

ZODIAC

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November / December 2015

EDITORIAL

We wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and hope that everybody has a very nice holiday. Many thanks to TYB pupil, Conor Harkin, who did a lot of work on this edition of ZODIAC during his work experience in the library.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, 11th December	School Draw in the Canteen at 1.10pm Subscriptions accepted until 11am on Friday!
Wednesday, 16th	J.C.S.P. Christmas Celebration
Friday, 18th	Trip to Manchester United.
Tuesday, 22nd	"Christmas Jersey Day" Subscription : €2 for School Funds.
Tuesday, 22nd Holidays.	School closes at 12.30. for Christmas
Tuesday, 22nd	Annual Christmas Dinner in the Canteen for Staff, Student Council and Board of Management.
Wednesday, 6th January	School re-opens.
Thursday, 14th	First Year Parent / Teacher Meeting.
Tuesday, 26th	"OPEN NIGHT"

SCHOOL BLAZERS

There are a limited number of School Blazers available to buy before the Christmas Holidays - price: €45. Call to the Office at any time.

FASHION SHOW

The School is organising a fund raising fashion show in the Aras on Friday, 15th April. This Show which will be advertised as "SHOWCASE DONEGAL FASHION" is going to be unique as all the clothes will be made in Donegal. Anybody who sews, knits, does embroidery, makes headpieces or shoes and who would like to part of this show should get in touch with the school as soon as possible. Some internationally known designers have already agreed to have their garments modelled. More details in the next issue of Zodiac - so start knitting and sewing now!!

Success for CCS Pupils in Credit Union Art Competition

The Irish League of Credit Unions and its 469 affiliated credit unions have launched the annual All-Ireland Art Competition. The competition, which is one of the biggest competitions for children and adults alike, has been running for 31 years is open to entrants of all ages. This year's theme 'Happiness is...' was open to interpretation by each entrant. The competition is about encouraging and rewarding self-expression, creativity and imagination among young artists throughout Ireland. Competition entrants are free to express their creativity using a wide variety of media. There are two categories - General and Special - with five age groups in each.

Congratulations to the winners of Stage 1 Credit Union Level (14-17 Years): Teresa Blanc Vazquez (1st) and Maria Moreno (3rd)...(14-17 years): Leanne Kelly (1st), Keelan Doherty (2nd)...(18+ years): Sarah Brophy (1st)

Local winners at credit union level in each category go forward to Regional Finals. Winning entries from regional level go through to the National Final. Prizes will be awarded at each

stage and a National Awards Ceremony will be held in February 2016 and will be hosted by TV personality Marty Whelan.

LCA NEWS

Year 1

There are 17 students in year 1 of LCA programme. So far this year students have completed their two week work experience and are busy completing key assignments and task work for the end of session 1.

Year 2

Year 2 students have just returned to school from their two week work experience. The boys are currently completing the following tasks for end of session 3: contemporary issues, practical achievement and engineering.

The LCA teaching team and both groups of students would like to thank all the local employers who helped make work experience a great experience.

LCA Recreational Area

As part of the DEIS initiative, both Year 1 and Year 2 LCA groups are busy working away to kit out the LCA Rec Room in Unit 5. The aim is to create a facility that both LCA groups can use to work and relax. Many thanks to DEIS funding and also for the support and advice of the caretakers, Shaun & Eddie.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Congratulations to the 3B shoebox appeal group and to 2E who organised a Christmas shoebox appeal collection within the school. We have been working hard since September to organise this project - from poster competitions, to talking about the refugee crisis, to wrapping shoeboxes to send away. We would like to thank Mr. Bogan and Ms. Mc Laughlin and all the teachers who have helped us, and to everyone who brought in shoeboxes and sponsored them. As a school, we collected 65 shoeboxes for the charity Team Hope, who will deliver them to children who are victims of war, disease and poverty. By helping us, you have been helping these children by giving them a happy Christmas.

Caití Farren 3B

Science Week Quiz Winners

All second year students took part in a quiz for Science Week. The final was won by Adam McFeely, Liam Doherty and Conor Noone. Deirdre Brennan, Dara Mc Laughlin, Jacklyn Duffy and Conor Doherty were runners-up. Congratulations to all winners.

Maths Week Quiz Winners

During Maths Week, a school-wide quiz was held and pupils from all year groups were invited to answer five maths questions. Pupils who answered all five questions correctly were entered in a draw. The lucky five were Dean Grant 2B, Cade Cooke 4A, Shaun Hirrell 3F, Patrick McKenna 5E and Emma McCloskey 1C. Also in the photo are Deputy Principal Owen McConway and Ms.

Sharon Coyle. Thanks to the Maths teachers for their help, and thanks also to all the pupils who entered.

CCS Trio Awarded UCD Entrance Scholarships

Congratulations to Paddy Doherty, Bríd Harkin and Bronach McClean, who were recently awarded entrance scholarships at University College Dublin.

Rachel McLaughlin Awarded NUIG Excellence Scholarship

Past-pupil Rachel McLaughlin was recently awarded an NUIG Excellence Scholarship and also received €1,500 in recognition of her exceptional results in the 2015 Leaving Cert. Excellence Scholarships are presented to NUI Galway pupils who achieve a minimum of 560 points in the Leaving Cert. President of NUI Galway, Dr Jim Browne, said: "NUI Galway constantly strives to support and promote academic excellence across all disciplines. The purpose of these Awards is to encourage each student to develop his/her academic potential to the fullest, by setting a realistic threshold of excellence and rewarding every student who attains that level. It is also a chance to give due credit to their parents and teachers for their important contribution to such success." Deputy Principal John McGuinness was also present at the ceremony. The staff at CCS would like to congratulate Rachel for her superb academic achievements to date, and wish her all the best going forward.

Inishowen Rugby Club Helps New Gym Push Forward...

Carndonagh Community School would like to thank Inishowen Rugby Club for their very kind contribution to the refurbishment of the gym facilities in the school. At the beginning of November, IRFC committee members Anne Scott and Mick McGarry presented a €500 cheque to Principal Paul Fiorentini. Also present was Brian McNally who was representing both the school and the Rugby Club.

Transition Year News

October kicked off with an informative presentation on the Bronze Gaisce Award by Mr Niall McGee. The 3 components of the Gaisce challenge were clearly explained to the TYs. In relation to the Adventure Journey, pupils have a choice between a stage of the Camino walk in Spain or camping on an island in Co. Fermanagh. If pupils run into difficulties with any aspect of the Gaisce challenge they should speak to Mr McGee or their class teacher a.s.a.p. We are there to help.

