



Loreto Newsletter

E A S T E R 2 0 0 9

Dates For Your Diary:

Close of 175 Year Mass, Saturday 9th May, 7.00pm Clarendon St.

Sports Day, Sunday 10th May, Iveagh Gardens.

Well done to 2T who organised a basketball match against CUS on Tuesday 24th March. €246 was raised and the girls won!

175 CONCERT

The Music Department is extremely grateful to everyone who made the 175 Concert in the National Concert Hall so successful and so enjoyable. Congratulations must go to all the wonderful performers who shone on the night and performed so beautifully. We were all very proud of you. Many thanks must also go to those who auditioned for the concert. The adjudicating panels had a very difficult task choosing pieces as the standard was so high.

We are very grateful to the staff for their patience with us during the inevitable disruption to class due to rehearsals..

Ms O'Leary and Ms McCaul organized many staff members who so generously agreed to supervise the girls both back-

stage and at school. This left us with nothing to think about except music, and we are very grateful to all of them.

Thank you to Ms Maverly and Ms Barton for all their hard work. The 5th Yr volunteers did a wonderful job distributing programmes. Many thanks also to the Music Committee who worked very hard and to the girls who organized the magnificent flowers.

Ms McAteer did a truly wonderful job as compere—many thanks.

And to Ms Barrett for your continuous support and encouragement, a big thank you.

FOLK MASS

We were delighted with the very large attendance at our Folk Mass on Sunday 22nd March and

to be joined on this occasion by Geraldine Flanagan, who composed much of the music that the folk group have sung down through the years.

MUSIC EXAMS

The Junior and Leaving Cert. Practical examinations have taken place and both examiners commented on the very high standard of performances. In preparation for the exam, the LC students gave a recital for their parents and the other music classes. Many thanks to the 5th year music class who organized and presented the recital with great enthusiasm.

The Ball

The 175 Charity Ball took place on Saturday, 31st January in the Shelbourne Hotel. A fabulous night was enjoyed by parents, staff and past pupils from the last five decades. Sincere thanks to the Parents' Association and, in particular Anne Marie Taylor,

Siobhan Brady, Patricia Donnelly, Adrienne Costello and Siobhan Rooney for organizing a fantastically successful raffle and silent auction of a Celtic Jersey and a Leinster Jersey which raised a total of €7,648.

Thanks also to the Ball

Committee—Elaine O'Connor, Orla Harkin, Joanne Dunne & Yseult Whitaker for their help in organising such a successful evening. As always thanks to everyone for supporting the event

French Exchange

If any student of 5th Year is interested in an exchange with a French girl from Meaux (East of Paris), for the summer, please contact Mme Soudry

Debating

The Debating Club have been very busy in the last few weeks taking part in the final stages of a variety of competitions. We were the only Irish School to be represented at both the two big British debating competitions. Maeve Brady and Lorna Danaher recently competed very well in the Oxford schools competition while Emma McDonnell and Hannah Lucey spoke very well at the Cambridge Schools competition. Niamh Murray and Rebecca Moloney will also be going to Cam-

bridge to take part in the Cambridge junior debating competition at the end of April. Niamh Ni Leathlobhair and Hilary Hogan recently qualified for and took part in the Junior Leinster Schools final. They spoke excellently, as they have done all year, with Niamh being awarded 2nd place in the individual competition. We will also be represented in the upcoming Aoife Begley debating final in NUI Maynooth as Anna Harrington and Rosalind Ni Shulabhain won their semi-final.

Catherine Murnane and Cathy McAndrew took part in the Senior Leinster Schools semi-finals in Trinity. They both argued very well and were unlucky not to make the final as a team.

However Cathy did make the final as an individual. For a full update on what's been happening in debating please see www.loretothegreen.ie

Young Scientist

Eighteen students displayed their scientific research projects last January at the RDS in the BT Young Scientist & Technology exhibition. Qualifying was a huge achievement

with over 1600 entries competing for just 500 places in the RDS. All the girls received great interest in their projects and impressed the judges with four out of the

seven projects achieving Highly Commended awards. Congratulations to all for their fantastic work!

Slovenia Ski Trip

This February mid-term saw 17 fifth year students heading off skiing in Slovenia with Ms Purcell and Ms Whitaker. The trip started out with the excitement of meeting at the airport at the same time as the Irish rugby team and everything continued to go great

from there. Four days of skiing were had near Lake Bled in Slovenia. Snow conditions were fantastic and everyone made huge improvements and were looking like pros by the end of the four days! Evenings were also busy with activities including bowling, ice-skating

and night tobogganing. A trip through Vienna on the way home included visit to the House of Music, a historical tour and a spot of shopping. A great trip was had by all.

Sport

CROSS COUNTRY: The cross country season finished for everyone at the beginning of March. The year 2008 - 2009 was a challenging one due to the exceptional amount of illness suffered by so many pupils during the Winter. However we were delighted that one of our best athletes, Sarah Finegan also our school cross country secretary, qualified for the All-Ireland school finals held at the University of Ulster in Jordanstown on March 8th. Sarah ran an excellent race and was very happy with her result of 12th place in the Senior Race. Well done Sarah.

BASKETBALL: This term we were delighted to welcome a new assistant coach to the Sports Department - Aileen Kelly, a past pupil who has been helping Mr. McMillian in recent weeks. This has been much appreciated in the frantic lead up to the many Basketball semi-finals.

