank him. Conor is in Sixth Year this year and is leaving us for pastures new. We wish him every success in June



Pitch Liners

Each year a handful of Transition Year students are selected to play the very important role of lining pitches, putting out flags and make sure that the pitches are prepared for the big matches that take place in the school. Many thanks to Dara Glynn, Stephen Barron, David Fogarty, Harry Walsh and Conor Kelly.

First Year Hurling Blitz

Each year St Kieran's College participates in a number of First Year hurling blitzes. These are a great way for First Years to get to know each other but also gives each student the opportunity of wearing the school jersey. The blitzes take a lot of time to organise and manage so a special thanks to all who make these days such an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.



First Year Hurling League



First Year Hurling League

Back row (l-r): Ciaran Nolan, Michael Butler, Bill Smith, Sean Kernan, Matthew Kelleher, Mark Holohan, Bill Hughes. Front row (l-r): Niall Shortall, Tadgh Blanchfield, Conor Molloy, Darragh Ruane, Fionn Cody, David Williams, Christopher Kealy. Missing from photo: Mikey Ragget, James Cash.

Once again our ever popular First Year hurling league, organised by Mr Forrest and Mr Darmody, took place at lunchtime on Tuesday and Thursday every week between the middle of September and finished with the final on Thursday 23rd November 2017. In total 120 students of all hurling abilities took part. They were split them into seven teams. Each lunchtime two matches were held and the standard of hurling was very high. Definitely we

have some future stars on the way to be excellent replacements for the likes of Lester Ryan, Jonjo Farrell, Cillian Buckley and T.J. Reid etc, so Kilkenny hurling will be safe for years to come. As is well known not everyone will make the Kierans juvenile panel but every First Year gets a chance in these leagues to play. I must congratulate the first years for turning up in big numbers every lunchtime and participating with enthusiasm and

encouraging each other at all times.

Finally Team A and Team F contested the final with Team A coming out on top after a great contest.

We have to thank the Kilkenny county board for agreeing every year to supply us with a set of trophies for the winners and set of medals for the runners up. These trophies will soon be presented during an assembly with Mr Windle (First Year Year Head). Thanks to everyone for their co-operation.

First Year Hurling



First Year Hurling

Back row (l-r): Billy Dowling, Andrew McEvoy, James McEvoy, Robert Ring, Johnny Keane, Jamie Carter, James O'Shea, Kieran Brennan. Second row (l-r): Michael Raggett, Killian Corcoran, Conor Dooley, Alex Sheridan, Harry Shine, Killian Doyle, Tom Lodge. Front row (l-r): Ben Whitty, Mick Carroll, Shane Glynn, Barny Dunne, Bill Hughes, Sean Keenan, Padraig Naddy. Missing from photo: Thomas Dillion, David Williams, Cathal Keegan, Bill Smith.

2017/18 was the first year of the Top Oil Leinster PP Schools First Year Hurling Competition. In our first game we travelled to St Brendan's in Birr to play two games against the locals. Two very competitive encounters led to a victory each for both schools. Our next game

was against our local rivals Kilkenny C.B.S and again we played two games to try and get as many players as possible a match. Two victories here, led us into a quarter final against Borris Vocational School. After an enthralling encounter we came out on top and

made the semi final. We travelled down to Good Counsel but unfortunately we came up against an extremely strong local team and were defeated. Padraig Naddy, Ben Whitty and Harry Shine were some of the main contributors throughout the campaign.

