

ZODIAC

Vol. XXV No. 3

Spring 2016

EDITORIAL

Happy St. Patrick`s Day and Easter to all readers and we wish all our exam students good luck in their Oral and Practical Exams in April and May.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, 16th March

School closes at 3.20 for Easter Holidays.

Monday, 4th April

School re-opens.

Friday, 15th

“Showcase Donegal Fashion” in the Aras at 8.00pm

Wednesday, 20th

First Year “Mock” Examinations and Assessments.

Friday, 29th

School Closed.

Keep up with all our activities by checking the Weekly Calendar on the School Website.

Carn Donagh
Community School
presents



SHOWCASE OF

DONEGAL

FASHION



*who made
your clothes?*



in the Áras
Friday, 15th April
8pm

Admission: €10

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SENIOR BOYS SOCCER SQUAD WHO ARE NOW ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS...

CCS beat Presentation Brothers Cork 2-1 in the National Final in Whitehall, Dublin on Friday, 11th March.

Full match report to follow on www.carndonaghcs.ie, along with extended match highlights (online Wednesday, 16th March). For now, here's a quick synopsis of one of the best days in CCS history...

CCS took the lead on 20 minutes - Cathal Farren leaving the Cork keeper standing with a coolly taken penalty. PBC levelled on the stroke of half-time after some head-tennis in the Carn box. The ball may or may not have crossed the line, but opinions were immaterial as the ref pointed to the centre-circle.

Half-time 1-1

The second half was a scrumbly affair, and while CCS were clearly the better team, PBC had arguably the better chances. As full-time approached, either team could have won it, but neither did.

Full-time (90 mins) 1-1

PBC clearly weren't looking forward to extra-time and there was no doubt that CCS were well ahead in fitness terms. The conditioning showed on six minutes, as some lovely one-touch football gave Christy Fildara a shooting opportunity from the edge of the box. His finish, low into the bottom corner, sent the CCS support into raptures; the writing was on the wall for PBC. But there was still one moment of concern with the final whistle approaching. Daniel Houghton, who had been something of a spectator during extra-time, was called into action at the death. His excellent save, low to his right, ensured that there was no penalty shoot-out. The scenes of celebration after the match have been forty years in the making. An All-Ireland title is

finally ours! Well done to the squad and management, and thanks from all at CCS...

Result (after extra time) CCS 2-1 PBC

(This match report was written from behind a video camera and may bear little or no relation to what actually happened. Proper match report to follow...)

All-Ireland Senior Boys Soccer All Ireland Champions 2016

Diarmuid Moyne, Evan Tweed, Mark Doherty, Brandon Browne, Keelan Doherty, Joe Mc Kinney, Declan Mc Laughlin, Christopher Mc Laughlin (F), Cathal Farren, Fionn Mc Clure, Tiernan Devine, Sam Todd, Martin Fiorentini, Ben Lafferty, Matthew Cavanagh, Brian Mc Eleney, Joshua Lafferty, Darragh Folan, Daniel Houghton, James Mc Kinney, Liam Gallagher, Ryan Diver, Kieran Farren; Manager: Mr. Martin Cavanagh

JCSP NEWS

Make A Book Exhibition

On the 10th March a group of students will be travelling to Dublin to the JCSP Make A Book Exhibition. This is a creative cross-curricular project for students in the Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP). A 2nd year group will be showcasing their contribution "The Spinning Wheel" at the nationwide exhibition of creative work. The students have been working under the guidance of Johnny Shiels and made their own miniature spinning wheel using traditional methods. They also weaved their own book cover. The end result is a testament to the effort and co-operation of all the group.

Sambastef Drumming Workshop

Time flies when you are having fun and this was the case on Friday 26th February. The Drumming workshop certainly went with a "bang". From the small African hand held shaker to the Brazilian bass drum - the 1st and 2nd years made it a fun, energised and noisy experience.

Celebrity Chef Initiative

As part of the Chef Initiative, two groups were given the opportunity to go to Claire The Bakers and make their own muffins/queens cakes. The students were also treated to hot chocolate, cream, marshmallows and a chocolate brownie.

Math For Fun Initiative

All first year classes participated in a six week Math For Fun Initiative programme in the Coffee Dock. Math games, puzzles, chess, draughts, electronic games, strategy puzzles - nothing proved too difficult for the students. It was a fun experience and the feedback from the students and teachers involved was very positive. There will be a Literacy Initiative starting after Easter for all first year groups. As part of the JCSP we have a few more initiatives and trips to complete after Easter.

CCS Golf News

The CCS Golf Team comfortably qualified for the final of the Derryveagh Crystal, Donegal Schools' Golf Championship for the second year in a row. The team looks forward to successfully defending their title as Donegal champions, with the final round of matches to be played after Easter. Competition for places on the team is hotting up, with many players showing excellent form at club level. CCS is determined to hang on to the trophy won last year and become back to back Donegal champions.

Team: Stephen McGonigle, Ben Collins, Conor McColgan, Scott McElhinney, DJ McGeoghan, Connor Quigley, Oisín McGonigle, Ryan McLaughlin, Ryan Collins, Cormac Monagle. NOTE: The team will be looking for new players from next September and it is open to all year groups, both male and female.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

There will be a céilí mór for all first years in the Áras on Wednesday 16th March. The céilí will take place from period 3 until lunchtime. There will also be a group of Irish dancers and the school traditional music group will provide entertainment. All first year students are encouraged to take part. Supervising teachers are asked to be in attendance and don't forget the dancing shoes!! There will be prizes for the best student dancers.