We were all heartbroken for the Senior A Basketball Team who were narrowly defeated in their Loreto Final by Dalkey. They played a brilliant match and it was only in the last 3 minutes that they lost their lead. Congratulations to all involved especially to the four 6th Years Noelle Healy, Hannah Fenlon, Jane Flanagan and Hazel Quinn who have given outstanding service to the school over the last six years.

All the 1st and 2nd Year Basketball teams reached the Loreto semi-finals and four teams played in the final. Congratulations to the Junior C and Minor A who played extremely well but were defeated. Well done to the wonderful Junior B and Minor C teams who defeated Dalkey and Foxrock respectively in their very exciting finals. Three of our outstanding players were Aoife Kelly, Emer Linehan and Hannah Mahony were awarded special Trophies for their huge contribution to Basketball.

A huge thank you to the Basketball Committee who assisted Mr. McMillian all year.

ATHLETICS: Training has been underway since early March and teams for the Loreto and East Leinster athletics competitions are almost finalized. Well done to all who tried out and to those who

helped. The Loreto Championships are to be held in Santry on Thursday April 23rd. Ms. Barton hopes once again to enlist the assistance of approximately 10—12 parents in supervisory roles.

HOCKEY: Well done to all the hockey teams who played very well in their Loreto League games. The girls enjoyed a fun mixed team tournament in YMCA last Saturday to end the season. Congratulations to the Minor A team captained by Isabelle Reddy who reached the final of the Loreto Minor B League - a first B final for the school. Well done to all players on a brilliant match which went to extra time and penalty flicks. Sincere thanks to all our coaches on a great season and also to the parents who helped with the goalie bag duty.

GOLF: Well done to Laura Doherty (1G) who represented the school in the Inter Schools Golf Competition in Clontarf Golf Club.

SWIMMING: In January, nine girls travelled to the National Aquatic Centre to compete and represent the school in the Leinster Senior Schools Swimming Gala 2009. This team included Catrina English, Tara English, Alannah Griffin and Emilie Thornton, 2nd Year, India McGlynn, 3rd Year, Aoife Lawlor, 4th Year, Eva Kelly, Lucy Nolan and Anna O'Loughlin, 5th Year. The girls competed in a number of events and the results were exceptional. All girls made finals and five individual medals were won in total by the girls—two gold and three bronze. This does not include the two gold medals won by the Intermediate Relay Team in the Freestyle and Medley Relay. All girls qualified for the Irish Senior Schools in February.

The Irish Senior Schools Swimming Championships took place in February. Strong competition was experienced throughout the whole weekend. However, even with that our team of seven swimmers shone through making numerous finals, with two individual silver medals. Once again the Intermediate Relay team won the Medley and Freestyle Relay to become the Intermediate

Irish Senior School Champions.

A special congratulations must be given to Catrina English and Allannah Griffin who were chosen to represent Ireland at the WISE International Schools. The girls competed extremely well, with Catrina making 100 breaststroke final. Well done! All girls swam impressively at both the Leinster and Irish Senior Schools Championships and the results show the continuing strength of competitive swimming in the school.

Our thanks to Ms. Barton and Ms. Crinion for their support. Well done to Eva Kelly, Swimming Secretary, for an outstanding year participating in all aspects of swimming.

GAA; Well done to the schools GAA teams who have had a very good season this year. Our under 16 Gaelic football team made the Quarter Finals of the Leinster championship in our first year entering this competition. They played very good football all year before losing a very tight contest away to Our Lady's Greenhills in Drogheda. The Under 14 Gaelic team has been training hard for their championship. They have qualified for the knockout stages and are looking forward to their last 16 match. To keep up to date with GAA results and match reports please see www.loretothegreen.ie

Log on, Learn

Log on Learn is a computer course for retired people taught by Transition Year students. It is a new initiative designed by Intel with support from Microsoft Ireland and An Post. This is the first year of this nationwide programme.

Log on Learn commenced in Loreto on the Green a month ago.

A group of transition years consisting of Aisling Freeny, Ciara Forristal, Eitan Keogh, Mairead Conway, Clíodhna Bolger, Clare Kelly, Louise Murphy, Hannah Dobson, Rachel Fingleton and myself Jane Fallon Griffin have been involved in the programme under the direction of Ms Hickey and Ms. Scully.

Each Thursday we go to the Resource Centre and teach basic computer skills to retired people.

By the end of the programme we will have completed eight modules. After class we have a cup of tea and a chat in the canteen with those we have been teaching.

The programme has been very successful so far and is greatly enjoyed by T.Y students and the retired alike.

This is a new experience for all involved and we are delighted that we have had the opportunity to participate in it.



TY students working with retired people on improving their ICT skills.

TY NEWS

Leaders on our Level Conference

On Friday 13th March 4th Years went to a conference in Croke Park hosted by Terenure College called "Leaders On Our Level". The main objective of this conference was to show us how one can become a successful leader. The speakers included well-known leaders such as Sean Weafer, Vanessa Tierney; Denis O'Brien; Mark Pollack and Fr. Peter McVerry. After each speaker there was time for students to ask questions. Sinead Flynn, Clare Kelly and Fiona Daly from our school each asked a question.

Song School

Last week the Transition Years participated in Song School. Song School is a company which travels to different schools throughout the country helping and encouraging students to write and record their own songs.

On the first day we wrote our songs and listened to previously recorded songs. On the second day we recorded our own material. That afternoon we had a playback session where we got the opportunity to listen to the other students' songs.

We couldn't believe how good they were! Some girls who are quiet or who do not usually sing, sang on the tracks and they sounded wonderful! We were all very impressed.

Many people have said that Song School has been one of the best activities of Transition Year so far!

Happy Easter