

## June 2012

### State examinations

On behalf of the school community, I extend our very best wishes to the 230 students who will be taking their Junior and Leaving Certificate examinations this month. This is a stressful time for all of these students and their parents. It is important that they are strengthened by our thoughts and prayers at this time.

### 2nd hand book sale

A 2nd hand Book Sale will be held in the school's Concert Hall on Saturday, 23 June 2012. Those with books to sell or donate should attend at 10.30 a.m. and those interested in buying are asked to attend between 11.00 a.m. and 12.00 p.m. Only books that are on the Loreto 2012/2013 booklists can be sold or donated. This event is kindly organised by the Loreto Parents' Council.

### School website – [loretowexford.com](http://loretowexford.com)

Your attention is once again drawn to the school website. Please visit this site from time to time as it is full of up-to-date and useful school information. The booklists and calendar for 2012/2013 as well as the application form for the Free Books Scheme are now available for downloading from the website.

We continue to make a hard copy of all correspondence/forms available at Reception for the benefit of families without internet access.

### Voluntary Contribution

A sincere thank you is extended once again to all families who have kindly supported our Voluntary Contribution this year. Any outstanding contributions will continue to be accepted up until Friday, 22 June.

### Summer holidays

The school offices will close for the summer holidays at 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 22 June and will re-open at 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 13 August. Please ensure that any Social Welfare forms are submitted for signing before 22 June.

During the holiday period, the school website will be updated from time to time as necessary. Any urgent matter can be brought to the school's attention by e-mail to [loretowexford@eircom.net](mailto:loretowexford@eircom.net)

I thank all members of the Loreto school community for their support and dedication throughout 2011/2012.

Billy O' Shea,

Principal.

## News update 20

## Leinster final disappointment for Loreto



### Loreto Wexford 1-0 Mercy New Ross 6-7

After a long year that started back in September for some of these girls, Loreto's camogie season ended on Tuesday, 22 May in Cushinstown in the minor Leinster 'B' championship final against a very strong New Ross outfit. With New Ross having already won the u-16 all-Ireland with a team made up of 11 of these girls, Loreto were always going to have their work cut out but put up a very good show in the 1st half especially. Although Loreto went in at half time without registering a score, this didn't reflect their efforts and determination throughout the half, with Jessie Harding particularly unlucky with some great play in the forwards. Having gone in 2-4 to 0-0 down at the break the first score of the 2nd half needed to be a Loreto score but unfortunately New Ross scored an early goal past the unfortunate Rachel O'Leary who must get special mention for some fine saves throughout the year, especially on Tuesday. Loreto did register that all important score half way through the first half when St. Martin's Sarah O'Connor scored from a long range effort. In the end it was obvious that the experienced Mercy team had more in them.



Although the girls lost on the day the future for camogie in Loreto looks very bright. Having not had a camogie team on 2009 and 2010, this year the three teams have been beaten in two Leinster semi-finals by 3 points and now a Leinster final. Here's hoping that next year brings our first title since 2008.

The panel in full was as follows:

1. Rachel O'Leary (Buffer's Alley)
2. Julia Molloy (Blackwater)
3. Lauren Carty (c) (St. Martin's)
4. Katie Leacy (St. Ibar's)
5. Larah Campbell (St. Ibar's)
6. Linzi Lanigan (St. Ibar's)
7. Kate Kelly (Blackwater)
8. Sorcha Foley (Buffer's Alley)
9. Sarah O'Connor (vc) (St. Martin's)
10. Cathy O'Connor (Kilmore)
11. Jessie Harding (St. Ibar's)
12. Rachel Cantwell (St. Martin's)

13. Aoife O’Keeffe (St. Martin’s)
14. Annie Stafford (Taghmon-Camross)
15. Joanne Sutton (Oulart the Ballagh)
16. Eimear Buckley (Glynn-Barntown)
17. Anne Daly (Buffer’s Alley)
18. Lucy Purcell (Blackwater)
19. Roisin Cooney (Glynn-Barntown)
20. Jessie Morrissey (Glynn-Barntown)
21. Laura Carr (St. Mary’s Rosslare)
22. Emma Goff (Fayte Harriers)
23. Niamh O’Brien (Blackwater)
24. Aisling Lyons (Buffer’s Alley)
25. Julie-Ann Malone (St. Mary’s Rosslare)





## German Exchange

On the 19th of May 2012 a group of 16 Loreto Transition Year Students headed off on a German exchange to a small town named Villingen. All were looking forward to it and all with varied expectations. Well we can safely state that all expectations of the German exchange were very happily surpassed.

We arrived in Zürich airport and were greeted by our exchange partners. We then got acquainted on the bus trip back to our host town of Villingen. Each of us then met our new family for the week and went to our separate houses. Then our week began.

Monday we spent the first half of the day 'speed dating' in the school. An interesting experience for all that really tested our spoken German ability. We also got a quick history of the school itself, St. Ursula and its religious background. We then went on a tour of Villingen and once again a brief historic background.

Tuesday we went to Freiburg. The day was fabulous, the town was beautiful, the place was rich in history and the shops were great. A day of shops, sun, sight-seeing and ice cream was had by all.

Wednesday we began the day in school. We sat in on our German student's classes and we experienced life as a teenage student to Germany. Following this we made a trip into town to go



on a historic hunt. We were given attractions to find and questions to answer 'auf deutsch'. Once again this was an interesting experience but we had a lot of fun.

Thursday we headed off to the nearby town of 'Konstanz' and what a day we had. Like in Villingen we had to find tourist attractions and answer questions on them so we had a lot of fun. We then took a bus journey to Lake Konstanz and went for a quick swim followed by a couple of hours soaking up the sun, making the most of it while we had it. It was a great day for everyone despite the fact some were slightly reddish.

Then came Friday, our last day. We had classes in the morning and then watched a DVD with our exchange partners through German. Following this we had to work together to present a project at the 'Bunter Abend' about the film. The German's had to talk in English and the Irish in German so we worked as a team to make this possible. Then the evening came. Parents were invited to the 'Bunter Abend' where the German and Irish showcased their talent both together and separately. It was the perfect way to finish the perfect week.

Saturday day time we spent with our exchange partners and families until we had to take the bus to the airport to go home. Everyone was upset to leave their partners as everyone had bonded so well, but we all know we have September to look forward to when they come to Ireland.

I can safely say that the German Exchange 'Austausch' 2012 was an undeniable success. We improved our oral German, experienced German culture, made friends for life and even worked on our tan.

Wir Hatten Viel Spaß in Deutschland und Vielen Dank an unsere Lehrer für ein schöne woche.

## **Week beginning Monday, 28 May 2012**

Summer examinations continue for all 1st, 2nd and 5th year students until Friday.

The 4th year Graduation Ceremony will take place on Thursday in the Talbot Hotel beginning at 6.00 p.m.

Summer holidays begin on Friday.

## **News update 19**

### **Fourth Year Trip to Glendalough**

**Report by Amy Hassett – 4.1**

On the 3rd and 4th of May, 112 fourth years took part in a 27 kilometre walk in Glendalough, in order to complete our Bronze Gaisce award.

We left the school at half nine on Thursday and travelled, by bus, the two hour journey to Glendalough National Park.

Before the trip the vast majority of us were looking forward to trip. However, I think I can safely say that none of us were looking forward to the prospect of going to the toilet in the wild!! (In fact, some of us were very, very afraid!!)

When we arrived at the hostel we dropped off our bags and began the first part of our hike, in which we would walk 23km and take us about 6 hours.

The views of the surrounding countryside were breathtaking!

We now understand why people from other countries come to Ireland for it's beautiful scenery.

We saw a wide variety of wildlife on the Wicklow Way, including rams, ducks, deer, as well as other hikers!



It was however, a very strenuous hike as we had to walk up many steep hills and wade through thick mud.

Some of us even got our shoes stuck once or twice!

The first group, (including the P.E. teachers!) arrived back at 5:55, with the last group arriving shortly before 7!

We were incredibly tired, dirty, hungry and dying to go to the toilet!!

After making our dinner almost all of us had showers and changed into our pyjamas. Lights out were at half ten and for some of us, it couldn't come soon enough.

Luckily for us, we didn't have to leave until half ten, affording us a very generous lie-in to rest our aching muscles.



We left on time, (possibly for the first time this year!!) and walked an amazing 2 kilometres on flat ground and compared to the previous day, it was a walk in the park! (Excuse the pun!)

We stopped to take pictures of the beautiful lake while Ms. Johns told us wonderful stories of people who had drowned there! We then took what was probably our last group picture of the year. (see the pic below).



From there we went to buy ice-cream or chips (or both!) and then went back to the hostel to wait for our bus.