Thanks to Sarah Monagle TYA, Kim McCloskey TYA, Kate Gallagher TYC, Emily O'Brien TYC and Paula McElhinney TYD who were a great help to Ms. Lafferty in organising the Coffee Morning for 1st Year Parents.

On Wednesday 21st October the TYs enjoyed a presentation on the AIB Build a Bank Challenge by Tracy and Mark Crawford. The pupils were given fantastic tips on how to write a C.V. and

how to succeed at an interview. Interested pupils applied for and were interviewed for the various positions. The successful applicants were; Manager - Tara Kelly, Assistant Manager - Paula McElhinney; Sales & Marketing Executive - Emily O'Brien; Customer Service - Representative - Aishling McKinney; Financial Controller - Geraldine Brennan & Digital Officer - Oisín Bowyer. The school bank will operate at lunchtimes on Thursdays in the Technology Open Area. Thanks to Mr Humphries and Ms. Diver for initiating the process.

They say that it's good for some. Well, on Wed 21st Oct it was good for TYA who wrapped up warm and set off for the Urris Hills on their Geography Field Trip with Mr Dessie Doherty (surely that man can't be 60?!)

The following TYs spent two fabulous sun and fun filled weeks in St. Louis, Missouri on the US Exchange: Natasha Cunningham and Rebecca McCarron TYB, Oisín Bowyer, Eilís Doherty, Michaela Donaghy and PJ Walker TYC, and Shannon McKinley and Holly Moore TYD. The rest of us were green with envy! Apparently there is a great view of the tower at Malin Head from the top of the St. Louis Arch. Who knew?! We heard that Mr Spencer had to pay extra for the flight home...that's those generous American helpings for you!

Mr Colm Doherty is busy working with the TYs on the International School for Peace Studies cross border history project to commemorate both the centenary of the 1916 Rising and the Battle of the Somme. There is a huge amount of active learning going on and we can't wait to see the finished product! Mr Danny O'Donnell's Irish class is also at the planning stage of a project on the 1916 Rising. The findings will be displayed in the

Maths Building and there will be a permanent commemorative mural in a key location in the school, yet to be decided. Well done to Niamh Grant, Aoife Hands and Darren Donaghy TYC on the powerful mural they painted in Mr Peter White's room - 'Labels are for bottles, not for people.'

Congratulations to Teresa Blanc Vasquez TYD and Maria Moreno TYB who represented Buncrana Credit Union in Stage 1 of the Irish League of Credit Unions annual All-Ireland Art Competition. This year's theme 'Happiness is...' was open to interpretation by each entrant. I would guess that for Teresa happiness is winning 1st Prize and that for Maria, happiness is winning 3rd Prize! There was me thinking that they only came to Ireland for the sunshine! Move over Picasso...there are new kids on the block! All five of our TY Spanish pupils are going home for Christmas. Sadly, for us, Elena and Maria Moreno, Ana Noya and Teresa Blanc Vasquez will not be coming back to CCS after the holidays. We will all have to make sure that Angel is well looked after in the New Year. We wish them all ¡Feliz Navidad e ¡Feliz Año Nuevo! Keep in touch, niñas!

On Tuesday 10th Nov the TYs enjoyed a presentation by Mr Charlie McCarron on Wild Atlantic Way awareness. Charlie, a Masters student in the LYIT will be launching a competition for the TYs in Inishowen in the New Year, as part of his research. To assist them, the pupils will be given training by mentors from the LYIT. More on this later!

The TYs' first residential lasted from Wed 11th Nov until Fri 13th Nov. Activities included canoeing, banana boating, wall-climbing, archery, tag laser, mountain biking, bush craft, fussball...to say nothing of dish washing, table setting and

hoovering!!! Apparently Simon Cowell has got wind of a talented dancer from House 8 who was showing her dance moves to a mesmerised audience (including teachers on their last patrol in the wee hours of the morning, thinking that all the wee lambs were fast asleep. WRONG!!) Isn't that right Aoife Hands?! One would have thought that they would be still exhausted after SHARE, but no! A large party of TYs set off with Mr Humphries, Mr Havlin and Mr Collins (CCS never sees that man!) on Mon 16th Nov to see the Ireland v Bosnia match. What a spectacle! What an atmosphere!

On Thurs 19th Nov all the TYBs along with Orla Cox, Chloé Kemmy, Shannon McKinley, Maria Farren, Holly Moore, Aishling McKinney from TYD attended a presentation on the Student Enterprise Awards by Stephen Friel.

On the afternoon of Mon 23rd Nov - Darragh McWilliams and Deaglan Farren from TYB and Orla Cox and Paula McElhinney from TYD assisted Mr Peter White with the JCSP Science experiments. The following day, Sarah Monagle, Kim McCloskey TYA, Diarmaid Doherty and Luke Mullins TYD were Mr White's assistants for the entire day.

The TY photographers this year are Oisín Hession and Orla Cox, both TYD. These pupils will be taking the pressure off John Collins by capturing the action shots of all the sports activities in the school. They will have a busy year ahead!

TY Enterprise

The TYA carwash was operational from Mon 23rd - Wed 25th Nov. Well done to the chief organisers Shauna McLaughlin, Clare McCarron and Laura Devlin and their team Sean Byrne, DJ

McGeoghegan, Daniel Houghton and to Lorcan Bradley TYC and Aine McCallion TYD. Things got a little wet in the end but not our D.J. He was wearing his boiler suit! There were alleged sightings of vehicles being driven into position by a very fresh faced individual...can't think who that could be!

The TYBs are flat out on the production line making their personalised Fairy Doors for the Christmas market. Kerry Doherty and Orla Murray deserve a special mention for all their hard work! The pupils also showcased their work at the Trade Show organised by the Bank of Ireland in Carndonagh on Sat 14th October. Orders can be placed directly through fairydoors@carndonaghcs.ie. Thanks to Mr James Doherty for his technical support. Mark Spencer?

TYC will be full throttle next week organising the Christmas Movie for 1st years. Not Jaws...please, NO!!!!!! Oisín Bowyer is currently sourcing quality school ties for sale in the New Year. TYD's Santa's Grotto will be operational from Mon 14th until Friday 18th Dec. I wonder who will fill the Santa suit? Other TYDs are in barista mode in the Coffee Dock every Friday making delicious espressos, cappuccinos and hot chocolates. Just what we need on a winter's day!