Easter Hamper Raffle

Tickets are now on sale for the Easter Raffle. The first prize is a Family Hamper and there are six prizes overall. Tickets cost €2 each and can be purchased from Alannah Shovlin & Kim McCloskey of TYC, among other TYs. The draw will take place on Wednesday 16th March and winners will be notified by text.

Bank of Ireland School Bank

Congratulations to the following TYB students who, after a round of interviews, were selected to run the Bank of Ireland School Bank. The bank will be open every Thursday lunchtime in the concourse. Students, during lunchtime, can open real active bank accounts and every week conveniently make lodgements into their savings. On opening an account, students will receive account details and a debit card. Bank Accounts are essential for everyday transactions and Bank

of Ireland has a lot of incentives for secondary students and prospective university students. So it's advisable to open an account through the convenience of your school bank.

Manager : Conor Harkin

Sales & Marketing : Orla Murray

Auditor : Gemma McCormick

Customer Service : Darragh McWilliams

Customer Service : Natasha Cunningham

Fourth Year Theatre Trip

On Tuesday 2nd February, the fourth year higher level English classes, accompanied by their teachers Ms. Martin, Ms. Simkins, Mr. McLoughlin, Mr. McCarron and Mr. Harkin, enjoyed a very productive theatre trip. 'The Shakespeare Sessions' was staged by Cyclone Rep in An Grianan Theatre, Letterkenny and students were treated to an original and insightful workshop production of 'Hamlet', the Shakespearean text for 2017. The opportunity to experience a live theatrical production and participate in a question and answer session with a professional theatre group was invaluable and fully appreciated by all.

SciFest 2016

A number of projects are busily being prepared for display on the 11th of May in LYIT. We wish the students the best of luck for the event.

On Friday the 5th of January, a selection of students attended a Chemistry Magic Show - "Flames, Flashes and Frozen Flowers - putting the WOW into Science". This show was created and presented by Dr. Sarah Hayes who you may have seen exploding ping pong balls with liquid nitrogen recently on "The Late Late Show". The show lived up to

its rather dramatic billing and was enjoyed by all and had some great audience participation by a number of students. The students also benefited from a careers talk in the afternoon detailing the range of science courses available at third level.

Ski Trip 2016

Date: 14/02/16 - 20/02/16, Destination: Villach, Austria

Staff: Mr John McGuinness, Mr Paul Fiorentini, Mr Niall Havlin, Mr John Collins, Mr James Humphries, Mr Finbarr Gallagher, Mr Sean McKenna, Ms Fiona McLaughlin, Ms Maria McLaughlin, Ms Siobhan Coll, Ms Irene Brennan, Ms Serena Lafferty.

At 2am on Sunday 14th Feb, 85 students and 12 staff set out on a long journey to Dublin airport. Tired faces were masked with excitement and few slept on this leg of the journey. We eventually made it to the airport around 6am. After a short queue at check in, (mainly because one of the teachers decided to pack the kitchen sink...and enough Lucozade to keep her up all week), the students were taken through security and were given time to eat and shop in the duty free section.

At 9:35am, the plane took off for Bratislava; a few decided to catch up on lost sleep. After landing we made the 5 hour journey to Villach, Austria. The hotel was small and we booked out every room in it. The lobby was the only place to get Wi-Fi so naturally enough it was packed all week. Bedtime was early this night and the hotel got very quiet quickly (apart from the odd Aoife talking).

Wake-up call every morning was 6:30am local time. Breakfast was the standard European white rolls with ham and cheese (food that we wouldn't see in Ireland) and cereal which ranged from cornflakes to muesli. Only problem here was that the hotel (in Austria) didn't stock Donegal Creameries milk for some reason. And the local shops seemed to be out of it this particular week too. The local milk wasn't up to

standard apparently but it was ok when added to chocolate flavoured cereal though.

Monday morning was busy. Students and staff had their ski boot fitting, collected their skis and headed for lessons. Then the fun began. There were several falls with a few very unsteady on their feet. A couple struggled to move. And this was with only the ski boots on. After they mastered this, the instructors took them on a short chair lift to the beginners slope. Skis in one hand, poles in the other, most survived the lift. Then the Bambi on ice moments started. The skis were put on; usually a simple task but again not the case this week. There were bodies everywhere, legs at all angles; screams could be heard for miles. The domino effect was demonstrated many times. So after many failed attempts to get things rolling (technically sliding), lessons started and the instructors had the pleasure of listening to the screams (that included the singing attempts of a few groups) for two hours.

Over the course of the week, the skiing improved. However, the accidents started rolling in on Tuesday. From stretchers to ambulances to helicopters, it was an eventful week at the hospital. Luckily there were no serious injuries but a few bandages and a supply of colourful Austrian crutches also travelled home with the group on the Saturday.

The evening activities included an historical forest walk with fire lamps, swimming (which included slides and an outside heated pool), a trip to the shopping centre in town and a disco. The disco brought an end to a long yet enjoyable trip. It probably wasn't the most exciting venue for a disco but the music was loud and there was no shortage of food. Prize-giving happened mid-disco with a selection of t-shirts awarded for best skiers during the week, and best teacher wipe-out!

At 4am on Saturday, the teachers took delight in doing the final wake-up call (Mr Gallagher and Mr McKenna were quite annoyed that they

missed this one). Very tired faces at this point dragged bags to the bus for the journey home. Most got a good sleep on the bus. But a few had to listen to the teachers either snoring or chatting non-stop at the back of the bus (some realised seat choice is very important on these trips). Touch down in Ireland was welcomed after a long Ryanair flight. It wasn't long till normal food was requested from an Irish Burger King in Lusk (even though it's the same food all over the world).

The group arrived back in Carn late on Saturday night. After a week of entertainment and fun, the only place that everyone wanted to see was their bed for some well-deserved sleep. The group must be commended for their behaviour and maturity all week. They showed respect for each other, their teachers and the instructors. They learned a new skill which most will probably use again. Roll on next year!!!