We arrived home just before half three - tired, slightly cranky, but very proud of the feat that we had just accomplished!!

**Gaisce Group Photo .... Wicklow Way ....**



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## Paired Reading

Report by Ms. M. Jordan

Transition year students and first year students who participated in this year's Paired Reading Programme were awarded with their certificates this week. This is the second year that the programme has run in our school. Paired Reading aims to help students foster a love of reading in an enjoyable and relaxed atmosphere as well as affording all students the opportunity to forge new friendships.

Twenty two students met for 15-20 minutes at lunchtime from Tuesday to Friday during the first term. First years picked a book that interested them from the Paired Reading box in TB3 and then read with their TY tutor for the duration. The programme went on up until Christmas and finished up with a Paired Reading Party in the lunch room where students enjoyed games, sweets and general festive cheer.

Unfortunately not every TY student who trained had the opportunity to put their skills into practice in school but some TY tutors brought their skills to the wider community by helping younger neighbours and friends with their reading outside school time.



As the Paired Reading Co-ordinator, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the twenty two students who were so generous with their time and committed to the idea of reading for enjoyment. I hope the programme has instilled in you a love of reading that will remain long after you leave Loreto. Well done girls!

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**Confirmation ... You are ECDL – version 5 graduates**  
Report by Ms. Maddock.

Here is the final number for this year.



The students below fully completed ECDL – version 5 course –.  
Amazing feat ... Very, very well done to you all.  
They are:

**From 4.1**

Aisling Berry	Lisa Firman	Aoibheann Maxwell	Liz O' Leary
Caoimhe Connick	Alanna Griffin	Úna McCormack	Tara O' Leary
Liadh Conway	Amy Hassett	Eimear McGovern	Tara Somers
Abby Cosgrove	Laura Kilgannon	Julie Murphy	Hazel Walsh
Hannah Dempsey	Holly Loughman	Tara O'Farrell	Rebecca Walsh
Séona Fanning Ironside			

**From 4.2**

Jane Barrett	Anne Gayer	Gemma McCabe	Aisling Ryan
Rachel Bermingham	Sarah Hackett	Kasey McGrath	Ruth Sinnott
Laura Bernard	Claire Heffernan	Eimear Murphy	Lauren Walsh
Esmá Byrne	Aisling Kavanagh	Orla Nimmo	Lauren Whitty
Shauna Cousins	Sarah Lacey	Alisha O' Rourke	Zoë Zimmerman
Megan Cullen	Maeve Lambert	Éilís Regan	

**From 4.3**

Cáit Barden	Sophie Ellard	Carol Kavanagh	Niamh O' Connor
Julie Barry	Sarah Finnerty	Ciara Lawless	Rachel Redmond
Niamh Cantwell	Rebecca Frayne	Ciara Lawlor	Martha Rochford
Nicola Cleary	Emer Furlong	Niamh McCormack	Rebecca Stafford
Maebh Crosbie	Louise Hanton	Niamh O' Callaghan	
Eimear Doyle	Niamh Harpur	Mary O' Connor	

**From 4.4**

Claire Aspel	Louise Colfer	Aideen McMorrow	Aoife Rossiter
Hollie Bennett	Clodagh Dunne	Lainey O' Brien	Hannah Rossiter
Danielle Bradley	Louise Foley	Eimer O' Hanlon	Shannon Smythe
Emily Breen	Niamh Foley	Saoirse O' Keeffe	
Jessica Buckley	Laura Haddigan	Hazel O' Leary	
Gina Carroll	Eimear Hore	Aisling Reardon	

### **From 4.5**

Megan Bergin	Eadaoin Cadogan	Bláithín Gallagher	Chloe O'Sullivan
Laura Berry	Jane Cahill	Jenna Kennedy	Niamh Roche
Ciara Bradfield	Nora Cash	Lucy Mangan	Shauna Skelton
Aisling Busher	Clodagh Doyle	Elsa McDermott	Charlie Somers
Sophie Butler	Eva Farrell	Sinéad Moore	Nicola Wallace
Siún Byrne	Michelle Furlong	Kelly Murray	

You have all completed a great year's work – Enjoy the Summer. M.M.

### **Week beginning Monday, 21 May 2012**

Presentation of Attendance Certificates will take place in the school on Monday at 1.30 p.m. in the Concert Hall.

Annual Prize-Giving takes place in Rowe Street Church on Tuesday afternoon. Lunch on this day will be from 11.49 a.m. to 12.49 p.m.

The 6th year Breakfast and Graduation Mass/Reception will take place on Thursday, Mass commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Good luck to 5th year students who start their summer examinations on Thursday.

### **News update 18**

**Learning Support  
Jordan**

**Report by Ms. M.**

#### **Room Teresa Ball 3**

Recently the Learning Support Department renovated a new Learning Support room which used to be an old changing room. During class time, this room is mainly used by Learning Support students but it has acted as a Paired Reading Centre in the first term and is a meeting room for students and teachers also.

We are delighted to have this room and so we decided to do a beautiful sunrise mural over the old fire place. Many students made this possible, including the 4th year Learning Support students who painted it and Ms. Byrne and her art students who kindly drew it.

The mural depicts a sunrise. The sun is rising in the background out of the water and in the foreground there's a tree, grass, butterflies and flowers.

Around the edges there are brick walls that have fallen away to reveal the beautiful vista.



The mural will have its own meaning for everyone but the general idea is to look beyond the walls of doubt and fear and to open your mind to the power of possibility and potential.

The Learning Support department would like to extend great thanks to Ms. Byrne and her art students and to the TY Learning Support students for all their hard work.



**Sports Update  
Gannon**

**by Mr.**

Some recent results included:

### **Senior Athletics**

Emma Owens placed 3rd in the Hammer and 2nd in Discus.

Clara Mc Guinness achieved 3rd in the shot.

Shauna Nic Aogain was 2nd in the long jump.

### **Inter Athletics**

Marcella Furlong placed 3rd in the Discus.

Jane Shovlin jumped a personal best in the long jump.

### **Gymnastics**

Tara Doyle Robinson 2nd year and Hannah Byrne 3rd year won medals at the National Championships last weekend.

## **Week beginning Monday, 14 May 2012**

Meitheal leaders' meeting, 1.20 p.m. Monday

Parents' Council meeting, 7.30 p.m. Monday

6th year assembly, 9.31 a.m. Tuesday.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday for the positions of Head and Deputy Head Girl in 2012/2013

16 students and 2 teachers will travel on our week-long exchange programme to St. Ursula's School in Villingen, German on Saturday.

## **News update 17**

### **Sports Report**

**Report by Mr. Brennan**

#### **U-14 Camogie girls reach Leinster Final**

On Thursday last Loreto's u-14 camogie girls reached the Leinster 'B' final for the first time in 5 years. They travelled to Borris in Carlow, knowing a victory would see them through to play St. Marys, New Ross in the final.

In what was a perfect day for camogie the girls led by 2-3 to 1-0 at half-time, having had most of the play in the Borris half.

Loreto kicked on in the second half thanks to some excellent scores from Rachel Cantwell, Joanne Sutton and the free taking of Sorcha Foley.

They ran out 3-8 to 1-3 winners with some excellent performances throughout the team.

They now look forward to the final with great anticipation.

Earlier in the competition Loreto ran out winners against FCJ Bunclody and Callan of Kilkenny while they were beaten by New Ross in what will be a re-match for the final.

#### **U-14 Panel:**

Rachel O'Leary, Lauren Carty (c), Julia Molloy, Kate Kelly, Roisin Cooney, Laura Carr, Larah Campbell, Lucy Purcell, Jessie Morrissey, Julie-Ann Malone,



Sarah O'Connor, Cathy O'Connor, Jessie Harding, Rachel Cantwell, Annie Stafford, Niamh O'Brien, Joanne Sutton, Aisling Lyons, Aoife O'Keeffe, Anne Daly, Sorcha Foley, Linzi Lanigan, Katie Leacy, Emma Goff and Eimear Buckley.

## **Week beginning Tuesday, 8 May 2012**

A staff meeting will take place after school on Tuesday – no supervised study on this day.

Good luck to LC Art students in their examinations on Thursday and Friday.

3rd year assembly, 10.00 a.m. Wednesday.

Parents are asked to complete the online survey by 12.00 p.m. on Friday. Please see Letters to Families on [www.loretowexford.com](http://www.loretowexford.com) for full details.

## **News update 16**

### **Mini Company O'Sullivan.**

### **Report by Mr.**

Mr. O' Sullivan would like to congratulate the following students:

From **4.5** class group,  
Aisling Busher, Clodagh Doyle, Eva Farrell, Michelle Furlong and Bláithín Gallagher who's company 'Retro Style' won Best Report in the Wexford 'X-Cel' Enterprise County Finals Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> 2012.