For a number of weeks from Mon 23rd Nov - Mon 23rd Nov - the TYs from CCS have been lending their support to adult learners of IT in Carndonagh local library from 11.30 - 1.00 p.m. during the 'Coffee & Computers' initiative. They were Aoife Houghton TYA, Pádraig McCarron TYB, Oisín Bowyer, Josephine Doherty, Joseph McGonigle, Nicole McLaughlin, Ross Lynch TYC and Luke Mullins TYD. Thanks also to subs: Ethan Gallagher, Catherine Diver, Shauna McBride, Alannah Shovlin, Casey

Cavanagh, Kim McCloskey TYA and Maria Farren TYD for stepping in when the need arose.

On Mon 30th Nov the TYs participated in the balloon release for Lifeline (Inishowen) to highlight domestic violence. For every purple balloon, there was one white to represent the statistics of abuse in Irish relationships - 1/5. Mary and the Lifeline team will be back in CCS in the Spring to do a workshop with the TYs.

With regard to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade competition - Iveagh Scholars - two TYs took on the challenge and wrote a 500 word essay entitled 'Honouring the Past, Imagining the Future'. They were Christopher Gill TYD and Oisín Bowyer TYC. Only one entry is allowed per school and after some deliberation, it was decided by the judging panel that Oisín's essay should go forward to represent CCS. Well one to both lads and the best of luck to Oisín in the competition. So far, Oisín is the only TY to have submitted an entry for the Bar Council of Ireland competition. Internal CCS closing date is Mon 14th Dec. If I receive no other entries, Oisín will go forward to represent the school in the competition.

Just to give you an update on lotteries that CCS had entered. Unfortunately, we received regrets from RCSI Transition Year MiniMed 2016 and also from TCD Transition Year Physics Experience. We can't win 'em all!!!

Ms Hannah Hunter's TY Maths class is a little edgy this term! Ms Edel Kee, a formidable Bridge player is giving Bridge lessons to the TYs with the help of former CCS teacher, Mr Connell McGrenra. The workshop will run for 13 weeks and pupils can

classify it as new skill for the Gaisce Bronze award or a new skill for life!!

Congratulations to all the TYs who took part in A Night at the Movies. The talent in this school is AMAZING! The show was a fantastic success and all credit to Ms Coyle, Ms Cavanagh and Ms Doherty for all their hard work over the whole term, Saturdays included!

Many TYs gave up their time to act as ushers during the recent 5th, 3rd and 4th Year Parents' Evenings. They were: Geraldine Brennan, Ethan Gallagher, Alannah Shovlin, Shauna McLaughlin, Clare McCarron, TYA, Niamh McCallion, Louise McElhinney, Tara McColgan, Gemma McCormick, Cathy Doherty TYB, Oisín Bowyer, Niamh Grant, Aoife Hands, Niamh McLaughlin TYC, Tara Kelly, Paula McElhinney and Holly Moore TYD. (Apologies to anyone I may have omitted.) Everyone commented on how helpful and polite they were. Well done and thank you!

On Tuesday 1st December 2015 many TYs gave of their time and expertise to assist Mr Niall McGee with the organizing and running of the Annual Inishowen Sportshall Athletics Competition. Well done to: Oisín Bowyer, Darren Donaghy, Fionn McClure, Joseph McGonigle, Jamie Nelson, Oisín McGonagle, Lorcan Bradley, Niamh Grant, Aoife Hands, Emily O'Brien, Rachel Callaghan and Ross Lynch all from TYC. Was there anybody left in TYC?!

The TYAs with the support of Mr Danny O'Donnell brought their Dónal Walsh Foundation project to a successful conclusion. During Mental Health Week they distributed green ribbons to pupils and teachers alike and raised awareness with their poster

campaign and live music. Last but not least is their lasting tribute to the late Dónal Walsh...the beautiful mural in the Coffee Dock. The pupils have been in regular contact with Fionnbar, Dónal's dad and have been keeping him informed of their plans. Last week the TYAs wrote to Fionnbar and enclosed a cheque for €500 towards the Dónal Walsh Foundation. Well done to all!

On Wed 2nd Dec the TYs attended the Cyber-bullying workshop and have hopefully learned many important lessons on the dangers of Internet use to their personal safety, their own feelings and those of others, to say nothing of sabotaging their career plans.

The TYs are out on their first Work Experience this week. We wish them a safe and enjoyable week. Hopefully they will learn many new skills and grow in confidence too. We can't wait to hear all about it!

Under-16 Boys GAA

The boys have played four competitive games so far in their campaign, winning all four. The panel has had to be cut to 32 players, all of whom are making a great effort at training. The first game was played in Red Hugh's pitch in Killygordon against St Columba's, Stranorlar. On the day CCS were too strong for them and the final score was CCS 3-10, St Columba's 2-7. The full-forward line was on fire in this game. Scorers; Kieran Farren 1-4 (4F), Daniel Houghton 2-0, Conor O'Donnell (Carn) 0-3, Donal Doherty 0-1, Luke Devlin 0-1 and Conor O'Donnell (Urris) 0-1. Oisín Mc Gonagle, who was pulled in off the wing to

play at centre half back when Ciaran (Jimmy Roe) Doherty was sick, was outstanding.

Game day two also involved a road trip - this time to Gweedore. Carn ran out easy winners against a very poorly prepared Gweedore team. The boys were looking forward to their two home games and were quietly confident after two great away wins. Milford arrived with a good record and for the first 10/15 minutes they put up a good challenge to Carn. However, once the forward line got moving the result was never in doubt. CCS hit Milford for four goals in the first half, Oisín Hession, Mikey Friel, Luke Devlin (back from injury) and Oisín Mc Gonagle all scoring goals. Oisín also got two lovely points during this blitz, as did Conor O'Donnell (Carn) from midfield. Kieran Farren was accurate as usual with frees, floating over three beauts. The corner forwards Jack (Lackin) Doherty and Mikey Friel also got points, Ciaran (Jimmy Roe) raised the white flag as well. Half time saw Carn ahead 4-11 to 1-4. In the second period, the scoring continued Daniel Houghton getting a goal and his replacement Andrew Mc Daid did likewise. Kieran Farren scored a goal and a point and Conor O'Donnell got two points, final score 7-16 to 2-6 in favour of Carn. So far so good!!