Juvenile Hurling



Juvenile Hurling

Back row (l-r): Joe Fitzpatrick, Luke Connellan, Ben Whitty, Eoin Southgate, Can Moore, Jimmy O Neill, Bill Hughes, Oisin O Connor. Third row (l-r): Mr J Farrell, Nick Doheny, Naoise Dempsey, Sean Moore, Adam O Connor, John Madigan, Killian Carey, Eibhin McEvoy, Pdraig Naddy, Patrick Langton, Mr L Ryan. Second row (l-r): Conor Cody, Killian Corcoran, Cillian Kelly, Dara Mason, Charlie Delahunty, Jimmy Lennon, Alan Dunphy, Billy Dowling, Alex Sheridan, Harry Shine. Front row (l-r): James Carroll, Charlie Fitzgerald, Jack Butler, Sean Fitzgerald, Pdraig Lennon, Tommy Phelan, Conor Booth, Killian Doyle, Shane Glynn.

Padraig Lennon

Juvenile Hurling for the year started with trials for First Years and Second Years in December and January. A provisional panel was picked for a challenge match against a strong St Flannan's college from Ennis. A panel was then picked for the start of the league. We played our first round of the league against Dublin South on the AstroTurf in Abbotstown. With three quick fire goals straight after half-time we thought it was over. They came right back into it but we held out for a one point win. Next up was Good Counsel College, New Ross on our home turf. In poor conditions and some late pressure from Good Counsel, we held out again for a one point win in a close match. This meant we had topped the group and were straight into a League Semi-Final against our city rivals CBS. In preparation for this we played a challenge match against Colaiste Mhuire Johnstown. This was very good preparation for the CBS game as it was an opportunity to use the whole panel. We played CBS on a bright afternoon on Birchfield. We started the game well with a goal, but CBS came back into it. For the third game in a row we had a healthy lead going into the last five minutes and we let the opposition back into it. A CBS pointed free in the last puck

of the game forced it into extra time. We pulled away in extra-time with an early goal in a better performance. The match ended with a five point win. We were now into a league final against Dublin North, who had reached the final with comfortable victories in all their matches. The game was played again on the AstroTurf in Abbotstown. After a slow start against the wind we came into the game and led 1-06 to 0-07 at half-time. The second half was by far our best performance of the year. We blew them away with four goals in the first ten minutes, but we didn't stop there, we completely took them apart in the rest of the half. The game ended

6-13 to 0-09. Dublin North weren't able to match our high intensity and that was the difference in the end. This was a performance we always knew we were capable of and was far better than our previous matches.

Colaiste Mhuire were very strong in the Leinster Semi-Final, but we held on for the win and as I write this we await Good Counsel in the Leinster Final next week.

Thanks to our coaches Mr Ryan and Mr Farrell, and our TY helpers. We would also like to thank Conor Ryan who came in and helped us throughout the year.



Junior Hurling



Junior Hurling Leinster & All-Ireland Champions 2017-2018

Back Row: Stephen Barron - Ballyhale Shamrocks, Peter Donohoe - Danesfort, Tomás Leahy - Danesfort, Alex Moore - Dunnamaggin, Peter McDonald - Thomastown, Eoin Delahunty - Graigue Ballycallan, David Conway - Dicksboro. Third Row: Liam Barron - Ballyhale Shamrocks, Padraig Foley - Windgap, Ciarán Rice - Conahy Shamrocks, Stephen Keoghan - Graigue Ballycallan, Diarmuid Galway - Thomastown, Kieran Buckley - Dunnamaggin, Darren Cuddihy - Conahy Shamrocks, Ciarán Mullen - Danesfort, Andy Hickey - Dunnamaggin. Second Row: Mr Brian Dowling, Jack Doyle - Windgap, Ronan Lavelle - O'Loughlin Gaels, Kevin Fitzpatrick - Dicksboro, Darragh Maher - St Lachtain's, Oisín Egan - Graigue Ballycallan, J.P. Gamble - Conahy Shamrocks, Thomas Nugent - James Stephen's, Jack Sheridan - O'Loughlin Gaels, Mr Richie Ruth. Front Row: Eoin Guilfoyle - James Stephen's, Jamie Harkin - Bennettsbridge, Padraig Moylan - Dicksboro, Conor Kelly - O'Loughlin Gaels, Harry Walsh - Dunnamaggin, Killian Rudkins - Barrow Rangers, Jim Ryan - James Stephen's, David Fogarty - O'Loughlin Gaels, Denis Walsh, Conor Fitzpatrick - YI.