Also, well done to **4.1** class students,  
Aoibheann Maxwell, Úna McCormack, Laura Kilgannon and Holly Loughman whose company 'Eco Freaks' came second in the Environmental section.

Finally, congratulations to Ms. Byrne's LCVP class who won a merit award.

### **Sports Announcement**

### **Report by Mr. Gannon**

We are having a Happy Heart Week this week,

Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup> 2012.

There is timetable of events posted around the school.

The aim of the week is to encourage healthy lifestyle and activities with the students.



There will be three events running everyday. They are:

1. Soccer on the hockey pitch,
2. A 'fun run' for a given year group and
3. Tennis.

The tennis and soccer are optional .... but the run is compulsory for Juniors.

They have all received sponsorship cards

*Sponsorship Card*

We are aiming to raise about €5,000.

The Seniors are going to have a choice 'fun run' ... with a special twist ... it will be a three legged race.

### **Some Quotes to ponder re your Heart ...**

Attached are some quotes that the Sports Department found. These will be placed on the school wall display screens to go with the theme of the week. They include:

Women think of heart disease as an old person's disease and a good way to die, ... But heart failure is every bit as bad as cancer, and the death rate is higher.

~ **Martha Hill**

One out of two women are going to have, live with, and/or die from heart disease and stroke. It is amazing women are still not getting that message, and one has to ask why.

~ **Martha Hill**

Those who think they have not time for bodily exercise will sooner or later have to find time for illness.

~ **Edward Stanley**

If it weren't for the fact that the TV set and the refrigerator are so far apart, some of us wouldn't get any exercise at all.

~ **Joey Adams**

Lack of activity destroys the good condition of every human being, while movement and methodical physical exercise save it and preserve it.

~ **Plato**

Movement is a medicine for creating change in a person's physical, emotional, and mental states.

~ **Carol Welch**

If your dog is fat, you're not getting enough exercise.

~ **Author Unknown**

It is exercise alone that supports the spirits, and keeps the mind in vigor.

~ **Marcus Tullius Cicero**

### **Breaking Sports News**

Well done to Georgina Steel (1.4).

She placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the *Minor High Jump* at the Athletics Meet last week in Kilkenny.

Watch out for further Athletic updates soon.

## **Week beginning Monday, 30 April 2012**

Board of Management meeting, 4.30pm Monday

Good luck to LCVP students on Wednesday and to JC Art students on Friday

4th year assembly, 10.00am Wednesday

We hope all goes well for our students performing extracts from "Grease" in the Waterford High School Festival on Wednesday night

4th year trip to Glendalough on Thursday and Friday

A reminder that the school will be closed next Monday, 7 May (Bank Holiday)

## **Week beginning Monday, 23 April 2012**

We hope all goes well for our students who will be taking orals in French and German this week as well as Music practicals.

This week's assembly – Wednesday: 10.00 a.m. – 5th year.

Subject department meetings take place after school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Consequently, evening study will not take place on these days.

Good luck to all students taking part in the Loreto athletics meeting in Dublin on Friday.

## **Week beginning Monday, 16 April 2012**

We welcome everyone back to school after the Easter holiday for what will be a very busy and important seven week term.

We extend our very best wishes to our Leaving Certificate students who will be taking oral exams in Irish, French, German and Japanese and practical exams in Music over the next two weeks and to our Junior Certificate who have to face into practical exams in Home Economics and Music over the same period. We hope that the hard work of both students and teachers will pay dividends at this time.

This week's assembly – Wednesday: 10.00 a.m. – 2nd year

All 120 Transition Year students are on work experience this week and next. We hope that students will gain very useful insight into the world of work over the fortnight. We are particularly grateful to all employers who so kindly give our students the opportunity to join their workforce.

The Loreto Education Development Officer, Blathnaidh Colhoun, will pay her annual visit to the school on Tuesday and, amongst other meetings, will engage with members of the Students' Council and the Justice and Peace Group.

The 5th year Geography trip takes place on Thursday.

## **News update 15**

### **IT / Computer Report for Yr 4**

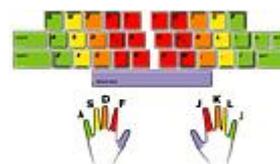
**by Ms. Maddock**

Ms. Maddock would like to congratulate all the very diligent students in 4<sup>th</sup> year who have made such significant progress over the year with their ECDL training, computer skill development and typing.

Especially, she would like to congratulate Sophie Butler (4.5).

Never before has a student FULLY completed her full ECDL course – 7 test modules and their touch typing course at such an early date ... 2 months ahead of schedule ... Maith thú ... Ecdl Graduate.

She is not alone in her impressive work efforts.



The following 50 students (**33%** of the year) have all FULLY completed their touch typing course. They are:

**From 4.1**

Chloe Carroll  
Alanna Griffin

Caoimhe Connick  
Amy Hassett

Abby Cosgrove  
Liz O'Leary

Lisa Firman  
Hazel Walsh

**From 4.2**

Jane Barrett  
Anne Gayer  
Sarah Lacey  
Lauren Walsh

Laura Bernard  
Sarah Hackett  
Kasey McGrath  
Lauren Walsh

Esmá Byrne  
Claire Heffernan  
Éilís Regan  
Zoe Zimmerman

Shauna Cousins  
Aisling Kavanagh  
Aisling Ryan

**From 4.3**

Nicola Cleary  
Niamh Harpur

Sarah Finnerty  
Carol Kavanagh

Emer Furlong  
Rebecca Stafford

Louise Hanton

**From 4.4**

Hollie Bennett  
Gina Carroll  
Eimear Hore  
Hazel O'Leary

Danielle Bradley  
Louise Colfer  
Maria Maher  
Aisling Reardon

Emily Breen  
Louise Foley  
Lainey O'Brien

Jessica Buckley  
Laura Haddigan  
Saoirse O'Keeffe

**From 4.5**

Aisling Busher  
Elsa McDermott

Sophie Butler  
Niamh Roche

Michelle Furlong

Bláithín Gallagher

Currently, the majority of students are completing their fifth of 7 ECDL modules. Many are likely to use their newly acquired skills over their forthcoming work experience fortnight in April.

Again, congrats to all for the efforts they have put in to their studies. You are all learning to be independent learners and seekers of knowledge.

## **Week beginning Monday, 26 March 2012**

The Students' Council will meet on Monday at lunchtime.

Staff inservice continuing this week – SPHE.

The Parents' Council meets on Monday at 7.30 p.m.

This week's assemblies – Wednesday: 9.31a.m. 6th year and 10.00 a.m. 4th year.

Energy Awareness Day will be held on Thursday organised by the school's Green Committee.

The school will close for the Easter holidays at 3.33 p.m. on Friday and will re-open on Monday, 16 April.

## **News update 14**

### **Retreat to Glendalough**

- **Report by Orlaith Farrell, 6<sup>th</sup> Year**

Excited chatter echoed each 6th year class on Thursday 1st March. Anticipation was high at the mere thought of getting a little break from the long, dreary days of 6th year (and double

English

Friday morning!). The day dragged on as we counted down the never-ending minutes of each class. But finally, half three loomed its long-awaited head and we boarded the bus with gear bags, pillows and suitcases in tow! (We girls know how to travel light!)

After a long, winding journey through the Wicklow Mountains, we were greeted by a familiar place. Memories flooded back to us, as we began to reminisce on our Transition Year Gaisce experience. (However, this time we wouldn't be walking 30 kilometres!) Once we entered the hostel, our old friend, Trish welcomed us with open arms, yet there was no sign of the infamous cat! We quickly grabbed our room keys and headed for our 4 star sleeping quarters!

After a quick change, only one thing was on our mind. Yes, you've guessed it, FOOD! Yet, to say it was a bit of a disaster would be an understatement! With one, broken oven between 99 hungry girls, tempers were beginning to flare. But our hero, Trish, stepped in and saved the day (and maybe saved the year from turning to cannibalism too!)

So after calming down from our almost, near-death experience, we all were invited to a little meditation session with the teachers. We were told to bring one momentum or memory of the past that held some sort of significance in our hearts. None of us knew what to expect as we entered the dark, incense-filled room. We sat in a circle, surrounding an arch that stood upright in the centre. The teachers passed around small pieces of paper, and told us to write down our desires, wishes and hopes for the future. These represented our dreams. When a few moments had passed, we folded them up and the Religion teachers scattered them on one side of the arch. Next, we placed our item from the past on the other side of the arch. Most of us, still unsure what to expect, were beginning to realise the symbolism of this ritual. Together, we then did a small meditation, read by Ms. Jordan. We allowed ourselves to become completely at peace.