Match day four pitted CCS again Falcarragh, this was Carn's best display in the campaign and they played some stylish fluid football. They got off to a shaky start, Connor Bambrick giving away a penalty in the first couple of minutes. The confident stance and air of invincibility of Daniel Mc Callion in nets resulted in the forward hitting the ball wide from 11 metres out. At the other end Houghton scored three goals (and had time to comb the full-back's hair!), Mikey Friel got the first of his two goals and also knocked over a point. Connor Bambrick made up

for his earlier mistake by charging up the field in the second half and after playing a couple of neat 1-2s, he slammed the ball in the back of the net, Frank Mc Glynn'ish! This half back line of Bambrick, Oisín Mc Gonagle and Ciaran (Jimmy Roe) are a dangerous attacking force and a reliable defensive line. The midfield is rotating between Luke Devlin, Conor O'Donnell and Joe Doherty. The forward line is a potent force and all the attackers have contributed. However, the strength of this team lies in the bench and the fringe players have played three challenge matches.

This team has finished top of the group and are waiting for the runners up from the southern section. Training will continue over the Christmas period and the guys are expected to look after their physique. Easy on the pies guys!

Ladies Soccer Roundup

The three teams have yet to lose in any of the leagues this campaign.

The senior ladies won the League after beating Merville 2-1 and drawing with Deele College Raphoe. They will face Scoil Mhuire Buncrana in the Ulster Semi Final on Thursday 10th December at 10am.

The under-17s beat Merville 2-0 away in the first round and won 3-0 against Scoil Mhuire Buncrana in round two. They sit happy at the top of the league!

The under-15s drew with Moville 1-1 in round one, beat Scoil Mhuire 6-0 in round 2 and beat Crana 3-2 last Friday. They also sit happy at the top of the league!

Good luck to under-15 captain Mary Jane Doherty who heads to Dublin for an Ireland under-15 trial on Saturday, 12th December. The very best of luck to Mary from all at CCS.

Mr. S. Bogan

U17 Boys Soccer - St. Columba's Stranorlar 1-2 CCS

CCS put in a very hard shift to come away with victory on the banks of the Finn River in the first round of the Ulster Championship. CCS took the lead through Dayton Cooke after five minutes when a loose ball from a Kieran Farren free kick was finished through a crowded penalty area into the far corner. CCS's ability to play football was hampered by bad weather and a very heavy pitch. Resolute defending restricted St. Columba's to long range efforts ensuring CCS finished the half one up.

CCS started the second half well and within ten minutes were 2-0 up when a Fionn McClure corner was headed home by Conor O'Donnell. CCS controlled the game and continued to keep St. Columba's restricted to long range efforts. CCS should have wrapped up the tie when Darragh Deery broke through, but he was unlucky to see shot cannon off the post. There was a nervous conclusion to the game; a long range effort was parried by Daniel Houghton and the St. Columba's striker was quickest

to reacted, finishing high into net. CCS closed out the game thanks to some excellent defending and team work. Well done all.

Team: Daniel Houghton, Joseph Doherty, Ciaran Doherty, Conor O'Donnell, Conor McGeoghegan, Evan Tweed (Cade Cooke), Thomas Ramsey, Dayton Cooke (Jake Harkin), Fionn McClure, Kieran Farren, Darragh Deery. Subs not used: Daniel McCallion, Oisín Hession, Blaise Diver, Mark Doherty, Tiernan Devine.

U17 Boys Soccer - Come back anytime! CCS recovery stuns Merville CC

Playing into the wind, CCS started the game well and were unlucky not to score early on. Kieran Farren played Darragh Deery though, however his shot was touched wide by the keeper. CCS controlled the game until the 30th minute with well saved efforts from Fionn McClure and Dayton Cooke. Merville took the lead from a wind assisted free kick from twenty yards out. Five minutes later it was 2-0 when a cross-come-shot was touched onto the post by Daniel McCallion; Merville reacted quickest to slot home. Darragh Deery was unlucky not to pull one back before the break but his shot was saved at point blank range.

A quick start to the second half saw CCS score in the second minute when Kieran Farren made a good run down the wing; his shot was saved and rebounded to Dayton Cooke who slotted home. Two minutes later CCS were level when Fionn McClure laid the ball off for Farren to finish into the top corner.

The recovery was complete when Carn took the lead five minutes later - a shot from Kieran Farren rebounded to Fionn McClure, who slotted home. Carn pushed on for another couple of goals but saw a number of shots saved or go narrowly over.

It was a great result and comeback all round, including two goal line clearances from Conor O'Donnell and Conor McGeoghegan, along with a number of great saves from Daniel McCallion. Well done all!

Team: Daniel McCallion, Joseph Doherty (Cathal McLaughlin), Calvin O'Donnell (Tiernan Devine), Conor O'Donnell, Conor McGeoghegan, Fionn McClure, Thomas Ramsey (Oisín Hession), Evan Tweed, Dayton Cooke (Jake Harkin), Kieran Farren, Darragh Deery (Joseph Diver).

U15 Boys Soccer - CCS 4-1 Scoil Mhuire

Thursday, 5th November - The U15s had a hard-fought yet comfortable win in the end against Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana. The Buncrana side took the lead after 30 minutes when C.C.S, who were dominant throughout, lost concentration when defending a corner kick and conceded a soft goal. The home team went in 1-0 up at the break. A slight change of formation and the introduction of Nathan McKinney made a real difference in the middle of the field. Luke Rudden linked up well with Corey McBride on the right hand side and the continuous pressure resulted in a corner kick early in the second half. Mickey Friel landed a captain's contribution, drawing the teams level by pouncing on some unconvincing defending. Carndonagh dominated proceeding from then onwards and took the lead through an amazing effort for McBride. His 30-yard free kick swirled

through the air at high speed and smacked off the crossbar at the top right hand corner before crossing the line. Exceptional! Speaking of exceptional, Luke Rudden's second half performance was just that! His second goal was the cream of the crop as he flicked the ball up to himself before hitting a looping volley from 25 yards out, leaving the goalkeeper with nothing to do but watch it sail over his head and into the net. Solid performances from the back five and the midfield made this result possible. Hard work on the right wing and his free kick tekkers earned Corey McBride the MOTM award.

Senior Boys Soccer Squad Brighten Up Your Day with New Kit Sponsor!

Shane Doherty, representing Doherty's Centra, Muff, called in to CCS recently to congratulate the Senior Soccer team, as they christened their newly sponsored kit with a resounding victory by 5 goals to 3 over PCC Falcarragh in the Donegal Schools League final (see full match report below). The boys would like to thank Shane and Kevin from Doherty's Centra, Muff for sponsoring the new kit and hope it continues to bring good luck throughout their upcoming Ulster Schools Cup campaign.