The Junior Hurlers completed an historic three in a row double for St Kierans College this year. Trials began early when over 100 lads turned out in early September to try out for a place. Competition during this phase for places was intense which made the decision very difficult for the management team to decide on a panel of just 34 lads. The team had a very successful Leinster campaign culminating in a Leinster Final against Good Counsel, New Ross in Thomastown which St Kierans won a score line of 3-12 to 3-4. The Juniors then moved to the All-Ireland campaign with their first match against Gort Community School. On a cold winter's day in November the lads travelled to Templemore in Tipperary. In tough conditions St Kierans came away with a win of 3-11 to 0-10. Next up was the All-Ireland final. St Kierans were aiming not only for three All-Irelands in a row at this level, but also were hoping to complete an historic three in a row double. Our opponents were Thurles CBS, and as can be seen from the match report below, it was an exciting encounter. A win in the Ragg in Thurles on the 2nd of December entered St Kierans College into the history books once again.

MATCH REPORT FROM THE ALL-IRELAND FINAL

Leinster champions St Kieran's College completed an historic three-in-a-row Junior All-Ireland Colleges titles against Thurles CBS in The Ragg on Saturday, December 2nd. A never say die attitude from St Kieran's saw the Niall McInerney Cup return to the College for a fourth time. The excitement and tension began from

the throw in. As both teams settled, Thurles CBS opened the scoring through half forward Chris Munroe in the 4th minute. St Kieran's replied with a green flag a minute later. Bustling full forward Peter Donohoe lifted a low delivery from Jack Doyle and powered past his man to finish to the net. Thurles responded well with a point from Stephen Ferncombe from a free. For the next twelve minutes, St



Kieran's took control of the game with four points from Eoin Guilfoyle, one from play, two frees and one from a 65 after good work from Jack Doyle and Darragh Maher. Maher dissected the posts again in the 20th minute after a strong solo run. Thurles' short passing game was meeting a brick wall in the form of captain Harry Walsh, David Fogarty, Jim Ryan, Killian Rudkins and the tenacious Andy Hickey. Eventually, Thurles got back on the scoreboard through corner forward, Paddy Creedon in the 23rd minute and free taker, Stephen Ferncombe in the 26th. After a tense and tight first half, the score was St Kieran's 1-5 Thurles CBS 0-4. Thurles started the second half with gusto scoring through Paddy Creedon. However, St Kieran's showed great composure. Darragh Maher continued his good work from the first half bursting through the Thurles rearguard before he was hauled down. Guilfoyle converted the free. Maher added his own point from play a minute later. Thurles scored the next three scores from free taker Ferncombe before a Devon Ryan score brought the game to the minimum. St Kieran's responded like champions with Jack Doyle scoring from the sideline while on the run in the 11th minute. Jack had a great chance to raise a green flag but for heroic Thurles defending. Moving an extra man to midfield enabled Darren Flood to create chances and possession for Thurles. Darragh Maher continued his man of the match performance with a point on the run with 10 minutes remaining. Guilfoyle added a free following a foul on Stephen Barron. St Kieran's were

motoring again and substitute Oisín Egan chipped in with another white flag. St Kieran's had a five point lead with 7 minutes remaining. Substitute Jack Leamy scored for Thurles. Hayes converted for his second point from play with 2 minutes remaining. It was all or nothing at this stage for Thurles. St Kieran's were defending for their lives. With time up, referee Alan Kelly pointed to the penalty spot for an innocuous off the ball challenge on Eoin Purcell. Darren Flood had the chance to level the game. The young Thurles attacker struck the ball well but it sneaked over the bar. There was time for no more with Alan Kelly blowing his whistle to conclude a thoroughly entertaining Junior All-Ireland final.