Each one of us could feel our bodies slowing down to a restful state. I still don't know how it happened, maybe it was the relaxation or being altogether, but as Ms. Jordan read out the meditation prayer, we all became very emotional. She spoke of the past, of our memories, our friendships and our time in Loreto. How we entered as unsure, frightened children and will leave confident, strong adults. She then moved on to the future. The unknown and uncertainty, but also the excitement, the wonder and surprise. A sudden realisation hit us all; our days are coming to an end in Loreto, and soon we will have to say goodbye to our second home. Sure, we complain and give out about early morning starts and teachers that pile on the homework. But Loreto is a part of all of us, and the fact that we will soon walk out of those big white doors, is a daunting thought. That was the moment we all let our emotions get the better of us, when it reality hit us that a chapter in our lives was coming to an end.

After a few tears had been shed, Mr. Gunning then invited us to pass through the arch. On one side, lay our childhood memories, our ill-looking teddy bears and dog-eared photos. On the other, lay our dreams, waiting to be discovered. This ritual had a profound effect on all of us. Reality was finally knocking at our doors, and now it was our time to answer.



Once our meditation was over, we tried not to dwell on the service that had just taken place. This would be our last, little trip together, and knowing our year group, we weren't going to sob all night into our pillows! Between the sing-songs, Ms. Whitty's hilarious game, cinnamon eating contests and making embarrassing YouTube videos, our sense of togetherness was 100% present. I could say we all bonded, but we didn't, because we are already a tight-knit group. That night, unforgettable laughter echoed through the Glendalough hostel, (much to Trish's dismay!)

The following morning, we were woken by the fresh Wicklow Mountain air (and those cursed sheep outside our windows!). We were told we would be having a small reflection beside the lake. So we all threw on our finest trackies and headed for the hills. Fr. Fegan was kind enough to take the long trip up to have this little service with us.



We took our place beside the Upper Lake in Glendalough.

The reflection cast a light on the moment in time, allowing us to reflect on ourselves and the people we strive to be in the future. The calmness and stillness of the moment stayed with us as we were then anointed with oils, and told never to forget this day.

We each then were allowed to have our own personal time to think about ourselves and our lives.

Once we had arrived back at the hostel, and gathered together, we then ventured out once again. We had decided to plant a small tree, this tree would always be a memory to all of us, yet there was a little twist. The pieces of paper where we had written our hopes and wishes would be a part of the tree too. The religion teachers had thought of an incredible idea; each of our dreams would be burned, and then the ashes of them would be buried with the tree. As the tree would grow, its roots would grow with the ashes, producing our Tree of Hope. As we walked through the beautiful hills, we came across the perfect spot. Our tree was placed in the centre as we all gathered around and watched our dreams being rooted into the ground. For me, it was a moment I will never forget in Loreto, and maybe years from now, when we all return to Glendalough some point in our lives, our tree will be strong and full of life.



For our last service in Glendalough, Fr. Fegan wanted to hold a small mass for our year group. Here, we talked about what we were grateful for, how fortunate we are to be blessed with such good lives. He talked about the future, and how we should welcome it with optimism and positivity. We may look back on our time in Loreto with happiness and joy, but we should keep an open mind to the future and take chances when they fall in our favour. Upon departing, we each received an incense candle. This candle will help each of us remember our time in Glendalough and the happiness we shared together, perhaps at a time of need, or maybe come June. But our candle, just like our tree and our memories, will never let us forget our incredible, 6th year experience in Glendalough.



I would like to thank all the Religion teachers and Fr. Fegan for their fantastic efforts in organising the trip, and of course to all the 6th years, for making it truly unforgettable.

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### **School Bank Competition**

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### **Report by Aisling Busher, 4.5**

On Friday, 9 March, the members of the school bank travelled to Leopards Town, Dublin for the 10th annual AIB **'Build a Bank' competition.**

The school bank is made up of:

Aisling Busher, manager in 4.5,

Aisling Reordan, assistant manager in 4.4,



Aoibheann Maxwell, marketing manager in 4.1,

Holly Loughman, auditor in 4.1,

Elizabeth O'Leary, teller in 4.1 and

Eimer O'Hanlon, teller in 4.1.

We left the school at half seven in the morning and arrived at the competition at half nine. We were then given breakfast where we got the opportunity to meet students from other schools. At half ten, each bank was allowed to go down stairs and set up our stands for the judges to view and to get changed into our costumes. At eleven the judges came around to each stand and asked us about our bank. We were then served lunch. At one o'clock we were invited downstairs to the seating area where the ten semi-finalists were announced. We were all delighted to find out that we were one of these.

This meant making a two minute speech on stage in front of almost two hundred and fifty people which was quite a daunting task. Although we were not chosen in the final four bank groups of the thirty to go on to the national finals, we all agreed that we had a great day and enjoyed meeting students from other schools.

## **Week beginning Tuesday, 20 March 2012**

The Students' Council will meet on Tuesday at lunchtime.

The information evening for incoming 1st year students and their parents (September 2012) will be held in the Talbot Hotel at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday.

HSE staff will administer tetanus, diphtheria and cervical cancer vaccinations in the school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Staff inservice continuing this week – SPHE, Irish and Maths.

6th year students will have oral Irish mock examinations on Friday and Saturday.

## **News update 13**

### **IrEUSO Finalist**

### **Report by Orla Sherwood 5.4**

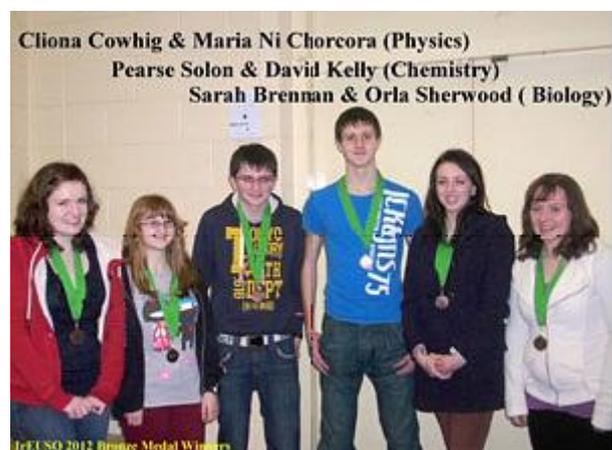
At the beginning of January 2012, I took part in an exam in **DCU**, Dublin.

In this exam I won a **Bronze** medal in my chosen area of science, Biology.

Following on from this, I took part in a two day training course in **DCU** with the other 11 participants:

4 in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

During the two days we did experiments in the labs. I did cell counts and bacterial tests for the



first day and then on the second day, we had an exam.

Only two people from each subject would be chosen for the next stage and would win the ultimate goal- a trip to Lithuania in eastern Europe (see map) to take part in the **European Science Olympiad** and to represent Ireland as part of two teams of three people.

Each of us left DCU after the tests not knowing who had been successful and would get to go on the trip or who we would or wouldn't see again.

The following day we all received an email.

Only then did I find out that I had been lucky enough to be chosen to go on the trip to Lithuania.

The competition is scheduled for the last week of April 2012 and will be for a whole week of more experiments as part of a team.

I will be with two other students one from Chemistry and one from Physics. It promises to be an exciting and brilliant experience



## News update 12

### Junk Kouture Competition

### Report by Bláithín Gallagher 4.5

For the past few months, fourth year drama students have been working on their dresses made from recycled household items. They have all used different recycled products with inspiration from strong themes such as Good Overcomes Evil and The Environment.

From the five groups that entered the Junk Kouture Competition from Loreto Wexford, all five got through to the regional final. The competition is open to all secondary school students all over Ireland.

The students will be travelling to Dublin on 18 March 2012 for the regional final.

On the Monday before this (12 March 2012) there will be public voting that will count for 10% of the overall score.

We hope that everyone in Loreto will vote to help get the five groups through to the All Ireland Final.

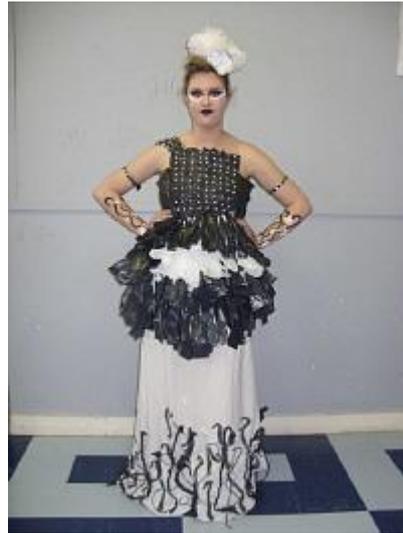
Tickets for the event are **€12.50** but if you bring along 20 batteries you will get **€5** off the price.