Senior Boys Retain Donegal League Title

Wednesday, 11th November - A hotly contested Donegal League Final was won by 5 goals to 3 by Carndonagh CS, although it could've gone either way on the excellent playing surface in Drumoghill. After a quiet opening 20 minutes, Michael Langan

fired home from close range for PCC after a scramble in the Carndonagh box. Carndonagh squandered a number of chances but finally equalised when Fionn McClure tapped home from close range. Within minutes, CCS went ahead with a stunning 40 yard effort from Brian McEleney. PCC replied strongly, firing cross after cross into the CCS box, and the pressure finally told with Jason McGee jumping to head beyond Daniel Houghton. A high ball into the box was CCS's undoing again, with Lee McColgan heading home at the back post past a despairing Houghton, who seemed to slip on the wet surface. Carndonagh almost levelled matters on the stroke of half-time with McEleney skying over from 6 yards. Half-Time CCS 2-3 PCC.

CCS came racing out of the blocks after half-time, with two quick-fire tap-ins from Cathal Farren turning the final on its head. The blistering pace of CCS substitutes Declan McLaughlin and Christopher McLaughlin stretched the game, which gave CCS the upper hand throughout the second half. PCC came close to equalising with a clever Lee McColgan free-kick which was expertly tipped around the post by Houghton. CCS extended their advantage through James McKinney, his deflected effort sealing CCS's status as Donegal champions for the second successive year. Both sides will hold much hope for their upcoming Ulster Cup campaigns judging by this performance. Full Time CCS 5-3 PCC.

Caoilinn's Junk Kouture Dress "A Real Showstopper"

(Courtesy of Derry Journal) A dress made by Caoilinn Diver, a Transition Year student in CCS, was selected to be exhibited at

the Wedding Journal Show in Belfast last weekend. The dress called 'Plastic Fantastic' was originally made by Caoilinn for the national competition Junk Kouture. While researching unusual dresses to exhibit at the Ireland's Wedding Journal show, the team came across Caoilinn's creation. The dress was one of only three dresses selected nationwide to be displayed at the show. Caoilinn's dress is made from white and yellow plastic bin bags which she crocheted together. The bodice is made from soft drink and beer cans, delicately cut into small fish scale pieces, and then painted with left over car paint and hand stitched together. She completed her dress with hand crocheted flowers along with old recycled beads.

Wedding Journal magazine editor Tara Craig said:
"The Wedding Journal show is known for showcasing well-known fashion designers' dresses and we wanted to provide a platform for students to showcase their designs also. After researching unusual wedding dresses to display at the Wedding Journal Show we chose only three dresses; one of which was Caoilinn's. Plastic Fantastic is a real showstopper and we loved the fact it was made entirely from recycled material so it's environmental friendly also." The dress was worn by professional models at the show press launch and took pride of place at the Wedding Journal Show entrance for the course of the show, from Friday 18th to Sunday 21st September.

Julie, Grainne & Niall's Red Carpet Experience!

This time last year Grainne Doherty, Niall Kelly and Julie Quinn set out to create "Sheer Glass", assisted by their teacher, Pauline McDermott. The dress is made of over 100 green, crushed glass bottles and old findings of PVA glue. The dress was entered into the competition Junk Kouture, eventually making it to the finals and winning the Bank of Ireland Glamour Award. All involved were delighted! As a reward the dress AND model got to attend the Royal Film Premiere in London.

A few weeks ago Julie was told that she would be attending the Royal Film Premiere of the new James Bond film, Spectre. She was determined to get Grainne and Niall to London. With the help of a CCS Fashion Fundraiser, the School and the support of the Donegal Film Office, they got their tickets. They were absolutely delighted!

The trio travelled to London on October Bank Holiday weekend. Julie met up with the other Glamour Award winning team from Co. Weastmeath and also met Elizabeth Curran and Troy Armour, founders of Junk Kouture. Model Adelina, Elizabeth and Troy walked the red carpet with Julie.

Julie describes the experience of the red carpet:

"Attending the Royal Film Premiere was truly an incredible experience. I felt so glamorous landing on the red carpet, having had our hair and makeup done. I was overwhelmed with the crowds and paprazzi. I was feeling a little nervous but super excited. I loved meeting the stars, they were all so lovely admiring the dresses. Will I Am came over to us and he was blown away by the dresses. He loved them. I loved the whole atmosphere and excitement and it felt really special. The venue was spectacular and the film itself was great. Overall it was an amazing experience."

The pupils had a great weekend sightseeing all over London. They went to the London Dungeons, the National Art Museum and of course bought some fancy cupcakes in Harrods! Grainne, Niall and Julie would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported them throughout the past year - their family and friends have been so lovely. They would also like to thank everyone who helped them fundraise for London; everyone who helped in the CCS Fashion Show was brilliant!

Annual Prizegiving Ceremony

Carndonagh Community School's Annual Prizegiving Ceremony took place on the last Friday before October mid-term. While the awards were restricted to academic achievement, with sports awards to come later in the year, the "Inishowen Tours Outstanding Prospect in Sports Award" did wrap up proceedings. That particular honour went to Nicole Gordon, whose list of achievements in GAA and soccer at local, national and international level is remarkable. Rachel McLaughlin earned top honours in the Leaving Cert, with Savena Crossan topping the Junior Cert list. Congrats to all who received certificates of achievement.

CCS Golfers Retain Top Spot

Thursday, 22nd October - The CCS golf team managed to maintain their position at the top of the group after a very windy second round at Ballyliffin Golf Club. With three players making their debut for CCS, the golfing future looks bright.

Congratulations to all but especially to Scott McElhinney, who was the winner of the Category II section.

CCS Golf Team: Scott McElhinney 4D; Conor McColgan; Oisín McGonigle TYC; Conor Quigley TYB; Ryan McLaughlin 4F; Ryan Collins 3H; Cormac Monagle 3F.

Club Cainteach

Club Cainteach continues every Thursday at lunchtime in room 110. Come along for a cup of tea while practicing your conversational Irish. Buail isteach!

On 11th November, 40 students from all year groups took part in the Irish speaking challenge "Dushlán 24", raising over €200 for the Irish charity "Conradh na Gaelige". Well done to all who took part.

Congratulations to Rhianna Gallagher (1D) and Molly Simmons (1F) who won the Irish quiz on "Dushlán 24" Day.

Thanks to the students from TYB who complied, distributed and corrected the quiz 'Maith Sibh!

Forms to enter an open draw to win a scholarship to attend the Gaeltacht in Summer 2016 are now available. Donegal County Council offer scholarships every year to students in County Donegal. Get application forms from your Irish teacher.