St Kieran's College celebrated on a scoreline of 1-13 to 0-14.

This was an excellent performance by the St Kieran's lads with star performances all over the field. The College boys delivered a performance worthy of All-Ireland Champions and added another glorious chapter to an illustrious hurling story. Well done to all involved on this great victory and to their teachers Mr Dowling and Mr Ruth.

JUNIOR PANEL

St Kieran's College: Stephen Keoghan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Andy Hickey (Dunnamaggin), Harry Walsh (Dunnamaggin, Captain), Jim Ryan (James Stephens), David Fogarty (O'Loughlin Gaels), Padraic Moylan (Dicksboro), Killian Rudkins (Barrow Rangers), Jamie Harkin (Bennetsbridge), Peter McDonald (Thomastown), Darragh Maher (St Lachtain's), Conor Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels), Stephen Barron (Ballyhale Shamrocks),

Jack Doyle (Windgap), Peter Donohoe (Danesfort), Eoin Guilfoyle (James Stephens)

Subs: Liam Barron (Ballyhale Shamrocks) H/T for Peter McDonald, Oisín Egan (Graigue-Ballycallan) 49 mins for Jack Doyle, Jack Sheriden (O'Loughlin Gaels) 58 mins for Darragh Maher, Diarmuid Galwey (Thomastown), Padraic Foley (Windgap), Alex Moore (Dunnamaggin), JP Gamble (Conahy Shamrocks), Tomas Leahy (Danesfort), David Conway (Dicksboro), Ciaran Rice (Conahy Shamrocks), Kevin Fitzpatrick (Dicksboro), Eoin Delahunty (Graigue Ballycallan), Denis Walsh (Dunnamaggin), Darren Cuddihy (Conahy Shamrocks), Kieran Buckley (Dunnamaggin), Thomas Nugget (James Stephens), Ronan Lavelle (O'Loughlin Gaels), Ciaran Mullen (Danesfort), Conor Fitzpatrick (Young Irelands).



U16B Hurling



U16 B

Back row (l-r): Conor Nolan, Eoin O'Brien, Colm Nolan, Peter Connellan, Joe Cowhig, Aidan McGree. Second row (l-r): Mr Paddy Kelly, Daniel Murphy, Cian Leahy, Sean McKee, Kieran Walsh, Liam O'Reilly (Captain), Mr Michael Doyle. Front row (l-r): John Ring, Dara Glynn, Vincent O'Grady, Jack Canavan, Ivan Kelly, Ciaran Keher Murtagh, Matthew Shortall.

The turnout out of numbers for the Under 16 B team couldn't have been better. Over 70 students showed up outside of the panel of 30 students which won the All-Ireland. Due to high numbers we were able to enter 3 teams with every student guaranteed a minimum of 2 games. Team A was in a group with Comer and Duiske College. Team A recorded 2 wins in both their group games with a significant win of 5-15 to 2-5 over Comer and then put another 6 goals past Duiske to cruise through to the semi-final. Team B and C were in group 2 which also included Callan and CBS Kilkenny. A win for Team B over a strong Callan

side put them straight through to a semi-final where they would play our other team that came out of group 1. Unfortunately the last team entered lost their group game to CBS on a wet and windy day in which a scrappy goal and a late point was the difference in a one point game. So the semi-final was set Kierans A V Kierans B, with the winner to play CBS in the final. A well contested semi-final in which the underdogs pulled through to set up a final pairing with the CBS. On a rare dry January day, the final was played. Strong first half performance and thanks to a persistent Jack Canavan goal meant we were two points up at

half time. Another goal for Canavan the other side of half time meant things were looking good. Unfortunately the CBS were down 2 points in injury time and a ball was launched into the square from a free and batted out, only to be met on the fly from a CBS hurl from the 21 yard line to end up in the top corner of the net. The ball was then pucked out and the final whistle went. Some great performances throughout the year from numerous players but unfortunately just not our day. Many thanks to the mentors for the year (Mr P Butler, Mr D Hennessy, Mr M Doyle and Mr P Kelly).