We would really appreciate **donations of batteries** to the school.

We wish all the students the best of luck with the rest of the competition.



Fossil Fuming



Good Overcomes Evil



Princess of China



Technologic



Voltage

## **Week beginning Monday, 12 March 2012**

The Students' Council will meet on Monday at lunchtime.

PISA testing of 3rd year students takes place in the school on Monday.

The Board of Management meets on Monday at 4.30 p.m.

76 4th year Irish students will take place in the Rith event on Tuesday aimed at promoting spoken Irish.

A staff meeting takes place after school on Wednesday. No supervised study will take place on this day.

The annual 4th year Fashion Show takes place in the school on Friday.

Friday will also be an Irish-themed no-uniform day in aid of the Lourdes pilgrimage fund.

## **Week beginning Monday, 5 March 2012**

The Students' Council will meet on Tuesday at lunchtime.

6th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Transition Year students travel to a Young Social Innovators event on Wednesday and to Dublin Zoo on Thursday.

## **Week beginning Monday, 27 February 2012**

The Students' Council will meet on Monday at lunchtime.

The Parents' Council will meet on Monday at 7.30 p.m.

The annual envelope collection for the Parents' Council - €10 per family - takes place this week culminating in a raffle at lunchtime on Friday

5th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

6th year students will be on a retreat in Glendalough on Thursday evening and all day Friday.

Inservice training for teachers continues this week in S.P.H.E.

## **News update 11**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Yr Camogie Blitz**

### **Report by Mr. Brennan**

This is the 1st year Loreto team that took part in Wexford's 1st year camogie blitz recently. The girls got to play matches against schools from all around the county with over 150 1st year girls taking part. A great day was had by all.

A big thanks has to go out to the Noel Wilson and Ailish Whitty for their organisation of the day and to Oylgate G.A.A. club for the use of their pitch at a difficult time of the year.

Also thanks to the county board for bringing the O'Duffy Cup out to for the players to see and to the 4th year students who refereed the games.

Here's looking forward to next year's blitz already.



**Transition Year Newgrange Trip  
Louise Colfer, Cassie Gleeson & Amy Hassett.**

**Report by Claire Aspel, Emily Breen,**

As part of our TY Archaeology Module we visited Newgrange in County Meath.

We were divided into two groups.

The first group went on the 31st of January and the second on the 8th of February.

We left Loreto at around 8.30am. Our first stop was Scotch Hall shopping centre in Drogheda. There we had some lunch and we looked around the shops. We left Scotch Hall at 1.30pm and headed for Newgrange. We looked around the visitors centre and watched a short film before heading up to the monument. We went into the chamber and experienced an artificial light replicating the winter solstice.

It came as a great surprise to us that the internal chamber was so small in comparison to the large exterior.

We felt that our trip to Newgrange was interesting and educational. We learnt many new facts and it gave us a great insight on how the ancient Irish people lived.



**Week beginning Monday, 20 February 2012**

We welcome everyone back to school today after the mid-term break. We now embark upon a busy six week term in the run up to Easter.

4th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

A subject inspection of S.P.H.E. will take place on Wednesday and also on Monday of next week.

The parent-teacher meeting for 4th year students takes place on Thursday from 4.15 to 6.45 p.m. Classes on this day finish at 3.18 p.m.

Inservice training for teachers continues this week in S.P.H.E.

**Week beginning Monday, 6 February 2012**

Mock examinations conclude later this week for 3rd and 6th year students.

2nd year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

The parent-teacher meeting for 1st year students takes place on Wednesday from 4.15 to 6.45 p.m. Classes on this day finish at 3.18 p.m.

Inservice training for teachers continues this week in Irish, Maths and S.P.H.E.

We wish all students and staff a very pleasant mid-term break next week.

## News update 10

### Green School Report Update

Report by Amy Hassett 4.1

Just an update on the work of the green school committee:

We are working hard at doing surveys for our next flag which is **energy**.

We were also awarded a **bird box** by the **Green-Schools** for completing the first flag.

The box will be placed in the tree above the hockey pitch, we hope to attract more birds to the school!



**Teach Mhuire 4** and **Joseph's 4** won our recycling competition last term.

We will also continue collecting batteries and ink cartridges in order to recycle them.

Thanks everyone for your continuing support!

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## Week beginning Monday, 30 January 2012

We extend our best wishes to 3rd and 6th year students who commence their mock examinations on Monday.

The Board of Management meets at 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday.

1st year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Subject choice forms are to be returned by 1st and 4th year students to Mr. O' Shea in reception between 8.15 and 8.50 a.m. on Friday.

## News update 9

### Leinster Senior A Football Shield Final

Report by Mr. Brennan

**Match Report - Loreto Wexford 3-7 Moyne Community School 1-7**

The footballers of Loreto, Wexford scored a convincing victory over their Longford opponents in this Leinster Shield Final played at Mountmellick on Thursday last, 19.1.12. Played in windy but dry conditions, Loreto had a great start as a long-range free from Julie Coakley found its way through a crowded square to the Moyne net in the first minute. Despite this dream start it was Moyne who settled better and soon found themselves in front after a point and an expertly taken goal from their full forward Michelle Farrell.



Playing with the aid of a strong wind Loreto needed to build up a first half lead and the scores soon began to come. Points from **Fiona Bennett**, **Niamh Crosbie** and **Leanne Moore** and centre-back **Niamh O’Gorman** put Loreto into a comfortable position. Two frees from Bennett also added to the tally but it was a goal from the St Anne’s sharpshooter in the 30th minute that proved to be the score of the half. Having rounded two Moyne defenders she shot from 25 yards to the top corner of the net.

This gave Loreto a 2-6 to 1-2 half time lead and they received another great boost just after half time when **Aisling Berry** worked her way into a great position to receive a pass from **Ellie Carley** before blasting to the net. This gave Loreto a cushion that they would never relinquish as despite some good play from Moyne, Loreto managed to keep their forwards at bay for most of the half. This was due to the excellent defensive work of the Loreto backs with '**player of the match**' **Shauna Murphy** controlling the full back line with great support from **Eleanor Neville** and **Ciara Corrigan**. Goalkeeper **Lill Roche** gave a great performance between the posts while the half back line of **Niamh O’Gorman**, **Laura Ross** and **Julie Coakley** provided the launch-pad for many Loreto attacks. **Roisin Kavanagh** and **Niamh Crosbie** dominated the midfield while wing forwards **Clodagh Cousins** and **Hannah Duggan** contributed greatly to the Loreto win in what was an overall great performance from the side.



After the game Loreto captain **Ellie Carley** received the shield on behalf of her team-mates and thanked them for their great efforts all year and also thanked team coaches **Paudge Brennan** and **Louise Murphy**. This result bodes very well for the future of football in the school especially as nineteen of the panel are eligible for selection again next year.



**Loreto S. S. Wexford Team Picture**



### Team Players ... Both teams

#### **Loreto S. S. Wexford:**

Lil Roche (Shelmaliers), Eleanor Neville (Shelmaliers), Shauna Murphy (Shelmaliers), Ciara Corrigan (Shelmaliers), Julie Coakley (1-0) (St. Fintan's), Niamh O'Gorman (0-01) (Taghmon-Camross), Laura Ross (St. Fintan's), Roisin Kavanagh (St. Anne's), Niamh Crosbie (0-01) (St. Anne's), Clodagh Cousins (Kilmore), Ellie Carley (c) (Shelmaliers), Hannah Duggan (Shelmaliers),

Aisling Berry (1-0) (Blackwater), Leanne Moore (0-01) (St. Anne's), Fiona Bennett (1-4) (St. Anne's) **Subs:** Áine Wright (Blackwater) for Cousins, Elsa McDermott (St. Martin's) for Coakley, Martha Rochford (St. Anne's) for Duggan, Chloe Whitty (Taghmon-Camross) for Berry, Aisling Kavanagh (St. Anne's) for Corrigan, Lisa Firman (St. Martin's), Megan Smith (Shelmaliers), Rebecca Stafford (St. Anne's)

#### **Moyne C. S. Longford:**

Amy Faughan, Emma Bleakley, Jessica Healy, Áine Martin, Ciara Keogh, Eleanor Columb, Aedin Mimmagh, Niamh Halton, Michelle Masterson, Sinead Hughes, Gráinne Reilly, Catriona Farrelly, Donna Masterson, Michelle Farrell, Emer Heaney **Subs:** Laura Bleakley, Sabrina Ellis, Lorraine Farrelly, Cailin Sheridan, Chloe Connell, Lorraine Heslin, Laura Healy, Leanna Keane.