Home School Community Liaison

Ms Siobhan Coll and Ms Sharon Coyle are organising a 'Maths Eyes' photo competition in the school - see the posters or ask your maths teachers for details. This is a numeracy initiative and there are some great prizes up for grabs so get snapping! The last two weeks have formed an attendance project, with rewards available. Being in school every day is the best way to improve student learning.

The recent information session on Cyber-bullying was a real eye opener for all parents present and was expertly delivered by Louise from DYS.

'Amazing Brains' will be returning to work with our Leaving Cert students in the new year, with an in-depth session for parents running in the evening. Keep an eye out for more details.

Parents/guardians - my work number is 086 822 2169; please get in touch if I can help you in any way, or if you just want to chat about any issues that are impacting on your child's education.

Read DL will see students working with local primary schools in a county-wide literacy project.

LCVP: The school deadline for fifth year pupils draws near. Remember the portfolio is worth 60%, so a big effort will be rewarded! The recorded interviews will be held in early February. Class 4A will be the link class in our link with LYIT in the Business in the Community project. Our first trip to the college takes place next Wednesday, and it promises to be a real eye-opener into college life.

MS Readathon 2015

Congratulations and well done to the pupils of Class 1B and Class 1E who recently raised €723.40 for the MS Readathon. The pupils read almost one hundred books between them. A big thank-you to all who took time out to help others less fortunate than themselves. Well done!

1st & 2nd Year Trip to Old Trafford

On 19th December at 3am, this year's group of students will make the journey to Old Trafford to watch Manchester United take on Norwich City. To date, the students of CCS have acted as a lucky charm for United with 4 wins in 4 over the years. On 20th December the group will travel to Walsall to try and act as a lucky charm for the League One side as they take on Port Vale. The CCS students' luck for home teams is so renowned that the home side have gone to great lengths to include the group in their match-day programme. Best to luck and enjoy!

JCSP NEWS

The initiatives are up and running and proving to be very popular and colourful. The students have been busy putting together an impressive graffiti wall art display which will be showcased in the next few days. The students displayed great team work skills, creative flair and enthusiasm while working on this project (ok , maybe some students did slightly more than others!!). The annual Christmas Coffee Morning will be taking place in the Coffee Dock on Wednesday 16th December, 10.40am-12.40pm. We are very fortunate to have Jason Black,

Adventurer and Mountaineer, as our guest speaker this year. He is the first Donegal man to reach the summit of Mount Everest. Throughout the morning there will be entertainment galore - Christmas Bingo, music, prizes and of course the infamous treats and home baking. The programme will be very busy for the remainder of the academic year - Celebrity Chef, Drama, Digital Storytelling, Outdoor Pursuits, Woodwork, trip to Dublin for the Make a Book Competition and many more. Have a lovely Christmas everyone!

¡Adiós a los estudiantes españoles!

We would like to bid a fond farewell to our Spanish students who have been here since September and who are returning home to their native homeland in a few weeks.

We hope that you all had a great experience here learning through the Irish education system, that you learned a lot of English and that (some of you!) enjoyed the experience provided by Key/Share programmes.

Adiós to Jorge Bravo (2C), Javier Diaz (2G), Victor Laso (2A), Cecilia Dominguez (2A), Natalia Ruiz (2E), Cecilia de la Mata (2D), Teresa Blanc (TYD), Maria Moreno (TYB) and Elena Moreno (TYA).

A word of congratulations to Teresa Blanc and Maria Moreno who came first and third in the 14-17 year category in the All-Ireland Art Competition which was sponsored by the Credit Union.

Hopefully after the holidays, we will see the return of Victor Illana (2G), Carlos Mudarra (2F) and Angel Inoriza (TYC) who will spend Christmas with their families and will return to Carndonagh to continue their studies until the end of the academic year. ¡Buen viaje a todos vosotros y que tengáis una Feliz Navidad!

SEN Department

USING STUDY TIME PRODUCTIVELY TO IMPROVE LEARNING

Students often ask for advice and ideas on how to study more productively... Some may find this method useful.

The SQ3RM Technique - Remembering What You Read

1. Survey the chapter you are going to read. Read the summary and the section headings.
2. When you know what the chapter is about, write a list of the main questions that you would want to be able to answer if you had read the chapter.
3. Read the chapter with the questions in mind. Take brief notes that will allow you to formulate answers to these questions. It is often a good idea to read with a highlighter in hand so you can highlight key words and phrases.
4. Recite the questions and your answers to them when you have finished reading the chapter.
5. Review the chapter by skimming through it and checking that your answers to the questions were correct.

6. Structure the questions and the answers to them into a map. Put your map on the wall for a week. Look at it. Read it aloud. Trace it with your finger.

Drop Everything and Read

The school is participating in this program to help improve our literacy. Every Friday, at 3:10 pm, we read as directed by the prefects. We invite parents and the whole school community to join in by taking 10 -15 minutes to read for relaxation at least once-a-week. This is very good for your health!

JCSP

The Christmas tree has arrived and now the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Year groups are in the final stage of organising the wonderful Christmas Celebration on Wednesday, 16th December! The displays are sure to reflect the huge amount of work done by these students and their teachers.

Fund Raising:

All students in the school benefit from the resources in the SEN Department. We now need to get some new resources and so we have a lovely fund-raiser planned for WEDNESDAY, 16th December at lunchtime. Please remember to bring your Euro on that day for this worthy cause...

Reasonable Accommodations in Certificate Examinations

Candidates with permanent or long-term conditions, including visual and hearing difficulties, or specific learning difficulties, which they believe will significantly impair their performance in the examinations may apply to the State Examinations Commission (through the school) for a reasonable

accommodation(s) to be made to facilitate them taking the examinations. The reasonable accommodations are intended to: remove, as far as possible, the impact of the difficulty on the candidate's performance and thus enable the candidate to demonstrate his or her level of attainment and ensure that, whilst giving candidates every opportunity to demonstrate their level of attainment, the special arrangements will not give the candidate an unfair advantage over the other candidates in the same examination.

NOTICE...

The closing date for June 2017 Leaving Cert. applications is MAY 2016. This applies to current 4th Year students.

For more information: www.education.ie Circular S40/94

Parents and teachers of students who wish to apply for RACE must give their names to their resource teacher or to Mrs. Monagle immediately.


Word of the Week

Remember to try and use the word of the week as much as possible, at home as well as at school. Have you got your entry ready for the competition? Suggestions for *Word of the Week* to Ms. Elaine Farren Room 302.