Senior Hurling



The hurling year started in October with the usual ritual of trials on the senior pitch to choose a panel for the upcoming Leinster league.

After a lot of good hurling we had to settle on our panel, which left a good many lads disappointed at not making the cut. Daithí Barron was appointed captain and Tommy Ronan vice-captain.

We were in the fortunate position of having a good number of the previous year's panel available and this experience was to stand to the team during the year.

Our league campaign started against Offaly schools on October 25th where we had a good win. Two more victories followed in November against Dublin North and St. Peter's College, Wexford. On November 22nd we had a great battle against Borris Vocational School under lights in Fenagh. This

was the league final which we won on a scoreline of 3-5 to 0-7. There was a new format to the championship this year with teams being organised into groups of three, with the first game fixed for December 13th which was about six weeks earlier than normal.

We faced Castlecomer Community School in Jenkinstown on a bitterly cold Wednesday afternoon in December. The biggest problem for both teams was trying to stay warm in the driving sleet and rain. After a tough, hard battle the teams finished level and extra time was played. We took control in extra time and won by 1-12 to 0-9 with the game blown up early because of the fading light.

We had to hit the ground running when the championship resumed after Christmas as we had a meeting with Kilkenny CBS on January 11th in Dunmore. We played WIT freshers

and Thurles CBS in challenge games before Christmas and trained a number of times over the holidays. In a dour struggle, with scores hard to come by and a man down for the last quarter, we managed to hold out for a draw and the now familiar extra time followed. We put in a strong performance in that extra time and won by 0-16 to 0-12. The extra physical training put in by the lads under the expert eye of Mr. Michael Walsh was beginning to bear fruit. Next up was St. Peter's in the Leinster semi-final, who we had already beaten in the league. This time, however, it was knock-out championship and we had to travel to Enniscorthy on February 10th for the fixture. The pitch in St Patrick's Park was in very good condition considering the weather at the time. The team played well and we won by 2-13 to 2-08, conceding a goal late on.

The Leinster final pitted us against Dublin North in Network Dr Cullen Park in Carlow. Again, we had beaten them in the league but a different Dublin team turned up on February 22nd. They were big, physical and very skilful and they deservedly beat us by three points on a scoreline of 1-14 to 1-11. We had our chances but had to bow the knee to the better team on the day. Everyone was very disappointed after this defeat but we decided we were going to make amends in the All Ireland series.

First up was an All Ireland quarter final against Gort Community School on March 10th. Believe it or not, and most probably a first for St Kieran's, we had to travel to County Roscommon and the Pádraig Pearse club to play Gort because of the scarcity of pitches. We were not overly impressive in beating Gort by 1-10 to 0-5. The prize was a chance to play against the Croke

Cup favourites and Dr Harty Cup champions, Ardscoil Rís from Limerick. This fixture whetted everyone's appetite and the venue was much closer to home in the Sportsfield, Clonmel. This was the big one and a large crowd turned out to support both teams on the day. The lads put in their best performance to date and never let Ardscoil get on top. We led by five points with about ten minutes to go but conceded a goal which put us under pressure, but we managed to hold on by 0-19 to 1-14 for a famous win.