### **Loreto Team Group Picture ... Post Match ... With Trophy**



## **Week beginning Monday, 23 January 2012**

Subject choice talks for parents take place on Monday in the Concert Hall – 5.30 p.m. for 1st year parents and 6.30 p.m. for 4th year parents

2nd year parent-teacher meeting takes place on Tuesday, 4.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. Classes on this day finish at 3.18 p.m.

Subject choice talks for 4th year students take place on Wednesday in the Concert Hall from 8.50 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

3rd year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Inservice training for teachers of SPHE takes place in the school on Thursday

## **Week beginning Monday, 16 January 2012**

Parents' Council meeting – 7.30 p.m. on Monday.

All Meitheal leaders receive their certificates of achievement at a special event in the Riverbank Hotel at 3.00 p.m. on Tuesday.

6th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Good luck to our senior footballers in the Leinster B final on Thursday.

## **Week beginning Monday, 9 January 2012**

We wish all members of the Loreto school community a very happy, healthy and peaceful 2012.

Classes resume on Monday after the Christmas holiday.

School-based inservice training for teachers involved in Relationships and Sexuality Education

(RSE) takes place on Tuesday.

5th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

A staff meeting takes place after school on Thursday. Supervised study will not be held on this day.

## **Week beginning Monday, 19 December 2011**

Christmas week in Loreto.....

The Transition Year Trade Fair takes place in the concert hall on Monday

The annual 6th year Show takes place in the concert hall on Tuesday with all proceeds being donated to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The annual Carol Service takes place on Wednesday in Rowe Street church – lunch on this day will be from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m.

Mr. Murphy's annual Table Quiz will be the highlight on Thursday morning

The school closes for the Christmas holidays on Thursday and will re-open on Monday, 9 January 2012.

We wish all members of the Loreto school community a very happy Christmas and a joyous New Year.

## **Week beginning Monday, 12 December 2011**

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

The Parents' Council meets in the school at 7.30 p.m. on Monday.

3rd year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

5th and 6th year Japanese students travel to Dublin for the showing of a Japanese film on Wednesday.

Congratulations to our 9 students who will travel to TCD on Thursday to be presented with their Silver Gaisce Awards.

## **Week beginning Monday, 5 December 2011**

Good luck is extended to our players involved in junior and senior basketball finals taking place in Waterford on Monday.

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

Subject department meetings take place after school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Evening study will not be held on these days.

6th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

All 4th year students will make their annual trip to Dublin on Friday.

Also in Dublin on Friday will be 39 higher level Irish students taking part in UCD's Scoil na Gaeilge.

## News update 8

### LITERACY AWARENESS DAY ☺

### Report by the 4<sup>th</sup> Years ...

On Literacy Awareness Day on 28 October 2011, Clare Kelly from Wexford Library visited us in the school. She set up giant banners and a table with a nice collection of books from the local library.

Many students visited the well-displayed table she and the fourth years set up in the foyer.

Students who signed up for membership have access to books in every library in County Wexford.  
Many thanks to Clare for visiting us!



Posters were made to advertise and raise awareness of the day.

Ms Byrne's and Ms Lordan's second year classes made colourful posters encouraging people to read more. These were displayed around the school. Thanks to these classes and their teachers for their help.

There were also posters displayed around the school to remind us of grammar and punctuation rules, displaying full stops, commas and the like. There were word competitions in the foyer for the day.

Crosswords and other word games were available.

Congratulations to Jade Byrne-Kehoe (1.1) who won the Word Scramble and Eithne Nolan (3.3) who won 'Guess the Author'. Each girl received a book token as their prize.

A group of fourth years prepared a power point for Literacy Awareness Day. Included in the power point were quotes from famous books followed by a picture of the book and its author. The PowerPoint played throughout the day in the foyer and many students stopped to look at it. We would like to thank Mr. Kilbride for all his help and patience while preparing the PowerPoint.

A survey was conducted amongst all students and teachers. The survey consisted of everyone being asked to write down their favourite book of all time. The top three voted were the:

- (1) 'Harry Potter' series by JK Rowling,
- (2) 'Twilight' series by Stephanie Meyer and
- (3) 'The Inner Place' written by our very own Mr. Tom Gunning!

Many thanks to all those who contributed to this enjoyable day!

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## Mass of Remembrance:

Fr. Jim Fegan celebrated Mass in the Concert Hall on Thursday, 24 November 2011 in memory of all our loved ones who have passed away.

During the month of November students and teachers recorded the names of their loved ones in the Book of Remembrance in the foyer.

This book was displayed on the altar during Mass. The Mass was well attended by both teachers and students.

Fr. Jim will celebrate Mass every Thursday during Advent at 1.11pm in the Oratory.

All are welcome to attend.



Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord

and may perpetual light

shine upon them forever.



## Week beginning Monday, 28 November 2011

Good luck to all students who continue with class tests for Christmas this week.

This week's big event, in co-operation with the students and staff of St. Peter's College, is our school musical, "Grease", in the Dún Mhuire Theatre at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Tickets are still on sale in the school and at the box office on the night.

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

Students in 4.1 and 4.4 travel to Dublin on Tuesday.

1st year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

## Week beginning Monday, 21 November 2011

Good luck to all students who will be sitting class tests over the next week or so.

Tickets will be on sale this week for the forthcoming school production of "Grease" on 29/30 November and 1 December.

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

4th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

## News update 7

### Basket-ball Report

-

### Report from Ms. Kennedy

**Loreto Vs Holy Faith, Rosbercon (New Ross) 2011**

-

**Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

In the week before the first mid-term, the Loreto basketball U16 and U19 teams had three matches against the Holy Faith. These three took place all day, with the luckily bright, sunny, yet a little cold, winter weather.

The girls worked hard training for these matches and produced very good games, to play and to

watch.

### U16s



### Loreto (Yellow Strip) Vs Holy Faith - Rosbercon (Black Strip)



### U16 – Supporters



### Triumphant U16s



The under 16s commenced their match at 11 o'clock. Throughout the game they had a visible lead on their opponents, which led them to a smooth victory of 27 to 8 points.

### U19s

The under 19s senior A team entered the court at 12 o'clock and were well prepared for their opponents. They held a very good yet hard game. They won their match 30 to 7, despite their few injuries along the way.

#### Victorious Senior 'As'



#### U19s Practising



The under 19s senior B team played their match at 1 o'clock and put up a very good game but lost 11 to 26. While their games were played, they gathered a class of fourth year supporters and then a big group of first years after their P.E class, who cheered the girls on.

### U.19 Supporters



**Mid Game Photos** -

**Senior Bs – Mid-game**

**Senior As – Mid-game**

**Senior Bs – Post game**



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**Hockey News** -

**Report from Ms. Kinsella**

**Irish Hockey Trials**

Three students from Loreto have been chosen to take part in hockey trials for the chance to represent their country.

Aisling Cronin was chosen to take part in the U.16 trials while Marie Claire Morrissey and Ruth Bowe were chosen to take part in the U.18 trials.

The students will attend a series of trials in Dublin before the squad is chosen.

The girls were chosen from the Interprovincial tournament in which they represented the South East team in October 2011 in Belfast.



## Swimming news - Report from Ms. Kinsella

### Loreto Swimming Gala

Ten students travelled to the National Swimming Arena in Dublin on Friday, 11 November to take part in the annual Loreto Swimming Gala.



The girls who mainly consisted of 1st and 2nd years were competing against students from the other 17 Loreto schools in Ireland.

Georgina Steel in 1st year was the first to win a medal when she finished 2nd in the U.14 50m Back Stroke narrowly missing out on the gold.



Coleen Nolan in 5th year finished in 3rd place being pipped for 2nd in the Over 16's Breast Stroke

Tara Doyle in 2nd year also reached the final of the U.16 Back Stroke.

Other competitors were Aisling Feeney, Jean Dwyer, Emma McKegey, Egle Maturaitė, all 1st year, and Georgia Keane, Lucy Proctor and Aisling Lyons, all from 2nd year.

## **Week beginning Monday, 14 November 2011**

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday. Members of the council are leading "Random Acts of Kindness Week" that will run all week.

Ms. Fallon (Guidance Counsellor) will be presenting a talk for 6th year parents/guardians on the CAO System at 6.00 p.m. on Monday in the school's concert hall.

5th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

The Board of Management meets at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday.

The school's Student Care Co-ordination team has organised a seminar for the parents/guardians of 5th and 6th year students on the topic of "Supporting Your Daughter through the Leaving Certificate". It will be held on Wednesday in the Ferrycarrig Hotel from 8.00 to 9.30 p.m. and will be facilitated by Peadar Maxwell (Registered Psychologist).

The 5th year parent-teacher meeting takes place on Thursday from 4.15 to 6.45 p.m. Classes will finish at 3.18 p.m. on this day.