Congratulations to Sarah, Leanne and Keelan on their success in the Irish League

Fundraiser
in Aid of S.E.N. Dept.

Coffee Dock



€1.00 each

Lunch Time

Wed Dec. 16th

of Credit Unions Art Competition.

All parents should know by now who their child's Learning Support/Resource teacher is. If you do not know, please contact Mrs. Monagle at school.

Guidance News

College Awareness Week Projects

Carndonagh Community School was the only school from Donegal to participate in College Awareness Week 2015 which was set up to encourage greater awareness in second-level schools of third level education institutions. The guidance department devised two projects to support College Awareness Week.

TY students under the guidance of Ms. Roisin Diver worked on one of these projects called "**Alumni Alma Maters**" which involved surveying all teachers in the school and asking them where they went to college. (Thanks to Mr. John C. Doherty for the Latin translation!) The students then designed, printed and laminated colour posters for each teacher's classroom door showing the college logos of each relevant institution. The aim of these posters is to encourage students to ask teachers questions about these colleges.

The second project is called "**Who went where?**" and involved a survey of Leaving Certificate students' college destinations in 2015, carried out by email and phone. The results of this survey are on display in the Mall. The display will remain until Christmas.

There is a gallery of photographs from CCS on <http://www.collegeaware.ie/gallery/carndonagh-community-school> and also on Twitter using the hashtag #CAW2015

Important Information for Parents on the HEAR and the DARE Access Programmes

Students and their parents who wish to be considered for a place in the ACCESS / HEAR scheme need to apply online on the CAO application website as part of their CAO application. You must register for CAO first, before you can apply for HEAR / DARE.

What are HEAR / DARE?

If you are not sure what the HEAR / DARE schemes are, please ask your son/daughter to show you the relevant information which is in the December Guidance Memo, sent by email. This email and the other documents sent with it explain HEAR / DARE will tell you if you are eligible or not. [This short article does not explain this.](#)

What do parents need to do?

Parents must take full responsibility for all aspects of the HEAR / DARE application. Parents should be aware that their children will not have all the information that is required to fill in the online HEAR/DARE application form and that parents will have to assist them in the process. We estimate that it could take 30 mins to an hour to fill in the details required - that is if you have all the financial information to hand.

What help have students been given?

Students have been given a link (sent by email) to download a HEAR and a DARE Application Booklet which will guide you through the online form step by step. This can also be accessed by going to www.accesscollege.ie and clicking **Downloads**.

What do I need to send by post?

Parents need to be aware that as well as filling in the form online, that a range of information will need to be sent to CAO by 1 April 2016. Some examples:

- If either Parent/Guardian is working: a P21 for **2014** from the tax office in Letterkenny (NB **NOT** 2015) must be sent in. Tax documents from the wrong year will not be accepted.
- If either Parent/Guardian is self-employed or involved in farming: a 'Notice of Assessment' for **2014** from the tax office must be sent in. Tax documents from the wrong year will not be accepted.
- If either Parent/Guardian is unemployed or in receipt of a social welfare allowance, then a statement of income for **2014** will be required from the Department of Social Protection in Buncrana. This form can be downloaded from the HEAR / DARE website: www.accesscollege.ie
- When posting documents to CAO, for HEAR / DARE you do not need to send the originals, photocopies will suffice.
- Bring your CAO handbook with you to the post office when you are posting the letter and get the post office to stamp one of the four certificates of postage inside the back cover of the CAO handbook.

Do you need any more help?

Further advice and help may possibly be obtained from your Social Protection Local Office in Buncrana (074) 932 0075 or from the Citizens' Information Services Office in the County Council Offices, Malin Road, Carndonagh. Tel: (074) 937 3728.

Guidance Counsellors in the school will, as always assist students with their CAO choices and the CAO application process, but it must be stressed that they are not in a

position to offer assistance with regard to the HEAR Application, due to the large amount of private and financial information required by HEAR.

The SEN Coordinator and individual resource teachers in the school will assist DARE applicants with their application forms.

DARE and HEAR Advice Clinic Saturday 16th January

There will be a HEAR / DARE Advice Clinic for Parents who need help filling in the forms or with finding the supporting documents. It will be held in the Villa Rose Hotel, Main St., Ballybofey on Saturday January 10th from 10am until 2pm. HEAR /DARE advisers will meet parents / guardians and students on a one-to-one confidential basis. No booking required.

CAO will also operate a helpline to assist with the applicant on making an application to HEAR / DARE until 1st March 2015. The helpline phone number is: 091 509800.

Breaking the Mould Applications

Applications are now being accepted for the IT Sligo Access programme called Breaking the Mould which offers eligible students a 10% reduction in points for all IT Sligo courses. Forms available from the Guidance Counsellors.

USED Postage Stamps for the Blind

Christmas is a time when lots of cards arrive in our homes in the post. The stamps on the envelopes, if torn off, are actually valuable. The Irish Guide Dogs charity gets money for these from stamp collecting companies. Please bring all used stamps to Mr. Harkin in the guidance office after Christmas, and we will forward them to Irish Guide Dogs Association.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR LEAVING CERT STUDENTS

SAVE €15 - SAVE €15 - SAVE €15

Just register for CAO by 20 January 2016 for €25 instead of €40.

Home Economics Trip to National Craft & Design Fair (RDS)

On Friday, 4th December, Second Year Home Economics pupils travelled to Dublin for the National Craft & Design Fair at the RDS. The trip is an important part of the Junior Cert syllabus as it assists them in designing their own project craft work. The pupils were introduced to a variety of traditional and contemporary crafts and engaged with many of the exhibitors. There were a number of Inishowen craftspeople in attendance. A number of the exhibitors commented on the exemplary behaviour of our pupils. A great day was had by all.

American Exchange 2015

We left Carndonagh at 3am on 18th October to go to Dublin Airport. The bus seemed to take forever as we were all excited about the trip, when we arrived at Dublin Airport we checked in our bags and headed for security, then emigration. We all then boarded the plane together, and had an 8 hour flight to Charlotte, North Carolina. When we arrived in Charlotte we had about an hour until our flight to Saint Louis, so we could go get

something to eat or just walk about. Laura and I went to Starbucks because we are 'basic' and then we walked around the airport and got something to eat. When we arrived in Saint Louis everybody was nervous about meeting their exchange student. When we met them we got photos taken and went to get our suitcases. Afterwards, we went to our house. That night we didn't do much because we were tired but we met up with other students in the exchange and their hosts to get food. During the day we went on trips with the exchange students. Throughout the 10 days we went to the Rec. Plex, got a tour around the jail, met the mayor, took a boat ride on the Mississippi River and went to The Gateway Arch. We also went to the City Museum and the Meramec Caverns.