Ulster Schools' Cross-Country Finals

Following their strong third place team finish at the Ulster District cross-country championships at the end of January, our under-15 (Junior) boys team travelled to the Ulster Finals in Mallusk in Belfast on Wednesday 10th February. Lughan Devenney 2B recorded a very commendable performance, finishing in 56th place overall, having taking silver in the under 15 boys long jump at the Ulster Club Indoors championships in Magherafelt the previous Saturday. Jack Leddy 2G worked through the field of some 150 runners to take 58th place. Fionn Bowyer's performance was hampered by a calf muscle injury, but the 2G student still managed 69th overall. Christopher O'Brien 2C ran a well-paced race to finish 85th. First Year student Michael Hirrell did very well to make this team from the trials and has another year in the junior age group. He helped the team to 9th place overall finishing 123rd. Very well done to all the boys who represented the school at these championships. The goal next year will be go one step further and qualify for the All-Ireland finals.

World Book Day Results Are In...

The Top 10 Books as nominated by CCS students are:

1. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
2. The Harry Potter Series by J.K.Rowling
3. The Fault in our Stars by John Green
4. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
5. Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff McKinney
6. Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
7. Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy
8. Looking for Alaska by John Green
9. The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne
10. Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo

HOWEVER, the Top 10 Authors reads a little differently...

The Top 10 Authors as nominated by CCS Students are:

1. John Green
2. Roald Dahl
3. J.K. Rowling
4. Michael Morpurgo
5. Harper Lee
6. Suzanne Collins
7. Jeff McKinney
8. John Steinbeck
9. John Boyne
10. David Walliams

Other popular books which didn't quite make the top ten but came very close: (in no particular order)

Holes by Louis Sachar

Paper Towns by John Green

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkein
Girl Online by Zoe Sugg
Wonder by R.J. Palacio
The Maze Runner by James Dashner
Buddy by Nigel Hinton
Divergent by Veronica Roth
War Horse by Michael Morpurgo
Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo
Roy Keane's Autobiography

A huge thanks to everyone who placed a post-it note in the 2nd corridor, well over 400 were collected. They really did make for great reading. CCS students and staff have such an eclectic taste in books! Don't forget to use your book voucher and keep reading!

"If you don't like to read, you just haven't found the right book." J.K. Rowling

SEN Department

Reasonable Accommodations in Certificate Examinations Reminder:

The closing date for 2017 Leaving Certificate applications is *MAY* 2016. 4th Years students who wish to apply for RACE must give their March Exam Papers to their resource teacher or to Mrs. Monagle as soon as teachers have finished correcting them. For more information: www.education.ie Circular S40/94

Tapes for Exams

If your son/daughter is using the tape recorder for the exams, you will need to buy your tapes early and a new tape for every exam will be needed. Please send these into school as soon as possible, before the exams are due to start.

Drop Everything and Read

Check the school website for the up-to-date information on when this is happening each week. We are being ably led by the 5th Year Prefects. This is an ongoing DEIS literacy initiative in this school.

Word of the Week

We have had some very interesting words for focus this term. Students should be taking these home for use there also! Word of the Week appears on the school website every Monday.

Learning & Assessment

Parents of Students receiving Resource and Learning Support are welcome to contact the teacher who works with their student for an update on progress.

Slow Reading Club

This is a world-wide movement where everyone spends some time with all phones, T.V.s and other devices turned off and the time is spent quietly reading. Some families are doing it as a once-a-week family practice - you are invited to do it too!

www.irishtimes.com/culture/books/in-a-fast-world-join-a-slow-reading-club-1.2094045

Spelling Bee

This DEIS initiative for 1st Years will commence after Easter. This is being organised by Ms. Crawford and involves vocabulary from all subjects. Good luck to all classes!

LCVP

4A continue their link with LYIT through the 'Business in the Community' project. They have completed a session on CV and Interview preparation, and are currently getting ready for mock interviews.

The closing date for Leaving Cert has come and gone, the portfolios are bound (thanks to Ms Elaine Farren and band of helpers) and the register is in the process of being signed. The recorded interviews were held in early February. All that remains is the written exam in early May. I think all fifth years would be advising LCVP pupils to get the portfolios completed as soon as possible!

HSC

The September 2016 intake of first years are well through the transfer programme. The open night was a huge success, with record crowds experiencing the best CCS has to offer. A word of thanks to all staff that helped in any way on the night itself or in any way. The transfer day went well and our future students got to sample a few subjects and to experience the 'CCS Buzz'. The 4th Year prefects were amazing on the day, and create such a positive atmosphere. Parents who wish to discuss their child's transfer can contact me on 086 8222169 / m.lafferty@carndonaghcs.ie. I have visited some of the feeder school for 'circle time' sessions, to address concerns they may have.

'Amazing Brains' paid a visit to the school to work with 5th year pupils and also presented to parents on how they can assist their children/young people during the pressures of state exams. It is hoped to hold a workshop for parents on dealing with anxiety in our students. An ever increasing problem, this will be a practical tips / information sharing workshop. Keep an eye on the school webpage for more details.

Attendance rolls at the various Parent-Teacher meetings show a very high percentage of parents were present. Parental engagement with schools is so important to student success, so thank you to all the parents who made the effort to attend. Please remember that I am

available to discuss, either in the school or in your home, any issue that may impact on your child's education. Feel free to contact me, even if it's just to have a listening ear (contact detail above).