Tickets will be on sale this week for the forthcoming school production of "Grease" on 29/30 November and 1 December.

A self-management workshop for Leaving Certificate students will be held in the Ferrycarrig Hotel on Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Organised by the school's Student Care Co-ordination team and facilitated by Peadar Maxwell (Registered Psychologist), this workshop is a practical way for students to learn about stress and how to prevent/manage it.

## **News Update 6**

**Student Computer Learning Progress - Report from Ms. Maddock**

### **Re – 4<sup>th</sup> Year Computer Class – 5 groups**

Update re the computer exam program ECDL – Version 5 –

The *European Computer Driving Licence* ... for 4<sup>th</sup> year – Transition Year students.

*Background Information ...*



The **European Computer Driving Licence** is an internationally recognised qualification which covers the key concepts of computing.

It is designed specifically for those who wish to gain a benchmark qualification in computing to enable them to develop their IT skills and enhance their career prospects.

No prior knowledge of IT or computer skills is needed to study this course.

It is broken down into seven modules, each of which must be passed before a certificate is awarded. Students must achieve a minimum passing score of 75%.

Here, in Loreto, the modules are taken in order.

With dedication, all are expected to qualify by the end of May 2012.

Ms Maddock is very pleased to report the excellent progress of the current 4<sup>th</sup> Year students.

Over 98% of the 118 candidates have successfully passed their first and second ECDL modules, namely:

Module 1 ... **Basic Concepts of IT** ... AND ... Module 2 ... **File Management**



Regarding the typing element of their course, most are well on the way to becoming *true 'touch typists'*.

By year-end, it is expected that students will have reached the following minimum level ... 30 wpm, with an accuracy of 95%.



Already, a number of students are fully finished their complete typing course .. 7 months ahead of schedule.

Most impressive ... Maith Thú ...

We are currently training for ECDL Module 3 – the Word Processing exam ... The students will be tested using MS Word 2007. The aim is to have Module 3 completed by the Christmas break 2011.

### **Re – 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Computer Class – 26 students**

As always the oversubscribed class of 26 students are doing great work ... learning the basics (typing & computer operation) and developing their IT skill levels with various software programs, ...

namely ...

MS Word	-	Poster
MS Excel	-	Timetable
MS Publisher	-	Calendar / Cards



Expect some lovely *creations* for Christmas !!!

Their creations are quite impressive & individual to each student.

2<sup>nd</sup> year students are progressing well with their typing studies ... Speed & accuracy scores are showing significant improvements. Most are approaching or beyond *15 wpm* – words per minute.

I expect at least half to fully finish the typing course by year end.

### **Re – OTHER students who use TM1 Computer Room**

As always, students from any year are most welcome in TM1 computer room, when space / timetable allows.

Normally the room is open to students each morning by 08.15 hrs – once the pcs have been *booted* (turned on) and no updates are needed.

The room is also available most afternoons after school (~1 hr), when the computer teacher is present working in the room to supervise / advise / help.

If interested, students should see the computer teacher ... Ms. Maddock ... based in TM1 room,

at any of the breaks to find out more information.

## **Week beginning Monday, 7 November 2011**

We welcome everyone back to school after the mid-term break and hope that the six and a half week term to Christmas goes well for all.

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

4th year Art students travel to Dublin on Tuesday.

2nd year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Good luck to all students taking part in the Loreto Swimming Gala on Friday.

## **News Update 5**

### **1st Year Retreat at Ballyvaloo**

#### **Report by first years ... Egle Matuzaitė & Julie Ann Malone**

We had our first year retreat at Ballyvaloo Curacloe at the end of September.

To start the day off, we had a talk with Fr. Jim. During this talk we watched a clip from **Toy Story**. In this clip we learnt about friendship and teamwork.

We then went with our teacher to meditate. We went to a prayer room where our teacher played peaceful music while reading a passage from a book to help us relax.

After meditating, the **Meitheal** leaders arrived to take us to the beach for some activities. At the beach we played games and did an exercise on teamwork. Once we got back from the beach we had some lunch.

After lunch, Sr. Carmel came to teach us the values of **Mary Ward**. We also split into groups where we each acted out a drama on a certain topic. We also learned many new things about Loreto. Ms. Young then came in and explained to us about the support structures in Loreto.

Once Ms. Young left, Fr. Jim came in and helped us to organise our own Mass. We were split into groups again and given certain jobs to do throughout the Mass, such as the Choir Group, Readings and Offertory.

Once we celebrated Mass, the Meitheal leaders came back and gave us friendship bracelets. It was a great day and everyone really enjoyed it.

We are all very grateful for the effort put in to organising the retreats for us.

Thank you!

## **Week beginning Monday, 24 October 2011**

The French Department is hosting "French Week" in the school with a variety of events organised from culinary to film.

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

The 3rd year parent-teacher meeting takes place on Wednesday from 4.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. Classes on this day will conclude at 3.18 p.m.

3rd year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Literacy Awareness Day takes place in the school on Thursday.

We say farewell on Friday to Ms. O' Connor who leaves us to take up the position of Deputy Principal in Kilmuckridge Vocational College. We thank her for her great contribution to teaching, learning and life in Loreto and wish her well in her new post.

The school closes on Friday evening for the mid-term break and will re-open on Monday, 7 November.

## **News Update 4**

**South East Hockey Team  
Kinsella**

**Report by Ms. E.**

Seven students have been chosen from Loreto Wexford to represent the South East in the Interprovincial Hockey Tournament. The tournament will take place in Belfast on the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd of October 2011.

The students, who have been chosen from the schools in the south east, will play a round robin tournament against Ulster, Leinster, Munster and Connaught.

The Loreto students are Katie O'Connor, Ellen Barrett, Anna Corcoran and Aisling Cronin (chosen for the U.16 team) and Ruth Bowe, Marie-Claire Morrissey (Vice Captain) and Jane Barrett (chosen for the U.18 team).

The U.18 team is also coached by Ms. E. Kinsella.

**Back left to right:**

Anna Corcoran, Aisling Cronin, Ellen Barrett, Katie O'Connor, Marie-Claire Morrissey

**Front left to right:** Jane Barrett, Ruth Bowe



## **Week beginning Monday, 17 October 2011**

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

The 6th year parent-teacher meeting takes place on Tuesday from 4.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.

6th year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

5th and 6th year Art students will travel on the annual art trip to Dublin on Friday.

## **News Update 3**

### **Beginning of Year Mass 2011 Report by Ms. Michelle Jordan**

The Beginning of Year Mass was celebrated in Rowe Street Church by our school chaplain Fr. Jim Fegan on Tuesday 27th September. The theme of our Mass was 'Fulfilling Our Potential'. As usual, the first years played a very important role in this celebration as they were welcomed into our school community. Our Head Girl Róna O'Connell and Deputy Head Girl Andrea Rath emphasised this welcome in their opening address and offered encouragement to each year group. Sr. Carmel delivered an inspirational homily while the school choir and musicians provided the beautiful singing and music accompanied by Ms Walton.

A particular highlight of the mass was the school choir's rendition of 'Hail Holy Queen of Mercy' from 'Sister Act', which was enthusiastically conducted by Fr. Jim and had the entire congregation clapping along. The first year prefects and sixth year representatives took part in a meaningful Communion Reflection. Four candles representing our potential, friendship, wisdom and the Mary Ward values were held by the prefects and lit by the sixth years. This conveyed the sixth years' understanding of their responsibility to pass on these values to our new first years so that they may be happy and successful and fully embrace all that Loreto has to offer.

It is this idea of passing on important lessons and values to each other that lies at the heart of our school ethos.

After the Mass, Mr. O'Shea presented prefects, vice-prefects, student council members, Meitheal leaders, Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl with their badges and thanked them for their invaluable contribution to school life.

We wish all these students the best of luck in their work in the year ahead and thank sincerely all those who participated in the mass this year.

**Selection of Photos from the Mass below**





## **Week beginning Monday, 10 October 2011**

The Parents' Association A.G.M. takes place in the school at 7.30 p.m. on Monday, preceded at 6.45 p.m. by a meeting of voluntary adult supervisors.

The Students' Council meets at 1.30 p.m. on Monday.

1st year assembly – Wednesday, 10.00 a.m.

Other meetings this week:

Board of Management – Wednesday, 4.30 p.m.

Staff meeting – Thursday, 3.45 p.m. to 5.45 p.m. (no supervised study this evening)

## **News Update 2**

### **SPORTS REPORT - HOCKEY by Ms. Kinsella**

#### **Matches V St Leo's, Carlow**

#### **Inter A Loreto Wexford 0 St Leo's 0**

Three Hockey teams travelled to Carlow on Wednesday 5th October to play St. Leo's in the Leagues. The Inter A team were the 1st team to play. The team did really well with 3 players making their debut on the Hockey pitch! Claire Heffernan made some great saves in goal and Zoe Zimmerman made sure she cleared the ball out to the midfield.