On the first day that we arrived, the Monday, we went to the school Saint Charles West, where we got donuts and met the principle of their school. We also got free school tshirts. we all went to the Rec. Plex with our exchange hosts. The Rec. Plex was a place with an iceskating rink, a swimming pool and a basketball court.

On Tuesday we went to the jail, this was an amazing experience because we got to go inside the jail and we came face to face with real criminals. They showed us how the prisoners lived in jail and the different things the prisoners do everyday. They also told us the meals that the prisoners get everyday, for breakfast they get the usual food like cereal or toast, for lunch they get sandwiches, burgers, chips etc and for dinner they get pizza, pasta, potatoes or different meats etc. After the jail we went to the Foundry and got lunch, then after that we went to meet the mayor. She gave us a talk about what her duties as

mayor are and then we got to go see her office and we got photos taken with her.

On Wednesday we went to the Arch and went on the boat trip. When we were going to the top of the arch we were put into small trams that are supposed to fit 5 people per tram, and they take you to the top where you get out and there was windows so as you can look down on the city of Saint Louis. From the top of the arch there was some very exquisite views of the city and the Mississippi River. When we were finished taking photos, we all got back into the trams that we came up on and this time we had Mr. Spencer in our tram, as if the tram wasn't small enough! After our trip to the the arch we made our way to the boat. The boat trip took us up and down the river with a guide telling us about different things along the river and bridges that go across the river. The sun was out so that made the boat trip a lot better!

On Thursday we went to The City Museum, for a museum it was actually good. The museum wasn't like the normal boring museums this museum was like a park, on the roof there was a ferris wheel, an old school bus hanging off the building and two slides, one of which was 10 storeys long! On the other floors there was different exhibits and outside there was two aeroplanes and a ball pool for adults. Also, in the museum they have the world's largest pencil. On the ground floor there was tunnels that lead you to different parts of the museum, and apparently these tunnels can be hard to get out of! The next Monday we went to the Meramec Caverns the tour was a walk through caves that were discovered almost 100 years ago. The caves had stalagmites on the ground and stalactites on the ceiling. Throughout the cave there was a lot of different

lighting techniques, some of which made the rivers in the cave look deeper than what they actually were and some were just coloured lights in different parts of the cave. At the end of the tour there was a light show which was projected onto the walls of the cave displaying different pictures relating to America, like the American flag and the bald eagle. On the way back to school we stopped at McDonalds for lunch. On Monday night we all went to a Halloween party organised by the Sister Cities, we all dressed up even Ms Coll and Mr Spencer! Shannon and her exchange student won best costume, dressed as a hunter and deer. After the costume contest, the band started playing some music and we danced until the party was over.

On Friday and Tuesday we had to go to school. During school we had to give some classes a presentation about Ireland, our school and what we do in Ireland. We also had to go to classes with our exchange student. After school and during the weekend we had to spend time with our host families, so most evenings after school my host and I went to different places to eat as we don't have the same restaurants in Ireland some of which were; Taco Bell, Dunkin' Donuts and ChikFilA. We also went shopping and we went to a trunk or treat, then a lock in at the church. At the weekend we went on a tour of Saint Louis and then we went to a pumpkin patch where we rode a camel and fed a kangaroo. After the pumpkin patch we went to Ted Drewes for frozen custard, which surprisingly was very nice!

The day we were leaving there were a lot of tears, we were all sad to leave America and our host families because we had such a good time and met so many nice, new people. When we were at the airport waiting on the plane, we found out it had been delayed for another hour, and we were all scared we would miss

our connecting flight from Philadelphia to Dublin. When we were on the flight to Philadelphia there was a lot of rain and turbulence. When we landed we had to get off the plane as fast as we could or we would have missed the plane to Dublin. So when we got off the plane we had to run as fast as we could, on our way to the gate to get the aeroplane people fell over suitcases and someones phone fell and broke. It was all very hectic! When we got on the plane there was a sigh of relief that we made it to the plane on time. When we landed in Dublin we got our bags and headed for the bus home. On the way we stopped for breakfast in Applegreens, afterwards we continued our journey home. Everybody was so tired that on the way home we all fell asleep, which unfortunately was caught on camera! When we arrived in Carndonagh we were greeted by our families, who were waiting impatiently on us to come home. The American exchange was a great experience and I would do it again any day!

Court Appearance for CSPE Class 3A!

On Monday, 23rd November, class 3A went to the Courthouse in Carndonagh to do some research for their C.S.P.E Action Project. Their teacher Miss McGowan went along too for the spin! They met and spoke with Sgt Ambrose Bradley who talked to them about the running of the courthouse. He also explained the different types of laws and courthouses in Ireland. The class had an opportunity to ask him some questions, and they gave him a good grilling, to be fair! A great morning was had by all and thankfully the whole class and Miss McGowan returned and were not remanded in court...

Chaplain's Message for Christmas

God grant you lightness in your step,
A smile on every face you meet,
Loved ones gathered at your hearth,
And at your door, good friends to greet
A holy hymn upon your lips,
A window candle burning bright
And may the Good Lord bless your heart
And come to dwell here Christmas night.

- An Irish Christmas Blessing

'Public Embarrassment'

On Tuesday 3rd November, the popular philosophy that, "it'll be alright on the night," certainly came true for the school's Drama Club. Fourteen students from C.C.S. graced the stage at the 'Balor Theatre', Ballybofey for the Annual Schools Drama Festival. The students performed an extended scene devised by Ms Crawford and Ms McLaughlin. The performance title "Public Embarrassment", certainly tempted fate, however the students managed to avoid such an outcome. The competition was adjudicated by Ms Maura Logue who described the performance as "beautiful" and "full of energy." The piece was thoroughly enjoyed by both the cast and the audience. The Drama Club received three awards on the night, 'Best Ensemble Cast', 'Best Animation and Realistic Acting' and a 'Best Actor' award went to Katy Durey 3A.

Drama club members involved in this Drama festival included Katie Mai Mooney 1B; Courtney O'Connor 1D; Molly Simmons 1F; Elle Ward 1F;

Niamh McGeoghegan 2F; Patrick Cochrane Bonina 2D; Katie Durey 3A;
Danielle Houghton 3B; Caití Farren 3B; Donna Harkin 3D; Rachel Devlin
3E; Eimear Smith 3E; Shanice Whoriskey 3F; Cathy Devlin 4F.