TY News

It has been all go! Mini-company mania continued with the TYC Christmas Movie Day for 1st Years in the Aras on Thurs 17th Dec. Well done to PJ Walker, Nicole McLaughlin, Michaela Donaghy, Rachel Callaghan, Megan McCreanor, Niamh Grant and Aoife Hands. The highly successful TYB Car Wash/ Valeting service operated in late January and was manned by Ciaran Doherty, Connor Bambrick, Conor Quigley, Matthew McLaughlin and Michael Porter. TYA's Ethan Gallagher and Geraldine Brennan ably assisted by Cara Doherty TYB, sold Guess the Teacher sheets. Some real head scratchers there!!! Completed entries should be returned to R.132 a.s.a.p. The winner will be announced before the Easter holidays. The most successful mini-company this year has to be that of Orla Murray and Kerry Doherty, both TYB. Their Fairy Doors proved a phenomenal success in the Christmas market and the girls are currently producing Fairy Doors to suit every season. The talented duo gave a workshop on their Fairy Doors to the children of the Quigley's Point Play Group on Thurs 28th Jan - apparently a great time was had by all!!! On Wed 2nd March the girls showcased their product at the Student Enterprise Awards County Final in Donegal Town. Thanks to all the teachers who have assisted the girls throughout the year and helped them perfect and market their product; Enterprise teacher Mr Spencer, Woodwork teacher Mr James Doherty, Business teacher Mrs Mary Harkin and the "uber talented Ms. Elaine Farren.

On Fri 18th Dec the following TYB girls attended an enterprise event in the Bank of Ireland. Rebecca McCarron, Natasha Cunningham, Bethany O'Leary, Kerry Doherty, Orla Murray, Gemma McCormick and Cathy Doherty. TYB Girls Gemma McCormick, Cathy Doherty, Louise

McElhinney and Niamh McLaughlin are busy designing more of their Inspirational Plaques. The girls had a very successful sales day at the Bank of Ireland in Carndonagh recently and are now, due to popular demand in the process of making more. Keep an eye out next week. The girls can also design to order if you wish to add some inspiration to your classroom.

The TYs participated in a two day workshop (Thurs 7th Jan & Tue 12th Jan) on Disability Awareness with Richard Alcorn from the Donegal Centre for Independent Living. Richard shared his own experience with the TYs and showed a PowerPoint presentation on DCIL as well as a video on disability in the developing world. Richard explained the current etiquette for interaction with a person with a disability. People shouldn't feel awkward when interacting with a person who has a disability. If you are ever unsure how to interact with a person who has a disability, just ask!

There were two TY trips to the LYIT in the New Year. The first involved a tour of the School of Business. The pupils were: TYA Laura Devlin, Clare McCarron, Shauna McLaughlin, Alannah Shovlin; TYB Kiara Callaghan, Cathy Doherty, Niamh McCallion, Tara McColgan; TYC Oisín Bowyer, Caoimhe Cooke, Eilís Doherty, Micheala Donaghy, Niamh Grant, Aoife Hands, Megan McCreanor and PJ Walker; TYD Tara Kelly, Áine McCallion, Tegan McDaid, Paula McElhinney, Aishling McKinney and Luke Mullins. Mr Humphries accompanied the pupils. On Fri 22nd Jan Ms McGee accompanied TY girls to the Women in Computing Event. TYA: Tia McLaughlin, Aoife Houghton, Casey Cavanagh, Kim McCloskey, Alannah Shovlin; TYB: Kerry Doherty, Orla Murray, Rebecca McCarron, Cathy Doherty, Gemma McCormick, Kiara Callaghan, Niamh McCallion; TYC: Eilís Doherty, Micheala Donaghy, Josephine Doherty, Nicole McLaughlin; TYD: Tara Kelly, Orla Cox, Aisling McKinney, Paula McElhinney, Maria Farren, Holly Moore and Chloé Kemmy.

The Wild Atlantic Way presentations have been an eye opener for pupils and staff alike. The first was on the topic of Heritage on Wed 13th Jan by Ms Patricia Stratford who was instrumental in the renovation of Carrickabraghey Castle. Then on Fri 15th Jan there was another presentation by Bren Whelan who demonstrated to the pupils how he successfully hitched his climbing and photography business to the Wild Atlantic Way. Mr Paul McCusker, a lecturer from the School of Business in the LYIT addressed the pupils on Thurs 28th Jan. Inishowen Wildlife officer and member of the Irish Basking Shark study-group, Emmet Johnson met with the TYs on 25th Feb. The final presentation will be given this week by Ms Heidi Woods from Inishowen Tourism. There will be an opportunity for TYs to contribute to Mr Charlie McCarron's research in the final term. We wish Charlie every success with his thesis.

Sports-wise, the TYs have had a busy term! DJ McGeoghan, Conor Quigley and Oisín McGonigle are members of the school Golf team and have represented CCS with great accomplishment this year. Ciaran Doherty, Connor Bambrick, Daniel Houghton, Oisín Hession, Conor O'Donnell, Brendan Doherty, Luke Devlin, Ultan Doherty, Fionn McClure, Paddy McCarron were unlucky in the final moments of U-16 County Final against Carrick on Mon 25th Jan. Talent scouts were very impressed with Ciaran Doherty and Daniel Houghton on the day. Donegal Senior Team players of the future? Well done to Oisín Bowyer, Oisín Hession, Lorcan Bradley Jamie Nelson who assisted Mr McGee at the Ulster District Schools' Cross -Country, UU Coleraine on Thurs 21st Jan. All credit also to Daniel Doherty TYD and Darragh McKinney TYA who assisted at the Ulster Schools' Cross Country Finals on Wed 10th Feb at the City of Belfast Playing Fields, Mallusk. Mr McGee found their assistance invaluable. And it wasn't just the boys! On Monday 7th March Cathy Doherty TYB assisted Mr Bogan with the CCS girls' team playing in the Ulster Final. Saving the BEST till last, heartiest congratulations must be expressed to the players of the senior boys' soccer team and Mr Cavanagh on

winning an All-Ireland title for C.C.S. Well done to TY players Daniel Houghton TYA and Fionn McClure TYC, all the many ex-TYs!!!!