The match was full of chances for both teams but unfortunately the teams remained level at full time.

#### **Team:**

Claire Heffernan, Zoe Zimmerman, Niamh Harper, Maebh Crosbie, Ruth Sinnott, Liadh Conway, Mairéad Walsh, Aoife Ferguson, Aisling Busher, Holly Loughman, Gemma Ferris.

#### **Senior B Loreto Wexford 1 St Leo's 2**

The Senior B's kicked off their League campaign against St Leo's also. The teams were very evenly matched with both teams sharing possession and a lot of the play revolving around the midfield. Leo's took their chance when the ball took a luck hop over the a Loreto defenders

stick to fall in the pathway of a Carlow forward to slot into the goal.

Loreto came back in the beginning of the 2nd half with an excellent strike from Lisa Firman.

Unfortunately Leo's were to score one more goal before the match finished against the run of play.

**Team:**

Julie Rossiter, Shauna Creane, Rebecca Frayne, Orla Sherwood, Heather Mullins, Hannah Miller, Maeve Lambert, Eimear Doyle, Emma Glynn, Katie Wilson, Laura Bernard, Lisa Firman.

**Minor A Loreto Wexford 1 St Leo's 1**

The 2nd year team had to contend with tough conditions for their match as the rain began to pour at the beginning of their match. Loreto controlled this match from the start with multiple shots being saved by the Leo's keeper. Loreto continued to put the pressure on until Aoife O'Keeffe finally hit the back board. St Leo's managed to gain a goal back at the end of the first half. Loreto continued to attack the Leo's defence with some narrow misses but unfortunately luck was not on their side for a 2nd goal.

**Team:**

Sadhbh Whitty, Eimear Buckley, Laura Bruen, Sorcha Foley, Lauren Carty, Mary Carroll, Aoife O'Keeffe, Claire Sinnott, Rachel Cantwell, Lauren Swan, Rebecca Popplewell, Aisling Lyons, Grace Kelly, Anna Collyer.

**Week beginning Monday, 3 October 2011**

All 1st year parents are invited to a talk in the Talbot Hotel at 7.00 p.m. on Monday in connection with the settling-in process for their daughters as well as an input by John Collins on internet safety for young people.

The 2.2 CSPE class travels to Dublin on Tuesday.

29 Transition Year students will attend a camogie refereeing course in the school on Tuesday.

This Wednesday's assembly is for Transition Year students.

A department inspector will visit the school on Friday to conduct a Music subject inspection.

# News Update 1

## CSPE 3.3. class

The CSPE class of 3.3 had a cake sale on 13 September 2011 to raise money for an organisation called "Friends of Wexford General Hospital". This organisation fundraises to improve services in Wexford general hospital so that local people don't have to travel to bigger cities for treatment.

To date, this organisation has helped fund for a new cancer unit, an ultrasound machine for the maternity ward and a top of the range CAT scanner.

Our class wanted to learn about development in Wexford, especially in our hospital, as it affects so many of us. So, we asked Liam Dwyer of South East Radio who set up "Friends of Wexford General Hospital" to tell us more about what they do.

After this talk we decided we wanted to help so that is why we had our cake sale.



In total we raised about €200. This is in addition to the €100 that we raised last year.

We hope that this money will help to provide a better environment in our local hospital.

## **Week beginning Monday, 26 September 2011**

The start-of-year school mass will be celebrated by our chaplain, Fr. Jim Fegan, in Rowe Street

Church on Tuesday. Lunch hour will be from 12.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. and evening study will proceed as normal. Students will be escorted to and from Rowe Street Church by their class teachers.

An assembly for 5th year students will be held on Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.

The annual sports afternoon will be held on Friday.

## **Week beginning Monday, 19 September 2011**

We welcome the 14 students and 2 teachers from St. Ursula's School, Villingen in Germany who join us this week as part of the exchange programme between our schools that is now in its second year. The German students will attend classes in Loreto as well as undertaking several trips during the week e.g. Ploughing Championship, Dublin, Hook Head/Dunbrody. We thank all host families for their hospitality.

Cervical cancer vaccinations will be administered by the HSE to 1st and 6th year students in the school this week.

All 1st year students will attend a one day Retreat in Ballyvaloo this week as part of their Religious Education programme in the school.

4th year students head off on Tuesday to the Ploughing Championships.

The school musical this year will be "Grease", a joint-production with the staff and students of St. Peter's College. Auditions continue on Thursday in St. Peter's.

The following prefects and vice-prefects have been elected to serve for the year:

### **Prefects/Vice-Prefects 2011/2012**

	<b>Class Teacher</b>	<b>Prefect</b>	<b>Vice-Prefect</b>
1.1	Ms. Wilson (English)	Joanne Colfer	Clíodhna Cotter
1.2	Ms. Byrne (Business)	Laoise Gately	Eimear Gallagher
1.3	Mr. Murphy (Business)	Kate Miller	Muireann Ni Chorcóra
1.4	Ms. Kinsella (French and German)	Ciara O' Reardon	Lucy Purcell
2.1	Ms. O' Connor (Irish)	Michelle Fox	Claire Sinnott
2.2	Ms. O' Reilly (Irish)	Mary Cleary	Amy Wheeler
2.3	Ms. Shannon (Irish)	Laura Bruen	Lisa O' Brien
2.4	Ms. de Róiste (Irish)	Leanne Corrigan	Emily Hore
2.5	Ms. Ní Thuairisg (Irish)	Kate Stafford	Carolyn McMorrow
3.1	Ms. Riordan (Maths)	Emma Bursnell Mooney	Lorna Murphy
3.2	Ms. McDonald (Maths)	Eryka McGuire	Shauna Corrigan
3.3	Ms. Oliver (Maths)	Michelle Rowe	Aoife Corkery
3.4	Ms. L.M. Murphy (Maths)	Molly Relihan	Niamh Healy Malone
3.5	Ms. Curran (Maths)	Lauren O' Connell	Abigail Holden
4.1	Ms. Cotter (Science)	Alanna Griffin	Elizabeth O' Leary

4.2	Ms. L. Murphy (Science)	Eimear Murphy	Laura Bernard
4.3	Mr. Kilbride (Science)	Aislinn Dempsey	Niamh Harpur
4.4	Mr. Kavanagh (Music)	Shannon Smythe	Aisling Reardon
4.5	Ms. O' Farrell (Home Economics)	Eva Farrell	Aisling Busher
5.1	Ms. O' Gorman (Biology)	Shauna Nic Aogain	Danielle Kehoe
5.2	Ms. Griffin (Home Economics)	Aisling Kelly	Katie Lillis
5.3	Ms. Walton (Music)	Marie Claire Morrissey	Elaine Mernagh
5.4	Ms. Zimmermann ( French)	Eve Corcoran	Ali Murphy
5.5	Ms. Forde (Economics)	Ciara Daly	Jenny Ryan
5.6	Mr. Cummins (Geography)	Fiona Bennett	Emma Glynn
6.1	Mr. Gunning (Religion)	Chloe Beale	Amy Devereux
6.2	Ms. L. Jordan (Religion)	Emily Jones	Ruth Hannon
6.3	Ms. E. Kinsella (Religion)	Roisin Moran	Ciara Moran
6.4	Ms. O' Donoghue (Religion)	Gemma Rothwell	Megan Redmond

## **Week beginning Monday, 12 September 2011**

The Parents' Council meets at 7.00pm on Monday.

All 4th year students will attend their annual Orientation day in the Rugby Club on Tuesday accompanied by Ms. Kinsella and Ms. Kennedy.

Good luck to all 119 students who will receive their Junior Cert. results in the school on Wednesday morning.

A meeting of host families for the German exchange takes place in the school at 5.30pm on Wednesday, facilitated by Ms. Oliver.

The first meeting of the new Students' Council will take place in St. Raphael's 2 at 1.40pm on Thursday.

The School Development Planning (SDP) group begins its meetings at 1.30pm on Friday and will meet weekly thereafter. Made up of staff, parent and student representatives, this group carries on the work of school self-evaluation and ongoing policy review/development.

14 students and 2 teachers from St. Ursula's school in Villingen, Germany arrive to begin their week-long stay on Sunday.

## **Week beginning Monday, 5 September 2011**

All 4th year students and their parents are invited to a start-of-year Information Meeting on Transition Year to be held in the Talbot Hotel beginning at 6.00pm on Monday.

Planning meetings continue this week for the German exchange that takes place from 18 to 25 September.

Elections to the Students' Council will take place this week.