We had now qualified for the All Ireland final in Thurles on Saturday March 31st against Presentation College Athenry. There was a quiet build up to the final because we were on our Easter holidays in the week preceding the final. The Leaving Cert students on the panel were kept busy with revision and study and it was a helpful

distraction. Saturday arrived and we headed for Thurles for a 5 pm start with the Limerick / Tipperary League semi-final as the main event to follow at 7 pm. Presentation Athenry had been impressive Connacht champions and turned a ten point deficit in the semi-final against CBS Kilkenny into a great victory. We were forewarned, and, as with all our opponents, we gave them our utmost respect. We dominated the first ten minutes of the game and led by four but the concession of frees left us a point behind. The battle was on and it took a moment of inspiration from our captain Daithí Barron to drive us forward. He won a ball about fifty metres from the Athenry goal and went on a solo run before blasting the ball to the net. This was quickly followed by a goal each from Ciaran Brennan and David O'Carroll. We began the second half ten points up and held this lead until the 54th minute when we





conceded a goal. We began to defend our lead, and as often happens, we invited the opposition onto us. Two more goals were conceded and when the final whistle was blown after 65 minutes we were somehow level: 3-12 a piece. Twenty minutes of extra time was to follow. The depth, mental strength and fitness of our panel now came into play. We used six subs over the eighty minutes. A goal by Jamie Young in the first half of extra time proved crucial and from there to the end we dominated to win by 5-19 to 3-17. Great credit must go to Presentation Athenry for the way they fought to the end and played no small part in making this a very memorable All Ireland final.

It was a great journey for players, parents, mentors and supporters from both inside and outside our school. The players brought great credit on themselves, their families, their school and their clubs for their dedication to

training, their exemplary behaviour both on and off the field and the contribution that every single player made to the cause. A special word of thanks to our Transition Year students who helped out at every training session and every game since last October. This group was made up of Mikey Lewis, Laurence Mahon, Stephen Keoghan, Ciaran Mullen, Jason Butler and Luke Campion.

This year we were joined on the backroom staff by Conor Ryan and we want to thank him for his positivity and good humour with all the players and staff during the year. We also want to acknowledge the contribution of DJ Carey and Grace McCormack to the preparation of the team during the year.

ALL IRELAND TEAM

Dean Mason, Tommy Ronan, Conor Murphy, Mark Nolan, Diarmuid Phelan, Jesse Roberts, Luke Murphy, Adrian

Mullen, Killian Egan, Eoghan Moylan, Eoin O'Shea, Daithí Barron (capt.) Conor Kelly, Ciarán Brennan, David O'Carroll

Subs:

Eoin Cody, Ian Walsh, George Murphy, Jamie Young, David Blanchfield, Eoin Kenneally (all used), Seán Manogue, Ciarán Hogan, Jeffrey Coyne, Jack Nolan, Brian Staunton, Liam Brennan-Smyth, David Griffin, Dacel Fwamba, Ned Kirwan, James Phelan, Ryan Scanlon, Aaron Brennan, Pádraic O'Neill, Ciarán Brennan.

The team management of Mr Tom Hogan, Mr Philip Walsh and Mr Michael Walsh would like to acknowledge the support of our fellow teachers and management during the year. There were classes to be covered, sideline support on match days, organising gear for the All Ireland final and fundraising for the final. Many thanks to all.





Senior Hurling 2017/2018

Back row (l-r): David Blanchfield, David O Carroll, Mark Nolan, David Griffon, Jack Nolan, Jamie Young, Padraig O Neil, Brian Staunton, James Phelan. Third row (l-r): Adrian Mullen, Eoin Cody, Ciaran Brennan, Dean Mason, Sean Minogue, Aaron Brennan, Liam Brennan Smyth, Dacel Fwamba, Mr Michael Walsh. Second row (l-r): Mr. Philip Walsh, Mr. Tom Hogan, Ryan Scanton, Luke Murphy, Ciaran Hogan, Killian Egan, Ciaran Brennan, Conor Kelly, George Murphy, Ned Kirwan, Conor Ryan. Front row (l-r): Ian Walsh, Eoghan Moylan, Jessie Roberts, Eoin O'Shea, Diarmaid Phelan, Daithi Barron (Captain), Tommy Ronan, Jeffrey Coyne, Conor Murphy, Eoin Kenneally.



St Kieran's College, Leaving Cert Class 2018