Thanks to all the TYs who helped out on Open Night on Tue 26th Jan. The Career Guidance Department would like to thank especially Geraldine Brennan, Catherine Diver and Shauna McBride TYA for sorting their prospectuses prior to Open Night.

On Thurs 28th Jan, Chaplain Mrs Serena Doherty accompanied Oisín Bowyer, Megan Mc Creanor and Niamh Grant to the Celebration of the Eucharist in St. Eugene's Cathedral to mark launch of Catholic Schools Week by the Most Rev. Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry. Well done to all the TYs who are striving towards the John Paul II Award.

Oisín Bowyer TYC also participated in the Bar Council of Ireland TY Programme from Mon 1st Feb - Fri 5th Feb. Oisín had an amazing week and was given a complete overview of the Irish legal system. He got to visit the Four Courts, the Criminal Courts of Justice and Green St. Criminal Court. Oisín was also successful in securing a place on the upcoming Iveagh Scholars, Dept. Foreign Affairs & Trade TY programme in April. Some C.V. Oisín!

Mr McGee held a meeting for pupils undertaking the Gaisce challenge on Wed 3rd Feb. Pupils should touch base with either Mr McGee, their class teacher, Ms McLaughlin or Ms Crawford, if they are concerned about anything to do with Gaisce. It won't be long now till you set off on your Adventure Trip!!!!

Also on 3rd Feb and again on 24th Feb, the TYs attended an excellent presentation by the CCS Careers Dept. on subject choice. Between this presentation and all the subjects they have sampled this past year, the TYs are in an optimum position to make an informed choice about what subjects to study for L.C. On that topic, TYs with an interest in pursuing Chemistry for their LC attended a science magic

show on Friday 5th Feb hosted by the University of Limerick. Thanks to Ms Coll for affording them the opportunity.

Martin Maloney a.k.a. the Birdman and professional Ornithologist visited CCS on 4th February. Martin's main message to the pupils was that birds of prey DO NOT eat living lambs but that they DO EAT pest species such as rats and mice, as well as dead animals. Please spread the word among the landowners in your area who may believe otherwise. Though Martin is no stranger to RTE and the BBC, it was Rambo the buzzard, Leo the long eared owl and Barney the barn owl who were the stars of the show. Thanks to Mr Peter White for arranging this flying visit!!!

Work Experience II took place from Mon 8th until Friday 12th February. The feedback from employers was absolutely fantastic! Well done, everyone! I was particularly impressed by the number of pupils who went far afield for their placement. It is not easy to move out of one's comfort zone. Shauna McBride TYA, will be spending two weeks as a volunteer in Zurich Zoo in April. Now that is moving out of your comfort zone!! We wish Shauna a fabulous time! Many thanks to all the employers who take a chance on our pupils every year. We couldn't do it without you!!

Then there was the ski trip!!!!!! A total of 38 TYs took off for the slopes of Austria during mid-term break. Needless to say a fabulous time was had by all! Much of St. Valentine's Day was spent in transit so some were anxious to make up for lost time. It appears that the swarthy good looks of Lorcán Bradley TYC went down well with the young female Polish skiers, one of whom pursued poor Lorcán most of the week!!! There were reports also of attempts to set poor Kerry Doherty TYB alight in the woods one night! Hair envy, Kerry!!!

At the ungodly hour of 6a.m. on Monday, 29th February, a group of six TY students - Paula McElhinney, Tara Kelly, Aishing McKinney, Geraldine Brennan, Emily O'Brien and Oisín Bowyer, along with AIB

student Officer Tracy McDaid, and Mr Humphries set off for the AIB Build a Bank Regional Final in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Athlone. The group have been running their Netflix-themed bank - "Bankflix" - at lunchtime Thursdays in the Technology Block, armed with their promotional video, a presentation used to encourage First Year students to sign-up, and a fantastic handmade poster. The group were interviewed twice - once for ten minutes and once for two minutes. The group explained the running of their business and why they picked their theme, before being sent off for lunch. Following lunch the eight semi-finalists were revealed, to the disappointment of the CCS group who had unfortunately not made the cut. While disappointing, the day turned out to be a fantastic opportunity for both the group and the school as preparations are ALREADY under way for next year's Regionals, with lots of ideas and plans ready to go. Thanks to Mr Humphries and Ms Diver for supporting the pupils.

Deaglan Farren TYB represented CCS at the TCD Physics/Nanoscience Workshop on Tue 1st March. Well done, Deaglan!!! Another lad hiding his light under a bushel is Kieran Grant TYA. Kieran was Joint 1st winner in the Six Word Story Competition - "Went to war, never loved again". Very though provoking, Kieran. Well done!

We celebrated Fair Trade Week last week in CCS. What better way to kick start the event than by a presentation by Mr Patsy Toland from Self-Help Africa? The Coffee Dock, bedecked with balloons in the FT colours, posters, banners and bunting was home for the week to the FT Crêperie girls: Niamh Grant TYC, Aoife Hands TYC, Kiara Callaghan TYB, Tegan McDaid TYD, Megan McCreanor TYC Clare McCarron TYA and Tara Kelly TYD. The girls gave up their break times and lunchtimes to cook for the hungry masses but managed to get in a bit of dance practice for their Paddy's Day routine behind the counter too!!!!

Thanks to all the pupils who helped spread the Fair Trade message with the shoppers in Supervalu during Fair Trade Week. TYA

Geraldine Brennan, Shauna McBride, Catherine Diver, Sarah Monagle, Kim McCloskey, Alannah Shovlin, Clare McCarron Shauna McLaughlin, Aoife Houghton Tia McLaughlin & Casey Cavanagh : TYB Cathy Doherty, Gemma McCormick, Rebecca McCarron, Bethany O'Leary, TYC Kate Gallagher and TYD Aishling McKinney and Áine McCallion. To mark the 20th Anniversary of FT in Ireland, there was an event called the Big Breakfast organised for Sat 5th March in the Colgan Hall. Local Carndonagh businesses were able to demonstrate their ongoing commitment to Fair Trade by supplying breakfast made up entirely of Fair Trade produce. TY girls, under the supervision and guidance of Ms Caroline Gallagher and Ms McIntyre baked delicious FT goodies and served them at the CCS stand in the Colgan Hall on the day. Delicious Banana Bread, Chocolate Brownies, Tea Brack, Cup Cakes and Coffee Cake were among the delicacies on offer. To TYC's Micheala Donaghy, TYD's Holly Moore, Aishling McKinney, Paula McElhinney and Chloé Donaghy - a HUGE thank you!!!! Four ex-TYS Aoife Doherty, Cliona Ivers, Emma Doherty and Lydia Johnson, key players in CCS's successful application to become a Fair Trade school last year, were also at the event as ambassadors of CCS. On Thurs 10th March Oisín Bowyer TYC and Maria Farren TYD were exemplary representatives of CCS at the Ladder Workshop on Development Education Training with Mr Patsy Toland at Carndonagh Council offices.

Six TY pupils from CCS along with pupils from twelve other schools in Derry and Donegal are taking part in a cross border project called Journey Together. The students will examine significant events from 1916. Mr Colm Doherty accompanied the six pupils Gemma Mc Cormick, Darragh Mc Williams, Deaglan Farren TYB, Oisín Bowyer TYC, Tara Kelly and Maria Farren TYD to the Nerve Centre in Derry where they attended a workshop and from this they created a storybook on the 1916 Rising and the Battle of the Somme. On a second trip to the Nerve centre the students again attended a workshop and afterwards created a film report on the relevance to Modern Ireland of both the 1916 Rising and the Battle of the Somme. Ms Majella Doherty accompanied the students to the Somme Centre in Newtownards

where they learned about Ireland's role in the First World War with special reference to the cross community involvement of the three Irish Volunteer Divisions (10th, 16th Irish and the 36th Ulster) that fought in the First World War. They were also given a tour of the reconstructed trenches of the Battle of the Somme. Ms Marie Mc Laughlin will accompany the students on the 14th and 15th March to Dublin where they will visit various sites associated with the Rising. In addition they will visit the National Museum of Ireland - Collins Barracks, Glasnevin Cemetery /Museum, the Gardens of Remembrance and the War Memorial Gardens. In May, there will be a final event involving all the schools at The Guildhall in Derry. Class TYC have also been working hard on 1916 commemorations with Mr O'Donnell. They have created a beautiful lasting tribute to the heroes of the Rising to be placed on the wall outside R.119. Their posters are on show throughout CCS this week. They have also printed out and laminated a copy of the National Anthem - Amhrán Na bhFiann and a copy of the Proclamation of Independence for every class room in the school. You should all be very proud! Still on the theme of the 1916 celebrations, congratulations to Niamh Grant TYC who won the Carndonagh Easter Parade Committee essay competition entitled "1916 - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow". Niamh will receive E50 and will have the honour of reading out The Proclamation of Independence in Carndonagh on Easter Monday.

It's almost that time of year again and a green haze is descending on everything! All credit to the Inishowen Carnival Group and Ms Elaine Farren who are once again providing the opportunity to TYs to take part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin. TYA Shauna McLaughlin, Laura Devlin, Aoife Houghton, Casey Cavanagh, Tia Mc Laughlin, Clare McCarron, Alannah Shovlin, Geraldine Brennan, Kim McCloskey, Sarah Monagle; TYB Kerry Doherty, Kiara Callaghan, Natasha Cunningham, Tara McColgan and Niamh McCallion; TYC Oisín Bowyer, Emily O'Brien, Niamh Grant, Megan Mc Creanor, Aoife Hands, Josephine Doherty, Michaela Donaghy, Jean Quinn, Eilís Doherty & Kate Gallagher; TYD Shannon Mc Kinley, Tegan Mc Daid, Orla Murray, Paula McElhinney,

Orla Cox, Holly Moore, Tara Kelly, Chloé Kemmy and Áine McCallion. Thanks also to Ms Farren for arranging the Drumming Workshop with SambaStef on Friday 26th Feb. It was certainly something different and a day to remember!

Setting off to France on the French Exchange in the last term are TYA's Aoife Houghton, Alannah Shovlin and Casey Cavanagh; TYB's Natasha Cunningham and TYC's Josephine Doherty and TYD's Maria Farren. No doubt they will have a great time soaking up the Breton sunshine and improving their accents. Not to be outdone, others will be heading for the Low Countries for five days on the Comenius trip from 18th - 23rd April! TYB: Gemma McCormick, Kerry Doherty, Tara McColgan, Orla Murray, Conor Harkin, TYC: Niamh Grant, Aoife Hands, Joseph McGonigle, Emily O'Brien and TYD: Holly Moore, Paula McElhinney and Tara Kelly. Lucky for some!

Sadly, we have to break the news that there will not be a second residential trip this year. The last trip to SHARE cost E 14,000 and unfortunately the mini-companies this year were not as profitable as other years. We are as disappointed as we know you will be.

Portfolio assessment interviews will begin after Easter, in alphabetical order. As advised in September, TYs should be currently choosing their best work from their Transition Year and be able to explain their choices. Essentially, this is an opportunity for pupils to reflect on their year and comment on what they did well and perhaps how they could have done better. A document containing sample questions and a marking scheme has already been emailed to pupils. (Photos, exam papers, items made, art work etc will all count as evidence of a successful year. Pupils may make a PowerPoint presentation if they wish.) This is not something to be feared. Rather, it is your chance to justify your performance in TY and show off!!!!

Échange Scolaire Carndonagh C.S/Scoil Mhuire & Lycée St. Charles 2016

Itinéraire

vendredi 22 avril

- Départ du lycée à 9h00, voyage en bus à l'aéroport Internationale de Belfast.
- Vol Easyjet décolle à 13h30. Arrive à Paris Charles de Gaulle à 16h35
- Voyage en Taxi-Bus à l'Hôtel Explorers Marne-la-Valée; arrivée à 18h00
- Enregistrement et temps de s'installer dans les chambres; 18h15 à 19h00.
- Soirée Piscine - 19.00 à 21.00
- Heure de coucher 22h00.

samedi 23 avril

- Heure de se réveiller 7h30
- Petit-déjeuner à 8h30
- Départ pour Euro Disney à 9h30
- Journée à Euro Disney Park Studios et le Parc d'attractions.
- Rendez-vous à 19h00 pour retourner à l'hôtel.
- Temps Libre 20h30-22h00 (Piscine, Jeux de société & salle des jeux).
- Heure de coucher 22h00.

dimanche 24 avril

- Heure de se réveiller 8h30
- Petit-déjeuner à 9h00
- Départ pour journée à Val d'Europe village commercial.
- Déjeuner à 13h00.

- Rendez-vous à 17h30 pour retourner à l'hôtel.
- Heure de coucher 22h00.

lundi 25 avril

- Sortie des chambres & petit-déjeuner à 9h00.
- Départ l'hôtel pour la Gare SNCF Montparnasse 10h00.
- Voyage de Paris-St. Brieuc en TGV à 14h10
- Arrivée à St. Brieuc à 17h30
- Rendez-vous avec les familles d'accueil.

mardi 26 au vendredi 29 avril

• Les étudiants suivront leurs correspondants assistant aux cours. Il y aura aussi des voyages scolaires et des visites de la région Cote D'Armor. (St. Malo, L'Aquarium Nationale, soirée bowling, le marché du St.Brieuc).

jeudi soir 28 avril

- Pot-de-Départ animé par les étudiants.

vendredi 29 avril

- Départ Lycée St. Charles, St. Brieuc en train pour l'aéroport de CDG à 8h00.
- Arrivé à l'aéroport de CDG vers 12h00.
- Vol Easyjet départ à 17h05. Arrive à Belfast à 17h50.
- Voyage en Bus à Carndonagh CS via Bunrana. Arrivée vers 20h00.

Please be advised that this travel itinerary is subject to travel times of buses, trains and planes leaving and arriving on time. The lights out time in the Hotel is strictly 22.00. In respect of other guests, students are not allowed to move between rooms after this time.

Itinerary for St Charles West High School visit to CCS March/April 2016

Monday 28th March

- St Charles party arrive Dublin 8am.
- Monday Night spent in Dublin. Jury's Inn Custom House

Tuesday 29th March

- Depart Dublin @ 1pm with Inishowen Tours en route for Carndonagh CS
- Arrival in Carndonagh at the school at 5pm approx.
- Students collected by host families. Spend the evening settling in.

Wednesday 30th March

- 12.45 All students meet at Glen House, Clonmany. Families welcome also!
- 1.00-2.00pm Walk to the Waterfall.
- 2.15 - 4.00 Bus departs for visit of Famine Village.
- 4.30 Bus returns to Carndonagh CS.

STUDENTS TO BE COLLECTED AT SCHOOL

Thursday 31st March

- 10.00am - Students meet at Inish Adventures Moville
- 10.00-14.00 Watersports day at Moville Inish Adventures, kayak, Pier Jumping, Banana Boat, Gorge Walk. Weather Permitting!!!
- 14.30 - Students to be collected at Inish Adventures.

Friday 1st April

- Slieve League trip via Donegal Town. Bus departs CCS @ 9.30am. Returns to school at 17.00 STUDENTS TO BE COLLECTED AT SCHOOL

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd April

- Weekend spent with host families.

Monday 4th April

- 9.00-16.00 American students will shadow their hosts attending classes.

Tuesday 5th April

- Field Trip - Bus departs Carndonagh at 9.10am sharp.
- Giant's Causeway 11.00 am - Tour and lunch (Bring Packed Lunches)
- Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge 2.00pm
- Return to School for 16.00.

Wednesday 6th April

- Morning:10.20-12.40 Softball Game with Transition Year B.
- Afternoon: American students' promotional presentations to 3rd Year students.

Thursday 7th April

- 9.30am Bus departs CCS for Derry.
- 10.15-10.45 Civic Reception in the Guildhall.
- 11.00-12.30 Tour of the Walls. Visit to Bogside Murals.
- 12.30-14.00 Lunch & Shopping time.
- Assemble at bowling alley at 4pm for bowling.
- Dinner in Martha's Vineyard Restaurant at 5.30.
- Return to Carndonagh CS at 7.30pm.

Friday 8th April

- In CCS classes with host student until 10.40.
- 10.40-12.40 Gaelic Football workshop and Match with TYB
- 12.40-13.20 Lunch
- 13.20-14.20 Irish Dance show in the Aras.

- 14.40-15.20 Return to Class with hosts.

Saturday April 9th

- Depart for Dublin. Bus Leaving CCS at 2am!!!

Girls GAA

The under-16s are finished for the year. Well done to all who took part.

The under-14 girls are now training every Thursday. They had their first match away to Merville CS on Wednesday past. The girls all played their best with some great goals coming from play, but unfortunately Merville came out eventual winners. The girls' next match will be against Dean Maguire College in a couple of weeks. Well done to all the girls.

1916 Commemoration

To mark the centenary of the 1916 Rising, Class TYC undertook the task of leaving a lasting memorial to the great men and women of 1916 who sacrificed everything in the pursuit of Irish Independence. This memorial display can be viewed on the walls of the Technology Block outside Room 119. We hope that all of the school population will view our display and reflect on the importance of the Rising in creating the Ireland we live in today.

All-Ireland Soccer Final Prep in Full Flow

The senior boys will contest the All-Ireland Final against Presentation Brothers College (Cork) at Home Farm Dublin, Friday, 11th March at 2pm. Brennan's Pharmacy recently contacted CCS with the kind offer

of a complimentary First Aid kit in advance of the Final. While we're very grateful to Brennan's Pharmacy, we obviously hope that the kit will remain unopened.

The boys continued their preparations on Tuesday, 8th March when they took the gym's new suite of bikes for a spin! The boys were properly put through their paces by their instructor, Mr. Sam Bogan. Mr Martin Cavanagh has gone to great lengths to ensure that nothing is left to chance in advance of arguably the biggest soccer game involving the school in decades. You know it's a big deal when the media are calling you. On Tuesday, Johnny Craig from the Inish Times called by to interview several players and Mr. Cavanagh, while also taking a few photos for the two-page preview which will appear in this week's edition. CCS would like to thank Shane and Kevin of Doherty's Centra, Muff for their kind sponsoring of the matchday water.

Labhaoise Clarke Wins Gold in Canada

CCS pupil, Carndonagh ABC and Team Ireland member, Labhaoise Clarke recently won gold at the prestigious Brampton Cup in Canada. Fighting in the 52Kg division, Labhaoise defeated hometown girl Katuishka Vasquee-Soto in the Female Youth Open. Labhaoise not only had to contend with the local boxer, but also the timeframe, boxing four competitive rounds for the first time. CCS Online hopes to catch up with Labhaoise shortly for a recap on her most important success so far. Well done to Labhaoise and Carndonagh ABC.

Six Word Story Winners

Legend has it that the famous writer Ernest Hemingway was once challenged to write a story in just 6 words. He took on the challenge and wrote the following story "For sale, baby shoes, never worn". Apparently he called it his best work.

Well if Hemingway can do it then so can we thus there was great excitement throughout the school during the month of January as the students and teachers of CCS took on the challenge of writing an essay in just six words.

Top ten student entries:

Secondary school, one friend, two faces - Nikita Doherty

I ran, but not quick enough - Lewis Grant

The image was sent, consequences tragic - Sam Todd

Broken car, broken tree, broken heart - Laura Campbell

A war within myself, battle lost - Niamh Mc Callion

Eyes meet, new love, first born - Beth Farren

Real diamonds, never bought, think why - Katie Doherty

The car, the family, the end - Ultan Doherty

Went to war, never loved again - Kieran Grant

Saw a call, not the bus - Oisín Moyne

From these superb stories, it was very difficult to choose a winner but three winners were selected.

Joint first place: "I ran, but not quick enough" - Lewis Grant / "Went to war, never loved again"- Kieran Grant

Second Place: "Secondary school, one friend, two faces"- Nikita Doherty

The standard from the teachers was also very impressive and with a lot of deliberation and some judging help needed from outside of CCS a winner was chosen:

"Thus, silence, toddler giggles, mission complete" - Ms Yvonne O'Brien

Pope John Paul II Award 2016

The John Paul II Award was received by seventeen students in the school for voluntary work carried out in their communities and

parishes. The award allowed our students to bring to life the presence of Christ by ministering to the needs of others in their communities. Some students worked with the various charities, youth clubs and football teams in their locality as well as reading at Mass, singing in the choir and decorating the church. Congratulations and well done to you all!

CCS Pays Tribute to Past-pupil, Mark Farren

Pupils and Staff at Carndonagh CS offer their condolences to the family of Mark Farren, who passed away on Wednesday morning, 3rd February aged 33. Mark attended CCS before establishing a youth football career at Tranmere and Huddersfield Town. He is best known for his exploits with Derry City FC, becoming their all-time top scorer in 2012. During his high-profile illness, support for Mark came from all corners of the country and further afield. May he rest in peace.

Chaplaincy

Congratulations to those students from 4th year who received their John Paul II awards from Bishop Donal McKeown in the Millennium Forum in February. Well done! The School Community Day of Action has succeeded in collecting €2000 so far for local charities. Many thanks to Mr. Danny O'Donnell for leading the campaign. Any monies still not handed in should be given to Mr. O'Donnell before Wednesday, 16th March.

Finally a message for Easter:

Live simply...

We know we are beginning to live simply when we glimpse that we are content with less; when we discover we don't have to compete with other people in relation to what they have or what they have achieved.

We know we are beginning to live simply when we find ourselves delighting in little things; when we can affirm the achievements of other people of any age and background; when we appreciate the gifts of others; when we find ourselves valuing the present moment and worrying less about tomorrow and its mysteries.

COMING SOON...

Carndonagh CS presents

"THE FACTORY GIRLS"

By Frank McGuinness

Auditions currently taking place...
...please see Ms. Fiona Doherty
or Ms. Caroline Crawford for details.

Audition scripts can be downloaded form
www.carndonaghcs.ie

(Show dates and details to follow in April)